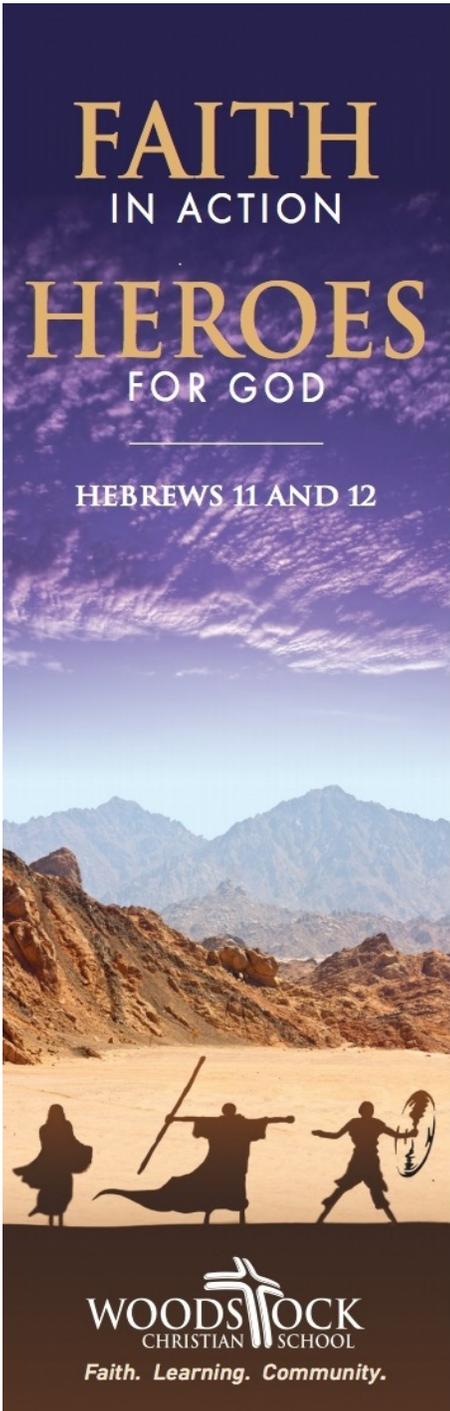


INK-LINKS

Newsletter of the Woodstock Christian School, Woodstock, Ontario

June 2018



Victoria Day Parade Float
Children and parents were great ambassadors for Woodstock Christian School!

Upcoming Events

- June 8..... New Student Visit Day
- June 15..... P.A. Day*
- June 19..... Grade 8 Tribute Assembly
- Graduation
- June 20..... Board Meeting
- June 22..... Last Day of School
- June 23..... W.C.S. Golf Tournament
- June 25..... Staff Meetings

Looking Ahead

- August 27..... Staff Retreat
- August 28..... Staff Meetings
- August 30..... New Parents Evening
- September 3..... Labour Day*
- September 4..... First Day of School
- Welcome Assembly 9 a.m.
- September 18..... Board Meeting



BOARD NEWS

Another year is coming to the end, and we are thankful for God's blessings and faithfulness throughout this 2017-2018 school year.

The Spring Membership meeting occurred on May 3rd and we had the pleasure of

learning about technology in the classroom through various information sessions held throughout the school.

We are thankful to Marsha Sikma for her service on the board. Her dedication to WCS has been appreciated. We welcome Heather DeBoer and Michelle Sol and thank them for their willingness to serve the Lord in this capacity. The new executive board is:

Albert Renkema, Chair
Tim Bakker, Vice-Chair
Michelle Sol, Secretary
Jennifer Bigham, Treasurer
Cora Kroondijk, Vicar.

The Strategic Planning Committee and board have been working diligently on a new vision and mission statement for our school and they are as follows:

Mission Statement

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

Vision Statement

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

The board extends congratulations to the grade 8 graduates of 2018. We wish them God's blessing as they start high school in the fall and continue to serve the Lord. Your continued prayers for WCS are coveted. As the staff and students take a break during the summer months, we pray for rest and safety.

