

W E E K L Y N E W S L E T T E R

January 14, 2019

January, the beginning of a new year and many new beginnings, is a great time to reflect and re-evaluate our habits and patterns. Some habits and patterns are difficult to break and change. One of our greatest challenges of parenthood is evaluating our children's uses of technology and being effective guides for them.

"Everywhere I go, I see some kind of technology. It has transformed society, much like the printing press, radio or TV. However, what makes technology unique is that it's so intertwined in our lives that it's unavoidable. Technology was supposed to make life easier. More information at our fingertips. More shortcuts to simplify daily routines. But as parents, technology often makes our lives more difficult. Apps, video games and social media can become a time drain for our kids. They also create a direct - and sometimes dangerous - portal to our children. Instead of enhancing our kids' lives, technology can isolate them and open them up to cyber-bullying and risky behaviours. The goal of this resource is to encourage you to stop and think about the technology your family uses. It will also help you understand and navigate the pitfalls of today's most popular digital platforms and games. Technology will capture our children's attention. As parents, we need to educate and support them in developing healthy technology habits. God, through His Word, tells us to be attentive, be authentic and pursue unity with one another. That's great advice on how to live-and how to act in our use of technology"

This is an excerpt from Focus on the Family's Parent's Guide to Today's Technology 2018. It is full of questions, answers and conversation starters for your family Co to Focus on the Family Canada website to get your free copy.

Linda Westerveld



Monday	- Dongwook K., Gr.5
Thursday	- Emit H., SK1
Friday	- Cody D., Gr.4
Saturday	- Ryan D., Gr.4

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Belated Christmas Thanks: For all of you who blessed our staff with cards, delicious baked goods, candles, gifts, candy, flowers, and other gifts and treats, a big THANK YOU for your generosity. It is good to partner with you as we grow our children in the knowledge of God and his creation. Thank you for showing your love through gifts and words of encouragement and appreciation.

From LDCSS: On Wednesday, January 16th at 7 pm, we will host our **Dessert Information Evening** at London Christian High. Guests will get a chance to tour the school, meet the teachers and learn more about our program of learning. Parents and students in grades 5-12 are welcome! To register for the evening, or for more information, email Gabriella at ghoogstra@lchonline.ca.

Registering for Grade 9 @ London Christian High: Registration is now open for the 2019-20 school year and applications are starting to come in! We're very excited about welcoming new students to our school and growing in community together! For more information, explore our website: londonchristianhigh.ca or connect with Gabriella at 519-455-4360 ext. 231 or ghoogstra@lchonline.ca to book a tour. We look forward to hearing from you!

Senior Boys Basketball: Mr. Hans Strikwerda is our coach this year, with Mrs. Verbeek assisting. Boys are beginning to practice during break times and this week we will add Wednesday after-school practices to our schedule. Parents, beginning on Wednesday, January 16th, and for subsequent Wednesdays, please pick up your sons at 5 pm after practice. If you have questions, please connect with Mrs. Verbeek or Mr. Strikwerda. Please note that the Bluewater Christian Schools basketball tournament is on Friday, February 15th, which is also a PD day.

MS Read-A-Thon: The WCS fundraising campaign to manage and research Multiple Sclerosis is coming up! Our kick-off assembly will take place on Thursday, January 17th @ 830 am. By reading and fundraising, students will be helping individuals and families who live with MS. Students can encourage online donations or collect cash and/or cheque pledges from sponsors for all the minutes you read. There will be prizes for the various levels of funds you raise! Stay tuned for more details.

Early Dismissal: Please note that MONDAY, January 28th is an early dismissal day. Our school day will finish at 1:30 pm and students will board the buses at that time and be home 2 hours + 10ish minutes earlier than usual. Teachers will gather for their Professional Learning Communities sessions following student dismissal.

WCS Electives: Electives begin on Wednesday, February 6, and run for five weeks until March 6, 2019 from approximately 2:10 to 3:30 for our junior and intermediate students. You should have received an email last Thursday if you have children in grades 4 - 8; let me know if you were missed. The email contains a letter and link to sign-up your children for their three preferred choices. Please have your selections in by tomorrow so that the Elective Team can finalize electives. If you have any questions, let g.hiemstra@woodstockchristian.ca know.

Poetry & Speeches: Please note that the Poetry Meet for grades 1-4 which is scheduled in our calendar for Friday, Feb. 22nd, will be held on Thursday, February 28th instead. Please make the change on your calendar.

