

The Lynden LINK

Vol. 14 - Nu. 4, February 28, 2016

Cornerstone Christian School
~~ Lynden, WA ~~

Chairman's Report

Hearty greetings to everyone in the
Cornerstone Christian School Community!

Spring is in the air, and the excitement of a new season is upon us! It feels like we're "on the home stretch" for this school year..... a few months to go still, but those months will fly by! We wish students, staff, parents and volunteers the Lord's blessing as they complete the year.

Since we last spoke via this column, we learned the shocking news that one of our students, Ruben Bosscher, had been diagnosed with leukemia. We commend Ruben and his family to the care of the Great Physician, and we pray that the Lord will bless the work of the medical professionals in Seattle who are caring for Ruben. We are reminded of the comforting words we find in Lord's Day 1 of the Heidelberg Catechism..... that we belong both body and soul, both in life and in death to our Faithful Savior Jesus Christ, and that without his will, not a hair can fall from our heads.

It's encouraging to note that much activity has taken place not only at our school, but also "behind the scenes", much of it directed towards generating revenue that will go towards the operation of our school. Proceedings are well underway for the Annual Golf Tournament, an event that has come to be a wonderful fundraising event for our school! Additionally, a new project is literally rising up out of the ground in Lynden..... namely, a spec house that is being built with the express purpose of generating revenue for our school! Since school societies are not generally in the business of investing in real estate or developing construction projects, a separate legal entity (a Limited Liability Company or LLC) called "Keystone Project LLC" has been formed by members of the society (but not on behalf of the society) to facilitate this project. This exciting project is financed and operated completely independently of the school society (and the society bears no risk), but the school society will be the sole beneficiary of all this work! As board, we want the membership to know that we are excited about this endeavor, but that the board is not involved in the operation or administration of this project (and also that

the society's money and resources are not being used for this project). We express great gratitude for those willing to put their hearts and souls into this project, and also for the outpouring of volunteer labor without which this project would not be possible!

The Spring membership meeting will be held on May 3, 2016 at 8:00 PM in the Church Building. Please mark your calendars and count on attending! We had an unprecedented level of attendance at the Fall membership meeting (85% of all members showed up!), and the board would sure love to hear from you all again! At this meeting, the Education Committee will host an excellent presentation by Neil Dykstra titled "No Neutral Ground" (more details to follow from the Education Committee). At the same meeting, the board will introduce (and request approval for) the 2016/2017 operating budget that results from input at the Fall meeting. Please make it a priority to attend!

Also, it is always exciting to welcome new members to our society. With this issue of the LINK, we have the wonderful opportunity to welcome Lance and Trina Visser as the newest members of the Cornerstone Christian School Society. Their 2 girls Desiree and Heidi are still a few years away from coming to school, but they'll be there soon enough! Lance and Trina, we extend a hearty welcome to our school society, and we look forward to your involvement in this wonderful community!

In conclusion, we acknowledge the tremendous blessing the Lord has given us in Cornerstone Christian School. We pray that He will continue to bless us through this school, and that we may be good stewards of what He has blessed us with.

And to all of our students, staff, parents and volunteers, we wish a good rest of the school year.

On behalf of the board,
Cason VanDriel





Upcoming Events

Mar. 4 – Elem Term 2 Reports
 Mar. 4 - Science Fair - 8:30pm
 Mar. 7&9 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Mar. 24 – HS 3rd Qtr Reports
 Mar. 25 – Good Friday
 Apr. 4-8 – Spring Break
 April 29 – PD Day
 May 3 – Spring Membership Meeting
 May 5 – Ascension Day

Short Reports of the Board

Report for January 4, 2016

The chairman, C. Vandriel, opened the meeting with a reading of Proverbs 26 and prayer. Minutes from Part I of the previous meeting were approved with one change. The proposed agenda was adopted with minor changes.

Incoming mail was received and dealt with appropriately.

The principal shared his latest report with the board. Highlighted topics included the early release of students on Parent/Teacher interview days and a long-term, strategic planning mandate. After discussing the proposed mandate, the Board agreed to establish a long range Strategic Planning Committee.

The SMA shared developments regarding staff visas and society membership.

The CBM reported that a new head janitor has been appointed.

The Education Scholarship Fund Board reported that the committee established to oversee this fund has been set up and is running. The committee will work to further define its role in the oversight of the fund as some details were left unexplained in the bylaws.

The Board reviewed the membership's feedback regarding the financial presentation given at the fall membership meeting. The Board is appreciative of the feedback it received and anticipates that any changes to our current funding model will be minimal.

Action items were reviewed and the next meeting was set for February 1st at 7:30pm. The principal was thanked for his attendance and participation and left the meeting.

After a short break, the meeting resumed with the approval of part two of the minutes from the December meeting. The agenda was adopted with no changes. Incoming mail was received and dealt with appropriately.

S. Hofford shared his first treasurer's report, and the Board reviewed protocols for handling past due accounts, soliciting budget input, and reviewing non-teaching staff wages.

K. Veldman shared additional information from the SMA regarding staff visa and immigration status.

Action items were reviewed.

J. Brown closed the meeting with prayer.



Report For February 1, 2016

The chairman, C. Vandriel, opened the meeting with a reading of Proverbs 27 and prayer. Minutes from Part I of the previous meeting were approved with no changes. The proposed agenda was adopted with minor changes. Incoming mail was received and dealt with appropriately.

The principal shared his latest report with the board. Items of focus included: preliminary plans for teachers' course assignments for the 2016/17 school year; a look at the 2016/17 School Calendar; and further discussion of CCS' long-term strategic planning.

The SMA reported that visa renewals are in progress.

The CBM shared information regarding the school's internet connection and suggestions as to what might be causing the ongoing connectivity issues. The CBM will continue investigating before any actions are taken.

The Education Committee presented its report and proposed a spring membership meeting date of Tuesday, May 3rd.

Under General Matters, the Board reviewed its annual calendar and noted that things were on track. H. Klos

presented a report on the combined School Board meeting of the Canadian Reformed schools (HS and elementary) in the Fraser Valley held in January 2016.

Action items were reviewed and the next meeting was set for March 7th at 7:30pm. The principal was thanked for his attendance and work and left the meeting.

After a short break, the meeting resumed with the approval of part two of the minutes from the January meeting. The agenda was adopted with no changes.

