

May 23, 2017

**What Does Ascension Day Mean for Us?**

This week we will celebrate Ascension Day at Woodstock Christian School. Actually, celebrate may be an overstatement as this day does not take on the same dimensions as other Christian holidays in our calendar. But should it? As we, at WCS, are guided this year by the words of this year's theme chapter - Ephesians 4 - we are reminded of the importance of Jesus' ascension.

Paul writes: As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: *"When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people."*

*(What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:1-13, NIV)*

Jesus, our ascended Lord, fills the whole universe. Jesus is KING! He has ascended and is enthroned. Great glory, splendor, majesty, and goodness come from Him - it is who He is. EVERYTHING is under His rule and authority. Grasp the impact. We can know that whatever is going on in our lives, Jesus has power over it. Difficulties, trials, temptations, heartbreaks, illnesses, persecutions...whatever name it goes by, Jesus' name is greater.

We have been saved by grace to serve. The Holy Spirit equips us, and our children, to serve. As Christ ascended, we are tasked to be his hands and feet and heart, to love, to serve, to transform the spaces and relationships within which we live and work. Ascension Day illustrates that God is Greater!

C. Verbeek, Principal



Thursday - Desiree W., JK

Friday - Annelies D., Gr.1A

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**Prayer Corner:** Please continue to offer prayers of thanksgiving for the many blessings we experience. Also pray for one another, for healing from illness, pain, broken relationships and loss. We think of Pauline Markus and family who mourn the loss of a grandmother, and for many families who have experienced loss recently or long ago and for whom the grief wells up suddenly and unexpectedly. As students become restless at year end, please pray for focus and good learning times with their classmates.

**Open Sky 24/7 Prayer Room:** Monday, as I walked with the WCS float in the Victoria Day parade, Mayor Trevor Birtch stopped me to request that I appeal to the parents of WCS to participate in the Open Sky 24/7 prayer room. The prayer room was to be open for the first weeks in May, but "miracles are happening" said Mayor Birtch, and "we are seeing God at work" so the prayer room continues to operate. Last year Woodstock made headlines for several suicides, the visible tip of the iceberg of all those struggling with depression and anxiety; behind those deaths was a far larger, hidden story of widespread self-harm. Though the media coverage is now quiet, the darkness continues. As Christians we need to pray and intercede for our larger community. Youth Unlimited/YFC Woodstock has turned Open Sky (405 Dundas) into a room for prayer warriors, a place of intercession for our city, 24 hours a day. The goal is to pass the baton of prayer from hour to hour so that every hour of the week has someone watching in prayer for Woodstock.

**Victoria Day Parade:** Thank you, Thank you, Thank you to the many people who helped make the Victoria Day parade a success. To Bonnie and Joost Jongert who built the wagon for us, to Derek Voskamp for getting and driving the tractor for us, to Mrs. Martin and the Grade 7&8 band for playing for the float, to Dick Verbeek for the awesome looking banners we had as well. Also a HUGE thank you to the students and parents that walked with us - over 30 people showed up and we had a great time. It truly was a great community event!

**Field Day and District Field Day:** Thanks to all those who came out to cheer our students last Wednesday. Great job, students, with your participation. A number of new records were set by students in various age categories. A special congratulations to Anna D. that set a new record in Standing Long Jump with a distance of 1.54 m., to Cora B. for setting a new record in Standing Triple Jump with a distance of 4.67m, to Conner D. for setting a new record in High Jump with a height of 1.29m., and to Amy T. for setting a new record in High Jump with a height of 1.48m. A team for District Field Day next Wednesday, May 31, is now being finalized. Please look for a sheet coming home tomorrow for those that are going to District, and return the permission slip to school by Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Hiemstra

**From the Library:** Today, Tuesday library classes celebrated "Canadian Children's Book Week" in our library and tomorrow, Wednesday classes will celebrate. Both Grade One classes received the book "Small Saul." All Grade One classes across Canada received this book compliments of the TD Grade One Book Giveaway Program. All other grades were and will be able to participate in a draw for a book! Let's give thanks for the blessings of literacy we all can enjoy. Today is the third last week students are able to withdraw a book from the library. Please keep an eye out for any lost books and thank-you to all parents and students who are being really diligent in keeping track of the books being withdrawn! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [m.dieleman@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:m.dieleman@woodstockchristian.ca).

