

I had a parent share that they very much appreciate the support they experience being part of Immanuel Christian School. This appreciation was shared recently near the end of dealing with a terminal illness.

Just over three years ago Camilla and Belvinder enrolled their youngest son at Immanuel Christian School. Three months after they enrolled their son, Camilla was diagnosed with cancer. During those three years, despite her weakening health, she would make it to Immanuel's opening assemblies, Christmas programs and other events as she had the strength. More noticeable was the openness with which she shared faith and confidence that God was looking after her.

Camilla expressed appreciation for the support her son receives at Immanuel. This support extends beyond the program, Rainbows for All God's Children. She noted the understanding support given by the teachers and staff. She was heartened by the care shown by the students.

This past Saturday at noon Camilla died. While her death is a passing into glory, she will be very much missed by her family. Her faith and assurance in Jesus as her saviour can be summarized in the words from Job 19.

I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that in the end He will stand on the earth.
And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;
I myself will see him
with my own eyes—I, and not another.
How my heart yearns within me!

Job 19: 25 - 27

In making her funeral preparations, Camilla has asked that the students in grade 7&8 to provide instrumental music. We let her know that we would be honoured.

The events of this past weekend reminded us that Immanuel is a supportive community. Staff and students willingly come along side and share in the pain, give encouragement, open ourselves to understanding, and share the love of Christ in a tangible way.

It is the hope that comes with Christ's birth, death and resurrection that enables us to be supported, and supportive through the toughest times.

Jasper Hoogendam,

Principal