

December 11, 2017



Waiting in Joyful Hope

How good are you at waiting? Waiting at traffic lights? In lines at the grocery store, ATMs or Service Ontario? There are amazing statistics about how much of our lives we spend waiting. Inevitably, we

all need to wait.

Is waiting an empty waste of time? If we believe it is, how can we reframe it to think otherwise? Each of us has experienced times we wait in dread and fear. Sometimes we wait in boredom. And there are times when we wait with excitement and joy.

Advent is a time of waiting - a time between the 'now' and the 'not yet'. We will soon celebrate Christmas and the knowledge that Jesus has come as Emmanuel - God with us - as promised.

As Christ followers, we wait during Advent and look forward to celebrating the fact that God loves us so much that he sent his Son into the world to save us. This waiting is far from empty; rather, it is full of the hope that God promises us as we prepare for Christ.

While we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus that has occurred, we also use the season of Advent to anticipate Christ's second coming. When Jesus comes again, the Kingdom of God will appear in its fullness. The just will reign with Christ forever and the earth will be transformed. During Advent, we wait in joy, in hope, and in anticipation for the wonderful event we are about to experience-the coming of Christ into our lives in new ways, the return of Christ in glory at the end of time.

Consider using an Advent Calendar to help your family wait in joyful hope. Here is a link to 'not your usual Advent calendar' but one which challenges families to extend Gifts of Kindness.

Sources: www.loyolapress.com and kidscorner.reframemedia.com/media/pdf/KC-Advent-Calendar

Photo: tilecross.org.uk/wpimages/wp6c092427_05_06.jpg

C. Verbeek



Tuesday - Emma Rose S., Gr.3

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Prayer Corner: Please continue to pray for our children, for our community and needs for health and wellness. We have many reasons for praise and gratitude, but also reasons for extending care and comfort. Check in with another family to find out how they are doing and include them in your prayers!
Congratulations to Marcel, Annika, Jasmine & Alex Steen with the birth of Juliette!

Chicken: Thank you to those of you who ordered chicken this month. Your orders will be available for pick-up this THURSDAY, December 14th, between 3 and 4 pm. Please make arrangements to have your orders picked up during this time frame. Please keep in mind that the school no longer has a large deep freezer so it is very important to make arrangements to have your orders picked up. Please note that we will not be responsible for orders that are not picked up without prior arrangements. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Sol at 519-539-7839 or jmsol@rogers.com.

Christmas Program: Thank you for joining us last week for A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION! God's promises, his plan of salvation and his story of love for his people and his creation are still unfolding. How good it is to gather as a faith community, to tell the story of God's love, and to recognize His gifts of peace, joy, eternal life, forgiveness, and abundant life.

THANK YOU! The Christmas presentations this past week were well attended and enjoyed! Teachers did a great job preparing the students and presenting a wonderful message to our audience! Nicole Vanderhoek and the kitchen crew did a great job of hosting, baking and serving! The lobby and tables were beautifully decorated by Krystal Schipper! Thank you all for sharing your gifts and talents so that together we can celebrate Jesus! Dawn Streutker

Mark Your Calendars! On Saturday, February 24, Beginnings Woodstock is hosting their annual family fun event, sponsored by WCS! Circo Comedia, a comedic circus duo out of Montreal, will be performing daring stunts and acrobatic tricks with their eccentric, family-friendly comedy! Concession available, and all proceeds go directly to the Beginnings Family Services Centre right here in Woodstock, serving all of Oxford County. Tickets will be available at the WCS office in the New Year! Please contact Megan Booy with any questions.

Lost & Found: Is your child missing some clothing items? Are you wondering where that hoodie might be? Please check the lost and found table and coat rack area for missing clothing items, water bottles, and lunch box items. Any items left next week will be brought to a local thrift store. Check the office if you are missing eye glasses.

