

LINE

ROCKY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

June 2021

Learning, Loving, Living for our Lord



Mission Statement

Rocky Christian School is an interdenominational community of Christian believers dedicated to developing and pursuing excellence in Christ-Centred education.

Visit our website at rockychristian.wrsd.ca. There you will be able to find:

- Latest news from the school and calendars of coming events
- Newsletters (past and present)
- All of the current forms needed for school use
- Hot lunch and Moo Club forms
- School Council information

Like!! us on Facebook for all current information

Vision Statement

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the home, church and school will work together to equip students to live lives that honour and serve God and contribute to society in a positive way.

Have a Blessed and safe summer and we will see you back on September 1!



WHY ARE WE CELEBRATING?

Rob Duiker's Grade 9 and 10 Graduation Address

My dear graduates of 2021 and 2020. By most accounts it's been a crummy year and a half. We couldn't have a graduation last year and this year we still can't have the kind of graduation we have become accustomed to with a banquet, Kindergarten escorts, and a fancy hall packed with people. Additionally, we postponed indefinitely the Rocky Christian School 50th anniversary bash. Maybe we don't feel like celebrating. Why are we celebrating anyway?

It has been a tough year or two for other reasons as well. A number of our staff members have lost elderly parents. Mr. Vanderlaan suffered the tragic loss of his beloved daughter, and now we have learned that Mrs. Magnus is at the beginning of a battle with cancer. So, why are we celebrating?

With all these calamities, and as Covid-19 ran its course ... hopefully it's just about over ... on more than one occasion I have quoted James 1: 2-4.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Graduates. We have been trying to take the words of James seriously. Consider it joy when you face trials. That sounds kind of crazy, doesn't it? Usually, when we think of joy we think of happiness. In this case, I think joy is something deeper. It is the deep peace that comes with the knowledge that God is with us in the good times ... and the bad. It is the confidence that comes from being tuned in to that still small voice of God; a whisper that you have to strain to hear at a time when it seems like the whole world is yelling. Why should we celebrate?

I am reminded of a song by Casting Crowns. The song is titled, "Praise You in the Storm." It starts with these words:

*I was sure by now God, You would have reached down, and wiped our tears away
Stepped in and saved the day, and once again I say, "A-men" ... and it's still rainin'*

*But as the thunder rolls I barely hear Your whisper through the rain, "I'm with you"
And as Your mercy falls, I'll raise my hands and praise the God who gives ... and takes away*

One could argue about whether it is God or Satan who does the taking away, but we can agree that when bad things happen, these are trials ... they are tests of our faith.

The Chorus of the song asserts this:

*And I'll praise You in this storm, and I will lift my hands
For You are who You are no matter where I am
And every tear I've cried You hold in Your hand
You never left my side
And though my heart is torn, I will praise You in this storm*

Continued

There can be no doubt that Covid-19 has been a long drawn out storm ... a trial. It has become more than a global medical trial. It has become a trial for friendships and fellowship as people who believe in competing narratives about this virus have not always been kind to one another. So, why are we celebrating?

We celebrate because we must. Perhaps I should be careful here because the Bible does not actually say that we must celebrate grade nine graduations.

However, there are many celebrations in the Bible. These include Passover, the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of the Harvest, the Festival of Firstfruits, the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and Feast of Tabernacles. None of these celebrations take place because we feel happy. These celebrations are not about us. They are about God! Today we celebrate what God has done in the lives of our graduates. We must celebrate!

If you walk into Rocky Christian School today you will see that we have recently renewed our photo wall commemorating every graduate class since our first graduation in 1975. This wall is a celebration of what God has done in the lives of more than two generations of graduates. This wall is a celebration of Christian education.

James says "Consider it Joy." But he also tells us why we ought to have this joy in our hearts. He says that these trials are productive. He says that this testing of our faith produces perseverance! These difficulties that we have walked through together while straining to hear God's voice have made us better than we were. James says that while trials are hard, they are also good. Going through stuff helps us to mature. And this maturity is a gift from God. We ought to celebrate that!

Graduates. The storm is not over ... and there will be other storms. Today we celebrate in spite of the storms of the recent past. We celebrate, in some cases a little bit late, the milestone of moving on from Rocky Christian School to other learning experiences, and to other challenges. We celebrate the perseverance and maturity that we have gained. We celebrate a school that seeks to guide us to see God everywhere, to tune in to the things He whispers to us, and to encourage confidence that He is with us.

If we have allowed Covid-19 to steal some of our joy, let us correct that tonight with a celebration.

Consider it pure joy, RCS graduates, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Pancake
Breakfast



Please join us on Wednesday, September 1 for our annual first-day-of-school family pancake breakfast.

Breakfast will be served from 8:00 - 8:45 and then the students will head to class.

