



Upcoming Important Dates

November 28	Report Cards
November 28	Extra Kindergarten Day
December 4	Makkinga Market Order Pickup – sign up for a time
December 10	Christmas Concert 7pm @ Sonrise Christian Reformed Church
December 11	Picture Retakes
December 12	Extra Kindergarten Day
December 18	All school Christmas lunch
December 18	Christmas Chapel
December 20	Christmas Break starts
January 5	School Resumes

From the Principal – Mr. Bob Morris

Luke 1:13-15: *But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth.”*

We are entering Advent, a Christian season of preparation and waiting that begins four Sundays before Christmas. Its meaning comes from the Latin word for coming and refers to the celebration of Jesus' birth. During this time people focus on prayer, hope, peace, and love.

Luke blesses us with such detail about the events that led up to the birth of our Saviour. Luke introduces us to Zechariah and Elizabeth. Both were older as Luke tells us in verse 7, “both were well along in years.” Both were, “Upright in the sight of God” (verse 6). Here is an older couple that were serving God and living their lives that reflected obedience from the heart.

Sometimes prayer can seem hard. In this passage we know that Zechariah and Elizabeth spent much time praying for a child over the years. They must have been disappointed and discouraged when they couldn't have children when they were younger. Sometimes we pray to God, petitioning Him to help, heal, guide us or others and sometimes it seems that the Lord doesn't answer our prayers. How many times have we prayed for those we love and care about and God doesn't provide healing or restoration in a way that we want. I know I have prayed for healing and restoration that hasn't been answered yet. How many times have we prayed for family and friends that don't know the Lord and time passes. Colleen and I recently witnessed a testimony of someone who prayed for her friend to become a follower of Jesus, and she prayed for over 40 years. Her friend was recently baptized at our church. It reminded me that I need to keep on praying for others, even when I get discouraged that there isn't any progress.

Zechariah has an angel appear before him and tells him that his prayers have been heard. This teaches us that God answers prayer in His own way and in His own time. God worked in an impossible situation with providing a son to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age and while Elizabeth was barren. It reminds us that God can do amazing things in impossible situations. Our great lesson is to wait for God to work in His way and in His time.

Luke 1:14,15 also includes a few other important declarations that are given by the angel of the Lord. Firstly, the angel tells Zechariah that his future son will be a “joy and delight to you”. This is a powerful affirmation and reminder of how we should be viewing our children. Parenting can be challenging at times. It is a powerful and wonderful thing when we view our children as a joy and delight. The angel tells Zechariah that his son “will be great in the sight of the Lord.” It is a powerful statement that John will be great in the sight of the Lord. The final important nugget from this short passage is the angel telling Zechariah that his son “will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth.” This is Luke’s first mention of the Holy Spirit as a Gospel writer.

The lessons I learned from this short but important passage relates to the season of Advent. I need to keep petitioning God in prayer for others, for their healing and for those who don’t know God. I need to be reminded that our children can and should be a joy and delight. I have two adult daughters that are a joy and delight to me and I need to tell them that they are a joy and delight. I am reminded that even though God is all knowing and powerful, He does call us all and we have the ability to do great things in the sight of the Lord. The final lesson for me in this passage is the importance of being filled with the Holy Spirit.

It is my prayer that during this season of Advent that we will spend time of reflection and draw closer to God.

From the Board - Mrs. Carien Dominicus

A big thank-you to everyone who came out for the Society Meeting on November 20th. You all play such an important role in our children’s and grandchildren’s education. We are blessed that everything is running smoothly and there were no big concerns to report on.

The Fall Drive officially wrapped up on November 14th. This year, as of the printing of this newsletter, a total of 72,700 has been raised of the \$77,000.00 that was budgeted and approved by society! The Board would like to thank everyone who donated and continues to bless our school and the future of our students.

As we enter the Christmas season, we look forward to enjoying the school Christmas Concert on December 10 at 7pm at Sunrise CRC in Ponoka. All families and friends are invited!

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 3. If you have any comments or concerns, please let us know.

On Behalf of the PCS Board,
Carien Dominicus

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3:23-24

PCS Athletics

Congratulations to all of our student athletes who participated in a busy volleyball season. The season wrapped up with successes from both A teams. The girls finished top spot in the Wolf Creek Championships and both boys and girls teams earned first place finishes at their respective CWAJHAA Qualifiers and CWAJHAA finals tournaments, earning the school 5 more banners!!

All athletes on the 5 teams had a great year developing their skills and we couldn't have had this fantastic season with out the support of parents and families who spent many hours driving and cheering on our teams! A special thank you also goes out to our coaches, assistant coaches and staff reps who spent many hours at practices and games, working with our students.

