

January 11, 2021

The Power of Words

Greetings from the WCS Library. Books surround me here as I write this. There are words, words and more words. Since I love reading words, sometimes I try to imagine how they are put together so skillfully by any author. Words fascinate me and where they came from fascinates me even more. Last week I read about a proficient “word scientist,” an American writer known as an “aphorist.” I had to check that specific occupation out a couple of times! This writer named Cooley Madson just loved words and greatly debated the weight of their meaning. It seems obvious that words can cause people great joy and hope or great sadness and mistrust (Isn’t that a current theme in our world, right now). As a writer, he felt that his goal in life was to write witty aphorisms, a “terse, quick, memorable statement of a general truth or principle. Here are a few he came up with:

“**Reading Gives us someplace to go, when we have to stay where we are.**” (Very timely!)

“**Creativity makes a leap, then it looks to see where it is.**”

Here is another one: “**There are three different rules for reading, thinking, and for talking. Writing blends all three of them.**”

I just thought I would share the words of this aphorist. The greatest example we have of words that bring life are those from Jesus Christ. His words in the Bible are full of life, hope, and joy. Especially in this challenging time, and any time, may we bring others words that bring life.

Marion Dieleman, Librarian



Tuesday Colton B., JK

Sunday Madelyn B., JK

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**Prayer Corner-** We thank God for his overflowing blessings and love. We know our God is a God of healing and comfort. We pray for grieving families and those coping with stress and challenges. We lift up the Markus family as baby Brooks has been in hospital. We extend condolences and lift up the DeBeer family with the loss of their grandmother. We offer praise for the birth of a new baby girl for Mrs VanLeeuwen (Sonbeams teacher) and her husband! We praise a good God who provides for us every day.

**WCS Remote Learning 2021-** Thank you, parents and students for your stellar effort with last week's learning at home! Thank you also for your responses to our survey last week (in the parent update shared on Thursday). We are providing a full educational program with learning activities and instruction in each subject area, and yes, it's a full day. If your child has questions, as much as possible, refer them to their teachers for assistance and to ask questions. We will be having early dismissal each Friday and pick-up/exchange days on Mondays for now. Thanks for your positive comments, and your honesty in relating how things are working at your home. Each week our staff will be meeting, either in divisions or as a whole group, to discuss learning and any adjustments we may need to make to content or schedules. Thanks for your feedback. We continue to pray for our students and families at home and update you if there are changes.

**Basketball Jerseys-** Last March, when school closures were announced, our senior students were in the middle of basketball season. Though some basketball jerseys were returned on the June 2020 exchange day, there are still quite a few jerseys missing. If you were a basketball player (or if your older sibling was), please look around your home, check your closets and return those as soon as possible on our exchange days.

**Sick students-** If your children are unable to attend classes, please call/email the school office and the homeroom teacher to let us know. If your child is receiving learning support, please also notify the student support teachers.

**From the Library-** Greetings from the WCS Library. It is SO great to see the number of you trying out our new reservation system to take out books from our library during this time. Keep in mind, there was an email sent out on Friday from the office about the procedure, along with a short video. ANYTIME, you need help doing this, I will be more than happy to help. You can contact me at any time even though I am not at the school every day. We really want this to work for the benefit of all of our students!

**From Southwestern Public Health-** On January 7th, in response to increasing community transmission of Covid, the Ontario government extended remote learning for all public and private school students across Southwestern Ontario until January 25th. If you have any questions for SWPH, visit [www.swpublichealth.ca](http://www.swpublichealth.ca), follow them on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter or call the COVID-19 hotline at 1-866-922-0096 x 9 with questions.

### **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.

**Transition to High School-** Are you considering secondary school options for your family? London Christian High will be communicating with the families of our 8th grade students to share information about Christian education at the secondary school level, their student support services, extra-curriculars, tuition framework, and about their program of learning. Students and their parents are most welcome to connect with LCH for more information.