This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new families coming in as well.



Deinne Jairuz Bonilla
 Faith Smid
 Zoë DeBruyn
 Angelica Learmonth
 Janae Harrison
 Kierstin VanHeeren
 Theodore Patenaude
 Missing:
 Everist Brettelle
 Stan Feddema
 Gabe Lublinkhof

Congratulations to our grade nine graduating classes of 2020 and 2021

Landon Hovind
 Danae Carnahan
 Arianna VanHeeren
 Philip Mayer
 Hailey Hondebrink
 Zechariah Wickens
 Lydia VanGinkel
 Lené Jeppe
 Jan Daniel Bonilla



SCHOOL COUNCIL/BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- This past week, Wednesday, June 23rd, we held our Annual General Meeting with Society Members and welcomed in 3 new board members! Thank you to Siemen VanderMeer, Lydia Blaak, and Lisa Robideau for letting your names stand. We look forward to the fruit the new board will collectively bear.
- We also want to acknowledge and thank Amber Boodt and Peggy Hondebrink for their contribution to the Society Board as they complete their terms.
- Our Rocky Christian School Catering club is looking for new committed members to take over. We want to thank Robert and Brenda Boodt for running the catering club for the last number of years. You have truly been a blessing to our school community while running it. We have a potential event in August if there are volunteers able to oversee/run it. Please contact the office if you are able and willing.
- As this school year comes to an end, we recognize that it has been challenging to not meet in the same way, and be a community in the same capacity we usually are. We want to thank all those who stepped up, volunteered when they could, and came up with alternative solutions. We hope and pray for brighter days ahead, when we can gather and be an even stronger community than ever before. Until that day, we wish you all many of God's blessings over this summer break!

WORK BEE ~ The Building and Maintenance Committee has scheduled a school work bee for Friday, **July 9**, and Saturday, **July 10**. Please contact a committee member to sign up. Committee member are Tom Miller, Aaron Terpsma, James Smid, Bryan deBruyn, Joel Soodsma, Vince VanSteenis and Kelly Brouwer.

This is a great way to build up some volunteer hours and to get to know other members of our school community.



Grade 6 and 7 enjoying a trip to the river





Grade 5 girls ready to go to school at the museum



Grade 2 and 3 enjoying the beautiful weather at the spray park



Over the last couple of months our school has undergone some very "enlightening" renovations...

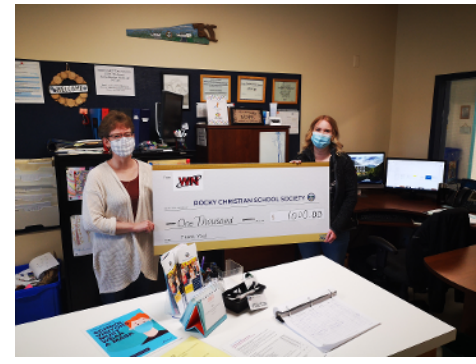
The whole school has been upgraded to much more efficient LED lighting.

Gordon Van'tBosch and Peter deBruyn headed up the physical labour part with the help of Richard op den Dries and Doug Daisley - all volunteering their time to help brighten up our school.

Mr. Van'tBosch also approached many businesses in town to see if they would be willing to "sponsor a room", and boy did they step up!! The following page is full of pictures of our sponsors. Thank you so much to everyone who helped out with this project!

- * Rocky Credit Union
- * Rocky Gas Co-Op
- * Clearwater Veterinary Centre
- * Diamond J Industries
- * Napa Auto Parts
- * Carrington O'Brien Investments
- * Evergreen Co-Op
- * Foothills Tank Rentals
- * Home Hardware
- * Edward's Garage
- * Bauer Flooring
- * Rocky Automotive Distributors
- * Tomco Production Services
- * Pidherney's
- * Canadian Tire
- * Bauer Flooring
- * Rainbow Ford Sales
- * Rebecca & AJ Speight







Rocky Christian School Calendar 2021 - 2022



August 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
T-4 S-0						

September 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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T-21 S-20						

October 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
T-19 S-17						

November 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
T-20 S-19						

December 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
T-15 S-15						

January 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
T-19 S-18						

February 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					
T-17 S-15						

March 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
T-19 S-18						

April 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
T-18 S-17						

May 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
T-21 S-20						

June 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
T-21 S-18						

Dates to Note						
Staggered Entry for Students Sept. 1 & 2						
RCS Teachers Conference - October 21 & 22						
Graduation - June 23						
Last Day of School for Students - June 24						

- Holidays
- ATA Teachers' Convention
- Non-Instructional Day
- No School for Students & Staff
- Kindergarten Days
- K-9 Non-Instructional Day (10-12 attend)

This calendar is current as of June 24, 2021, but events are subject to change throughout the year.