

INK-LINKS

Newsletter of the Woodstock Christian School, Woodstock, Ontario

Fall 2019



*Overflowing
with
Thankfulness*

Colossians 2:6-7

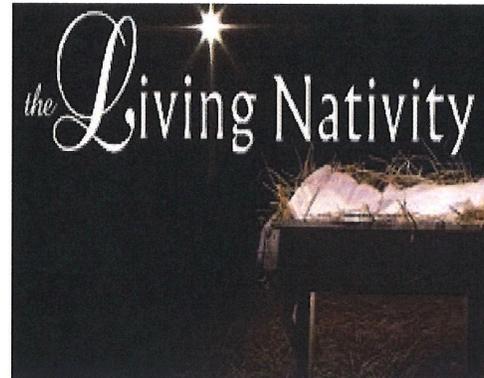
60
YEARS
OF CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

WOODSTOCK
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Faith. Learning. Community.

CHRISTMAS... UNWRAPPED

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W.C.S. fifth through eighth grade actors
will be presenting these
two Christmas dramas which will take place on:

December 11th at 9:30 a.m.

December 12th at 6:30 p.m. (Evening)

December 13th at 1:30 p.m. (Christmas Tea)

Plan to join us for one of the showings.



BOARD NEWS

The 2019/2020 school year marks the 60th year of Christian Education in Woodstock. The theme for the school year is Overflowing with Thankfulness. Our school had humble beginnings and was founded by people of courage who knew God's power and the power of community, prayer and sacrifice. We continue to witness these powers at WCS and are ever thankful to our faithful God.

On behalf of the board of WCS, we would like to extend an extra warm welcome to our new families and staff members. It is our prayer that you would soon feel at home here.

Learning takes place at WCS in a number of ways, not only for our students but for staff and board members as well. The board began the school year with orientation, where they reviewed the Mission and Vision Statements, as well as the Roles of the Board. We ask for your continued prayer as we seek to discern God's will for WCS.

Mrs. Verbeek spent some time at Queen's Park brainstorming where Independent schools are in Ontario and how to counter perceptions that people often have of independent schools. Board members also participated in a retreat with a focus on Strategic Planning. Teams are being put into place to investigate creating additional space for the school. It is exciting to see the opportunities that are before us as we seek to inspire, empower and equip our students through distinctive, Christ-centred education.

The audit for the 2018-2019 school year is complete and we are thankful for its positive results. Thank you to those of you who are involved in preparing for this process.

Our annual fall membership meeting took place on November 7th. The board is concerned about low attendance at our membership meetings. The Strategic Planning Committee worked hard to prepare and present a summary of what they have been working on over the past few years and offered a snapshot of where education is headed. The board would like to thank this committee for their hard work and dedication and are excited to see where the Lord will bring us.

Our annual Winterfest Auction took place on November 15th and approximately \$55,000 was raised for WCS! Thank you to all who attended, and to those who worked endless hours behind the scenes to make this event a huge success.

The board is currently seeking new members to fill vacancies left by retiring board members. We covet your prayers as we enter this process and ask that if you are approached for nomination, that you would prayerfully consider serving in this capacity.

It is our prayer as you enter this Christmas season, that you may fill your time, hearts and minds not of the things of this world, but of the thoughts of Christ.

Michelle Sol, WCS Board Secretary

Upcoming Events

- December 11 - 9:30 a.m. Christmas Drama
- December 12 - 6:30 p.m. Christmas Drama
- December 13 - 1:30 p.m. . . Christmas Tea & Drama
- December 17. Board Meeting
- December 18 - 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group
- December 20 - 8:30 a.m. Christmas Chapel
- December 23 - January 3. Christmas Break
- January 6 - 8:30 a.m. New Year Chapel
- January 15 - 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group
- January 21. Board Meeting
- January 30. JK/SK Info Evening



Welcome, Rebecca Dam, to Woodstock Christian School. Becca is with us, teaching grade six, while Mrs. Schuster is on parental leave. Becca is a committed Christian woman and has

many years of experience teaching a variety of subjects and grades in both public and Christian schools in Ontario. She admits she is a 'bit of a science geek'. Last year she worked at Huron Christian School, and has also taught recently at Drayton and Stratford Christian Schools. Becca lives in Stratford, is married to Pastor Martin Dam, and is mother of three elementary school-aged kids. Becca has a dog named Gimli (yes, after the dwarf in LOTR). A surprising thing about Becca is that she is colour deficient (colour blind), which is rare for a woman. We are happy to have Mrs. Dam with us at WCS this year, and appreciate getting to know her and having her share her expertise with our staff and students. In her spare time, Becca likes to crochet, make crafts, and read good books.

