

THE COMMUNICATOR

Editorial by Willene VanderSlikke

Friends

Another school year completed and another graduating class! A big “well done!” to our LCS grads of 2017. We’re so proud of their accomplishments - educational, spiritual and emotional. What an amazing amount of growing they’ve done at LCS.

What I love most about walking into LCS, is seeing the interaction and the friendships among the students. The happy faces are contagious. Along with a Christ-centered education, they are learning the important life lesson of how to get along with each other and the wonderful joy that comes from the bond of friendship.

I'm sure you remember your school friends growing up. I remember a classmate that stayed by my side when I fell off the monkey bars; bus ride discussions; the excited glances around the room when the teacher said we could ‘pick your own partners’. Have you noticed that the friendships you've made as an adult mimic some of your first school friendships? The qualities that attract us to others on the playground are the same qualities we value in the friends we make in college, our neighbourhoods, and in our workplaces.

The value of learning what a good friendship is as a child guides future friendships and relationships. In a world that seems socially disconnected, it is so reassuring to see our school place such a high value on group learning and peer interaction, not only on the playground but right in the classroom as well!

As our graduating class moves on to various high schools and new friendships are made, their LCS friends will always be cherished. These friendships have shown the importance of fun, honesty, integrity and kindness that will be mimicked again and again.



*“I have friends in overalls whose friendship
I would not swap
for the favour of the kings of the world.”*

~Thomas A. Edison

Graduation – Celebration and Sadness

I mentioned in a Bible study a few weeks ago and on several other occasions that I don't really like graduation. Maybe I should clarify that statement.

I enjoy the Kindergarten graduation. I enjoy it because it is a celebration of the growth each child has experienced over the last two years. Think about it, they may have come to school at three years old and now they could be five. That is a big difference for that time of their lives. And in those two years they learned a lot: how to share, how to wait in line and wait their turn, how to use scissors properly and how to write their name, maybe even how to read. Those are huge accomplishments worth celebrating. I also enjoy Kindergarten graduation because the students won't be leaving LCS. They will be graduating but in September they will be right back here – just across the hallway. We will continue to enjoy them for years to come. The third reason I enjoy Kindergarten graduation is that I can celebrate them without being too emotionally attached to them. I was not their teacher and did not invest as much in their lives as Mrs. Heida. I am sure that this part is what makes Kindergarten graduation difficult for Mrs. Heida.



It is the Grade 8 graduation that I don't enjoy as much. Sure, I can celebrate their accomplishments because they can still share and still wait their turn most of the time. They can also be creative, think critically, and communicate clearly – not that Kindergarten students can't but that Grade 8 students can at higher levels and more independently. I enjoy classroom discussions about curriculum, life's circumstances, and how to live out your faith. I can appreciate their skills as they write and deliver their own speeches at grad. All these are worth celebrating.

What I don't like is that they will be leaving. Sounds weird but we have invested years into these children, we have watched them grow and develop into teenagers. With so much invested, it is hard to see them leave. I realize that it is time for them to leave and we will miss them. I see the excitement on their faces as they talk about high school and as they envision life in a different place, learning different things, living by different rules, and meeting different people. Like parents watching their children grow up, we have seen them learn and grow and develop their God-given gifts. We have fulfilled our baptismal covenant promise to "love, encourage, and support these brothers and sisters by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of Christian faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer, and service". And now, it is time for them to leave and that is the sad part.

Please join us in these celebrations. Our Senior Kindergarten graduation is Monday June 19 at 2:00 p.m. in the gym. Our Grade 8 graduation is Wednesday June 21 at 8:00 p.m. in the gym. Everyone is welcome to both events to be the cloud of witnesses that encourages these students on their journey of learning and faith development.



~Ed Boelens



This has been an exciting and full year for the LCS Board and for the school community. We are happy to announce that the membership voted 87% in favour of the Board's proposal to purchase and renovate the former Central Public School and to pursue the sale of our current property. Our purchase of Central is conditional on a few items, one of which is a fundraising goal of 85% of the total costs. Our "Forward in Faith" Capital Campaign launches now and we have a goal of \$2.7 million in pledges. God has blessed us with eager volunteers to canvass.

