



Aug 27, 2009

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Calendar of Events

Sept. 8th—School opens, 1/2 day—dismissed at 11:30 am.

Sept. 9-11th—Middle School Campout

Sept. 15th—Class Orientation and Family Bar-B-Q

Sept. 17-18th—Grade 9/10 Retreat at Camp Moorecroft

Sept. 22nd—School Photo's

Sept. 23-25th—Grade 11 Strathcona Park hike

Sept. 23-25th—Grade 12 YWAM Exposure to Missions

K-8 Opening Assembly

There will be an opening assembly for all Kindergarten—Grade 8 students on Wednesday morning September 9th at 8:50 in the school gym. Parents are both welcome and encouraged to join us as we start off the school year together.

The Eagle's Nest

Tel: (250) 754-4512 Fax: 754-4271
E-mail address: admin.ncs@shaw.ca
www.nanaimochristianschool.ca

Nanaimo Christian School: A Learning Community

Dear School family,

I'm writing to you from the Lower Mainland where my summer has suddenly ended in the form of a principal's course. It is a very enriching place to be immersed for eight full days with an equivalent number of hours of reading and assignment time. It is an expectation at Nanaimo Christian School for learning to continue through professional development opportunities such as this one. In July, other staff attended a Bible course as we are reviewing our courses and curriculum and how they may be improved and even extend into all facets of schooling. One primary reason for this activity is to be more true to and fully develop our mission statement and core values. Declaring a biblically based curricular intent means a great deal when it comes to teaching with intent, direction and purpose. So we sharpen our understanding, skills and abilities in order to better serve and lead the teaching and learning needs. It will be a main priority of NCS in the days ahead to renew a strategic learning plan for the school as our last one was ended this past spring. The old plan served us well and we have sought leadership and staff input as we renew and take a "big picture" look at our operation. Hence, the course. It has helped reaffirm past learning experiences, discern the times we live in and look ahead to future needs and possible changes that will make us a better learning community. It has challenged me to be a better Christian principal.

It's been said the one of the biggest rooms in the world is the one of improvement. I trust and hope that everyone, working together, may do so in order to educate "our children to the fullest of each one's unique potential" and as the current mission statement also states "to pursue excellence in all aspects of life". That is the mission, vision, core value and main goal of our school. May all our families, children, staff, committee and boards members, and staff ask the Lord for His blessing on this desire, as without it, all our work is in vain. "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain (Ps. 127:1, NIV). Have a great year, this year! I'm looking forward to a new look to our future with an eager anticipation of more effective learning.

Please note the attached information items for school start-up. School begins later this year on Sept. 8 with the first bell at 8:30 am and ending at 11:30, so a student lunch will not be needed. Hope to see you soon. John Reems, Principal

BUS ROUTE CHANGES!!

This year NCS, by working cooperatively with Aspengrove School, are able to offer three bus routes—North, Central and South Route's.

The North route will no longer stop at Woodgrove Mall.

The South route will now stop in the Chase River area and then route through Harewood along Bruce Avenue to Third St then to NCS.

The Central route is our newest route and will start at Woodgrove Centre, follow Hammond Bay Road to Uplands Drive then to Departure Bay Road. Depending on ridership, the route will then either head along Bowen Road to the Divers Lake area or alternately follow Departure Bay Road to Cilaire. We would sincerely appreciate input from parents as we plan the stops.

We currently have space for 15 students on the central route but may be able to secure more spots should the need arise.

Pick up and drop off times will be earlier than normal, but this helps us accommodate both schools. NCS students will be arriving at NCS at approximately 8:15 am.

For more information please contact Lynn at NCS, 754-4512 or lynn.ncs@shaw.ca

Teacher Assignments for 2009/10

Preschool	Mrs. Shelly Yates
Elementary	
K	Miss Christie Hancox
1	Miss Jasmine Sonier
2	Mrs. Elana Nagtegaal
3	Mrs. Michelle Whitehead
4	Mr. Chris Verveda
5	Mr. Jim Banman
Middle School	
6	Mrs. Kim Tarby
6/7	Mrs. Shannon Gillespie
7/8	Miss Julia Hancox
8	Mr. Darren Spyksma, VP Middle School
High School	
	Mr. Brian De Schiffart, VP High School, Social Studies, Law, Bible
	Mr. Graham De Greeff, Math, Sciences
	Mr. Paul Henderson, Humanities, Planning
	Mr. Nathan Johnston, Athletic Director, PE, Bible
	Miss. Amy Randall, Eng 9, Theatre
	Mrs. Sue Collette Biology, En 11, Theatre
	Mr. Glen Friesen, Applied Skills, Math
	Mr. Arend Bakker, Math, Science
Specialists	
	Mrs. Sue De Schiffart, Learning Assistance, 6-12, Applied Skills
	Mrs. Yvonne Vandergrift, Learning Assistance K-5
	Mr. Randy Smith, Band & Music
	Miss Bev Scholman, French
	Mrs. Trisha Gradica, Elementary French, HS Art
	Mrs. Sue Collette, HS Guidance Counselor
	Mrs. Kathy Cooper, Librarian
Principal:	Mr. John Reems
Support Staff:	Mrs. Patsy Cain, Bookkeeper
	Mrs. Diane Dyck, Administrative Assistant
	Mrs. Lynn Kopec, Secretary, Receptionist
	Mrs. Dawna Ferris, Admissions
	Mrs. Corina Finlay, Development & Community Relations
	Mrs. Dianne Mains, International Student Coordinator
Custodians:	Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Brewer, Josh Brewer

GRADE 11 HIKE

The grade 11's Mt Edward Albert 2 day hike is on Sept 23-25th. Students should be getting in shape for this hike and getting the needed equipment.

