

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

September 11, 2017

As a new school year begins, we welcome new families, meet new teachers and greet old friends. At WCS, the events sprinkled throughout our calendar year help us to enjoy time and fellowship together. Although it is comfortable and familiar to chat with our life long friends, I encourage each of you to take a few moments to talk with someone that you do not know. A great time to put this into practice is at the upcoming Dessert Social! This is a light evening of classroom visits, sharing (nut free) potluck style desserts and seeing the changes that have taken place in the hallways at Woodstock Christian School. We pray that God will continue to bless our school as He has done so richly in the past! *How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.* Psalm 133:3

Dawn Streutker



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| Tuesday | - Alissa D., Gr.3 |
| Wednesday | - Sarah S., Gr.8 |
| | - Ryan D., Gr.6 |
| | - Julia B., Gr.3 |
| | - Lucy K., Gr.5 |
| Thursday | - Leanne B., Gr.3 |
| Saturday | - Lucy M., SK |
| Sunday | - Amaya R., Gr.1A |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Scholastic book orders are due on Wednesday September 27.

REMINd Mobile Text Messages: A letter has been emailed to all parents of Woodstock Christian School. The letter explains how to join the REMIND system, the same system that was well received last year. It is an efficient means of one-way communication to parents in the event of bus delays or cancellations or other unusual events. Please look for the email and follow the steps to receive text messages delivered directly to your mobile phone. Please note that cancellation or other change notices will continue to be posted on the website.

Woodstock Christian School and the Buses are NUT FREE (not just peanut-free)! We have students enrolled who have allergies to more than just peanuts, so we need to be a NUT FREE FACILITY for the safety of all students here at WCS! Please make sure that when you are packing lunches, treating our staff with goodies (which we love and so appreciate by the way!), or sending birthday treats, no nuts of any kind are included.

From Mrs. Bulthuis and Mrs. Poort, The Learning Place: The Learning Place is in full-swing again! Students receiving support in the Learning Place will be taking home letters this week outlining the amount of support they will be receiving this term. If you have any questions or comments about this information, please feel free to connect with us (k.poort@woodstockchristian.ca or t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca).

From the Library: This week our library will be open for business once again. We thank our faithful volunteers who again have committed to coming each and every week. Students will be reminded of library procedures once again during their first visit. Keep an eye on this newsletter for other information pertaining to the WCS Library. Mrs. Dieleman

Foster Child: Thank you to all those who remembered to bring in a small donation for our Foster Child, Djunylove, this week. Please keep her, her family, and community in your prayers this week as they recover from the effects they felt from Hurricane Irma (while they were not directly hit, there were some residual effects).

Terry Fox National School Run: Today grades 3-8 had a kick off assembly informing them about the upcoming Terry Fox Run on September 28. Pledge sheets have come home and everyone is encouraged to raise money for cancer research. Last year we raised \$2925. Students need to think of someone to "run for" to write on the "I'm running for..." sticker. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Hickey.

GIRLS SOCCER: Thank you to all the girls who signed up for soccer tryouts! We will be having regular after school practices on Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:50 pm. Students must wear shorts, shin pads and running shoes or cleats. There will be several recess practices each week - watch the sports board for dates and times. The tournament will be Monday October 2 in Warwick Ontario (raindate Wed October 4th).

Leadership Teams: At an assembly Tuesday, students will be introduced to WCS LEADERSHIP TEAMS. Each student is asked to prayerfully fill out a questionnaire which helps them uncover/share their leadership qualities and strengths. They are also asked which team(s) they would like to participate in based on the gifts God has given them to serve the school community while developing new personal skills. Growing in becoming Christian servers, students discover God's ultimate truth, their unique gifts, and their purpose in life. At WCS we offer over twenty leadership teams ranging from technology to morning announcement teams. These leadership teams also act as enrichment vehicles for every student in our school, giving them the opportunity to lead and excel beyond the scope of academics and their classroom responsibilities. Parents please discuss these opportunities with your child(ren) and help them fill out their questionnaires.



MMMM... CHICKEN!!! We are once again selling chicken from Elmira Poultry this year as a fundraiser for WCS. For every box sold, the school makes \$5! Last year we raised over \$4200! We are simply asking you to consider purchasing through W.C.S. what you would normally purchase at the grocery store. If you do feel like getting a few extra orders, that would be a bonus! Accompanying today's mail, please find the order form from Elmira. Please return your order forms to the school, accompanied with payment no later than next Tuesday, September 12. Orders received without payment will not be placed. Orders will be available for pickup on Thursday, September 28th between 3 and 4 pm. Please make arrangements to have your orders picked up at that time, as we will not be storing any orders at the school. Questions, please contact Michelle Sol at 519-539-7839 or jmsol@rogers.com.

