



From the Principal - Mr. Bob Morris

As I write my this reflection for the Bits and Bites, I am left to wonder where events in the world will take us in two weeks, a month, or six months down the road.

The Hamas attack from Gaza into Israel was disturbing on October 7. As more and more videos were released, I was horrified of the overall brutality of what members of the Hamas terrorist organization did to the Israeli people. Israelis were attacked at an outdoor music festival and attacked at their homes and on the streets. Innocent people were taken as hostages as well. As time has passed, there is a part of me that is perplexed at how much worldwide support that organization has received and hosted rally's all over the world.

We are coming up to the time where Canadians reflect on Remembrance Day. World War I ended in 1917 – 106 years ago. The League of Nations and United Nations were created to help prevent anymore world conflicts. H. G. Wells wrote a series of essays titled “The War That Will End War” in 1914 to 1918 with the idea that if Germany militarism would be defeated then we would have peace. There have been many armed conflicts around our planet since 1918 including:

- World War II
- Cold War
- Korea
- Vietnam
- Afghanistan
- Lebanon
- Kuwait/Iraq
- Bosnia
- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- Ukraine
- Israel/Hamas

There are a few passages I have found to connect with Remembrance Day:

John 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.” I recognize that this passage takes place as Jesus is teaching about the vine and the branches. James Brady wrote a book called: “Why Marines Fight” which shared stories of sacrifice for each other during battles. Ultimately, Jesus paid the highest price as he laid down His life so we could be reconciled to God.

2 Samuel 1:17-27 reminds us of the importance of honouring and remembering those who have fallen. In this passage David composes a lament for Saul and Jonathan. I think it is important to remember those who have gone on before us. When I was in New York in September, I stopped at a few relative's grave sites. I can't be there for Veterans Day or Memorial Day to decorate their headstones with flags, so I wanted to stop and pause at each grave.

Ultimately, wouldn't it be great if everyone followed *Isaiah 2:4,5* "He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up a sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Come o house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord." I recognize that we live in a fallen world that is filled with sin.

During this season of Remembrance, let's take time to pray for those affected by the attacks in Israel. We need to pray for wisdom for our leaders that they will seek godly wisdom.

From the Board - Mrs. Jessica Stolk

What a blessing it was to see so many of you come out for Thanksgiving Dinner earlier this month! We are thankful to the Lord, for this opportunity each year to gather together for a meal and fellowship as a school community. We raised a total of \$41,710.00 this year, which will be going towards a brand-new school website, new chrome books to replace older ones, some outdoor landscaping (maintenance, updates, and repairs), repairs and updates to our existing fence line, as well as shelving/organization of the gym storage room. Thank-you very much to all those who donated, as well as to the Thanksgiving Committee for planning the evening!

We would also like to thank all parents for their patience the first number of weeks of school as we struggled with the West bus not being on time. Adjustments were made to both routes, and things are now going well, and the busses are on time.

Just a reminder that our annual **Fall Drive** has started and will be ongoing until **November 17th**. Our goal for this year's drive has been set at \$80,000. Canvassers should be contacting you, but donations can be sent into the school office anytime. Thank-you to those who may have already donated!!!

We ask that you also mark your calendars for the **PCS Fall Society Meeting** scheduled for **Thursday, November 23, 2023, at 8:00pm**. A package with the agenda and various reports will be coming home in a couple of weeks. A reminder to all parents and previous society members that if you have not paid your membership dues yet (\$50/couple), to please do so soon if you would like the opportunity to vote at this Society Meeting. If you are unsure whether you have paid, please contact Irene Fraser: business@ponokachristianschool.com.

The Boards next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 1st. If you have any comments or concerns, please let us know.

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” Colossians 3:23-24

Sports News - Mr. Josh Van Doesburg

We are coming to the end of the volleyball season. The ‘B’ teams have their final game this week and will be having a wrap up mini tournament in the coming week. The ‘A’ teams continue their season for a couple more weeks finishing regular season play next week with league playoffs and CWAJHAA qualifying and then **the final CWAJHAA tournaments, which we look forward to hosting here at PCS.** The girl’s team will play on **Nov. 18** and the boys will be playing on **Nov. 25.** Mark those dates to come out and support the students!

All the game times and details about these extra dates are being finalized and will be placed on the calendar when they are confirmed. Thank you to all the coaches, parents, and players for the effort they have put into the season.

A basketball sign up will be going up in the coming weeks.

Blessings,
Josh Van Doesburg

Important Dates

October 26	Hot Lunch – Chicken Burgers (For those who ordered)
October 31	Picture Day
November 1	Board Meeting
November 2	Guest Speaker at LCS (see poster attached)
November 10	Junior High Awards Day
November 13	NO SCHOOL
November 16	Hot Lunch – Hot Dogs (For those who ordered)
November 17	Extra Kindergarten Day
November 23	Fall Society Meeting
November 24	NO SCHOOL
November 30	Report Cards go home

PCS Fall Drive

PCS is running its fall drive from **October 23 - November 17**. This year's goal is \$80,000. Please prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you contribute to our campaign.

If you have any questions, please contact either your canvasser or Stephanie Thalen: stephaniethalen@gmail.com Thank you for your continued support!

Potato Fundraiser

Any amounts of potatoes are available. Please make a donation you think is fair.

To order, phone Hylko and Hillie Feitsma: 403-783-6000

The proceeds from the potato sales have been graciously donated to Ponoka Christian School.

Student Recognition and Thank You

A big thank you to Tasha Cordel from Remax, who once again donated gift certificates. On Oct 5 at the All School Chapel we were able to award one of these gift certificates to **Jace Faber** along with a "Community Building Award" certificate. Jace graciously donates his time in helping with the milk program. Every day he is ready to hand out milk to students at lunch hour and assists Mrs. Slomp with the tracking and ordering of the milk. Thank you for your hard work Jace!

NOVEMBER

2



Parent Information Evening

For more than 30 years Lisa has been learning the most effective methods to help clients manage stress, anxiety, relationship challenges, grief, change, and personal issues. Her focus is to help her clients achieve a more balanced life and healthier relationships.

Lisa was raised in a Christian home and accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior at the age of 14. Since then, her faith has guided her life both personally and professionally. Lisa is married to her best friend and the love of her life. They have five adult children and three grandchildren. Spending time with family is something she treasures.

HAVING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS AS A CHRISTIAN IN A POLARIZED WORLD WITH LISA ROMANIUK

Lacombe Christian School
November 2, 2023 - 7pm - 9pm

We are living in a time when homes, families, communities, and workplaces are deeply divided on many important issues. Many of us find ourselves in situations where we want to stay true to our Christian values, stay connected to loved ones, and still be able to talk about the difficult topics our society is facing. This session will cover important skills to equip you, and in turn your children, to have these conversations in a loving way while staying true to your Christian values and beliefs. It is possible to maintain important relationships and you will feel more equipped to do so after this session.