



# inside look

AUGUST 2021



## From the Principal's Desk

Recently, I needed to go to Staples to get a few things for school. Although the items on my list were easy to find, navigating through the families and students reading school supply lists was a little more challenging. What really caught my attention was a little girl, who clutched a small desk storage container, held it as high as she could and proclaimed, "Mom, Mom, I've always wanted one of these." Her eyes and her voice were full of excitement. The prospect of a new school year, new classmates, new teachers, and a desk full of new school supplies could not be contained.

I was reminded of shopping at Staples when my own kids were young. Armed with supply lists, it was my children saying: "Mom, Mom, I've always wanted one of these." Or "Mom, Mom, this is just the best. Can I please have it?" As a Mom, I remember enduring the shopping (shopping is not my favourite, and with six kids, it was even less my favourite), but I do remember the thrill of emptying our bags of new school supplies on the living room floor, and then dividing all the supplies into six neat piles, according to the list for each child. After sorting came labelling, and finally trying to fit the new supplies into new backpacks. The excitement of lining up the "ready for school" backpacks meant we were truly ready for the new school year.

I don't need to organize a shopping trip for six kids anymore, and I don't have the fun of sharing in their excitement as school is about to

begin. But the thrill of a new school year still excites me. I watch as teachers plan and dream about new curriculum and lesson plans they want to try. I see new displays and classrooms taking shape, ready for students. I get to meet new families and show new students the school they are going to call their own. And I excitedly wait in anticipation for the day when I get to see all our returning students on that first day of school.

Although exciting, a new school year can also be overwhelming, especially as we continue to experience a pandemic.

However, **Psalm 28:7 assures me that "the Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."**

And that is pretty exciting!! New school year, here we come!! ●



# An **inside**look ...into this school year...

## COVID PROTOCOLS

A more in-depth document will be coming via email to parents the week before school, but in the meantime, here are a few of the high level themes of the COVID protocols to begin this new school year.

- Vaccines will not be mandated for staff or students over the age of 12. The government will focus on encouraging greater vaccination levels across the province.
- To start this school year, all school staff and visitors are required to wear masks indoors.
- Parents are allowed back in the school.
- Grades 4 – 12 are required to wear masks indoors and on school busses.
- K – 3 students will be encouraged to wear masks indoors, but this remains a family choice.
- There will be no specifically mandated learning groups, and no strict physical distancing guidelines
- Cleaning protocols will more closely resemble pre-pandemic practices.
- Extra-curricular school activities will resume and will be governed by the wider provincial or local health authority orders.

## 2021/2022 Staffing

Position	Staff
K/1	Mrs. Driesen Mrs. de Waal
2/3	Mrs. Sache Mrs. Wouda
4/5	Mrs. deWolde Mrs. Wouda Miss Lagemaat
6/7	Mr. Braun
Principal and Itinerant Teacher (Coding, Library)	Mrs. de Waal
Librarian	Mrs. Hertgers
Music	Mrs. Victor
Preschool	Mrs. Neudorf
EA's (Learning Support)	Mr. Giesbrecht Mrs. Jarvis Miss Lagemaat Mrs. Peters Mrs. Timmers Mrs. Timmins
Office Administration	Mrs. Bruniski Mrs. Gee (Goosen)

### School Keys

Every few years, we try to do a “school key round-up.” If you have a set of school keys that you are no longer using, please return them to the school.



# An **inside**look ...into this school year...

## Welcome to New Families

If you are new to our school, please join us in the library at 8:30 am after your child has joined their class on the first Wednesday. We will have coffee ready as we discuss what excites us at Agassiz Christian school and we will answer any questions that you may have.

*New family orientation/information event in the library on Wednesday, September 8 at 8:30 a.m.*

## School Supplies

- K-7 students need to have indoor running shoes with regular, non-marking soles.
- All students also need to have outside shoes in which they can be active, as we often have PE and outdoor learning blocks outside.
- K-7 students need a backpack large enough for a binder.
- Students should have a personal water bottle at school
- Students also need to bring a box of Kleenexes to school, to help keep our classrooms germ free once the “cold” season arrives.
- All other supplies are provided by the school.



