

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

March 9, 2020

The other day when I came home from school my daughter requested a signature on her math test. You see, I had been working with her a lot on her math this year, and so when it comes to math she asks her dad. She had scored a lot of 88% or higher, but this one test stuck out; it was in the 60's. How was I to react? I looked over that four page test, and though she did great on three pages, she hadn't done well on one page. Upon closer inspection I realized that she actually knew the concepts, but I didn't particularly like how the one page was graded by the teacher; you see my daughter received a 30% when I knew that she showed that she understood it, but made a few mistakes. I so wanted to call up the teacher and ask the teacher to reassess that page, but I didn't because I recognized that in the great scheme of things it doesn't matter. My daughter is not defined by one poor test.

This week report cards and map test results go home. Reports are one way to communicate how each child is doing at school. Wouldn't it be great if students received all 100% or Advanced, and level 4 for every subject area and criterias, but then we wouldn't be telling the truth, would we (assuming that no one has received a perfect report card)? Or wouldn't it be great (as a teacher) if we didn't have to give out any marks, and just encourage students to do excellent work, but that is not how our current education system is set up.

In Max Lucado's book, "You Are Special", the main character Punchinello was living life in his town trying to receive stars for doing well, rather than dots for not being particularly talented at anything. He just didn't feel good about receiving all the dots that he received, and pretty much stayed home to prevent himself from receiving any more dots. That changed when he noticed that someone didn't have any stars or dots and wanted to be like her, a character named Lucia. She pointed him in the direction of his Maker who said, "You are special because I made you. And I don't make mistakes."

That is exactly how it is with our children. We value them for who they are, created by God, and not for what they have done academic wise. As teachers we strive to have all our students do well, and to reach all students where they are at, but at the end of the day we remember that students like ourselves are God's created beings. In fact, we are loved by God unconditionally, and so valued that he sent Jesus into the world. Praise God that he values all His children! Have a great March Break!

G. Hiemstra



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| Sunday | - Josiah D., Gr.6
- Desmond V., SK2 |
| March 16 | - Sarah D., Gr.4B
- Julie K., Gr.5 |
| March 20 | - John R., Gr.4B
- Wesley V., JK
- Kurtis Y., Gr.4A |
| March 21 | - Mr. A. Hiemstra, Gr. 5 Teacher |
| March 23 | - Eden V., Gr.7
- Nicole W., Gr.3 |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Prayer Corner: We thank God for his providential love. Pray for all those who are not well. If you have specific prayer requests, be sure to pass those along to our prayer team through j.mulder@woodstockchristian.ca. Please continue to pray for our students and families. Pray for our school and for the Board and committees as they lead and as they plan for the next school year.

Electives: A big thank you to the leaders/helpers of the electives for grades 4-8. We couldn't have offered the program without you!

From the Library: The first "I Read Canadian" event at WCS was a smashing success!! The winning class was...(drumroll!) Grade SEVEN!! Gr. 7 has won a \$50.00 gift card for their class to purchase any books! Thank-you for all of your participation, classes of WCS! As our school's participation was so great, there is a book winner from every class! Each class participant went into a class draw and one person has won a book from that class. But everyone's a winner because reading Canadian is beneficial for everyone! Thank-you for everyone's enthusiastic participation! Extra congratulations to these book winners: Collins P., Annabelle M., Ella H., Damen S., Asher B., Aleeya R., Faith C., Maylina W., Noah M., Megan S., Abi C. Thanks, from Mrs. Dieleman

Senior Boys Basketball: Thanks to those who've come to cheer on the team. Please note that we will need parent drivers for away games this week. Schedule: Monday March 9th away game - WCS @ St Patrick's. Tuesday March 10th - away game WCS @ Assumption in Aylmer. We need drivers! We will leave WCS @ 3 pm. Thursday March 12th (not 11th as per email) - away game WCS @ Notre Dame.

School Skating: On Thursday March 12th, we will have a school skate at the Woodstock Community Complex. Students in Gr. 1-4 will skate from 1:15-2:05 pm, while older students will skate from 2:10-3:05 pm. A reminder that all adults and children on the ice must be wearing skates, helmets and gloves. Come join us!

