

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

I enjoy the beauty of a snow-filled day. However, I have to admit, winter is not one of my most favourite things. I enjoy longer days, warmer temperatures and sunshine! Often when I think about the seasons, I'm reminded about the importance of each season...even as I anticipate the change of the one we are currently in. Here's a snippet of a blog post I had read at the beginning of last year. Scot McKnight wrote this piece titled "Let Winter Do Its Work" –

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/jesuscreed/2019/01/04/let-winter-do-its-work/>

"Most of us don't want it to be winter. We wish it would be spring and summer all the time. We want the sun to always be shining and our lives filled with new things that are being planted, growing and blooming.

Winter is the time when we pay attention to what we've found out to be true. It's a time to let go of failures and regrets. Winter is a time to repair what's broken and sharpen what's grown dull. Winter isn't a time of planting or harvesting. Winter isn't a time to start new things.

Winter is a time to stop.

Winter is a time to get ready for the next big thing God has in store for you. Spring is coming. There'll be new things to plant and tend. New fields to plow and harvest.

But right now, it's winter. Winter has important things to do.

Let winter do its work."

Ecclesiastes 3:11 & 14a say, "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it."

Something to think about: What is your favourite season? Why do you enjoy it? What can you do in this current season to make it enjoyable for you and your family? How is God working in your life in this season? As you take time to stop this winter, may you feel God's presence and peace surround you.



~K. VanderPloeg

Monday - Jenna Horinga., Gr. 1
Wednesday - Ken Renkema., Gr. 8

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) - The winter session of MAP testing continues.

The Property and Building Committee is pursuing at this time if there is interest in the WCS community for anyone who may desire to clean WCS everyday after school, wax the floors three times a year, clean the school during the summer months, and open and close the school for rentals during some week nights, weekends, and holidays. If you are interested please email Greg Hiemstra (g.hiemstra@woodstockchristian.ca) requesting more information by February 14, 2020.

Senior Boys basketball- Boys will have a Monday practice @ 2nd break, and Tuesday after school this week. Please note that the Bluewater Christian Schools basketball tournament is on Friday February 14th, which is also a PD day for WCS. A schedule for Friday, plus a team letter and a form to be signed has been sent home. Forms should be returned to Mrs. Verbeek as soon as possible.
Our regular season with the Separate Schools is to begin February 18th.

Monthly Mingle: Save the date for Wednesday February 26 @ 9:00am. We are going to be hosting our monthly mingle. Bring your children for some fun in the gym, and enjoy some snacks, refreshments and a chance to get to know different parents in our community.

Next week is a celebration across Canada where schools, libraries and other organizations celebrate "I Read Canadian" Day. The actual day is the 19th of February, but celebrations take place during the week. Our big day will be next Tuesday, when any classes can come in during both breaks and during library exchange times to withdraw Canadian books. For each Canadian book read during the nutritional break, or during the week, a ballot can be filled out. The most students from classes that participate can win a Chapters gift card for their class, as well as many other individual prizes. Students will hear more about it this week! Let's celebrate the gift of Canadian Books! Our school is signed up for this event along with many, many other schools. We will tabulate our numbers of Canadian read books and submit them! Thanks!

Long weekend- Please note that Friday, February 14th is a PD day and that there will be no regular school. Teachers will be meeting to discuss curriculum matters and to make plans for our spring Celebration of Learning. Monday is FAMILY DAY in Ontario. Blessings for this holiday and the opportunity to celebrate God's blessing of family!

Welcome- We welcome Johanna, a co-op student from Rehoboth Christian School, who is doing her placement at WCS. Johanna will be working with us in grades 2 and 6 until June.

Springfest plans are well underway and we are starting to look for vendors for our Marketplace. If you are interested in being a vendor please email Cara Renkema for an application form. We have room for 25 vendor spots. The vendor spots will be open to school community for the first week and then will be open to the greater community come February 10. First come, first serve and only one vendor per type of product sold. Any questions please call Cara 519-535-8969 or email carenkema@hotmail.com

Pop Bottles- Please save your 2L pop bottles and bring them in the office.

Lost & Found- Please check our lost and found zone for missing gloves, mittens, hats and other items.