**Ingersoll Bus Route:** Please note that Route #2 will be adjusting pickup/dropoff locations due to the 401 bridge installation which is scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup>. Route revisions will be coming home with bus students this week.

**School buses for class trips:** Because we no longer have a spare bus, during class trip season these next six weeks, there will be several occasions when we will need to cancel an end-of-day bus run. As much as possible, our class trips take place during the school day, but for trips at greater distances, a class and a bus will return after hours. Our apologies for this inconvenience. We will rotate through the bus routes affected.

**Touch A Truck Event for Wee Creations Preschool:** Wee Creations will be hosting their annual "Touch a Truck" event on Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mrs. Scheele is looking for senior WCS students (and parents?) to assist as hosts - to direct parking, meet & greet in costumes, or help at tables. Please stop by the preschool and let her know if you can help.

**Summer Plans:** Consider browsing through the City of Woodstock services calendar for summer camps and community opportunities for your family. Check out the link:  
[https://www.cityofwoodstock.ca/en/living-in-woodstock/resources/2017-2018\\_CityServicesCalendar-Apr17-Mar18.pdf](https://www.cityofwoodstock.ca/en/living-in-woodstock/resources/2017-2018_CityServicesCalendar-Apr17-Mar18.pdf)

**J.K. / S.K. - A:** It is another week of Kindergarten! We are excited that our caterpillars have now created their chrysalis and we now eagerly wait to see their transformation into butterflies. With all the special activities lately we have gotten a little behind on our color books - but please keep practicing the ones that have come home and we will get back to them this week.  
 Wednesday - Library

**J.K. / S.K. - B:** Welcome to a new week! Thank You for all your help with field day last week. This week we will be doing some planting, gardening and bread making. In Bible, we will focus on the Ascension of Jesus. Have a great week.  
 Wednesday - Library  
 Thursday - Show and share

**Grade 1A:** Welcome to a new week! I hope you enjoyed the long weekend! Check your emails for an update on what will be happening in our class. Spelling Words:- ing words (see list that was sent home last week!)  
 Tuesday - Library  
                   - Gym  
 Wednesday - Ascension Chapel @ 8:30  
                   - Show & Share: Faith & Kurtis  
 Friday - Happy Birthday to Annelies!  
           - Gym  
           - Spelling & new list

**Grade 1B:** Welcome back from your extra long weekend! I hope and pray that you were able to get some time to refresh yourself with your family, and are now ready to complete the school year! Thank you to all the parents who came out to support us during Track and Field. We had a great day, and everyone did their best. Congratulations! Our chicks go home next week! If you are bringing a chick home, please begin to think about how you will be transporting them.  
 Monday - Victoria Day (no school)  
 Tuesday - See VIP Folder  
           - Library  
 Friday - Spelling Test

**Grade 2:** I hope that you all had a wonderful long weekend and that it was relaxing and that you are all ready for another week of learning! We will be continuing on with our math, Bible, and Creation Studies units. This week we look forward to watching our Flat Stanley's begin to trickle in through the mail!  
 Tuesday - Library  
 Wednesday - Gym  
               - Pentecost/Ascension Day Chapel @ 8:30  
 Friday - Spelling Test

**Grade 3:** Welcome to a new week. Please join us for the Ascension/Pentecost Chapel that we are hosting this Wednesday at 8:30 am. Please make sure you are wearing proper footwear on Mon. + Wed. for Phys. Ed. as we will be outdoors for the rest of the year.  
 Wednesday - Ascension/Pentecost Chapel  
                   - Library  
                   - Phys. Ed. (Outdoors)  
 Friday - Mem. Work: Psalm 135:1-2  
           - Spelling Test: List 28

