

Happy New Year! New Things in store for MCS

On behalf of the staff, students and leadership of Milton Christian School, we would like to extend a very Happy New Year to everyone and their families. I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful Christmas break and are eagerly anticipating a great year.

As many of you know, MCS received an early Christmas present on December 19th when Milton Town Council voted to award MCS the opportunity to lease the former Milton Public Library. The timing of this decision seemed to be ordained as the MCS family just concluded its annual Christmas production. This year the staff and students wrote and performed an incredible play called The Fourth Wiseman. The students did an incredible job and should be commended on their tireless effort and diligence.

The motion to enter into a lease with the Town of Milton was voted 100% unanimously at our December 29th Special Members meeting. Efforts will now commence to finalize the lease and prepare for renovations for a future move. Very exciting times indeed!

I am also excited to announce that MCS received over \$112,000.00 in donations during the Christmas break. Praise the Lord for His faithful, who are willing to give generously. Milton Christian School is a registered charity with the Canada Revenue Agency, which relies on donations to operate. During a recent research study, it was determined that MCS is currently 24.3% less expensive than 10 of the closest Private Christian Schools in our region. For MCS to continue to operate with such subsidized tuition rates, we all need to continue to pray for the Lord's provision through donations and fundraising.

I believe there are very exciting days ahead of MCS. We have had an incredible journey during our first 5 years, but as Mayor Krantz was recently heard saying, "you haven't seen anything yet".

As we move forward into exciting days ahead MCS is putting a call out to people wanting to get involved. We are looking for individuals to serve on teams to assist with Policy, Facilities, Development, Finance, Human Resources and Community Relations. If this is an area that may interest you, then please speak to me at your earliest convenience.

Principal Van Slingerland

**"My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord.
Let every creature praise His holy name for ever and ever."
Psalm 145:21**



MCS Announcements 2011/2012

Pajama Day—MCS will have a Pajama Day on January 20th, 2012. Although it is a fun dress day, we ask that parents use discretion in what apparel they allow their children to wear this day.

Tuition/Enrolment Intention Forms—Tuition rates and enrolment intention forms for the 2012/2013 will go home on January 30th, 2012, and will be due back by March 1st. Please keep an eye out for these.

Annual Fundraising Banquet - The Milton Christian Education Association annual Fundraising Banquet will be held on Saturday April 21st, 2011. This event is always the highlight of the year. Please mark this event on your calendar. It is sure to be an awesome evening of great food, live and silent auction action, and celebration as MCS endeavours to raise funds for the schools future.

Grandparents Day - Milton Christian School is going to have a Grandparents Day on February 16th, 2012—8:30am to 12:00pm. This is a special open house in which students can invite their Grandparents and extended senior family members. Visitors can mingle in the classroom and view their grandchild's work, enjoy some social time, and participate in a school wide assembly. It will truly be a day of celebration as we visit among the generations.

Snow Tubing—Grades 1 through 8 will enjoy a day of Snow Tubing on Friday February 17th, 2011.

Canadian Test of Basic Skills - The two pillars of focus for MCS continue to be academic excellence and Godly Instruction. MCS conducts the Canadian Test of Basic Skills twice a year on students grades 3 to 8. This is done once at the end of September, to test retention from the previous year; and another time in May, to test what students have learned throughout the year. The Public/Catholic school systems only test once every other year. I am proud to report that 75% of MCS students tested scored a minimum of at least one grade level higher than the national average. Many of the remaining 25% of MCS students are receiving some level of support from our learning centre. This in depth testing allows us to assess the progress and retention of MCS students compared to Public, Catholic and Private school systems. For more information, please speak to Mr. Van Slingerland.

Now that winter is here there are a few house keeping needs at MCS. We do not ask that parents remove their shoes/boots as the students do while dropping off and picking up your children but **we will ask that you do not enter the classrooms.** It is uncomfortable for the students when little puddles are left around and socks get wet. As for wet socks - there are always a few after recess so placing an **extra pair in backpacks is helpful** and insures better comfort for the afternoon. Water proof boots also are best. Please remember Southside Community Church and Milton Christian School are nut free. **Please do not send in food containing any nuts. Including Nutella.**



MCS Announcements 2011/2012

Christian Economic Assistance Foundation—

The Mission of CEAF is to assist Christian families in providing affordable Christian education through five beneficial programs.

CEAF's official purpose is:

To give financial assistance to those societies, association, and organizations which engage in the development of Christian thought and action in various areas of life within the spirit of Biblical reformation for service to God and fellow man. More recently CEAF's mission has focused on Christian day school education in order to keep the cost affordable for the average Canadian family. Each or the Programs CEAF offers is designed to address a particular need in these families, or in the Christian day school environment.

CEAF is a group of committed Christians who volunteer their time and energies to promote charitable activities for the Foundation. In turn, they elect members to the Board of Directors to administer the Foundation's programs.

The Board meets several times throughout the year to review and approve grant requests as well as implement various special projects.

The Board of Directors is elected by the membership.

CEAF Tuition Assistance Program

PURPOSE:

- The Christian community has a responsibility to its needier members in order to enable them to participate in regular charitable activities.
- The CEAF Board believes that every Ontario family is entitled to give their children a Christian day school education suitable to their confession.

GOAL

- The Board estimates that 5% of families in private school communities receive assistance from various local arrangements now.
- The board believes that an impartial, objective application process for assistance would encourage an additional 500 families to enroll in Christian day schools. That is a worthwhile goal of 10% of enrollments.



MCS Announcements 2011/2012

BENEFITS AND CONDITIONS

- The Program is designed to assist needy families without creating embarrassment about their financial circumstances.
- The amount, up to \$2,500 per enrolled child, is designed to encourage a similar contribution from the family itself.
- The assistance is available to any Christian School supporter if the school is a member of the OACS and participates in CEAF programs.
 - d) Family must provide proof of income level, but no asset review is required.
 - e) Appeal of Committee decision is possible to the special arbitrator.
- The cheques will be issued in October of each year.
- Questions should be directed to the Development Director.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Parent requests information forms and sends it to the CEAF administrator.
- Applications are submitted by March for disposition in June each year.
- The criteria used by the Committee is as follows:
 - a) Parents must be residents of Ontario two years prior to the application.
 - b) Child must be enrolled in an OACS school one year prior to the application.
 - c) Household income must be below \$60,000
 - d) Family must provide proof of income level, but no asset review is required.
 - e) Appeal of Committee decision is possible to the special arbitrator.
- The cheques will be issued in October of each year.
- Questions should be directed to the Development Director.

INFORMATION: Tuition Assistance Application Form

FUNDING: The Board raises the money for this fund from donations from the

CEAF

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