

Secretary's report

Jeremy Kamminga

Welcome to another edition of the Beacon!

I hope you are all enjoying the Spring-like weather we've been getting this past week. It won't be too much longer any more – better dust off the rubber boots.

Over the past month and a half the board has spent most its time lining up teaching staff for the next school year. At this point we can say that nearly all of our current teachers will be returning next year. Of particular note is that one of our long standing high school teachers will not be with us next year. Marcy Vandebos has decided that this will be her last year at DCS. This coupled with the fact that we are currently one teacher short in the high school end means that our main focus is on finding a high school Math/Science teacher. The prognosis is positive at this point and we trust that the Lord will provide us with what we need.

On the committee level things continue to run as usual. The Education Committee continues to work on a number of things related to curriculum, text books and other education resources. Work has also begun to set up a Technology Committee. This committee would examine various new technologies to determine if and how they could be used to improve the education in our school. Speaking of the Ed. Comm. we thank Frank Smith for his work on the committee over the last three years. Earl VanAssen has agreed to join the

committee and Chris Vanderveen has agreed to remain on the committee for another term.

One other important item that should be mentioned again is that of the building plans. In the last Beacon Peter explained the current problems and the proposed solutions. The board does hope to move on with the planning process soon, but is somewhat reluctant to do so without more feedback from the membership. Please let one of us know what your thoughts are on this. One other issue that is high on the priority list is that of the sound problem in the gym. The Building Committee is looking into a few different options to determine the best solution.

Thank you also to the Promotion Committee for organizing another family skate night. Events like this are a great way to maintain or renew contact with society members who we don't see on a regular basis. The kids had a great time too – hot dogs, skating with friends and hot chocolate – that's all a kid needs ☺.

Well, I'm pretty sure that covers everything for now. God has blessed DCS in many ways, and we pray and trust that He will continue to provide the school with all that is needed.

***The Lord gives strength to his people;
the Lord blesses his people with
peace.***

Principal's report

Andy Huisman

"I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. . . The LORD will keep you from all harm – He will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore." Psalm 121

Psalm 121 is often referred to as "The Traveller's Psalm". As the NIV Study Bible says, "a dialogue of confessions and assurance, its use as a pilgrimage song provides the key to its understanding". Education is indeed also a pilgrimage/journey of sorts. It is a journey that many experience and are enriched by that experience. As Christians, young and old, attending or supporting DCS, the comforting assurance expressed in Psalm 121 is equally appropriate for that educational journey. What a comfort it is to know and realize that our journey is continually watched over by our Father. A Father who neither slumbers nor sleeps but continually shines upon us.

In my report this month I would like to share with you some of the highlights of that journey, thus far, and look forward to some of the upcoming events.

Reading Month

What a journey, literally and figuratively. This past February, the K-6 students read or had read to them a tremendous number of books. This was an event organized by the teachers (who did an incredible job!), supported by the parents, and received with much enthusiasm by the students. There were many special guest readers, special events organized and a library redecorated in the theme for

the month. There was a route in the front hallway that showed the progress of the students' reading. The path started at Pluto and made its way back to earth. A lonely astronaut (me) was kept floating in space along that path with the objective that the students would read enough minutes to get me back home. I was very glad when they decided not to leave me on the moon, but rather, accomplish their goal. The goal? It was to read for 130,000 minutes. If you do the math that equals 2166.6 hours or 90 full days! Wow! The last day of the month was a fun day of activities organized by the grade 11 students. These students put a lot of thought into planning 7 different activities for the younger grades. From all that I have heard, the day was a huge success. Thank you to all for your tremendous effort. (*there are some pictures on the website – go to 'Photo Gallery'*) As well, in this edition of the Beacon you will be able to read many of the students' thoughts about reading month.

