

The Lynden LINK

February 27, 2022
Volume 20, Issue 4

Cornerstone Christian School

~ Chairman Report ~

As you read this I hope that you are enjoying your Mid-Winter break with your families. It's always nice to have a few days off where we can put our regular schedules aside for a time and enjoy a break. It is also a good time to reflect on our lives and what we have been keeping ourselves so busy with. Have we been using the time and talents God has given us to serve Him? Have you ever asked yourself why you send your kids to Cornerstone Christian School? I'm sure most of you have been asked that a time or two...? I personally have over the many years of sending our children to CCS. How would you answer this question...? Your boiler plate response could be... "Well it's what our parents did and I went to Christian school so I'd like my kids to go to a Christian school as well"... or, "I don't agree with what is being taught or done in the public school so I'm sending my kids to a Christian school." Well, these responses may be true but I certainly hope that the response would go a little deeper than that. Maybe you feel like sending your kids to a Christian school is a lot of work. Do you feel like you're *always being asked to do something; help in the classroom, clean the school, volunteer at the next fundraiser, fix another toilet that won't flush, another computer needs fixing.....The tasks and requests seem to be never ending. And to top it off.... "Why do the fees keep going up?!!"*

Perhaps we need to reexamine our answer to why we send our kids to CCS and what's really important. Sometimes we can get disheartened and overwhelmed with it all. Is it all worth it and really necessary? It's good from time to time to re-visit our Mission statement, our Basis is indeed a necessary and worthy en-

deavor. The purpose of the school is to assist the parents in their calling to educate their children in this effort, and endeavors to equip the children with further knowledge and skills in the specific subject areas so that they may learn how to be faithful stewards and so glorify the name of the Lord in all of life.

When you stop to think about all this, what an enormous responsibility this is for both the parents and for the school. It sure makes us appreciate the commitments made by those some 22 years ago who helped start up our own school in Lynden. Much sweat equity was invested in starting up, building a new school building and now maintaining and improving our program. We can look back on these years and be very thankful for what the Lord has blessed us with. Our school program was developed to incorporate as much parent assistance as possible. One of the reasons for this was, as good Dutch people as we are... to keep costs down... however, I don't believe that is the most important reason. Involved parents gives a feeling of ownership! We have been blessed over the years with abundance of volunteers spending countless hours in the treasured task of educating our covenant children. Let's contemplate this for a while and perhaps the next time someone asks you to share your talents and time you won't hesitate knowing how important it is. This doesn't mean that every time someone says "No" that they are not justified in their answer because understandably there are circumstances that prevent us from doing things we would otherwise take on. But rather, we do not always naturally want to put others needs above our own. Again we need to put our trust and hope in the Lord who gives us the



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Upcoming Dates

Feb. 28 Elem P/T Conferences
Mar. 2 - Elem P/T Conferences
Mar. 10—Science Fair
Mar. 11 - PD Day—No School
Apr. 11—HS 3rd Qtr Reports
Apr. 4-8—Spring Break
Apr. 15—Good Friday
Apr. 22—Easter Program

strength and equip our hearts with the Holy Spirit who compels us to do His sanctifying work in our lives. As school community we have been blessed with a membership where God has blessed each one of us with many different talents. The question we must ask ourselves is how we can use them to glorify God in our lives. What is it that we are so busy with and how are we spending the time that God has given us. 1 Peter 4:10-11 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever serves, as one who serves by the grace that God supplies-in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and forever. Amen"

Are we losing this drive...? Over the last few years, the board, and other committees have noticed somewhat of a shift in this commitment. In the early days when there was a call to serve on the board or on a committee, or whatever was needed... normally, there was no need to ask twice. The ready answer was, "My turn again... ok where do you need me?"... Each of the last two years as the board was looking to find candidates to fill vacant positions we were met with a handful of "No sorry, too busy"... The last couple of years the CBM has had to ask a handful of folks each time in order to fill a vacancy... It seems we have reports elsewhere that it is becoming harder to fill volunteer roles... Is it Covid fatigue...? Is it that we are so much busier now...? Is the desire in the community to volunteer diminishing? Would we rather just hire this work out? As the board approaches a new budget cycle, on the one hand we hear concerns of rising tuition costs, and on the other hand it becomes harder to find enough people to fill positions. What is the board to do if we can't find volunteers to fill positions...? Perhaps we have to "appoint" people rather than ask, or require so many volunteer hours per family? Perhaps we need to hire additional staff... i.e. custodians, caretakers or IT specialists...? The latter comes with a steep cost. We would love to hear the member-

ship's take on this. Whether voicing your thoughts at the upcoming society meeting or via private letters.

