

Elora road

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



A Message from the Principal:

by Cindy Westendorp

What a fantastic year we've had at Elora Road Christian School! We have worked hard in our classrooms and welcomed baby chicks and butterflies. We have participated in six CAASO tournaments and hosted 13 schools and 450 students for a cross-country meet. We have learned to play the recorder, ukulele, and various band instruments. We have hosted three big events in the Great Room, our Christmas performance, the Celebration of Learning, and our Graduation banquet. We have learned about 1 Corinthians 13 in our Friday Morning assemblies and studied Bible stories, characters, and books in our classrooms.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL (CONTINUED)

Through the hard work of our Parent Council, we have raised almost 30 thousand dollars. Together we have helped to facilitate the academic, social, emotional, and spiritual development of 80 students and 13 staff.

It has been a pleasure to lead the school this year. I have enjoyed developing relationships with staff, students, and parents and am thankful that I've worked closely with many of you.

As we head into the summer, I encourage you not to forget what you've learned this year. Not just about math or science facts or literacy skills, but also how we treat each other, how we resolve conflict, and how we respond to disappointment.

The Bible tells us that, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35). This is the greatest gift we can give the world. It is through our love and acceptance of others that people will see Jesus. As you spend time with your family and friends, or go on vacation, I encourage you to ask yourself, "What does love require in this moment". When we act in this way people will see Jesus and be drawn to him.

Have a great summer!

Mrs. Westendorp

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Sept 5 - 1st day of school

**Dec. 25 - Jan 5 - Christmas
Break**

Mar. 11 - 15 - March Break

June 21 - Last Day of School

See the September calendar for what to expect in the first few weeks back to school.

Save the Date!

Grade 7/8 Medeba trip

The grade 7/8 class has a trip to Camp Medeba in Haliburton planned for Wed. Sept. 20 - Fri. Sept. 22. This is a great opportunity for relationship building at the start of a new school year. Please budget approximately \$250 for the trip. We will also be looking for parents to drive and chaperone.

Silent Auction

Our Silent Auction will be Saturday, November 18! Feel free to approach sponsors/ask for donations over the summer!

STAFF UPDATES

It is always sad to see great staff members leave us at the end of the school year. This year we are saying goodbye to three of our staff.

Patti Tan has been our primary relief teacher this year and has worked in our grade JK to 4 classrooms. Her hard work has allowed our primary teachers to work fewer hours so they are rested and renewed for next year. Patti will be moving to the supply teaching list next year, and our JK/SK and grade 1/2 teacher will return full-time in September.

Arden Reinhart has worked diligently as our Education Assistant this year. She has worked alongside our Student Support Services Director to help support students that need extra help. Arden is expecting her third child, a baby boy, in August. We wish her all the best!

Lynn Wichers has been the church administrative assistant and finance administrator for the church and school for the past 21 years. She also plays a role as the school secretary and is the go-to person for every question that no one else seems to have the answer to. Lynn will be retiring in August. We wish her all the best and thank her for her many years of faithful service.

We are welcoming one new staff member. **Alissa Gibson** will join us in September as a part-time Educational Assistant and part-time grade 3/4 teacher. Alissa will be team teaching with Leslie Bauman, who will continue to teach grades 3/4 three days a week. Alissa has a wide range of experience in the teaching field, and we are excited to welcome her to our team.

PARENT COUNCIL

Our parent council has done a such great job with our fundraisers and special community events this year. Special thanks to our parent council members for all their hard work on behalf of ERCS students.

Parent Council: Amber Vyn, Michela Morrison, Rachelle Sloom, Sarah Gordon, Dawn Tamminga, Candice Duimering, Arden Reinhart, Jenn Venne, Angela Vreman, Brittany Walton, Jelena Gordon

LIFEWATER WALK

Our Lifewater Walk was a big success. Our senior students walked 5 km in laps around the schoolyard carrying buckets of water. Younger students went as far as they could, some even choosing to walk the whole 5K! Thank you to everyone who collected change or pledged donations to Lifewater Canada. All together we raised \$730 that will be used to build/repair wells and improve sanitation in developing countries. Special thank you to our local Canadian Tire stores (Guelph and Fergus) who lent us the pails for the day.

One of our core values is to Serve Others. We hope our students gained more awareness of the realities for kids in other parts of the world, more appreciation for the everyday blessings we often take for granted, and a belief that they can make a difference here and around the world.