Zone 4 Basketball

What a season! If you had the opportunity to come out and cheer on our students at the various games, you were witness to a real sense of team unity. As the teams progressed through the season, they grew together, keeping an eye out for one another and helping each

other grow. That too is a journey, a time to reflect on the abilities and talents that God has given us and to use them to honour Him in this way as well. The teams would love to express their appreciation to the many supporters and audience members who came out, it really was to them a sense of seeing and feeling the support of their community. I would also like to extend great appreciation to the coaching staff, Miss Anje Jager, Mr. Mike Raap, Mrs. Nikki Kooiker, Miss Robin Lodder, Miss Janae Hillmer, Mr. Larry Hillmer and Mr. Devon Hillmer who gave up a lot of their time for the love of the students.

I would like to thank the Senior Basketball teams (boys and girls) for providing us with many opportunities to enjoy a sense of community through their games. Although both teams lost their games this past week, which brings their season to a close, I can say that they indeed were excellent representatives of DCS. If you have not had the opportunity to watch a game, there is one last time to do so. **This coming Wednesday, DCS will be hosting ICS. The girl's game will start at 5:00 pm and the boy's game will start at 6:30 pm. It would be wonderful if the sidelines were crowded with cheering crowds.**

Report Cards

Once again, it is that time of year. Report cards will be sent home with the K – 12 students on Monday, March 22. **There will be two opportunities for the parents to meet with the teachers. Thursday, March 25th in the evening (7 – 10 pm) and on Friday March 26th in the morning (9 -12). Please phone the school secretary to book an**

appointment. If you are unable to meet at either of these times, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher to make other arrangements.

In line with report cards, the Elementary Staff is currently busy examining the existing report cards and investigating ways in which to make them more beneficial to the parents and teachers. We will keep you posted on that progress.

High School Course Registration

You know that the year is really going by fast when you begin discussing next year's course registration. **The information package will be sent home on Thursday, April 8th.** That is still a little ways away yet, but it is good to start thinking about it early. Course registration can sometimes be a confusing thing, especially for first-timers. **In order to alleviate that confusion, there will be an information evening organized for Tuesday, April 13th.** As staff, we would really encourage you to attend this information evening. There are many options available to our students and this will give you as parents an opportunity to question and investigate. We look forward to seeing you on the 13th.

Orange Maple Foundation Student Exchange

I know that there are six very excited HS students who are counting down the days until they get to participate in the exchange program . **On Thursday, March 11th, Doug, Daniel, Jared, Dianna, Adrian and Megan will depart**

for a three week experience in Zwolle, the Netherlands. We look forward to reading their posts on the OMF website (www.orangemaple.org) and wish them safe travels. Keep in mind the words of Psalm 121 and know that God will keep you in His care.

Easter Concert

One of the best parts of my job is being able to walk through the halls of DCS and listen to the many sounds of the educational journey that all of our students are on. Every day I get to hear bits and pieces of God's incredible world as told through the numerous lessons. I also have the privilege of hearing voices raised in song to praise and honour our Creator. The elementary division is nearing the end of their preparations for the upcoming Easter concert – ***“He Is Risen! Alleluia!”***. I can tell you most assuredly that God has richly blessed our young ones with incredible voices. It promises to be an excellent concert. **I invite you to attend this event to be held at the Carman-West church, Friday, March 19th starting at 7:30 pm.**

As I come to the end of this report, I am pleased to be able to inform you that the vast majority of our teachers have signed their contract for next year. This means that once again they will continue on the journey of educating God's children at DCS. There is one staff member who has decided to pursue a different journey, Mrs. Marcy Vandebos. Mrs. Vandebos joined the DCS staff in August of 1995 and has taught a wide variety of subjects and grade levels. During the past few years, she has also been pursuing further education in the counselling field. It is in this endeavour that she hopes to continue on after this school year. Her absence from the halls and rooms of DCS will be felt by all. We wish her the Lord's blessing in this endeavour and hope that she will still pop in on DCS once in a while.

Enjoy the day of the rest that God has granted, and may we continually remember the words of Psalm 121 – *“He will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore.”*

About Deadlines and No-Failure and Other Things ...

Liz DeWit

In recent weeks the Winnipeg Free Press has published various articles and letters to the editor on the subjects of deadlines and grade failures. The former education minister, Peter Bjornson, stated in June 2009, “Marks should reflect the student's

achievement and should not be distorted as a result of work habits, attitudes or behaviors.” He stated that, while it is important to learn personal responsibility and good work habits, lateness or absence of assignments should be reported

separately. In addition, his statement to the press added support to the unwritten “no fail” policy in Manitoba education. The focus, according to Bjornson, should be on keeping kids together in a social peer group.

