

Elora road

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Our Vision:

Elora Road Christian School is a Christ-centred community where children are inspired to grow spiritually, academically and emotionally to reach their God-given potential.

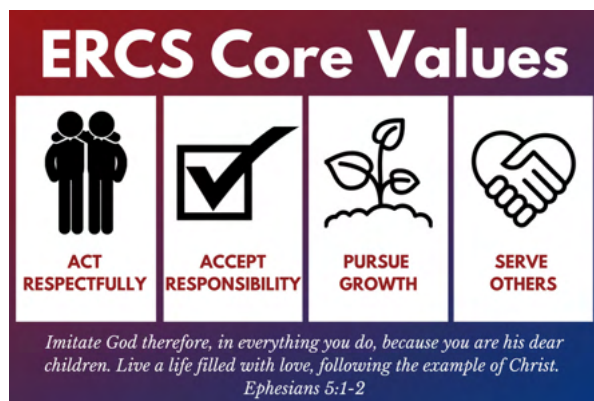
Creating a Christ-Centred Community

by Cindy Westendorp

What does a Christ-centered community look like? How do we create a community where children are inspired to reach their full potential? I have thought deeply about these questions this fall as I have led the school daily and also had the opportunity to attend three different leadership training events.

The core values of ERCS are to **Act Respectfully, Accept Responsibility, Pursue Growth, and Serve Others**. When all members of our community follow these core values, we reflect the heart of Christ, and our school is a great place to grow and learn. Our children feel safe when respected, and they mature into kind,

CREATING A CHRIST-CENTRED COMMUNITY (CONTINUED)



considerate individuals as they practice showing respect daily. By accepting responsibility and pursuing growth, our students become hardworking, competent individuals with a lifelong love of learning. Looking for opportunities to serve others follows the example set by Jesus and creates a community where everyone feels loved and cared for.

STRENGTHENING OUR STUDENT COMMUNITY

ERCS has also built into our educational program other times to develop the community within our school. Our CREW days are great opportunities for our students to learn to work together and get along with students from different grades. Reading and media buddies provide our older students with the chance to serve students in younger grades. Participating in our CAASO sports teams is an excellent way for our students to learn to encourage others and persevere during challenges.

BUILDING FAMILY & COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

This fall, we hosted events that developed our school family and larger community. In September, our Parent Council hosted a Back to School BBQ that provided a chance for all of our families to join together to share a meal and enjoy our beautiful property. Many of our parents helped prepare a meal for our whole school body at Thanksgiving, and we enjoyed sitting down to eat it together. We shared our leftovers with families who needed some extra support. Our November annual Silent Auction & Dessert Fundraiser brought our extended family and church community together. Our children played games and won prizes, and the adults outbid each other to win their desired auction items. The CAASO cross-country meet was a chance for our school to host other Christian schools in our backyard as they competed in three different divisions of cross-country races.

“GOD DID
NOT CREATE
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ALONE.”

CREATING A CHRIST-CENTRED COMMUNITY (CONTINUED)

CONNECTING WITH OTHER CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS & ORGANIZATIONS

I travelled to Halifax in September to participate in the Christian Schools Canada leadership conference. At this conference, I was reminded of the important role that Christian schools play in educating the next generation across Canada. The class of 2040 is currently in our schools, and we are shaping them daily into people who will positively impact the world. Our staff attended the Edvance Annual Gathering at Redeemer University in October. We were taught that joy is found in a life lived for others and were encouraged to keep building others up according to their needs (Ephesians 4:29). At the Herzog Development training session in Ottawa, Dennis Forsyth (our Governance Committee board chair) and I were given a road map to help us engage the greater ERCS community including alumni, past parents, grandparents, and ERCF church members in an inspiring vision for the school.

God did not create us to live alone but to grow, learn, and develop to become more like him each day. This growth can only happen in community. My hope and prayer is that in your interactions with the ERCS community, you will feel God’s love for you and continue to become all that God created you to be.



CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOUNDATION

One of the organizations we partner with is Christian School Foundation. They provide us with grants for tuition assistance. They also provide Christian school donors with the information needed to make the most of their donations. If you are considering a year end gift, talk to Kevin teBrake about whether a gift of shares or mutual funds may be advantageous.

Bless your school with a larger gift

when you donate shares or mutual funds!

You will eliminate the capital gains tax, receive a full donation receipt, and even better, have a greater influence on our culture in the name of Christ!

Contact Kevin to get started!
ktebrake@christianschoolfoundation.ca

Christian School Foundation



ERCs LIONS

CAASO SOCCER

On Friday, September 27th, our soccer team travelled to Brantford for the CAASO soccer tournament. Coach Bauman said, "It was a real pleasure to be with the soccer team for the day. The students represented our school with excellence both on the field and off. We had a super exciting finish to our day when we won our last game in a shoot out that gave us a 3rd place finish. I enjoyed every minute of the day with these athletes!" Congratulations to Colton May and Tobias LeBlanc who each received a sportsmanship award. Thank you to David May and Steve Massey who drove our team there and back.



