

# Secretary's Report

Jeremy Kamminga

Good day and welcome to another edition of the Beacon! Hope you're all enjoying the beautiful Fall weather we've been having – if it weren't for the frost this morning I might even call it Summer weather. I'm sure everyone is settling back into the school/catechism/Bible study/etc routines again. As much as summer holidays are great, it's also good to "get back at it". After a busy July and early August, as Board, we did have a few weeks with not much to do, but now we're back at it too. Here are some of the things we've working on.

Along with some of the committees, we are busy getting ready for the **Annual Meeting** scheduled for **Monday, October 24**. At this meeting you will hear reports from the Board, Principal, and Vision Committee among others. As per usual there will be the election of a new board member. The plan is also to hold a vote on some By-Law changes regarding nomination/voting procedures. For this to be possible we will need a 60% quorum at the meeting. **Please plan to attend!**

Speaking of nomination procedures, as of press time we have received one nomination. As per the by-laws we will need at least two valid nominations. If you don't have a nomination form, don't let that stop you from submitting a nomination. Just remember that we need: 1) your name and signature, 2) a seconder's name and signature, and 3) the nominee's name and signature. **You have until 7:30 tomorrow (Monday, Oct. 3) evening to submit a nomination to one of the board members.**

The Board, together with the Principal, has also begun a process of reviewing our current policies and directives. As some of these are quite old, some revisions will need to be made. At the same time a system will be set up to facilitate regular review of the policies to ensure they don't get old and out dated. It will also be a good exercise for the board to go through the policies to improve our ability to efficiently and consistently govern the school society. We may also find that there are some areas that currently don't have a governing policy but could be well served by having one.

All of this has gotten us board members talking about Board governance from time to time and we realize there is much to learn in regards to this. To this end we have being exploring possibilities of some professional development for the Board. We should have more details in the near future.

This week most of the teaching and para-professional staff will (DV) participate in one of their major professional development events of the year – the CRTA-West Teacher's Convention. We wish them safe travels to Saskatchewan and back. We pray that this convention will

provide growth opportunities for all attending and that it would be an enjoyable time of fellowship and refreshment with their reformed colleagues from the prairies.

I would also like to take an opportunity to say thank-you for the privilege I've been given in being allowed to serve on the DCS Board and for the support I have received over the past 3 years. I've enjoyed the work and the people I've worked with. There's been a lot to learn and a lot to do and there's still more to learn and do. I trust and pray that God will continue to bless the board in its work and so also bless all involved in operating DCS.

Well, that's about all I've got for now. As usual there will be much more information following in this Beacon as well as at the upcoming Annual Meeting. See you then and God bless!

## *Principal's report*

Andy Huisman

***“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform and longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.”***

*Romans 12:1, 2 (DCS Theme Text)*

As the last Beacon was just published a few weeks ago, my report in this one will be fairly short. Do not worry, I will make up for that next time. ☺ This past week I attended the International Principal’s Conference in Sumas, Washington. The keynote speaker for the conference was Dr. Nelson Kloosterman who gave his address on moving one’s Christian Worldview to Christian character in Christian Education. For three very full days, principals were immersed in Reformed education, and I will provide more details in the next Beacon. There are still many thoughts swirling around in my head. I do appreciate these conferences in terms of professional development, and what a blessing when the opportunity presents itself to grow in these areas.

### **Other news**

#### **CRTA Convention**

Just as a reminder, there will be no school this coming Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. The staff will be travelling to Arlington Beach Camp, north of

Regina. The theme for the conference is “*Reaching all Learners – Inclusive Practices*”. In order to allow the staff enough travel time there will be a DCS-only early dismissal on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. All students will be dismissed at 2:00. Although buses will be running in the morning, as usual, there will be no bus service for our students in the afternoon. Parents will need to pick up their children at the school. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter. I am sure that you learn of the conference through the many reports to be published in the next Beacon.

### **S.A.G.E. – Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**

In the past, our teachers have attended what were called the S.A.G. conferences in the city. The acronym stood for “*Special Area Group*”. This was an opportunity for teachers to attend conferences specifically designed for their area of interest. It was quite humorous that while the Winnipeg conference was called “SAG”, the Brandon conferences were called “LIFT”. The SAG has had a renaming to S.A.G.E. The new acronym stands for “*Special Area Group of Educators*”. Perhaps the group was tired of sagging and wanted to be more sage? Anyways, to make a long story short, there will be no classes on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> in order to allow our staff to attend these various conferences.