All of the above statements underline that our provincial education system is in a social-engineering phase at this time. The “institutionalized agenda” is to protect self-esteem. Everyone is a winner and everyone is the same.

Over the next few days, there were a number of responses in the Letters to the Editor column. “Punctuality matters” was the response of some of the readers of the paper. They said that penalties do reinforce responsibility. Responsibility reinforces learning. The absence of penalties erodes learning and respect. Where there is no standard, there is no learning.

In his book Why School?, Mike Rose traces a pendulum swing in the agenda of schooling between the extremes of economics, accountability, compliance (citizenship) and social engineering. This means that students are trained to fill the technological needs of the state, or are fostered in self-idolization, in either case, an idol worship. The frustration of not having a standard measure of achievement common to all schools is a recurring undertone in this shifting focus.

How do **we, as Christian school** deal with the fluctuation of top-down purpose? How does it affect the materials we use? The way we teach? The standards we set for

ourselves and for our children? Are we raising children to fill the nation’s factories? Are we teaching them that they are so valuable in themselves that whether they want to work or not doesn’t matter; we will make it good for them anyway?

The social engineering model refuses to accept accountability. The factory model refuses to encourage students to be innovative, creative, critical thinkers. With each model comes a program or structure to accomplish the stated purpose. How do we deal with these models?

In recent months, as staff, we have been and are studying some of these issues together using the book, Teaching Redemptively by Donovan L. Graham. Graham recognizes the various models of educational purpose and states that “Any systematic reconsideration of the purpose of education inevitably becomes a rethinking of the theory of knowledge.” For a Christian, this should immediately ring a bell. Clearly the Bible tells us that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom. Therefore everything we learn or discover opens up ways for us to praise and glorify God for the wonder of His creation and providence. This knowledge, states Graham, will be useful to the world only when “we relate that

knowledge to the source of truth, Jesus Christ, and use it to solve problems and make advancements in a way that reflects the creative-redemptive character of God.”

Our school mission statement expresses our purpose in educating in the following way: Reformed education aims to realize this assistance (to the parents) by equipping the students to employ their talents in the service of God and His kingdom. To ensure that this most basic aim is realized, the following constitute the basis of the instruction given at Dufferin Christian School:

- The entire curriculum will be taught in obedience to the Holy Scriptures, the infallible Word of God as confessed in the Three Forms of Unity of the Canadian Reformed Churches.
- Each subject in the curriculum, taken in its own right, will have as its point of departure the cultural mandate, the command to subdue the earth as enunciated in the book of Genesis and elaborated upon in the entire Scriptures.
- All teaching will take into account that this cultural mandate is to be exercised in a world which is lost in the misery and guilt incurred by man's fall

into sin, but overcome by the work of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Curriculum becomes a key word. What is Christian curriculum? Usually it refers to materials that either express a Christian point of view or are written by Christians. This says nothing about the depth of content in these materials.

Our society is a visual society and we are drawn along with it. Language is a powerful tool, but it takes effort to develop the skill to use it effectively, either in reading or in speaking or writing. Colleges and universities complain that students are not properly equipped to handle language. At first glance, provided you are not heading for college, you might say, what does it matter? Do poor language skills, however, serve God and the gathering of his church in the best way? Who will defend the faith against wily false teachers? How

important is academic excellence and how can we continue to attain it in a visual, instant society? How can we ensure that our children will be able to read and understand study books such as Calvin's Commentaries? How can we provide for the needs of all our students in their Christian office of prophet, priest, and king?

When we depart from the provincial model to seek our purpose in Christ, many new questions arise. We too need the programs or structures to support our model. In some subject areas, we really need to consider whether the materials we are using give us the necessary programs and structures to achieve our goals, to glorify God with the many various talents and gifts He has given to His children. Even as we fully commit ourselves to serving God, can we unknowingly slip into other models because of the materials available for us to use?