Pancake Breakfast- Students, wear your pajamas and bring your appetite and your favourite 'stuff' to our annual pancake breakfast on Wednesday February 19th. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family. Donations will be gladly received for the work of World Renew. World Renew Ministries is a Christian, mission organization serving many needs including community development, disaster response, and education. Education is one of the most powerful tools for reducing poverty. Get comfy, get ready for pancakes, and help us support World Renew's community education programs!

Grad Photos- Grade 8 students will have their formal graduation photos taken on Monday March 2nd. There will also be a photographer present on graduation day in June.

Transition to High School- Are you considering secondary school options for your family? On February 13, 2020 at 7pm, London Christian High will have an Information Night which will provide a great opportunity to meet with teachers, learn about student services, extra-curriculars, tuition framework, and hear about their program of learning. Students and their parents are most welcome to attend for more information about high school choices.

Electives continue this Wednesday, February 12, and run for three more weeks until March 4, 2020 from approximately 2:10 to 3:30 for our junior and intermediate students. Students will need to ensure they are prepared for their elective. Hockey players need to have stick, skates, helmet, gloves; swimmers need to have swim suit and towel; skiers need to have warm clothes and skis if they aren't renting skis. If your child is a skier, please be here at 6:10 p.m. to pick up skiers. It looks like the temperature on Wednesday will have a high of 0 C so skiers will be hitting the slopes. This week, group B students will be attending Open Sky, and thus group A students will go to their alternate activity. Group A students will need to ensure they have what they require for their alternate activity. A reminder to Open Sky B students that waivers are needed and to be given to Mr. Schaafsma. The students in badminton, dance, and Open Sky B will need to ensure they have indoor shoes and proper attire for their activity. If we have any snow days on Wednesdays, please note that the elective program will be cancelled for that day, and there will be no make-up day. Any questions, let me know.
(g.hiemstra@woodstockchristian.ca)

Learning Place: Mrs. Bulthuis: The grade 4 students are in the final stages of writing their autobiographies. A few more photos are needed for some of the chapters. Please email me pictures or send in hard copies. Thanks!

Wednesday: Book bags (gr. 1-3)

Thursday: Spelling tests

Junior Kindergarten: Welcome to a new week! It will be a busy exciting week as we celebrate love. We will be passing out our Valentines and using our new post office. Thanks to Collins' dad for helping us with our new mailbox. Our celebration will take place on Wednesday. Bring in your Valentines and your treats to share. We are heading to the London Children's museum tomorrow. Thanks to Mrs. M. Jones, Mrs. Buruma, Mrs. Perea Melendez, Mrs. Verkuyl, Mrs. Boersma, Mrs. S Steen and Mrs. Mulder who will join us. Please be at school by 9:10. Friday is a PD day so there is no school. Enjoy the blessing of family this weekend.

Tuesday - Field Study-London Children's Museum
Wednesday - Library, Valentine's Celebration.
Friday - Teachers are learning - No school
Monday - Family Day

Senior Kindergarten: Mrs. Poort: Welcome to Valentines week. I pray each family seeks the Father's Love this week. We have a fun and exciting week planned. If anyone still has a January reading calendar at home you may still send it in. Please return your permission forms for bowling.

Tuesday - London Children's Museum (9:15 bus leaves)
Wednesday - Valentines Celebration (bring cards)
Friday -PD Day (no classes)

Senior Kindergarten: Ms. Body Welcome to a new and shorter week. I hope everyone had fun in the snow! Connecting question: What got checked on Friday? Chomp chomp.

Tuesday: -All School devotions
 -Field study to London Children's Museum
Wednesday: -Valentine Celebrations
Friday: -PD Day- No Classes

Grade 1: Welcome to a new week! We celebrate 100s Day & Valentine's Day on Thursday. Check your emails for a look at the week ahead.

Monday -Happy Birthday to Jenna
Tuesday -Library
Wednesday -Exploration Activities: Week 2
Thursday -Phys. Ed
 -Spelling Test
 -100s Day & Valentine's Day Celebration!!

Friday -PD Day: No School!

Grade 2: This week we are excited to welcome Miss H she is a coop students from Rehoboth School who will be helping our class for the next semester.

Since there are a variety of activities this week there will not be a new spelling list instead we will be reviewing our word wall words this week.

Tuesday -MAP testing
 - Library
Wednesday - MAP testing
Thursday - Valentines Day and 100's day celebrations
Friday -PD Day - no school

Grade 3: This week we will be reciting our poem. We will continue our multiplication unit this week and will be working on a daily drill. We will be still covering 2, 5, 10, 3's and 4's this week. We also will continue with our map testing this week on Tuesday and Thursday. There will be no spelling test this week on account of map testing and the shorter week. Students may bring in Valentine cards on Thursday as part of show and share time.