That is all for now. Enjoy the various articles and contributions in this edition.

## *Drama, Doctrine, Doxology, Discipleship*

By Len Lodder

*“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will” (Rom 12:1-2).*

You are driving down the highway on your family vacation. You have seen a lot of things. Some of them you have never seen before, others are things you’ve seen pictures of in magazines or on

TV. You have learned a lot about the geography of Canada. The flat prairie land gave way to the rolling foothills and now they in turn are giving way to mountains. You see the peaks in the distance and you wonder at God's wonderful creation. It is amazing! As you enter into the mountainous region you have to stretch your memory to remember what the foothills were really like and the prairies are already a distant memory. Look at the beauty and grandeur of these majestic peaks. What it must have taken to forge this road through all this dense rock!

A sign indicates that there is a scenic outlook up ahead. It's hard to imagine that it can get any better than what you are seeing through the car windows but you decide to take a look anyway. As you pull over, park, and begin to pile out of the car, you notice the stunning beauty before you. Now you really have seen it all. This is a sight you hope you never forget. It will certainly affect you for the rest of your life. You will never forget who made all this beauty, that's for sure. Perhaps it changes the way you live from here on out.

Have you ever experienced anything like this?

It is very similar to what we get in Paul's writing to the Romans. Paul does this more often in his letters and epistles, speeding along the highway of history from drama through doctrine to doxology before speaking about discipleship (unfortunately it's not always that nicely organized). Basically what he is saying is that if you want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ and live like a disciple you might need to know the real story of what has happened in our world. From this real story you may pick up on teachings (doctrine) that are true and pure. This will lead you to that scenic outlook to a place of pure worship and praise for what God has done. It changes your life. You are now able to take on the life of a disciple.

We have chosen Romans 12: 1 and 2 as our theme for this school year. This is where Paul launches into the discipleship proper. You get a notion of the change with the word, 'therefore' at the beginning of this chapter. It bears repeating.

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

When we see this word ‘therefore’ we do well to stop and ask ‘wherefore?’ Basically Paul is saying everything that I’ve written up until now gives you the wherewithal to deal with the next part. So we do well to briefly look at what came prior to chapter 12.

Paul begins his letter to the Romans with some usual greetings of endearment and encouragement but then launches off into the drama of world history, the history of redemption. It began with a good and perfect creation made by God, but man, even though the pinnacle of God’s creative work turned his back on his Creator. Because of this things get pretty gross; women turn from natural desires to unnatural, as do the men. Enough said. But just in case you think you are off the hook because you haven’t gone that far, Paul begins chapter three to bring out the very unsavory and unwanted doctrine of total depravity. “There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God” (3:10b-11). It’s not like if we avoid some of the more gross things we can do alright and be in God’s favour. No. The point is that we have all sinned and fallen short of God’s good ideal for creation.

Beginning with Abraham and God’s choice of him as a blessing to all nations on earth, Paul shows how the Gentiles are not left out in the cold by the coming of this Saviour. Instead it is the very event promised by God to be the blessing to all the nations. Whenever we read these chapters we should be astounded that there are still Christians today who cannot see the absolute necessity of the Old Testament in our understanding of redemptive history. God chose Abraham and through him the nation of Israel. Paul shows how the Jews and Gentiles alike deserve eternal condemnation. How bad is this sin? Well Paul uses himself as an example, “I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I

cannot carry it out" (7:18). It is bad news. So, what you're saying Paul, is that we are all doomed?

Sometimes we do stop reading there, don't we? But Paul realizes he cannot stop at this point. Instead he forges on ahead to tell the rest of the story. Basically God has a rescue plan and He is executing it perfectly. There is nothing that can stand in the way of the fulfillment of this plan. The plan is to declare man just and righteous by virtue of faith in the One who was promised and has come living a complete and righteous life and giving up that life for those who believe in Him. As a matter of fact he says, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death" (8:1-2). And then he states, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (8:28), followed by a long list of things that might seem powerful enough to thwart God's good intentions: trouble, hardships, persecutions, famine, sword, nakedness, danger. God truly is Sovereign and this is good news, "it does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy" (9:16).