CAASO CROSS COUNTRY

ERCs hosted 11 other Christian schools for the cross country meet on October 18th, with a total of 484 runners. Thank you to the parent and alumni volunteers!

Special mention to the following students who placed in the top 25 runners in their division:

Novice Girls

Kenzie Gordon - 6th

Junior Boys

Nico Bouwman - 24th

Senior Girls

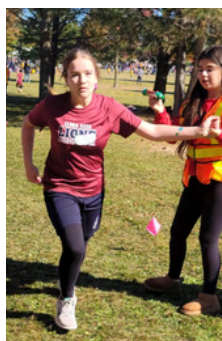
Riley Fehr - 18th

Senior Boys

Samuel Oruchukwu - 14th

Cade Martin - 15th

Reuben van de Pol - 23rd





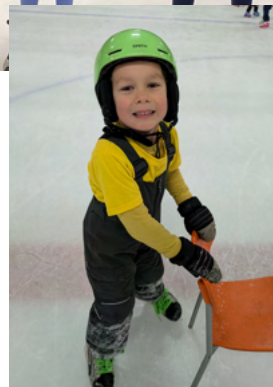
ERCS LIONS (CONTINUED)

CAASO VOLLEYBALL

On Thursday, November 21, 16 grade 5 to 8 students travelled to Burlington to compete in the CAASO volleyball tournament. Our students played well and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. In the end, our girls placed 5th, and after a tough loss in the semi-finals, our boys ended up in 4th. Special mention goes to Hayden Bouwman and Mia Massey, who received the sportsmanship awards for their hard work and the consistent encouragement they gave their teammates. Thanks to Candice Duimering and Cindy Westendorp, our coaches, and to Eric Martin for driving our students to the tournament. Great work, ERCS!



SKATING DAY



CREWS SCAVENGER HUNT

Crews are an intentional way to build community across classrooms, with a fun activity or challenge each month.



FUNDRAISING UPDATES

Fundraising is important at ERCS as it allows us to continue to provide an excellent education, with up-to-date resources and facilities. We've had three successful fundraisers so far this year. Thank you to our parent council who run the fundraisers.

JD SWEID CHICKEN

We sold 324 boxes of chicken, and raised \$2340. Thank you to everyone who bought chicken. Our top sellers were the Waltons (42 boxes) followed by the Rings (27 boxes) and the Vremans (23 boxes).

CORPORATE GIFT CARDS

This year eight local companies purchased their Christmas gift cards through ERCS, which earned us \$1024. If you know a company that gives their employees gift cards each year, see if they are willing to purchase them through us. It doesn't cost them any extra, but we receive a percentage of each card sold!

SILENT AUCTION

This is our biggest fundraiser each year, and we raised an amazing \$25,800. A huge thank you to everyone who helped pull this event together, especially our parent council who put in many hours of work.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 9 - 20 - CREWS
 Christmas Food Drive
 Dec. 19 - Christmas
 Program
 Dec. 20 - Red/Green Day,
 Pizza Day
 Dec. 23 - Jan 3 -
 Christmas Break
 Jan. 6 - Classes Resume
 Jan. 8 - Parent Council
 Jan. 10 - Hot Dog Day
 Jan. 17 - Skating Day
 Jan. 23 - CAASO
 badminton
 Jan. 24 - PD Day, End of
 Term 1

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

SANDBOX ROOF

One of the improvements we were able to make this year was a roof for our sandbox! This has been such a welcome addition, on both sunny and rainy days. Students have been enjoying our sand box so much. A special thank you to Jeff Reinhart for all the work he put into building this for us, and to HFH for their materials donation.

SLEDS & SHOVELS

We also purchased new shovels and sleds for the students to play with at recess. Students have been having so much fun with the recent snow.



BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the back to school BBQ in September. Our vision for the school includes building a Christ-centred community for our children, and we can't do that without you!



Please join us for the
ELORA ROAD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Christmas
Program

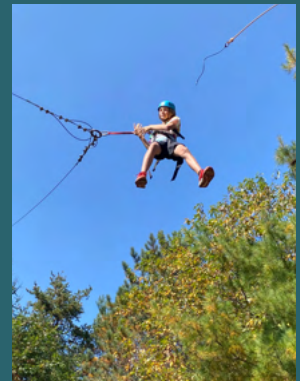
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH
7:00 - 8:30 PM

All Welcome. Refreshments will be served after the program.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO
SEE YOU AT THE
CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM

GRADE 7/8 MEDEBA TRIP

In September, the grade 7/8's spent three days at Medeba near Haliburton. This is a special time for our senior students to form deeper relationships with each other while having fun and trying new challenges. Thank you to Leanne Leblanc and Jenn Venne for chaperoning.



THANKSGIVING



Gr. 3-6 Green Legacy visit



Focus on Nature (Gr. 3, 4, 7 & 8)