The board is hopeful that there is still that drive to continue with the volunteerism that we have enjoyed for so many years. We believe there is so much value and such a wonderful thing having parents volunteer, being involved and taking ownership in the school and its programs. Please don't get me wrong... there are still many volunteers and we are very grateful for each one of you! As we move through the generations, let's pray that the next generation has the same drive and determination to provide the best Christian education for their children.

The board and the committees continue to do their work diligently. I'd like to thank all those involved with the day to day operations of the school... We are preparing for the spring membership meeting to be held late April early May... We will let you know when that date will be. The major component of that meeting will be the approval of the 22/23 school year budget.

The board is also busy this time of the year making preparations for next year, especially as it relates to staffing needs. We can report that most of the current teachers plan to return next year, something the board is very thankful for. We do not anticipate needing to advertise for any significant staff positions. This, of course, assumes that our new principal, Nathan Kok is able to come into the US and that we have a successful visa process for him. We are extremely thankful that the Lord has provided for the school in this way. We continue to pray that the Lord would bless the visa process.

On behalf of the board, I would like to express thanks to our extremely dedicated staff, volunteers, committee members, sub-committee members and all those who have a hand in making Cornerstone Christian School function well! May God bless Cornerstone Christian School!

~ Education Committee Report ~

Hello happy and important LINK readers! Your Education Committee has been busy with various tasks over the last couple of months. Senior project season is right around the corner; February, March, April, and May all contain nights reserved for presentations. This is always a highlight of the year for the Ed Comm, and we look forward to seeing the culmination of the students' hard work.

In other news, our curriculum review focused on mathematics this year, and we discovered grades 1-2 needed particular attention. Samples from several

curriculum publishers have been acquired, and we are in the midst of assessing them, and how they may compare/contrast with Saxon. The Ed Comm has also been busy discussing class sizes, budgets, next year's calendar, teaching workload, and potential policy changes, to name a few things.

This all undoubtedly sounds amazing to you. Well, good news: there are a couple openings coming up in this committee. If you would like to serve, let me know. I would be happy to hear from you!

For the Ed Comm, Eric B

~ Treasurer Report ~

Dear Cornerstone Community:

It is that time of year again. Many committees and individuals are busy looking forward. Forward to next year and planning financially for the next school year. It's budget time! I would like to thank all committees and individuals who are doing what they can to provide fiscally responsible budgets for each area of our expenses at Cornerstone. It has been an interesting year and looks to be another in 2022-23. We look forward to providing a well thought out, fiscally responsible budget for our society meeting this spring.

The Keystone committee has contributed again to the Cornerstone accounts. Thank you all for your hard work on the committee. The foresight to have started such a fundraiser so many years ago and get into the house building market has been a tremendous blessing for our school society. I have been told another lot has been purchased to build another house. Please consider helping out when called on by this committee. Thank you, Keystone!

Thanks to all for continuing a timely school payment. I would like to remind the society of their commitments each of us has made to the pledge drive of 2021-22 school year. Thank you for the

payments that have been made. We are tracking well on receiving them. Please remember to continue to make these payments, and please do start if they haven't begun yet.

As we budget, we look back on how we have been provided for over so many years, some years harder than others. Then we look forward and we must trust the Lord's hand in the financial provision he has for our school. We pray that He will continue to provide, and as we look back have no doubt that He will!

Kolin Veldman



~ Cornerstone Foundation Report ~

It is a blessing to be able to report on the positive things that are happening with the Cornerstone Foundation. The year ended strong as the total funds contributed over 2021 was just over \$47,000 leaving us a balance of over \$192,000. A complete accounting will be provided at the Spring Membership Meeting.

Based on last year's giving, we set a goal of raising \$50,000 for this year as well. We acknowledge the Lord's blessings in 2021 and are thankful for the good progress made through contributions to the fund. If we give a little here and a little there, it all adds up to a lot over the years. There is still opportunity for those who wanted to get set up for monthly donations; you can do that directly with the Treasurer, Derek Willis, by emailing treasurer@ccsgive.org.

With a growing fund, it's important to invest wisely and we have received your input here too. We have a plan ready to begin investing much of this money so that it will grow a bit quicker than simple bank interest, but the wheels of progress turn slowly. We are presenting an investment strategy at the Spring Membership meeting to get the necessary approvals so we can begin.