Michelle Sol, Board Secretary

forward  drive

The Forward Drive's purpose is to increase overall donations to Woodstock Christian School. We are excited to roll it out again in October. This year's focus will be on seven days of prayer and how we can pray together as a community. Keep an eye out for our prayer tree in the school lobby. We hope you will add your prayers to our tree as well. Stay tuned for more information.

Pray for us too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. 1 Corinthians 4:3a

WE ARE PLANNING FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2018-2019

and are being blessed with new students and families who are enrolling as well as with students and families who faithfully, enthusiastically re-enroll each year.

We are also saying goodbye to Miss Stephanie Kiers who will be married this summer and teaching next year at Covenant Christian School in Smithville, Ontario. May God bless you in this next chapter of your life!

THE CLASS ARRANGEMENTS AND TEACHERS ASSIGNED ARE:

Woodstock Christian School Staff 2018-2019
Mrs. Tracy Bulthuis, Learning Support
Mrs. Rachel Sikma, French
Mrs. Elizabeth Martin, Music
Mrs. Linda Westerveld, Junior Kindergarten
Ms. Victoria Body, J.K. & S.K.
Mrs. Karen Poort, Senior Kindergarten
Mrs Erica Schuster, Grade 1
Mrs. Kristen VanderPloeg, Grade 2
Mrs. Marcia Horinga, Grade 2 & 3
Mr Greg Hiemstra, Grade 3
Mrs. Natalie Van Aniel, Grade 4
Mr. Axel Hiemstra, Grade 5
Mrs. Jannette Hickey, Grade 6
Mrs. Lesa Racicot, Grade 7
Mr. Tony Schaafsma, Grade 8

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: Jennifer Bigham 519-532-8220 Secretary: Michelle Sol 519-539-7839

Members at Large: Julie Vandendool 519-469-8373 Andrea VanRooyen 226-377-1011 Heather DeBoer 519-842-9284

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



VOUCHER PROGRAM: SUMMER UPDATE

Summer BBQ, Wedding Gifts, Family Trips, Building Projects & Regular Life... Gift Cards from participating stores are available for any occasion. Don't forget to stock up before school is out for the summer.

Should you need to make a purchase in July or August
OPEN: Tuesdays in July and August from 10 am-2 pm

Gift Cards are an easy way to reduce your tuition
2% from every purchase!



Vouchers can be automatically sent home each month, to set up an order please contact the school office.



POPCORN MACHINE AVAILABLE FOR RENT

The WCS popcorn machine is available for rental at a cost of only \$50.00 per event to WCS families. Popcorn and oil packages as well as movie theatre style popcorn bags are available at cost. This is a fun addition to any event. For more information or to book a rental contact the office.

14TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



DATE: Saturday, June 23 (rain or shine)
LOCATION: Ingersoll Golf & Country Club
TIME: Shotgun Start at 1:00PM
FORMAT: Texas Scramble (Best Ball)

ONLY \$150 per Golfer
\$100 for Students

Registration includes:

- 18 holes of Golf
- Power Cart
- Golf Prize
- Full Dinner

(Choice of Chicken or Beef)
Dinner Only Option - \$40

Partial Tax receipt will be issued

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Platinum - \$1000 (includes 4 golfers)
- Gold - \$600 (includes 2 golfers)
- Silver - \$300 (includes 1 golfer)

(Green fees, Power cart, Dinner, and a prize included for each Golfer)

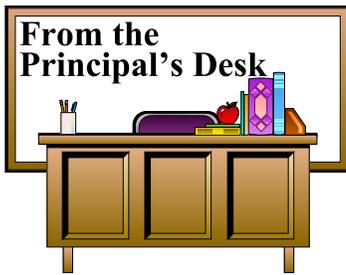
Company/Sponsor Name: _____

Please make cheque payable to WCS - memo golf tournament.
If using Credit Card, please visit or call WCS school office phone: 519-539-1492

Sponsorship includes:

Signage on Course
Acknowledgment at Dinner
Newspaper Thank-you

Please Fax form to 519-539-1893 or
email office@woodstockchristian.ca or visit
WCS School office at 800 Juliana Dr. (P.O. Box 1597),
Woodstock, ON N4S 0A8 www.woodstockchristian.ca



FAITH. LEARNING. COMMUNITY.

