

# INK-LINKS

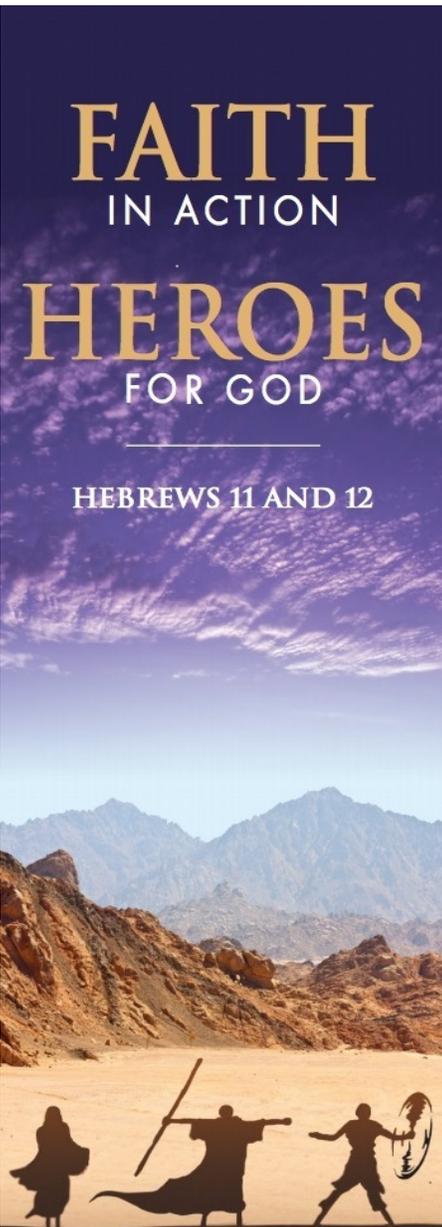
Newsletter of the Woodstock Christian School, Woodstock, Ontario

February - March 2018

**FAITH**  
IN ACTION

**HEROES**  
FOR GOD

HEBREWS 11 AND 12



**WOODSTOCK**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
Faith. Learning. Community.

**WOODSTOCK**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*K is for Kindergarten*



We would like to invite you to visit our Kindergarten classroom as a way to get ready for the new school year! Any child who is turning four in 2018 is welcome to join. **K is for Kindergarten!**

*When: April 2018, Sessions on Tuesday or Friday*  
*Where: Kindergarten Classroom at WCS*  
*(First come, first served as space is limited)*

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** and the deadline to register is March 7th, 2018. To reserve your spot register now at:  
<http://woodstockchristian.ca/kisforkindergarten.php>

## Upcoming Events

February 8. . . . . New Registration Day  
February 16. . . . . P.D. Day\*  
February 19. . . . . Family Day\*  
February 20. . . . . Board Meeting  
February 21. . . . . Pancake Breakfast  
February 27. . . . . Science Fair  
March 2. . . . . P.A. Day\*  
March 9-19. . . . . Winter Break\*  
March 20. . . . . Board Meeting  
March 29. . . . . Easter Chapel  
March 30. . . . . Good Friday  
April 2. . . . . Easter Monday  
April 7. . . . . Springfest Bazaar  
April . . . . . K is for Kindergarten



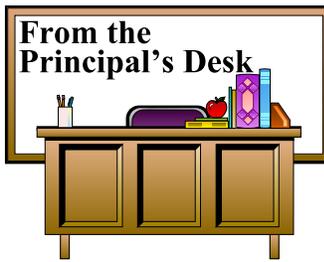
## BOARD NEWS

As a board we continue to celebrate how our Lord has blessed Woodstock Christian School. We reflect on how we can be a blessing to the Woodstock community by offering education with a Christ centred perspective. As part of our strategic planning we know this makes us unique.

We also reflect on the benefits and joys of serving as board members. Learning about committees and all the work that is constantly done in the school is a blessing. We have a greater appreciation for the administration and all the behind the scenes work that goes into running the school. It is wonderful to get an increased sense of community and to be able to have an impact in all the children's lives. As board members we enjoy meeting many new families and it is a great way to serve others and serve our Lord.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve and look forward to all the good things that God has planned for WCS.