There was no incoming mail.

The treasurer shared his report. Items of focus were an outstanding dues update, changes to the pledge reports, a Finance Committee update, and a request for input regarding the school's line of credit renewal.

K. Veldman shared additional information from the SMA regarding staff compensation. K. Veldman agreed to prepare a procedure handbook for the SMA role for future Board members.

Action items were reviewed.

R. Faber closed the meeting with prayer.



Ed Comm Report

This article finds us with only 3 ½ months of school left – wow how time flies! Much has happened since our last report from the Education Committee, so here's a bit of what's going on from our perspective.

At our first meeting of 2016, on January 4th, we bade farewell to two of our Ed Comm members. Both Ranelle Faber and Karla Leyenhorst finished their term on this committee. Each of them were able to contribute a great deal over the last 3 years as we looked at many aspects of the curriculum here. We thank them for their contributions, their diligence, and their experience and we wish them well as they 'rest' from this committee! No doubt we'll continue to benefit from their contributions to the school in many other ways – thank you again ladies!

We are blessed to have a school community rich with talent and as a result, we welcome to our committee Stephen Chase and Rianne Kruyswijk! Thank you for

accepting your appointments to this committee and we look forward to more productive years ahead.

One of the tasks we are working on relates to the science curriculum. We are considering, with the teacher involved, a series we could adopt for Grades 7 & 8. This is happening while we are looking more broadly at the entire Grade 1 – 12 science program to ensure there are in what we're teaching so that our students are properly equipped when they decide on a career or any post-secondary plans.

We have recently put together the details for another Parent Information Evening which we are going to combine with our next school society meeting. That date has been set for May 3, so mark your calendars. Neil Dykstra will be our guest speaker and his presentation is titled 'No Neutral Ground'. This will be an adaptation of an ARPA Canada (Association for Reformed Political Action) presentation which was given at a Credo School Society

meeting in Langley. We will publish more details as the event draws closer.

Some of the broader things we deal with relate to our school's mission and vision so it might be a good idea to interact with certain aspects of that from time to time. For example, we say that "The school aims to... Encourage every student to develop a love for learning, to enjoy the pursuit of knowledge, and to achieve his or her academic potential." This point alone is a huge undertaking which means we need to have everyone pulling in the same direction.

- We need to have a curriculum that's challenging enough to allow our children to learn how to learn, but not be so challenging that it's frustrating and difficult. This gets harder when we consider that not every child is the same and we have to balance our resources to deliver the best program of studies possible where no child is left behind.

- This becomes more work to deliver when it's spread across 12 grades!

- We need to have supportive teachers who understand the dynamics of children, of learning, and of learning styles.

- We need parents who continue to support our collective efforts, giving input that allows our school to grow in positive ways where we can meet the needs of all our students across all grades.

- We also need students who understand that school is work, it's not play, but we can find enjoyment in our work knowing that wisdom and understanding are gifts from our Lord and it's something that we can strive for. This is also something we teach in the home so our children come prepared for 'work' each school day.

- There are other roles that the various committees have, that the many volunteers fill, and that the board takes on so that Cornerstone can continue to deliver on this point in our vision.

And all of this activity continues to rely completely on the leading and blessing of our Heavenly Father. We are thankful for what we have received thus far and continue to look to Him as we encourage every student to develop a love for learning, to enjoy the pursuit of knowledge, and to achieve his or her academic potential.

For the Ed Comm,
Henry Klos

Geography Bee



IT & CBM Report

We have received word from the INSPIRE group that they are once again interested in using our facilities this summer. It seems to get easier each year to make preparations to get them in; with a bit of work from many volunteers it will be a big boost to our budget numbers.

The CBM is thankful for a building that is holding up to everyday use. Other than some very normal wear and tear items we have seen an excellent effort on the students and teachers to maintain our beautiful school building. Thanks to all the janitors and a midyear carpet cleaning by TrueNorth, the class rooms are in great shape.

The IT committee is still making changes so that the connectivity to the internet is better. We thank Jack and Ray for their ongoing work to keep our programs and computers in top working condition.

For the IT & CBM Committees,
Ron Faber

Principal Report.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

Teach me, in your ways direct me;
in your truth, O Lord, instruct me.
Let it be my heart's one aim
to revere your holy name.
Thankful for your grace and favor,
I will praise your name forever.
In your love you came to save
me, your servant, from the grave
Psalm 86:4 Genevan Psalter

We have chosen this verse to go along side our school theme for this year: *I offer my heart to Thee, O LORD, promptly and sincerely* (John Calvin). During His time on earth, our Lord Jesus Christ made it very clear during his ministry, that he was not interested in an outward show. He spoke very plainly against those, particularly the leaders of Israel, who were more focused on *appearing* to do good. Jesus wanted his people to love him from the *heart!* He desired action which was rooted in a heartfelt love for the Lord and his commandments. Our school theme and the verse from Ps. 86 give us regular reminders that our school work should be done from a heart overflowing with thankfulness for what our Lord and Savior has obtained for us. Please continue to encourage your children to demonstrate sound behavior, to be involved in acts of service and to display a solid work ethic – not for their own glory or to be ‘man pleasers’ – but out of a love for a faithful God who works in their hearts through His Holy Spirit.

Recently we drew comfort from the Apostle Paul's confession: “and we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Certainly we were shocked to learn that ‘our’ student and friend, Ruben Bosscher, was diagnosed with leukemia and that he would likely have to spend 6-8 months away from us in Seattle to receive treatment. At the same time we are comforted with Paul's words from Romans 8:28; God has our lives and Ruben's life planned out to the smallest of details. No matter how hard the trial – God will work it out for our benefit and for His greater glory. May that knowledge continue to comfort Ruben and his family each step of the way.

School Events

Since Christmas break, many things have gone very well.

- Some of the students in the younger grades enjoyed having their dad show up at school for a couple classes on our annual Dad's Day in January.
- Students in grades 4-8 participated in the Geography Bee. Congratulations to Julia VanDriel who won for the second consecutive year and has also qualified for the state contest.
- More recently the students in grades 4-8 had the opportunity to participate in our annual Spelling Bee. Congratulations to Maddy Brown for making it through

all the rounds to become our overall school winner. Eight of our students represented CCS at the Tri-School Spelling Bee hosted by William of Orange. Maddy again worked her way through the competition and finished in second place. Well done, Maddy! The students in grades 5-8 enjoyed mingling and interacting with students from our sister schools in BC over lunch and other activities. Great job to all those involved!

