

# THE COMMUNICATOR

## CHANGE

BY SARAH HAANSTRA

The end of the school the school year brings a time of reflection, even with the busyness of end of year activities – track and field, baseball, soccer, music and dance recitals, final assignments and tests, and preparation for report cards and graduation. Along with the end of the school year comes thoughts of changes that are ahead.

Having a child graduate from grade 8 for the first time, we will be going through a significant change in our family. It feels like it was not that long ago that she started school and my husband, Ron, and I transitioned into the change to having a child attending school. Her teacher became another important adult in her life which was often reflected at home when she was talking to her brothers: "Now wait for your turn and get in a line!" or "It's snack time and now it's reading time," and then she

would say, "But mom, Mrs. Heida said so!" We appreciated the change of sending her to school though because as she was wrapped up in her education, she was also learning about her faith and sharing Bible stories and songs she had learned at school.

Now ten years later, she and her fellow graduates will move to new schools with a whole new group of peers and teachers. This change comes with some nervousness and some excitement as well. We know that we as parents and the staff at LCS have done everything we can to prepare our children for this next stage of their lives. Most importantly, our children move forward with a knowledge of God and his word and his world learned throughout the years. He will go with them and they can rely on him to take them through all the exciting and hard changes ahead. We hope that they will also share their faith with others.

As a school community, we have had to rely on God through some hard and exciting changes this year. We went through a hard change this year with the loss of sweet Georgia Thalen. Her loss has left a hole in the SK class that is felt at each school event and in our hearts throughout the year. It will

especially be felt at SK Graduation. For the Thalen family, that change is felt daily and in a big way. God and our Christian community bring comfort and strength through this hard change but the ache still remains.

As a school community, we also experienced an exciting change in the physical building this year as we watched the final work get done on the new gym, the schoolyard, and all the renovations that happened in the rest of the building. Being in a new building and in town has brought a variety of changes for staff and students who have shown flexibility throughout and the year and made things work whatever the situation.

Seeing how our school and larger community have come together, and worked together through these changes this year, shows just how much we need each other and we need our faith in God. Throughout all changes in life, exciting and hard, we learn to adapt and live with the change; however, we have steady hope because God does not change as Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Knowing that God is constant allows us to hold on to him through all life's changes.

*"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."*



**Listowel**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Field trips are opportunities to learn in different ways and different spaces. Above, the SK and Grade 1 classes learn in the Children's Museum. Below, the JK class tries on hats at the Fire Station and the SK class appreciates God's creation looking for frogs.



# THE PRINCIPAL'S *post*

BY ED BOELENS



## GRADUATION AND KINGDOM CITIZENSHIP

In September, we began the year focused on Matthew 6:33, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well". Throughout the year we tried to instill in our students a recognition that they are citizens of two kingdoms: an earthly one based on where they live and a heavenly one based on their faith in God. Augustine once said that he can tell which city you are truly committed to by the way you live your life. Our verse states that if we place our investments into our citizenship in God's kingdom, the details around our citizenship in our earthly kingdom will all fall into place.

June brings about graduations. Graduations are a testament to our investment in educating children. As our students graduate, whether from SK or Grade 8, we hope they have learned a few things. Maybe they learned to identify letters, count to one hundred, read a simple sentence or write a coherent essay, solve complicated equations, or play a musical instrument. School is about learning and we hope we accomplished some goals in this area.

However, we also know that we are here to nurture each child to be citizens in God's

kingdom. As each student enters our school doors on a daily basis, we have the opportunity to help them see the beauty of belonging to God's kingdom, understand their role in it, and develop a commitment to belonging to it. Just as seeds need to be planted, watered, and cared for, so a child's faith needs to be developed in much the same way. When we observe the graduations in June, we hope to see evidence that each graduate, whether SK or Grade 8, has developed in their citizenship in God's kingdom.

