

# Heritage News

*For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. -Isaiah 41:13*

## HERITAGE - A PLACE TO CALL HOME... AND A PLACE TO LEAVE...

GORD ROBIDEAU, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND GCP



### Exchanges and Homestays

Last year I wrote an article titled "Heritage - A place to call home..."

I discussed the type of community we have that opens our doors to students from around the world for various exchange trips that our students participate on. Last year we had visits from students from South Africa and Halifax. Kelowna became their "home" because we opened up our homes. We opened our homes and our hearts. They loved it here and they loved us. And we benefited greatly from the experience. Both here and when our students visited Halifax and Pretoria in reciprocal visits.

Last month we hosted 31 students and chaperones from Oaxaca, Mexico. They had a great time with all the snow though they were not too sure about how cold it was. Many parents commented to me how wonderful it was to have them in their homes. In May our grade 12 students will visit Oaxaca and stay with them for two weeks at the end of their GCP trip. We are thankful for the many people in Mexico who go above and beyond to make the trip a successful one for our students. There will be memories that last for years and relationships that continue for a lifetime.

#### YOU make the Difference

This month we will host another 29 students from Kitchener, Ontario. This week in fact. They will immerse themselves in activities that will be fun, exciting and doing things they have not seen in Ontario. But more than then activities, what they will remember most is the people. You will make the biggest impact and difference on this trip. They may be staying in one home but it's a community they will become part of for the duration of their visit. When you see new people around campus, be sure to say hi. You can make the difference of a good trip and a great trip.

Thank you again to the many who helped with the Mexican students hosting, preparing meals, driving, getting past the language barrier and making them feel at home. And thank you to the many that will do the same this week for the students from Kitchener. You are a foundational piece of why these trips are successful.

#### A Place to Leave

I've said this before. I am convinced that some of the best learning opportunities come outside the classroom. Our grade 12's will spend six weeks in Oaxaca. Our grade 11's will soon be planning another trip to

continued on page 2...

## SENIOR BOYS ARE HEADING TO THE PROVINCIALS

On Saturday, February 25th our Senior Boys Basketball team won the Valley Championships earning a spot for the first time in HCS history in the Provincials! The Provincials tournament takes place March 8th-11th in Langley BC. Go, Saints, Go!



Vancouver Island. Our grade 10's will fly to Toronto in May to be hosted by the Kitchener students. Kitchener has already planned a trip to Niagara Falls, a Blue Jay game, visits to the CN Tower, Hockey Hall of Fame, Google Canada, Yonge Street and more. Some of our high school students have been taking Comparative Civilizations 12 online and later this month will visit Athens, Rome, Florence, Venice, Pisa, Paris, Vimy Ridge and London. They will not just be learning from a book. They will see and experience education at another level.

Getting our students out of their own community, city, province, country or even continent provides lifelong learning benefits that will last them a lifetime. Opportunities to minister, making new friends, learning a new language. An experience with another culture increases their respect and understanding of others. This is transformational education.

### **A Time to Grow and Become Strong**

As a parent I am always guarding over my children to make sure they are safe. I need to be careful that I do not make them soft. These trips can help make our students strong. Students are confronted with challenges in everyday life that many will have never before experienced. Everything is new, as they adjust to life within a foreign place with a completely different language and culture and without the comforts of home. Although this may seem frustrating at times, the difficulties associated with everyday life during the time in Mexico can teach a person countless life lessons. Being on exchange is always an emotional rollercoaster. Today can be great, even amazing - and tomorrow can be a struggle. One day they will live remarkable new experiences like releasing baby turtles in the ocean or ministering to 900 children in mountain villages. The next day they are battling homesickness, heat, different food and feelings of alienation. Students learn to surrender, to trust, and to believe that there is someone walking beside them who loves them as a Father and a creator. Pray with us that students will return to home with newfound strength, confidence, self-understanding

and faith.