The information evening we hosted last November proved to be quite helpful for our membership. We are thankful to have knowledgeable professionals willing to share information we typically don't ask much about. We hope to build on some of this information later in the year. In the meantime, if anyone is interested in naming the Cornerstone Foundation in their estate planning and needed some help walking through this, please reach out to one of us or one of the professionals who presented that night.

Lastly, this year, both Brian Hendricks and Marvin Vreugdenhil's term is concluding so we are looking to vote in 2 new members for the CF Board. We are thankful that the following people agreed to be nominated: Jeff Brown, Ian Davis, Rick Faber, and Cason VanDriel. So, with all of these things going on with the Cornerstone Foundation Board, we are really looking forward to having everyone attend the Spring Membership meeting so we can vote on the investment strategy and the new board members. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

For the Cornerstone Foundation Board, Henry Klos

~ CBM Report ~

The CBM has been busy working on repairs in and around the school. As the building ages the list of repairs grows. Terry VanDiest recently joined the committee, and we welcome him aboard. We also want to express appreciation to Jessica Chase for finishing her term as the cleaning coordinator, and we are thankful for Lisa Pelleboer being found willing to take over this position.

There are several projects on the go currently; replacing the water tank cover, plans in the works for a fence along the open field on Northwood Road, and revitalizing the soccer field to name a few. The

Mezzanine art room project is substantially complete now with the much appreciated installation of the heating system, and the last details will be buttoned up over the next few weeks.

As we start to think about spring (at least it's a thought) keep your eyes open, and your lawn care tools ready for the upcoming spring cleanup in April. We will finalize the date and send out a reminder soon.

Thanks, CBM

~ Ladies Aid Report ~

Hello ladies! I think it's safe to say we're all ready for some nice spring weather and with that brings a little more activity on the Ladies Aid front! Here is an update on a few of our fundraisers -

Coupon books: Thank you to everyone for your efforts in selling the coupon books. We sold 206 books. This was a new spin on an existing fundraiser and as such there was a learning curve. Unfortunately we did not sell enough to break even since we purchased the books from Ebenezer and are unable to return the unsold ones as we have in the past. We hope to have another fundraiser in the spring (some people may have used all their Edaleen coupons by then). Stay tuned for more details on this in the coming weeks.

Plant sale: The Plant Sale Committee has geared up to host our annual CCS plant sale. We hope to have the sale April 29/30, May 6/7 and May 13/14. We will be asking for help for those dates sometime

in the future, but in the meantime, if you can save the date of **Wednesday, March 16**, we will be having a potting party at the CCS greenhouse. If you are able to spare some time to help us then, that would be wonderful. Prior to that, if you have any perennials in your garden that you could share, let someone on the plant sale committee know: Bernice, Evelien, Hannah, Janet, Malorie, Christine, Leshia, Helena, Joyce, and Ranelle.

Spring Membership Meeting: We have set the date for our annual spring membership meeting for **March 1st at 8pm** in the ARC church basement. Please mark your calendars! We will have committee sign up sheets for the 22/23 school year at the meeting, so please think about where you may be able to help!

May God bless our efforts in raising funds for our school and our children!

On behalf of Ladies Aid, Ang Davis

~ College & Careers Update ~

An exciting time of the year for our seniors - senior project presentations are just getting started, and while some seniors are lining up jobs or technical training for after high school, others are receiving admission letters from universities!

Though it may seem like graduation is a long ways away for our juniors, if you're considering college or university now is a great time to take a first attempt at the SAT, then prepare to take it again in the fall of your senior year. Now is also a good time to start thinking about senior project plans, and what courses you might want/need to take next year.

For graduating seniors, if you haven't already done

so now is the time to apply for scholarships! Some deadlines may have already passed, while others are still available. If you need a place to start, go to the school website and visit the High School and Beyond Page - the Website Resources has a number of places to look for scholarships.

And finally, a thank you to Stephanie Bareman for her 6 years of service on the committee, and a warm welcome to Alyssa Brown! We trust that your very recent experience in the college search process will be an invaluable resource for other students and parents!

On behalf of the College & Careers Committee,
Gavin Willis

~ Keystone Foundation ~

As we enter a new year, it's a good time to reflect on the Keystone Project and provide an update.

In a late 2014 discussion about fundraising, a new idea came up. Why don't we look at fixing up an old home or perhaps building and selling a spec home? We hoped that this would be a unique fundraiser that would raise additional funds for Cornerstone. After some more discussion the concept quickly turned into a plan and the Keystone Project began!

