



The Redeemer REMINDER



THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR REDEEMER CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL



Wrapping Up, Moving On, and Facing Firsts!

What an exciting year we've had! This edition (our biggest ever!) highlights a few of the fun and fascinating things the Redeemer community got up to—we're amazed by what we've experienced and achieved individually and as a whole.

This year's first edition of The Reminder reflected upon 'firsts'—we welcomed our new principal and vice-principals (which was a first-time job for each of them!), we saw record student enrollment, and welcomed several new staff members. As the year progressed, we celebrated significant achievements by our sports teams, we hosted a 10th anniversary alumni celebration of our annual fundraiser for Kwagala Ministries, and we experienced a total solar eclipse here in our region. These were all exciting firsts for our community!

Our lives are full of firsts. In the coming year some will move into the next grade or to a new institution of learning, some will begin a new job or even move to a new city. Some may have to face a trial which tests them in every way, as a few in our community have had to this past year. First-time experiences can be challenging and unsettling, but we're never given more than we can bear.

In Christ, and through the work of the Holy Spirit, we are given the strength and courage we need to face all of our firsts. First and foremost, we must remember that God's mercies are new every morning and His love toward us is steadfast (Lam. 3:22-23), so that we (who love Him) can begin each new day as the first day of the rest of our lives, trusting that He will never leave us nor forsake us (Heb. 13:5), no matter what we face.

And as His beloved children, we are called to seek Him first above all else (Matt. 6:33). So as we wrap up and move on to our next first, let's pray that the Lord will help us to seek Him first in whatever we put our hearts and minds to—and in whatever trial comes our way.

We hope you enjoy our stories, and we hope you'll join us as we celebrate our graduating class of 2024, on June 24th. May He bless our summer holidays and all our future endeavours!

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Members and supporters,
please join us for the

Class of 2024



Graduation Ceremony

MONDAY, JUNE 24TH AT 7:00 PM
MET BIBLE CHURCH, 2176 PRINCE OF WALES DR, NEPEAN

Farewell *Mr. Grootenboer!*

Mr. Grootenboer has been an important part the Redeemer community for the past fifteen years; he has been an asset and a blessing to staff and students alike! His main duty has been helping students to navigate the complexities of applying to post-secondary education, but he has also helped extensively with substitute teaching (rumour has it that his other talents include being a master storyteller and an expert rink-flooder).

He and his family are moving back to his hometown of Thunder Bay, so that they can be closer to his parents and other family, and that is wonderful.

*Thank you so much for all your work Mr. Grootenboer—
we will miss you!*



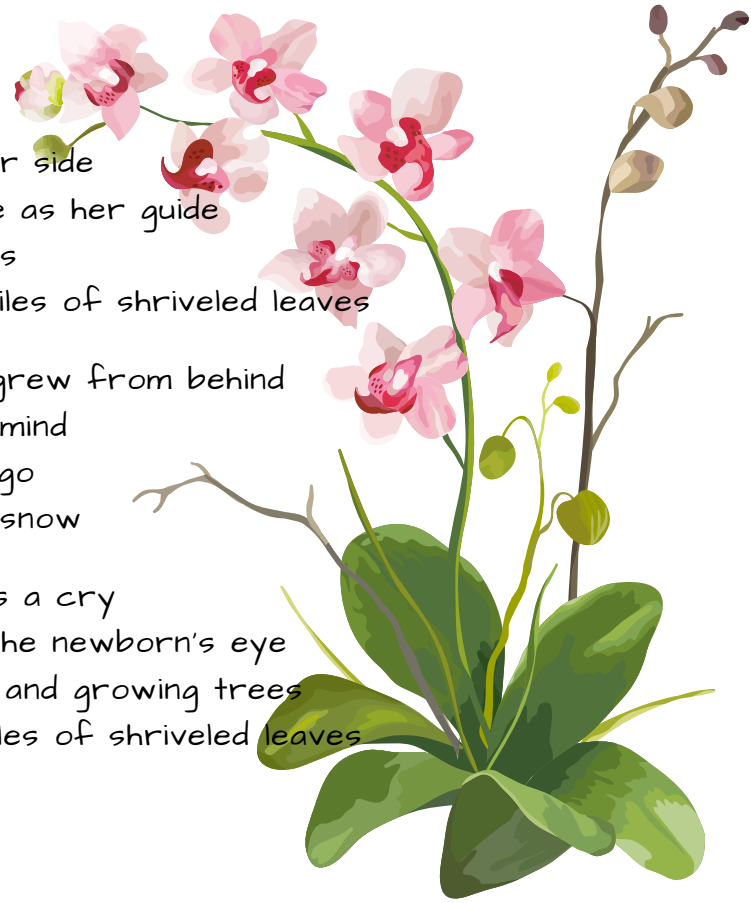
A SPRINGTIME STROLL

A POEM BY RONAN DEVLIN

Along the dreary forest trail with no one by her side
She wandered off the path with just the silence as her guide
So passing under canopies of red and gold trees
The boots she wore would fall and crunch on piles of shriveled leaves

