Art Students Participate in the Markham Fair

On Thursday, October 3, under the leadership of Art Teacher, Ms. Flach, all art students from the Middle and Senior Schools attended the Markham Fair. Our school received top honours from some of the submissions made to the art exhibition. Congratulations to the successful students!

Audrey Pao – First Place

Nicole Lai – Third Place

Walk-A-Thon

On October 11 the Junior School conducted its annual walk-a-thon. The weather was ideal and the students enjoyed the outdoors.

The walk-a-thon has proven to be a blessing to the school in remarkable ways in the past. Last year the students were successful in raising roughly $20,000, making it possible to install vinyl flooring in the classrooms. The result has been a brighter, more pleasant environment for the Junior School.

This year's objective is to provide enhancements to our digital learning opportunities in the Junior School. Classroom hardware, as well as a structured computer studies program in Grades 1 to 6, are among the targets set for this year's walk-a-thon. We are thankful to our students who have taken seriously the challenge of raising funds to enhance the learning experience of all Junior School students. The prize winners will be announced shortly.

Peoples Christian Academy
CELEBRATE 1971-2011

THE QUILL

From the Office of the Director of Operations and Ministry | November 2013 | PCA.ca | 416.733.2010

Welcome

Peoples Christian Academy and the PCA Early Learning Centre are a-buzz with the life and learning energy of almost 400 young people! Teachers and staff are again fully engaged in implementing their teaching/learning strategies at many different levels and areas of interest. What a magnificent, positive environment to be in! We welcome our new families and a hearty "welcome back" to all returning families.

A Historic Event

On Wednesday, October 9, our Early Learning Centre conducted its first field trip ever! The children were taken by bus to Forsythe Family Farms on the edge of Markham. The children had a marvelous time on their first bus ride. They also enjoyed such things as a wagon ride and a time of interacting with the farm animals. We appreciate the high level of care that is given to the ELC children by our well-trained staff.

Mark Your Calendar

The following dates will come upon us quickly so be sure to mark your calendar;

- November 4 – Electronic (Fob) Security System Begins
- November 7 & 8 – PD Days
- November 15 – Report Cards
- November 21 and 22 – Parent/Teacher Interviews
- November 28 – Open House
- December 12 – School-wide Christmas Concert

Senior School Road Trip

On Thursday and Friday, September 26 and 27, the senior school students participated in a road trip to a Christian campsite in the Muskokas.

Under the leadership of the SS teachers, it was a time of rich social interaction and spiritual renewal. There were indoor and outdoor activities planned through which students and teachers enjoyed building community together.

A special thank-you goes to the teachers who again gave willingly of their time to provide a very worthwhile and meaningful event for our students. Memories of these two days will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

New Alumni Parent Group

Joanna Ong, who so capably led the Parent Advisory Council up to this past school year, has initiated a brand new endeavor that is designed to extend the life of the PCA community beyond their children's graduation.

Forming a nucleus of interested parents, Joanna envisions this new group to be a continuing support for the school as well as a vital connecting agent between the school and its graduates. The new PCA Parent Alumni Association will assist in furnishing the school with progress reports on its graduates and will continue to give support to the school's programs and events. It will continue to support the long-term goals of Christian education in general and PCA in particular.

New Security System

We take seriously the responsibility of providing a safe environment for our PCA children. Nothing must take precedence over student safety.

At school opening day, and at Parent Information Night, we gave a brief introduction of our new security system which has been implemented on November 4. All entrance doors to the school facility are to remain locked 24/7. Access to the building is restricted to PCA patrons only and is limited to specific hours of the school day. For more information on the functioning of security access you are asked to refer to the security system policy document that accompanied the security system registration forms which were sent to each family.

Please remember that once the security system is implemented all visitors to the school must gain access through the camera/buzz-in system at Entrance #1 and Entrance #6 (ELC).

Moving Ahead with Technology

Senior School

Our school is continuing to keep in step with the digital age. In our Senior School, students' learning is now assisted by the use of their personal tablets. A wireless system is accessible for the exclusive use of students. While capitalizing on the learning value of internet access, the Senior School staff are also very aware of the importance of establishing boundaries. With this in mind they, under the leadership of Vice-principal, Mrs. Paas, have developed a technology usage contract. The contract, called "Peoples Christian Academy Computer and Network, User Contract: Guidelines for the Acceptable Use of PCA Computer Labs and Network" holds the student accountable with regard to such issues as personal safety rules, unacceptable sites and materials, and prohibited uses and activities.

Students and their parents are required to sign the following statement:
I hereby acknowledge that I have read the Peoples Christian Academy Computer and Network User Contract and agree to abide by all the rules and regulations stated.

An important outcome of this initiative is the importance of making useful and responsible use of the internet as a valuable learning resource.

Junior School

For our Junior School we are pleased to re-introduce computer classes, starting immediately. Our computer lab will be set up one day within each six-day cycle and hands-on computer learning will be offered to students in Grades 1 to 5.