Once the committee was in place, the next item on the agenda was to secure funds to get the project going. The Lord provided families who were able to loan us the money to get this project off the ground. This past summer, we were able to pay back the last of our willing lenders! Your willingness to lend us funds to get this project going was instrumental to its on-going success. What an incredible blessing you have been and we want to say a heartfelt Thank You!

In early 2016, we purchased our first lot and began building the first house. It was hard work, but very rewarding as the hard work was shared by young and old from our school community. Our first home was completed and within a short time it was sold and the discussion continued - Should we do another one? Well, as they say, the rest is history. Six years and seven houses later we are humbled and

very thankful for the many blessings He has provided. Part of our plan was to use the many talents within the Cornerstone community to work together on a large-scale project. Well, the Lord provided more than we prayed for, and we now find ourselves on the verge of starting our eighth house.

We are very thankful for our school community businesses as well as businesses within the local community that have helped us along the way. They have provided resources in people, product and valuable experience to help make this a profitable project.

We are also very thankful for the willing and able Keystone Committee and all the talented and energetic volunteer help. It is exciting to watch volunteers continue to show up for this unique project - we couldn't do it without you! Your contribution - whether it be time, expertise or materials - has allowed us to provide \$120,000 to Cornerstone since the inception of the project. Our goal is to continue to raise funds for the school and we look forward to your continued support.

We praise the Lord for his goodness and faithfulness - and it is our prayer that he will continue to bless the Keystone project.

With much appreciation,
The Keystone Committee



~ IT Report ~

Things are generally running smoothly on the IT front. Besides the occasional password issue, a hiccup with spam filtering or whitelisting a website for teachers, we are glad to report that day-to-day things are fairly uneventful. Hopefully the staff agrees (if not, please tell us so we can help)!

A few items of note:

1. A need for extending internet access to the greenhouse was recently identified. Testing will be done to decide whether connecting to the Wi-Fi provides acceptable performance, or whether a wired

connection is needed.

2. Toward the end of 2021 the school received a donation specifically targeted for IT needs. Thank you! This will enable us to outfit the teachers with some new desktop computers.

3. Installation of the new security camera system is in the near-term plan. We are consulting the CBM on a few considerations, and are targeting a spring/summer install.

On behalf of the IT Committee,
Ian Davis

~ Principal Report ~

What a blessing we have received to continue with regular classes and educational training at Cornerstone! For the past weeks since our last issue of the Link in December, students and staff alike have been able to fulfill their respective tasks. Despite colds and other maladies, our school attendance has been quite high. We do appreciate the care taken to keep those feeling under the weather at home. It has made a real difference in keeping the germs at bay.

Cornerstone school really is such a blessing! Having a private school, run by parents who are deeply committed and thoroughly involved is enviable, but the beauty of Cornerstone is more than that. Our Parent Handbook highlights this with a focus on covenant in the written educational goals. Our children, our students, are covenant children, and thus we, as a community, seek to provide good education for them "in harmony with what is taught in the home and Church." Another phrase of this educational goal says, "strives to make a place for all of those children". Which children? The covenant children in our community. And that means all of those children.

In the past few years, Cornerstone has really taken strides to fulfill that educational goal. With notable changes in the EdSupport program and added staff to accommodate the needs of students who benefit from this support, it's heartening to see the importance this has in the Cornerstone community mindset. Is there room for improvement? I think that is likely. Is there reason for thankfulness for what is done? I think that is greater than likely. May God continue to bless the efforts in our EdSupport department.

Another facet to this rich educational goal fleshed out in the Parent Handbook is "that the education their children receive fully embraces the doctrinal instruction they are called to provide for their children." At the most recent Professional Development Day, the staff was treated to presentations by Rev. Kampen. A future PD day will allow more time to watch a presentation by Arthur Kingma. A committee in Ontario (CARE:Curriculum Assistance for Reformed Education) has developed a curriculum for grades 1-4 several years ago on this topic, and are currently working on grades 5-8. This comes alongside a Bible curriculum also developed through CARE for the same grades. As staff, we appreciate having access to these good Reformed resources.

The presentations reminded all of us to keep a solid focus on God's work. Rev. Kampen highlighted the term *salvation history*. *God is writing a story that, at the beginning, looked to go awry. In Gen. 3:15 the*

'declaration of the antithesis' brings in a suspenseful element to the story. How will the story develop? As we share the stories of Scripture with our students, we have the opportunity to see how God has worked in salvation history, especially noting how Satan works hard to erase the picture God is drawing, and man himself smudges the picture often, too. When we get to the end of the book of Acts, the suspense remains. "Now what?" It's not the end of time. What will God do next? How does the church move from the time of Acts to the new heaven and earth? The answer to that question is Church History.