UNIFORMS / SPIRIT WEAR

The **bulk uniform order** will be July 16 - 30th

Uniform Shoes Update: Starting in September, students will only need one pair of indoor shoes to be kept at school. Instead of black dress shoes and a separate pair of gym shoes, students should have a pair of black, NON MARKING running shoes that will be worn in class and in the gym. The upper must be black. The sole colour doesn't matter, as long as it is non-marking.

NEW! ERCS Spirit Wear t-shirts and sweaters will now be available from Premium Sportswear. These are **NOT** uniform pieces, but great for parents and grandparents to show their school spirit. Place your order online with your summer uniform order. We need a minimum of 12 items ordered from our school community for the order to be processed.

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers! So many of you have helped out in so many ways this year, in the classrooms, on field trips, fundraising and special events! We couldn't do it without you.

If you would like to be a volunteer but have not completed the training/screening process, please visit eloraroad.ca/volunteers to get started.

New volunteer opportunity - We would love to have one or two parents for recess yard duty supervision on a regular basis (once or twice a week). If this is a good fit for you, please let us know.

COMMUNITY EVENT

It was great to see everyone at our Community Event. Thank you so much to Parent Council for organizing and running the event. There was a great turnout from the school, church and community. The afternoon included fun for everyone with delicious refreshments, a bouncy castle, balloon artist Chuckles, sack races and a parent vs kids soccer game.

Special thank you to Jonathan Barnard and Dionysia Delinis for providing the bouncy castle!



TRACK & FIELD

We had a great day for our track & field meet on Friday, May 12th. Thank you to all the parents and alumni who helped out for the day! We're proud of the sportsmanship our students displayed. They competed hard, but also cheered for and encouraged their classmates.

We were also able to send a team to London for the CAASO track & field meet for the first time since 2019. Congratulations to the following students who placed in the top 8 in London:

MIDGET GIRLS

- Malia Gordon- 3rd 1500m
- Natalia Tamminga- 5th 400m
- Brianna van de Pol- 7th 200m

JUNIOR BOYS

- Cade Martin- 4th 1500m
- Samuel Oruchukwu- 6th 400m, 7th 100m

SENIOR GIRLS

- Amy Katerberg: 6th 100m, 7th 200m
- Amy Katerberg, Alexis Katerberg, Bella Massey, Evelyn Cloutier - 6th relay

SENIOR BOYS

- Brayden Gray: 6th shot put
- Jeremy Sellers: 7th long jump, 8th triple jump



KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION



YEAR END AWARDS

The following awards are presented to senior students in Grade 7 & 8.

Principal's Award - Amy Katerberg

This award may be given to a deserving senior student who has exemplified diligence in their studies and consistently displayed Christian character in their conduct.

Academic Award of Excellence - Abigail Penteliuc

This award may be given to a deserving senior student who has demonstrated academic excellence in effort, achievement and homework, and who actively engages in the learning process.

Friendship Award - Alexis Katerberg

This award may be given to a deserving senior student who best exemplifies the character traits that define friendship such as honesty, respect, selflessness, kindness and integrity

Athletic Excellence Award - Miracle Oruchukwu

This award may be given to a deserving student who consistently demonstrates excellent athletic skill across many different sports. They are hard-working, dedicated, and participate in most, if not all, CAASO tournaments.

Performing Arts Award - Music - Amy Katerberg

This award may be given to a deserving student who has displayed a consistent willingness to learn, has made good progress and has made a positive contribution to the performing arts program.

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR GRADS:

If I had to explain this school year I would say it's scary at first but starts to feel like family at the end. One thing I learned is that even when you're struggling with something there is always someone or something that will help you, especially God. - Evelyn Cloutier

My favourite Bible verse is Matthew 7:7. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." I like this one because this reminds me that God will always look after me. - Amy Katerberg



One of my favorite memories is the ski trips. A Bible verse that I like is Jeremiah 29: 11. "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the lord, plans to prosper you not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Logan van de Pol

A memorable experience I had at ERCS was learning how to play volleyball and getting to go to the tournament and win third place this year. We also went to Medeba. The team building exercises and ropes course were very fun. - Madison Henry-Sired

One major thing that I learned at ERCS is to put God first in whatever I do. Mrs. Tuck always tells us about how God is good. He is always there and has the best plan for us irrespective of our present situation. - Miracle Oruchukwu

You get recognised for the small acts of kindness and determination you do. Like how in CAASO this year, many people got applauded for running their whole race and doing their best even if they didn't win. Teachers see you and appreciate if you pick up something that's not yours, or just merely encourage someone. - Abigail Penteliuc

School is always better with a good friend by your side. A Bible verse that has meant a lot to me is Joshua 24:15b "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." I like this verse because it reminds me to serve God and not worry about what other people think of me. - Dominic Feenstra

