

September 19, 2016

COMMUNITY

One of the key words in the tag line for Woodstock Christian School is 'COMMUNITY'. Dictionary definitions for community range from a very generic definition - a group of people living together in one place to a more holistic one - a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. Even this one, though, does not capture what it means to be Christian community, to be united in Christ. Our theme at Woodstock Christian School this year comes from Ephesians 4, and the entire chapter is titled Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ. The apostle Paul says "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 (vs 1-3)." I saw many examples of community at work last week. Buddy classes began and as older and younger students joined together, reading to one another, playing outdoor games together, enjoying conversations, there was a real sense of community. Students in the playground were looking out for one another, helping a fallen friend, getting an ice pack for someone with a bumped head, and playing tag or soccer together. Parents waiting for their children in the foyer after school exchanged greetings, arranged play dates, and generally caught up after the summer break. During the Welcome Evening and Dessert Social on Friday evening, the school was buzzing with conversation, laughter, and enjoyment. Such a blessing to be together! On the flip side, because we are part of a sinful and broken world, there were also instances of disunity, wilfulness, and selfishness. Proverbs 6:16-19 speaks shockingly directly about "six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him - one of which is a person who stirs up conflict in the community. As we head into week three of our school year, continue to pray for unity and peace for our classrooms, our playground, and our larger school community.

C. Verbeek



- |         |                    |
|---------|--------------------|
| Tuesday | - Esther D., Gr.4  |
|         | - Lucas B., Gr.2   |
| Friday  | - Cameron M., SK-B |
| Sunday  | - Grace R., Gr.7   |
|         | - Lucas B., SK-B   |
|         | - Amber H., Gr.6   |

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**Prayer Requests:** We thank God for the safe arrival of baby Rebecca to the Wesselson family!

**Terry Fox National School Run:** This morning grades 3-8 had a Terry Fox Run kick-off assembly. We were encouraged to think of someone who we could run for next Wednesday, Sept. 28. We were also encouraged to collect donations for cancer research. Please help your child in this activity. WCS has a fundraising page that you can donate to. let your family and friends know. <http://www.terryfox.ca/WoodstockCSWoodstock>. Everyone's lives have been touched by cancer in some way. There is hope! If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Hickey.

**Cross Country Team:** We will be practicing Mondays after school till 4:30 pm. This is for the grades 5-8 runners. Grade 3-4 will practice during school hours. Our first event is the Christian Schools Meet on Thursday, Sept. 29 at Stratford Christian School. Races begin at 10:30 am. Information was sent home last Friday. Please return the commitment form asap. Any questions? Ask Mrs. Hickey

**Golf Practice:** Once again this year there is an opportunity to have a 4 member golf team. This week Thursday after school is our second practice from 3:45 to 5:15 at the Creekside Golf Club, near the school along highway 59. Cost is \$10 to play, and players must have their own clubs, and a ride to the course. Those who signed up, please come out to play and enjoy the game on Thursday. A team will be chosen on Friday. The golf tournament is Sept. 28. Any questions, please let me know at [g.hiemstra@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:g.hiemstra@woodstockchristian.ca) Mr. Hiemstra

**GIRLS SOCCER:** We will be having regular after school practices on Wednesdays from 330 to 445 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 October 3<sup>rd</sup> in Warwick Ontario.

**Mobile Text Messages:** You can join anytime if you haven't yet considered this. Please check the emails that were sent out the first two weeks of school.

**Prayer Group:** We will be meeting on Wednesday morning 8:30 am in the lobby. Everyone is welcome to join in praying with us!

**Chix with Sticks:** Dates have been set for 2016/17! Looking forward to another great season. All women are welcome, please email Dawn Streutker to have your name added to our email chain for notifications and more information. [admissions@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:admissions@woodstockchristian.ca). \*\*ALL skill levels are welcome to join\*\*

**Take a Book~Leave a Book:** Feel free to participate in our new program in the lobby! Anyone is welcome to take a book, read it and return it, or pass it on. Leave a book that you feel others would enjoy! If you have questions please talk to Dawn Streutker!

**Foster Child:** Don't forget to bring in your money for Lousca this week!

**Dessert Social:** Thank you to the kitchen staff (Andrea VanRooyen) and all those who baked and brought in goodies for the dessert social. It was a pleasure to be together: eating, praying and playing. Thank you to the teachers for spending their Friday night at the school after they worked a full week! God has blessed us with a wonderful community. May we all have a great year together!