Skating: Our entire school will be going skating on Thursday, December 21st and you are invited to join us! For insurance purposes, there are additional guidelines for 'on ice' participation that we must honour. Everyone - meaning all students and all adults - must wear helmets (bicycle, hockey, other), gloves/mittens and skates while on the ice. Boots, strollers, helmetless heads, and gloveless hands will not be permitted on the ice. Our buses will transport the students. The first group of students -Kindergarten to grade 3 - will skate from 1:15 pm - 2:10 pm. The second group of students - grades 4 through 8 - will skate from 2:15 pm to 3:10 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

WCS Electives: We hope to begin elective activities for our junior and intermediate students in the new year beginning Wednesday, February 7, and running for five weeks until March 7, 2018, from approximately 2:10 to 3:30. In the past, we have had various sessions like baking, origami, crafts, hairdressing, board games, chess, etc. In order for the elective sessions to be successful, we need your help. Please email g.hiemstra@woodstockchristian.ca if you have an idea that you can lead or help with as we like to offer numerous activities for our electives.

We have been blessed with another daughter! Juliette Nellie was born last night at 8lbs 6oz! Unexpected in many ways but perfect in every way!! ❤️



Junior Kindergarten: Great job Junior Kindergarten on your performances last week - you did a great job sharing your songs! The next two weeks we will begin looking at symbols of Christmas and how they help us point to Christ this season. A letter was send home last week about our class trip this Wednesday. Remember to dress your child for outdoor activities.

Wednesday - Trip to Fanshawe Conservation Area
- Library

Senior Kindergarten: Welcome to a new week. Congratulations to Alex on the birth of a new sister. Thank You for all your help with the Christmas program. Our class trip will be this Wednesday. Thanks to Mrs. Ysselsstein, Mr. Streutker, Mrs. Huinink, and Mrs. Boersma who will come with us. Please dress warmly (snow pants, boots, hats and mittens) as most of the program will be outdoors. Please be at school at 10:45. Keep practising the sound books that come home. Have a great week.

Wednesday - Library
- Field Study
Thursday - Pizza Day
- show and share about a star

Grade 1A: Welcome to a full week. This week we are heading on a field trip to the Woodstock Museum and Art Gallery. We are also starting our Christmas Around the World unit with the grade 2s and 3s. Please see a letter in your child's VIP Folder talking about what we will be studying. Reading Folders are due on Tuesday - we will be returning the books that are already in there and picking new books.

Monday - VIP Folder
Tuesday - Return Reading Folder & VIP Folder
Wednesday - Field Trip
Thursday - Pizza Day
Friday - Spelling Test
- Christmas Around the World Begins

Grade 1B/2B: Welcome to a new week! We have a five-day week ahead of us! It will be a fun-filled and exciting one. Check your email for an update on what is happening in our class this week!

Tuesday - Gym
- Library
Wednesday - Show&Share: Alayna & Ethan
Thursday - Pizza Lunch
Friday - Gym
- Spelling Quiz
- Day 1 of Christmas Around the World

Grade 2A: Welcome to a new week of grade two! 10

more school days until Christmas Break. This week we will begin Christmas Festivities by beginning our primary Christmas Around the World on Friday as well as through our Bible unit "A Saviour Has Been Born". We will be continuing our math unit on "Exploring Addition and Subtraction", Creation Studies unit called "The Earth Declares". We will have one more spelling test before the holidays that has a focus on the magic 'e' pattern to make 'u' say it's long sound.

Monday - Gym
Tuesday - Library
Wednesday - Gym
Thursday - Pizza Day
Friday - Christmas Around the World Day 1

Grade 3: Welcome to a new week.

Monday - Phys. Ed.
Tuesday - French test: postponed from last week
Wednesday - Math Test: Unit 1 Patterning and Place Value
- Phys. Ed.
Thursday - Pizza Lunch
- School Life Event: Puzzle Day
Friday - Mem. Work: Isaiah 9:6
- Spelling Test: List 10

Grade 4: Welcome to a full week of school grade 4!