- By the time you read this, our Mission Month will be history. This year we raised funds for World Mission, a non-profit organization whose mission/vision is to deliver the Word of God in audio format to oral learners in different parts of the world. Thank-you to students and parents who contributed their time, money and energy to raise funds for this worthy cause.
- Last week our students in grade 2, 4, 6 and 8 spent quite a few hours writing their IOWA tests. These tests serve as an objective way to see how our students perform in the areas of reading, writing and math – and how this compares to students across the US. Parents will receive the results for their child(ren) in due time. The staff and Ed Comm will also spend some time reviewing the overall data as it compares to previous years. (Please note: the Ed Comm will just receive overall scoring trends; not individual student scores).
- The basketball season has drawn to a close last week. Kudos to the high school girls for winning their championship game. A special thank-you to all our coaches who gave of their time and talents in such a generous way: Janice deMooy & Kelsey Faber (MS girls), John Vreugdenhil (MS boys), Kyle Lodder & Jon Bouwman (JV boys), Derek Willis & Marty Vreugdenhil (Varsity boys) and Janice Dykstra, Bernice Vreugdenhil & Trina Visser (Varsity girls).
- Preparations for our biennial Science Fair are in full swing. Our diligent science teachers are guiding each student through a project/experiment – all of which will be displayed in the gym this coming Friday, March 4. You are cordially invited to attend this interesting and exciting event; some of our high school students will also be demonstrating their lab prowess.
- Towards the end of the month, our seniors will be presenting their senior projects. This is an exciting time for staff, Ed Comm members and mentors. Mr. Chase will be doing his part to prime the students to be well prepared (and professionally attired) and we wish the students the very best as they finalize their project and presentation.
- No sooner will the senior project presentations be done and our juniors and seniors will be jetting off to the East coast for the ‘DC trip’. We wish students and chaperones a wonderful time as their learning is taken outside the classroom in a big way! What a fantastic

opportunity! Mr. Chase puts in a tremendous amount of work into the coordination of the fundraising, site bookings and trip planning. Thank-you, Mr. Chase, for your dedication and labors to make this all happen!

I think it's quite clear that the school is alive with activity. Behind the scenes the Board, Ed Comm, CBM, IT Committee, Finance Committee, Library Committee and Ladies Aid – continue to do tremendous work to keep Cornerstone well aligned with its vision. Thank-you students, teachers, parents and volunteers for your dedication to the cause of Reformed Education. Your contribution to the positive culture at Cornerstone is much appreciated!

property just off the Guide. The center is an independent non-profit organization which aims to provide career and technical education opportunities for high school students, helping them develop skills in the areas of woodworking, modern manufacturing and business. Students would take the course at this site and be working on a variety of wood working projects throughout a semester or year.

- If there is enough interest, Cornerstone students (juniors/seniors) will likely be offered a place in this program next year, as a full-credit course. At this time the finer details have to be worked out; more details will be forth coming by the time the subject selection letters go home in mid-March.



School Developments

Over the past few months there have been some exciting developments.

- First of all, every principal's dream is to hear confirmation that this year's dedicated staffing team has committed to returning next year. Yes, the reality is that each staff member, the Lord willing, is planning to continue their task at CCS next year. Wonderful news and something to be thankful for!
- The board recently appointed a Strategic Planning Committee or Long Range Planning Committee. This committee has a specific mandate to develop a plan that would help the school society effectively execute on its vision and mandate. This process will involve the solicitation of feedback from the school community via surveys and other means. Based on common themes of feedback in a variety of areas – the committee will set some measurable goals that will guide the business of the board for the next 5-10 years. Stay tuned!
- In line with one of our vision statements (to *encourage every student to develop a love for learning, to enjoy the pursuit of knowledge, and to achieve his or her academic potential*) and a desire among many in our school society to have more hands-on 'shop' opportunities for our high school students - we continue to keep our eyes and ears open for such opportunities. There are two exciting opportunities that are being investigated at the moment - which are shaping up to be very real possibilities for next year:
- The first one involves the Technic Training Center which has recently been built on the Lynden Door

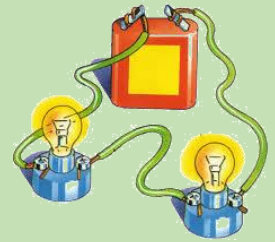
- Cornerstone Construction and Engineering Academy
 - In partnership with the Washington Engineering Institute (WEI), a private college in Bellingham, juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to enroll in a full-credit engineering elective in year one of a two-year cycle would be taught. A construction elective would be taught in year two.
 - The course will be taught by members of our school community who work in the building industry. It will involve hands-on project based learning – both in the classroom and in the 'field'. WEI will provide the curriculum/resources and also provide credit toward their post-secondary degree.
 - The scheduling details and the finer points of the curriculum will be discussed by the Education Committee this week. More details will be forth coming in the subject selection letters.

Suffice to say, we are very excited to plan for these offerings for the 2016/17 school year. There is tremendous potential for our students to be involved in these courses and we look forward to ironing out the details in the coming months.

Cornerstone Christian School continues to be blessed in so many ways. It's good to give thanks to our faithful Father who knows our needs before we know them ourselves. May the Lord continue to bless our endeavors.



Science Fair March 4, 2016 @7:30pm



A Science Fair is coming to Cornerstone! Participating students have begun project planning already. All 7th to 10th graders and the high school chemistry students will be participating. Students are working on projects and will be presenting them at the Cornerstone Science Fair on March 4. The Elementary students will be working on science projects in class with their teacher and will be sharing them on that evening. In addition, this year, several students have volunteered to do live demos of their work. So reserve this evening for a visit to the school to see the work. We will start at 7:30pm and students may dismantle their projects at 9:00pm.

Ladies Aid Report

It's such a blessing to be at the school and see the buzz and activity of students, teachers, and volunteers-whether it's working in the classrooms, baking and selling lamingtons and cinnamon buns to support Mission Month, or working together on the basketball court. God has given us such a great blessing in Cornerstone that it makes the time and effort put into fundraising and volunteering to not be a burden, but instead a great opportunity and joy to support our school and our children!