School Life

Since January we have enjoyed the full time attention of Miss Jolene Kingma. She has capably busied herself in the grade 3/4 classroom, and two afternoons (PE and Science) among the students of 1st and 2nd grade. We are thankful for her presence amongst us.

The benefits of a new classroom upstairs are being noticed. While Science hasn't yet made a move there, it is currently being used for art classes across several grades. Web Design makes use of it when it is available, and Horticulture also enjoys some class time there, as well. If you would like to see this new room, please don't hesitate to ask.

Events

Regular school activities continue, with assessments and projects of various sorts on the radar, but once in a while, a special event garners a bit more attention. Soon to come will be our Science Fair. Likely most parents are already in the know, with experiments and designs being developed by many. We certainly are excited to have a Science Fair once again after a few years' absence of this event. Students from all grade levels have been invited to contribute. Please join us on the evening of Thursday, March 10th in the school gym to celebrate the accomplishments and creations of our budding Scientists.

Another event in the planning stages is a school concert. Last year's concert was recorded and shared digitally, but we feel comfortable this year in hosting an in-person event. Considering the uncertainty of the timing of the Lynden ARC building's availability, we chose to call it a Spring Concert. The date is now set for Friday, April 22nd. Please mark that on your calendars. We had prepared for this concert two years ago, but we never got the chance to perform it at that time. We look forward to sharing it with you in a few months.

May God continue to bless our efforts.

2021/2022 School Calendar

August

31 - First Day Of School

September

6 - Labor Day

October

Mission Month

8 - In Service Day

11 - Columbus Day

12 - College & Careers Evening

November

5 - HS 1st Qtr Reports

8,9 - HS P/T Conferences

11 - Veteran's Day (no school)

12 - InspirED PD Day

19 - Elem Term 1 Reports

22 - Early Release (11:55am)

22, 23 - Elem P/T Conferences

25 - Thanksgiving Day

26 - Thanksgiving Break (no school)

December

17 - Last Day 2021

20 - 31 - Christmas Break

January

3 - First Day of 2022

17 - Martin Luther King Day

21 - HS 2nd Qtr Reports

24,25 - HS P/T Conferences

February

17—Science Fair

18 - Prof Learning Day

23 - Elem Term 2 Reports

24,25,28 - Mid-Winter Break

28 - Elem P/T Conferences

March

2 - Elem P/T Conferences

10 - Science Fair

11 - Professional Learning Day

April

1 - HS 3rd Qtr Reports

4-8 - Spring Break

15 - Good Friday

22—Easter Program

May

5 - Public Speaking Contest

13 - Professional Learning Day

26 - Ascension Day

27 - Sports Day

30 - Memorial Day

June

3 - Eighth Grade Graduation

6 - Quad School Track Meet

9 - Last Day of School for Students

10 - Senior Graduation

Board

Chairman:	Tim Faber
Vice-Chairman:	Ray Buitenbos
Secretary:	Ray Buitenbos
Treasurer:	Kolin Veldman
Ed Comm Liaison:	Eric Brown
Staff & Membership Admin	Clarence Kobes
Building Liaison:	Dave Hofford
Bookkeeper	Karla Leyenhorst

Building/Maintenance Committee

Jeremy Bouwman	Nathan Burger
Nathan Chase	Dave Hofford
Terry VanDiest	

Education Committee

Stephanie Bareman	Eric Brown
Debbie Johnson	Debby Lodder
Lisa Pelleboer	Sharon Veldman

IT Committee

Eric Brown	Stephen Chase
Ian Davis	Matt Hoefakker

Finance Committee

Janice DeMooy	Brian Hendricks
Harvey Pelleboer	Kolin Veldman
Gavin Willis	

Library Committee

Stephanie Bareman	Janice Dykstra
Fiona Houweling	Debbie Johnson
Helena VanDriel	Michelle VanDriel
Sharon Veldman	Bernice Vreugdenhil

Ladies Aid Committee

Pres - Janice DeMooy	VP - Michelle Veldman
Sec - Ang Davis	Treas - Kelli Kobes

Staff

Office Administration:

Debbie Johnson - Principal
Gavin Willis - Athletic Director
Kari VanDiest- Secretary

Full Time:

