



Psalm 139:14 "I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made..."

Welcome to Kindergarten at Calgary Christian School! This month we will be focusing on the topic "God Made Me". We want each student to see themselves as gifted individuals created in the image of God. This month will be a time to build community, establish routines and explore all that Kindergarten has to offer. I am thankful for this opportunity to teach and for the wonderful staff and the families that make up the Calgary Christian School community. God has many exciting things in store for us this year. With Him, anything is possible!

*Our "Kinderchatter" newsletter will be posted on my e-teacher page at the end of each month with pertinent information for the upcoming month. This will be the main source of communication about classroom needs, important dates and give an overview of the theme for the month. Starting in October, an attached calendar will show the volunteer schedule.

* Daily work, school wide notices, art projects, etc will be sent home in a laminated envelope with your child's name on it. Please check this after each school day and return the envelope in your child's backpack on the next school day.

Communicating with one another:

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I can best be reached by e-mail at: cheri.groot@pallisersd.ab.ca or call me at the school at 403-242-2896. If there is something more urgent- please call the office.

Volunteering:

Volunteering will start in October so that the children can get used to the routines of the class. Use this month of September to obtain the necessary Police Check required of all our school volunteers. The office can provide direction for you. Times to volunteer are:

Tuesdays 8:45-10:15; Thursdays 11:00-12:30; Fridays 12:15-1:45

Please email me to let me know what day/time you prefer to volunteer. If each family takes a turn, it works out to once every 6 weeks. If you are unable to volunteer in the classroom due to work or childcare schedules, please let me know as well. I often have simple tasks I can send home for you to help with in preparation for future projects. I will make a volunteer schedule each month and email it out. If you are unable to make the day you are scheduled for I kindly ask that you **find a replacement** as often we have activities planned that we are unable



to do without your presence. Your time in the classroom is so appreciated! ☺
Thank-you!

Eating at school:

At school, your child will **eat two times** a day -once in the morning at 10:15 and then again at 12:30. Please make sure that you send in something for snack (something healthy: yogurt, fruit, veggies, etc) and something for lunch (sandwich, muffins, and a dessert etc.). Your child is given 15 minutes to eat their snack and 20 minutes to eat their lunch. They will learn to eat quicker as the days pass so please do not be too concerned if they don't eat their entire lunch. *Please be advised that Calgary Christian School is a **nut-free school**.*

* We do have a **microwave** if you'd like to send some leftovers in, but be aware that there are 17 little ones and only one microwave! ☺

Absences/Lates:

If you know you will be away in advance, please send me an email and call the office to let them know. If your child is sick or they will not be coming into school that day, please call the office so we do not worry. There is a link on the CCS website where you can enter when your child is late or absent.

If you are late, please go to the office right away and tell them you are late and then you may send your child to class.

Birthdays:

Birthdays are very exciting times for your child. In school, we celebrate birthdays the closest day we can to your child's actual birth date. We will sing "Happy Birthday" as a class and their name will be shared on the Morning Office Announcements. If you would like to send in a birthday treat to share with the class- please feel free to do so as long as: there is enough for the whole class (17 students, 2 teachers), it is nut free, and it is not too messy.

*If you'd like to invite students in the class to your child's birthday party, please hand the invite to me directly. I will place them in the appropriate **Take Home Envelope**.

Sharing:

Sharing is a big part of Kindergarten; we encourage sharing so that your child is comfortable speaking in front of his/her peers and so that he/she has time to practice answering questions. Your child is allowed to bring something in to share with the class that is interesting to them or related to the theme of the month. To eliminate too many students bringing in sharing all on the same day I have designated **Tuesdays to be Girl Sharing and Thursdays to be Boy Sharing**. Your child is not expected to bring in something each week, but is encouraged to bring in something a few times each month.

Homework:

Beginning in September, a Homework Bag will be sent home with your child. This is filled with activities that help build Fine Motor skills and reinforce learning that is happening within the classroom. Please work through the package at a pace that is comfortable for you child. Follow their lead. **This is not meant to cause any stress, but instead build confidence and provide fun activities for you to enjoy**

with your child. It is designed to do one activity each day. When they have completed to package, have them return the bag to school. A new set of activities will be sent home at the beginning of each month.

Special Helper:

Your child will take turns being the "**Special Helper**" in class! A new Special Helper will be assigned each day. His/her responsibilities include: being the line leader, helping others if they need help, passing things out etc. The students love the opportunity to show leadership in the classroom! ☺ Helpers are assigned alphabetically.

Literacy:

Our Literacy program will begin with the letter P and we will be starting to write in our classroom journals! We will be sending home a Flashcard ring with the first few letters attached. Each week a new card will come home. Please add the card to the ring in order to *review* the literacy lessons covered in class (which includes sounds, letter formation and sight recognition of the letters covered). Each letter also has a corresponding action. Be sure to ask your child to show you the action for each letter. Kids love it when they know something you do not. ☺

Library:

Students will travel to the Library where our Librarian Mrs. Thiesen will read them a story and allow them to take out a picture book. Your child may borrow this book for the week until their next Library day. Your child's Library class happens on Thursdays after lunch.

Helping Hands:

Meagan Bassett is the Educational Assistant in our classroom. She is a wonderful teaching partner who provides a tremendous amount of care for your kiddos while they are at school. We are blessed to have her in KG!

This fall, we also welcome Laura Olsen to our classroom. Laura is a Behavioural Science student at Ambrose University. In an effort to obtain the necessary practicum hours to complete her degree, Laura will be volunteering in our class on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Please help me to make her feel welcome at CCS.

Important September Dates:

Thursday September 12th - Back to School Social 5:30pm Bring a picnic supper for your family. CCS will supply the dessert!

Friday September 13th - School Day for KG

Tuesday September 17th - Picture Day for KG

I pray that this new school year is a blessing for you and your child. Please do not hesitate to come and talk with me if have any questions.

Blessings,

Cheri Groot