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Ladies Aid meeting to take place on Tuesday, March 8th. It will be combined with the ARC Ladies Circle meeting, which will begin at 7:30. The Ladies Aid portion will start at 8:00.

We will also be signing up volunteers for a Dairy Women's Booth committee, so please consider if you can help out in that way.

In fundraising news, our newest fundraiser, the Great Little Coupon Books, was a great success-we sold 415 books, for a profit of around \$2000! From all accounts, the books are a great value and people had no problems selling them, so we are excited to add this fundraiser to our fundraising efforts. A big thank-you to the committee for making this a success!

The annual Volleyball Tournament is coming up! There will be also be a concession dinner with profits going to the DC trip. Stay tuned for details!

With the taste of beautiful weather we have been having, and the longer days, the feeling of spring is in the air! Spring also brings the Plant Sale and the Garage Sale, so there are lots of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors while supporting our school! On Friday, March 18th there will be a planting party, so stay tuned for details on that.

For the Ladies Aid, Rianne Kruyswijk

2015 – 2016 School Calendar

Aug. 25 – First Day of School
 Sept. 7 – Labor Day
 Oct. 8 – In-Service Day
 Oct. 9 – Fall Break
 Oct. 12 – Columbus Day
 Oct. 14 – PSAT Test Date
 Oct. 30 – HS First Qtr Reports
 Nov. 2,3 – HS P/T Conferences
 Nov. 11- Veteran's Day
 Nov. 25 – Elem First Term Reports
 Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving Day
 Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Break
 Nov. 30 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Dec. 2 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Dec 17- Christmas Concert
 Dec 18- Last Day of School 2015
 Dec 21 – Jan 1 - Christmas Break
 Jan 4 - Return to School 2016

Jan 18 - Martin Luther King Day
 Jan 22- HS Second Quarter Reports
 Jan 25,26- HS P/T Conferences
 Feb 11,12 - Mid-Winter Break
 Feb. 15 - President's Day
 Mar 4 - Elementary Report Cards - Term 2
 Mar 7,9 - Elementary P/T Conferences
 Mar 24 - High School Third Quarter Reports
 Mar 25 - Good Friday
 Apr 4 - 8 Spring Break
 April 29 - Professional Development Day
 April 29 – Public Speaking Contest
 May 5 - Ascension Day
 May 27 - Sports Day
 May 30 - Memorial Day
 June 3 - Eighth Grade Graduation
 June 6 – Quad School Track Meet
 June 10 - Last Day of School/ Senior Graduation

Board:

Chairman:	Cason VanDriel
Vice-Chairman:	Henry Klos
Building Liaison:	Ron Faber
Secretary:	Jeff Brown
Treasurer:	Steve Hofford
Staff & Membership Admin	Kolin Veldman

Building/Maintenance Committee

Dave Burger	Ron Faber
Jon Kruyswijk	Terry VanDiest
Kam Veldman	

Education Committee

Stephen Chase	Jon Dykstra
Darryn Kleyn	Ellen Davis
Henry Klos	Rianne Kruyswijk

IT Committee

Ray Buitenbos	Ron Faber
Steve Hofford	Jack Marissen

Finance Committee

Janice DeMooy	Rick Faber
Brian Hendricks	Dave Hofford
Steve Hofford	Louise Willis

Library Committee

Ellen Davis	Shona Doornbos
Debbie Johnson	Karla Leyenhorst

Ladies Aid Committee

Janet Brown	Kaylene Hofford
Rianne Kruyswijk	Kim Sytsma

Office Staff

Darryn Kleyn	Principal
Karla Leyenhorst	Bookkeeper
Kari VanDiest	Secretary

Teaching Staff

Grade 1/2:

Shari Kruyswijk	
Janet Faber	LA, Music, Art, Science
Darryn Kleyn	PE

Grade 3/4:

Debbie Johnson	
Stephen Houweling	Math 4
Ellen Davis	L.A 4, Music
Edmund Nederveen	History
Darryn Kleyn	PE

Grade 5/6:

Lynette Van Hofwegen	
Ellen Davis	Music
Edmund Nederveen	PE

Grade 7/8:

Stephen Houweling	
Edmund Nederveen	History, PE
Debbie Faber	Art
Jack Marissen	Science

High School:

Wayne Chase	Ref Stu./History/English/Math
Debbie Faber	Art
Stephen Houweling	Behind The Scenes
Darryn Kleyn	PE, Comp.Studies, Bus.Math
Edmund Nederveen	Geography, English
Jack Marissen	Science, Math
Darlene VanStaalduinen	Spanish
Irene Hicks	Life Skills - Cooking
Karen DeMooy	Life Skills – Sewing

Are you a Cornerstone senior or alumni with plans to become a teacher?

We invite you to apply for Cornerstone Christian School's first annual

Education Scholarship!

Eligible applicants will:

- Be a CCS senior or alumni.
- Maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Be accepted to, or be currently enrolled in, a post-secondary institution.
- Be pursuing a course of study with the goal of a career in Christian education, e.g. be enrolled in an education department, or specialized course areas.

Applications should:

- Include a one page essay articulating the applicant's view of Christian education and why they are a good candidate to receive the funds.
- Provide a letter of recommendation.
- Include a general budget demonstrating financial need.
- Be submitted to the CCS Principal by March 31, 2016.

The Education Scholarship Award will:

- Promote careers in the teaching profession among our graduates and alumni, with a long-term view of ensuring staff for Cornerstone Christian School.
- Be awarded to applicant(s) based on demonstrated commitment to Reformed education, scholastic achievement and financial need.
- Be determined by June 1st, as applicants and funds allow.
- Be dispersed in September directly to the successful applicant(s)' institution upon proof of enrollment.
- Be funded largely by donors in our community, on a year to year basis.
- Be administered by the CCS Education Scholarship Fund Committee.

For more information, please contact any of the following Education Scholarship Fund Committee members. We look forward to hearing from you!

