

February 1, 2021

When we discuss why we do what we do at Woodstock Christian School, inevitably the word 'equip' comes up. When you consider the what and how of raising children in your family, I am sure you also desire to equip your kids for life beyond your family. We teach students through the lens of the Bible, who they are, whose they are, and about the wonders of creation and the brokenness in our world. We teach them about who Jesus is, and how to live as Jesus-followers in the world. We teach skills and strategies. We want to equip students with knowledge and ability for future education, for relationships, and for work.

STAND FIRM is our WCSchool theme this year based on two passages: "Be on your guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. And do everything with love" (1 Corinthians 16:13-14), and Ephesians 6:10-20 where Paul speaks about putting on the whole armour of God.

In the next couple of months, we will explore these various pieces of spiritual armor, and how each of us, adults and children, can use these in our faith- and life-walk to STAND FIRM.

God provides these six aspects of the Christian life, (see the illustration here - shield, helmet, belt, sword, breastplate, shoes) plus prayer (verse 18), to strengthen and protect us and ultimately help us to triumph in our spiritual battles. Remember to pray for your children, that they will be strong, stand firm, grow and flourish.



Carol Verbeek, Principal



- Monday Levi B., Gr. 1
- Tuesday Kevin D., Gr. 1
- Wednesday Mrs. Hickey, Gr. 4 Teacher
- Friday Kyle B., Gr. 5
- Saturday Clayton R., Gr. 2

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Prayer Corner- It feels like a new year now that we have our students back in the building! So great! And we are so thankful. We continue to pray for and seek wisdom and patience as we navigate this year. Thanks parents and students for your amazing efforts in the weeks of remote learning. We praise God for His blessings and love. Pray for our families and our community all those who are under the weather with concerns or illnesses.

An update from the Vandenburg family: *We thank you for all your prayers and support. Rob is doing very well. His surgery went well in December, he had 2 muscles removed in his leg along with the tumor. Please keep us in your prayers as he is still not able to walk, this could take a few weeks yet.*

Also pray for our Board and committees as they begin planning for the next school year. If you have specific prayer requests, be sure to pass those along to our prayer team through j.mulder@woodstockchristian.ca. Prayer group resumes this week at 8:30am on Wednesday morning in the outdoor classroom.

Kindergarten recruitment- Pray for families with kindergarten age students who are considering registration at WCS and those who are considering re-enrolment and educational choices for the next school year. Whenever you can, reach out and engage in conversation; ask, encourage, and support one another. Our kindergarten information event is taking place on February 18th. If you know of families with children ready for kindergarten, steer them towards this event or connect them with Mrs. Mulder in the front office.

Long weekend- Please note that Friday, February 12th is a PD day and that there will be no classes for students. Teachers will be meeting to discuss learning and 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 gift of family!

School Health- Thank you, parents, for effectively using the screening procedures (see the screening tool [COVID-19 school screening](#)) and protocols we have in place to keep our school and community as well as we can. A reminder that parents and visitors are not allowed in the building yet. If you have items to drop off or want to connect with us, please use the buzzer or intercom at our front door.

Kindergarten Registration Day will be held on Thursday February 18. If you have a child going to Kindergarten or know somebody interested in going to Kindergarten, please email Joleen and book a time to register.

Re-enrolment @ WCS- You have received the WCS Re-enrolment Commitment Form from our school office. Please complete and return this form as soon as possible and before January 31st. Our Board of Directors and school administration are beginning planning and preparation for the 2021-2022 school year and would appreciate your information in order to make those plans. Please pray for wisdom during this planning process.

MAP testing- Our winter round of MAP testing is scheduled to begin this week.

From the Ontario Ministry of Education: Supports for Students and Families

Financial support is available for families during this temporary remote learning period through the Support for Learners program. Starting on January 11, 2021, an expanded Support for Learners program is providing:

- \$200 for each child/youth up to grade 12, and;
- \$250 for each child/youth up to age 21 with special needs.

Applications will be open until February 8, 2021. Please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-support-learners> for more details.

Chicken Orders: Thank you to those of you who have supported WCS through chicken sales. For every box sold, the school makes \$5 and over the past number of years, your purchases have raised over \$25,000 for our school! We are not asking you to collect orders necessarily, (though you may of course) but we are simply asking you to purchase through the school what you would normally purchase at the grocery store.

There is a paper copy coming home today with your child and pdf copy of the order form is attached to this email. Please return your order forms to the school, ACCOMPANIED WITH PAYMENT, by next Tuesday, February 9th. We are only able to accept cash, cheque or debit payments. Orders without payment will not be placed.

We will have two pick up times again: the first will be between 2:50 and 3:10 and the second is between 3:30 and 4 pm. This way we will not be interfering with busses. Please make arrangements to have your orders picked up during these time frames. Please come to exterior gym door (the one in the parking lot) where we will greet you and deliver your order to your car. Just a reminder that we cannot store your orders at school. Thank you for your support.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Sol at 519-532-4904 or thesols@yahoo.com

Student Support: What a wonderful start to our week with students back in the building. This was the first day in a month that we had no frozen faces or students who suddenly disappeared! Parents, thanks again for the awesome job you did helping your child(ren) navigate remote learning, and for your support as we return to school. If you have not already done so, please ensure all writing books, whiteboards, and markers are returned to the Learning Place. Keep reading at home and return book bags on Wednesday so they can be updated with new books and sight words. Enjoy a quieter week at home!