Welcome Dessert Social - Friday, September 15, 2017: Our Welcome Dessert Social Evening is coming up this Friday evening. Classroom visits begin at 6:30 pm with a time of prayer and fellowship with desserts to follow at 7:25 pm. Please note, parents are responsible to supervise their children on the playground during the evening. We are asking each family to bring a dessert to share, PEANUT/NUT FREE. They can be dropped off in the kitchen between 6:30 and 7 pm. **We are also in need of volunteers for the evening in the kitchen from 6:30-7:00 and to clean up afterwards. If you are able to help in anyway with this, please contact Dawn Streutker at the school or Andrea VanRooyen at 226-377-1011.**

Prayer Group: Prayer Group continues September 20th at 8:30 am. All are welcome to attend. If you have questions please contact Dawn Streutker at admissions@woodstockchristian.ca. This year we will be praying over every family at WCS (thank you to Kristen VanderPloeg for creating a prayer chart!). Looking forward to a new year!

Chix with Sticks: A new season is upon us! Chix with Sticks is a fun, light event for the ladies in our community. There is no need to be a parent at WCS, so invite your friends and neighbours. We play a game of ball hockey in the school gym. The schedule will be every other Friday night, starting Sept. 29th. Cost is \$5 per game. The only equipment you require is non-marking running shoes! If you are interested in playing please contact Dawn Streutker at admissions@woodstockchristian.ca.

Forward Drive: The *Forward Drive 2017* is taking place in October. This is a time where we intentionally inform our community about the happenings at WCS and invite them to participate with us. Participation can be through donations, volunteerism or praying for the school. Oct 16th and 17th are set aside to make 400+ phone calls! Can you help us? We would love for new faces to join our team! Please contact Dawn Streutker.

Early Dismissal Days: As you receive the September paperwork from the WCS office, and as you read through the calendar, you will notice that there are three (3) Early Dismissal days listed. On these days, our end-of-day buses will run early and students will leave WCS at 1:30 pm. (These are not school days for LDCSS students, so they will not be affected.) Teachers will stay at school and work in their Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). These afternoons are set aside for teachers to go deeper with some of the learning initiatives that we have started at WCS, such as differentiated instruction, project-based learning, application of growth mindset strategies and more. These blocks of time allow for more focussed application and planning for our staff and are intended to enhance the learning environment in the classroom. The dates for these are September 29, January 29, and April 20.

Cancellations: For FOG DAYS, when driving conditions are too dangerous for the buses to run, our WCS school buses will be cancelled. It is expected that parents will drive their children into WCS when they feel that it is safe to do so. All classes will begin at normal time (8:25 am). The buses will run as usual after school to bring the students home. For students travelling to LDCSS, you can expect there to be a bus that will leave WCS at 8:10 (or when that bus driver believes that it is safe to drive to London). Please bring your high-school students to WCS for 8:10, providing you believe the roads are safe. The London bus will drive students home (as usual) at the end of the school day. For bad weather such as SNOW or ICE DAYS, school will be cancelled, and classes will not run for the day. Please sign up for the REMIND instant messaging system. You may also consult the school's web site at www.woodstockchristian.ca to see if buses are running. See elsewhere in the Parent Link about signing up for REMIND to receive notices via texts on your cell phone.

Transportation:

- There will be some flex in the pick up times given as drivers get to know their routes. Once we are up and running, students should be at their stops 5 minutes early.
- Communicate with your route captain if you have questions or need clarification. Concerns for the transportation committee must be made in writing by September 15th and will be dealt with at their September meeting.
- Routes will run as is for the first two weeks. We expect there to be some changes as some families are moving and as we get the bumps out of the system. Your patience is much appreciated!
- Your bus drivers are terrific people who are trying to do difficult jobs. Please do your best to work with them and the rules and procedures that they have set up on the bus. Good, clear communication is really important between bus drivers and bus riders to ensure a safe, enjoyable year on the bus. Thanks!
- We do not yet have a spare bus - but it's coming! For the interim, when we have a breakdown, a route may be cancelled. Please bear with us - and thanks for your cooperation.
- We need bus drivers! If you would like to drive or know someone who would be interested in driving or training to drive, please contact the office asap.



Woodstock Christian School
PRESENTS
Winterfest 2017

Mark Your Calendars now for this annual event on Nov 17!!!