John DeBoer (jdeboer_01@hotmail.com)
Stephanie Bareman (j-sbareman@comcast.net)
Melanie Kottelenberg (janandmelanie@aol.com)

Cornerstone Christian School's 5th and 6th graders wrote various articles about things to do in Whatcom County, events in Lynden, Raspberry Festival, Fairway Center and Lynden Fair. At school, they wrote letters to the mayor and Stamp, administered surveys and conducted interviews. In addition, there are recounts of the school sleepover and interesting, new information about Mars. We hope you enjoy their articles!



Things to do in Whatcom County

By Reagan Berends and Maddy Brown

There are lots of fun things to do in Whatcom County. Museums, outdoor activities, and other fun things to do.

First, the museums. You can visit the Pioneer Museum in Lynden, the Spark Museum in Bellingham, and the Heritage Flight Museum in Burlington. In the Pioneer Museum, there are some cool exhibits you can visit from the pioneer times. Some of them are the Civil War, WWI, and WW2. You can also see what parlors, department stores, bedrooms and kitchens looked like in the pioneer times. At the Spark Museum it displays the inventions and innovations that changed the course of human history. An interesting feature is the "Mega Zapper" which produces 9 foot lightning bolts! The Heritage Flight Museum is an organization dedicated to the preservation and flying of historic military aircraft. It shows all different old military aircraft.

Next, the outdoor activities to enjoy. You can see lots of lakes and also a lot of places to see near the ocean. Here are some lakes: Lake

Padden, Whatcom Lake, and Lake Samish. You can visit the ocean at Birch Bay and Semiahmoo. Whatcom Falls is also a very cool place to visit. It has amazing waterfalls and also some cool hikes/trails. Here are some more hikes: A fun and challenging hike would be the Oyster Dome. It is an interurban trail and is a challenging but fun 9 mile long hike. There is also the Fragrance Lake hike. It is about 3 miles long. Some fun parks and playgrounds are: The Lynden City Park, Boulevard Park, Hovander, Homestead Park, Fairhaven Park and many more. At the Lynden City Park (also called Million Smiles Park) there is an awesome playground with a little kid section and a bigger kid section. Fish Trap Creek is also located there. Boulevard Park is located on the ocean. You can walk on the boardwalk, play on the pirate ship playground and enjoy a coffee from the Woods Coffee there. Hovander Homestead Park is a very fun park. There is a bunch of sites that you can rent for parties or events, two awesome playsets, a tall watchtower, animals you can see and some cool barns with old antique tractors in them. Finally, there is Fairhaven Park. At this park there is a fun playground and in the summer you can splash and play in the water at the splash park.

In Whatcom County there are lots of fun things to do such as the YMCA. At the YMCA you can go swimming and play sports in the gym. Another place to go swimming is Homestead which is a lot like the YMCA. You also, can go roller skating in Lynden and it is lots of fun. Another fun thing to do would be going to some theatres. You can visit the Mt. Baker Theatre and the Barkley Village Regal Entertainment Cinema. At The Barkley Village Regal Entertainment Cinema you can catch all the newest

movies. During the summer you can go and watch some older movies for just one dollar a person. Mt. Baker Theatre is not a movie theatre but you can watch plays, concerts, symphonies and dance performances. Whatcom County has many libraries. They are all part of the Whatcom County Library System. You can find libraries in all of the towns and cities in Whatcom County. Another fun daytime activity is the Trampoline Zone. It is an indoor trampoline park and it has foam pits, lots of trampolines, a dodge ball area, a basketball area, a little kid area, a ninja obstacle course and rooms for birthday parties. Bellis Fair mall is a very popular mall. Some examples of the stores in the Bellis Fair Mall are: Target, Kohl's, Macy's, Old Navy, Gap and many, many more stores. There is also a great food court in the Bellis Fair Mall. Park Bowl is lots of fun. At Park Bowl there is an arcade, snacks and of course, bowling. If you need another fun activity you can go to the Lynden Skateway. At the Lynden Skateway, you can roller skate and get some snacks. They always have fun games going on throughout the day.

If you want somewhere to eat there is a lot of places you could go. During the summer there is also the Birch Bay Waterslides. They have so many fun slides and a pool for you to wade and swim in!

Some of the fast food restaurants are: McDonald's, Burger King, AGW, Wendy's, Jack in the Box, KFC and Panda Express. Some dining restaurants are: Olive Garden, Red Robin, Applebee's and Steakhouse 9. If you want a great place to get a coffee or a bite to eat you should go to Woods Coffee or Starbucks.

If you are visiting I'm sure you'd want a place to stay! Well, you're in

luck! You have many places to stay overnight in Whatcom County. Places to stay are: the Holiday Inn Express, La Quinta Inn and Suites, Oxford Suites and more.

I hope if you ever visit Whatcom County you can make time to visit some of these awesome places, and if you do I promise it will be an awesome trip!



Events in Lynden

By Rachel Veldman and Megan Vreugdenhil

Are you looking for something to do in Lynden? Well, there is always the Fair! The Fair takes place on August 17 to the end of the week. There are lots of exciting rides, deep fried chicken, and lots more delicious foods. If you like to be scared, go in the haunted house but it is only scary at night time.

Another cool event is the Raspberry Festival. There is basketball for young and old, good food to buy from the stands, and sometimes you can go on the bouncy castle!

There are also some parades to watch like the Farmers Day Parade and that parade has lots of tractors and candy. Another parade is the Lighted Parade, which shows tractors and trucks pulling wagons with lights surrounding them!

The Soccer Carnival is another event in Lynden full of super fun events to do, and there is a yummy Sugar Shack with good foods like cotton candy, corn dogs and more! There are really fun games to play and you get prizes if you win, and cute animals to spend time with. Also, a park is near for your kids to play on!



FAIRWAY CENTER

By Christina Johnson and Katelyn Veldman

WOODS COFFEE:

This store has delicious cookies, irresistible coffee, and delectable pies. They have a decorated seating area perfect to relax in.

BUMBLE BEES KIDS:

This cool kids store has awesome, cute stuffed animals, silly games, glamorous notebooks, and colorful sticker books

SURROUNDINGS:

This beautiful women and girl's store has adoring collections of statues. They have inspiring friendship momentums to give a friend as a gift.

FAIRWAY DRUG:

This drug store has wonderful things like toys, candy, medicine, cards for special occasions, and Band-Aids and creams for scratches and scrapes. They also have nice drinks for sports games.

THE COIN LAUNDRY MAT:

There are hundreds of modern laundry machines with racks to hang your clothes on.

