



The PCS board and staff wishes you a restful and relaxing summer break. Plans are underway for the 2025-26 school year. Here are a few items that you should be aware of:

1. **August 28, 10am – 12pm:** Meet the Teacher
2. **September 2, 2025:** First Day of School - K- Gr. 9
  - a. 8:30 – 9:15am – Pancake Breakfast
  - b. 9:15am – Opening Assembly. Parents are welcome to attend.
  - c. 1-3pm – **Preschool Open House:** Come meet the teacher and check out the classroom. This is for preregistered students and anyone who maybe interested in finding out what preschool is all about!
3. **Supply Lists:** Students in all grades will be asked to provide their own school supplies based on the attached list(s). Parents may have the option to purchase premade supply kits from schoolstart.ca or purchase elsewhere. The school receives \$5 back in rebates for every kit ordered through the School Start program.
4. **Nut Free School** – Just a reminder PCS is a nut free school. Please be aware of this when making lunches and ensure that any food brought to school does not contain any type of nuts or nut butters.

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

Hebrews 12:1-3 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

We have come to the conclusion of another school year. This year saw students work hard in the classroom, at sports, hopefully grow more in their faith, and many completed end of year examinations. It's been a busy year. We've had some challenges and worked through them.

I enjoyed teaching math to the grade six students this year. I had a number of students that struggled with learning a concept. Some couldn't be bothered but others came to me and asked if I could reteach the concept and maybe allow a retest. Pushing through isn't the easy way. I remember one student that asked if they could have multiple opportunities to write a test and weren't satisfied until they mastered the material.

In my year end devotion to students, I spoke a little about those that failed and kept trying. One of my favourite basketball players was Michael Jordan. He once stated: “I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times I've been trusted to take

the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

I know it has been a long year. Some can't wait until they can work, some can't wait to go camping or visit relatives and friends. Perhaps the number one thing on everyone's minds is summer holidays and the adventure it brings. Some will look back over the year and say that they have grown, academically, in faith, character, athletic ability and it was because of hard work and perseverance.

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

As we reflect on this past year, we, as a Board, would like to thank all of our staff, students, parents, society members and supporters for a smooth and successful year! Without your support, this past year could not have been the success that it was, and we are thankful to God that He has blessed our school with such a supportive and generous community. We also give thanks to God for His guiding and protective hand over this past school year.

***Society Meeting:*** We would also like to thank all those who attended our Spring Society Meeting on May 26th. Some highlights from this meeting were:

- We welcomed Winnie de Vries as a new Society Member
- Stephanie Thalen, Brian Wassink and Gert Van Der Vegte were elected to each serve a 3-year term on the Board. We would like to welcome them to the Board and pray that they may be granted all that they need to fulfill their tasks to God's glory and be a blessing to our school. We also thank those who allowed their name to stand; it is such a blessing to have Society members willing to serve in this way!
- We would like to thank the Society for considering a new blended tuition structure. With the results of the vote, it has been decided to remain with the current tiered tuition structure.
- Budget 2025/2026 was approved.
- Congratulations were given to some staff members for 5 years of service at Ponoka Christian School. Congratulations again to Candace Slomp, Vicky Jang and Micayla Nanninga. We are grateful to God for each one of you and the gifts that He has blessed you with.

***Staffing Updates:*** As we close this school year, we must say farewell to a few of our staff members. Micayla Nanninga and McKayla Hulsman are both going on maternity leave as they each expect to welcome a baby to the family this summer. Janelle Winkelaar is moving to the United States as her husband attends seminary, and Leah Jackson will be working at LCS in the fall. We are incredibly grateful for all they have done at PCS, and although they will all be

missed, we pray that they are each blessed in their future endeavors either with family or with work.

We would also like to officially welcome 3 new teachers to our school! Welcome to Zachary Mcfarlane, who will be teaching grades 5 & 6, Lydia Butcher, who will be teaching grade 2 and Brianna Wiatr who will be teaching grade 1. Some of you may have heard of them already as they've been subbing in the classrooms recently. Please give them a warm welcome and we pray that they also may be given all they need in their positions. It's such a blessing to have found our staffing for the coming school year.

