



## **From the Principal - Mr. Bob Morris**

Too tired for golf...

*Ecclesiastes 2:22-23: What does a man get for all the toil and anxious striving with which he labors under the sun? All his days his work is pain and grief; even at night his mind does not rest. This too is meaningless.*

I texted my friend Tony this morning to let him know that I can't go golfing with him this evening. I enjoy my time hanging out with Tony. I usually beat him but once in a while I will let him "win", so he keeps coming back. Some of you might know Tony - he is always encouraging and great to hang out with.

I found myself going from thing to thing this week. It's hard to come to the conclusion that I am not in my 30's or 40's anymore. I had two school meetings this week. I did sneak out for a quick round on Tuesday but realized that an evening at home catching up on some yard work would be more relaxing than beating Tony again.

Yesterday seemed busy. Alberta Ed needed a document updated. I am working on the school's Education Plan that has to be submitted by the end of May. I am working on teacher evaluations as well. I had to get the dog to the vet in the afternoon, then meet with the principal from Rimbey Christian School. I had a board meeting last night where one small topic discussed was if anyone actually read the bits and bites. My best "guestimate" is that some will skip over most and just look at something that pertains to their child's class or sport. I think many read Mrs. Slomp's quick emails during the week. There are five coffee cards for anyone who reads this bits and bites and either emails the office or texts the school phone. Four out the five cards will be set aside for anyone, but staff and the last card will be set aside for any staff member (except Mr. Van Doesburg and Mrs. Slomp). Ok, back to my busyness. I got home last night and had to walk the dog...all the way to Integra Tire and he didn't go to the bathroom. I was not wanting to get steps in last night with no purpose - ugh. At the end of the day, it just has been a weird week, and lack of sleep adds to it. I forgot to mention that we have relatives coming over on Friday afternoon staying until Saturday, so Colleen wants the house clean.

We all get into times where we are energized due to busy schedules and times where we are feeling it due to busy schedules. I know, some are thinking "suck it up Buttercup". I was looking at Josh's schedule this week with sports. He is being a great dad by coaching a couple of after school soccer teams that his children are playing on. He also coaches badminton. The other day he drove to Lacombe for badminton, came back to coach in town. This year we had a tougher time finding people who were able to coach sports. He coached "A" girls' volleyball, "A" girls' basketball, and coached badminton while working on his Masters degree, a full teaching schedule and learning the administrative role.

It won't be long before school is over. There are 28 school days left until students head out for summer holidays or 123 school days until the first day of the 2026-2027 school year. We are in that time of the year where time flies by so quickly. The clock seems to speed up once the school auction happens. Students are itching to get on with life and can't wait until the end of each day. Grade 9's can't wait to move on and go to high school and get out of "elementary/junior high" - they want more freedom and yet someday they will look back and realize they had it pretty good. Some days I long to go back to grade 5 and our daily lunch hour baseball games with Mr. Stockwell pitching and Mr. Ballerini playing first base...We had 40 minutes of only baseball.

I am looking forward to raking tonight. I enjoy beating Tony, but it will have to wait until Saturday.

I hope for all of us that we can find a good balance between busyness and rest. I know that is why the Lord established the importance of Sabbath. If we pack in so much during the week, do we really hear what the Lord has for us on Sunday? I must confess that a few weeks ago I sat through church and really didn't hear all the good points that other members of my family said that were made. I had to find the sermon online to re-watch and listen to hear the depth that I missed.

I hope I haven't given a misinterpretation; it's only one night of no golf with my friend Tony. I am blessed and in a good spot. I really love the job that God has called me to do and I still have goals I would like to accomplish in this role.

### **From the Board - Mrs. Carien Dominicus**

First of all, a huge thank you to everyone who came out and supported our annual School Auction on April 11. It was a great day with our school community, and we're thrilled to have raised \$268,268. After expenses of \$8,335.77, \$247,932.23 is going towards operations and \$12,000 to the Long-Term Sustainability Fund! Thank you to the Auction Committee (Brienne Horne, Brandi Pieper and Val Ingwersen) for all their hard work this year. Thanks be to God for blessing us with a generous and supportive school community!

We also want to thank the special events committee and our staff for putting on a great grandparent's day! This is such a highlight for both grandparents and students.

