# **Upcoming Important Dates**

**December 19** Christmas Program 7pm @ Sonrise Christian Reformed Church

**December 20** No School - Christmas Break starts

January 6 School Resumes

January 9 All School chapel – Image Reflector

January 16 All School Chapel – \*See note below

January 16 Hot Lunch – Chicken burger meal

January 17 Extra Kindergarten Day
January 30 Gr 8/9 Nakiska ski trip

January 31 No School – Teacher Work Day

\*January 16, 2025: All school chapel featuring Prairie College President Mark Maxwell at 10:40 am. Prairie College is an excellent Bible College located in Three Hills, AB. Mark Maxwell will be available for any questions from parents following chapel.

#### From the Principal – Mr. Bob Morris

Isaiah 9:2-3 "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Isaiah 9:6-7 "For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

The Christmas story is a profound narrative rooted in the prophecy of Isaiah 9, which foretells the coming of a Messiah. In verses 6 and 7, Isaiah writes, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." This passage sums up the essence of Christmas, highlighting the birth of Jesus as a pivotal event in human history.

The significance of this prophecy lies in its promise of hope and restoration. In a world filled with darkness and despair, Isaiah's words herald the arrival of light through Jesus Christ. The titles bestowed upon the Messiah reflect his divine nature and the unparalleled peace he brings. "Wonderful Counselor" signifies his wisdom in guiding humanity, while "Prince of Peace" assures us of the calmness that reigns in his presence.

As we celebrate Christmas, we remember not only the nativity but also the fulfillment of God's promise through Isaiah's prophecy. The birth of Jesus represents a new beginning, a chance for reconciliation between God and humanity. It invites us to embrace the message of hope, joy, and love that resonates throughout the season. Christmas is a time to reflect on these promises

and to share the joy of the Savior's birth with others, fostering peace and goodwill in our community.

In essence, Isaiah 9 beautifully summarizes the heart of the Christmas story, reminding us of the transformative power of Jesus, the light that dispels darkness and brings hope to all. It is my hope and prayer that each family has a Merry Christmas and joyous holiday season filled with God's love.

# From the Board - Mrs. Carien Dominicus

Here we are at the end of 2024 already! We can look back on this past year and see the Lord's guiding hand and many blessings to our school and school community.

A huge thank-you goes out to Mrs. Teeling and all the students for all the work they put into this year's Christmas program! We look forward to seeing the program Thursday evening and enjoying a time together with our school family to celebrate the birth of our Savior!

We would also like to thank the many parents who came in for the various craft days this year, as well as the Development Committee for putting on the annual All-School Christmas Lunch. The last couple weeks of school before Christmas are always such a fun and busy time and we are so blessed by the many volunteers it takes to make these events happen.

A thank-you also goes to Mrs. Kyiera Ericson for teaching grade 2 this fall and winter, and we pray she will have a blessed maternity leave as they welcome a new baby into the family very soon. We are excited to welcome Mrs. Micayla Nanninga back from her maternity leave and to continue teaching the grade 2 class beginning in the New Year!

As a Board, we would also just like to once again thank all those who donated to the Fall Drive. \$70,000 of the budgeted \$86,500 has been collected. If anyone was missed or would still like to donate towards it, we would still gladly receive donations

Our first Board meeting of the new year is scheduled for Wednesday February 5, 2025. As always, please let us know if you have any comments or concerns.

On behalf of the Board, may you all have a joyous Christmas celebrating the birth of our Savior and a very blessed 2025!

Carien Dominicus PCS Board Secretary

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

#### **PCS Athletics**

Basketball season is off to a great start this year! This year at PCS we have 3 teams, 2 boys' teams and a girl's team. Games start in January, check the calendar as games have been added. Please check back often as dates are subject to change. Coaches will try their best to keep parents informed of changes through the team WhatsApp groups. Please also use the team chat to arrange rides for games. (Reminder: Parents driving other students will need to fill out

the Volunteer Driver Form and provide a copy of their drivers license and valid insurance) We are looking forward to a great season of basketball!

Any questions, please reach out to Mr. Van Doesburg.

### **From Development**

Students and staff enjoyed a pizza lunch followed by cookie decorating, with the cookies baked right here at school by the Foods options class! Students were organized into their GIFT groups which have students from all grades together. It was a blessing to see the students all working together with the older helping and assisting the younger ones, either in the food line or with cookie decorating.

<u>Gift Card Fundraiser</u> – Order forms must be submitted back to the school by **Jan 7**. Cards will be available for pickup or sent home on or around the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

<u>Boston Pizza Operation Education Fundraiser</u> – Don't feel like cooking during this busy time? Why not plan to head to BPs for a dinner out? By doing so, you could be making money for the school! We are asking all families and supporters to turn in their original receipts from any Edmonton and surrounding area Boston Pizza locations including, Ponoka, Lacombe and Red Deer to the school office. The school can then receive 5% of the total (before tax) of all receipts submitted!