B2 Girls: Lori Morskate and Andrea Thalen

B Boys: James Wiatr, Brianna Wiatr and Candace Slomp

B Girls: Sadie Beaunoyer

A Boys: Fenanda De Vries, Celine Newton and Vicky Jang

A Girls: Josh Van Doesburg, Lenni Goedhart, Chelsea Vreugdenhil, and Kasey Bajema

Basketball season will begin soon and any students in grades 6-9 interested in playing can sign up on the sheet going up next week on the bulletin board by the grade 7 classroom. Basketball games will not begin until the new year, which will allow a break for all those involved after a busy volleyball season. Please discuss with your child(ren) whether they would like to play.





From Development

December 18: The Development Committee looks forward to hosting the annual All School Christmas Lunch on. Students and staff will enjoy a pizza lunch followed by cookie decorating with the cookies baked right here at school by the Foods options class!

Jan 29: Save the Date for the **Gr 1 birdhouse** building evening!

Makkinga Market Fundraiser – We want to send a big thank you to everyone who supported and participated in this year’s Makkinga Market Fundraiser! The fundraiser was a huge success and raised a total of \$5924.15, which will be put towards a baseball backstop. A big thank you goes out to Makkinga Market for their support and partnership again. A special congratulations goes to the Wassink family for selling the most product this year! They will be the new recipients of the ‘Salesmanship’ trophy.

**** Orders will be available for pickup on December 4th. Please sign up for an afternoon timeslot using the Google form that was sent out by the office.**

Gift Card Fundraisers:

Gift Cards: Last chance to order gift cards before Christmas. Some of the retailers have increased the rebates earned for the Christmas season, which means more money back to the school when those cards are purchased. Also, some of the retailers have a bonus card or coupon for the buyer when a card is purchased (see order form for details). Order forms attached or available on the website. Order forms must be submitted back to the school by **Dec 3, 2025**. Cards will be available for pickup or sent home on or around the 15th of the month.

Preordered Grocery Gift cards: Order grocery gift cards to use at local stores for your everyday purchases. Fill out the attached form and send it back to the school by **Dec 3, 2025**. There is no need to order again for the year. Cards will be available for pick up or sent home on or around the 15th of the month.

Boston Pizza Operation Education Fundraiser - Do you or people you know eat at Boston Pizza? If 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!

Potatoes Available: Any amounts of potatoes are available. Please make a donation you think is fair. **To order, phone Hylko and Hillie Feitsma: 403-783-6000.** The proceeds from the potato sales will be graciously donated to Ponoka Christian School.

From Student Council

Dear Parents/Guardians and Supporters,

The PCS Student Council has organized a fundraiser for all students at the school to participate in. This fundraiser is organized through an international organization called, World Renew, which helps to end poverty, hunger and illness through out the world. Together we hope to make a meaningful difference in communities across third world countries, by raising funds to provide animals and other necessities for people in need.

How can you participate? Parents and families are invited to donate any amount they feel led to give. All contributions collected will go directly towards World Renew's program. Even a donation of just \$4 will provide a family in need a chicken from which they can receive eggs and gain nutrients. Other gifts families can receive based on your donations are:

- Duck = \$5
- Rabbit = \$6
- 10 Bars of Soap = \$7
- Goat = \$65
- And many more!

Student Council will be accepting donations until Dec 19, 2025. Donations can be sent to school with your child and/or submitted to the school office. Donations can be sent via cash, cheque (payable to Ponoka Christian School or etransfer to business@ponokachristianschool.com).

* Please note: As this is a student council fundraiser, charitable donation receipts for donations cannot be given.

Sincerely, Student Council of Ponoka Christian School

The Gift of Hope



DURING THE CHRISTMAS season, we celebrate and cherish the hope we have in Jesus—the greatest gift ever given. It is with hope that World Renew works to help families around the world as they overcome poverty.

In Rose's small community in Uganda, most people raise animals to provide for their families. Rose, 74, is a mother and grandmother who has been able to support her family thanks to her goats.

Years ago, World Renew and one of our local partners started a food security project in Rose's community. Several women, including Rose, were each given a goat to help increase their incomes. Goats are a helpful resource for families struggling with food security: goat milk provides nourishment and income, and goat droppings help crops grow.

Before receiving the goat, Rose's family struggled to meet their basic needs. But Rose's goat eventually multiplied to a herd of 28 goats providing nourishment and income for her family. "Now I have enough to eat throughout the year," Rose shares. "My household has at least three meals a day."

That's the life-changing power of gifts like yours. Through your gifts to World Renew, you're helping to change the story of poverty for people like Rose and bring hope to their families and communities.

Will you join us in sharing the gift of hope this Christmas?



 **WorldRenew**
worldrenew.ca/gifts