Wednesday: "Strong and Stable Structures" - Week 2
Next Wednesday: Pancake breakfast

Save the date:

Sunday, March 1: primary choir visit to Tillsonburg CRC

Grade 4A: Welcome to a new week grade 4! We have a short week of school. Today we had a great time learning about sound. Keep on reading for your February book report. I hope you will all enjoy your extra-long weekend. I hope you are able to spend time with your family on Family Day. Families are an amazing gift from God!

Monday Devotions: Aron
 Music
 Library
 Sound Workshop
Tuesday Bring your gym clothes
Wednesday Devotions: Caleb
 Electives - week 2
 Mini Poetry Meet
Thursday Devotions: Calvin
 French test on Pet unit
 Bring your gym clothes
 Spelling test
 Valentine's Day celebration
Friday PD day - no school
next Monday Family Day - no school

Grade 4B: Welcome to a new week. We will continue MAP testing this week. The students who wish to be considered for the Poetry Meet need to present their poem in tip top shape on Wednesday. We will celebrate Valentine's Day on Thursday. Remember to include everyone if you are sending cards/treats.

Monday - Scientists in School workshop "Sound is Music to my Ears."
Tuesday - Phys. Ed. (gym strip)

- Wednesday** - Library
 - Electives #2
- Thursday** - French Test
 - Spelling Test - List 21
 - Phys. Ed. (gym strip)
 - Valentines

Grade 5: Welcome to a new week of school! This week is short due to our P.D. day on Friday. We have a busy and fun week of learning ahead! Some highlights include a swimming lesson today, electives on Wednesday, and a short field study to CTV in London on Thursday to learn about: the weather/climate, how green screens are used, and how to deliver a good presentation/speech. Thank you to the parents who've volunteered to chaperone. A red folder will be coming home today with marked work that can stay at home. Please send the folder back to school.

- Spelling quiz
- Memory Work quiz
- Reading Comprehension Quiz
- Geometry Math Quiz

- Monday:**
- Swimming Lesson: bring a swimsuit and towel.
 - Bible (Book of Daniel comic strips) assignment due
 - Physical Education: bring gym clothes.
 - Red folder with marked work coming home.

- Tuesday:**
- Spelling quiz list based on lesson 22 created and due today.
 - Return empty red folder to school.
 - 35 jot notes, plus speech outline due

- Wednesday**
- Elective #2: be sure to bring any necessary clothing/equipment.
 - Music: bring recorder.

- Thursday:**
- Field Study to CTV in London, departing at 11:40, returning around 2:20.
 - Spelling Workbook, Lesson 22 due
 - Spelling quiz based on Lesson 22
 - Language Arts writing quiz: how to create an outline for an essay.
 - Music: bring recorder.
 - (No memory work this week).

- Friday:**
- P.D. day, no school.

Grade 6: Welcome to a short week. Friday is a PD day and the start of Family Day weekend.

Coming up this week:

- Tuesday** - Math quiz on decimals
- Wednesday** - Spelling quiz unit 15
 - Electives
- Thursday** - Speech rough draft due
 - Book reports should be completed
- Friday** - No School

Grade 7: Please refer to google classroom for your updated assignments and communication.

Grade 8: Welcome to a shortened school week! Thank-you to Mrs. Wilson for joining us on our visit to Caressant Care on Friday. Speech presentations will take place this week, students must have their speeches memorized. Please keep checking Google Classroom for updates on other homework and assignments.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

February	14	Sr. Basketball Tournament
		P.D. Curriculum Review Day (no classes)
	17	Family Day*
	18	Board of Directors Meeting
	19	Pancake Breakfast
		Prayer Group 8:30am
	21	Poetry Meet (Gr. 1-4)
	26	Pizza Lunch
March	1	Choir Visit at Tillsonburg CRC
	2	Graduation Photos
	4	Prayer Group 8:30am
		Sub Lunch
	6	P.A. Day (no classes)
	10	Board of Directors Meeting 8pm
	11	Hockey Tournament
	12	Skating @ Community Complex
		2 nd term Learning Reports
	13-23	March Break (no classes)

Have a great week!