Then in chapter eleven verses thirty-three to thirty-six, just prior to our chosen theme text, we have the wonderful scenic outlook, as it were. After looking at all the beauty along the way, we now see the culmination of it all. The beauty of it overwhelms Paul and us so that we break forth in an emotional response of praise, giving God the glory He deserves:

"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!  
Who has known the mind of the Lord?  
Or who has been his counselor?  
Who has ever given to God that God should repay him?  
For from him and through him and to him are all things.  
To him be the glory forever! Amen.

I will quote here from R.C. Sproul's commentary on Romans: "Paul is rhapsodic [extravagantly emotional] here about the depth of wisdom and riches that God is revealing. It is not some commonplace conclusion that anybody could figure out just by looking at the fact that certain Jews and Gentiles are being converted. No, God has a plan, a plan that is startling and fantastic. God's greatness is the subject of this doxology of praise. All things were created by him; all things exist through him; all things exist for him. Behind all the machinations of human history stands the sovereign electing God. He is the Creator of everyone and of all things, and all things exist by his power and through his power" (p192).

This knowledge and faith motivates a certain way of being in the world as disciples of Christ (Michael Horton, The Christian Faith p210). Sproul, too, underlines Horton's statement by titling the section dealing with Romans 12-15 in his commentary, *Living the Christian Life*. Indeed, he asks, "But what does it mean for our lives? What should be our response in terms of our hearts, in terms of our behaviour, in terms of lifestyle? How are we supposed to react to the revelation of truth that Paul has just spelled out" (p193)?

Indeed, how should we react? We chose the Romans 12:1 and 2 text because of what it says about how to live our life before the Lord. This is a follow up on our previous themes of being a light, being clay in the Potter's hand, and building on the Rock, and this is perfectly right. I hope, though, that we will not isolate this text from its preceding context. We (teachers and parents), nor our students/children will be transformed by simply applying a new rule on them of offering their bodies as living sacrifices and no longer conforming to the pattern of the world by renewing their minds. The only way these things are going to happen in the proper sense is if we together see what Paul has been showing us all along and especially in the scenic outlook, which really simply summarized it all very succinctly. That's correct; our eyes have to be somewhere else, not on ourselves. We cannot make it any less complicated than Hebrews 12:2, "Let us fix our eyes on

Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

I like Paul’s pattern of drama followed by doctrine followed by doxology followed by discipleship (I realize it isn’t always that carefully delineated but it helps keep the proper focus that a disciple is not simply a follower but a learner and a worshipper as well). It really gives purpose to the existence of DCS. We teach the narratives of Scripture, laying out the drama of God’s historical redemptive work. At appropriate times and ages we bring in the doctrines gleaned from Scripture and assembled by the church. We teach students that it is appropriate to break out in praise of our Gracious God, even showing some emotion while doing so. But now we have a responsibility to teach what all these things lead to: living daily Christian lives. This is truly the place that home-school-church must work together at keeping the message clear. We do not sacrifice our bodies or live in a different pattern from the world in order to obtain anything but precisely because “a righteousness from God, apart from law” (Rom. 3:21a) has been obtained for us. This news is so awesome it is life changing!

But, just like our memories of the scenic outlook along the highway, it doesn’t take long for us to forget the spectacular sight or to begin to doubt it could be as good as we remember it. Sometimes, if we are not careful, the full majesty of what Christ has done is either forgotten or we doubt it belongs to us. We take our eyes off Jesus and looking at ourselves, we realize how totally undeserving we are. Yeah, says Paul, that’s what I’ve been saying all along. That’s the first half of correct doctrine but remember “in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith”” (Rom 1:17). Sometimes we might be forcing our young people to conform to school or church rules and regulations when they have no idea why it would be important for them to follow these (Deut. 6:20). Have we shown our children and students the grandeur of God’s work in redemptive

history? Have we been explicit about it or do we expect that as they go through the years at DCS they will catch a vision of that spectacular work on their own?