DAVE'S SPORT SHOP:

This sports store sells everything you need for sports. For example, Adidas* cleats for soccer, and football. If you ever need sports things, go to Dave's!

LITTLE CEASERS:

At this pizza place you can get pop, pizza, crazy bread, games, and food you will enjoy a lot!

FAIRWAY CAFÉ:

This dining place is open from morning until dark. They serve pancakes, waffles, toast, beverages, and more! This restaurant is one you'll always love!

TRUE VALUE:

This tool store has everything you need for working outside and sometimes inside. Some things they sell for outside projects are hammers, nails, screwdrivers, and screws. Some inside tools are

brooms, dusters, sweep pans, and garbage cans.

PEOPLES BANK:

This bank is an awesome bank to store your savings account in. It is very safe in storing your money. This trust worthy place only requires a bit of interest to get paid.

BARBER SHOP:

This cool barber has wonderful ideas for your hair. It isn't very expensive and it goes pretty quick!

FARMERS INSURANCE:

If you're having problems as a farmer, this insurance company can help you get back on track.

COMPUTER SALES:

This computer place fixes up your computer in a jiffy! So if your computer breaks down, come down to town at Computer Sales!

NORTH COUNTY CHRIST THE KING:

If you don't have a church to go to, NCCTK will provide you with a humble service on Sunday.

MARTA'S COCINA:

This Mexican restaurant has wonderful food to pick from! So if you are hungry go to Marta's Cocina!

SHABBY SHEEP:

This furniture store has amazingly comfortable furniture like chairs, sofas, beds, and more! So go to Shabby Sheep if you need a bed to rest on!

CONNIE AND CO.:

This styling salon is perfect for your hair. So if your hair is frizzy, go to Connie and Co!

RADIO SHACK:

This store sells electronic items such as batteries, cords, and lots of other things to help electronic things work.

TIME KEEPERS:

If you ever need a watch or clock this time shop can help you out a lot!



Raspberry Festival

By Lewis Hafford and Kierijan Kottelenberg

We will talk to you about the Raspberry Festival. We are writing about the Raspberry Festival so you can attend to it when they come to Lynden, and people in different places will know about it.

First, we will talk about the food stands and the food that you buy there. There is a popcorn stand with big sized bags. There also is a cotton candy stand with water and with different types of Gatorade. You can also buy raspberries with ice cream, pies, smoothies, sundaes, and there is also some free candy.

There are a lot of stands, little shops and some food stands. The Praise 106.5 stand plays music and they have some fun games. We like the Country Financing Stand because it has a lot of free toys and candy.

The Raspberry Festival also has games and activities. They have bouncy castles and games where you can earn candy. There is a basketball game where you play three on three basketball games. You have to pay money and you need three to four players. You can play basketball rules. The basketball teams play each other. The teams go by your grade. You have to make your own team, name, and the shirt. There is a music band playing music such as jazz.

If you want to come, you have to come on July 17 from 10 am to 8 pm or July 18 from 8 am to 6 pm. The hosts are: the Muljat Group North Real - Estate and Curt Maberry Memorial Classic and there is free admission. Those are the things you can do at the Raspberry Festival.



The Fair

Do you want to have fun this summer? Well there is always the Northwest Washington Fair. It is open August 17 Monday-Saturday. The gates open 9 am -10 pm, the vendors at 10 am, the carnival 11 am-11 pm. For Adults (13 and up), tickets cost \$12.00, seniors (62 and up) the cost is \$10.00 and youths (age 6-12), the cost is \$7.00. Also, children age 5 and under are free. If you would rather a wristband it is \$33.00.

There are lots of fun things to do. One of the things is rides! We'll name a few: Merry-Go-Round, the Dragon Roller Coaster, the Lost Mine, Ring of Fire, Moon Raker, Typhoon, Caterpillar Roller Coaster, Octopus, Orbiter, Zipper, Gravatron 3000, Hot Air Balloons, and many more. They have a little kid section with rides that are for younger kids. They have an older people section with scarier rides.

The Fair has a variety of foods. Some of them are: cotton candy, elephant ears, hot dogs, popcorn, onion rings, ice-cream, pretzels, and lots more. They also have some shows: a demo derby, horse show, and hypnotists. Some games the fair has include: try making a basket, and try hit a pin, pop the balloons, and face paintings. There is also a baking contest, you bring some baking to the fair and the judges will judge it. These are some items vendors sell: toys, jewelry, stuffed animals, odds and ends, etc.

The Fair has many animals mostly farm animals: pigs, goats, cows, horses, sheep, chickens, rabbits, and turkeys.

So come to the fair and have some fun!!!!



Favorite Food Survey

By Seth Kleyn

The reason I chose this survey is because I wanted to see what different opinions people have about food and I love food. I asked students from kindergarten to 7th grade what they like. I asked them what are their favorite fast food restaurants, their favorite foods, and their favorite candy.

For fast food restaurants: The number one fast food restaurant was tied between Mc Donald's and Dairy Queen. The second favorite was Subway and the third place favorite was Little Caesar's.

For favorite foods: The top rated foods were steak and BLT sandwiches. The second favorite food was tacos. Pizza took third place and fourth place was hot dogs. Macaroni and cheese came in last place.

For favorite candy: The most favorite candy is Skittles. The second most favorite is Sour Patch Kids. The third most favorite is both Reece's' Pieces and Hershey's Chocolate, and the fourth was a tie between licorice and Milky Way Candy Bar.



My Pet Survey

By Jessica Postmus

I interviewed the 5/6 class to find the most popular pets. Here are the results from least to greatest:

6th place, last place-only one person has: a goat, chicken, or peacock

5th place-two people have cows or fish
 4th place-three people have horses
 3rd place-four cat lovers, streaking to the top!
 2nd place-8 dog owners, Man's best friend!
 1st place-no pets with eleven people not owning a pet, surprisingly, there is not one most popular pet!



I also interviewed the 5/6 class to find the most popular zoo animals. Here are the results from least to greatest.
 5th-There is one lover of snakes, koalas, dolphins, and turtles.
 4th-Kangaroos have two fans.
 3rd-Giraffes and monkeys have three friends each. Go, tree lovers!
 2nd-Pandas so cute! It's no wonder that four people love them!
 1st-Our number one champion are the big cats, lions. Roar!!!



