



From the Principal - Mr. Bob Morris

I was asked a great question on April 16 by a boy in preschool. He asked me if I would want to be a hockey player when I grow up. I kept a straight face and responded politely and thoughtfully to his question with a no because I am not the best skater. His question and perspective sure made me feel good (and young too).

Baseball season has just started. I love the game of baseball. Maybe, because it is related to spring, sunshine, and warmer temperatures. When I was a little boy, all I wanted to do was play baseball. We played wiffle ball at home, baseball at school. I loved the Oakland A's and Cincinnati Reds during the early 1970's. I memorized every bit of information from all my favorite players found on the back of baseball cards. I have travelled many times to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown N.Y. and have been to many different baseball stadiums. Fenway Park in Boston is one of the greatest places to enjoy a game. I still get excited to plan trips. Since my sister moved to Missouri this winter, I am hoping to see games in St. Louis and in Kansas City. Locally, the Sylvan Lake Gulls offer a great baseball experience. One of my first trips when I retire will be spring training in Florida followed by spring training the following season in Arizona as a guy's road trip.

I have a framed sheet of uncut baseball cards on my wall in my office. Often students will ask me if there are any good players on it and I will point out various Hall of Famers or great players like: Ricky Henderson, Tony Gwynn, Cal Ripken Jr, Wade Boggs, Kirby Puckett, Orel Hershiser, Reggie Jackson, Darryl Strawberry, Fernando Vanenzuala, and Bobby Cox. My favourites are Cal Ripken (played most consecutive games), Reggie Jackson (nicknamed "Mr. October" because of all his heroics in a World Series), and Strawberry (great hitter, formerly addicted to drugs and God redeemed and now is a minister of the Gospel).

This sheet has 132 cards on it and Topps had 6 sheets that made up a set of cards that would be cut into 792 individual cards of players. Often, I am drawn to the cards and wonder what ever happened to most of the people on my wall. If there are 10 excellent cards from the sheet, that makes 122 cards to be of non superstars. Did this random player from the Montreal Expos become a good human being? Were they a great husband? Father? Were they active members of their community? Did they work a regular job? It is hard to know.

I think we all live our lives where we want others to admire something about us. I desire to be a faithful husband and dad. I desire to do my best where God has called me and to serve Him in that calling. I now desire to hit the golf ball farther than my friend Tony and be there for my friends in need. I guess that is how I would desire to see my identity. I was pondering how God sees Bob Morris - that can be scary. In order to reflect on that, I have to go to God's Word.

2 Corinthians 5:17 "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

1 Peter 2:9 “You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.”

Zephaniah 3:17 “The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in His love he will no longer rebuke you but will rejoice over you with singing.”

Psalms 139:13-16 “For you created my inmost being you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”

I get choked up reading Zephaniah. Imagine for a moment that God takes delight in you - that is so powerful. It goes on to say that He rejoices over us with singing. Our identity should be found in one place - it starts and ends with God. He cares so much for each one of us that, “For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

From the Board - Mrs. Jessica Stolk

A huge thank-you to everyone who supported our annual School Auction on April 13. We would especially like to thank the Auction Committee (Brandi Pieper, Christina Vreugdenhil, Brianne Horne) and all those who volunteered of their time and gifts to make this day such a success. This year the auction raised \$214,000.00 for our school! God has truly blessed us with a generous and supportive school community!

Hiring and Class Updates for 2024/2025:

Business Administrator: We are excited to let Society know that we have hired Roeline Wassink as our new Business Administrator. Roeline and her husband, Brian, are PCS Society members and have 3 children (Caden, who is in Kindergarten, Emily and Logan). Roeline has already been working with Irene Fraser to ensure that the school has the best transition possible.

Kindergarten: We are also excited to let Society know that we have hired Rebecca TenHove to teach Kindergarten starting September 2024. Rebecca is also no stranger to PCS as we have been blessed to have had her teach Kindergarten in the past.

Grade 2 or 3: We are currently looking for a Grade 2 or 3 teacher (depending on the candidates) to cover a maternity leave from August 15, 2024, to December 20, 2024

Grade 4 and 5: Due to projected smaller class sizes in the coming years, the Grade 4 and 5 classes will be combined starting next school year.

Grade 8/9: Due to large class size projections for the next few years we hope to split apart the Grade 8 and 9 classes next year if a suitable teacher can be found for Grade 8. Please keep our Hiring Committee in your prayers, and if you know of any qualified teachers...please send them our way!

The Board is currently in the process, with the help of the Prairie Centre for Christian Education, of doing a School Review. The results of this review will greatly aid the Board in making plans for the future of PCS. We would like to thank all those who took the time to complete the surveys sent out last week. We would also ask that should you be contacted to come to the school on May 1 or 2 for an in-person interview, that you please prayerfully consider doing so, as this is a vital portion of the review process.