## Chapel

This year our chapels will be on alternating Fridays from 8:20 – 8:45ish and will take place in the school gym! There will be occasions when chapel happens on a different day of the week because of a special occasion or a guest speaker, but we will let you know of these changes through our school app. Parents (and any other family members) are invited and very welcome to come to this first chapel and any of our chapels throughout the year.

*Please join us for our first Chapel of the year on Tuesday, September 7 at 10:30 a.m.*

## Meet the Teacher Evening & Ice Cream Social

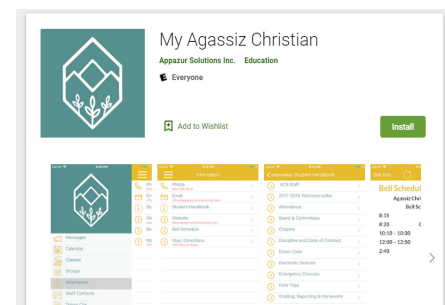
On Wednesday, September 15, you are invited to have an ice cream treat and to meet your child’s teacher and have a tour of their classroom. Your child will be the tour guide. The ice cream will be ready to be served at 6:00 p.m. It melts quickly, so come and get it while it’s cold.



## School App

The “My Agassiz Christian” app helps to keep students, parents, and staff connected, engaged, and on track. The app contains school news, calendars, class updates, and other school information such as important events and school closures. The app works wherever you go - on iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, Android phones & tablets, and on any computer’s web browser (except for Internet Explorer). You can even choose between push notifications, text messages, and email for your most important updates. Please get started with the “My Agassiz Christian” App! Either:

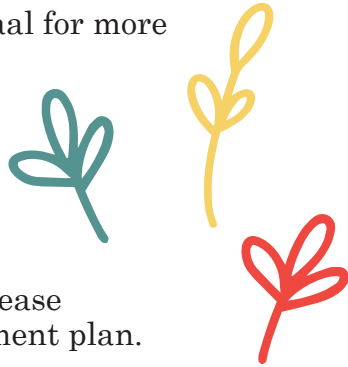
- Search for “My Agassiz Christian” in the AppStore/Google Play.
- Visit [agassizchristian.appazur.com](http://agassizchristian.appazur.com) and tap the button.
- Learn more at: [agassizchristian.appazur.com/help/flyer](http://agassizchristian.appazur.com/help/flyer).
- Please contact the school office or your child’s teacher for the security password.



# An **inside**look...into this school year...

## Volunteer Opportunity

We are in need of noon hour supervisors on Wednesdays from 12:10 – 12:45. This provides an opportunity for staff to eat together, have devotions and discuss issues pertinent to the week. Please contact Judy de Waal for more information.



## Tuition Payments

If you haven't already done so, please contact the office to set up a payment plan.

## Bussing

Students will be assigned a seat on the bus and are expected to sit in the seat assigned to them. As we start this year, all students in Grades 4-12 must wear a mask while on the bus. Students in Grades K-3 are encouraged to wear a mask while on the bus, but that decision will be left up to families. Please phone or text Josh Vanden Eykel at 604-791-0280 if you have questions concerning the bus route. The schedule is attached for your information.



## PAC

Agassiz Christian School is starting a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). We have been doing some re-structuring of existing committees, and after having a year of no parent involvement at school, we are excited to form the first ever Agassiz Christian PAC. More details will be discussed at the Ice Cream social on September 15, but before then, please prayerfully consider if our new PAC could use your gifts and abilities.

## Important Dates to Remember

- **September 7** - School begins for Grade 1-7
- **September 8** - 1st day for Part & Full Time K Students
- **September 9** - 9:00-10:00 Tues & Thurs Preschool Orientation
- **September 10** - 9:00 - 10:00 Mon, Wed, Fri Preschool Orientation
- **September 13** - MWF Preschool begins
- **September 14** - T, TH Preschool begins
- **September 15** - 6:00 pm Meet the Teacher/ Ice Cream Social
- **September 18** - Fall Fair Parade for K-7 children
- **September 30** - Truth and Reconciliation Day (no school, P-7)
- **October 11** - Thanksgiving Day (no school, P-7)
- **October 22** - Pro-D Day (no school, P-7)



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