An anxious wind blew from the trees, the cold grew from behind
Her mother in the hospital was weighing on her mind
The canopy had faded and she had nowhere to go
The silence became bitter in a cage of ice and snow

Her mother left the hospital and then there was a cry
The sight of vibrant blooming orchids reached the newborn's eye
A girl walked with a stroller amongst the grass and growing trees
The wheels drifted through flowers between piles of shriveled leaves



PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE THEIR SKILL THROUGH THE LENS



Makayla Cavanah, Gr 9

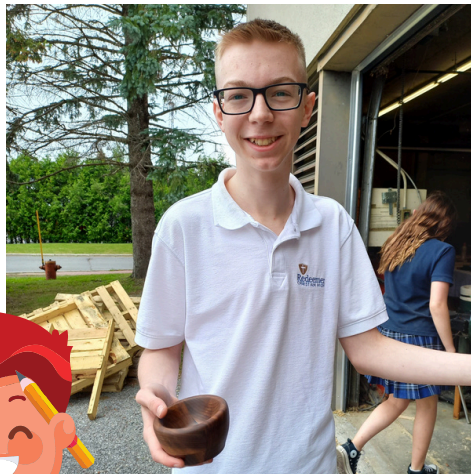


Jessica Wu, Gr 11

CUSTOM WOODWORKERS!

HANDS-ON LEARNING THAT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE LEARNING

A highlight of a Redeemer education is the hands-on fun of Tech and Woodworking Classes. Students not only learn invaluable skills, but they get to create useful and beautiful things! This year the students helped to build a shed for one of the families in our community, so their work even blesses others. We're thankful for Mr. Jaspers-Fayer for tirelessly imparting the skills he's acquired, to the next generation.



PROVIDING FOR THE NEEDY

HOMEROOMS GATHER GOODS TO GIVE



Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward them for what they have done. Proverbs 19:17



For years, Redeemer students have served our community by gathering food and essential supplies, such as sleeping bags and clothing, to Ottawa's homeless community, through Ottawa Inncity Ministries. This activity blesses the students as much as it does the recipients of their gifts!



CLASS TRIPS

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE!



Our students (and their chaperones) galivanted all over God's good earth this year! Several students enjoyed an amazing trip to Europe, which included stops in Italy, Greece, France, and a few other places along the way. The History class visited Boston, MA, and enjoyed the Freedom Walk and a Red Sox game; the French class visited Canada's oldest settlement—Quebec City—and practiced their excellent French skills.



Europe Trip



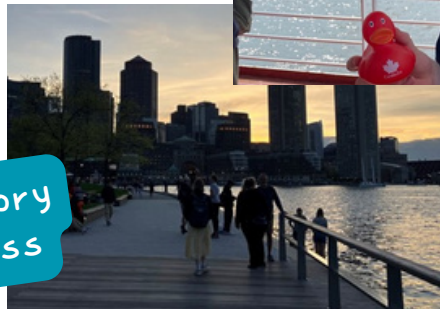
French Class



Camp lawah



History Class



Physics Class



The Physics class went to Canada's Wonderland where they experienced, well, physics on several rides, and they also enjoyed indoor skydiving. And last, but not least, several students went on a service trip to Camp lawah to help prepare the camp for the coming camping season; they also enjoyed several fun activities together when they weren't cleaning—what an excellent way to serve!

SPRING: TRANSITIONS

A POEM BY NAOMI GRAY

River shores stop roaring
No petals left to die
Oak leaves crumpled, barren
Mud long turned to clay
Pinecones shrivel into splinters
Stiff ice cracks with woe
Tiny bells of raindrops
Drown in mournful moans

Wise birds have long
Taken flight from the mess
Of sidewalks webbed
With salt and quick steps
Gravel groans under weight
Of senseless, thick tires
Slush catches ankles
Cold, stiffening moisture

Though green has bleached amber
Bone white's smudged with gray
Crystal concrete sparks black
In the bright light of day
Water washes away salt
Granite sky bleeds blue
Dead air shifts with promise
Forgotten life blooms

Knots of knit shawls
Replace puffy, warm jackets
Spiders lie hidden
In every house closet
Rubber soles squelch
In time with damp socks
Trees flex thin fingers
And loosen stiff jaws

Tulip buds open
Exposing bright colours
Plants bleed their blossoms
Petals fill every crevice
Clover trips 'cross wild fields
Robins dig for worms
Copper maple trees smile
For Spring has returned.



OUR ROYALS ROCK!

