

THE COMMUNICATOR



MOVING FORWARD IN

BY ANDREA BOOTSMA

faith

As I was reflecting on the upcoming month, I recognize a lot of change is ahead. One of my children will be graduating. I am very excited for him. Excited that he will have the opportunity to start high school, meet new friends, take new courses, and try new extra curricular activities. I rejoice to see him growing into a young man. Yet, at the same time, I miss the increasingly infrequent glimpses of my baby and little boy.

Another change is that after 4 years on the board of LCS, this month my term will be complete. I will be honest, I am happy to have a break from board and exec meetings. Yet, the school is at such an exciting time in their history and I know I will miss not being a part of the group leading us through these huge changes.

Over the summer our school will be transitioning from one property to another. I started at LCS almost 40 years in the current, though much smaller, building. The school has grown since then, both structurally and in enrolment, and continues to grow. The other day as I worked in the library putting away books, while some students wrote a test in the same room, I was reminded how the space in the new building will allow the school to grow and expand how we teach and who we teach. Yet, while I am excited about the new school, I still remember the school I, and my children, have grown up in.

"May His name be praised"

All three of these changes are in their own way bittersweet, and yet while each of these changes has some sadness, each one has potential for joy,

rejoicing and positive change. So, I move forward in faith trusting that the God who has been faithful thus far will continue to bless my child and the other graduates as they move on to high school, will provide wisdom and discernment to the board as they lead this coming year, and that through this transition, our children, our families and

the community around our school will see how great our God is.

May His name be praised for He is good and His faithfulness endures to all generations.



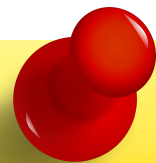
Listowel
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ROMANS 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

This issue features the Grade 8 graduates, with poems written by the Grade 7 students.





THE END OF AN ERA?

We are completing the end of an era. After forty-four years of providing Christian Education at the address of 6020 Line 87 in Listowel, we are moving.

I am sure it brings up a wealth of emotions for some people. I am just going from assumptions or things I have heard, but over the forty-four years, there have been momentous occasions. I heard about some initial indecision about the commitment to open the doors and the immediate blessings for taking that step of faith. I heard about membership meetings in the hallways because we had no gym. I heard about the membership meeting to build the gym and the excitement surrounding that decision (and those twenty-year old stories are still told today). I heard excitement in stories of growth in enrolment as LCS shared its vision with more and more families. I've also heard some stories of hurt and pain, of controversy and conflict, but the stories are rarely shared with as much detail. Those stories are reminders that sin effects all areas of life, including Christian education. Regardless, I've always heard about this community's commitment to providing Christian Education. And so far, all that

emotion connected to our school is contained in our physical building.

As we journey this road of transition, each one of us will have to journey through our connections to 6020 Line 87. I have only been here five years and yet I have memories in this building. I can only extrapolate my experiences for those families who have been a part of most or all forty-five years. They would have witnessed generations of students make their way into Kindergarten and then graduate from Grade 8 – maybe even their own children and grandchildren! For them the transition may be more difficult. As much as we know that LCS is about the people and not the building, there are memories about the people that cannot be separated from the building. That is okay but also more difficult to leave behind.

As I said, every person will have to work through their own transition journey. As we pack up boxes this summer and move our "stuff", we will also move our history. We will take our stories of the first membership meeting and add to it the stories of our May 2017 Membership meeting when another momentous decision was made to move our school to 305 Binning Street West. We will pack and unpack the stories of God's faithfulness to LCS for forty-four years and counting. And soon the stories and memories of LCS will reverberate off the walls of a new building.

The end of an Era? Maybe, but I would rather think about the continuing story God working through Listowel Christian School as we nurture children to know Him – regardless of location.