At the SK graduation, we will be singing songs such as "Jesus Loves Me" and "Jesus Loves the Little Children". These songs speak of Jesus caring about us. We will also sing "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy" which is our response and a statement about what it is like to be a part of God's kingdom. At the Grade 8 graduation, we will sing songs like "Who You Say I Am" where we, along with the graduates, will profess that we are children of God and there is a place in his house for us. I pray that those words will be sung by each graduate, understanding that being a child of God identifies their true citizenship.

I pray that these upcoming graduations will be celebrations of academic progress and accomplishments, but also professions of faith and celebrations of kingdom citizenship.







Above: Grandparents and Grandfriends day was fun!  
What a crowd of witnesses that came to encourage and appreciate the students. Classroom visits and an assembly were the highlights.  
Below: The Fundraising Committee had two events. The first ever LCS Paint Night and the ever popular golf tournament.

## SHARING THE LOVE

### *Fundraising News:*

**THANK YOU** to everyone that came out for our first ever paint night. It was a great evening spent with friends and community members. With your support we made just shy of **\$1000**. **THANK YOU** to Mary Slotegraaf for donating her time and materials.

The grand total raised through the golf tournament was **\$12,560**. **THANK YOU** to all the business and members who make this tournament such a success!!

Have you thought of joining the Fundraising committee? **We could really use you next school year!!**





# INTRODUCING THE *Jantzi Family*



We are the Jantzi family. We moved from the town of Milverton to Cranbrook a year and a half ago. We all really enjoy the extra outdoor space our small country property has. Andrew is a truck driver for Floradale Feed Mill and Lynette loves being a wife and Mother at home.

We have two children Zackary (5) and Joshua (3). Zackary is in SK this year. His favourite things about school are Chrome Book time and Gym class. Mrs. Heida and Ms. Kikkert have been wonderful with helping him adjust to school for the first time. When Zackary is at home he loves to play with anything that has wheels, lego and playdough, along with his little brother Joshua. Joshua really misses Zackary when he's at school and can not wait until we see the big yellow bus coming down the road to bring Zackary home again!

We are members of Faith Mennonite church in Kingwood, near Wellesley. We enjoy the diversity of ages that work together there and have really enjoyed seeing the same type of community at LCS. It is wonderful to see so many older people still invested in the school! We pray we can be as much of a Blessing to the school as you all have been to us. Thank you so much for the warm welcome!

## ON THE **FIELD**



Summer is coming. With good weather we have the Spring sports: track and field and baseball. The sun and warmer weather were gifts from God.

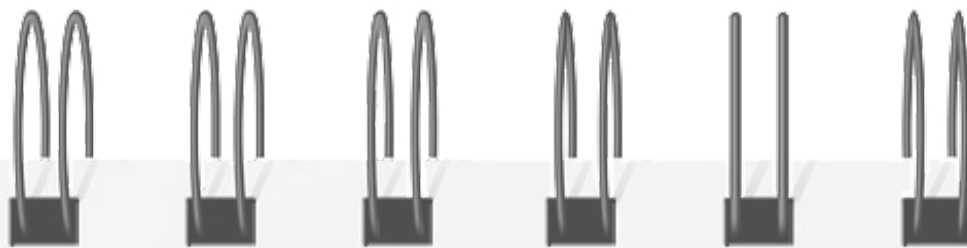






## PLAYING & EXPLORING

More field trip fun at the Children's Museum.



# BOARD REPORT

CHERYL MULDER  
BOARD SECRETARY

One role of the board is to review an annual report from *CSI Christian Schools International* and affirm the appointment of their board members as well as the budget and the membership dues. This year CSI has recognized the difference in services available to Canadian Christian school members from American Christian schools and has lowered the annual membership dues owed by Canadian Christian schools to reflect this difference.

The Building Committee presented several different options for completing paving on different areas around the school building. The board approved repaving an area between the large gym and a student access door that had to be properly graded for water run off during the construction process. For the present time the main parking lot will be improved to maximize parking space. A more complete paving job will be delayed until the majority of the capital campaign funds have been received and are available for a job of this scope.