REDEEMER STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE THEIR ATHLETIC AWESOMENESS



Jr Boys Soccer

"We enjoyed a strong season in Boys Soccer this year, winning the local private schools tournament in October, and finishing second in our pool in Tier 2. At the annual Christian Schools' provincial tournament, we finished 6th out of 18 teams."
Mr. Heinbuch

The Sr Boys Basketball team worked hard to improve their skills and teamwork throughout the season. A big thanks to Pastor Greg who volunteered his time to coach this year!
Ms. Al Asmar



Sr Boys Basketball

"The Sr Girls Volleyball team had a tremendous season! The team worked hard and enjoyed playing and having fun together. The girls ended their season on a high, winning silver in the Platinum Division, the second-highest division in the city. Congrats to the ladies for one of the best Sr Girls seasons ever!"
Mr. Laliberté

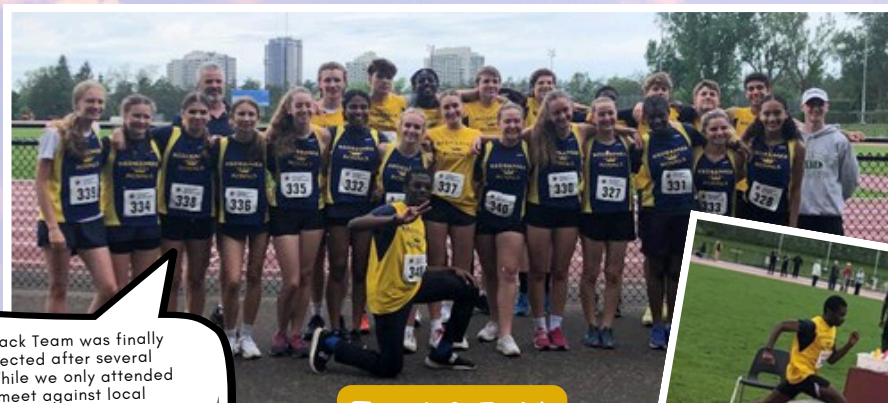


Sr Girls Volleyball

"The Sr Boys Volleyball team finished their 2023 season with exceptional results. The Royals won against schools ten times their size, and they secured the first Boys Volleyball banner in twelve years with a Gold Medal win!"
Mr. Hamilton



Sr Boys Volleyball



Track & Field

"Our Track Team was finally resurrected after several years! While we only attended one meet against local private schools, we did quite well, finishing first place in several events."
Mr. Heinbuch



OUR ROYALS ROCK!

REDEEMER STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE THEIR ATHLETIC AWESOMENESS

"The Jr Girls Basketball team drew together players from Gr. 9-11 and had fun learning the fundamentals of the sport. They played against other independent schools, enjoying an evenly-matched competition and a positive learning atmosphere. We hope to build on that interest and skill in future years!"
Mr. Armishaw



Jr Girls Basketball

"We decided to run our first ever Girls Flag Football Club this year. Our objective was to seek interest and develop skills with the intention of joining the league next year. Our girls demonstrated great commitment and team work!"
Ms. El Asmar



Girls Flag Football

"We placed really well at the Small Schools Tournament and even had a couple of Jr players move on to the second round of city tournaments!"
Mr. Kääril



Badminton

Our own Lewis Triemstra became the O Division winner of the Ottawa High School Disc Golf Championships (run by the Ottawa Disk Golf Club) on October 24th. And Ryne Hoekema also placed. RCHS plans to continue participating in city-wide Disc Golf tournaments!



Lewis the Legend



Jr Girls Volleyball

"The Jr Girls had a phenomenal season, making semi-finals and placing 5th in their league division! Their dedication, desire to improve, and drive to play their best were the winning ingredients."
Mr. Kääril



Jr Boys Volleyball

"The Jr. Boys' Volleyball team started the season by winning silver against Notre Dame High School. They were placed in the highest tier during the regular season, playing against several known 'volleyball schools'. They grew tremendously in their skills and court awareness."
Mr. Hamilton



FUN WITH PHYSICS

THE RUBE-GOLDBERG MACHINE!

By Karuna Balaram

If you thought that a science course could never get creative, and that it's only boring formulas and labs, you would be very mistaken!

Our physics class has been both challenging and fun! We have been pushed in our knowledge of our world, and in observing how the laws and relationships in our equations are actually measured and proven in our labs and this unique project. It does take a comfortable understanding of the mathematics of previous courses to get a good handle on the conceptual aspects of physics, but much of it is application-based, dealing with realistic scenarios.

"It is very fun, because there's more concrete examples to apply the math concepts to," said current physics student Ronan Devlin. When asked if physics 12 is harder than its prerequisite, he explained that "it wasn't more complicated than grade 11, but we used the concepts in physics 11 to apply them in physics 12."

It was very nice to watch some of these videos in class, and see others' projects, and creatively accomplish the goal of eclipsing a light, the design of each of our Rube-Goldberg machines in memory of this year's solar eclipse. There were some really cool ideas in using gravity, magnets, dominos, projectiles and tracks, as well as other materials, to produce chain reactions and an eclipse at the end.

After submitting the final result of this project, it was fun for Natalie Mudde and I to work on building a marble track at our church, in a totally different setting and just as a pastime. However, it got me thinking about how, regardless of whether you know the conceptual stuff or not, you can enjoy seeing what you're making come together and accomplish its intended purpose. Then you can present it to others as something to be proud of, and glorify God through your creation.

CHECK OUT THESE
AMAZING MACHINES!