Kindergarten Interview

By Zander Veldman

I asked CCS kindergarteners these questions because I wanted to see how they reacted and what they said in response to the questions. One of the questions I was mostly curious about was, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Here are the questions I asked them.
 Q.1 What do you want to be when you grow up?
 Ellie-A rock star person.
 Ty-A police man.
 Ryland-A diver or an artist.
 Carson-A construction worker or an artist.

Aidan-A knight or an artist.
 Q.2 What is your favorite subject in school and why?
 Ellie-Learning letters, because it is fun to draw them and you learn words.
 Ty-Learning letters, because you can make words.
 Ryland-art, because you get to make crafts and you get to paint and draw.
 Carson-Math, because it is fun.
 Aidan-Learning letters, because you get to draw.
 Q.3 Who is your favorite teacher in the school and why?
 Ellie-Mrs. Bareman, because she is as tall as a bird in the sky.
 Ty-Mrs. Bareman, because I like her.
 Ryland-Mrs. Barman, because she is funny and she says pretty pumpkin.
 Carson-Mrs. Kottelenberg, because she teaches us math.
 Aidan-Mrs. Kottelenberg, because she teaches us stories.
 Q.4 When you get older, do you want to play sports for the school?
 Ellie-Yes!
 Ty-Yes!
 Ryland-Yes!
 Carson-Yes!

Q.5 What do you like about school and why?
 Ellie-Centers, because you get to play with things.
 Ty-Crafts, because they are cool.
 Ryland-Recess, because we get to build things out of sand.
 Carson-Recess, because we get to build things.
 Aidan-Recess, because you can play with stuff.
 Q.6 If you could change one thing about the school what would it be?
 Ellie-More recess, because it is fun and you don't have to do work.
 Ty-More recess, because you get to play.
 Ryland- More art, because you get to draw, paint, and color.
 Carson-More learning letters, because I get very smart.

Aidan-That there would be a fire every day and because I am funny.



Interview of Seniors

by Braden Kuik

I chose to do this interview because I know Zander did an interview on the kindergarteners so I would like to compare the answers from the kindergarteners and the high school seniors.

Q.1 what are you planning to do when you finish school?

Rachel said, "Work"

Natalie said, "College"

Aaron said, "College/Work"

Shawn said, "College"

Cody said, "College"

Mikayla said, "College"

Q.2 "What is your favorite subject and why?"

Rachel said, "Home-economics it is very hands on."

Natalie said, "Senior project because I got to pick it."

Aaron said, "Auto Cad because it is easy."

Shawn said, "Chemistry because it is the easiest."

Cody said, "Study hall to get stuff done."

Mikayla said, "Senior project because it is fun."

Q .3 "What are your favorite memories at school?"

Rachel said, "Hiding on the playground on April Fools."

Natalie said, "Pushing each other on a dolly."

Aaron said, "2:35 pm every day."

Shawn said, "Grade eleven volleyball."

Cody said, "Basketball."

Mikayla said, " Singing and dancing at lunch in grade 7/8."

Q.4 " What is your favorite cartoon?"

Rachel said, "Sponge Bob."

Natalie said, "The Jet Plane."

Aaron said, "Pokémon."

Shawn said, "Tom and Jerry."

Cody said, "Looney Tunes."

Mikayla said, "Looney Tunes."

Q.4 What advice would you give upcoming students?

Rachel said, "Take your S.A.T.'s early."

Natalie said, "Have Fun!"

Aaron said, "Play Sports"

Shawn said, "Start trying to get good grades in 9th grade"

Cody said, "Play Basketball"

Q.6 If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

Rachel said, "Super speed"

Natalie said, "Flying"

Aaron said, "Time travel"

Shawn said, "Super speed"

Cody said, "Super strength"

Mikayla said, "Invisibility"

Q.7 What is your most embarrassing moment?

Rachel said, "When I pushed Mikayla off a skateboard and she broke her leg"

Natalie said, "When I called Marina 'mom'"

Aaron said, "When someone broke my ankle in basketball"

Cody said, "When my car did 5 times"

Mikayla said, "When I fell off a skateboard and broke my leg"



Letter to the Mayor of Lynden

By Samuel Kleyn

Dear Mr. Korthuis

I admire the way you put in lots of time and energy to build up some of Lynden's shops and you are a hard worker. I also admire the way you are a progressive thinker and you push yourself to build and plan the

shops. This shows that you are very persistent. This also helps you to care for your three children.

You are a good Christian example to me because you are a hard worker and you manage your time well even though you have more than one job, and at the same time being the mayor. You are also making some excellent changes to Lynden. I especially like the change to the Jansen Art Center.

I have some questions for you. What are some good things about being the mayor? What are some not so good things about being the mayor? Do you work with other people? When you were a kid, what did you want be?

I hope that some time my other classmates can come to your office for a field trip.

Yours

truly,

Samuel Kleyn



Letter To Stamp

By Kyleigh De Moay

Dear Stamp,

I'm wondering if we could have a scene of the ocean for spirit week this year. One reason is because God has made the oceans unique such as the coral reef, ocean animals, and the water bed. I think we should do this scene because animals have amazing skills. It relates to God and how powerful He is and how amazing the animals survive. Another reason is that the currents have a certain way to flow which relates to us following the path to follow and flow with God's Word and what it says to do. People might say that it would be hard to do, but the elementary could help Stamp making the scene.

Signed,

Kyleigh DeMooy



Principal Interview

By Levi Systma and Lincoln Van Diest

Lincoln and I chose to interview Mr. Kleyn because we wanted to know a little bit more about him and his job as a principal. We scheduled a time to interview him and we asked him a variety of questions. Here are the questions we asked Mr. Kleyn and here are his responses. We hope you enjoy learning more about our interview.

Q. 1. "What did you want to be when you were younger?"

A. 1. "I wanted to be a P.E. teacher but the only thing is when I went through high school even in 12th grade I didn't know what I wanted to be so I thought to myself and asked what do I like and said well I really like basketball but you can't get paid to play a sport so I went to college and by 1 point I passed."

Q.2. "What type of student were you?"

A.2. "I was an average student. I loved P.E. I was an average reader and writer. My English score wasn't so high but as the years went by I practiced and I got better and math was my strongest subject."