**Mascot:** Has anyone figured out who was in the costume on Friday evening? What a treat to have such a fun visitor attend our event! We are excited that Mr. Wolf will be at many more events this year! We are continuing to work on small stuffies and signage for the gymnasium wall. A leadership team will be put together to create a chant and wear the Mascot costume at sporting events.

**From the Learning Place:** Did you know that our Learning Place has grown and we now have two Learning Support Teachers? Mrs. Poort has joined Mrs. Bulthuis as a part-time EA (50%) and teacher (10%) in the program! We have had a great start to the year and have already been busy working with students. Learning Place students will be taking home letters this week outlining information about the amount and frequency of support they will be receiving this term. Please feel free to contact us with any questions ([t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca) or [k.poort@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:k.poort@woodstockchristian.ca)).

**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 30<sup>th</sup>, December 9<sup>th</sup>, and January 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be more information as each of these dates approaches.

**Movie Night!** On Oct. 21 at 7pm sharp in the gymnasium, Family fun night will be showing the movie "Zootopia"! Families are encouraged to come out and have a fun time together and meet new (and old) friends. Since this is a family event, parents are to

supervise their own children, we will not be providing any child care services. We are asking for monetary donations in exchange for movie tickets. Tickets will be available at the office, or contact Melanie Huinink (519-532-0878) or Joanne Dreise (519-539-8380). Donations are due by Oct. 19. There will also be a concession stand open before and during the movie, where you may purchase snacks; such as popcorn, chips, candy bars and pop. If you're looking for ways to volunteer, we could use a few extra set of hands either at the door (to welcome and gather tickets) or at the concession stand.

**KIDS: Be sure to pick up, complete and enter in colouring sheets (available in the front lobby display) for a chance to win a FREE snack at the concession stand during the showing of the movie. Please write your name and grade on the back.**

**Winners will be announced on the morning of Oct. 21.**



## Mark Your Calendars now for this annual event on Nov 18!!!

Plans are already under way for our fundraising auction! Donation request letters have gone out to over 200 local companies and **we need help following up on these letters**. Would you be willing to take on a list of even just 5 companies and call them or drop in to make sure they received our letter and ask 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) **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 on Monday, **Sept 26 at 7:15 pm** in the library. 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!

**J.K. / S.K. - A:** We continue to settle into our routines. This week we are going to talk about the letters S and T. We learned last week about sorting by colors and this week we will focus on sorting by size. How can you practice at home - how about having your child sort the socks in the laundry by colour or size??

Wednesday - Library - return books from last week and you will get to take a new one home

**J.K. / S.K. - B:** Welcome to a new week. It was great to connect with many of you on Friday evening! We wish Cameron a Happy Birthday on Friday. Blessings in the year ahead! Congratulations to Brooklyn with the birth of her new sister Rebecca! On Wednesday we will go on a garden field trip. Thanks to Mrs. markus, Mrs. Sol and Mrs. Yu for coming with us. On Thursday, we will attempt to make Salsa. Please bring in something that we could use for salsa as your show and tell. Have a great week!

**Grade 1A:** Welcome to another week of school! Last week was a busy week - we had a fun time in Grade One. It was lovely to meet some of you at the Welcome and Dessert Social on Friday!! Thank you for stopping by the classroom! Thank you also for the blessing of the birthday party on Monday! Mrs. VanderSpek and Mrs. VanderPloeg enjoyed the excitement, cupcakes and gifts. The students talked about our "birthday party" all week!

We have another week of settling into routine. Memory Work (1 John 1:3) is due on Wednesday - please work on this with your child at home. We have been saying it every day at school, but the extra practice at home will be beneficial for some students! Check your email for an outline of what we are hoping to do this week!

Monday - Welcome to Week Three!  
Tuesday - Gym

- Library (books that were taken out during the first week of school are due!)

Wednesday - Memory Work  
Friday - Gym

**Grade 1B:** It was awesome getting a chance to connect with those of you who were able to make it out Friday night! Every one of the children in my class blesses me every day, and I am very thankful to each one of you and them for making my days special. Please work with your child this week on completing the homework found in our VIP Folders. The foot with the meaning of our names is due on Wednesday, and the house with your address is due on Friday. This week we welcome Mrs. Reyneveld who is going to be volunteering in our classroom this year.