Blessings,  
JKCSS Board of Directors  
Jan Bigham, Secretary



## HEARTS AND HABITS

There is a rhythm and a pattern to our lives - our family lives, our worship, celebrations and traditions, and our school lives as well. September has a newness and sense of anticipation. The autumn months bring Thanksgiving, cooler weather, the Teachers' Convention, the Terry Fox Run. November has the tree project or the fractions math unit, Advent and Christmas preparations, and so on.

January and February at Woodstock Christian School, are very rich months for students in terms of focused learning and working through projects and units of study with classmates, preparing for our annual Science Fair, Speech and Poetry meets, celebrating the 100th Day of school, and participating in the Winter Electives Program. And so each year moves on and the years move on in rhythms and patterns. You can recognize patterns, traditions, and rituals in your own family lives. Consider how you celebrate family birthdays, or even how you arrange yourselves around the dinner table. God has built seasons and times into his plan for creation (Ecclesiastes 3, Job 38). As we study the Bible, we see cycles and patterns - think of the Old Testament stories, the feasts and festivals, and stories of judges and kings and prophets. God's people would be obedient for a time, but then fall away from their worship and godly living, often due to distractions in the culture in which they lived. They experienced trials and hardship, called out to God for help or were called to repent of their disobedience by judges or prophets, repented, and turned back to God with obedient lives and worship.

At a recent staff meeting, we read some excerpts from James K. A. Smith's book, *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*. In the chapter entitled *Teach Your Children Well - Learning by Heart*, Smith writes about growing up in the town of Embro - yes! our Embro! - and of knowing a thing or a place so well that you can feel it in your bones. You know it viscerally and deeply; know it 'by heart'. Smith observes that not so much our intellect, but our loves and our wants determine our habits, and it is those habits which further deepen our loves and the direction our lives take. So, what does this mean for us as Christ followers? What does this mean for us as parents and educators? We work to cultivate knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and good habits. We also work to understand the influence culture has on us and how it impacts our lives. We examine the beauty, intricacy, and brokenness of our world. We learn skills and strategies that will serve us well in the future. Also, as we go through our daily routines which include devotions, reading the Bible, prayer, being together in our opening circles, helping and serving, listening and working, acknowledging blessings and expressing gratitude to God, we are creating and repeating practices for our students that become so familiar that they come to know them by heart. These are formative practices which, we pray, become lifelong habits. This year, as we work through our theme, *Faith in Action: Heroes for God*, daily God invites students into His story. Students learn about living lives that demonstrate perseverance, obedience, humility, and faithfulness. They are invited to imitate. Learning to love God takes practice. Students also come to understand that they are part of a larger story - God's story, connected to the great body of believers. It is our hope and prayer that our teaching and learning at Woodstock Christian School cultivates rhythms of worship, hearts of gratitude, patterns of encouraging interaction and hospitality, and students who are growing in faith, learning and community.

(*You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power Of Habit*, by James K. A. Smith. Brazos Press, 2016.)

### JOHN KNOX CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS:

**Chairperson:** Albert Renkema 519-537-9932 **Vice-Chair:** Tim Bakker 519-463-9630 **Vicar:** Cora Kroondijk 519-449-3708

**Treasurer:** Marsha Sikma 519-863-6965 **Secretary:** Jennifer Bigham 519-532-8220

**Members at Large:** Julie Vandendool 519-469-8373 Andrea VanRooyen 226-377-1011

Nathan Huinink 519-424-3134 Grace Schipper 519-317-1518 Jason Smith 226-268-0064

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR STAFF

Here are more profiles of the staff of WCS so that our larger community can get to know them. We are grateful to have these talented and dedicated people on staff and we are blessed by their gifts and abilities. Linda, Jannette, Joleen and Axel... we are glad to have you on our team!



Linda Westerveld grew up in Chatham, Ontario, attending Calvin Christian School, Chatham DCHS, and later, Calvin College where she received her teaching degree. Most recently, Linda has completed a Kindergarten Specialist Certificate. Linda and her husband Andy have four grown children - three of whom are currently completing university studies. Linda and her family love to spend time together canoeing and camping. She has

taught JK, SK and grades one and two. Many classes of students remember the rabbit studies...