Paul was explicit. We need to be as well. Let's direct our students' and childrens' gaze toward that historical-redemptive work God began at creation and will complete at the consummation of the age. Let's not lay any new binding on them without understanding the reason for any binding is not to obtain nor sustain what God has promised but because we have already received it, the promise has been obtained and sustained for us in Christ Jesus!

This is a sight you should never forget. It will certainly affect you for the rest of your life. You should never forget who made all this beauty, that's for sure. It certainly will make a difference to the way you live from here on out.

*(Elaine, I'm using my privilege to send in highschool stuff whenever again! Please put these in the Beacon. Thanks.)*

# *Highschool Poetry for the Beacon*

## *Grade 12 Poetry*

### *Back to School Safety Tips* –Darcie van Dijk

Safety is an issue when you travel everyday,  
So RCMP Manitoba helps us learn the safest way.  
We need to know the rules and the ways of every road:  
While biking it's a highly visible bright colours dress code.  
Into buses enter carefully and remain down in your seat;  
While driving watch for crosswalks for some children you shall meet.  
Look both ways before you cross.  
Wear your seatbelt; do not text;  
Wait for the bus to stop at the curb  
Else you could be in a mess.  
If we follow these instructions and do just as policemen say,  
Then we'll easily be off

Having us one very good day.

*Laziness and its Disability* –Natasha Wanders

Laziness and procrastination go together like PB and J.  
Somehow disability falls under it too.  
It seems kind of funny, how people and their cars  
Can not learn.  
We see it everyday ... in the parking lots!  
Two spaces for a car here, there, and almost everywhere,  
Sometimes in the handicapped spots too  
Without a permit or a pass  
And out come the tickets and maybe,  
A funny picture on a website with your parking job.  
You might even end up on random pet peeves lists.  
Maybe laziness doesn't have to be a disability  
But just a form of procrastination.

**Grade 9 Poetry**

*My Cluttered Closet* - Stephanie Vandervelde

I needed my bright red sweater  
So I ran up to my room  
Opened my closet .....  
Big mistake!  
My clothes start pouring out  
On me!!  
I fall down.  
Trying to get up would be useless,  
Screaming useless,  
Running can't  
Ahhhhh!!  
Wait, there's no more thudding,  
It must be over.  
I push myself up.  
Once I'm up  
I pick up my sweater  
And walk out.  
Never to return.

*Clutter Cupboard* – Laura Vanderveen

One blustery day  
My stomach rumbled-  
So forcefully, in fact,  
That my rickety house  
Almost toppled over!  
I strode to the kitchen  
To find myself some bread.  
I opened the cupboard and pulled out a loaf.  
What a sight!  
It looked rather like Easter bread,  
With bright green and blue spots covering it.  
I decided maybe some peanut butter  
Would make it look more appetizing.  
I peeked in the jar –  
And nearly lost my appetite because of the rancid smell!  
I quickly threw it behind me –  
It sailed gracefully  
Through the hole already in the window.  
Maybe brown sugar will be better?  
But the brown sugar was so hard  
That when I tried to take a bite,  
My tooth fell out.  
I stuck my head in the cupboard –  
The stench made tears spring to my eyes,  
It was so strong!  
I saw chocolate spread, dated 1973,  
And lettuce which was just a stinking, rotting mess.  
Everywhere there were deformed buckets and containers,  
Stack upon stack,  
Spilling over everything.  
The stench was unbearable.  
Disgustedly,  
I hopped in my camaro  
And drove to the nearest MacDonalds.  
I purchased a Big Mac –  
which was probably made from lizard's guts  
And pig feet, but  
"What ya' don't know won't hurt you!"

### *Child Abuse* –Taylor Veldman

The innocent people  
You see everyday  
Come home to a child

So weak and unloved.  
Mom's angry and tired,  
But he can't cheer her up,  
Not when he's so down in the dumps.  
One thing wrong and anger's taken out on him –  
He's hurting,  
Outside and in.  
Too young to understand the wrong,  
He goes through sunrise to twilight.  
When boys are playing games,  
He's on the ground being kicked;  
When most kids are getting hugs and kisses,  
He's bringing her food while being yelled at.  
As he watches boys play from the window,  
Mom's threatening him from the living room;  
He better hurry or he'll get no supper,  
Just a bruise.  
As it gets dark  
And Mom's in bed  
He puts ice on his new shiner from Mom.  
All he knows is pain;  
He'll never see the light,  
No happiness,  
No nice toys.  
He's an abused little boy  
That'll never know  
What the word love means.  
So, let's end child abuse  
For their sakes  
And love them  
Because they've never been loved before.