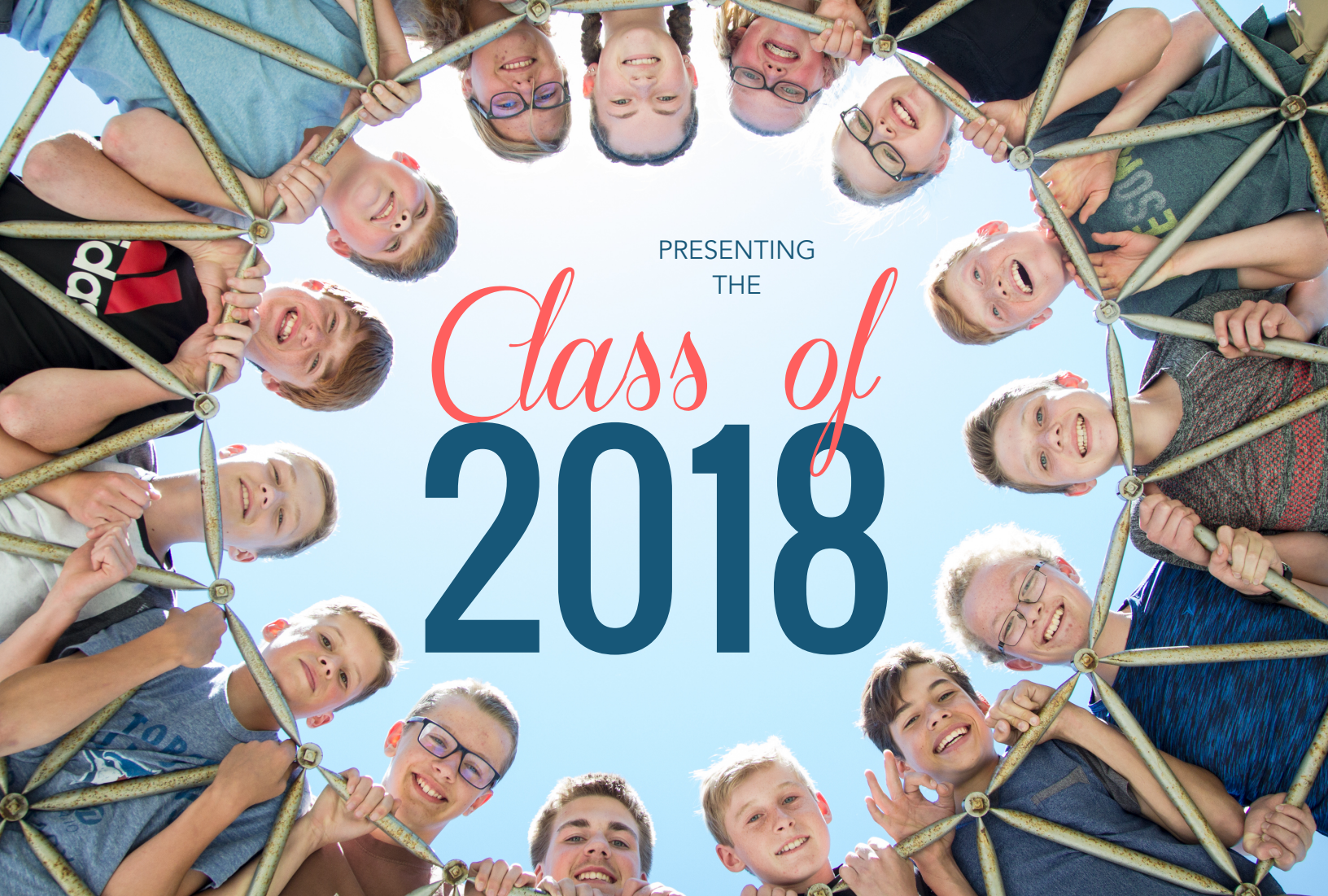


TOP: Georgia Thalen in her mobility car driving to Mr. Boelens at the end of the day.

MIDDLE: The Grade 5-6 class practicing some relaxation techniques led by the Community of Character.

BOTTOM: The JK class' exciting field trip to the fire hall.





PRESENTING
THE

Class of 2018



featuring:

Simon, Lucas, Jordan, Calvin, Helena, Jake,
Natalie, Owen, Riley, Tyler, Toby, Ryan T.,
Dennis, Mackenzie, & Ryan V.



Simon
ANGST

For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;
they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not
strike your foot against a stone.