Linda says, "I love discovering who God is, how He works, and how He cares for us through His creation with the youngest learners at WCS. I particularly enjoy watching relationships flourish in our Kindergarten community." In her spare time, she enjoys being the Children's Ministry coordinator at her church. Linda's hobbies include knitting, reading, camping, and canoeing.



Jannette Hickey was raised in Bowmanville, and attended Knox Christian School and Durham Christian High, earning her B.Ed, at Dordt College. Jannette has always been interested in working with kids, though she initially considered a career as a nurse. Jannette's entire teaching career has been at WCS. She has taught in the Learning Place, grades three, four, five, phys ed, as well as coaching cross country, track and field, and court

sports. She implemented the Mileage Club, is instrumental in the intramural program, and organizes the Terry Fox National School Run. For the 35th anniversary year of the Terry Fox Run, Jannette challenged WCS students to raise \$3500 for Cancer Research. If that amount was raised, she promised, teachers would dye their hair purple. The target was reached. Hairdressers were brought in. Hair turned purple!

Story telling and read-a-louds, DPA (daily physical activity), learning games and hands-on experiences, making kids laugh, and encouraging students to strive to do and be their best are Jannette's favourite parts of teaching. "I love teaching and watching kids learn", says Jannette. "Developing relationships with each student and helping them to grow as children of God, going to work each day and being able to teach from a Christian perspective, praying with and for each child, working

with staff who are committed to following God - these are all blessings of working at a Christian school." Outside of school, Jannette enjoys time spent with her four children: Jeremy who has graduated from Redeemer UC; Rachel, who attends the University of Waterloo; Adam, who recently graduated high school; and Ben, who is in grade 12 at LDCSS. She loves the outdoors, camping, gardening, hiking, walks, thrift shopping, and having time to read books during the summer break.



Joleen Mulder, our new Advancement and Communications Director, grew up with three older brothers in Clinton on the family's chicken farm. She attended Clinton District Christian School (now Huron Christian School), and LDCSS, where she met her husband John. At Niagara College she earned a diploma in Hotel and Restaurant Management. Joleen has worked at the Quality Hotel and Suites for thirteen years, managing

the front desk and doing administrative work. She and her husband John have three children: Katelyn, Paige, and Cameron. Joleen says, "Ever since Katelyn started school at WCS we knew this was the right place for our children to be. I have volunteered on different committees and events over the last few years. During this time I loved being a part of the school and seeing how God works through the children and teachers in so many different ways. I started working at WCS after the Christmas break and have felt very welcomed by the staff, students, parents, and the community. I love the fact that I get to share with other families what Woodstock Christian School is about and why WCS is the right place for their children." Outside of school, Joleen enjoys hanging out with friends, gaming, and just being home and spending time with family. Welcome, Joleen!



Axel Hiemstra grew up on a sixty acre hobby farm in Thorndale, ON, attended London Christian Elementary School, then London District Christian Secondary School, and finally Redeemer University College for his BA and Education degrees. He and his wife Abby moved to Woodstock two years ago and now have a wonderful 10-month-old son, Jude. Axel knew, at age 12-13, that he

would enjoy working with kids, though he didn't think he'd ever be a teacher. It wasn't until his second year of university that he thought about teaching as a career choice. Axel, our fifth grade homeroom teacher, and senior phys ed teacher at WCS, says, "I'm still learning a lot about teaching each day, but the steepest learning curve was through my teaching placements and my first year at Woodstock Christian School. Teaching at a Christian school is incredible because I can profess my faith in the classroom everyday! I can teach important life-skills from a Biblical standpoint. I'm able to live out The Great Commission at my workplace, everyday, with no hesitation and no persecution. Furthermore, I'm part of a body of believers (students, staff, parents) who support me and hold the same values. I feel incredibly blessed!" Outside of school, Axel enjoys competitive and recreational soccer, volleyball, traveling, and the great outdoors. Axel and Abby have been on many trips, and each summer enjoy camping, canoeing, and fishing somewhere in northern Ontario.