**Grade 4:** Welcome to another short week of school!  
 Tuesday - Esther  
           - Phys. Ed.  
           - Library  
 Wednesday - Evyn  
               - Music: remember your recorders  
               - Ascension and Pentecost Assembly at 8:30  
 Thursday - Gabriel  
               - Skeleton Quiz  
               - Phys. Ed.  
 Friday - Hailey  
           - Spelling test  
           - Bible test: Elisha  
           - Buddies  
 next Mon. - Jeremy  
               - Music: bring recorders

**Grade 5:** Welcome back to school after a long weekend - I hope you all enjoyed it! This week is a 4 day week, yet quite a busy one. A few quizzes at the end of the week; students should study their notes throughout the week in preparation. At this point, materials for the castle-building project should be collected and brought to school this morning. We hope to start building the castles in class tomorrow, please bring materials by tomorrow.  
 Tuesday - Music: bring recorder  
           - Bring castle building materials for Medieval Castle Project  
 Wednesday - Bring any last castle materials to school. Bring finished blue-print of castle to school (1<sup>st</sup> floor & 2<sup>nd</sup> floor designs/layouts)  
 Thursday - Math Quiz: Area and Perimeter  
 Friday - Spelling: Lesson 32 of workbook and test  
           - Memory Work: Jesus' seven 'I Am' statements (see memory work hand-out)  
           - Science Quiz: The Digestive System (notes so far)

**Grade 6:** Great encouragement shown on Field Day, grade 6. Those who are selected on the District Team need to ensure they practice for their event(s).  
 Thursday - Math quiz: perimeter, area, and surface area of

various shapes excluding circular objects (use your quiz to help you study)

- Friday
- Socials Quiz: latitude and longitude
  - Spelling Test: Unit 32 due: book and test
  - Story: 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of story due (both drafts to be handed in with peer comments)

**Grade 7:**

- Tuesday - continue reading Holes and The Giver
- Wednesday - Chap #9 Math Test
- Thursday - daily work on History projects
- Friday - spelling test #34
- BMW Deut 3:24

**Grade 8:** Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a great long weekend. It was wonderful to see so many of you on the float at the Victoria Day Parade yesterday, well done. Reminder that if you have any Baby Pictures or School related class pictures to bring them in to school.

- Tuesday - Gym (bring Gym clothes)
- Music (bring instruments)
- Wednesday - Louis Riel mock trial (make sure you are prepared)
- Novel Study: Bifocal groups read chapters 19-25
- Wonder students read Parts 5 and 6
- Thursday - Gym (bring Gym clothes)
- Music (bring instruments)
- Friday - Science Quiz
- Be sure to have work completed for the Novel Study

**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- |      |    |  |
|------|----|--|
| May  | 24 | Ascension Chapel                                   |
|      | 26 | Chix with Stix                                     |
|      | 31 | District Track & Field                             |
| June | 3  | Touch-A-Truck                                      |
|      | 7  | Staff Meeting<br>Prayer Group                      |
|      | 16 | P.A. Day   |
|      | 20 | Grade 8 Tribute Assembly<br>Graduation             |
|      | 21 | Prayer Group<br>Board Meeting                      |
|      | 23 | Last Day of School - 1 pm dismissal<br>Report Card |
|      | 24 | WCS Golf Tournament                                |

**SONG OF THE MONTH:** Spirit Of God

1. The blessing of the Father gift of grace and love  
The promise of the Savior for power from above  
Oh wondrous gift that's given  
For confidence and mission  
Holy Spirit You make all things new
- Chorus Spirit of God breathe on me now  
Source of life come revive my weary heart  
Spirit of God shine on me now  
Light of life come ignite my longing heart
2. Come and lift the dark clouds of doubt and unbelief  
Shine upon my soul now for by Your rays I see  
Clearer closer deeper the love of my Redeemer  
Holy Spirit You make all things new
- Bridge Where You breathe hope thrives  
The dead return to life  
And the dark must flee the breaking day  
By Your light I see the glory of my King  
Beholding Him I will be changed

Title: Spirit of God, Words & Music by: Dave Fournier|George Romanacce  
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