Monday - Megan
- Music
Tuesday - Patrick
- Bible test: Samuel
- Phys. Ed.
- Library: remember your books
Wednesday - Tiffany
- Music
Thursday - Pizza lunch
- Phys. Ed.
Friday - Alexis
- Spelling test
- Memory work: 1 Samuel 15:22
- Foster Child
- Buddies
next Mon. - Anthony

Grade 5: Welcome back! I hope you've enjoyed your weekend. We have two full weeks until Christmas Holidays, and in that time we'll be learning a lot about Jesus' birth in our New Testament Bible classes. The Grade 5's will have a small role in leading the Christmas chapel which is on Thursday, December 21st. The SK's and senior band will be performing as well; if you are able, please join us! In the next few weeks we'll be starting our new novel, entitled Snow Treasure which is

a big hit each year with the Gr. 5 students. Electives start in January; if you are able to volunteer in some capacity, (I.e. driving, or supervising) please let me know! Swimming lessons also start in January; students will be going to Southside Aquatic Centre each Friday from 1-2pm for swimming lessons. Swimming lessons is a part of the Gr. 5 Physical Education curriculum. Thanks for all the battery donations so far! Our little class competition is going well; students have been excited about it, and are keen to help with transporting the batteries into the barrels outside. In terms of homework, here is our week at a glance:

- Tuesday - Phys Ed: bring gym clothes
- Music: bring recorder
- Thursday - Phys Ed: bring gym clothes
- Music: bring recorder
- Friday - Spelling Test and Workbook: Lesson 15
- New Testament Bible Quiz: Jesus' Birth and Early Life (highlighted notes)
- Memory Work: 1 Corinthians 2:3-5 (NIV)
- Math Quiz: Two digit by two digit multiplication

Grade 6: Good work with the Christmas program, grade 6. I heard lots of positive comments. Thank you to those that contributed to our trees on stage. They can now be brought home. Parents, look for an email this week.

- Thursday - Math Quiz: work this week
Friday - Spelling: Unit 14 test and book due

Grade 7: Students are encouraged to spend 15-30 minutes each night reading their December novel. December reading assignments are due December 22. Grade 7 will celebrate Christmas on Thursday December 21. Students have planned food and treats, a craft, games, a movie and a gift exchange. At 2:15pm we will go skating.

Grade 8: I hope you all had a nice long weekend! Thank-you to all of the Grade 8 students for their willingness to help with hosting the Grandparents Tea on Thursday afternoon, you all did a wonderful job! Also, thank-you to all of the parents who came to our Christmas Program on Wednesday evening, it was good to see you and to connect with some of you.

- Tuesday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)
- Music (bring instruments)
- Wednesday - Math Quiz
- Thursday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)
- Music (bring instruments)
- Pizza Lunch
- Friday - Science Quiz

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

- December 14 Pizza Day
19 Board Meeting
20 Prayer Group
21 Christmas Chapel
Skating
- 23 - Jan.7 Christmas Break
8 New Year's Chapel 8:30
10 Staff Meeting
11 Sub Day
16 Board Meeting
17 Prayer Group 8:30

SONG OF THE MONTH: Brave

No I won't be afraid - You are with me
You are right beside me every day
Even when it feels like everything is going wrong
I can look up to You God and find my strength

Chorus: Oh! Oh! Oh! Your love has lifted me
Oh! Oh! Oh! Above the raging sea
Oh! Oh! Oh! And I just gotta say
Oh! Oh! Oh! Your love makes me brave
and I won't be afraid, Your love makes me brave.
I can face anything, Your love makes me brave.

I was lost and afraid til You found me
You lifted me up and gave me strength
Anywhere that I go You go with me, Oh!
Lord, You give me the courage to live each day. Chorus

And I won't be afraid, Your love makes me brave
I can face anything - Your love makes me brave.

Your word will light my way, Your word will help me stand
I know I'm safe with You, I know I'm held in Your hands
Your word will light my way, Your word will help me stand
I know I'm safe with You, I know I'm held in Your hands

Your love makes me brave and I won't be afraid
Your love makes me brave, I can face anything.
Your love makes me brave, and I won't be afraid
Your love makes me brave, I can face anything.
Your love makes me brave, Your love makes me brave,
Your love makes me brave.

Title: Brave	Words & Music by: Saddleback Kids
C.C.L.I. #400245	