The Spring Membership meeting was held at the end of May. The main focus of this meeting was the presentation of the 2019-2020 budget as well as the opportunity for the membership to elect new board members. We are pleased to welcome Ron Haanstra, Pete Kraayenbrink and Gerry Siebring to the board. We thank Steph Struyk for letting her name stand and we trust we will find opportunities for her to serve LCS in other positions. We thank the membership for approving the actions of this board at the end of the meeting.

The board takes this opportunity to congratulate the graduating class of 2019! Our prayer is that the lessons you have learned, the relationships you have built, the character and leadership skills you have developed may carry you forward to meet the challenges and adventures beyond elementary school. We pray God's blessings upon you as you enter high school in September.

And behind every graduate is a family who has supported, encouraged and prayed for each child for many years. Some of these families will be watching their youngest child graduate and we wish them well also! These parents may be 'graduating' from LCS but our hope is that they will continue to be a part of this community; part of the blessing that is LCS, part of the family and friendships, part of the sharing and supporting, caring and praying that this community could not do without. May God bless you as you discover what life is like after elementary school. 😊



PRESENTING  
THE

*Class of* 2019







*Alan*  
**GREYDANUS**

One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin,  
but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

PROVERBS 18:24

Over my student career I have acquired numerous joyful memories, memories that would fill a book, and received the nickname "Big Al". But more importantly, I have gained knowledge, skill and meaning in my life. LCS has given me the opportunity to grow spiritually through Christian teaching. I have participated in activities such as sports, choir, and other endeavours that have shaped me into who I am today. I will be continuing my education at Woodland Christian High School and am excited to see where God takes me in my future career.

Alan is hilarious  
Laugh is what he makes me do  
Awesome at long distance running  
Never gives up

Is pretty smart  
Super creative

Fruits and vegetables in his lunch  
Usually catches on quick  
Never hands things in late  
Nifty soccer player  
You will love him



*Deanna*  
**HAANSTRA**

Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. [...] I can do all things through Him who gives me strength.

PHILIPPIANS 4: 9, 13

For the past 10 years, I have grown in my faith, received lots of knowledge, made memories, but also had fun at LCS. I've appreciated all the fun, loving staff and friends here. During these years, I've been a part of sports teams, Battle of the Books, Christmas musical plays, knitting clubs, drumfit, and choir. My favourite memory at LCS was the Ottawa Trip, especially skating on the canal, tubing, and even some of the new things we tried. I'm thinking I might be a teacher or a veterinarian as a career. I can't wait to see what God has in store for me next.

Does her best in everything  
Encourages others  
Always fun to be around  
Nice personality  
Never gives up  
A great friend





*Kenneth*  
**JOHNSTON**

If you love me you will keep my commandments.  
JOHN 14:15

LCS collectively has been rather pleasant. From participating in a large array of extra-curricular activities such as soccer, baseball, volleyball, Battle of the Books and, like most, joining in the annual Christmas musical production. One thing that is a definite bonus to attending LCS is our almost monthly team events which range from tug-of-war to scavenger hunts for various seasonal paper cut-outs. If I had to pick a favourite memory, it would be in Grade four with Mrs. Uyl when Brett was using the sharpener and leaning on his pencil. It snapped off, and Mrs. Uyl hit the roof.

Knows lots of stuff  
Encouraging to others  
Never fails any subjects  
Notable in class discussions  
Everything he does is "semi-intelligent"  
Thinks before everything he does  
Has a lot of cats



*Malcolm*  
**KATERBERG**

You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.  
PSALM 16:11

Listowel Christian School has greatly affected me over the past ten years. Great memories were created, as well as nicknames, such as Milkyway, and I learned many new skills. I greatly improved in my athletic abilities, and I had lots of fun in various dramas. This school has given me a stronger sense of who I am and who I want to be. I will be attending LDSS in the fall, with the hope of becoming a lawyer or having a job that math and/or computer skills are involved. I am looking forward to what is to come.

