



# THE KING'S HERALD

*World-class Christian educators passionately committed to student success...*

## *FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...*

We have started a new semester of seeking to comprehend deeply the enduring understandings embedded within the King's program. Most students are enrolled in four courses that will expose them to new course content. Each course is a stepping stone to the King's Diploma as well as entrance to colleges and universities across our nation and the world. I am convinced that every student has a desire to improve on their performance from the previous semester.

When I head out to ski in Nakiska (Alberta), it is always my goal to improve on the last time. I aim to improve on my endurance, increase my speed, make sharper turns and worry less about breaking bones. Golf is no different; the goal is always to lower the score and increase the cost per shot. Taking a shot at a course at King's brings a similar desire: all students aim for a higher grade, a better average than the previous semester.

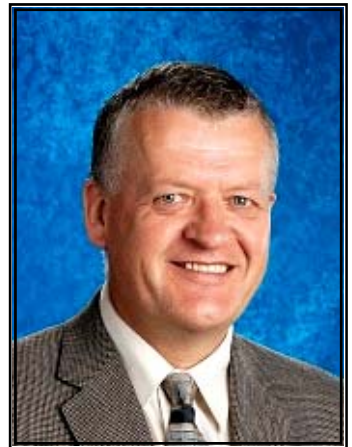
When I ask students how they plan to improve on the previous semester they usually respond by saying "I am going to work harder." At the first assembly of the year I told my captive audience that "working harder does not work." I am sure some students stopped listening at that point and felt relieved that harder work was not required.

I challenged them to work **smarter** by developing an instructional relationship with their teachers. I went on to encourage our students to learn to ask questions related to the subject matter and to send emails to their teachers (no later than 10:00 pm), searching for deeper understanding. Alternatively,

they could raise their questions during class time, in the halls or after school hours. Our teachers are eager to engage their students to help them understand the basic subject matter and also to develop insights into deeper meanings. The very act of learning to pose good questions will lead to higher thinking. The professional engagement with the teacher will clarify the student's understanding of what needs to be mastered, which ultimately leads to higher test scores and improved performance.

My advice as we begin this semester is to be intentional in our work together. Rather than doing more of the same and working harder, I am recommending that students be more intentional as to where they expend their energy.

***MR. JIM VANDERKOOY***



Read about the Dominican Republic missions trip in the next issue...

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- *Mon Feb 15: Family Holiday (no school)*
- *March 2 and 4: Learning Dialogues*
- *Friday, March 12 - Monday, March 22 (inclusive): March Break (no school)*
- *Friday, April 2 - Monday, April 5 (inclusive): Easter Break (no school)*
- *Thursday, April 8: Grade 10 Literacy Test*
- *May 7 and 8: The King's Players present "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown"*

### *THE MUSIC CONSERVATORY*

In December all parents received a descriptive brochure on our vision for the Music Conservatory (architect's rendering at right). The contractor has retained an acoustical consultant to continue planning the interior for superior acoustics. The completed building will be a tremendous boost for the music program.

At this time we have submitted an application to the Town of Oakville for Site Plan Approval and anticipate construction to begin in late April or early May.

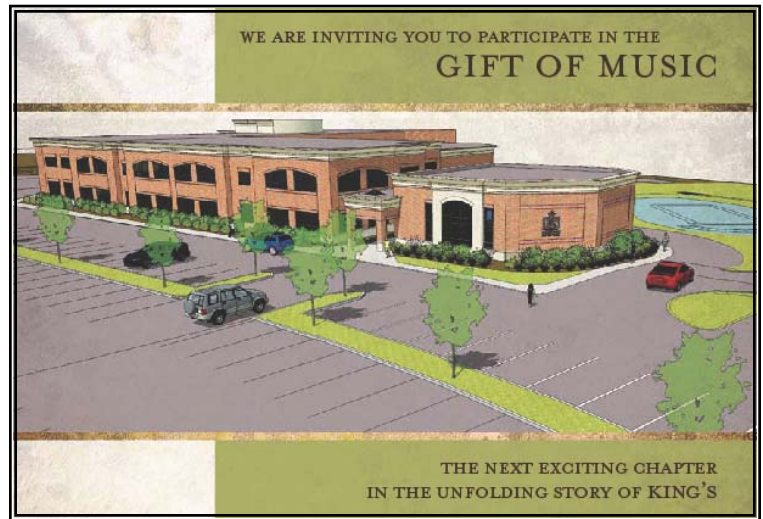
I will begin to contact parents during day time hours to ask for gifts so that the funding will be in place when the first shovel goes into the ground. Thanks to the amazing gifts already received, we are currently \$370,000 shy of the \$900,000 campaign target.

*JIM VANDERKOOY*

King's students giving it their all in Belize:  
read all about it on the following pages....

### *AMAZING GROWTH*

At this time last year, we were all concerned about the stock market collapse and the world economy. We were concerned about enrolment at King's. It was an item for prayer; we asked God to lead us through the recession. So it is with an amazing sense of gratitude that we have experienced a 16% increase in enrolment. Since the beginning of October, 26 new students have joined the King's community. This brings the current enrolment to 440 students. Our thanks to everyone for your positive comments about our work at school each and every day. We take joy in our interactions among vibrant, active and inquisitive students. It is your influence, your conversations as parents and friends of King's that causes new parents to entrust their children to our staff to provide instruction that deepens understanding and shapes character. Thank you.

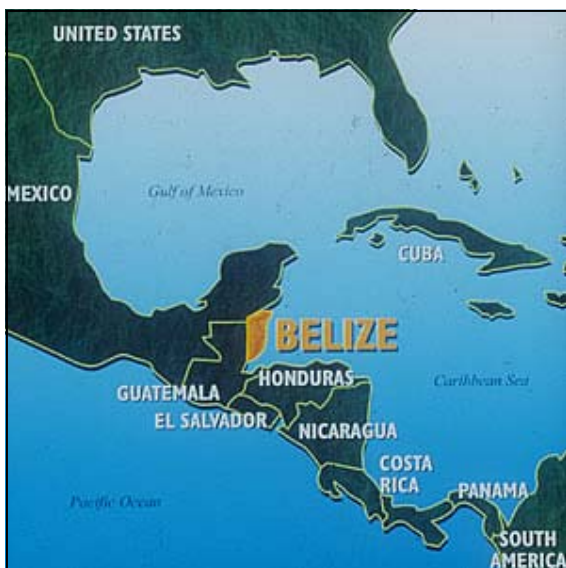


# MISSION: BELIZE

## (Jan 15 - 22, 2010)

“These trips are such an incredible experience for everyone involved. As the leader, it was a privilege to work with 15 great students and two remarkable staff members (Mrs. Terry and Mr. Walraven). I will never forget the spiritual and emotional intensity that we experienced as a group during our evening devotions. These were meaningful times when we became raw and broken, open to God’s healing spirit. Watching the students lead chapels so enthusiastically was confusing....who were these guys? They were singing energetically, dancing ridiculously exuberantly, and emitting a spirit of compassion, love, and acceptance. I was proud to be part of this group of young people who were dedicated to growing spiritually, helping others in whatever capacity necessary, and willing to foster deep meaningful relationships with those around them. This trip was a taste of Shalom for me.”

**Mr. Masengi – Belize trip leader**



“For me Belize was unlike no other. This was my second trip in the past two years and they both have changed my life. This past week in Belize we had an amazing opportunity to work and play with children and experience God in so many deep and meaningful ways. Coming out of the trip I know I speak on behalf of the whole group when I say that it was a deeply spiritually formative experience. In these trips God becomes so real and close and continues to plant and foster seeds in my heart. I hope and pray that I can be obedient to what he is trying to tell me in my life.”

**Rob Morton – Grade 12**

“On this trip, two of the things that had the biggest impact on me were the kids and the testimonies. I saw how the kids were just so happy even though they lacked a lot, and how they just opened up to us surprised me. Each and every testimony that I heard throughout the week touched my heart in different ways. I learned

a lot about them, their lives, and their spiritual journeys. This was my very first mission trip, and I didn't know exactly what to expect, but it was definitely a trip to remember. I felt closer to God, I realized my faults that I didn't realize before, and I felt that I needed to change a couple things in my life.”

**Alice Song – Gr. 11**

“My experience in Belize was radical. What really stood out to me from the trip was the relationships we came away with: relationships with God, the children and community in Belize, and each other. It was such a defining experience that really helped me grow in my Christian walk. So many times I actually heard God’s voice speak to me, either through a sermon, a leader, a friend, or the Bible. The only issue I needed to work through were the beans...breakfast, lunch, dinner, and midnight snack – a little too much for someone who doesn’t even like the shape of beans.”

**Drew Hebb – Grade 12**



“Getting out of my daily routine really helped me hear God’s voice. It takes a special kind of perspective to understand another’s situation. That perspective can only truly be gained when God’s love is felt.”

**Sheirin Khalil – Grade 12**



“It was an invaluable experience. The week taught me so much about how blessed we are in Canada and the importance of helping those less fortunate. It really broadened my world-view and gave me a taste of something I might want to pursue in the future.”

**James Davis – Grade 11**

“This trip was truly an experience of lifetime. The bonds and memories made within our team are indescribable, and something we will never forget. A main highlight for the team was spending hours playing with the children and leading chapels. Throughout devotions, I was able to learn so much about the people I was spending the week with, and hearing their testimonies taught me so much. One of the greatest parts of the trip was seeing God work through our team and making us stronger, but also seeing him in the children and people of Belize. This trip was truly an *unbelizable* experience; I would love the opportunity to go back.”

**Stephanie Michael – Grade 12**



“I was given the wonderful opportunity to travel to Belize for a service trip. Going on service trips you never know what to expect. I personally had millions of thoughts running through my head prior to the trip. Although I had all these thoughts about the trip, by the end of the week I came to the realization that each one of us had a purpose in going to Belize. This trip has allowed for many memories as well as relationships to be made within our team as well with many of the children in the community.”

**Ashleigh Davis – Gr. 12**