PSALM 91:11-12



Lucas
BENJAMINS

I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

PSALM 16:7-8

LCS has been a great school with a friendly atmosphere for me to grow in education and faith. Even though school has been fun, I am looking forward to summer holidays so that I can work and have more fun. Next year I am going to be attending NDSS and I am very excited for high school. In the future I want a job that allows me to spend time outside such as farming, forestry or mechanic. It has been a great blessing from God for me to attend such a great school like LCS. I am looking forward to what God has in store for me in the future.

In my time with LCS, I have been part of many things that have made being here really exciting. I have been part of sports, field trips, team events and fundraising events. Many of my favourite memories were made at recess with friends. LCS has taught me to love one another no matter what happens between us. Next fall, I will be attending Woodland with many good friends. In the summer, I plan to get together with friends again so that we can talk about what's happening in life. My plan for a good job would be something with animals, most likely farming. LCS has been a great place for me to learn and be a servant to God.

Simon akin of respect
No accomplishment unchecked
Always will shake your hand
Is always funny and,
Also sportsman like in retrospect.

There once was a dude named Lucas
He made too many excuses
When his teachers catch on
He's smarter than you think
He won't get away with a one-eyed wink.



Jordan
BOOTSMA

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

PSALM 119:105

Throughout my time at LCS, I have experienced a lot. Some school activities I've taken part in are the Christmas musical, the hockey and soccer tournaments and Battle of the Books, just to name a few. Some of my favourite memories of LCS are the class debate, the Ottawa trip, and the team events. LCS has helped me develop spiritually through Bible class and the teachers' guidance. This summer I hope to work hard and use the talents that LCS helped me find and develop. This fall I hope to further use these talents at my new school - Woodland.

Judicious decisions
Obedient to authority
Readng endlessly
Devoted worker
Always busy
Never out of ideas



Calvin
ELISEN

But you, keep your head in all situations,
endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist,
do all the duties of your ministry.

2 TIMOTHY 4:5

At LCS, I've been a part of all the sports teams at least once and played a role in the Christmas musical. I've also been a part of the Model United Nations meeting, which was one of my favourite memories of my time here. I've appreciated how at LCS, especially in my class, I've found you can make jokes and have fun with people and nobody is over sensitive about it. We're all good friends and it would be really hard for something you say to take that away. I feel like this is a byproduct of going to LCS, where we all grow close bonds. I'm excited to graduate and to get a job this summer. I'm hoping to go camping and to work in the shop. I'm going to Woodland in the fall and after that, I hope to do something in zoology. My time at LCS has been fun and unique and I don't think I would be who I am today if I went somewhere else.

One day a boy, whose name happened to be Calvin,
Was playing outside at recess.
He ran to the soccer field
and helped make some teams.
Then we started to play.
It was a very good game,
Because Calvin was there,
To make everyone laugh and be happy.
The real amazement is,
He likes baseball better than soccer.
But that does not stop him from trying his hardest.
Calvin is a very smart guy,
And knows a lot about a lot.
He scores in soccer, and the highest in math.
He is a great friend to everyone,
And wow, what a guy.



Helena
KATERBERG

*"Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid or terrified because of them,
for the LORD your God goes with you;
he will never leave you nor forsake you."*

DEUTERONOMY 31:6

At LCS I have enjoyed being a part of most of the sports teams and the Christmas plays. Throughout the ten years I have been here, I learned lots of things from math to music, learning about God and doing Bible studies, how to be a good and kind friend and learning patience. One of my favourite memories was during the Ottawa trip when all the girls had a conversation that included lots of laughter. In the fall, I will be attending LDSS. I am excited but nervous to take the next big step in my life. This summer I will be doing sports such as soccer and swim team. I am also going to do the bronze medallion and I hope to do some camping as well. In the future I am not sure what I want to be yet, but possibly a primary teacher.

Oh Helena, you are the best friend in the world.
You are musically talented as ever.
Helena can sing and play the clarinet.
She is the best friend in the whole community.
She can be a bit silly sometimes,
And very friendly and kind.
She is very smart in school.
She has a good artistic ability
Oh Helena, you are such a great friend
we'll miss you.



