

December 7, 2009

## FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COORDINATOR



### EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AT MAPLE RIDGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - PART 2

We are excited about the new early learning opportunities we are adding on to our school and there is a launch team busily preparing for next year's new additions. Depending on our registration, it is our goal to have a three-year-old class and a four-year-old, Junior

Kindergarten program. In addition, there may be an opportunity to provide afternoon care for families who want the option of having their child stay for the full day. Many of our fellow SCSBC (Society of Christian Schools in BC) schools are already operating an early learning program with great success. The young students are integrated into the school environment and new families enjoy the experience of Christian community and Christian education at an early age.

Recently a colleague of mine had a conversation with a few parents in the Fraser Valley. The topic was, "Where are you sending your child to kindergarten?"

One mother replied, "Well, our little guy has been going to the Little Blessings Preschool at Unity Christian School this year. We're really happy with the program. He's met the kindergarten teacher. He knows where the gym is. He has seen the playground. The principal has come to the preschool class a few times, so the principal is a familiar face already. It just makes sense that he goes to this school to continue his education." This parent's response is a good example of one of the values of having a preschool associated with a Christian school.

There is obviously much planning and organizing to be done and we covet your prayers during this exciting time for our school. Thank you for your support and sharing your positive experiences at Maple Ridge Christian School with people in your community, and remember, now you can tell them to sign up for pre-school at MRCS.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Karin van Wijk

## IN THE BUZZ

From the Elementary Coordinator  
Calendar  
From the Office  
Upcoming Events  
Food Bank Donations  
Elementary School Section  
Congrats, Olympic Torchbearer!  
MRCS Christmas Concert  
MRCS Athletics  
Wants Ads  
Missions Trip Info Meeting  
Drivers Abstract Renewals

## CALENDAR

### December 9

Grad Christmas dinner at Milestones,  
5:30 pm

### December 16

Dress rehearsal for Christmas Concert,  
1:00 pm

### December 17

Christmas Concert,  
1:30 pm & 7:30 pm

### December 18

All School Chapel

### December 18

Last day of school before Christmas  
Break

## FROM THE OFFICE

### REGISTRATION FOR OUR CURRENT FAMILIES

Believe it or not, we are already planning for next school year. Re-registration for our current families begins in January and you will be sent re-registration forms for your children in grades K-11. We allow our existing families to register before we open up registration to our community. You will have until February 8th to return your form(s). Re-registration will include a \$100 per family registration fee, a July 1 post-dated cheque for the first month's tuition, and a PAD form (automatic bank withdrawal) for the remainder of the school year. If you would like to pay the entire year's tuition all at once and receive the 2% discount, we will require the July 1 post-dated cheque for the first month's tuition along with the remainder of the tuition, in a cheque post-dated September 1, and the re-registration forms.

### REGISTRATION OF KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

If you have a child who will be starting Kindergarten in September 2010, January is the time to register for those families who already have children at MRCS. We should be able to let you know by January if we have been approved for all day every day Kindergarten.

### REGISTRATION FOR THOSE FAMILIES OUTSIDE OF OUR MRCS COMMUNITY

If you have friends or relatives who might want to register their children for the 2010/2011 school year, please let them know that registration begins on Monday, February 8. There will be an Open House on Wednesday, February 3 from 1:00-3:00 pm, and again from 6:00-8:00 pm. An Open House specifically for Kindergarten will be the same evening at 7:30 pm.

If you have any questions concerning the re-registration or registration process, please contact Jackie Versfelt in the school office, or e-mail [j.versfelt@mracs.ca](mailto:j.versfelt@mracs.ca).

### SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSISTANTS ON-CALL NEEDED

Maple Ridge Christian School is in need of Special Education Assistants on an on-call basis. Anyone interested should send a resume to the school at 12140 – 203rd St., Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2Z5; Attention: Mrs. P. Wiersma, Special Education Director, or e-mail [p.wiersma@mracs.ca](mailto:p.wiersma@mracs.ca). Resumes should include a covering letter, references and a Statement of Faith. For further information on our school our website: [www.mracs.ca](http://www.mracs.ca).

## FOOD BANK DONATIONS



The Christmas program is a free event to all who would like to attend, but there will be an opportunity to give to the local food bank. If you would like to give canned food or dry goods, bins will be available to drop your donation into on your way into the gym for the program. Student council students and staff will deliver the food to the food bank the next day. The food bank is very low on supplies this year as there are so many more families in need, and many people who regularly donate, but are unable to because of financial constraints. If you are able to give, it would be appreciated. Our goal is to raise one food item per student and staff, or, in other words, 300 individual food items.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 21-Jan 1**

Christmas Break

**January 19**

Grade 6/7 skiing

**January 4**

School re-opens after Christmas Break

**January 8**

Interims go out, grades 8-12

**January 11**

Re-registration for existing families begins

**January 13**

Grad photos

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### THE SPELLING BEE

Congratulations goes to all the elementary students that took part in this year's Spelling Bee. You all did a fine job! First place goes to Alice Do, who won the close competition with the word 'omniscient'. Recognition is extended to the runners-up Timothy Song and Toby Marginean. Keep studying those words - our next Spelling Bee is only a year away!

### REMINDER FOR KINDERGARTEN PARENTS

Just a reminder for Kindergarten parents that we will have classes on Monday, Wednesday and THURSDAY during the last week of school before Christmas break. This will give the Kindergarten students an opportunity to participate in the afternoon concert as well as the evening one. Our classroom door will open at 7:10 pm on concert night. We are excited to perform for you!

## CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'RE AN OLYMPIC TORCHBEARER!

BY ANDY LIN



At first, I didn't know that I could be a torchbearer as a part of the Vancouver Olympics. However, with encouragement from my physical education teacher, I was convinced that I should apply. I realized that this would be an awesome opportunity for me as I imagined myself running and holding the Olympic torch. As a landed immigrant, I could be a part of this Canadian Olympic event. I would represent Maple

Ridge Christian School, my home country of Taiwan, and my present and future home of Canada. When I was told by the organizers that I had been selected, I was filled with so much excitement and joy in my spirit because I honestly couldn't believe that this was happening. This once in a lifetime dream is coming true and I'll never forget this opportunity. I'm so honoured and proud to have been chosen for this. Thanks to God and for my teacher's encouragement that I have this opportunity to play a unique part in these 2010 Olympics.

## MRCS ATHLETICS



### SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

Our boys had a spectacular start to the season winning 72-49 against the Fraser Valley Adventist Ducks and besting the Regent Christian Royals in a nail biter 65-62. Their tournament in Ashcroft over the weekend had the boys losing by 4 points against Bodwell, but storming back with a 30 point margin win against Merritt and a 55-26 win against Barrier. Player of the game awards went to Connor O'Dell and Ben Robinson, while Daniel Bismeyer received both a player of the game award and overall tournament all star. Congratulations boys! The

boys continued their winning ways with a 71-58 win vs. the BC Christian Academy Panthers. Connor O'Dell wowed the crowd in the 2nd quarter draining a 3 pointer, followed with a couple free throws and a basket off a turnover - a 7 point tally in 6 seconds! Come out to support our boys at their next home game vs Carver Christian Tuesday Dec 8th, 5pm at the Pitt Meadows Recreation Centre. Go Hornets!

### LUNCH HOUR INTRAMURALS

Dodgeball games for all teams Tuesday and Thursday this week.

## MRCS CHRISTMAS CONCERT DEC 17TH

Our all school Christmas Concert will be Thursday, December 17th with two performances: 1:30 & 7:30 p.m. It will be a wonderful, festive program to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

All grade 8-10 band students need to wear their band dress uniform (as indicated in their class syllabus) for both performances. Grade 7 band students should be in black dress slacks and white dress shirts.

All other students can come dressed in their finest clothes. Please avoid wearing T-shirts, sweats, blue jeans, shorts or athletic wear. Dress shirts and slacks for the boys and dresses or skirts and blouses for the girls would be great.

The program will be about one hour in length and will feature all of our band and music students from K-10, so it is expected that everyone will attend. Please let Mr. Davison know, well in advance, if your child will be away for either of the performances.

The Christmas program is a free event to all who would like to attend. There will be an opportunity to give to the local food bank. If you would like to give canned food or dry goods, bins will be available to drop your donation into on your way into the gym for the program. Student council students and staff will deliver the food to the food bank the next day. The food bank is very low on supplies this year as there as so many more families in need, and many people who regularly donate, but are unable to because of financial constraints. If you are able to give, it would be appreciated. Our goal is to raise one food item per student and staff, or, in other words, 300 individual food items.

## DRIVER'S ABSTRACT RENEWALS

The following drivers need to renew their driver's abstracts, as they are 3 years old:

Balakrishnan, Sam	Levasseur, Angie
Banbury, Carla	Lynum, Lora
Bruendl, Mark	MacKenzie, Alexandra
Bruendl, Roxanne	Madari, Eva
Dendys, Leslie	Miller, Darren
Desterke, Gary	Miller, Julia
du Toit, Elizabeth	Ramsey, Karen
Evans, Joy	Robinson, Susanne
Fritsch, Ingrid	Schofield, Leah
Geertsma, Lorena	Smith, Kathy
George, Glenda	Stokes, Claire
Irvine, Lori	Tuik, Rita
Irvine, Stewart	Van Boven, Teresa
Knuttila, Arlana	Van Herwaarden, Vicki
Laluk, Janet	Walton, Tammy
Laluk, Rob	

Abstracts can be ordered by phoning 604-661-2255. Be prepared to quote your driver's license number, and request that your abstract be e-mailed to the school at [mracs.office@mracs.ca](mailto:mracs.office@mracs.ca). Abstracts are usually received by the school office within 10 minutes of your phone call. If your vehicle information has changed since you last filled in a Volunteer Driver Registration, please fill in a new one. Forms are available from the office bulletin board just outside of the office.

## MISSIONS TRIP INFO MEETING

This February a stalwart group of students, teachers and parents will be foregoing part of the Olympic fervor in favour of a Missions trip to Barbados. We still have a few openings for others who may wish to come with us.

The trip will take place in partnership with Seeds International and will involve working in schools, doing assembly programs for children there and experiencing the Caribbean in a unique way.

On Dec 14, at 6pm Reg Parks and Valarie Sawka will be hosting an information meeting about the trip. This one hour meeting will give you all the information you need about the trip in terms of time, purpose, cost, etc. It will be held in the school library. We will also be sending home invites to this meeting next week. If you would like to ask any questions prior to that time then please contact Reg Parks at [regparks@telus.net](mailto:regparks@telus.net).

## WANT ADS

### CHILDCARE AVAILABLE!

Majesty Family Christian Daycare

Casual Care and 1 full time opening for 12-36 month old children.

Near MRSS, with full fenced in large backyard. No dogs, hot lunch, strong start. Nursing background; focus on education through music, crafts and fun.

Call Amanda Lambert 604-466-5021.

### FREE

Free oak-toned wall unit, two glass doors, drawers, shelves, space for a TV, mirrored back section with wine rack. Must go – big screen TV coming. Contact Jackie Versfelt in the school office for more info, or call 604-476-0748.