GRADE 12 YWAM TRIP

The grade 12's exposure to missions Vancouver YWAM trip takes place Sept 23-25th.

GRADE 9 & 10 CAMPING

The grade 9 & 10's are scheduled for Camp Moorecroft for Sept 17-18

Class Orientation and Family Bar-B-Q
Tuesday Sept 15 5:30 pm

We will provide hotdogs and beverages. Families with surnames A-L please bring salad; M-Z please bring a dessert.

Classroom orientations begins at 7pm. Please plan to attend this fun and entertaining evening. More info to follow.

Dear Middle School Parents:

To kick off the year the Middle School Staff has planned a fun and exciting camping trip on the first Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of school this week. Students will come to school on the first day of school and all day on Wednesday. On Wednesday evening we ask that you bring your middle school child to the group site at Rath Trevor Provincial Park near Parksville between 6:30 and 7:30 pm.

On Tuesday (the first day of school) the students will be offering to bring general camping supplies for the group. Without this sort of support these types of trips could not happen. Please clearly label the gear and equipment and make it your child's responsibility to have it at the end of the trip. With the hope that it is not too presumptuous, may I encourage you to work out a deal to have students pay for family items if they are lost. It helps the students develop responsibility and should help eliminate some of the large pile of orphaned gear we have each year.

There are a lot of details that still need to be reviewed and there are two ways of receiving this information. There will be an optional parent meeting on Thursday, September 3rd at 7 pm. Your child will also receive all of the information and a mandatory permission slip on the first day of school.

We are also looking for a number of chaperones. We are excited to have chaperones even if it means you are only there for one night, just for the nights, one day or the portion there of. If you are able to chaperone, please email me directly at middle.ncs@shaw.ca.

It is going to be a great start to the year. Please pray for good weather and the Lord's blessings as we work to build positive connections between the students.

Darren Spyksma

OFFICE NEWS

Back to school is a very busy time with much information required by the office for our records. We are making a list of this so you can organize what we need from your family point by point.

1. Please complete the attached consent/information form and return it to the office the first week of school. This information is very critical for updating our records so we would appreciate your returning it in a timely manner.
2. Please advise the office of any change in address/phone #'s/family or marital status changes/ cell #'s and email addresses etc. We will be producing a school directory and need some of this information for accuracy by the 2nd week of September.
3. Student Attendance: There has been a significant change in the way our funding audit is performed which requires extra attention to student attendance. This year we will require notice by phone or email, of your students absence/late information including the reason for their absence. **PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE OFFICE BEFORE 9AM (250 754 4512) or admin.ncs@shaw.ca You may also call out of school hours and leave a message. All late students MUST report to the office.**
4. Occasionally parents send someone to the school to pick up their child(ren) that are unknown to us. The protocol for this situation is a) the parent advises the office of the name of this person expected, their phone number etc b) the person picking up the student then reports to the office **providing ID** c) they receive a release slip from the office to give to the students teacher. If this protocol is not followed the student will NOT be released without a phone call to the parent.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation in these important details as we look forward to another great year at NCS.

Diane Dyck and Lynn Kopec

On August, 22, 2009 a large group of volunteers gave up their Saturday to help me fill a dream. My dream was to see the entrance to the new high school as beautiful and stately as the school, itself. With myself and Johann being there at 8:45 a.m., the volunteers were there by 9: 00.a.m. God love them, they worked so hard all day up until 3:00 p.m. It was a constant rattle of shovels, pick axes, crowbars and hoses. Dirt was flying every which way, as aching backs were all bent to the sun. We served pizza at 11:30 a.m. with cola, coffee and water. I wish I had purchased more of everything. Some of our large group of volunteers were children from the age of 4 to 14 plus, with everyone of them doing some kind of work.

I want to thank all the people who were on my list of volunteers as well as the persons who came without being called. I humbly bow my head to you. Again, thank you.

We also had a small crew on Monday the 24th who gave up their relaxation for a few hours.

A warm thank you to all.

One day prior to the 22nd my husband and I along with our grandson, were working on the first part of the hill. We were shoveling the chips down the hill when my grandson, said to me.

"Grama, why are you doing all this work?"

I stopped what I was doing and looked at him for a minute as I asked myself why I was doing it? Then I gave him my answer.

"I am doing it for you. I want you to be proud of your school. It is the best school ever, and it should look that way." I believe he understood.

I also believe that is why we have volunteers. They too want their children to be proud of their place of education.

I do have a swing set going up this week. I know, I know, I need volunteers, but we need someone to dig three deep holes, and everything is there to set up. Do I have any takers?

Thank you, Norma Gauld

Middle School Class Assignments will be posted on the window of Mr. Spyksma's office on September 4th at 3pm.

SPRING BREAK 2010

Spring break for 2010 will be combined with the Easter weekend. The break is scheduled for March 22nd until April 5th 2010. This decision resulted from the parent survey that was distributed in May 2009 and completed in June 2009. Thank you to all parents who participated in the survey.