Q.3. "Did you ever have to visit the principal?"

A.3. "Once a week every student in my class would take a turn to answer the phone because our teacher was the principal."

Q.4. "Who do you admire the most? Why?"

A.4. "My mom because she loved us and she was self-sacrificial and she had a little gift shop and the money she got she donated."

Q.5. "If you could have any super power what would it be?"

A.5. "I would have every student read really well so they could read the Bible well and know the scriptures well."

Q.6. "What is your most embarrassing school moment?"

A.6. "In 7th grade one of my class mates found a love note of mine and read it aloud."

Q.7. "What do you like most about your job?"

A.7. "I love to organize things and organize them well, so things run smoothly and it goes orderly. I also love it that I get to interact with the whole school."

Q.7. "What do you like least about your job?"

A.7. "grading papers and written essays and written reports and reading them over 20 times it is certainly not the most favorite part of my job but I have to do it anyways."



Teacher Interview

By Joel Hafford and Desi Veldman

We decided to do this because we wanted to know more about our teacher and her teaching at Cornerstone! We also wanted to find out what it is like to give an interview on somebody! So we thought for a while and came up with some good questions for our teacher. We took turns asking questions and while we were interviewing her we recorded it so we could replay it and then type it up to get a good grade!!! Here it is:

Q.1: Joel asks the first question, "What is the biggest class you ever taught?"

A: Mrs. Van answers, "I taught at a school in Whatcom County with 35 fourth graders!! It was loud, chaotic, and lots of kids were disrespectful."

Q.2: Desi asks, "What is your favorite subject to teach? What is your worst?"

A: Mrs. Van says, "I have three favorite subjects, I like Bible because I like telling Bible stories, and watching the kids get excited. I also like reading. I like reading novels in class. I like science too because I love learning about space and science! My worst subject would probably be grammar, I think it is important but it also can be kind of boring."

Q.3: Joel asks, "Would you rather teach high school, middle school, or elementary?"

A: Mrs. Van says, "Elementary is definitely my favorite because I like preschool all the way up to 6th grade. I love it because kids still love to learn and go to school."

Q.4: Desi asks, "Who inspired you to be a teacher?"

A: Mrs. Van answers, "Ms. Meendering, my second grade teacher because she was energetic and very kind and very fun! She also made it fun to go to school. The second person would probably be Mr. Miedema because he was the one who encouraged me to be a teacher and I've always thought back to what he told me!"

Q.5: Joel asks, "Do you ever wish you could read during class?"

A: Mrs. Van says, "Absolutely! When you are reading, I want to read because I love reading!"

Q.6: Desi asks, "Do you like teaching at Cornerstone? Why or why not?"

A: Mrs. Van answer once again, "I do love teaching at Cornerstone! I love the students! That is the best part! I also love the parents, they are so

helpful in so many different ways and they encourage the teachers."

Q.7: Joel asks question #7, "What are some good and bad things about being a teacher?"

A: Mrs. Van replies, "One of the things I don't like is when I have to discipline the students and correct their behavior. But I love it when the students get excited about learning and are able to complete something. I also love having fun with the kids and joking around with them!"

Q.8: Desi asks, "Do you ever wish you weren't a teacher?"

A: Mrs. Van answers, "No! I have never wished that I wasn't a teacher, even now that I'm old :) I still love teaching!"

Q.9: Joel asks, "" Do you miss teaching P.E.?"

A: Mrs. Van says, "I do miss it! I love seeing you guys have fun. I also really miss going bowling!"

Q.10: Desi asks again, "What is your favorite place to get your morning drinks?"

A: Mrs. Van answers, "My house, of course! I can make them however I want then. If I had to choose my favorite coffee place, I would probably choose Woods Coffee!"

Q.11: Joel asks the last question, "How did you feel about doing this interview?"

A: Mrs. Van answers, "I feel like this is kind of fun spending time with my students and I think it is enjoyable!!!" :)



School Sleepover

By Courtney Kuiper

I am writing a recount of the 2015 School Sleepover. After school ended, kids were playing or setting up their sleeping gear. Different grades were assigned to sleep in different rooms. After that, all students headed to the gym and got a snack. While waiting, they played bump. Then Mr. Kleyn told all of the students to get in their groups for the games. The games included Musical Chairs, Heads up-Seven up, and Charades. After playing the games and eating dinner, parents served ice cream. Later, everybody played the Animal Game. Mr. Kleyn called for everyone to come inside. Everybody got another snack. Next, they played Generals. Last, it was time for bed. In the morning, there were pancakes for breakfast. Parents picked up their children around 7:00 am.



Recount
By Blake De Moay

I am going to give a recount on our 2nd school sleepover in order of events of our day. We woke up on a Friday and go to school, as if it was a normal day. After school's done, we set up our beds in our room and went down to the kitchen and had a snack. While eating our snacks, Mr. Kleyn tells us how the afternoon games will go. We go from classroom to classroom playing games to dinner at 5:30 p.m. After dinner we play the dress- up relay. When it got dark, we played the animal game where the 7/8 kids hide and make animal noises and we try to find them. At 8:30 p.m. the grades 1-3 kids go to bed. After they were in bed, the grades 4-8 play Generals till 10:30 p.m., our bed time. We get in our beds and have to be quiet in bed by 11:00 p.m. Some people went home because they had another activity the next morning. We slept and could go out of bed at 6:30 a.m. We played in the gym until our pancake breakfast was ready. After our breakfast, at 8:15 a.m., our parents picked us up and we went home.



Water on a Terrestrial Planet- Mars

By Brent De Moay

Did you know that Mars has water on it? Well now NASA, with the help of a rover called Pathfinder, has confirmed that there is water on Mars. Scientists don't know where the water is coming from! About two percent of the soil is water (by weight); the soil has about two pints of water in one cubic foot. The only direct sources of water are found on Mars' poles. There is a giant gorge running across its equator that is two thousand km long. There are some steep slopes on Mars, but just under some valley's surfaces there is some salty water. These salts contain magnesium, perchlorate, magnesium chlorate, and sodium chlorate.

It may seem that there is no life on Mars' surface but in about 50 years people want to send other people to Mars!

I hoped you learned a lot about Mars!

We hope you enjoyed reading all the articles written by the 5th and 6th graders!