## COMMUNITY CORNER

**Registration Season is here!** We recently hosted our Annual Kindergarten Information Evening and shared all the great things Woodstock Christian School has to offer. We encourage all families considering if Christian education is the right choice for their family to come in and **take a tour**. During your tour, you will meet our teachers and learn about our academics, athletics, and how we teach from a Christian perspective. **Drop in any Wednesday morning between 9 and Noon for a visit.** If Wednesday morning is not convenient, please contact Joleen Mulder to arrange an alternate time.

([admissions@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:admissions@woodstockchristian.ca) or 519 539 1492)

## FEBRUARY IS REGISTRATION MONTH!

Email [admissions@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:admissions@woodstockchristian.ca)  
or call the office 519-539-1492  
to book your appointment  
to register your child.



Join us on **Tuesday February 27<sup>th</sup>**

**for our OPEN HOUSE AND SCIENCE FAIR.**

The gymnasium will be full of students' Science project displays. This is always an exciting part of the year for our students to use their imaginations and explore the wonders of God's creation. The projects will be ready to view from 10 a.m. -7 pm. Students will be exhibiting and explaining their projects until 3:30 p.m. Families and the public are invited to view the Science Fair as part of the Open house running during the 10-7 time. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the school.

*You are all invited to join us at our*

## EASTER CHAPEL

on Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>  
at 8:30 a.m.

Join us as we praise our Lord and Saviour!



## Earn 2% CASH BACK!!!

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



### 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 in a sealed envelope.
- 3: Recurring monthly orders are sent home at the beginning of the month. Payment is taken from your bank account.

We have limited stock of Allen Lumber that we would like to clear out of our inventory.



## VOUCHER PROGRAM



**Save the date!** April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 is WCS's annual Springfest . It will be held at the Oxford Auditorium at the Woodstock Fairgrounds.

Begin your morning with **breakfast**, prepared and served by our WCS staff. While you wait for **lunch**, check out the **Marketplace**, full of vendors selling all sorts of great treats. Stop in at the **Coffee corner** for a hot cup and cookie served by the bus drivers! **Games** will be on again as well. Stay tuned for flyers with more information closer to the date! Can't wait to see you then!



### GRADE 5 - MR. A. HIEMSTRA

Each Grade 5 student conducted an interview with their SK buddy to get to know them better. Try to see if you can guess who their buddy is? After the Grade 5 students conducted their interviews, they wrote a paragraph describing the answers they received.

1) My SK buddy says her favorite color is purple, her favorite food is chocolate chip muffins and her favorite book is Frozen. Her favourite TV show is Paw Patrol, her favorite teacher is Mrs. Westerveld because she's nice. My buddy said, "in our house we have a living room, a food room in a bedroom, and she knows that  $1 + 1 = 2$ ". She has 1 sister. Who is my buddy?

2) My SK buddy, said her favourite thing at school is to sing in music class. She has two brothers and no sisters. Her favourite food is pepperoni pizza and her favourite candy is smarties. Her favourite day of the week is Saturday because she gets to stay home. She likes it when her brothers play crazy and play tractors

with her. She is 5 years old, her birthday is December 27. Her favourite book is Clifford and her favourite show to watch is Curious George. Her favourite animal is a panda. At school when she has recess she likes to play in forts. When she is older she wants to be a doctor so she can help people who need help. Who is my buddy?

3) My SK buddy said that her favourite colours are green and yellow. Her favourite animal is a zebra and her favourite food is chocolate. When I asked her if she would rather have a dog or a cat she said dog. When I asked her why she picked dog she said, "I like dogs and I don't like cats." She told me she has a twin sister

and a little brother. I asked her if she has a pet she said, "We have 1 dog." She is 5 and her birthday is August 14. I asked her to describe her family for me and she said, "There sometimes nice my mom is pretty and my dad is taller than my mom. I asked her if she would rather live in the city or the country; she told me she would like to live in Woodstock because she doesn't like buildings. She told me she likes school. She likes her family because they take care of her. Who is my buddy?

4) My SK buddy's favorite colour is purple. She really likes unicorns. She would rather have a unicorn than a cat. Her sister is in grade 1/2. She would have rather have a animal than a dragon. She really likes her sister Maylina. When she grows up she wants to be a popstar. Her favorite restaurant is McDonald's. She likes chocolate and candy. Her birthday is May 25. She is 5 years old. When she's at home she likes to have a nap and watch TV. She does not live on a farm. Her favorite teacher is Mrs. Westerveld. She likes the bunny that lives in her classroom. Who is my buddy?