Plans are already under way for our fundraising auction! We have over 200 local companies to contact and **we need your help with this.** Would you be willing to take on a list of even just 5 companies and contact them to see what they are willing to donate? This is a great way to help out that really doesn't take a lot of time and you can do it anytime in the month of October. Please contact Lisa Schaafsma (519-536-9269 or cell - 519-535-3947 or email - tlschaafsma@sympatico.ca) **this week** if you can do some of this canvassing! We really need your help to make this auction successful!

We will be having a **meeting with all canvassers** at the school in the next couple weeks. We will give you your list of companies, copies of the letter and discuss tips/tricks on how to be successful! Thanks in advance for all your help!

JOB POSTINGS: *Bus Drivers:* Woodstock Christian School is in need of bus drivers! Do you have a B license and are you looking for a way to serve the school? We have drivers who are passionate about their jobs and will affirm for you that this is a job that brings many blessings!! Are you interested in training as a bus driver? We are able to train and assist you in the process of becoming a licensed bus driver. There is opportunity for full-time, part-time, and spare drivers. If interested call the school at 519-539-1492 or email principal@woodstockchristian.ca.

Recording Secretary of the Board: Key tasks: The recording secretary assists the Board Chair and Secretary of the Board of Directors of Woodstock Christian School by keeping account of meetings of the Board, assisting with the process of motion and decision making, and maintaining records of past meetings. Applicants must be proficient in computer and keyboarding skills, have excellent written English communication skills, be attentive to detail, and deal professionally with matters of a sensitive and confidential nature. We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. Time commitment: Approximately 3 - 4 hours per month (Monthly evening meetings and as requested for special meetings of the Board of Directors.) Please forward cover letter and resume to principal@woodstockchristian.ca

Wee Creations Christian Preschool operates a morning program for children in the Woodstock Christian School. We still have openings on Monday mornings and are opening a Friday morning class in October. Please call 519-421-9755 for more info. **We are hiring!** Wee Creations needs a teacher to work on Monday mornings. We are also hiring supply staff. Please email your resume with cover letter to weecreationschristianpreschool@gmail.com or drop it off at the preschool classroom.

Junior Kindergarten: We had a great first week of school last week - everyone did great! We are now beginning our regular schedule so we will see you all on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday this week. We will continue to learn classroom and school routines. We are also learning about the story of Creation.

Thursday - Picture day
- Show and Share: bring in a picture of your family (that we can keep at school for a while)

Senior Kindergarten: Welcome to a new week. Watch for a class trip form coming home today. Please return it ASAP. We want to wish Lucy a Happy Birthday for Saturday. May God bless you in the year ahead, Lucy. Picture taking day is on Thursday. Please send in your form before that. I hope to see many of you at the Welcome Back dessert night on Friday. Have a great week.

Thursday - Picture taking day
- Show and share about light.
Friday - Welcome Back Dessert Night.

Grade 1A: Welcome to week 2! I can't wait to see all the amazing things you are going to learn this week! Awesome job tying shoes last week. While it was challenging at first, we learned to say "not yet!" and were able to celebrate once you accomplished this task. Keep up the great work! If you have not yet returned all your forms, please do so this week.

Monday - See VIP Folder
Tuesday - Return VIP Folder
- First Library Day
Thursday - Picture Day
Friday - Welcome Evening & Dessert Social

Grade 1B/2B: Welcome to the second week of school! I hope you had a restful weekend and are ready for a full week! Check your emails for an update about what is happening in Grade 1&2 this week. I look forward to seeing you at the Welcome Evening & Dessert Social on Friday night!

Monday - Party for Mrs. Vanderspek & Mrs. VanderPloeg
Tuesday - Gym
- Library
Wednesday - Continue to send in back-to-school forms
Thursday - Picture day!!
Friday - Gym
- Welcome Evening & Dessert Social {6:30pm}

Grade 2A: Week 2 is here! A number of routines were set this past week and we are ready to start various units here in grade 2. This week we will be beginning a Sorting and Patterning unit in Math and will also begin learning about Bees in Creation Studies!

Wednesday - Gym
Thursday - Picture Day
Friday - Welcome Evening Dessert Social

Grade 3: Welcome to a new week. We are adjusting well to the new routines and expectations. We will be part of the Terry Fox National School Run on Sept. 28. Check for the pledge sheet sent home today. We are studying trees in Creation Studies. Students need to bring in a variety of leaves for Wednesdays class.

