



From the Principal - Mr. Bob Morris

“Mr. Morris, I have memorized a scripture verse”. I can’t tell you how many students over the years have come up to me with a smile on their face and then they share “Jesus wept”. Many can’t tell where it is from or the context of the story. John 11:35 is the shortest verse in the Bible, consisting of two words. Despite this verse being so short, there is much that we can learn from it.

Jesus learns that his friend named Lazarus is very sick. The Bible tells us that Jesus didn’t immediately rush to Lazarus’ home but stayed away for days. Mary and Martha have seen Jesus perform miracles and knew that Jesus could bring healing to Lazarus. By the time that Jesus arrives, Lazarus has been in a tomb for four days. Martha goes on to say: “If you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” Martha shows that her faith in Jesus is unwavering.

John 11:25-27: Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” “Yes Lord,” she told him, “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come into the world.”

A little later, Mary saw Jesus and was weeping with a group of others. Here is where we see Jesus demonstrating both his divine power and his profound humanity. It is here where we learn that ‘Jesus wept’. Though Jesus is fully divine, he showed human emotions. His tears remind believers that sorrow and grief are not signs of weakness but natural expressions of love and loss. His weeping also demonstrates that God is not distant or indifferent to human suffering; instead, He shares in it.

Jesus calls Lazarus from the dead and Lazarus walks out of the tomb. Jesus shows his power over death. Jesus foreshadows the future as he has a short time left before his own death and resurrection. In a short time, Jesus will pay the ultimate price by dying on a cross for all our sins, the ultimate sacrifice.

“Jesus wept” is the shortest verse in the Bible. It is a complete sentence with a subject and predicate. The passage is wonderful for students to learn and memorize, especially knowing the whole story. This passage is one of many profound passages, showing Jesus’ deep connection with His people.

From the Board - Mrs. Carien Dominicus

Spring is coming! It is so exciting to see the seasons changing and to see all the beautiful ways that God displays His glory in creation.

The Board and staff are excited to bring back the Citizenship award and the Merit award. Below are the qualifications for the Merit and Citizenship awards:

Merit Award: The Merit award is awarded to students in Gr 6-9 that demonstrate excellent effort in their core classes and is based upon the effort marks on the Grade 6-9 report cards. The following criteria must be met for the students to achieve the certificate at the end of the

year. This is based upon the 1-4 effort level system that is already in place on the report cards.

- Students must get a 1 in effort in a minimum of 3 core subjects (Math, Social, Science, and Bible)
- Students in Grade 7-9 must get a minimum of one 1 in effort in their other subjects. (Gym or Health)
- Students in Grade 6 need a minimum of two 1's in effort in their other subjects. (Art, Gym, Health, Music)
- If any student gets a 4 in effort in any subject, they are automatically removed from contention.
- If any student has two or more 3's in effort they are removed from contention.

The teacher will make a note in the comments at the end of each term stating whether they are on track for the award and the student will be awarded the certificate if they achieve these benchmarks in all 3 terms.

Citizenship Award Criteria: The Citizenship award is for one student in grade 8/9 (preferable a graduating student) who demonstrates responsibility, helps and supports others, has a positive attitude, displays kindness to others, works hard in class, listens to others, has integrity, has courage to do what is right, respects others, shows concern for others, dependable, Christian character (fruits of the Spirit), cares about school, positive role model, volunteers, follows rules, involved in school activities and contributes to the school.

The Board would also just like to remind you of a couple dates for your calendars:

- April 12th: We are very excited to spend the day with you all at our annual Spring Auction! Come for a great day of fellowship with the school community as well as many fun activities for the kids, while we raise funds for the school.
- May 23rd: Save this date for our Spring Society Meeting. We will be voting in 3 new Board members at this meeting. Please continue to keep the Board in prayer as we go through the nomination process to come up with names to be voted on to replace Jordan Vreugdenhil, Jenneke Feitsma and Irwin VEP. As well, please be reminded that only those who are up to date on their Society fees will have voting privileges; please check with Irene Fraser or myself if you are unsure if you have paid your fees for this year.

After recent crime in our town and a theft in our parking lot, we'd like to remind everyone parking at the school to please not leave any valuables in your vehicles and report suspicious activity.

The Board will meet again on Wednesday April 2. Please feel free to contact one of us if you have any comments.

We pray you all have a blessed and refreshing Spring Break as well as a Blessed Easter remembering and celebrating the sacrifice made for us by our risen Saviour.

On Behalf of the PCS Board,
Carien Dominicus

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3

Sports News - Mr. Josh Van Doesburg

As basketball season has officially come to a close we would like to once again thank all of our coaches for a great season!

Badminton try-outs will be held after the Spring Break for Gr 7-9 students. Please note there will be a fee payment of \$20 for all badminton players. Practice days are yet to be determined but will be posted on the school calendar. If you have any questions about the badminton season, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are looking forward to a fun couple weeks of badminton!

Important Dates

March 21	Spring Break starts – No School
March 31	School resumes
April 3	Report Cards go home
April 4	Extra Kindergarten Day
April 12	PCS Auction
April 17	Easter Chapel – All are welcome
April 17	Hot Lunch – Taco in a bag (for those who ordered)
April 18	No School – Good Friday
April 21	No School – Easter Monday
April 22	No School – Teacher Work Day
April 24	Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day at PCS

Grandparents, special visitors, and pastors are invited to spend an afternoon at Ponoka Christian School on April 24. There will be a special program at 1:15pm after which visitors are welcome to stay and visit the classrooms. Doors open at 1pm and there is no need to RSVP.

From the Development Committee

- **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!

- **Bobtail Nursery Fundraiser:** Thank you to all those who supported this fundraiser! 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).

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

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!