This summer will be a busy time of visiting donors for the Capital Campaign team. The Board greatly appreciates all our committees and their tireless efforts. A special thank you is due to the Facility Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee as their important job is completed and we move on to a Building Committee!

We welcome new Board members Arnold Bosman, Larry Robson and Jill Vanderwier, and thank Todd Skipper and Galen Weber for their 3 years of excellent service.

The Board has just gone through the elections process and the Executive for 2017/2018 is Andrea Bootsma (Chairperson), Arnold Bosman (Vice-All), Christina Benjamins (Secretary) and Joel Dykstra (Treasurer).

The Board would like to thank our fantastic staff for their work this past year. We pray for a restful summer for our students and staff as we look "forward in faith" to an exciting school year in 2017/2018.

Christina Benjamins, Board Secretary



Note to self

Please join us for:

⇒ **Our annual Kick-off BBQ that will be held
Thurs. August 31, 2017 from 5:30-7:30pm**

(families with students attending LCS are asked to bring
a salad or dessert to share)

⇒ **Opening Assembly on Tues. September 5
at 9:00am**



School Theme—Go Fish!

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”

Matthew 4:19

The Graduating Class



Emma Baarda

At LCS I've been involved with Christmas Musicals, Battle of the Books, Fine Arts Festivals, and all sports teams excluding hockey. Throughout all of this I responded to Em, Emu and Pony-tails. LCS was fun because learning was fun. We learned a lot of things. I learned from books but also how to be a friend. I've appreciated the patient and caring teachers of LCS. I will be attending LDSS come fall; and hope to become a veterinarian. LCS taught me how to be a light, and how to show God's love to others. I've cherished my time here at LCS.

For you have been my hope, Sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth.
Psalm 71:5



Timothy Benjamins

At LCS, I have participated in sports, cross-country, and Battle of the Books. I remember that in 3rd Grade, my friends and I made a six foot tall snowman. I really like that everyone is friendly and willing to help at LCS. I don't think I could have gone to a better school. The teachers have taught me new ways to look at the Bible, and given me understanding. In the fall, I am going to Woodland Christian High School, and I am very excited. When I get a job, I would like one that involves small children.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Psalm 51:10-11





Marie Feenstra

My nicknames: Marty, Meme, and Maui. I have participated in sports, Christmas plays and drumfit. A favourite memory is last year's water fight. It was great to connect and have fun with students. I appreciate the teachers at LCS since they have helped me on my journey in life, teaching me many skills that I need and encouraging me in my relationship with God. I have learned about God's great love for me and who I am in Christ. I can use this knowledge in a world that needs to hear about God. In the fall, I will be attending Woodland Christian High School. Future plans: hair stylist or photographer...

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

Murray Greydanus

I am Murray also known as myrtle the turtle. I have participated in many sports events, which is where I also made my favourite memory when in 2015 our team won the soccer tournament. Listowel Christian School has helped me develop spiritually by sheltering me from the worldly living in the outside world, and teaching me about the spiritual world. I will be attending Woodland Christian High School. I am not considering any career choices as of now.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

Matthew 7:7



Anthonie Johnston

Throughout my time at LCS, I haven't had any nicknames that stuck, although some were invented. These include "antos", "Tony" and "cat". Throughout school, I have been part of many activities, such as Battle of the Books, the school play, and sports teams. A fond memory of mine is the day that Tim obtained a crude nickname after some queer behaviour (You can ask me about it). Through LCS I have grown closer to God, especially so this year. I will be attending Woodland Christian High School (WCHS) next fall, and hope to pursue a career in software development.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 9:10

Nice personality
Yells in unnecessary moments.
She is athletic.
She likes the Detroit Red Wings
Always talking.