Jake
KOETSIER

*Whoever acknowledges me before others,
I will also acknowledge before my father in heaven.
But whoever disowns me before others
I will also disown before my father in heaven.*

MATTHEW 10:32-33

At LCS I have been on every sports team throughout the years but I did stop cross country in Grade 6. I also loved the leadership role grade 8 brought because playing with the little kids is super fun, especially the kindergartens. Team events was definitely one of the highlights, along with the ski trip that I planned. In the fall I will be attending Woodland Christian High School. Providing us with all the leadership roles, LCS has helped me develop spiritually by teaching me to put myself aside and help others - in this case the younger kids. I am expecting this summer to be a fun and work packed summer with my part time job at a dairy farm, the ongoing chores at home, and I am expanding my meat goat and veal calf business as well. This summer, I am playing on a AA soccer team as well as dirt biking. My future career choice is still undecided but I have narrowed it down to Police Officer or Livestock hauler and I will definitely be farming on the side. I am very excited for high school but LCS will always be a memory in the back of my mind.

Joyful and joking
Athletic and agile
Kind and knowledgeable
Eccentric and exciting to be around



Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.

DEUTERONOMY 15:10



Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.

JOHN 13:14

Over the years of LCS, I was part of all the sports teams excluding hockey. Some of my nicknames were Nat and Nathalie. My favourite memory was falling through the tire. LCS has taught me more about God and that he has a plan for me. In the fall, I will be going to Woodland Christian High School. When I grow up I want to be a farmer. I enjoyed my time at LCS.

At LCS I have been involved in all school sports teams. I have had many memories at LCS but the times I enjoy most is winning cross country and all the sports tournaments. I also enjoyed going on field trips with the class. I really enjoyed my friends and my teachers during my time at LCS. I am happy that I have gone to LCS and that it offered me good Christian friends who can help me in my faith. LCS is unlike any other school.

Never brags
A very funny person
Tricks her friends a lot
Awesome at soccer
Loves to farm
Interested in video games
Excellent at speaking dutch

Occupied by sports
Winning record
Energetic conversationalist
Noted leader



"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

DEUTERONOMY 31:8



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

At LCS I have participated in the Christmas plays, most of the sports teams, Battle of the Books, and more. LCS has taught me many valuable things; how to be a good friend, how to interact with others, and it has given me a chance to have a better relationship with God. My favourite part of LCS was the ski trip where we could interact with our classmates in a different environment. I will be attending Woodland Christian High School in the fall and am excited for the fun times ahead. LCS has showed me how to work hard and follow Jesus' example.

I joined LCS in Grade 6. The nice part is that I already knew a lot of the other students because I played Wallace soccer with them. I love sports and have played most of the LCS sports for three years, including basketball, baseball, soccer, and hockey. My favourite was basketball and I think I have a great outside shot. I really enjoy working with younger children. Sometimes I have helped out with the younger classes and done yard duty. My favourite memory is playing baseball with Weston and watching him laugh as he ran the bases. I appreciate LCS because everyone is encouraging. They encourage me to keep trying hard even when it is difficult. Next year I will be attending LDSS. This summer I hope to get a job and attend Camp Cherith – a Christian horseback riding camp. I would like to become a truck driver because I enjoy overnight trips.

Really, really creative
Interesting to talk with
Likes making people smile
Encourages everybody
Yearning to succeed

Talented
Happy
Loving
Energetic
Really funny



Toby
STRUYK

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses,
in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties.
For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:10

I've had eight full years at LCS and I clearly think that they were not a waste. LCS has been good and I like the friendly community. I enjoy being around people who don't care if you aren't good at something. LCS was a place where I can grow in Christ and be an example to the JK and SKs on yard duty. I like how our class is supportive when we need it and how we can always go to a friend for help. I will remember the great years I've had at LCS and I hope that others will enjoy their future years at the new school.

loves **T**o read
gl**O**rifies God
is **a**ble to tell great stories
enjo**Y**s playing soccer



Ryan
TENHOVE

For I am convinced that neither death nor life,
neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the
future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate
us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:38-39

At LCS, I have participated in the Christmas musical and sports teams. One of my favourite memories at LCS is getting chased by little kids on yard duty during recess. Also, water day at the end of the school year is very fun. One thing I have learned at LCS is how to appreciate people for who they are and to be a good friend to them. The teachers at LCS have been helpful with my school work and taught me different ways to read the Bible. This summer I will be moving up Ottawa way to a dairy farm. In the fall, I will be attending Opeongo High School in Cobden and hoping to become a dairy farmer.