## **Grade 8 Camp Out Fundraiser!**

**Yes, we've started fundraising!!** We're offering two practical products for your busy households – **the X-TRECO cleaning cloth and a unique 16 Month Family Activity Organizer.**



Your favourite Gr. 8 student will be able to show you a cloth today! The Organizer can be viewed in the school office.

Thanks in advance for your support!

(Don't worry! **Mom's Pantry** will make a comeback too and possibly other useful products. Stay tuned!)

# Reflections on the First Month of School

## *Submitted by Grade Six*

One month of school is finished and in Social Studies we have learned about Canada's first Prime Minister, Sir John A. MacDonald and Confederation. I am amazed at how much our country has grown. Originally it was made up of three provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and the Province of Canada (which was later split into Ontario and Quebec).

Sometimes at the end of the day, we play a game called A.V.M.-20. The A.V.M. stands for Animal/Vegetable/Mineral. When we play it our teacher thinks of a noun and we get to ask 20 questions to figure out what it is. But he has to choose a kind of 'animal,' 'vegetable,' or 'mineral.' We have a record of guessing right in six questions.

I like recess because we usually play Kick-the-Can. It's fun making and finding good spots to hide. But I prefer not to be it. At times, almost everyone who isn't caught bursts out of hiding and runs for the ball! I like doing this because it sounds funny when the one who is it tries to say everyone's name as quickly as possible. I think Kick-the-Can is really fun!

*Russell Termeer*

I have learned a lot this month. I am going to tell you about it.

We have finished 2 Bible units already! They were short, but I learned a lot. The 1<sup>st</sup> unit was about the timeline. The 2<sup>nd</sup> unit was about different languages (eg: gnl wrbH ht) ☺. The 3<sup>rd</sup> unit is about the ancient stories.

We also have finished a comic strip in French. We translated the comic strip from French into English. It was easy because the French words were very close to English and because we have a French dictionary which tells us confusing French words.

We also are learning about 6+1 Traits. The first 6 traits are: Organization, Conventions, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Voice, and Ideas. The "+1" is about Presentation. Presentation is not in the first 6 because it is not about writing, but about presenting.

I hope you enjoyed reading about my first month of school. I also hope that you will have a nice day.

*Justine Hamming*

The first month of school is over. We have learned a lot of stuff. Time has gone very fast. We have finished our 3-D puzzle.

I can't wait until we start science. We have just started reading a novel. We have gym twice a week. In gym we have started soccer. We have a lot of grammar to do.

So far this year we have had a lot of fun. We have Math, Bible, Grammar, ELA, Socials, Gym, and Choir. But, I still can't wait for holidays to start.

*Joel Vanderveen*

In this month of school, I have learned many things. In Phys.Ed. we are playing soccer. We are mostly focusing on the soccer skills like ball handling and throw-ins.

I hope to learn more about the Hebrew and Greek languages in Bible. I like learning different languages, like French. In French, we finished translating a comic strip into English. I hope to do more things like that.

The tests we had so far in Grade 6 were kind of like I expected. They aren't that hard if you study. I'm glad to be in Grade 6.

*Daphne Linde*

The first month of school is done and I've learned some new things. We started a novel study, *The Sign of the Beaver*, two days ago. I've read some new books. We have started on our new, and fun, *Jump Math* books.

At recess, the girls in our class play Kick-the-Can with the guys or we talk. Sometimes when you are hiding, the person can't see you even though you are in plain sight. I've learned how annoying burrs and their relatives can be. A few days ago, when I was hiding with Mekayla, we picked a spot filled with those little burr things. We didn't notice until we were covered. I've learned to stay away from burrs.

In French, we translated a comic strip from French to English. It is hard work. We did the first page with the class, and then we did the next page with our group. The next class, gr. 6 and 7 translated the next page and a bit together. French is fun. It's a challenge.

*Marissa VanLaar*

One month of school has been completed and I have learned 6+1 Traits. They are Organization, Presentation, Ideas, Sentence Fluency, Voice, Conventions, and Word Choice. The real name of 6+1 Traits is *Traits of Good Writing*.