March Break: Note that March break at WCS this year will begin on Friday, March 13th and continue through Monday, March 23rd. Students and teachers will be back at school on Tuesday, March 24th. Wondering what to do with your family during March break? The City of Woodstock is offering many recreational opportunities for your family, from workshops at the Art Gallery <https://www.cityofwoodstock.ca/en/live-and-play/wag-march-break.aspx>, to library activities, to kids and teens day camps <https://www.cityofwoodstock.ca/en/live-and-play/day-camps.aspx> or free March break skating on March 20 on the Red Rink at the Community Complex. Heart-fm also lists activities <http://www.heartfm.ca/news/local-news/march-break-fun/>. Check out what our community has to offer!

Springfest! Springfest is coming up on Saturday, April 4! This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year! We are still looking for more volunteers in our kitchen and for set up and clean up. Please email j.mulder@woodstockchristian.ca if you can help us out, or know of a grandparent, friend, high school students or relative who would like to help us out.

Bazaar Bottles: It's that time of year again where we need your help. During this March Break grab your empty 2L pop bottle and have your children get their creative thinking cap on to invent their own bazaar bottle. Place \$5.00 worth of items inside the bazaar bottle and start decorating. The bottles are starting to arrive and we cannot wait to see what everyone makes! Thank you for being a part of this.

SpringFest! Spread the word about our annual SpringFest event that will be happening on Saturday, April 4 starting at 8 am. There will be great food, marketplace vendors, a mechanical bull, milking competitions, the box maze, and so much more fun. Please share the event on facebook and tell your friends. All funds raised support our school so lets work together to share this event with the larger community.

Celebration of Learning: Plan to attend! This year at WCS we are hosting our second annual Celebration of Learning on Wednesday, April 29th from 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm. This is an event for every child and every family! Please note this date on your calendar. This evening will be a showcase of the learning that is happening at WCS. Your

children will be taking parents and guests through their classrooms and learning spaces to share and explain their learning. Stay tuned for more details in coming weeks. For now, SAVE THE DATE: April 29th!

Student Support - Mrs. Bulthuis: Welcome to warmer weather and the promise of spring! This Thursday, resource reports will be sent home with report cards. Let me know if you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting. Be sure to return book bags to school this Wednesday so they can be updated before March break. No spelling tests this week for grades 1, 2, and 7.

Wednesday - Return book bags (gr. 1-3)
Thursday - Spelling test (gr. 4)

J.K. - Mrs. Westerveld: Welcome to a beautiful Spring week. We want to wish Wesley a Happy Birthday on March 20. Please return your brown report card envelopes. Please read email that is coming today about upcoming class trip. Have a great March break.

Wednesday - Library
- Report cards go home
Friday - No school
March 24 - Maple Bush trip

S.K.1 - Miss Body: Welcome to a beautiful new week. It is a short week as we start March Break on Friday. I hope you enjoyed your long weekend.

Letters: sh Sight words: review list 2
Tuesday - All school devotions lead by Miss Body
- Library
- Scholastic Due
Wednesday - Field Trip to Mr. Renkema's farm
- Report cards go home
Friday - March Break begins. NO SCHOOL.
Have a safe and wonderful break!

S.K.2 - Mrs. Poort: We have a fun week ahead of us. We have a trip on Tuesday to learn about maple syrup. Thank you to Melissa, Kevin, Ludwin or Amy, and Corissa who volunteered to join us for our field trip. Please dress for the weather tomorrow it may be a bit rainy; rubber boots, splash or snow pants, coat, hat and mitts. Continue to bring in floatable materials for our boats. We will keep developing them this week and after March Break.

Tuesday - Field Trip to Renkema Farm
- Library
Wednesday - Learning Reports
Friday - March Break Begins

Grade 1 - Mrs. VanderPloeg: Welcome to a new

week! We have a four-day week ahead of us. Check your emails for a look at this last week before March Break!!