Wednesday - Library
- Phys. Ed.
Thursday - School pictures
Friday - Mem. Work: Hebrews 12:1
- Welcome evening and dessert social (6:30 pm)

Grade 4: Welcome to the second week of school grade four! A huge happy birthday to Cole and Emily W., who both celebrated their 9th birthdays on Sunday. I pray God blesses both of you richly.

Monday - Terry Fox Kick-off
Tuesday - Alexis
- Leadership Team Assembly
- Phys. Ed.
- Library

- Wednesday - Anthony
- Music
- Thursday - Cole
- Picture Day
- Phys. Ed.
- Friday - Derek
- Memory work: "Big Word"- song of the month
- Buddies
- Welcome Evening and Dessert Social: please read the email sent to you on Sunday evening.
- Next Mon. - Dev
- Music

Grade 5: Students are asked to bring the following to school by Sept. 18 for an art project: the cardboard case of pop (12 cans) and 1 matching empty pop can. Thank you, Mrs. Racicot. Welcome to the 2nd week of school! To the parent volunteers: I'd like to thank you for joining us on the short field trip to the Duizer's farm last week, it was a great time. Students may be filling you in on some of our class discussion about Haiti. Our service project this year is all about how we can help Lagosette Christian School in Haiti. Our former principal, Bernice Huinink Buitter, serves as a temporary adviser for the school, and is in Haiti right now, working with the community of Lagosette. The Gr. 5 class will be learning a lot about Haiti and Haitian culture this year. This week, WCS's Victoria Body - currently an Educational Assistant in JK - will be speaking to the Gr. 5's about Haiti; she has been on a few missions trips there and is very knowledgeable when it comes to the country's people and socio-economic needs.

Tuesday - Phys Ed: bring gym clothes
Thursday - Phys Ed: bring gym clothes
Friday - Spelling: Workbook Lesson 2 due & Spelling Test (Yellow paper)
- Memory Work: John 10:14-15 (NIV)
- Math Quiz: Study Pages 1-6 of Jump Math Workbook

Grade 6: This week we will have a much busier week as we have begun our various units. A reminder to look at the schedule and ensure you have your necessary items for the day (ex. Gym strip). I am still looking to receive a number of questionnaires; please bring them in this week. I hope to see many of you this Friday at the dessert social! Some emails bounced back last week, and so I gave letters to students. Please let me know if you did not receive the second day letter. Terry Fox forms will be going home today.

Tuesday - letter from students coming home with agendas
Thursday - Math Quiz: patterns
- Picture Day (Please bring in your forms and monies if required for picture day.)
Friday - Spelling: Individual spelling test & book due
- Dessert social

Grade 7: Students are encouraged to participate in current extra curricular activities: soccer, choir and cross-country. We will begin keyboarding lessons today and practice for the next

6 weeks. On Tuesday, students will choose a novel for their September book report (due September 29). Students are invited to apply for leadership team positions. Applications are due on Sept. 15. Thursday is picture day! Friday is the WCS Dessert Social at 6:30 pm.

Grade 8: Welcome to a full week of school! This Thursday is Picture Day, be sure to dress appropriately! Friday evening is the WCS Dessert Social and I am looking forward to meeting many of you there. The VanStraten Fundraising Order forms will be coming home this week, please get as many orders as you can, all money raised will go toward our Grade 8 Year-end trip.

- Monday - Terry Fox Assembly
Tuesday - Leadership Team Assembly
- Gym (bring Gym clothes)
- Music (bring instruments)
Wednesday - School-wide Student Chapel (8:30)
Thursday - Picture Day
- Math Quiz
- Gym (bring Gym clothes)
- Music (bring instruments)
Friday - Spelling Quiz/Weekly Spelling Due
- Memory Work Quiz

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

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| September | 14 | School Pictures |
| | 15 | Welcome Dessert Evening |
| | 19 | Board Meeting |
| | 20 | Prayer Group |
| | 21 | Pizza Day |
| | 28 | Terry Fox Run |
| | 29 | Early Dismissal 1:30, Staff PCL - 2 p.m. |

SONG OF THE MONTH: Big Word

A huge cloud of witnesses is all around us, all around us
So let us throw off everything that stands in our way,
stands in our way
and let us throw off any sin that holds onto us so tightly

and let us keep on running, keep on running,
keep on running the race marked out

let us keep on running, keep on running, keep on running
the race marked out for us

A huge cloud of witnesses is all around us, all around us
So let us throw off everything that stands in our way,
stands in our way
and let us throw off any sin that holds onto us so tightly

and let us keep on running,
keep on running, keep on running the race marked out