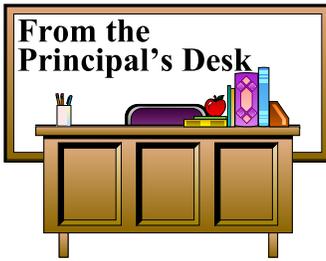
You are invited to our
Christmas Chapel
Friday, December 20th
at 8:30 a.m.

JOHN KNOX CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS:

Chairperson: Albert Renkema 519-537-9932 **Vice-Chair:** Tim Bakker 519-463-9630 **Vicar:** Patti Reyneveld 519-424-2526

Treasurer: Sharon Kiers 519-539-9212 **Secretary:** Michelle Sol 519-539-7839

Members at Large: Andrea VanRooyen 226-377-1011 Heather DeBoer 519-842-9284
Wim Duizer 519-467-0230 Cora Kroondijk 519-449-3708 Ray Boersma 519-425-8785



SIXTY YEARS!

This school year 2019-20 is a year of celebration. This year, Woodstock Christian School, formerly John Knox Christian School, is 60 years old! That is an accomplishment and a tribute to God's faithfulness.

60 YEARS. 6 DECADES. Actually, if we take it back even further, it was about 67 years ago that a team of inspired and dedicated men and women had the vision of providing education for children of Christian believers, not just their children, for the Christian community. Most of them were new to Canada. Finding their way in a new country. Starting a new life.

As we know, a school doesn't just happen. There is a tremendous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes. These pioneers planned and prayed and built, acting out of a conviction that they knew to be true - that all of life belongs to God. That he created and claims all of it. The 25th anniversary book produced in 1984 states that during those early planning years, "Many parents felt that education without the Bible was not complete." Those parents took a leap of faith, stepped out boldly in their new community, and founded this school.

WCS had a humble beginning with a fund built from nickels, dimes, and dollars. The people instrumental in this new beginning were people of courage, who knew God's power, who knew the power of community and prayer and sacrifice. They knew how to get things done. So, in September 1959, following seven years of planning, 94 students walked through the door and were blessed to receive a Christ-centred education. The theme Bible passage in the anniversary book, 2 Samuel 7: 28-9, reads: ***Sovereign Lord, you are God. You always kept your promise to me. I ask you to bless my descendants so that they will continue to enjoy your favor. You, sovereign Lord, have promised this, and your blessing will rest on my descendants forever.***

Here we are - 60 years later. You and your children are those descendants. God's favor rests on you. His blessings flow over you. The challenge and blessing of providing our children with a Christian education continues today. Those forefathers and mothers acted out of obedience and in courage. Again in recent years, many have made the decision to send their children to this school. Decisions are made in courage and in faith. It's a long haul from JK to grade 12 or even grade 8. It requires many years of work and sacrifice. And it requires the energy and resources of a supporting community.

We are grateful to those who've gone ahead of us to establish and grow Woodstock Christian School. It takes a community of people working to make Woodstock Christian School a place of learning, and belonging. A school with a distinctive Christ centred approach - that exists to nurture faith, engage learning and grow in community. In all of this, we want to give thanks and glory to God.

THE END OF AN ERA

It's the end of an era and INKLINKS is changing! Instead of the black and white paper copy that you've been receiving in your church mailbox or in our WCS communications stations, you will be receiving a fresh, reformatted newsletter from Woodstock Christian School. You'll read about student activities, Board updates, meet new staff and stay in touch with what's happening on our campus. Our print copy of the Community Link will continue to be distributed. The new publication will roll out in the new year and will be delivered via email. Please sign up by contacting office@woodstockchristian.ca with your email information.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM WCS

We are Overflowing with Thankfulness at WCS. Not only is this our school theme this year, and a natural response to God's gift of Jesus at Christmas, we are focused this year at WCS on recognizing many of God's good gifts to us. God loves to bless us with much more than we need. 2nd Corinthians 2:9 from The Voice translation: "God is ready to overwhelm you with more blessings than you could ever imagine so that you'll always be taken care of in every way and you'll have more than enough to share." At WCS, we want to live overflowing lives. We want to learn to be filled beyond capacity with an endless supply of God's goodness. Jesus tells us in John 10:10 (AMP), "I've come that you may have real life, and enjoy it in abundance - to the fullest, until it overflows!" May you experience the overflowing blessing and joy at Christmas and in the New Year.

Earn 2% CASH BACK!!!