To come back to the book Why School?, Rose has more questions than answers. One of his hopes is that the provincial education system will reflect on the attitudes and assumptions that underlie its standards. He believes the system must be open to "considering the provisional nature of these standards and modifying them". The role of the teacher is to provide opportunity for learning, largely, in this system, without measureable objectives and without definite standards. The newspaper clearly showed the fruits of that system! Confusion and growing illiteracy. How blessed we are to have a purpose and focus. Are we determined enough to keep it?

Graham, Donovan L. Teaching Redemptively. Colorado Springs, USA. Purposeful Design Corporation. 2003
Rose, Mike. Why School? USA. The New Press. 2009
Winnipeg Free Press. Wpg. MB. Mon. Jan 18 A10 and Thurs. Jan. 14 B1 editions

Reflections on the Teachers College Annual General Meeting

Submitted by Len Lodder

On February 26-27, 2010, member schools each sent a delegate to discuss the many issues that relate to running an institution of higher learning. I had the privilege of representing Carman. We met at the Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College, 510 Crerar Drive, Hamilton, Ontario. Here are just a few of the highlights of this year's meeting (I hope to write more later):

- We ratified new by-laws...previous to this year's AGM the board and many other individuals had been working on a new set of objectives and by-laws by which our College could be governed. These were sent to each member school for feedback. There was only one small change made from the proposed by-laws dealing with whether or not the financial statements had to be formally audited every year. With that small change in place the by-laws and objectives were passed unanimously.
 - Perhaps you ask yourself whether that makes a difference. It does because the new by-law got rid of animosity between east and west. AGM 2010 was historic in that it is the last time the western delegates had to ratify the actions of the eastern delegates. You will understand that throughout the year the bulk of the decisions and actions are taken by our eastern colleagues as they are closer in proximity to the College. There is a real desire and a real effort to make that a thing of the past. Western delegates can be involved more directly through the many technological advances of our times. We just need to begin taking advantage of these possibilities. All the member schools are equal partners even though the College cannot mean the same to everyone. We are in this venture together. That is why we also continue to work hard toward accreditation.
- It was deemed prudent to have a directors and officers liability insurance coverage for the governors who do this work on behalf of the College. Even though we do not expect any trouble, it is true that prudence dictates. Most boards have this type of coverage especially when dealing with so many different factors such as buildings, property, finances, publicity, etc. This insurance does not protect anyone when they engage in acts which they know are wrong, such as fraud, illegal gains, or intentional illegal conduct.
- The governors also came to the agreement to become a member of Harvest Foundation. This will not be easy for me to explain in a few words, but basically it is an Endowment Fund that pays dividends to the member schools on a yearly basis. Previous to this year's AGM, we had decided to do a one year trial while delegating some members of our board to attend a public meeting of the Harvest Foundation to get answers to some questions we had. These questions were satisfactorily answered and therefore the decision this year could be made to be a member. If this notice leaves you with questions, I am always happy to speak about it with you.
- To see what is in the Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College Library you could log on to <http://ctc.scoolaid.net>. This will give you an inside look at what's available at the College. It is the first step in having the College function in a more diverse way within the circle of member schools. At this time it is not that easy for patrons from the west to take out books (not impossible, but not necessarily cost effective) although schools in closer proximity can make good use of this system already. We continue to work on closing the gap, so to speak, between east and west.
- So here's a question: "Do you know what WATCH stands for?" No? Let me help, it stands for **Women Assisting (the) Teachers College (in) Hamilton**. Many member schools have a WATCH rep in their area (including Winnipeg), but I do not see Carman represented there. I'm wondering if there is anyone interested in this work. These

women help gather some extra donations to help buy extra things. We received quite a list of past purchases that WATCH donated money toward so that the money didn't have to come from the operating budget. If you might be interested but need more information I can certainly help you out with that!