Speeches: For older students who are finalists in their grade's public speaking project, the Canadian Legion annual speech meet competition will be on Saturday March 2 at their building - 642 Dundas Street, Woodstock. Registration starts at 9 am, speeches are at 9:30 am in the main hall.

Transportation News – Bus Drivers: Is a bus driving job a good fit for you? Our bus drivers report that bus driving is a great way to combine their love for interaction with students and colleagues, find employment that matches their children's school schedules, and experience the joy and challenge of driving! Woodstock Christian School is looking to train you if you are interested in this position. We currently have opportunity for spare drivers, but anticipate that regular positions may come available. Do you have a B license and are you looking for a way to serve the school? We are able to train and assist you in the process of becoming a licensed bus driver. If interested, call the school at 519-539-1492 or email principal@woodstockchristian.ca.

New bus! We have a new bus! Due to extensive repairs required of our old buses, the Board has approved a new bus purchase a few months ahead of schedule. Bus #29 was purchased over the Christmas break and is in service as part of our WCS fleet. Check out the new "turtle" bus!

Buses for Exam Weeks: Please note that during exam week at LDCSS, January 22-25, the p.m. bus schedule will be slightly different. This means that WCS students will board the buses immediately following dismissal at 330 pm and will be home 8-10 minutes earlier (weather dependent).

Remind: Just a reminder that beginning January 28, 2019 some of our parent community may no longer receive texts. You can read more about this here: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/bell-rogers-remind-texting-1.4974660> We also received an email last week and read a portion of last week's email below as to what can be done about that:

Beginning January 28, 2019, people in your classes who normally get Remind texts will no longer receive your messages if they have wireless plans with Rogers, Bell, or their respective subsidiaries.

What can you do? To make sure people in your classes continue receiving your messages, encourage them to download the mobile app or enable email notifications. Our team's also working hard on a solution that allows your classes to continue to use Remind by text, and we'll share more details with you before January 28.

Learning Support - Mrs. Bulthuis: Students in the Learning Support and ESL programs are able to access online books on Raz-Kids. If you have any questions about how to access this great reading resource for your child, please let me know. The grades 4-6 Dynaread group is working hard and making good progress through their lessons. Be sure to ask them what topic they are currently reading and learning about.

Wednesday - Return book bags (grades 1-3)

Friday - Grade 6 Math Test (JUMP pages 122-138)

J.K.1 - Mrs. Westerveld: Welcome to a new week! We are having a greta time exploring winter, doing ice experiments and learning about shapes. For show and share this week, please bring in something white. Have a great week!

Wednesday - Library

Thursday - Show and share

S.K.1 - Mrs. Poort: Its been great to get back into routine. Happy Birthday to Emit this week. Thank you for those of you who have brought in Kleenex boxes so far. We currently have two in our classroom so if you haven't brought one in please do. Please remember to practice with the sound books every night. Please bring the sound books each day so we can practice and check them. In math we are working on patterns. If you haven't brought in your December reading log it is not to late. In Science we are discovering animals.

Monday - /sh/
- sound books checked

Wednesday - /th/
- library
- sound books checked

Thursday - /qu/
- sound books checked

JK2/SK2 - Miss Body: Welcome to a new week. This week our Jolly Phonics letters will be z, w and ng. Our sight words are can, for. We have finished our unit on Joseph. Ask your child what they learned about him.

Wednesday - Library day

- Scholastic Due

Grade 1 - Mrs. Schuster: Welcome to a brand new

week! This week is Jennilyn's last week with us. Check your email for how we will be celebrating her on Friday together, and how you can help. Last week we started a new math unit on counting to 100. We will be wrapping this up this week and beginning our next one on adding and subtracting. Again, check your email to see how you can support your child in these different areas.

Monday - See VIP Folder

Tuesday - Library

Wednesday - Prayer Group 8:30

Thursday - Reading Folder Due
- M.S. Read-A-Thon kick off assembly

Friday - Spelling Test

Grade 2A - Mrs. VanderPloeg: Welcome a new week! We are visiting Caressant Care this Wednesday. We look forward to a time of fellowship with the residents there. Check your email for an update on what is happening in our class!