While the teaching assignments listed below reflect our current planning for the 2025-26 school year, please be aware they may be adjusted based on staffing or scheduling needs

Preschool – Mrs. Karri Folkerts

Kindergarten – Mrs. Rebekah TenHove

Grade 1 – Mrs. Brianna Wiatr

Grade 2 – Miss Lydia Butcher

Grade 3/4 – Mrs. Sadie Beaunoyer

Grade 5/6 – Mr. Zachary Mcfarlane

Grade 7 – Mrs. Vicky Jang

Grade 8 – Mr. Joshua Van Doesburg

Grade 9 – Mrs. Lenni Goedhart

Gr 6/8 Math – Mrs. Andrea Thalen

Educational Assistants: Mrs. Henriette de Wolde, Mrs. Elaine Bajema, Mrs. Grace Hovius

Library – Mrs. Yvonne Reed

Music – Mrs. Val Teeling

**Board:** Our final Board meeting of this school year was held on June 4th, where Board positions were chosen as follows: Chair – Aaron Horne, Secretary – Carien Dominicus, Finance – Greg Thalen, Education and Vice All – Emily Sterk, Facilities – Brian Wassink, Transportation - Gert Van Der Vegte, Development – Stephanie Thalen. We want to send a big Thank You to our outgoing board members, Jordan Vreugdenhil, Jenneke Feitsma and Irwin Van Eeden Petersman. Each spent a total of 6 years committed to our school and community. Your work

was valuable, and we appreciate your dedication of time and energy. Our next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday September 3, 2025.

**Committees:** We have a few society members that have faithfully served Ponoka Christian School, and we would like to acknowledge their contributions.

- Leah Jackson for her service on the Chapel Committee
- Ben Pieper for his service to the Education Committee
- Tracy Egelsman for her service on the Library Committee and Education Committee
- Alana Van Der Vegte for her service on the Development Committee.
- Christina Vreugdenhil for her service on the Auction Committee
- Candace Van Eeden Petersman for her service on Special Events Committee
- Regina Rispens for her service on Special Events Committee

**Grad:** We would also like to say farewell to each of our Grade 9 students. A huge congratulations to each one of you on graduating from PCS and we pray that as you move on to High School, the Lord would be with each of you and that you all may continue to grow in your faith and knowledge of our Saviour and be witnesses of Him in this world and bring Him glory in all that you do.

**Family Goodbyes:** We would like to say a temporary goodbye to the Lubach family as their youngest daughter is graduating grade 9. They have been involved with our school for a long time, and we know that we will see you around. We would also like to say goodbye to the Auclair and Winkelaar families as both families move away from the area this summer.

**School Times:** Another small change for the next school year is that the day will be 5 minutes longer. The day will run from 8:40am - 3:20pm with the buses leaving at 3:25pm. This allows for all students to have a small scheduled snack break in the morning.

**School Supplies:** You have hopefully already seen that students in all grades K-9 will need to purchase their own school supplies this year. You can find the school supply lists on the website under Resources and are able to order through "School Start" or purchase supplies on your own.

We pray that you all have a blessed summer break, enjoying time with family and friends; and as always if you have any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the Board!

On Behalf of the PCS Board,  
Carien Dominicus

*"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans." Proverbs 16:3*

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

A big thank you to all the parents, teachers and volunteers who helped make PCS' athletics program a success this year! We are blessed to be able to run 5 volleyball teams and 3 basketball teams, as well as a badminton, cross country and track team. Each athlete was given the opportunity to grow and develop their physical talents and abilities while also honoring God.

Volleyball Camp @ Ponoka Christian School

Cost: **Free**

Time: **August 25 - 27 (Mon - Wed)**

Grades 5-7: **4 - 5:30pm**

Grade 8/9: **5:30 - 7pm**

I hope you all have an excellent summer.

Blessings,

Joshua Van Doesburg

### **Important Dates**

|                    |                              |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Aug 25 – 27</b> | Volleyball Camp              |
| <b>Aug 28</b>      | Meet the Teacher             |
| <b>Sept 2</b>      | First Day of School (K-9)    |
| <b>Sept 2</b>      | Preschool Open House (1-3pm) |
| <b>Sept 4</b>      | First Day of Preschool       |

**Now Accepting Applications** - Ponoka Christian School is still accepting **Applications for Pre-School Students** for the 2025-26 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.

**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

**PCS is hiring** - Please share these openings with anyone that you know that might be interested.

**EA Position available:** Ponoka Christian School is looking to hire an Educational Assistant to serve in the grade 3/4 class. The candidate should be able to work one-to-one with students as well as with groups of students. This position will be between 0.75 FTE and 1.0 FTE.

**Options Coordinator:** Ponoka Christian School is looking for a person to organize junior high options courses. This position is approximately 0.25 FTE.

Interested candidates can submit a cover letter, resume, and references (including pastoral reference) to [bob.morris@ponokachristianschool.com](mailto:bob.morris@ponokachristianschool.com).

**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!