### **Next Year's Opportunities**

We hope to plan another trip for the grade 10's. We have had favour for two years and the government has chosen us and paid for much of the expense of the trip. The Mexicans from Oaxaca come every two years so they will not be here next year. We are in discussion with Hatfield Christian School in South Africa and Halifax Christian School in Nova Scotia to see if there are opportunities for future visits. We are hoping to host students next year from a small Christian school in Puerto Escondido. We connected with Manantiel Christian School two years ago when they opened in Puerto and our students have been working in the school each year we go down. Manantiel is a K to 9 school for mostly lower income families in Puerto. They have already been meeting with parents and are choosing a small group of grade 8 and 9 students who will visit us next year for two weeks in January or February 2018. This will truly be a trip of a lifetime for these students. Their lives will be changed and impacted beyond what we can imagine.

Perhaps next year is the time you need to open your home and host a student from Puerto. This is not a true exchange as we are not sending students back to Puerto to their homes. Our students stay together at Casamar while in Puerto and visit the school daily. Keep it in mind. It will change your life as well as theirs.

### **Pray for the teams**

Pray for us in the final preparations for staff and students going on trips this year. The GCP team leaves April 21 and returns May 31st. The grade 11 trip to Vancouver Island is still in planning. The Grade 10's leave on May 5 for Kitchener and return May 14. Pray for safety. Pray that they live and work in community as a team. Pray they use their skills and experience to love and care for others, and make a difference in people's lives.

# Value Village

The grade 7 class is running another Value Village FUNDrive so please hang onto bags of used clothing, books and household items until APRIL 22nd when we will be renting a truck for collections. We will get \$.05 per pound for books and household items and \$.10 per pound for clothing. In January, we made \$250 for our field trip fund.



### SHREK THE MUSICAL JR!

Beauty is in the eye of the ogre in *Shrek The Musical JR.*, based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film and fantastic Broadway musical.

It's a "big bright beautiful world" as everyone's favorite ogre, Shrek, leads a cast of fairytale misfits on an adventure to rescue a princess and find true acceptance.

Part romance and part twisted fairy tale, *Shrek JR.* is an irreverently fun show with a powerful message for the whole family.

Tickets available online [www.hcsdrama.yapsody.com](http://www.hcsdrama.yapsody.com)

### SHREK MAGNETS

Lucy Long has made souvenir magnets and buttons of this year's HCS Musical Production, "Shrek". They will be available for purchase before each performance or from the front office. They are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00



### A BUILDING UPDATE FROM PASTOR DAVE KALAMEN

My Dad always used to say to me: "When you are going God's way, He will stop and give you a lift." Since January's newsletter, the Building Committee has been meeting faithfully:



- David Deck, an experienced mechanical engineer, has taken the Chair of the committee
- time was spent with both Paul Kelly and Steve Cox regarding the philosophy of educational design
- KCCS Leadership board released \$50,000 to start the process of rezoning
- three companies have been interviewed as to costs of the development plan
- a large construction firm we would like to partner with is putting a proposal together for the costs of building both the front end and the school, and
- in a meeting last week, while speaking with business leaders, a man gave me a cheque for \$30,000 to be applied towards HCS's 2016-2017 budget.

There is still much to do. Pray for us. But, I do feel the "lift."

### CREATIVE WRITING CLASS

Currently offering a growth opportunity to any students interested in poetry, creative writing and storytelling! As a certified teacher and two-time Kelowna Poetry Slam champion, HCS alumni Nygel Metcalfe brings his dynamic flair to coach budding writers in their journey of creative self-discovery! Classes will be hosted at Opus Art Supplies in downtown Kelowna, on Tuesday afternoons from 4pm to 5pm. The 8 week course starts on March 7th (drop-in also available)! Call 250.878.6885 or email [info@kelownaartscouncil.ca](mailto:info@kelownaartscouncil.ca) to register.