Debbie Johnson - Geo, Music 3/4, Web De. 9/10, Art 7-10
Jeanette Janssen - Science 7-12, Math 9-12
John-Mark Stromberg - PE 5-8, His. 7/8, Eng.& His. 9-12
Lynette Van Hofwegen - Gr. 5/6
Stephen Houweling - Math 4, Gr.7/8
Wayne Chase - HS: Bible, Math, English, History

Part Time:

Christine Hofford- Ed Support
Darlene VanStaaldin - Spanish 11/12
Heather Johnson - Horticulture 11/12
Janet Faber - L.A. 1/2
Janice Dykstra - Ed Support Coor.
Jolene Kingma - L.A.4, Bible, His 3/4., PE & Sc.1-4
Jolene Vreugdenhil - Culinary Arts 11/12
Karen DeMooy - Art 3/4
Kristina Wendt - PE HS
Mackenzie Kanis - Math 3, LA 3
Melanie Kottelenberg - Music 5/6
Mikayla Willis- Ed Support
SarahBeintema- Ed Support
Shari Kruyswijk - Gr.1/2
Sharon Veldman - Culinary Arts 11/12



SCIENCE FAIR



We want to share our discoveries with you

Thursday March 10, 2022

7:00–8:30 pm

School Gymnasium

Grades 1st-11th

Parents, students, families, and friends are welcome to attend.

Sonnets

By Mrs. Van Hofwegen's 5th/6th grade class

SUMMERTIME by Lucy Brown



Summertime is the best time of the year
In the summer you will have lots of fun
In the summer I think you will have no fear
In the summer I eat cinnamon buns

In the summertime it will be shining
Lots and lots of animals will come out
And in the summer, you could go zip lining
And the animals will make a loud shout

I bet the sun will melt your popsicle
And I bet it will be 80 degrees
And I'm sure you won't see an icicle
And you will hear buzzing of bumble bees

I love the summertime so very much
Hopefully you will not be in a crutch

CATS AND KITTENS by Emma Davis



Cats are really cute, they are super soft
Kittens are so small and they love to purr
The little furballs sleep inside a loft
The precious kittens have lots of soft fur

The cats love to tackle and scratch and lick
My cat Lily is super-duper fat
The small little kittens are super slick
Good thing Lily hasn't caught a fat rat

Cats are cute, kittens are adorable
Do you like the fluffy kind of kittens?
Lily will always be memorable
I like the cats that are soft like mittens

Big cats and small kittens are really cute
They're so crazily cute they'll make you mute

FARM by Cassie De Mooy



There are lots of things to do on a farm
Swinging on a rope or petting the cat
Waking up early to a loud alarm
You'd never get bored doing stuff like that

Seeing the black and white cows in the field
With hay in their mouths and munching along
The Cornstalks waving and ready to yield
The birds all chirping their beautiful song

Seeing the cows getting milked in the barn
The cute, dirty pigs rolling in the mud
Shearing the sheep to get beautiful yarn
The cows laying in the hay chewing their cud

I think I've explained quite enough to you
I think you might have something else to do

BIG BOOKS by Lily De Boer



I hate reading books all you read is books
I just want to fly a really cool kite
Kids were playing now I tried not to look
I read and read and read now it was night

It was morning and I read about owls
I like to read on my couch and read big
It turns out owls hate to have pink, purple, towels
I read books about very funny pigs

I will read and read all day and all night
I always wondered who made these big books
To read a really big book you need light
The author on books got some cool, good looks

Turns out I love to read really big books
I keep big books in very cool nook.

OZZIE by Taleesha Houweling



I have a cat he is a big fur ball
He cuddles and purrs then sits on your lap.
He ventures outside and comes when I call
Then comes from outside and takes a long nap

My cat's name is Ozzie, he loves to play
Ozzie likes to catch mice and big, grey rats
Ozzie is cute and soft, I have to say
He loves it when we give him lots of pats

He drinks milk and eats tons and tons of food
He sleeps in the sink but not his bed
Ozzie is usually in a good mood
In the cold winter his brown fur will shed

Ozzie is a cute, adorable pet
He's the cutest thing you have ever met

MY KITTEN by Kaitlyn Kleyn



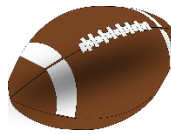
Today I got a small cute kittycat
My cat loves water she plays in the pool
She sat on my lap in front of the mat
I will tell you my kitten is so cool

My kitty cat loves to eat tons of food
My kitty cat loves to sleep in the most
My kitty cat is always in a mood
She is warm and snug like a piece of toast