As the Board, committees, and staff of Woodstock Christian School work through the tasks involved in developing a strategic plan, these three fundamentals in our tag line continue to speak volumes about priorities at WCS. Our new mission statement reads: Woodstock Christian School exists to nurture faith, engage learning, and grow in community ... to the glory of God. Chapters 6 and 11 of the book of Deuteronomy speak of the many ways and places parents (and by extension - schools and teachers) are to teach children about God - to immerse and surround them with the message of the one God and the signs and wonders He has done. It is imperative that the young understand God's greatness and come to love Him with their heart, soul, mind, and strength - with every part of who they are. His signs and wonders are all around us in creation and in His story, the Bible. Students at WCS are learning and serving with all the dimensions of who they are created to be - social, spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional beings.

A week of walking through the learning spaces at WCS shows how our students engaged in a wonderful variety of places and assignments, learning within the context of faith and community. Monday, seventy purple-clad WCS parents and students gathered on and around the WCS parade float. Students on the float sang praise and worship songs along with the soundtrack. It was heartwarming to see the smiles of parade-goers as our students and our wolf mascot greeted them with high fives and fist bumps. Tuesday, a regular school day, found senior students finishing their music/creative arts project of ukulele building, and moving on to learn chords, strumming patterns, and composing music and lyrics. Sixth grade students participated in the third of a series of VIP (values, influences, peers) workshops hosted by the Woodstock Police Services, learning about decision-making within the brokenness and distractions of our culture. Primary students boarded a bus for Caressant Care in order to spend time reading to and conversing with their senior friends. Wednesday was a glorious day for track and field events. After weeks of training, students were pushing their bodies to jump higher, longer, to run faster and with endurance and stamina. It was a good day of camaraderie, encouragement, and competition.

After previous tours of a local greenhouse and exploring various soils, compost, and mulch; after planning, measuring, and drawing designs for their own miniature greenhouses, grade three students and parent volunteers were ready to build! Thursday afternoon was for sawing,

measuring, hammering, pulling out crooked nails and trying again. Students were excited to begin planting seeds and watch them germinate in their own greenhouses. In the junior kindergarten class, students did yet another observation of their caterpillars turned into chrysalises, while senior kindergarten took delight in caring for their numerous baby rabbits. On Friday, seventh grade students and parent volunteers were baking for a service learning project fund-raiser focused on global literacy. Proceeds will go to support a library in Sierra Leone. Dads parked pickups outside of the gym door, providing a tailgate woodshop complete with power tools, saws, and safety glasses, assisting students in the construction of bird house projects. Grade four went for a gallery walk and printmaking workshop at the Woodstock Art Gallery. Buddy classes around the school engaged in STEM challenges, math challenges, and buddy reading.

Project based learning and opportunity for community interaction provides a holistic framework for learning and helps students see the 'big picture' of life. Students learn to think critically, be decision makers, artists, justice seekers, God-worshippers, servants, designers. They gain a clearer understanding of how all of life is interconnected. They learn with their hearts, souls, minds, and all their abilities, dimensions, and strengths. All of our learning at WCS is worship, and done for God's glory. Look at what He has done and is doing!

C. Verbeek



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.*

HERE ARE A FEW MORE PROFILES OF THE STAFF of WCS so that our larger community can get to know them. We are grateful to have these competent and committed people working with us at Woodstock Christian School and we are blessed by their gifts and abilities. Adrienne, Gerry, Melissa, and Vickie... we are glad to have you on our driving team!