**Spring Society Meeting:** As a Board, we look forward to seeing all Society members on **Monday, May 28th at 8:00pm** in the school gym. A full meeting package will be coming out within the next few days but some things to highlight for this meeting include:

- **Bylaw Updates**
  - Updated Statement of Faith
  - Change 1-2-6 Meetings. Change to 1 society meeting per year instead of two.
- **New Board Members:** This year we will be voting in 2 new members to replace Greg Thalen and Aaron Horne who have both reached the end of their terms. The nominee

names and profiles will be found in the meeting package coming out soon and we thank those members that have let their name stand as a board nominee.

- **2026/2027 Budget:** We will be approving the budget for next school year.
- **New Families:** We have a large list of families requesting to join our society!

With the school year end fast approaching, we look forward to field day, class field trips, and our new soccer program! We pray for patience and endurance for the staff in this final stretch of the school year.

The next Board Meeting will be on May 28 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,  
Carien Dominicus

*"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*

### **From the Auction Committee:**

A huge thank you to everyone who came out to the auction. We had another successful event which could not have been done without all the great canvassers, donators, buyers, and all the volunteers who helped with the kid's corner, concession, coffee, baking, clerking, taking bids, bouncy castle, and front table. We would also like to thank each class and the teachers for putting great baskets together that sold so well.

Ponoka Christian School is so blessed in that God gives us the means to provide a Christian education to our children. To God be all the glory, "give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." Ps 100:4b-5

Thanks, From the auction committee  
Brienne Horne, Brandi Pieper, and Val Ingwersen

### **Sports News - Mr. Josh Van Doesburg**

Badminton season is in full swing. Players/teams who place in the top 4 this week will move onto CWAJHAA championships next week (location and dates TBD). Just a reminder to parents and those watching badminton games that there can be no cheering or coaching from the stands.

The Jr High Christian schools track meet is scheduled for Friday May 22 at Lindsay Thurber school in Red Deer. All students in grades 7-9 are required to sign up for at least two events. There will be a sign-up sheet going up next week on the jr. high bulletin board. More details to come closer to the date.

Students are excited about the new soccer opportunity this year! We have about 50 students signed up from grades 4-9 who will be participating in a soccer tournament with other schools during school hours on June 5. The tournament will be held at the Woodland Soccer fields in Lacombe. As this is a new event for all schools involved pertinent details will be released as soon as they become available.

### **Important Dates**

<b>May 1-6</b>	Bobtail orders available for pickup at Bobtail Nursery
<b>May 6</b>	Kindergarten/Preschool Field Trip to Gull Lake Honey
<b>May 7</b>	<b>No Preschool</b>
<b>May 7</b>	Ice Cream Sandwich Delivery Day
<b>May 8</b>	Bobtail Order pick up from the school (time TBD)
<b>May 11-13</b>	Grade 9 grad trip
<b>May 14</b>	Field Day
<b>May 15</b>	<b>No School</b>
<b>May 18</b>	<b>No School</b>
<b>May 19</b>	<b>No School</b> – Teacher Work Day
<b>May 21</b>	All School Chapel – Servant Working
<b>May 22</b>	Junior High Track and Field
<b>May 26</b>	Gr 5/6 Field Trip – Telus World of Science
<b>May 28</b>	Gr 8/9 Field Trip – Science Fair
<b>May 28</b>	<b>Spring Society Meeting – 8pm</b>
<b>May 29</b>	<b>Extra Kindergarten Day</b>
<b>May 29</b>	Gr 1/2 Field Trip – Sunnybrook Farm Museum
<b>June 1</b>	Gr 1/2 Field Trip - Gymnastics Club
<b>June 4</b>	Kindergarten Field Trip – Ellis Bird Farm
<b>June 5</b>	Koinonia School Band Performance – 10:15 am
<b>June 5</b>	Soccer Tournament
<b>June 8-12</b>	<b>Exams</b>
<b>June 13</b>	<b>Extra Kindergarten Day</b>
<b>June 13</b>	<b>Last Day of School - Early Dismissal</b>
<b>June 13</b>	Grade 9 Graduation

**Exams** – Exams for students will be held the mornings of June 8 – 12. Please make every effort to have your child here for those dates to write their exams.