5) My buddy has 1 bunny, 2 sisters, and 1 brother. He has 6 bedrooms in his house and they are all really clean. He is 3 feet tall and he likes school. He likes it when it is cold outside. He likes to go outside. He is in SK and his brother is 9 years old. He likes his family life. Who is my SK buddy?

6) My buddy said his favourite colour is green, and his favourite animal is a cow. He likes chocolate and he likes school because he gets to play with his friends. He would rather be a farmer than a teacher so he could work. He likes to eat oatmeal for breakfast and he would rather have a pig as a pet rather than a cow. He would rather be a pilot rather than an astronaut. He has a pet chicken and he plays after school. He would rather eat chocolate than s'mores and his favorite fast food restaurant is McDonald's. His favorite dessert is ice cream and his favourite restaurant is Martin's. Who is my buddy?

7) My buddy said his favourite colour is red. His favourite food is cake and his best friend is Alex. He has two sisters and in school

playtime is his favourite. My buddy loves cartoons. He would rather be spider man than batman and batman is his favourite superhero. His least favourite colour is pink and he likes apple juice. His favourite restaurant is mcdonald's and he is five years old.

8) Our buddy says that red is his favourite colour, and lions are his favourite animal. He likes free time in school. His favourite movie is Spiderman, 100 is his favourite number and pizza is his favourite food. His favourite sport is baseball, and he is 5 years old. He doesn't like learning about letters in school, has blue walls in his bedroom which is really clean. If he had a superpower it would be flying. He doesn't like school, and he likes SK better than JK. He has two cats. He wants to be a police officer when he grows up. He would rather have a cat than a dog he has a brother named Peter. He likes school. His house has white siding and about 30 windows.

9) My buddy's favourite colour is gold. When I asked my buddy what her best friend was she said Mia. My buddy's favorite candy is suckers. Her favorite supper is McDonald's. My buddy goes to bed at 8:00. My buddy likes recess at school. At recess my buddy goes on the slides and plays pets and sometimes horses with her friends. My buddy would rather go to the park than swimming she likes to do hopscotch at her house. Her least favorite candy is mints. My buddy's favorite animal is bunnies. Her favorite TV show is Shopkins.

10) My buddy said that he has a sister and he loves school. My buddy wants to be a policeman. He has no brother but he has a sister. He would rather go to school then to the park. He told me that his sister is in grade 2. My buddy is five. He was born on july 17. His favorite color is green he likes to read the book called Army. Favorite game is Monopoly.

11) My buddy's favorite animal is a bunny. and her favorite movie is Frozen. And favorite season is winter. My buddy's family is: sister Isabel , dad, mom. My buddy likes to swim underwater. My buddy would rather be a gymnast than a soccer player. I asked my buddy would you rather eat broccoli or tomatoes she picked both. What does 4+4 equal? And I held up 4 fingers 6 fingers 7 fingers what is next and my buddy said "8 yes that's what 4 + 4 is".



12) My buddy's favorite story is Goldilocks. At recess she likes to play house, and there is 5 people in her family including her. 3 kids and 2 adults. Her birthday is June 6. Her bedroom has sparkles on the ceiling and brownish-pinkish walls. She loves raspberry strawberry flavored ice-cream, and her backyard has trees all around. When she grows up she wants to be either a hairdresser or a doctor. My buddy has 2 cats - Quil and Loona - and

a fish named Wilma. When she has time to play in class she likes to do art. My buddy likes school. If she could live anywhere she would live in a castle in Florida. Her favorite movie is Despicable Me 3, and she likes the bunny in her class, Pebbles.

13) My buddy is five years old. He has four sisters. I have two brothers. His family is really big. He is tall. He doesn't know what grade his older sister is in. He does not know what grade his older brother is in. My buddy is great and I like hanging out with him!