As a Board, we look forward to seeing all Society members on **Thursday, May 23rd at 8:00pm** in the school gym for the Spring Society meeting. A package will be coming out within the next couple of weeks with an agenda, but some things to highlight for this meeting include:

- **New Board Members:** This year we will be voting in 2 new members to replace Michelle Stolk (Education Rep) and Jessica Stolk (Secretary), who have both reached the end of their terms. The Board is still finalizing a list of nominees to be voted on; names as well as profiles for each of the nominees will be included with the Society Package. Please keep the Board in prayer as we finalize this list of nominees and that willing society members may be found to allow their names to stand.
- **2024/2025 Budget:** We will be approving the budget for next school year

Our next Board Meeting will be on Wednesday May 1st, and as always if you have any comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact a Board Member.

On Behalf of the PCS Board,
Jessica Stolk

“Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise — the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.” Hebrews 13:15

Sports News - Mr. Josh Van Doesburg

Badminton season is in full swing. Depending on how players do at today’s tournaments there will be one more tournament for badminton on either Apr 30 or May 2. Thank you to Mrs. Van Heyst and Mrs. Ericson for all their time and efforts in coaching badminton this year!

The Jr High Christian schools track meet is scheduled for Friday May 24 at Lindsay Thurber school in Red Deer. All students in grades 7-9 are required to sign up for at least one event on the sign-up sheet located on the jr. high bulletin board. The grade 6 class will be looking after the concession. More details to come closer to the date.

Important Dates

April 26	No School – Teacher Work Day
April 29	Extra Kindergarten Day *note: this is a Monday
May 1-2	School Review
May 2	All School Chapel: Earth Keeping
May 1-7	Bobtail Fundraiser: Order pick up at Bobtail Nursery

May 9	Bobtail Fundraiser: Order pick up at school
May 13-15	Grad Trip for grade 8/9's
May 16	Field Day
May 17	No School
May 20	No School – Victoria Day
May 21	No School – Teacher Work Day
May 24	Christian Schools Jr High Track meet
May 27	Extra Kindergarten Day *note this is a Monday
May 31	Grade 9 Graduation

From the Development Committee

- **Boston Pizza Operation Education:**

Do you or people you know eat at Boston Pizza? If so, you could be making money for the school! **We are asking all families and supporters to turn in their original receipts to the office from any Edmonton and surrounding area Boston Pizza locations including, Ponoka, Lacombe and Red Deer to the school office, dating from Jan until June 2024.** The school can then receive 5% of the total (before tax) of all receipts submitted!

Now Accepting Applications - Ponoka Christian School is now accepting **Applications for Pre-School and Kindergarten Students** for the 2024-25 school year. Information and registration packages can be found on the school website at www.ponokachristianschool.com or may be picked up from the school office.

Community News and Events

Job Opportunity: Rimbey Christian School is now hiring for the position of Secretary for the 2024-2025 School year. Interested applicants please forward your resume, statement of faith and cover letter to: office@rimbeychristianschool.com. Potential start date: August 15th, 2024.

Camp Rehoboth - Rehoboth Camp Ministry is a Christian summer camp for people with special needs from young children to seniors. We want to share the love of Jesus, provide a summer camp experience, build relationships, and give parents or guardians a week of respite. We need volunteers to make this happen and are looking forward to having **you** be a part of this. A willingness to be a friend and help someone have a positive Camp experience is all that is needed. If you are 14 years old and up, have a heart for serving others, have a week to spare this summer, then we are the place for you! Check us out at: www.rcmflourish.ca/camp to get more information!

Red Deer Prolife: Join us May 9, 2024, at the Alberta Legislature (10800-97th Ave. Edmonton) at 12:30 for the March for Life. Keynote speaker will be Alveda King (niece of Dr. Martin Luther King). For more info please visit: www.reddeerprolife.com.

Red Deer Pro Life is an organization made up of Central Albertans who seek to promote the sanctity of life through education. We are an organization that was formed in 1977 and we operate solely by volunteers and donations.

To book your group in for a Free Presentation visit our website: www.reddeepro-life.com

- Youth group
- Home-school group
- Classroom
- Church



Thank
You

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME OUT ON SATURDAY. THE AUCTION RAISED A GRAND TOTAL OF \$214,000!! A WONDERFUL BLESSING FOR THE SCHOOL. WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE THAT WITHOUT ALL THE GENEROUS DONATIONS, BUYERS AND VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED IN SO MANY AREAS!
FROM THE AUCTION COMMITTEE

**" From the fullness of His grace, we have all
received one blessing after another"
John 1:16**



Rewarding Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like the opportunity to be more involved at school? As we prep for the 2024/2025 school year, there are a number of rewarding volunteer opportunities available. Please contact Jenneke at (403)783-9941 or email development@ponokachristianschool.com for more info.

- **HOT LUNCH COMMITTEE (2)**
- **THANKSGIVING DINNER (1)**
- **SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE (1)**
- **FALL DRIVE (1)**

A special thank you to all our volunteers; past and present, for helping PCS and its committees run smoothly.