**Field Day** – Volunteers needed! Field day is scheduled for May 15. We are looking for parent, grandparent, or even older sibling volunteers to help this day run smoothly. We hope to have 12 volunteers for the morning activities and 12 volunteers for the afternoon volunteers.

Volunteers will be asked to be here from 8:30 – 11:45 am for the morning and 12 – 3:15pm for the afternoon. If this is something that you would like to help out with or if you have any questions please contact the office by email, [office@ponokachristianschool.com](mailto:office@ponokachristianschool.com) or by phone, 403.783.6563.

**School Supplies** – Ponoka Christian School will once again be working with School Start to provide parents an easy way to order and purchase their school supplies for next school year.

Here are some things you should know:

- Supplies can be ordered in preset kits per grade
- Kits can be delivered to the school or to your home
- Order online
- Brand name products that are guaranteed throughout the whole school year
- The school will receive \$5 back for every kit ordered

More details and class supply lists along with more details and instructions on how to order will be provided in May.

### **From the Development Committee**

- **Thank you:** The Special Events committee hosted a successful Grandparents/Special guests' day at PCS this week. The students really enjoyed all those who were able to make it out to visit them in the school and classrooms.
- **Bobtail Nursery Fundraiser:** Thank you to all those who supported this fundraiser! Approximately \$1900 was raised! Funds raised will go towards a baseball backstop. Orders will be available for pickup at Bobtail Nursery between May 1 -6. All orders not picked up at that time must be picked up at the school on May 8 (time TBD).
- **Boston Pizza Operation Education:**  
Thank you to all those who have handed in receipts already! Please continue to turn in your original receipts from any Edmonton and surrounding area Boston Pizza locations including, Ponoka, Lacombe and Red Deer to the school office, dating from Jan until June 2026. The school can then receive 5% of the total (before tax) of all receipts submitted!

### **Accepting Registrations for Preschool and Kindergarten**

Ponoka Christian School is still accepting **registrations for Kindergarten Students** for the 2026-27 school year. Information and registration packages can be found on the school website at [www.ponokachristianschool.com](http://www.ponokachristianschool.com) or may be picked up from the school office.

**Ponoka Christian Preschool is still accepting applications** for enrollment for the 2026-27 school year. Ponoka Christian Preschool offers a transitional experience that extends the home and

early childhood program into the elementary school. As such, it provides a flexible program that considers the developmental stages of children as well as their individual differences and allows them to grow as a child of God in all aspects of life.

Our program offers 2 half days a week for the duration of the school year for children aged 3-5 years of age and not yet enrolled in kindergarten. For more information and application packages please visit, [www.ponokachristianschool.com](http://www.ponokachristianschool.com) or call the school at 403.783.6563.

### **Community News and Events**

**Potato Fundraiser** – Potatoes available for purchase! You choose the amount and make a donation you think is fair. To order, phone Hylko and Hilje Feitsma: 403-783-6000. The proceeds from the potato sales will be graciously donated to Ponoka Christian School.

**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](http://www.rcmflourish.ca/camp) to get more information!

**Red Deer Regional Airshow** - We are excited to invite your students, staff, and families to attend the upcoming **Red Deer Regional Airshow** with an exclusive **15% off General Admission Tickets** for your school community.

As a valued partner in our region, Students along with their families and staff members can access this special offer by using the Promo code: **RDRAGroup** when purchasing tickets.

**Discount:** 15% off all General Admission Tickets

**Promo Code:** RDRAGroup

**Location:** Red Deer Regional Airport

**Tickets:** [reddeerregionalairshow.com/](http://reddeerregionalairshow.com/)

This year's event will feature an exciting lineup including the **Canadian Forces Snowbirds**, the **CF-18 Tactical Demonstration**, the **Canadian Armed Forces Parachute Team – SkyHawks**, **Historical Harvard**, **Morgan66 Racing**, and more. Beyond the aerial performances, the event will include **food trucks**, **aviation static displays**, a **community market**, **interactive STEM activities**, a **pilot autograph tent**, and the **Red Deer Auto Showcase presented by Adrenalin Auto Group**, bringing together the excitement of both aviation and automotive displays.