Wednesday -Return book bags (gr 1-3)

Friday -Spelling test (gr. 1)

JK: Welcome back to school! I pray that we will all adjust quickly. Watch for an email coming home tonight. Have a great week!

Wednesday -Library

Friday -Mystery bag show and share & hat day

SK: Welcome to a new week and a new month. We welcome our students back to the school for in person learning. I am looking forward to seeing everyone Tuesday.

What's happening in SK:

Letter -v Sight word: three
Theme -snowflakes
Tuesday -Back to in class learning
Wednesday -Library
 -Burger Lunch
 -Music
Friday -Wear your favourite HAT day

Grade 1/2A (Mrs. Schuster): Welcome back to school! A huge happy birthday goes to Kevin and Clayton who both are celebrating this week! We hope and pray that God will continue to bless and keep you both. Did you see my note about Valentine's Day on Seesaw? Be sure to check it out. There have been quite a few folders and school work left at home. Can you please look around for anything remaining and send it back to school (I know some was due to heavy backpacks). Check out Seesaw for some more details.

Monday - Library
Tuesday - VIP Folders will come home
Wednesday - Return VIP Folders
Friday - Spelling Test Week 14
 - Valentine's Day cards due at school
 - Wear your favourite hat day

Grade 1/2B (Mrs. Horinga): Welcome back to school! It is so great to be together in the building. Today our February calendar will be coming home along with a note about Valentine's Day celebrations please check your child's message bag for these important papers. With students now having to wear masks outdoors please be sure your child has several spare masks in their backpack. We also have some very cold days ahead so please be sure your child is dressed properly for outdoors.

Monday - Library Day
Wednesday - Burger Lunch
Friday - Wear your Favourite Hat Day
 - Spelling Test

Grade 3: Welcome back to the building and our classroom, grade 3! This week we will continue our multiplication unit for math, and finish our novel study of Sarah, Plain, and Tall. Our spelling test is on Friday. We will also begin Map Testing this week and complete it in the next three weeks. Remember to dress warmly each day for our winter weather.

Today -Spelling Test: Unit 17 words (postponed from last Friday)
Wednesday -Library
Thursday: -Wear your favourite hat day.
Friday: -Spelling Test: Unit 18 words (these are contractions) & Hat Day

Grade 4: Welcome to a new week. So great to see everyone! MAP testing begins this week. Be sure to return any borrowed chromebooks asap. Wear your favourite hat on Friday.

Monday - Library exchange
Tuesday - Phys. Ed.
Wednesday - Burger Lunch
Thursday - Math Test - Unit 8 (Graphs)
Friday - Mem. Work - 1 Samuel 15:22
 - Spelling Test - Lesson 19
 - Phys. Ed.
 - Hat Day

Grade 5: Welcome to in-person learning again! I'm so excited to have these awesome students back in the classroom. I hope and pray that this transition goes well for you and your family.

Another round of MAP testing begins this week. We are finishing up a few projects and assignments which began during our remote learning time.

Please have your child check Google Classroom for homework updates (although I will of course continue emailing the list to you as well).

Grade5/6: Welcome to a new week of learning grade 5 and 6! I am so thankful that we will be together in the building this week. I pray that we will all adjust to being back at school quickly.

Monday -Music with Mrs. Martin
Tuesday -Bring any supplies you may need for your reading project
 -French with Mrs. Pasma
Wednesday -Burger Lunch
 -Phys. Ed.
 -Library - remember your books
Thursday -Math quiz grade 6
 -Music with Mrs. Martin
Friday -Spelling tests
 -French with Mrs. Pasma
 -Memory work - Matthew 28: 18, 19
 -Phys. Ed.

Grade 7: Students are asked to return all school equipment (laptops, whiteboards, dry erase markers). Students are asked to look for missing work and return it to school. Students are reminded to bring their indoor shoes to school and proper outdoor wear for recess. We are beginning our "Structures" unit in science and MAP testing will begin this week. Speech writing will begin next week but with a new format for this year.

Grade 8: It was so good to see the eighth-grade students in person today! I am thankful that we can be back together, please pray for all of us as we continue to transition back to in-person learning and as we adjust to our new schedules. This week we will begin our MAP Testing. Here is an overview of our schedule for the week:

- Monday** - Phys. Ed.
- Tuesday** - French, MAP Testing: Reading
- Wednesday** - MAP Testing: Math
- Thursday** - Music, Phys. Ed. French
- Friday** - French, MAP Testing: Language Usage

Upcoming Events

February

- 3 Staff Meeting 730am
- Whole School Devotions
- 9 Board Retreat
- 10 Whole School Devotions
- 12 PD Day (no classes)
- 15 Family Day (no classes)
- 16 Board of Directors Meeting
- 17 Whole School Devotions
- 18 Kindergarten Information Evening
- 25 Kindergarten Registration Day