My kitten likes to play outside with string
My kitty cat is afraid of the night
My kitten likes to chase birds while they sing
My kitty cat love to jump on my kite

I got my kitten a cute little cap
My kitty cat loves to be on my lap

FOOTBALL by Vincent Klos



A sport that is fun to play is football
When you play you have to make a touch down
The referee will make an extreme call
The team colors are navel orange and brown

The start of the game starts off with a kick
My favorite team is the awesome Seahawks
I want to play defense and make a pick
To prepare for a game put on your socks

Me and my family will make a call
We will go to the mall to get the year
Me and Ryland like watching live football
I guess we will never check my big ear

I will make a pass to the first yard line
I will never get a touchdown that is fine

MILKSHAKE by Joshua Kobes



I enjoy Edaleen dairy's milk shakes
You can get them in all different sizes
Pay a little money that's all it takes
Or you can give them away as prizes

I will always have Oreo milk shakes
Edaleen dairy also sell ice cream
I love their scrumptious ice cream cakes
Eleven scoops of ice cream is my dream

You can buy it in a one-gallon jug
Just warning you ice cream is very cold
You can even eat it in a mug
In a very big jugs is how it is sold

You can even buy it in a big cup
I will drink it till I can't stand up!

BIG CITY by Lleyton Lodder



You've probably been to a big city
Many cars honking loudly in the street
There might be a stray, hungry street kitty
Some cool cars might have a very loud beat

You might see a gigantic building there
In the dark night you might see bright lights
You might be able to meet the mayor
In the city you'll find an awesome sight

In the big city you'll see many cars
In the loud city there will be a park
On the busy road there is lots of tar
You will definitely hear a dog bark

This is all what you probably might see
Buses, cars, buildings are in the city

MOLLY by Jude Pelleboer



Our family has a favorite dog Molly
We love having her makes us jolly
Her type of breed is a golden doodle
We are glad she is not a long noodle

Her colors are shiny, black and and dull gray
Molly likes to run around, then lay more
She has a liter of puppies this year
She had fourteen puppies but not all of them are here

Molly likes to go to the beach in May
Molly the dolly likes to play all day
I like to take Molly out for a jog
She is a cute and sometimes ugle dod

My mom gave her a horrible haircut
Now she looks like a funny looking mut

MY ICE CREAM by Elijah Vanderlinde



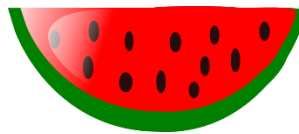
Ice cream is the best, I like it so much
Take your first lick, and you will want more
A small touch of whipped cream, just a small touch
On your first lick, you won't think it's a bore

You can have your ice cream inside a cone
When you eat it, your tongue will be amazed?
Taste it and your mind will surely be blown
They don't serve chocolate and vanilla glazed

When they serve it, you better watch your tone?
It is so very, very, very good
It will make you cold right down to the bone
If you don't act nice, they will give you Wood

Now you know how to order you ice cream
When you eat it, it will be your best dream

WATERMELON by Kiersten Van Delft



Watermelon is the best kind of fruit
Pink and delicious, juicy and yummy
You can find them in an old stinky boot
Watermelon settles in your tummy

It never fails you, even if you boast
Eat it with a shiny, polka dot spoon
It tastes very yummy on buttered toast
Juicy watermelon grows on the moon

Eat it in the summertime to cool off
Never call a watermelon a knight
Take a bite of watermelon and cough
After you coughed, you take another bite

Go buy the watermelon at the store
You will buy so many, you will go poor

ICE FISHIN by Justin Veldman



I looked out the window and saw white snow
If I do go outside, it will be cold
I noticed that all the snow will soon blow
I decided that I had to be bold

But when I went outside, it was too late
I went to bed, and I was very sad
When I woke up, I got lots of cool bait
Then I thought this is going to be rad

Its rad because I'm going ice fishin'
I hopped in my car and drove far away
This is going to be my best mission
I noticed it was the middle of May

I'm very sad it was not winter
I hopped in my boat and gotta splinter

THE ROLLER COASTER by Ty Berends



I look at the ride and I am in shock
Our turn, I hop in the roller coaster
I fastened my seatbelt so it would lock
This most scary ride was called the Ghoster

Up and up we went a click at a time
Down we went, I was going to be sick
We did a loop and I dropped my last dime
On the way up I heard tick, tick, tick, tick

This was the part I was dreading all day
We were at the top waiting for the drop
Then my stomach fell and we all said "Yeah!"
I had a fear we would die with a plop

The ride cost a dollar, what a bargain
In fact, I might just do it once again

MY FAVORITE SPORT by Emily Dykstra



As I dribble very fast down the court
I pass to my teammate; she shoots and scores
I think, "I really, really love this sport."
Blood pumping through all our veins and our cores

Back on defense we all shadow our checks
I get a steal and thunder down the floor
I miss, my friend rebounds over our necks
She scores, the crowd cheers crazily for more.