Kellie is a lot of fun
Awesome and giggly
Loves to have fun with friends
Likes to play soccer
Inspiring to others
Energetic in whatever she does

Tim is good at baseball
Incredibly good at basketball
Mind of a genius
Overly fast
Tim seems to always be happy
He never gives up
You are nice

An amazing gamer
Noteworthy person to remember
Totally reliable
Humble personality
Overpowered at video games
Nerdy but in a funny, good, helpful way.
Intelligent
Excellent at track and field.
Calvin and Luke

Andrew is a guy
He jumps really high.
He is going to district,
He has good characteristics,
I just want to say goodbye.

Owen and Tyler



**Andrew is amazing
Nice friend
Donuts are his favorite
Really funny
E is for enthusiastic
W is for "wow"
There if you need him
He is good at video games
Always close to winning
Listowel is his home
Exaggerates everything
Never quits**

Jordan B and Toby



Emma is nice and very smart
Emma likes to do stuff called art
Wants to be a vet
She likes sheep as pets
Emma has a caring heart
Ryan T, Ryan V

Murray is very athletic.
His grades aren't at all pathetic
Funny and Crazy,
Listens to Jay Z,
He might be a tanki fanatic
Calvin and Luke



There was a girl named Marie,
Her volleyball skills are a sight to see.
She can serve up an ace,
And spike it in your face,
And that's why she is a friend to me.

Riley

Jordan is a boy in my class
He runs with speed so he is fast
He does like to farm
He works in a barn
He has a good kick that lasts

Kenny has Hobbes as a nickname
Everybody knows Kenny likes to draw
Ninja with a ruler
Nice to others

You will see his as a graphic
designer one day

Murray is very funny
Usually Goofing off
Rarely disappointing
Raspberries are food he likes
Awesome at soccer
Yodelling is not his
strong point

Joking is her style
HAS a lot of friends
She is very uNique
Is always trying to improve
Wishes uNicorns were real
VERY physical

Simon and Den-



Kalle makes more noise than a peep
At Christmas, she played a sheep.
We'll miss her when she's gone,
She giggles on and on,
And when she grows up she doesn't want a jeep.
Jake

Anthonye plays video games
Anthonye very cool, not lame
He's good at high jump
He does not like trump
He has a pretty cool name
Ryan T, Ryan V



There once was a nice teen named Tim,
His favourite subject in gym.
He dangles his moves,
Good marks, he approves,
He dunks and hangs on the rim.

Simon, Dennis

Eager to help
Makes people laugh and smile
Musically talented
Awesome at sports

Helena and Natalie

Jordan loves soccer
Overly good at lots of stuff
Ready to play
Does like farming
And is smart
Nobody can compare to Jordan

Makes life an adventure
Awesome friend and lucky to have
Bidiculously funny all the time
Into all things that are funny
Extraordinary and super special to have

There's a girl who is artistic,
But she is not from New Brunswick.
She's a bit random,
But very awesome,
Janine is real fantastic!

Helena and Natalie



Kenny is the opposite of lazy;
Kenny is a little bit crazy,
He's full of fun,
And loves to run;
And his mind is a little bit hazy.

Toby, Jordan B.



Nyssa can run, Nyssa can jump,
Nyssa can throw, Nyssa can dunk.
But after all that, there's more you see,
She's the friend you all need
Riley and Mac



Nyssa Kikkert

Nyssa, also known as “nitnit” and “Nyss”, has played on every school sport’s team (except hockey), participated in the Christmas musicals since grade five and, only in grade five, did Cross Country. One of my favourite memories at LCS is when I put a dead bird in my desk during class. I’ve appreciated the fun activities that LCS does like team events, musical, sports, carnival, celebration of learning, etc. Being at LCS helped me learn a lot about God because all the devotions, assemblies, bible lessons, and guest speakers, it all helped me grow more into my faith. I learned to be myself and to have a positive attitude towards things. I will be attending Woodland Christian High School.