### LIFESTYLE COUPON BOOKS

"Congratulations to Allison Faminoff in grade 12. She is the happy recipient of the first prize for selling OVER 120 Lifestyle Coupon Books... \$120 CASH!!"





## EVEN TEACHERS LEARN! -PAUL KELLY

Hi HCS Families,

I just wanted to give a quick update with what our amazing teaching staff has been up to the past this February during our 1.5 Professional Development days:

Fresh ideas, goals, and techniques to implement BC's new K-9 curriculum Integration of our Biblical Worldview into all our classes (Why and How to think like a Christian through Science, Socials, English, etc.) Teacher show & tell: sharing, listening, and encouraging each other with what new things we have been trying and working on in our own teaching this past quarter of the year Vision/Mission/Goals - brainstorming areas of focus for our school to work in and grow in in the next 18 months If you have been blessed by your child's classroom teacher, or any staff member at HCS, I encourage you to take a moment and share a little encouragement with them. Words matter - and encouraging words matter even more! Bless you!

## READ-A-THON

The **2017 READ A THON** is nearly here! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and with over \$24,000 worth of prizes to be won, you will want to be a part of it! Money raised goes to The Heart Of Heritage.



Students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 will be hearing all about it at upcoming chapels, and they will have a month to read and collect sponsors. The Read A Thon will run from March 14 - April 12 with the prizes distributed on April 19.

We appreciate the donation of prizes from many local businesses and love to support them when possible. Some of the new prizes this year include:

A free Week at Bible Camp (Greenbay, Sunnybrae, Gardom Lake, Morning Star), Okanagan Hot Air Balloon Experience, Ivivva Pack, Quest Martial Arts Lessons and Uniform, Shesky Personal Training, Taco Time, Wildplay Adventure Park, and many more!

And of course, we have a trip to **Disneyland** up for grabs, as well as many repeat prizes such as Large Beanie Boos from Loadza Toys, Triple O Hamburger Platters, Moolix Ice Creams, Havoc Pro Scooter, Energyplex Passes, DQ Cones, Nature's Fare Gift Certificates, Mosaic Books Gift Cards, Kelowna Tickets and much more!

## KELOWNA MINOR BASKETBALL

Kelowna Minor Basketball Legends Spring 2017 League registration is now open. The Legends program is for players in Grades 4 thru 12 (Grade 3 play-ups are allowed, subject to approval) The Legends season starts April 3rd and ends approximately mid June. For more information and to register for Legends go to our website at [www.kelownamba.com](http://www.kelownamba.com).



Financial assistance is available- we believe that no child should be left on the sidelines and all kids should be given the opportunity to experience the positive benefits of organized sports.

## SPRING BREAK CAMP OPPORTUNITY

## MARCH HOT LUNCH SCHEDULE



**MARCH 1ST:  
HOMEMADE MAC &  
CHEESE**

**MARCH 8TH:  
DOMINO'S PIZZA**





**MARCH 15TH: YAMATO**



**\*PLEASE NOTE DUE TO SPRING BREAK, APRIL HOT LUNCH ORDER FORMS ARE DUE BACK IN THE OFFICE, FRIDAY MARCH 17TH\***



# MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			01 Hot Lunch: Homemade Mac and Cheese	02	03	04	
05	06  Grade 5 & 6 Swimming Grade 7 Girls vs. LAAS 5pm Grade 7 Boys vs.RMS 6:30pm	07	08 Hot Lunch: Pizza 	09	10 Grade 1-4 Swimming Forms due	11	
		Senior Boys Basketball Provincials in Langley					
12	13  Grade 7 Girls vs. Dr. Knox 5pm Grade 7 Boys vs.SMS 6:30pm	14	15 Hot Lunch: Yamato	16	17	18	
		Shrek Jr. The Musical 7pm      7pm      7pm      7pm      1pm					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
							
26	27					<b>BACK TO SCHOOL MONDAY, APRIL 3RD.</b>	

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