



# HOMESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Valley Christian School

SEPTEMBER 2006

## A Note From Kathie ...

When taking stock in my supply cupboard at the end of summer in preparation for buying new school supplies, I came upon several old scrapbooks and in the middle of the pile was an old treasure: It was my Hot Wheels scrapbook.! I feel really privileged to be one of the few moms who have such a thing! The pages were somewhat yellowed, half of the pages had been ripped out to yield a much thinner book than the others, but it was the cover that was the strongest indicator that this book had once belonged to a previous owner. No matter. Turning immediately to the last page, I noted with pleasure the water colour painting that I beheld. Starting from the back, I slowly turned the pages to behold a number of other similar paintings. The first was a picture of the pond in the backyard on the beautiful spring day my art class (six home schooled children and their mothers) had gathered for a lesson in landscape painting. There was another from a nearby lake, another from a seaside view on Salt Spring Island, and still another of the patchwork fields along a highway in Mexico. Paintboxes, oil pastels and scrapbooks have always been our traveling companions. I showed the scrapbook to my children and when they fondly remembered each one and recognized the settings at once, I realized what a treasure this old scrapbook has become.



Several times after that , my youngest daughter and I packed up our 'traveling companions' and a couple of easels and went on painting adventures. The resulting scrapbook pages aren't canvases, the studies were only fences and the like, but to us they represent an adventure, a quiet time together, an appreciation of the beauty around us. What better masterpieces are there?

My intention is to take each of my children, even the grown and married ones, individually this fall with the 'travelling companions' to create masterpieces.

I know each of you have made plans and set goals for adventures of your own. I would love to hear about them. May you have a blessed year of homeschooling.

*Kathie*

## BookReturns/Orders

If you have loaned materials from the office, please return them or call me to make other arrangements.. Our Book Room is stocked with a good variety of consumables, texts, teacher editions, and readers all throughout the year. You are welcome to come and check it out.

### Special points of interest:

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- *Pro D*
- *School Photos*
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- *Option 2 Deadline for curriculum receipts. –May 31, 2005*
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### Inside this issue:

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**We're on the Web!**  
[www.valleychristianschool.ca](http://www.valleychristianschool.ca)

Free Art Lessons  
This website has a beginner's curriculum for art. There are eight units with each unit having 5 to 8 lessons. The units deal with colour, lines, textures, space, drawing, masks, weaving, and special projects. The lessons are easy to understand and complete.  
<http://members.aol.com/mrspyboy/index.htm>

In 2005-2006, Valley Christian School will again be offering two options for homeschooling families:

**Option 1:** Support & encouragement, borrowing texts & readers, purchasing consumable workbooks from our main suppliers at our cost, opportunity for involvement in a nominal-cost-to-you weekly event. CTBS testing if desired. No reporting required, no samples of work to be handed in.

**Option 2:** Rebate for homeschooling materials you have purchased to a maximum of \$125 per child, based on reimbursement for purchases made by the parents for receipts submitted. This is a registration only option and gives those seeking complete independence and responsibility that option. CTBS testing is available. No reporting required, no samples of work to be handed in. Christian curriculum is receiptable. If desired, involvement in the weekly/monthly events can be arranged on a fee basis.

Please take care to keep your receipts from curriculum and resource purchases so that they can be submitted to us by May 31, 2005. We will send the rebate cheque to you by July 15, 2005. Please send these on time as doing the work in one batch helps keep our costs low. Late claims will be discounted by \$10 and there is a final deadline of August 31, 2005.