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

Psalm 91:1,2

Kallie Lise

LCS has really changed me and how my last 10 years have been. I have been involved in many different activities such as most sporting events and Christmas plays. A memory was when I was in SK and everybody on the playground wanted to play animals. Jordan was always the Lion and the girls always were monkeys (we still can be). I really appreciate LCS because it taught me good Christian values, and somebody who loves me even when we mess up. I will be attending Listowel District Secondary School. I want to be a nurse who would help the elderly. LCS has been at least the best experience I have had.

Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.

Philippians 2:15c-16



Andrew Thalen

I have been called different nicknames like ‘dandruff drew’ and it has stuck with me for a couple of months. I have been in soccer and baseball, and in almost all of the plays that I could sign up for. Some memories of LCS are playing tetherball and having a lot of homework. I really liked how some of the teachers are nicer than the others. I think LCS has really helped me develop spiritually by praying for Georgia. I am going to Woodland Christian High. I want to be a professional YouTuber when I grow up but I have to work for my dad. I am really going to miss LCS because of all my SK and Grade 1/2/3 friends.

You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 4:15

Kenny van Leeuwen

I have many fond memories of being at LCS. I can remember last year, playing road hockey and soccer with the grade 8's of 2016. I also have many fond memories of the team events and their wackiness. Those were a blast! LCS has helped me to grow spiritually, with the help of the teachers, and even classmates. I only knew a tiny bit about my faith, only what I learned in church, before I came to LCS. And now I see myself praying more often and also reading the Bible more often. In the fall, I will be attending WCHS.

*Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.
Do everything in love.*

1 Corinthians 16:13-14



Janine Vandergoot

LCS was a huge blessing. This school taught me more about God, through countless Bible lessons and chapels. I participated in soccer, basketball and Battle of the Books. I absolutely love art and want to be someone involved with it once I grow up. For some reason in my years with Mr K, he started calling me "J9" which ignited everyone calling me by that name. I will be attending Listowel District Secondary School next September.

*Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it*

Proverbs 4:23



Jordan VanKampen-Katerberg

For the last nine years, LCS has been a big importance in my life. Whether it's the many friends I've made, the sports teams, or the bible lessons and prayers that have brought me closer to God, LCS has been an awesome experience. During recess in SK, we always had a blast, no matter the weather, even if it meant getting all wet from going down the slides. On the Ottawa trip I learned and saw so much, along with some fun of course. This fall I will be attending LDSS and plan to work on a farm with hopes to someday having my own.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5,6



Good friends
are *hard* to find,
harder to leave,
and *impossible* to forget.



“Hold on to instruction, do not let it go;
guard it well, for it is your life.” (Prov. 4:13)



Colossians 2:6, “So then, just as
you received Christ Jesus as Lord,



Friends

Thank you to our Sponsors and Golfers
 who made this year's Golf Tournament a great success!
 We raised over \$10,000.00 for our school.

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Mission: LCS is a growing elementary school through excellence in Christian education
in a nurturing environment supported by a diverse Christian community.

Our vision is that the vibrant community of Listowel Christian School will expand its relationships with the broader
community through engaging our students in educational endeavors which puts their faith into action.

BAZAAR NEWS

Mark **November 4** on your calendar for the 2017 Country Craft Bazaar.
Plans are under way and much help will be needed in the following areas:

Toys: New or slightly used toys in excellent condition are needed for our Toy Store.
Contact Rhonda Weber at 519.588.0634 or email gweber@wightman.ca.

Craft Creations: Along with needing toys for our Toy Store, we need your
craft creations! Please remember the bazaar this summer as you may have some extra time
to work on your hobbies. We need everyone's talents and contributions to make it a suc-
cess. Contact Shanna [519.504.0355] if you have anything ready and you need a place to
store it until November. Thanks in advance!

Garden Produce: Do you still have some room in your garden? Would you
consider planting a few extra fall items to be donated to the Bazaar? Items that sell well:
Kale, Onions, Leeks, Beets, Carrots and any other fall vegetable.

and finally.....

Save the Date: Plan now to volunteer some time on **November 4th**. There
are many opportunities and no experience is necessary.

You are guaranteed a wonderful time!!



Listowel
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL