

October 13, 2020

One of the things I enjoy about Thanksgiving weekend is that it is one of our holiday's that isn't 'over materialized'. It is simply an opportunity to hit the 'pause' button on our busy lives and truly 'give thanks' for all of the many blessings from God. On Friday in Grade 8, we took some time to create a 'Thanksgiving Craft'. Initially, when I planned to do this activity, I did not know how the students would respond, but I was impressed with their engagement in the task. The grade 8 students were able to create "Thanksgiving Handprint Turkeys" to take home and share with their families. Here is an example of one in the process of being made:



As silly as a craft like this may be for a Grade 8 class, it also provided us with some very meaningful conversation about the many things we are thankful for. Each student wrote 'I Am Thankful For...'" on the belly of their turkey and then they listed all of the things they are thankful for on the 'feathers' of their turkey. Then everyone shared one thing they are thankful for and it turned out to be a very meaningful way for all of us to enter this past weekend of celebration with our families. I am reminded of Psalm 100 where it says: "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

Tony Schaafsma, Grade 8 Teacher



Thursday	Bridget H., Gr. 1/2B Ella H., Gr. 1/2B
Saturday	Darius E., Gr. 1/2B

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Prayer Corner: It is such a blessing to be part of a faith community and to be able to bring our joys and worries to God. A prayer request from the Vandenburg family for Mr. Rob Vandenburg, for strength and healing as he has been diagnosed with cancer in his leg and will begin radiation treatments on Oct 20th, and as he undergoes further testing. For all of our families and extended families who are experiencing difficult times, we are praying for you.

Interim Reports will be coming home at the end of this week for Grades 1-8. At WCS, teachers prepare these brief progress reports halfway through first term to share with parents how students are adjusting to routines and engaging in learning activities. First term reports will be shared at the end of November, at which time parent-teacher or student-led conferences will be scheduled for all families.

Bus Safety: This month WCS is focusing on bus safety. Bus patrollers are receiving more detailed information this week about their responsibilities - remember to return your signed forms! Parents please check in with your child(ren) from time to time to remind them about good and respectful bus behaviour. Remember that masks are required on our buses. Your mask protects you and it protects the children around you.

New Symptoms Screening criteria for students @ Ontario schools. The Ontario Ministry of Health issued a revised screening tool for parents to use to check their children for potential COVID-19 symptoms. Symptoms listed in Question #1 are more serious, while symptoms listed in Question#2 are somewhat less serious, but in combination are still a concern. Please read and become familiar with this new guidance document, as this is what we will be using now. Thanks for your commitment to keeping our school healthy!

[COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care](#)



Have you had an opportunity to check out our online auction site for this year's Winterfest? Be sure to log on early to create your account and watch for items that catch your eye. Share our site with friends and family that might be interested in supporting the school through their purchases. We are adding new items daily so check back often! If you have any questions about how the auction will work, feel free to email winterfest@woodstockchristian.ca. We welcome any volunteers that would like to help! From canvassing for donations, administrative tasks or delivery of items, we can always use some extra hands. Let us know if you're interested.
charityauction.bid/WCSWinterfest2020

WCS Fall Membership Meeting will take place on Thursday November 5th, 2020, at 800pm via Zoom. Included will be updates from committees, the auditor's report and revised budget. The meeting information package will be sent prior to the meeting. For JKCS Society members, note that voting will take place via a google form - also to be released prior to the meeting. If you have questions about membership, please connect with our school office or with r.boersma@woodstockchristian.ca

Absent students: Parents, when you know that your child is not able to attend school, please notify the school office, the homeroom teacher and the Learning Place teacher so that they know to include your daughter or son in Blended Learning postings for the day.

TRANSPORTATION/Bus Drivers: Woodstock Christian School has opportunities for full-time, part-time and spare drivers. Do you have a B license and are you looking for a way to work with students and serve the school? Are you interested in training as a bus driver? Do you know an experienced bus driver, or someone who is interested in training or joining our team of drivers at WCS? We are able to assist in the process of becoming a licensed bus driver. If interested, call the school at 519-539-1492 or email principal@woodstockchristian.ca

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP): It's week #3 of MAP testing. The MAP test is designed not only to compare students' scores to norms but also to measure individual student progress over time in language arts and math.

Play days & visiting A reminder to families that when arranging a playdate or birthday party, students are allowed to travel only on their own bus. If your child is inviting students from another bus cohort, children will need to be picked up at school.

Thursday Oct 29 and Friday Oct 30: Please note the dates of the Annual Gathering hosted by Edvance Christian Schools Association for Christian school educators. The theme this year is "*Opening Doors*", featuring author David Brooks and educators Dr. Mary Ashun and Dr. Steve Sider. WCS staff will be joining virtually with other school staff from all over Ontario and east to Charlottetown and New York state to listen to keynote speakers, to attend worship sessions, workshops and to incorporate new information into their teaching practice.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thank you for your support with our Salvation Army Food Bank Drive. Thanks for blessing others in our Woodstock community!

Student Support: I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend! Individual Education Plans (IEPs) were sent home last week. Please sign one copy and return it to me this week. The second copy is for your personal records. Let me know if you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting to talk about your child's plan (t.bulthuis@woodstockchristain.ca). Have a blessed week.

Wednesday: Return book bags (gr. 2 and 3)

Junior Kindergarten: Welcome to a beautiful fall week. Today we go outside with others from our school community. This week our focus will be apples and pumpkins. Please bring in one or two apples for Wednesday's math lesson. Show and share this week is free choice. Have a great week!

Wednesday -Bring in two apples, Library Exchange Day

Friday - Show and share - Free Choice

SK- Miss Body: Welcome to a new week in October. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoyed the beautiful weather and colours. We welcome Ayva-Rose to our learning community today.

Letters: -c, k Sight words: a, my

Theme: -Fall and apples con't

Wednesday: -A visit from a snake. Great job WCS raising over \$5200 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

Grade 1/2A (Mrs. Schuster): Welcome back from a beautiful Thanksgiving weekend. We have so much to be thankful for! This week we will be doing MAP testing, beginning our spelling lists, and welcoming in some special visitors. Please be on the lookout for our weekly email coming through Seesaw (from now on). Just a reminder to make sure you are using the class app along with the home learning code (sent home on the purple page). I will not be having any office hours this week Wednesday or Friday.

Monday - Thanksgiving Monday

Tuesday - See VIP Folders

- Library Day

Wednesday - Return VIP Folders

- Special guests

Friday - Spelling Test

Grade 1/2B (Mrs. Horinga): Welcome to a new week of learning. This week students will be doing their MAP tests. We will also begin our spelling program so watch for a list of words to come home today for your child to study, we will have a spelling test on Friday. This week we will focus on the **short a** sound. Please keep checking your child's Seesaw accounts for messages and activities that are posted. I will be posting several activities this week to be done by Friday.

Grade 1's - keep practicing your ball sight words at home every day.

Tuesday -MAP testing

Wednesday -MAP testing

Friday -Spelling test - short a

Grade 3: I hope everyone had a thankful Thanksgiving! Thanks for all your hard work with the assembly, grade 3! And thanks for your donations to our canned food drive. This week we will continue our map testing. This year there will be an online Winterfest auction. Grade 3 is asked to bring in items for a "travelling/camping" basket. Thanks in advance for keeping an eye out for contributions to our auction basket.

Friday: Spelling Test: List 5

Interim reports going home

Grade 4: Grade 4: Welcome to a new week. We are excited to see the snakes on Wednesday! MAP testing continues this week. We have completed the Reading one and will do Language Usage this week. Multiplication Facts start this week. Students are expected to accurately complete 50 questions in 3 minutes. We will all begin with 2's and move on when we pass. Extra practice sheets will be available on Google Classroom.

Tuesday - Library exchange

- Phys. Ed.

Wednesday - Snakes visit

Thursday - Math Test - Unit 2 - Addition and Subtraction (study quizzes sent home)

Friday - Memory Work - Hebrews 11:1-3

- Spelling Test - Lesson 3

- Phys. Ed.

Grade 5: Welcome to another week of learning! Starting tomorrow (Wednesday), absent students will not only meet on Google Meet at 3:45pm, but also in the morning at 8:40-8:55 for our morning meeting and devotions. The link for Google Meet is located at the top of our Home Room page. Have a great week everyone!

Grade5/6: Welcome to a short week of learning grades 5 and 6. I hope you all were able to enjoy your Thanksgiving weekend. We have so many blessings in our lives! Thank you, God, for every blessing you give us! This is our sixth week of school and interim reports will be coming home on Friday.

Practice your spelling words every day! You have one less night to study this week!

We are almost done with MAP testing for the fall term. Just a few people need to finish a couple of tests!

Tuesday -French with Mrs. Sikma

Wednesday - All School devotions

- Phys. Ed.

- Snakes are coming to school today!!

Thursday - Math test - grade 6

- Music

Friday - Bible test - unit 2

Spelling test - lesson 4

No memory work this week

Phys. Ed.

Grade 7: Thank you for your generous donations to the Thanksgiving Food Drive. On Wednesday students will receive a special visitor to the classroom. Fall MAP testing is complete. Students should be reading 10 to 15 pages of their October novel each evening.

Wednesday -geography "types of landforms" quiz

Thursday -math test NS7-9to13

Friday -geography "changes to landforms" quiz

Grade 8: Welcome back, I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving Weekend, praise God for the gorgeous weather! This week we look forward to seeing some snakes come into our classroom. Continue to check the Google classroom to keep pace with your learning. Remember, if you are away from school you are still expected to join our learning via our Google Meet link in the Google classroom. Have a great week!

Upcoming Events

October

- 7 Prayer Circle- 9:30am
Burger Lunch Day
- 9 Thanksgiving Chapel- Hosted by Grade 3
- 12 Thanksgiving Day (no classes)
- 14 Staff PLC session at 3:30pm
- 16 Interim Reports
- 20 Board of Directors Meeting
- 21 Whole School Devotions
Sub Sandwich Lunch
- 27 Photo Retakes
- 29-30 Edvance Educators Conference- no classes