At long recess the girls play Kick-the-Can with the boys. At short recess, the girls play tag or just move around and chat.

We did French. In French, we were doing comics and grammar. We used French-English dictionaries. The comic is three pages long. It is sometimes very hard to translate the words.

*Larisa Beichter*

In grade six we have learned lots so far. One of the things we have done is Bible tests. We have had a big test and a little quiz. We are soon going to have a Socials test, it's probably going to be a big one.

I also did play with my friends. We are playing a fun game and we've been playing it for almost the whole month now. We play Kick-the-Can with the whole class on the long recess usually. We usually play it behind the gym here.

In Phys.Ed. we were playing a game called Catch-Ten, and it's fun. We also were playing a game called Tip-It. It's a fun game also. Now we started a new unit in Phys.Ed. We're playing soccer. First we were passing and practicing controlling the ball. Then we split up our class and played a soccer game.

*Luke Boeve*

I have learned a lot of stuff in the first month of school. We are starting a new novel called *The Sign of the Beaver*. Our first test was in Bible. It wasn't too big. We started a new unit in Phys.Ed. It's soccer and it's fun! We are doing mental math. It's easy!

In grade six I am looking forward to doing big tests. I really hope that we do math every day. I hope that we finish Socials fast so I don't have to do it anymore. I hope we all have lots of fun.

I think that Grade 6 will be fun. I think that Grade 6 is not too hard and that I will enjoy it. My favourite subject is P.E. and Math. I will also enjoy talking to friends. I really hope the class will have a lot of fun!

*David Koster*

One month of school is done! We have had some homework like Math, Grammar, and Bible. I do not like homework because when I want to do something at home I can't. Sometimes homework is easy and fun but sometimes it is hard.

We have gym on Tuesdays and Thursdays before lunch. We've played Catch-Ten. This is how you play. You have 6 or 7 people on your team. You throw the ball to someone on your team. If someone catches it, you get one point, if someone that is not on your team catches it, the other team loses their points. If your team catches the ball ten times, you get one point.

We are playing a game on the whiteboard. It is called A.V.M.-20. What you have to do is guess animal, vegetable, or mineral. You can only guess 20 times. If you figure out what the person is thinking, you win the round.

*Sydney Schulenberg*

What I have learned in my one month of school is that this year will be a lot different than last year. Last year we had to do handwriting, now I can do printing. This year I am guessing that there will be a lot more correcting from worksheets.

Every day I have a routine. Since I am an Elm Creeker, I have to hurry so I put agenda away. Also, my lunch kit. And then I sit down to get my grammar and get started. But when I look up to think, I see the sign that says "are you a 3-h Christian?" So now I've been thinking, how can I serve Him with my head, heart, and hands?

I have also learned that school is a lot easier than I thought it would be. Before school I thought that I wasn't going to do good, but now I know I can trust God.

*Brandon Vanderwoude*

We have finished our first month of school and I have found out that Gr. 6 is not as hard as I expected it to be. There's not as much homework as I thought there would be, and tests are not that hard, if you study. We have had 1 test and 1 quiz, both for the same subject – Bible.

The things I enjoy in Gr. 6 are: French, P.E., Choir, and, especially, Library. I enjoy French because learning a new language is exciting. I like P.E. because we just started a new unit – soccer. Choir is nice because I love singing! I love reading so I love going to Library. Thursdays at school are never complete without library.

There are a few things that I am looking forward to. For example, winter, when we can skate on the rink, and student council, because I'm on it! I found out that I like Gr. 6 better than I thought I would.

*Mekayla Barendregt*

One month of school is done and so far we have played three games in P.E.: Catch-Ten, Tip-It, and Soccer. Before we played soccer, we learned how to pass and how to kick. I really liked playing Catch Ten and Tip-It.

We started playing a game called A.V.M-20 which means Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral. A person thinks of an animal, vegetable, or mineral and the other people have to ask questions about it that can only be answered yes or no. Only twenty questions can be asked.

Recess is the best part of the day. We play Kick-the-Can or we walk around and talk. Some people in my class are very good at hiding when we play Kick-the-Can.

*Cheyenne Gansekoele*