- So, finally, the budget. As you may understand this is often the most difficult part of the meetings. We do not wish to continue to put out pleas for more money at the close of each fiscal year. At the same time we wish to run a credible institution that can benefit all the Canadian Reformed Schools. We also want to be credible enough to receive accreditation; we want to be recognized as an institution that fulfills a good purpose and has a standard of integrity. We honestly hope that our new by-laws and objectives, which in turn affect our governance model, will help us be much more credible in the future.
- The biggest item on the budget is the salaries section. And this item needs to increase next year because it has become very apparent that we are asking too much from those teaching at the College these past few years. The workload for the current staff is incredible and the pressure to do even more (perhaps especially for the Canadian Reformed Schools that cannot just simply hire a graduate of Covenant) is growing so much that it is desirable to hire another fulltime faculty member. As board we have already decided to do that. Perhaps you've seen ads to this effect, however a suitable candidate has not been found to date. Then there is the simple fact that the current staff will not be around forever. We spent some time talking about how we might ensure succession.
- That's where a long discussion was held on how to make people more aware of the College and of the good that comes from having such an institution. As I mentioned earlier in this report, the lack of accreditation has served to dampen enthusiasm especially in the west because the graduates of the College cannot simply take up teaching in these schools (at least not without taking extra courses). It was noted though that the College has much more to offer us than just graduates who are teachers. This can only be enhanced as funds become available and the only way funds become available is by having many people recognizing the need and the possibilities. Mr. W. Smouter came to our meeting to help us discuss how this might be realized. As governors we had a good discussion around these issues and have some ideas. We really do believe that the College has a lot to offer and could do even more for our Canadian Reformed Schools.
- Check out the web site: <http://www.covenantteacherscollege.com>
- Please keep also this institution in your prayers and thoughts.
- Thank you. By having read this entire report you have shown interest in this endeavour. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, etc., please feel free to contact me at any one of the following: 745-2529; lodder@mts.net; dcsvinceprin@mts.net

Student Reflections on “I Love to Read” Month

Rocket into Reading



Kindergarten

- Fun Day was the best day! **Quinn VanDasselaar**
- I liked reading all the books at home. **Gavin Gear**
- I liked putting the numbers on my minute paper. **Josiah Smith**
- I liked my Mom reading with me at home. It was fun when Mr. Huisman came home. **Heidi Vanderpol**
- We got to read lots. **Gabriel Holtvluwer**
- We had fun making rockets with balloons. **Nadia Linde**

Grade One.....

- During the month of February Mr. Huisman went from Pluto all the way to Earth. **Gianna Bergsma**
- Mr. Huisman is at earth and he is happy. I am glad that he made it home and how we got him home is that we had to read a lot. **Brooklyn Kamminga**
- February was reading month. I liked rocket building. I liked reading books. I watched rocket movies. **Mercedes Wanders**
- In February in the gym we got treats and then we went back to class. **Nathan deRuiter**
- My group went to the library and we read a story with our friends and we had a fun time. **Michael VanderHooft**
- On Friday it was rocket building day and it was fantastic and it was fun. **Nathan Voogt**
- We made rocket ships and made it in the library. We made it in February and that is what we made it on. **Kelvin Hamming**
- On rocket day we built lots of rockets. I built a red one with rockets on it. Joline and Brooklyn made a big rocket. Mrs. Prins made a huge one. **Danielle Smith**
- During the month of February we had guest readers. I think that Mrs. Merkus was the best reader. **Lianne Riedstra**
- Reading month started February 1st. We had fun day. It was fun. We went to the library and we read a book. We had to do an obstacle course. **Devon Vanderwoude**
- On fun day our group went to the library. We went through the tunnels and it was fun. We made masks and it was fun. **Kendra Vandersluis**
- I liked the rockets and the guest readers in February in the library. I was lucky. We all got rocket treats. **Joshua Blok**
- I liked fun day the best and I like library the best. **Jessica Bauer,**
- Ashley came to tell us to stop, drop, and read! **Rosalie Merkus**
- I built a rocket with Brooklyn. It was a big one. We put the rocket on the shelf and ours was a Canada rocket. **Joline Lok**
- During February we had fun on fun day. We got popsicles on fun day and we had balloon races. **Kameron Toews**

Grade Two.....