Realistic and really smart
Yelling is not his thing
Always working
Never in trouble

Team player



Dennis
VANDERGoot

A man of many companions come to ruin,
but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

PROVERBS 18:24



Mackenzie
VANDERMEER

She considers a field and buys it;
out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.
She sets about her work vigorously;
her arms are strong for her tasks.

PROVERBS 31:16-17

At LCS, I've participated in many sports teams, cross-country, some Christmas musicals and grade 7/8 leadership roles. LCS is a school willing to help whenever or wherever needed, and taught me God's word in great ways. Going to a school where the learning and understanding of God is denied, and without a supporting and encouraging Christian community that does what they can to push towards God, wouldn't have prepared me for the next stages of life as well and thoroughly as LCS has done. In the fall, I plan to attend LDSS and I have no idea what I am hoping to be in the future, but if I had to choose now I would either like to be a pilot or work with old cars. My favourite memories from LCS are going to sports tournaments when I get to hang out with my friends but also having fun with them trying to win what we can. My life would be so much different without all of the blessings that LCS gave me.

His nickname is **D**ensterbaud
He can be **E**ccentric
He is **N**ifty (look it up)
and an **i**nteresting personality
Has an interest **I**n soccer
He is ambitiou**S**

Throughout my years here at LCS, I have learned a lot. From sports or sitting in class or Christmas plays and assemblies, I have made some friendships that will last a long time. In the fall, I will be attending NDSS in Palmerston. I have been given a couple of nicknames like Mack and Mackie. I am thankful that my parents decided to send me to LCS because it taught me that having God in your life is important and that we should cherish it every day. One of my greatest memories was Ottawa and just hanging out and talking about different things, as well as laughing our heads off until midnight. Throughout the summer I will be playing softball and hanging with friends. When I am older I would like to be an Interior Designer, but I am not sure.

Mackenzie was the one girl's name
She would win any sports game
The best at baseball
She will win them all
An energy that is hard to tame.



Ryan
VANDONKERSGOED

He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered:
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

PSALM 111:4

At LCS, I have enjoyed sports and extracurricular activities which included hockey, basketball, soccer and baseball. I was also involved Battle of the Books and the Christmas play. I have a few nicknames such as Ryguy or Redhead Ryan. I really like the events that we have at LCS such as the bazaar, track and field and also the team events. I will be going to NDSS (Norwell District Secondary School) in the fall. I have learned a lot through being at LCS which included learning about God and his beautiful creation and I learning a lot from my teachers. LCS has made me feel like I am in a loving caring Christian environment.

Ryan V is a funny guy
who can jump really high
He's the tallest of them all
And very good at basketball
He's also fast and hard to run by

**"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
& A FUTURE."**

JEREMIAH 29:11

BOARD REPORT

CHRISTINA BENJAMINS
BOARD SECRETARY

2017-2018 has been a year like no other at LCS. We have been enjoying this last year at our well loved current location while constantly working towards being ready to launch the new school year at our new location. We are regularly communicating with our hardworking Building Committee, getting updates and giving direction where needed. The Board is thankful for their tireless efforts this year and asks for your prayers for this group as they continue striving towards a finished building this fall. Construction is ongoing and it's great to drive by and see the changes week to week. Volunteers have been helping to renovate and paint in one section of the school and soon they will be packing and moving. The Board has appointed a transition team of Andrea Bootsma and Christina Benjamins to organize moving into the Binning Street location.

We welcome new board members Jon Vandonkersgoed and Cheryl Mulder who were elected at the Spring Membership Meeting. We thank our outgoing Chair, Andrea Bootsma, for her 4 years of dedicated service and leadership on the Board. As I also complete my term of service on the board, I am thankful for the opportunity to be involved at this level.

The Board would like to thank our gifted and dedicated staff for their hard work this past year. Our school is truly blessed to have each one of them.



**REDNECK GAMES
AT THE
BOARD & STAFF SOCIAL**



Listowel
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Thank you

to our Sponsors and Golfers who made this year's Golf Tournament a great success!
We raised \$10,000 for our school.

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