Malcolm is very responsible  
A smart student  
Long jump is his game  
Captivating many people's attention  
Overall, he is a great guy  
Loving to other people  
Math is his specialty





*Brett*  
**KOETSIER**

Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him.  
PSALM 62:5

In my many years at LCS, I have met many friends, completed many assignments, and learned a lot. I have gained a few nicknames over the years, not too many but one was Betty, and another is Bett, and Elizabeth calls me Brett-dog. I like to do lots of sports and have been on every sports teams since grade 6. One of my favourite memories from LCS is when we ate ice cream with our reading buddies. I will be going to Woodland Christian High School in the fall. I don't really know what I want to do as a career yet.

**Best at dirt biking**  
**Regularly seen laughing**  
**Extremely good at everything he does**  
**Tries and never gives up**  
**Talented**



*Krista*  
**LOS**

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.  
ISAIAH 41:10

My nicknames at LCS are Kristine Mc-Gee and Krisma. I've been involved in a lot of activities here too, like soccer, basketball, and volleyball as well as the crocheting and knitting club and the Christmas plays. My favourite memory at LCS is when Dakota, a former student, first came to school and how we became friends. What I've been most appreciative about LCS is that it has taught me many things like we are all a part of God's Kingdom. In the fall I will attend LDSS. Then in the future, I want to get a job that involves animals.

**Kind**  
**Reading, it is her favourite**  
**Interested in new things**  
**Smart!**  
**The spinny thing is her**  
**favourite playground pastime**  
**Awesome and fun**





*Benjamin*  
**MEIJERING**

Listen to advice and accept discipline,  
and at the end you will be counted among the wise.  
Many are the plans in a person's heart,  
but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

PROVERBS 19:20-21

These years of LCS have been an enjoyable time. I did many sports/clubs this year including baseball, soccer, volleyball, and Battle of the Books. My friends just call me Ben, Benny, Benny Boo, and Benji as my nicknames. One of my favourite memories of these years would be when we went to the soccer tournament and I had lots of fun hanging out with my friends and playing soccer with them. In LCS, I really appreciated the great community and loyal friends. I also think that over these years I improved in my social skills. I am looking forward to the next step in my life, high school at LDSS.

**B**en likes to play soccer  
**E**xcellent at school and sports  
**N**ice to everyone  
**J**oyful every day  
**A**n intelligent student  
**M**akes good friendships  
**I**mproves his skill every day  
**N**ever backs down when there is a challenge



*Colton*  
**SCHOUTEN**

When the foundations are being destroyed,  
what can the righteous do?

PSALM 111:3

Throughout my 7 years at LCS, I have had a great time learning and spending time with the people in my class. I was given one nickname and it was Cloe, but I forget how I got that nickname. I have also been on all the sports teams at least twice. My favourite sport's tournament was the basketball tournament because we always had a good, competitive team. Some good memories of school are when Alan got stuck in a garbage can and Reese and I rolled him around. I have also had many fun moments laughing with my classmates through the past years. I have really appreciated that LCS has given me an opportunity to grow spiritually. This fall, I will be going to FE Madill in Wingham. If I could choose a career I would choose to be a professional basketball player.

**C**ole is extremely happy all the time  
**O**ften his shoes are untied  
**L**aughing is one of his talents  
**T**alented at all sports  
**O**verall, he is a thoughtful person  
**N**ow he is graduating





*Elizabeth*  
**SKIPPER**

Do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

PROVERBS 3:1-2

While at LCS, I have been called Lizzy. I have been involved in soccer, Christmas plays (my favourite role was the angel), choir, basketball, and baseball. My favourite going away trip was Ottawa and seeing Justin Trudeau wave at me. What I learned from being at LCS is that you always have to make friends, get to know your teachers, and let other kids take turns on the swings. Next year I am going to St. Mary's Catholic High School. When I grow up I would like to be a midwife and help expecting mothers. LCS has been like a family to me because I have so many great friends.