It's a very close game, the score is tied
My coach calls a timeout to form some plays
We stare at her board till all are cross eyed
We are ready, we've been waiting for days.

We shoot and score, it's the best thing of all
I love this game, this game of basketball.

PLACES by Ryland Faber



There are lots of fun places that you can go
There are some places that get very hot
Some places even get lots of white snow
At camping, you drive to a reserved lot

San Francisco is a fun place to go
New York is a very immense city
In the cities the traffic is very slow
Florida beaches are very gritty

In Washington, the snowboarding is great
In Kansas, there are lots of sunflowers
To me Texas is the most coolest state
In Seattle, there are lots of towers

Oh, all the places that you can go to
In Australia, there's the kangaroo

VACATION/CAMPING by Ellie Hofford



I love vacation so much it is rad
It's fun with family my mom and dad
The beach is the best with its warm hot sand
On the beach there is very gorgeous land

After the beach I like to eat some smore
Once you have one, you will always want more
For breakfast, I like to eat a pancake
They are so stinking good they will make you quake

At camping, we set up some canopies
Put on some bug spray to keep away flees
Once we get there, we set up our big tent
On top the tent there is a little vent

Do you love to go camping cause I do?
I don't want to go home but we have to

THE WONDERFUL EARTH by Annemarie Johnson



It revolves around the sun all day long
We use the amazing solar power
In China you find a big brass gong
Paris you can see the Eiffel Tower

So many things are on the awesome earth
Fun farms have fluffy sheep and dirty pigs
All animals grow up and they give birth
At the farm you will find some yummy figs

Eagles, Blue jays and many more can fly
Birds and big fuzzy bears love blueberries
Some things are brave, and some things are so shy
Some like dark green plants and some like berries

God created plants, animals, and us
The earth is amazing, now don't you fuss

GROCERY SHOPPING by Meleah Kottelenberg



You are bored, your feet dragging on the floor
A long endless stretch of aisles and rows
"Can we go now? Shopping is such a bore!
How long have we been here? A day? Who knows!?"

Very soon your patience is running thin
Rows of beans, peas, carrots, and potatoes
Chicken, pork, beef and tuna in a tin
More rows of peppers, corn and tomatoes

You beg and nag your mom to push the cart
She finally relents and lets you push
Racing your mom was your favorite part
But why'd she buy all of that green mush?

After the checkout you run to your car
That was the longest shopping trip by far!

CARS by Cody Kuiper



You probably use cars every day
We use them to get around in cities,
You will be driving in late May
You might just run into a patch of trees

There are many kinds of cars, new and old,
Big and small, you can make them colorful
Buy a used car, but it might be sold
Driving around may make you more joyful

You might like driving, but you need some gas
The car might break down while you are driving
In some big cars they might have lots of mass,
You might not like driving so try flying

When you start driving it is a big load
You have to make sure to stay on the road

CAMPING by Trevyn Tjoelker



Burr, here in the tent it's very so cold
Right next to me my sister is snoring
I wish we had my blanket that we sold
Oh my, look at that, it's almost morning

Today, are going to go hiking
So I better go and put on my shoes
While we're hiking we'll also be biking
Oh my! We better get on the move

Here we are in the forest exploring
Riding our bikes through some steep and wet hills
There are bears here, people are rumoring
But we would not believe those libels

Look at that it's almost time to go home
Once we're home. I won't be so much alone

MY HORRIBLE DAY by Carson Veldman



Today I awoke with gum in my hair
I rolled out of my bed and hit the ground
I lost my math book, its really not fair
I fell down the stairs and rolled round and round

My mom noticed a big bump on my head
I burnt my toast and it felt like hard steel
I missed the bus ride, so I ran instead
I tripped outside and might of broke my heel

Kids were in class, and I was late for school
I hit something hard I broke the class door
Everyone laughed and I looked like a fool
Teachers told me to leave but kids wanted more

I was in detention and there to stay
It's agreed, this is a horrible day