Shop where you always shop and buy what you normally buy!!!



Using the school voucher program is a great way to fundraise with no increased cost to the user!!! Voucher list is available online, in this publication and in the school office.

Ways to order:

- 1: Come into the school office.
- 2: Send form and payment to school with your child. It will be filled and sent home.
- 3: Recurring monthly orders: sent home each month. Payment is taken from your bank account.



VOUCHER PROGRAM

forward  drive

Thank you for partnering with us in the vision of Christian Education during this year's Forward Drive. We are excited to report that donations to date are at \$30,000. We want to thank you for your support and prayers. We will be putting funds towards a new bus purchase, replacing windows, new STEM technology and much more. Thank you for continuing to support Woodstock Christian School through prayers, finances, and volunteering. If you have not received a copy of the Forward Drive booklet which is focused on 60 years of Christian education, please email office@woodstockchristian.ca.

COMMUNITY CORNER

We are already in the month of December and are excited for all the Christmas events that are coming up. The Christmas Tea will be happening on December 13 and we invite you to join us at 1:15 pm for some refreshments and apple crisp served by our Grade 8 students. We will also have some drama and singing performances from the students. The students have been busy practicing and cannot wait to share their singing and acting with you.

This year we have been updating our *"This is us... Our School Our Community"* display in the front lobby of the school with photos and information about the families at WCS. This display gives you a chance you to get to know different families in the school and also put a face to the names. There will also be displays of different events that have happened at our school, through the last 60 years. When walking through the school, take a look and get to know more about our school community.



Take the Tour...

Come, tour with us while classes are in session! Meet our teachers and principal and find out what we have to offer your family. For more information find us online at: woodstockchristian.ca

PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES TO PROVIDE
QUALITY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TO WOODSTOCK
AND COMMUNITY FOR OVER 55 YEARS

www.woodstockchristian.ca

*Academic Excellence. Christian Perspective.
JK to Grade 8.*



THANK YOU!!!

What a wonderful night of fun, fellowship, and fundraising! God has blessed us with an amazing supportive community! We are excited to say the event raised over \$55,000 for our school!! What a wonderful positive impact this will have in the lives of our students! We feel so blessed and thank God for a wonderful night!

We would like to thank all those who made this event a success: all who came to the event and purchased items and those who made general donations, all the donors, the canvassers, those who contributed to the classroom gift baskets and put them together, the auctioneers, floor help, the kitchen help, set up and clean up help, Lucille, those on the committee, and everyone who upheld this event in prayer.

Your support made this 23rd annual Winterfest auction an enjoyable and tremendously successful event! If you missed it, please plan on coming to next year's event!

See you at next year's Winterfest!

THE ANNUAL WOODSTOCK BOXING DAY HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Calling all Ice Hockey Players.

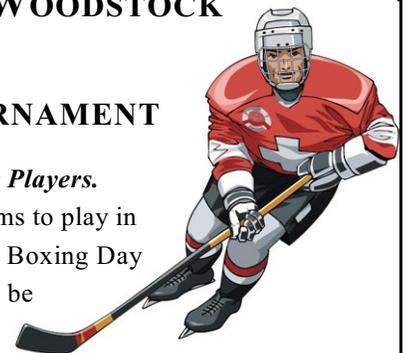
We are looking for teams to play in the Annual Woodstock Boxing Day Hockey Tournament to be held at the Woodstock Community Complex on

Thursday, December 26, 2019.

This is a one-day event with a guarantee of 3 games minimum.

We hope you come out to watch or play!

WCS will also be running a concession stand with snacks, refreshments and coffee available for purchase. Please contact Greg Geerlinks for more information, at gregoryalfred@hotmail.com



Woodstock Christian School would like to extend sincere thanks to the following businesses for their generous donations to our WinterFest 2019 Auction that was held on November 15th. We truly appreciate your outstanding support!