**Student Support:** Hi parents! New Learning Place packets are ready for pick up today. I've tweaked the Learning Place schedule, so please check out the email that was sent on Saturday to see if these changes impact your child's schedule. Thanks again for your support and help at home!

**JK:** Welcome to a new week! I hope that everyone received their JK packages today. Please watch for the Zoom unmuting request tomorrow morning at our 9:00

meeting. We want to wish Colton a very Happy Birthday for Tuesday. We will sing for you tomorrow, Colton. We pray that you will have a joy filled year! Please watch for an email about what you will need to bring to our zooms. Have a great week!

**Tuesday** -What do you know about birds? Happy Birthday Colton!

**Friday** - Show and share - something about a bird.

**SK:** Welcome to a new week of learning and fun. We are into our second week of remote learning. If you haven't already, please check out the videos on SeeSaw explaining what to bring back, keep and pick up. Stayed tuned for Tuesday's schedule to be emailed later today. Have a wonderful week!

**Grade 1/2A (Mrs. Schuster):** Please check seesaw for a class announcement.

**Grade 1/2B (Mrs. Horinga):** Welcome to Remote Learning week 2! I am so proud of how students are doing on line this week. Please be prompt when returning from work times so we can continue with our next lesson and students are not missing instructions. Keep up the good work.

**Friday** - early dismissal - 1:05

**Grade 3:** Grade 3 students have done an excellent job of online schooling this past week! Not only did most attend as often as they could, but there was also enthusiasm from students, great effort, and still a great sense of community. You are all doing an amazing job!

This week some of our main topics will include:

**Math** - measurement using cm, m, km and perimeter

**Science** - applying knowledge about structures and stability

**Bible** - a test (shortened version) about the life Abraham on Tuesday

-Beginning a new unit about Isaac and Jacob

**Spelling-** Unit 15, words with the long I sound

**Novel Study** - Chocolate Fever, ch. 11, 12

Parents, please reach out to me if you have any questions or if you need any clarifications. Some of you are doing that already. I will make an effort to meet with each student this week, individually on a meet, as a check in to see how they are doing and if there are ways to improve their online learning. Have a great week!

**Grade 4:** Welcome to a new week. We will continue learning about Canada and memorize the capital cities. Remember to finish your work each day and keep it safe to hand it in on pickup/drop off day.

**Thursday** - Canada Quiz - Capital cities

**Friday** - Spelling Test - Lesson 15

**Next Tuesday** - Bible Test - Unit 6 - Samuel

**Grade 5:** Welcome to the 2nd week of remote learning! From my point-of-view, it has been a good start; I hope and pray that it will continue to go smoothly. Thank you parents for your positive attitudes and commitment to this method of learning. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

I'm excited for students to begin working on a hands-on math project later on this week. I will go over the instructions with students and send you a copy, too. Have a great week!

**Grade5/6:** Welcome back to another week of learning grades 5 and 6! I hope you are able to get outside and play in the milder weather we are having.

**Monday** Exchange Day

**Thursday** Take the time to order library books for next week on the WCS website

**Friday** Spelling test

Memory work - Romans 3:23,24; 6:23

**Monday** Exchange Day

**Grade 7:** The Grade 7 Daily Learning Schedule for this week is posted in Google Meet. Students will need family members to be an audience, as they are practicing their Historical Monologues. Students will give class performances on Thursday and Friday. Students are planning and building their ecosystems. In class, they will work on their projects last period on Mon, Wed, and Fri.

**Grade 8:** Welcome to a new week of Remote Learning. Keep pace with all of our assignments in Google Classroom. Each Monday you are to return all of the work you have completed on paper to the school for assessment. All assignments are posted and will be graded. Thanks for your support as we adjust to Remote Learning.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **January**

13	Staff PLC session 3:30pm
19	Board of Directors Meeting
20	Whole School Devotions Sub Sandwich Lunch
25	MAP testing begins
28	Kindergarten Information Evening
29	Theme Chapel hosted by Grade 1/2A

#### **February**

3	Staff Meeting 730am Prayer Circle 9am Burger Lunch Day
10	Whole School Devotions