



From the Principal - Mr. Bob Morris

Why? This is such a hard question to answer. There are times in our lives when tragedy happens, and it is hard to understand.

On Tuesday, April 22 we learned of the tragedy faced by Rimbey Christian School. Two RCS teachers commuting together to work were involved in an automobile accident that took the life of Josh Reimer and sent Austin Bueckert to the hospital with many broken bones and internal injuries.

“Why” is so hard to understand. Both teachers are young, energetic, committed followers of Jesus, husbands, fathers, friends, mentors, coaches, and are held in high regard in the community of Rimbey Christian School. Mr. Bueckert was a student teacher a few years ago in our school under the supervision of Mr. Van Doesburg. Both are close friends of Mr. Van Doesburg.

The principals of Rimbey Christian School had to tell the staff and then tell the students in their classes. School was dismissed for the day and plans had to be created for the next few days. Pastors, counselors, and teachers have reached out to Rimbey to help them through this time. They have put together a good plan to help students and staff during this time of loss. The “why” was asked this morning. Our weather has recently been good. We had a four-day weekend to reflect on the death and Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. The road conditions went from spring to winter as the road turned slippery and foggy for the morning commute west of Highway 2.

The Psalms are filled with David and others struggling with challenges. Psalm 13 proclaims David’s struggle with despair and yet ends up saying “But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good for me.” Please pray for the Reimer family as they mourn the loss of Josh. Please pray for Austin Bueckert’s recovery and healing. Please pray for his family as well. Please pray for the students, staff, and society of Rimbey Christian School as they wrestle with this.

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 12. It was a great day with our school community, and we’re thrilled to have raised \$263,000 for our school and \$17,000 of that to our Long-Term Sustainability fund. Thank you to the Auction Committee (Christina Vreugdenhil, Brianne Horne and Brandi Pieper) for all their hard work this year. Thanks be to God for blessing us with a generous and supportive school community!

Hiring for 2025/2026: We would also ask that Society please keep our Hiring Committee in your prayers. As of yet, we are thankful to have hired 2 new teachers but are still searching for another teacher to be able to split apart the Grade 8/9 class. If you know of anyone who may

qualify, please send them our way and pray that if the Lord wills, He would provide an excellent candidate who can teach our students next year.

Teen Ed: Shalom Counseling Center will be doing a Healthy lifestyles presentation for grade 5/6 and 8/9 on May 9. Information will be sent out to the parent in the coming weeks.

Spring Society Meeting: As a Board, we look forward to seeing all Society members on **Monday, May 26th at 8:00pm** in the school gym. 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 3 new members to replace Irwin VEP (Transportation Rep), Jenneke Feitsma (Development Rep) and Jordan Vreugdenhil (Chair), who have all reached the end of their terms. Aaron Horne will serve as our Board Chair, so we are looking for a Facilities Rep instead of a new Board Chair. 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.
- **2025/2026 Budget:** We will be approving the budget for next school year

Our next Board Meeting will be on Wednesday May 7th, 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. \$263,000 was raised and \$17,000 of that was for the Longterm Sustainability Fund! We could not have done that without all the great canvassers, donators, buyers, and all the others that helped in 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.

Ultimately, to God be 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
Christina Vreugdenhill, Brianne Horne & Brandi Pieper

Sports News - Mr. Josh Van Doesburg

Badminton season is in full swing. Players/teams who place in the top 4 at this week's tournament will move on to the Wolf Creek Championships next week to take place at Iron Ridge School in Blackfalds. Players who place in the top 4 there will move onto CWAJHAA

championships (location and date 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 23 at Lindsay Thurber school in Red Deer. All students in grades 7-9 are required to sign up for at least one event. 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.

Important Dates

May 1	All School Chapel – Creation Enjoyer
May 1-6	Bobtail orders available for pickup at Bobtail Nursery
May 6	Kindergarten/Preschool Field Trip to JJ Collette Natural Area
May 8	Bobtail Order pick up from the school
May 9	Extra Kindergarten Day
May 12-14	Grade 8-9 trip
May 15	Field Day
May 15	All School Photo
May 16-20	No School
May 22	Celebration of Learning
May 23	Extra Kindergarten Day
May 23	Kinder/Gr 1 Field Trip to Ellis Bird Farm
May 23	Junior High Track and Field
May 26	Spring Society Meeting – 8pm
June 9-13	Exams
June 13	Last Day of School - Early Dismissal

Exams – Exams for students will be held the mornings of June 9 – 13. 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 or by phone, 403.783.6563.

School Supplies – Ponoka Christian School is excited to let you know that it has teamed up 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 today. The students really enjoyed all those who were able to make it out to visit them in the school and classrooms. We also want to thank all those dads, grandpas and special guests who came to help the grade 1 students build bird houses back in March. This was a great evening full of laughs and fun!
- **Bobtail Nursery Fundraiser:** Thank you to all those who supported this fundraiser! Approximately \$1600 was raised! Funds raised will go towards Year End field trips. 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 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 Kindergarten Students** for the 2025-26 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.

Ponoka Christian Preschool is now accepting applications for enrollment for the 2025-26 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 or call the school at 403.783.6563.

Ponoka Christian School is Hiring!

Are you passionate about shaping young minds and fostering a love of learning? Our vibrant and supportive school is currently seeking a dedicated Elementary or Junior High Teacher to fill a position in either Grade One or Grade Eight for the 2025–2026 academic year. Whether you're inspired by the curiosity of first graders or the emerging independence of eighth graders, we want to hear from you!

Position: Full-Time Classroom Teacher

Grades: Grade 1 or Grade 8 (final placement based on fit and experience)

Start Date: August 2025

Location: Ponoka Christian School

Interested candidates please submit your resume, cover letter, references, statement of faith and pastoral reference to office@ponokachristianschool.com, attention: Robert Morris. Position will be available until a suitable candidate is found.

Community News and Events

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!