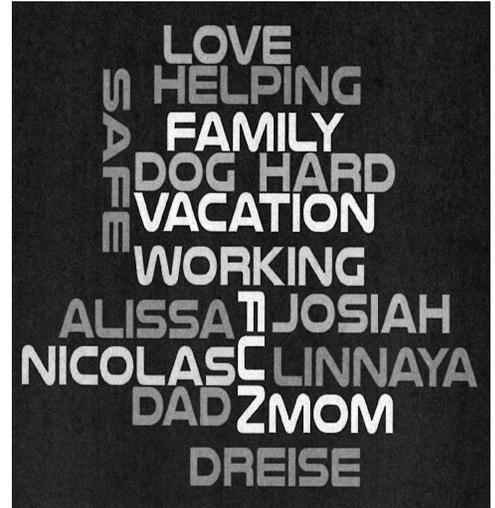
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|---|---|---|
| 10 Buck Pizza | insideU, Woodstock | Select Sofas, Woodstock |
| ABS Global Canada | Jakeman's Maple Products | Shoppers Drug Mart, 959 Dundas St. |
| Aden Footwear Fashion | Jax Jungle Play, Woodstock | Shoppers Drug Mart, Norwich |
| Agri-Plus. Norwich, Mark VanIttersum | Jesse's Deli, Woodstock | Sight & Sound Theatre, Lancaster, PA |
| Al's Tirecraft, Burgessville | Joyful Sounds Studio, Elizabeth Martin | Sinden Feed & Seed, Norwich |
| Albert's Burner Service | JTK Farms | Skyzone Trampoline Park, Kitchener |
| Alstein Farms Inc. | Kaylia, Norwich | Sleep Country |
| Alta Genetics, Matt Stoop & Gary Markus | Kelseys, Woodstock | Smith's Flowers Ltd. |
| Anderson's Appliances & Mattress | Kidtastic Adventures Indoor Playground | Sol Home Solutions |
| Angling Outfitters | Lake Erie Warehousing | Sportball, Natalie Geerlinks |
| Bath Expert, Springfield | Lazer Quest, London | Staples, Woodstock |
| Bigham the Mover | Lely Center, Woodstock | STEM Camp, Embro |
| Bird Kingdom, Niagara Falls | Liquidation City, Norwich | Steve's Automotive |
| Blue Cow Delivery | London Children's Museum | Stubbe's Redi Mix |
| Bobcat of Brantford | Long & McQuade Musical Instruments | Sunnyside Ag Service, Arie VanGinkel |
| Boston Pizza, Woodstock | Lubricare, Woodstock, | Sunova, Lakeside, John vanLierop |
| Brittany G. Photography | M & J Tirecraft, Tillsonburg | Swiss Chalet, Woodstock |
| Budweiser Gardens | Mackay Fuels | Sylvite Agri Service, Arie VanGinkel |
| Bulk Barn Foods, Woodstock | Makkink's Sunflower Farm | Symons, Wearn & Smith Chartered |
| Burgessville Grain & Feed | Marineland | Accountants |
| C & D Lanes | Mattress Brands International | Thames River Melons |
| Camp Shalom | McKim Home Hardware, Ingersoll | The Achievement Centre, Joe O'Neill |
| Can-tario Brick & Stone | Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament | The Christian Supplier, John & Marjorie Ecker |
| Case Scheltema Trucking | Merrifield Book Shop | The Hallmark Shoppe, Woodstock |
| Clovermead Adventure Farm | Meyers Greenhouses | The Mufflerman, Woodstock |
| Corner Farm Market | Miedema Meats | The Raw Carrot |
| Cottage Gardens Floral & Gifts | Montana's, Woodstock | The Teal Thistle Salon and Spa, Embro |
| Coyles Country Store | Morrows of Drumbo | Thirty-One Gifts, Kristin Markus |
| Creekside Golf | Mostly Roses | Thornton Sand & Gravel |
| Cycle One | Mountainoak Cheese, New Hamburg | Tilstra Plumbing, Ben Tilstra |
| CTV London | My Perfect Princess Party, London | Toromont CAT, London, Chuck Guernsey |
| Davidson's Sports | Natural Motion Health | Toronto Maple Leafs |
| DeJong Enterprises | Nature Feed, Burgessville | Toronto Zoo |
| Destinations Travel and Cruise Centre | New Life Mills | Total Rentals, Woodstock, |
| Dey's Equipment Centre | Niagara Parks | Tremblett's Independent Grocery Store |
| Dortmans Bros. Barn Equipment | Nieuwland Feed & Supply | Trouw Nutrition, a Nutreco Company, St. |
| Dr. Ferraro Dentistry, Norwich | Norwex, Victoria Body | Marys |
| Dr. Sarah Andreasen, Skin & Wellness Clinic | Norwich Deli & Bakery | Truck Centric |
| Dwayne Bulthuis, Royal LePage | Norwich Place Hair Design | TSC Stores, Woodstock |
| East Park, London | On Trend, Norwich | Tupperware, Cara Renkema |
| Ernie Hardemna, MPP | Our Gift Shoppe, Norwich | U-Turn Ranch |
| Embro Farm Systems | Oxford Hydraulics Centre | Vandenburg Equipment Service |
| Family Life Canada | Oxford Insta-Shade, Burgessville | VanLagen Custom Farming, Dave VanLagen |
| Farm Ontario, Ron Steenbergen | Oxford Sand & Gravel | VanStraten Bakery |
| Fleetway, London | Oxford Source for Sports | Veldale Farms, Evert Veldhuizen |
| Floors Now, Tillsonburg | P. Stam Bakery | Wall Construction |
| Floral Occasions, Ingersoll | Patina's Gifts, Ingersoll | Weldesign Hardware, Burgessville |
| Focus on the Family | PC Options – Computer Sales & Service | Whitelaw Automotive |
| Forest Cliff Day Camps | Pedal Power | Whyte Auto Parts, Norwich |
| Foris Signs, Innerkip | Performance Dairy, Embro, Tys VanGinkel | Wiseline Tools |
| Funnell Insurance Group, Adam Funnell | Pizza Hut, Woodstock | Woodlynds Chocolate Shop |
| Gallery Cinemas | Premier Equipment, Courtland | Woodstock Optical |
| GCW Custom Kitchens & Cabinetry | Premier Equipment, Tavistock | Woodstock Print & Litho |
| G. J. Farm Equipment | Pro Electric | Woodstone Precision Cabinetry, Mark Sikma |
| Giant Tiger, Woodstock | PumpHouse 24hr Fitness | WRC Purifying, Norwich |
| GoodLife Fitness, Woodstock | Red Thistle | WSC Image Professionals |
| Greener Pastures ECO Farm | Reptilia, Vaughan | Yates Veterinary Hospital |
| Gunn's Hill Artisan Cheese | Reyneveld & Sons Roofing | YMCA of Woodstock |
| H. A. Benjamins Contracting | River Valley Golf & Snow Tube Slide | Zehrs Markets, Woodstock |
| Henry's Excavating | Roberts & Co Ladies Wear, Ingersoll | Zorra Hot Tub & Swim Spas |
| Holiday Inn Express, Woodstock | Rodan + Fields, Joanne Dreise | Zuidervaart Agri-Import, Mitchell |
| Holstein Journal | Roos Meat Products | As well as WCS families and individual |
| Home Hardware Building Centre, Woodstock | Sacwall, Woodstock | supporters |
| Ingersoll Golf Club | Safari Niagara | |
| Ingersoll Home Hardware Building Centre | Salon 47 | |
| Ingersoll Rent All | SBphotography & Floral Design | |
| Ingersoll Tirecraft | Schaus Decorating | |
| insideU, Norwich | Scheps Bakery | |
| | Scotch & Lace | |