Tuesday - Library Day  
Wednesday - "My Special Name" Due  
Thursday - Pizza Day  
Friday - "My Special Address" Due

**Grade 2:** Welcome to our third week of grade 2! This week we will be starting our first unit in math, sorting and patterning, learning more about bees and pollination, and will continue to work on our reading stamina. On Tuesday we celebrate Lucas' birthday!

Monday - Gym  
Tuesday - Library  
Wednesday - Gym  
Thursday - Pizza Day

**Grade 3:** Welcome to a new week. We welcome our new students Erica and Daniel to grade 3. We will continue practicing our running for next week's running event. Terry Fox Pledge sheets were sent home today. Start collecting donations for cancer research.

- Monday - Phys. Ed.
- Tuesday - Bible Test
- Wednesday - Library
- Phys. Ed
- Thursday - Pizza Lunch
- Friday - Mem. Work: Gen 1:27-28

**Grade 4:** Welcome to a new week of learning, grade 4! It was great to visit with so many parents on Friday evening.

- Monday - Abby
- Music
- Tuesday - Alex
- Happy birthday Esther!
- Phys. Ed: wear proper outdoor for running and soccer
- Library: remember your books
- Wednesday - Amie
- Music
- Thursday - Benjamin
- Pizza lunch
- Bible test: "The Bible"
- Phys. Ed.
- Friday - Cody
- Math test: Number Patterns
- Foster Child
- next Mon. - Trip to Mountsberg Conservation Area

**Grade 5:** Welcome to a new week! This week we'll be diving deeper into our rocks and minerals unit, and learning about how minerals can be identified. In math, students will be introduced to their culminating project, more instructions to follow soon. A reminder that students can always check their Google Classrooms to see what's going on with regards to quizzes, and projects.

- Tuesday - Music: Bring recorder.
- Wednesday - Phys Ed: Bring gym strip
- Thursday - Music: Bring recorder
- Friday - Spelling Workbook: Lesson 02 due, plus Spelling Test (Lesson 02)
- Memory Work: Genesis 3:15

**Grade 6:** It was good to meet with many parents last Friday, and the desserts were super too! We are now into the third week of school and are a little more comfortable with classroom routines. Parents, please initial the agenda when your child asks you to sign it. Today we had an informative assembly about Terry Fox. Your child will be bringing home a pledge form as next week Wednesday is our school walk.

- Thursday - Math Quiz: patterns
- Friday - Spelling: Individual spelling test & book due
- Unit 1 Bible Test, review sheets went home Monday.

**Grade 7:** Student agendas come home each day. Listed inside the agenda are important events and assignments to be completed by the students. Parents please sign your child's

agenda each day. Thank you.

**Grade 8:** It was so good to connect with many of you at the Dessert Social on Friday, thanks for coming!

- Tuesday - Gym (Gym uniform required)
- Music (bring instrument)
- Wednesday - Library
- Thursday - Gym (Gym uniform required)
- Music (bring instrument)
- Concert Band
- Friday - Memory Work Quiz (Ephesians 4:3-6), Memory Work is posted in the Bible Google Classroom
- Monday - Grade 8 Retreat at Camp Bimini (see note sent home today)

**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:**

September	20	Board of Directors Meeting
	21	Prayer Group 8:30 a.m.
	22	Pizza Day
	28	Terry Fox Run
		Student Golf Tournament
	29	Cross Country Run
	30	Early Dismissal - 1:30
		Staff PLC - 2 p.m.

**SONG OF THE MONTH:** God Is For Us

1. You work together for our good; You are loving  
You give us more than we deserve; You are unailing

Pre-Chorus: and we are more than conquerors; Savior  
In you our future is secure by your power

Chorus: We will not be shaken, we will not be silent  
Sin is powerless - Our God is for us  
We will not be broken, He won't be defeated  
Death is powerless - Our God is for us

2. Consider all that He has done, our sin he carried  
By His wounds we've overcome, now we stand redeemed

Bridge We will sing; sing out  
Sing for the hope found in His love  
We will sing; sing out - Sing to our God;  
We will sing; sing out  
Sing for the hope found in His love  
sing; sing out - sing to our God

Chorus 2x

Title: God Is For Us
Words & Music by: Chris Cauley C.C.L.I. #400245