**L**oving  
**I**deal horse rider  
**Z**estful; she is filled with love  
**Z**appy; she is energetic  
**B**ig Imagination  
**E**veryone is her friend



*Reese*  
**VANDONKERSGOED**

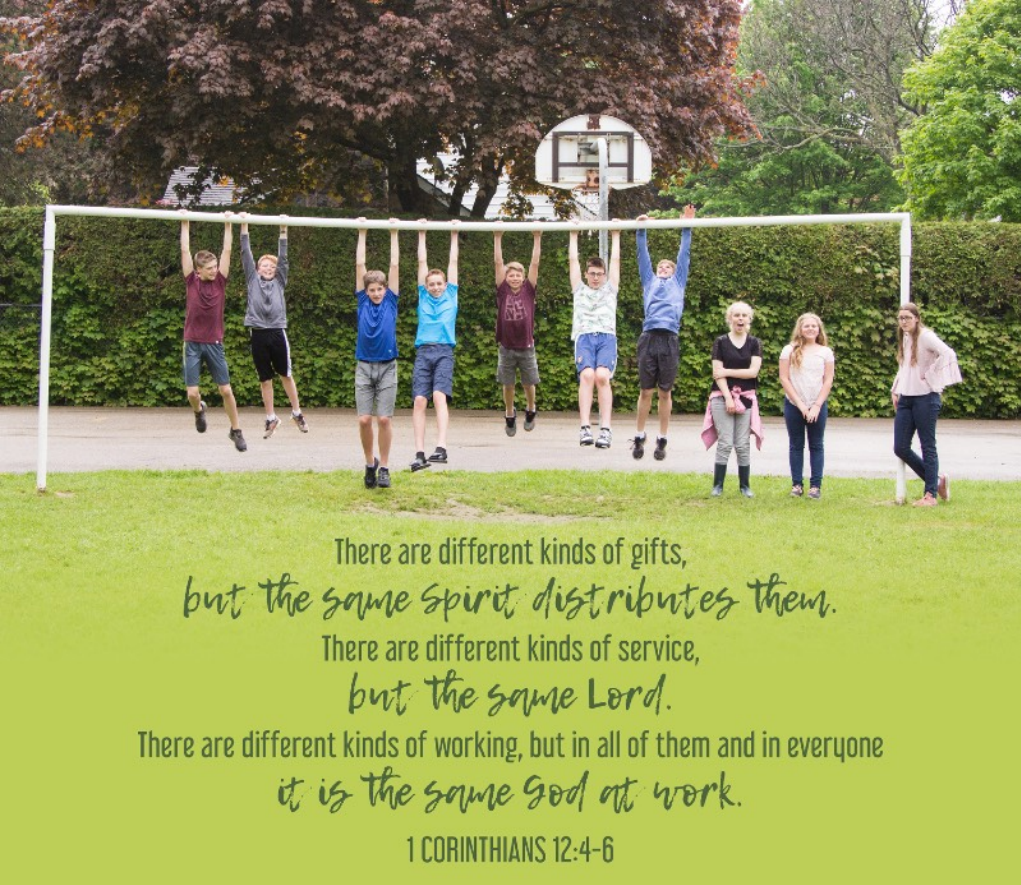
I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

PSALM 16:8

Through all the time I have been at LCS, I have enjoyed most of it. I have enjoyed art, gym and most of math. Some nicknames I have been called were Reeses Pieces and Grease. I have been able to join many different sports teams and clubs. I have appreciated the time and effort that everyone has put into this school. My favourite memory was at Ripley's Aquarium when Cole reached to pet a baby sting ray and he almost fell in. I grabbed his ankles and basically saved his life.

**R**idiculous loud laugh  
**E**xtremely kind  
**E**ngages with younger kids at recess  
**S**ociable with friends all the time  
**E**njoys playing sports





There are different kinds of gifts,  
*but the same spirit distributes them.*

There are different kinds of service,  
*but the same Lord.*

There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone  
*it is the same God at work.*

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6

# PURPOSE STATEMENT

EDUCATING  
CHILDREN

*while nurturing  
faith in Christ*

TO INTERPRET AND  
IMPACT GOD'S WORLD



CONGRATULATIONS *grads!*



**Listowel**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



*Hello*  
**SUMMER**

*Enjoy every  
moment*