One thing I learned at ERCS was if you can put your mind to something you can do anything. My favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 3:5-6. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding and in all of your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." - Brayden Gray

A Bible verse that means a lot to me is John 3:16, for God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life! Reminding me that God will always love us that much. - Alexis Katerberg

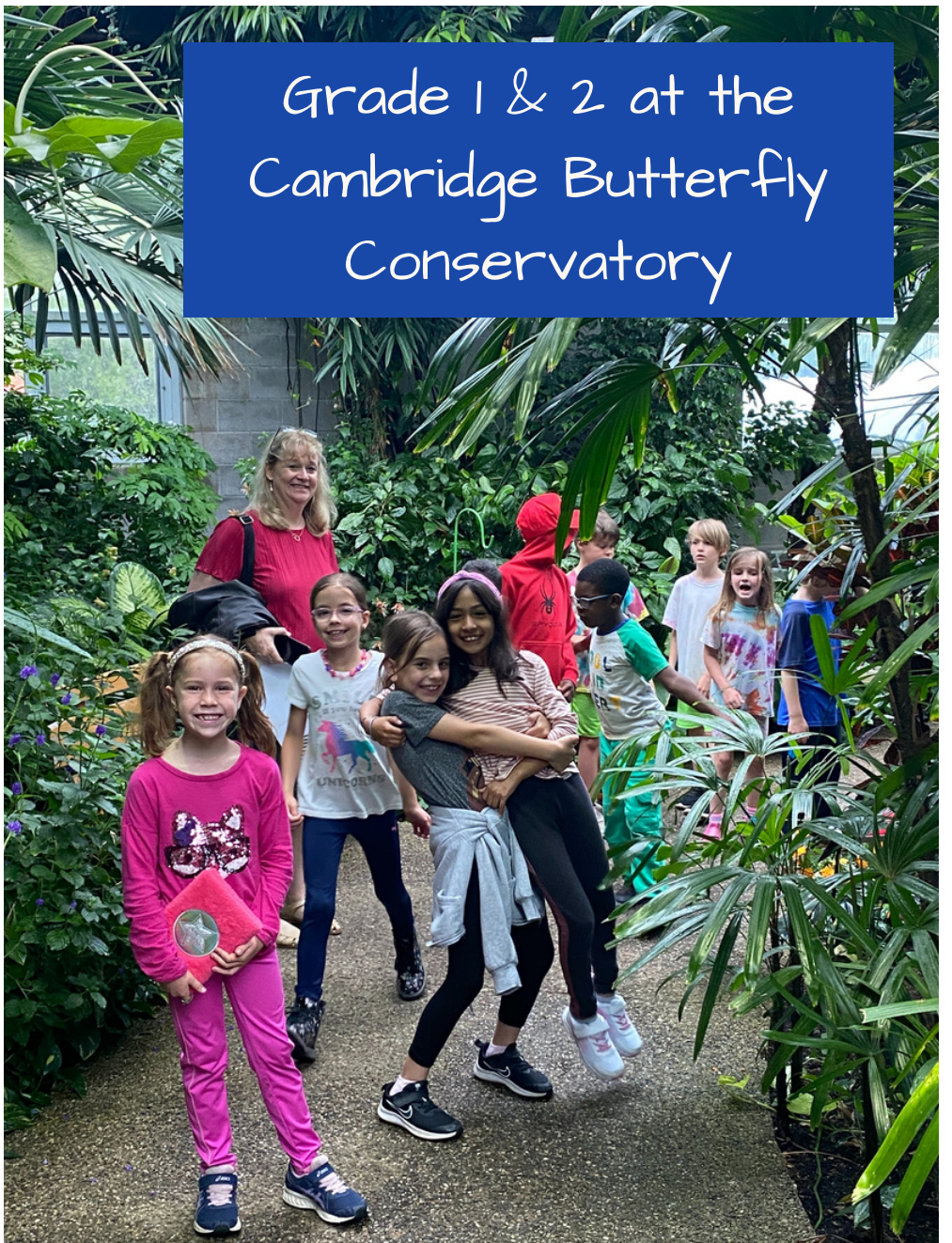
GRADE 8 QUEBEC TRIP

We were very excited to be able to take the graduating class to Quebec City for a few days at the beginning of June. This is the first time since the pandemic that we were able to do a trip like this. Thank you to our tour guide Mrs. Westendorp and our parent chaperone and driver, Will Feenstra



Water Fun Day





French Plays



Worship Band





Community Event