Monday - Grade One visit to Albert & Christine Renkema's house
Tuesday - Library books due
- visit to Woodstock Public Library
Wednesday - Show & Share: Alex, Lauren & Nathaniel C.
Thursday - Skating @ Southwood Arena
- Report Cards go home
Friday - NO School {March Break begins!}

Grade 2 - Mrs. Horinga: Welcome to a new week. This week we will be looking at irregular past tense words to once again familiarize us with our new spelling program. We will wrap up our study of parables this week - we have learned so much about the Kingdom of God. Watch for a pop up book coming home later.

Wednesday - Library
Thursday - skating 1:15-2:15. Everyone on the ice must have skates, helmet, and gloves/mitts. Parents are welcome to come along and skate too.
- Report cards go home. Enjoy your March Break!

Grade 3 - Mr. G. Hiemstra: We will be continuing with an almost daily multiplication drill as we look to master the times table up to 12's though we have started a fraction unit. Good work with those four students gone to OASIS last week. On Thursday we will be skating and then students will have an opportunity to play board games after that, so please bring in games you may like to play. Have a great March Break!

Thursday - Spelling Test
- Skating: bring skates, helmet, and gloves
- Bring board games

Grade 4A - Mrs. VanAndel: Welcome to a new week grade 4! Are you ready for March Break?? I pray that you will all have an awesome March Break!! On Thursday, there is all school skating. Remember to bring your skates, helmets, and gloves!

Monday - Devotions: Leah
- Music: bring recorders
Tuesday - Bring gym clothes
- Spelling test

- Wednesday - Devotions: Makynlee
 - Library: remember your books
- Thursday - Devotions: Natalie
 - Bible test: King David
 - Report Cards come home
 - Skating: leaving school at 12:50
- Friday - March break begins

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

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| March | 10 | Board of Directors Meeting 8 pm |
| | 11 | Hockey Tournament |
| | 12 | Skating @ Community Complex
2nd term Learning Reports |
| | 13-23 | March Break (no classes) |
| | 24 | Back at school |
| | 25 | Prayer Group (8:30 am)
Pizza Lunch
Staff PLC Session 3:45-5 pm |
| | 26 | K is for Kindergarten 9-11 am |
| April | 1 | Staff Meeting 7:15
Prayer Group 8:30
Sub Lunch |
| | 2 | K is for Kindergarten 9-11 am
(+April 9,16) |
| | 4 | SpringFest Bazaar |

Grade 4B - Mrs. Hickey: Welcome to a new week. There is no memory work this week. The book report requirement will be sent home this week. It is due at the end of the month. Remember to wear helmets and gloves for skating. Have a wonderful March Break.

- Tuesday - Phys. Ed. (gym strip)
 - Spelling Test: List 23
- Wednesday - Library
- Thursday - Bible Test: King David
 - Music (recorders)
 - Skating (1pm - 2 pm)
 - Report Cards

Grade 5 - Mr. A. Hiemstra: Welcome to the last week before March Break. I hope you enjoy your break! Keep an eye open for our red folders coming home today with a spelling quiz and memory work quiz.

- Monday - Last swimming lesson this afternoon.
- Tuesday - Health quiz: study highlights.
- Wednesday - Music: bring recorder.
- Thursday - Music: bring recorder.
 - Spelling, Lesson 26 and test.
 - No memory work this week.

Grade 6 - Mrs. Bigham: Welcome to our last week of school before March break. Wishing Josiah a wonderful birthday over the holiday. Here is a look at the week ahead.

- Wednesday - Unit 19 Spelling Test
 - Trapped In Ice Novel Test
- Thursday - School Skating
 - mem. work quiz: Philippians 4:12-13
 - Term 2 Report Card
- Friday - March Break Starts. Have an amazing week!

Grade 7 - Mrs. Racicot: Please refer daily to Google Classroom for grade 7 homework, assignments and tests.

Grade 8 - Mr. Schaafsma: Welcome to a new week! Continue to check in to Google Classroom for grade 8 assignments and tasks.