

Principal's Report

Student Council AGM | September 29, 2026

It has been a really positive start to the school year at Covenant! Our Back-to-School BBQ was well attended and provided wonderful opportunities to welcome families, connect with one another, and begin the year together. Thank you to School Council for serving sweet treats and providing information to our families!

Enrollment & Staffing

We currently have 430 students and 43 staff members. We were able to welcome 24 new students grades 1-6, and are looking forward to hosting a Pizza Lunch on October 2nd. We are able to hire additional teacher (1.0) and support staff (0.5 EA) to support enrollment growth, more information to come as these positions will be posted this week.

Rooted Together: Cultivating Belonging

Our 2026-2027 school theme is Rooted Together: Cultivating Belonging, rooted in Ephesians 3:17-19.

This year, we are using the image of a flourishing forest, rooted and established, to help us think about belonging as having deep roots in our community. We want our students and staff to experience being known, valued, connected, and loved, while also recognizing that each of us has a role in helping others flourish.

Our monthly focus gives us different ways to explore this theme throughout the year during Celebration:

- **September:** Rooted in Christ
- **October:** Rooted in Love
- **November:** Growing Together
- **December:** Hope Grows
- **January:** Stronger Together
- **February:** Every Part Matters
- **March:** Restoring Relationships
- **April:** Bearing Fruit
- **May:** Flourishing Together
- **June:** Seeds of Hope

Three Habits for Cultivating Belonging

Alongside our monthly themes, we are building three habits for cultivating belonging into the life of our school: Be Curious, Be Present, and Reimagine. These are habits we want to develop as a community among students, staff, and families.

Be Curious: *Listen to others' stories and see the world through their eyes.*

We launched this habit in September, encouraging students to slow down, look a little closer, and ask questions

rather than making quick assumptions. This connects to the truth in Genesis 1 that every person is made in God's image.

Be Present: *Encounter others with authenticity and confidence.*

Launching in January, this habit will encourage students to give others their full attention, step into relationships with courage, and remain present even when things are difficult.

Reimagine: *Find hope and opportunity in places where we long to see change.*

Launching in April, students will be encouraged to ask, *What could be different? What could help? What might God be inviting us to do?*

These habits are being explored through Wednesday Celebrations, Monday Rooted Sessions for Grades 1-6, and Junior High Chapel, which will take place every four to six weeks.

We have also introduced the Cougar Tracks Award, recognizing students who are leaving "footprints of Christ's love" wherever they go. Staff nominate students who demonstrate these habits in meaningful, everyday ways.

Rooted Sessions, Bible & Faith Formation

This year, we introduced Monday afternoon Rooted Sessions for Grades 1-6. Students meet in three grade-level groups with Mrs. Lozeau and me to explore our theme and consider what it means to cultivate belonging.

While students are in Rooted Sessions, teachers have collaborative planning time with Nicole Hennink to work through our Bible curriculum, connect it to our K-9 Bible Scope and Sequence, and consider how we can more intentionally connect knowing the story with Teaching for Transformation's focus on Seeing the Story and Living the Story.

This builds on the K-9 Bible Scope and Sequence developed last year by Leanne Briggs, Jennifer Lozeau, and Colin Ward, alongside Jeremy Horlings from PCCE. This work has been an important step in strengthening Bible instruction and faith formation across the school.

Our Junior High students are also engaging with the theme through Junior High Chapel and began the year with a Junior High Retreat.

Faith Formation for Staff

Staff Devotions: We are investing in staff faith formation as well. Tuesday morning devotions are built around PCCE's *Teaching FROM Transformation: God's Big Picture*; Led by Jenna Haugan and Nicole Hennink, we are excited to continue to explore scripture together and consider how the larger story of Scripture shapes the way we teach and lead.

Christian Teachers' Convention: Christian Teachers' Convention will take place October 21–23 at Calgary Christian School. This year, we have also invited our support staff to participate, and four support staff members will be joining us. We are looking forward to opportunities for professional learning, spiritual renewal, and time together as a staff community.

PCCE Executive Director Visit

On October 27, we will welcome Matthew Bekkering, the new Executive Director of PCCE, to Covenant.

Matthew will speak at a Parent Information Evening about the work of PCCE, ways we can promote a positive vision for Christian education within an alternative Christian program, and opportunities to facilitate intentional togetherness within the broader Christian education community.

We are looking forward to hosting him, followed by desserts and an opportunity for parents to connect with board members.

Parking Lot Update

Gravel work will be underway late this week, with additional site preparation and construction taking place over the coming weeks. We are hopeful that, once this work is complete and the gravel has been properly leveled and packed, we will be able to open the parking lot for winter use.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as this work progresses. We appreciate your cooperation as we work toward completing the project.

School Council Partnership

As we continue to cultivate belonging at Covenant, we are also thinking about what belonging looks like for our families. We would love to hear from School Council about what you are noticing, what families may need, and what opportunities you see for strengthening connection within our school community. Your perspective is an important part of helping us understand how we can continue to grow together.

I am really encouraged by the start to this school year. There is a lot happening at Covenant, but underneath it all is a simple desire: to help our students flourish as learners who delight in God and are inspired to serve, while growing deeply rooted in Christ.

I am grateful for the staff, students, and families God has brought together at Covenant, and I am looking forward to seeing how we continue to grow Rooted Together throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted, Mrs. Jenna Haugan