



When visitors comment, "I didn't know you owned a cat" our automatic response is, "He came with the house!" There's no big mystery to how we inherited Scooter. Our new house is where he was last fed and loved. His original owners are back this year and are debating if they will reclaim him. After being fed some steak and gourmet flavoured Friskies, and given lots of love and attention by our children, it might be difficult for him to leave!

Besides Scooter, many other things have come with our new house. We have had time and space to host friends, new staff, students, and visiting parents. When the guest house and motel are full, we receive some people who are passing through. We have a spare room and once in a while Julianne gives up her room for extra guests. I try to acknowledge Evan's part in sharing his room with his sister. If money is given by the guests for the stay, it is split between them. It's not a bad deal making a week's allowance in one night. Julianne states, "hey, this could become a *real* business!"

Michael has spent much of the beginning of term setting up email and Internet accounts for new staff and students. It's been a great way of meeting them.

The first Saturday of term Student Health had a Health Fair. Nurses and other staff took weights and heights as well vision and hemoglobin checks on the RVA students. We've been busy updating the students' charts with the new information. Overall, the infirmary has been quiet with very few sick students.

There is an abundance of nurses at RVA this year and no one to work the front desk and do some extra clerical work in the Guidance Office. Solution? I have agreed to split my time between Student Health and the Guidance Office. You never know what hat you'll end up wearing at RVA!

I will be teaching Sunday school to some of the new grade 7 girls this term. We will be doing "What would Jesus do?" It will involve role playing characters in the Bible, lots of discussions, and one of our focuses will be about outreach in the local community. I hope to take the girls to the maternity ward to deliver blankets to the moms and babies during our last Sunday School class.



**Special prayer request:** One of our dorm girls from last year had one of her kidneys removed a week ago. We visited Abi in hospital three days after surgery. I knew everything was fine when the first thing she wanted to do was show-off her scar. The buttons on the electrical bed were also a great fascination to a twelve year old. When she was laying on her bed, she raised her bed to the highest position. One the nurses observing her, commented, "you like to sleep close to God!" She is doing great! Please pray for Abi's continued healing.

*"There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Blessings,

**Bernadine, Michael, Julianne and Evan**

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