14) My buddy's favourite colour is green and has three floors and his favourite food is cereal and his best friend is Jon. After breakfast he gets dressed then eats the packages his lunch then goes on the bus he would rather live in a pizza house then eat pizza. He doesn't like school he likes chocolate. His favourite restaurant is McDonald's he rather goes to the pake he likes the minions movie, favourite superhero is spiderman and five kids in his family.

15) My buddy said her birthday is September three, and her favorite food is pizza! She likes the class rabbit so much. She's lives in a little sweet town, she likes to play in her house. She has two sisters and no brother, and she likes school! My Buddy likes Canada! She likes to watch bees in summer, and she don't know when she wakes up. When she finishes school she goes to swimming lessons. She likes watching bees. My buddy likes snowy weather and she loves her sister! When she wakes up in the morning, she eats breakfast and watches movies!!

16) My buddy says her favorite color is pink, likes to play with trains. Mom likes to watch TV, dad likes to watch football. Klea likes to play with big dolls. I asked my buddy if she would rather live in a hotel or on a farm, she answered hotel. My buddy said that her favourite superhero is wonder women. My buddy said that her house was 4 floors big. My buddy's favourite place is the mall. Her favourite ice cream is chocolate.

17) My buddy said his best friend is Lucy, and there are 6 people in his family, and their names are: Judah, Asher, Liz, Ray, Keaghan, and Ezra. He said his siblings are nice and happy, and his favorite sibling is Judah because he is in his buddy class. I also asked my buddy if he liked school and he said "yes; my favourite thing to do in school is playing outside because there is a lot of room outside to play football which is my favourite sport". He also said his favourite snack is chocolate bars, and his favourite restaurant is Boston Pizza. My buddy would rather go to Australia rather than Sweden "because Australia is a lot warmer than Sweden because Sweden is a cold country". My buddy's favorite color is green, and he has no pets, and his house is big and he shares a room.



18) My SK buddy said that his favourite animal is a tiger, favourite colour is green. When asked if he likes ferrets he said yes. He likes cats and his favourite food is bagels. He does not have a favourite book and he doesn't know what 16 x 16 is. His favourite TV show is batman. When asked to describe his bedroom he said, "it's a bunk-bed" and when asked if he likes otters he said yes.

Answers:

- 1) Lucy written by Katelyn B
- 2) Alana; written by Samarah
- 3) Zakara; written by Eden
- 4) Desiree; written by Hailey
- 5) Nicolas; written by Jeremy
- 6) Alex; written by Abby and Danika
- 7) Noah; written by Cody
- 8) Evan; written by Judah and Evyn
- 9) Lydia; written by Katelyn M
- 10) Levi; written by Alex
- 11) Lucy; written by Julie
- 12) Brooklyn; written by Julia
- 13) Daniel; written by Conner
- 14) Luke; written by Benjamin
- 15) Maiya; written by Lucy and Abby
- 16) Tapanga; written by Naomi and Erin
- 17) Asher; written by Esther
- 18) Seth; written by Zachary

# Faith in Action: Using God's Gifts through Service Learning

Service Learning is a term you hear often around Woodstock Christian School. But what is it really? Service Learning, to me, is an act of combining curriculum with products or “services” that we can offer to those around us rather than keep ourselves. It is a way to reach out in love. In Grade 1, we do a few different service learning projects. Here is just a small highlight of two of them.

One project that we do is collect money for a child we sponsor through Mission to Haiti. Djunylove is about 4 years old and loves the colour pink. Each Friday, students from our classroom go to each classroom and ask for collections. We also work on our writing skills as we write letters to her. This year, one of our Grade 8 students went on a mission trip to Haiti where she got to meet Djunylove and give her a gift that we had made for her.



A second project that we do is create “Milk Bag Mats”. People from all over our community send in their clean milk bags. We learn how to sort, cut, link, and weave these together to create a mat. Up until recently these bags were sent to Haiti where they were given to those who were in need of a bed. Now, we have teamed up with a church in Hamilton who deliver them to the homeless in the community through their street ministry. Not only are we working on developing the skills needed for cutting, linking, and weaving but we are also working on developing our team work. We are also developing a sense of empathy as we learn that not everyone is as privileged as we are. We are able to use the talents and resources that God has provided us with in order to help those who are in need, even in a small way.

Erica Schuster and the Grade 1 Class