Tuesday - Phys. Ed

Wednesday - Show&Share: Noah Ba & Jocelyn
- Trip to Caressant Care @ 1:45 - 3:15

Thursday - MS Readathon Assembly

Friday - Phys. Ed
- Spelling Test

Grade 2B/3B - Mrs. Horinga: This week we will continue to focus on our reading comprehension skills. We are learning to make connections while we are reading which helps us remember what we are reading. This weeks spelling words focus on double consonants. A package for the Poetry meet will be coming home later this week please read through and it and help your child choose their poem. Congratulations to Isaiah and his family who had a baby boy over the Christmas break - May God bless this new life.

Monday - Library

Friday - Spelling test

Grade 3A - Mr. G. Hiemstra: We are editing some of our paragraphs from last week regarding our theme and will share some of them for Ink Links and at the assembly. Students received some poem choices on Friday and need to select a poem by tomorrow that they wish to begin memorizing as I will be requesting the title. Though there

is no MW this week students should begin memorizing their selected poem. Our aim is to know 1/3 of it by next Thursday, January 24th.

Friday - Spelling test

Grade 4 - Mrs. VanAndel: Welcome to another week of learning grade 4! We are beginning our bird report this week. Information needs to be at school by Thursday.

Monday - devotions: Paige
- library: remember your books

Tuesday - devotions: Ryan

Wednesday - all school devotions

Thursday - MS Readathon Assembly
- Bible test: Samuel

Friday - devotions: Sunbin
- Happy birthday Cody!!
- Spelling test
- Foster Child
- Buddies

Saturday - Happy birthday Ryan!!

next Mon. - devotions: Tyler
- Library

Grade 5 - Mr. A. Hiemstra: I hope you enjoyed your weekend and are feeling refreshed for a new week. The learning continues in Gr. 5! I'm excited for the week ahead: students will continue to learn about government in social studies class, measurement in mathematics, how to edit a narrative in language arts, basketball in Phys Ed, and many more exciting topics in other subjects. A reminder to send your child to school with his/her swim suit and towel on Mondays. January 28 is an early dismissal; there will be no swimming that day; it has been moved to Friday, February 1st. A reminder to sit down with your child and submit your electives choices as soon as possible. Have a great week!

Monday - Swimming at Southside Aquatic Centre from 2-3 pm: bring swimsuit and towel.

Tuesday - PhysEd: bring gym clothes
- Music: bring recorder

Wednesday - 1st draft of story typed up (this is part of our computer keyboarding practice unit)

Thursday - PhysEd: bring gym clothes
- Music: bring recorder

Friday - Bible Quiz: main story-line of the book of Daniel, so far
- Social Studies: Government quiz based on highlighted notes
- Health Quiz: Canada's Food Guide

Grade 6 - Mrs. Hickey: Welcome to a new week. Speech topics have been chosen and planning has begun.

Remember to sign up for Electives by Tuesday. Students need to read the electricity meter each day this week and fill out the sheet sent home today. Return it on Friday.

Please send back signed test envelope. Leave contents at home.

Tuesday - Library
- Music (instrument)
- VIP program

Wednesday - Phys. Ed. (gym strip)

Thursday - MS Read-a-thon assembly
- Field Study at the Art Gallery

Friday - Math Test: Unit 7 (Divisibility and Prime Numbers)
- Spelling Test: List 14
- Electricity Meter Reading Homework due
- Phys. Ed. (gym strip)

Grade 7 - Mrs. Racicot:

Monday - BMW books of the O.T.

Thursday - Music project

Friday - math quiz (lessons 32-39)
- BWM
- spelling

Grade 8 - Mr. Schaafsma: Welcome to a new week! Thank-you to Mrs. VanderHoek for walking with us to Caressant Care on Friday, our next visit is scheduled for Friday February 1. Be sure to sign up for electives ASAP, they must be in this week, an online registration went home last week.

Monday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)

Tuesday - Music (bring instruments)

Wednesday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)

Thursday - Music (bring instruments)

Friday - Spelling Quiz
- Memory Work
- Math Quiz

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

January	15	Board Meeting
	16	Prayer Group 8:30
	17	MS Readathon Assembly
	24	Sub Day
	28	Map Testing begins Early Dismissal 1:30; Staff PLC 2-5
	29	Jr. Basketball Tournament
	31	Theme Chapel 8:30 JK/SK Information Evening
February	6	Staff Meeting 7:15 Prayer Group 8:30 Electives begin Registration Day
	7	Sub Day
	11	MS Readathon Begins
	13	Electives continue
	15	Sr. Basketball Tournament P.D. Day*
	18	Family Day*