ADRIENNE REYNEVELD was born in Tillsonburg and



grew up in the country. She attended Rehoboth Christian School and College Avenue Secondary School. She remembers especially enjoying running, track and field day, and that her favourite subject was phys ed. While she was in school she worked after school on her Opa's dairy farm. Once she graduated she became a house cleaner and still does that today.

She has three beautiful children

who currently attend WCS. Adrienne earned her bus driving license and has been driving for Woodstock Christian School for three years. She loves driving and more recently also earned her Air Brake Z Endorsement and is qualified to drive other vehicles, including dump trucks. Adrienne really enjoys driving for the class trips and school events. She is a positive person who greets and encourages her bus passengers daily. Being able to drive for WCS means that she is able to develop a connection with the students. Someday, Adrienne would love to travel!!



GERRY HUININK was born in Holland, and was six months old when his family immigrated to Canada. He attended school in Oxford Centre, at John Knox Christian School, Huron Park Secondary and Ridgetown College. Gerry remembers he did not like school and couldn't get home to the farm soon enough. He lived and worked on the same farm for 60 years, and currently lives in Woodstock with his wife Minnie. Gerry is very proud of his family, loves family life, and

though he has travelled widely - travelling and cycling through Europe, participating in the Sea to Sea cross-Canada bicycle tour - he declares that home is his favourite place. Gerry earned his bus driver's licence in 1983, when JKCS started their own fleet of buses. Gerry has been a spare driver for more than 20 years and a full time driver for WCS 10 years. He enjoys driving and the challenge of new situations every day. Gerry was always interested in agriculture and views bus driving as both a way of planting the seeds of the love of Jesus with his

passengers, as well as the opportunity for 'crop touring' every day. He marvels at creation and says, "It's an awesome thing to see how creation works together. We think we are the guardians, but it's God who makes everything work together." Gerry loves to read, about history, places, and the experiences of ordinary people and what life means to them. Being part of WCS is important to Gerry, the values and discipline and being part of a place where "the love of God shines through".



MELISSA WESSELSON grew up in Strathroy. She attended several elementary schools, and was homeschooled though Canadian Christian Academy from grade 8-12 where she graduated with honours. Melissa has been married to Jason for almost 9 years. They have 3 children: Brooklyn (6), Emmett (4), and Rebecca (20 months). Melissa has worked as a legal assistant with a law firm, as an

office associate/office manager at Muskoka Bible Conference, for the Department of National Defense as an administration officer with the Army Cadet Program, as a marketing representative, as a mom, and now as a bus driver for WCS. Melissa writes, "It's just awesome being able to be even a small part of the wonderful foundation that these students are getting through this school." She enjoys getting to know more students, families, and people in the school community. Outside of school, most of Melissa's time is spent being busy with their children. When she does get a few minutes to herself she usually enjoys some quiet time with a latte or a cup of coffee, iced or hot. Welcome to our WCS driving team Melissa. May God bless you in this role too!

VICKIE JAGER is the newest addition to our bus driving team. She grew up in Lindsay Ontario and moved to Woodstock just a few years ago. Vickie has been driving for many years with a Class G licence, is a volunteer driver for one of the community agencies, and has just recently received her Class B bus licence. She began driving for WCS this May after training during the fall and winter. Vickie raised three children and has four grandchildren. Prior to working for Woodstock Christian School, Vickie worked as a nurse (RPN) for many years but took an early retirement due to the physical demands of the job. In her spare time Vickie really enjoys arts and crafts as a way to relax and be creative. She loves being a grandmother and spends as much time with her grandchildren as possible. Vickie says, "I'm looking forward to my future as a school bus driver with WCS. I really like the idea of working for Woodstock Christian School because I get to work for and with people that are like minded to my own beliefs as I am a Christian." Welcome Vickie. We are blessed to have you on our team.