- Rocket into Reading was fun!! The best on Fun Day was trying to find the puzzle pieces in the beads in the K-room. It was the best one ever. The second best was reading in the dark. I'm glad they made Fun Day! **Jenna Celine Boeve**
- The best was the activities – the water race. **Ian Barendregt**
- I liked the Read in the Dark. My partner was Jenna. I liked making the rockets and the Dress in White Day. I liked running down the hall, the treasure hunt, and the movie about space. **Vincent Klaassen.**
- Reading month was in February. We had Read in the Dark Day. We also had Rocket Building day. My favourite thing was rocket building and it was very fun. **Elliott Holtvluwer**
- On Fun Day we got a popsicle and a pin and a sticker book. **Carson Gansekoele**
- On Read in the Dark Day I read with Micah. We read Volcanoes and magazines. We read John Deere too. **Brett VanDasselaar**
- I liked the Read in the Dark. My partner was Jenna and I liked making the rocket. Dressing in white was fun. Isaac made a book mark for me and I made one for Ashley. **Lauren Bergsma**
- February was a fun month! I liked making bookmarks! I didn't like making rockets. Fun day was fun and I liked the grade one room the best. The book was nice. I liked it when guest readers were here. I missed Read in the Dark Day. Kindergarten room was fun too! The people in my group were: Natasha, Brittney, Sydney, Elliott, Jamin, Rosalie, Tessa and Lydia! **Alanna VanLaar**
- The Fun Day was the best. There were lots of things to do. The best was finding puzzle pieces. **Henry Breukelman**
- On reading month we read in the dark and my partners were Elliott and Noah. One of the best things was the treasure hunt! **Dawson Schulenberg**
- Reading month was fun! The best was Rocket Making Day!! I make a space shuttle and it was fun. Fun day was fun too. I called it extra fun day! **Micah Linde**
- Reading month was fun! My favourite day was Fun Day. We had lots of guest readers and we had a Read in the Dark Day. I liked Rocket Making Day. On Fun Day my favourite thing was the treasure hunt. **Logan Termeer**

Grade Three.....

- Reading month was fun. I liked the fun day and the grade 11's work. Every guest reader we had was fun. I liked watching Mr. Huisman get home, and reading him home too. I liked stop drop and read because that was when we got to quit our work for a while. **Rylan VanderWoude**
- I liked Grade 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 and the grade 11's did a great job! **Nathanael Toews**
- The best thing of reading month was Fun Day and Grade 4 classroom and the Grade 6 classroom. **Justin deRuiter**
- My favourite part of reading month was Fun Day. **Levi Gunnink**
- Reading month was fun because we had Fun Day and the activities were fun. **Nolan Vandersluis**
- On Friday we built a rocket. There is a rocket in the Library. **Erin Lok**
- I liked reading month because Fun Day was fun. **Michael Riedstra**
- The best part of reading month was reading in the dark. **Jesse Borst**
- I would like Fun Day that is work like the Grade 11's work too. **Braden Hamming**
- I liked reading month because we had Read in the Dark Day. **Kiera Barendregt**
- My favourite part was when we learned about all the different planets. **Tori Bergsma**

- I liked the part when we got to make stuff, and I liked learning about space and planets. **Cassie Voogt**
- My favourite part of reading month was reading in the dark and the guest readers. **Brandi Bergsma**
- My best thing about reading month was the fun day because there were lots of good stories and games. **Mary Smith**
- Reading month is my favourite month. My favourite part was thinking about God's incredible universe! **Tylyn Vandersluis**
- I liked fun day because the 11'ers helped! **Trenton Beichter**

Grade Four.....