Please accept our sincere apologies if your business was not printed in this list. It was our fullest intention to have remembered every business that donated. Your business is still greatly appreciated.



GRADE 2 – MRS. M. HORINGA

Grade two has been studying families. God has designed many types of families. We each have things that are the same as other families and some things that make our family unique. Using chromebooks and practicing our typing skills, Grade two students made a word cloud to describe their family. They chose names and words to describe their family. Here are their final creations. I hope you enjoy their work.



We are on the brink of celebrating 60 years of Christian education in Oxford County! We praise and thank God for our school's founders who envisioned and provided the option of Christ-centred, Biblically-based education in this region. We celebrate our deep roots and commit to our strong vision and mission to lead us forward.

OUR MISSION:

Woodstock Christian School exists to nurture faith, engage learning and grow in community to the glory of God.

OUR VISION:

We respond in faith to God's call of love for self, others, and creation by inspiring, empowering, and equipping through distinctive, Christ-centred education.



LEARNING

A school that knows students, a place to belong.

- Responsive classrooms
- Distinctive curriculum
- Building discipleship

Objectives & Strategies

- Enhance ongoing professional learning
- Initiate celebrations of learning
- Research program options: makerspaces, robotics
- Explore feasible early years spaces and programs



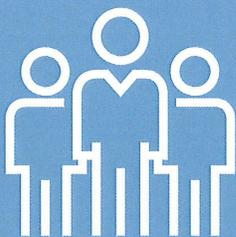
STEWARDSHIP

Efficient and sustainable infrastructure and committed leadership.

- Resource development
- Facilities & transportation
- Governance

Objectives & Strategies

- Explore funding & tuition models
- Glean ideas flexible learning spaces, hospitable building options
- Empower work teams & committees to research



COMMUNITY

Engaged, supportive members working together toward a common goal.

- Relationships
- Service learning
- Communications

Objectives & Strategies

- Mingling and relationship building for community and supporters
- Service & justice opportunities / projects for all
- Dynamic presence at community events