Tribute to Grade Eight Assembly

We hope that you will all join us for our Tribute to Grade 8 Assembly
on **Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.**

All the classes will be participating in celebrating our grade 8 students.
Together, we will praise God for blessing them and we will celebrate the blessing
that they have been to us at WCS. See you all there! Refreshments to follow.



The Class of 2018 invites you to attend the
GRADUATION PROGRAM
on **Tuesday, June 19** in the Maranatha C.R.C.
at **8 p.m.**

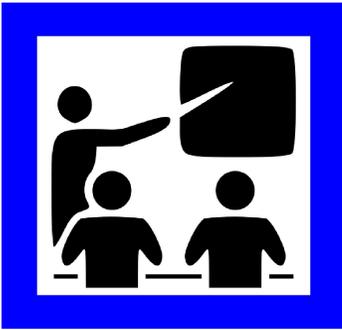
We encourage you to help us celebrate this
milestone in our lives.

GRADUATES OF 2018

Joshua Baer
Avery Bakker
Amber Bean
Max Branderhorst
Samantha Butler
Wesley Clifford
Jesse Duizer

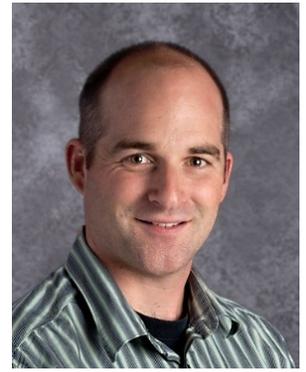
Matthew Duizer
Joseph Huinink
Sophie Kim
GraceAnn Kroondijk
Kailyn Markus
Caleb Martin
Emma Neutel
Christi Overzet

Grace Renkema
Eleanor Robinson
Kayla Schelhaas
Bryden Sol
Ian Spysma
Sarah Swanson
Alyvia VanRooyen



GRADE 8 - MR. T. SCHAAFSMA

At the end of April our eighth grade music class began our long-anticipated ukulele project. This 'hands on' cross-curricular project connects art and music as students build, design, string, and learn to play chords on a soprano ukulele. This project gives students the opportunity to learn the importance of attention to detail and allows them to express their personalities through design. Much thought and planning goes into the design phase as it moves from idea to sketch to reality.



Students share techniques for sanding, painting, and staining, and offer suggestions for design and colour choices. They learn about craftsmanship, and encourage and express interest in others' designs. They are able to critique each other's work in a positive way. As you can see in the accompanying photos - they came up with unique and beautiful designs! As the instrument assembly progresses, students start stringing and tuning their ukuleles.

After tuning and re-tuning and tuning again, students are ready to play chords to accompany folk songs and hymns. The plinking and twanging of ukuleles fill the halls, busses and homes of our senior students as they play, building confidence and growing their repertoire of chords.





THE BATTERY CHALLENGE

The Gr. 5 class has been working hard at collecting dead household batteries. We have been learning about the word stewardship and that we are all stewards of God's creation. He has put us on Earth to enjoy it, take what we need from it, but also take care of it. This battery challenge is one of our service learning projects which runs the course of the year. It is a great way for us to practice stewardship and remind us of our obligation towards our beautiful planet.

Students in Gr. 5 are competing in a challenge against classmates and against the other classes in the school. The goal for each child in Gr. 5 is to collect more kilograms of batteries than the other students in the class and/or collect more than all the other classes in the school, combined, before the end of the year. So far, in total, the Gr. 5 class has collected 631 kilograms! That's 1,391 pounds!

Did you know that every single part of the battery is re-used? There are several precious metals in each battery, such as, nickel, cadmium, lead acid, and lithium iron phosphate. These valuable metals can be re-used for other purposes (i.e. cell phones, computers, other electronics) instead of sitting in a landfill for several millennia. Furthermore, our school receives some profit for each pound of batteries we collect! So, please don't ever throw your dead batteries into the garbage, be a steward and bring them into WCS!



Students participated in "Jump Rope for Heart" and raised \$7,400.00 for the Heart of Stroke Association.



Building greenhouses in Grade 3