- In reading month it was very exciting because we had lots of fun days! Some are: Stop, Drop and Read, Fun Day, Read in the Dark Day, Rocket Day, and Dress in White Day! The main thing we were doing was reading Mr. Huisman home. **Luke Boeve**
- Reading month is fun. We have fun days like: Guest Readers, Stop, Drop and Read, Fun Day, Read in the Dark Day, Rocket Day, White Day, Read Mr. Huisman Home, and we made Bookmarks. We had fun! **Justine Hamming**
- Thank-you guest readers, your stories were great! We did fun stuff in the Reading month. **Noah Holtvluwer**
- On Rocket ship day everyone made a rocket ship, in all shapes and sizes! Mr. Huisman came back from space and showed his trip. **Larisa Beichter**
- I really liked Fun Day. I liked all the different activities we did. I also liked Stop, Drop and Read. **Daphne Linde**
- On Fun Day there were a lot of activities. I liked the balloon race. My balloon was first. It was fun. **Joel Vanderveen**
- Rocket Day was fun. There was a lot of neat rockets! Great job to everyone. **Russell Termeer**
- I like Reading in the Dark Day because we went to the gym and started reading with a flashlight. I like Rocket Day because we got to make rockets and paint it. **Sydney Alice Mirjam Schulenberg**
- When we do Bible we sometimes have to do stop, drop and read. Then we do Bible after. Fun Day was the best part of reading month. **Cheyenne Gansekoele**
- I liked reading month. I liked, Stop, Drop, and Read. I liked White Day. We all dressed in white. **Mekayla Barendregt**
- I enjoyed the activities. My birthday is in reading month. I liked it when stop, drop, and read was in the middle of WWW or Math. **Marissa VanLaar**
- Fun Day: I like days we went to K-6 grades and did an activity. White Day: We all dressed in white! **David Koster**
- We had fun in reading month. Mr. Huisman went to space. Stop, Drop, and Read gave us an excuse not to finish our tests. Read in the Dark was nice, but some kids were bad and ran around. **Brandon Vanderwoude**

Grade Five.....

- I read 1,944 minutes during February. That is 32 hours and 24 minutes! My favourite part was Rocket Building Day. **Joshua Hoogerdijk**
- I read for 2,283 minutes. That is 1 day, 14 hours, 3 minutes! My favourite day was "Build a Rocket Day and when Mr. Huisman read to us. **Brittney deRuiter**
- I read for 17,777 minutes during February. That is 1 day, 5 hours, and 37 minutes! My favourite day of the month was Build and Rocket Day. **Vince VanDasselaar.**

- I read 1,785 minutes during February. That's 1 day, 5 hours, and 45 minutes. My favourite part was Fun Day. **Joshua Kamminga**
- I read for 906 minutes during the month. That is 0 days, 15 hours, and 6 minutes! My favourite day was Rocket Building Day. **Kent Boeve**
- I read for 592 minutes during our reading month. My favourite part was the Build your own Rocket Day. I read for 9 hours and 4 minutes. **Wesley Wanders.**
- I read for 1,207 minutes. That is 20 hours and 7 minutes and my favourite day was when Mr. Huisman read Milo and Jazz. **Laura Vanderpol**
- I read for 2,419 minutes during February. That is 1 day, 16 hours, 19 minutes. My favourite part of the month was when Mr. Huisman read us Milo and Jazz. **Miriam Pol**
- I read for 2,492 minutes during reading month. That is 1 day, 17 hours, and 32 minutes! My favourite day was "Read in the Dark Day"! **Cindy Koster**

Grade Six.....

- I liked making the rockets! **Ben VanLaar**
- I liked the treasure hunt on fun day. **Myron van Dijk**
- I liked the "stop, drop, and read" sessions during reading month. **Cody Borst**
- I loved the scavenger hunt for Fun Day on February 27 the best. **Emiel Klaassen**
- I liked the scavenger hunt on Fun Day the best. **Nathan Kamminga**
- I liked the race in the library. **Brad Weidenhammer.**
- I liked Mr. Huisman when he read us "Where the Read Fern Grows". **Julian deLeeuw**
- I liked it when it was stop, drop and read in the middle of a class. **Erienne Barendregt**
- I loved building a rocket with Kimberly. It was really fun. **Natasha Lok**
- I liked reading in the dark. **Kimberly Bergsma**
- I liked Reading in the Dark!! **Dominique Linde**
- I liked making the masks on Fun Day. **Warren Beichter**
- I liked the treasure hunt on Fun Day. **Dylan Hamming**
- I liked building the rockets. **Lucas Holtvluwer**
- Water and spoon was the best because we won it and we got chocolate! **Isaac Lomeling**
- I liked the masks. **Aaron Martens**