

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

October 7, 2019

*"Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"* (John 4:29) On Friday September 20<sup>th</sup> the eighth grade class travelled to Camp Bimini for our annual Grade Eight Retreat day.

We started our day in devotions which were led by Pastor John Moelker from Covenant CRC in Woodstock. The focus of our devotion was on the theme of testimony, he led us through the story of Jesus talking with the Samaritan woman at the well from John 4. As we worked through the story we came to the realization that after the Samaritan women spent time face-to-face with Jesus she immediately went and invited others from town to come, see who Jesus was. After some discussion we came to the conclusion that we have a responsibility as followers of Jesus to share our story with others. It is our responsibility to simply invite others to come and see. We are not expected to make followers of Jesus that work is left for the Holy Spirit to accomplish in their lives. Our role is to simply share our own personal experience with Jesus. Our story does not always have to be a complex, planned out testimony; it can be a simple statement much like what we read in John 4:29. The Samaritan woman simply gave an invitation for the people from town to come and see.

At Woodstock Christian School, we spend countless hours with our students teaching, leading and guiding them with the hope that they will each come and see who Jesus is. In our classroom this year, we of course spend time learning about all of the things we need to learn in eighth grade. However, one aspect of my job as a teacher that I appreciate is the ability I have to invite students to come and see. Please pray with me that as we teach our children about who Jesus is, that they may all come and see who Jesus is in their lives.

Mr. Tony Schaafsma, Grade 8 Teacher



Monday	- Mrs. Wesselon, Bus Driver
Tuesday	- Alex B., Gr.7
	- Zac P., SK2
	- Anna W., Gr.5
Friday	- Lydia W., Gr.3
Next Mon.	- Daniel K., Gr.5

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**Thanksgiving Food Drive** until this Wednesday, October 9. The grade 3's will be leading the Thanksgiving assembly on Wednesday, and encourage all students to bring in canned goods and packaged foods for the local Salvation Army Food Bank. Grade 3 is thankful for food, and the willingness to share with others in our community. The non-perishable food items will be brought forward at the assembly. Suggestions for donations are canned meat, jam, soups, macaroni and cheese, condiments, cookies, school snacks etc. Thanks in advance for your participation.

**Blessings for Thanksgiving Day:** Please note that we have a long weekend coming up. Friday will be a PD/PLC day - no classes for students but teachers will have a learning day. Monday is Thanksgiving Day. Consider the many ways God is blessing us! Enjoy your long weekend and gatherings with your families, friends, and church families.

**Interim Reports** will be coming home at the end of this week. 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.

**Spirit Wear is Back!** Spirit wear forms have been sent out, if you have not received a form please let the office know. We will have samples in the lobby for you to try on for sizing for all the different types of clothing. Please send your forms in to the office before Thursday October 10 with payment.

**Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> is a PD Day.** Teachers will be at school working together at their own learning. These days are set aside for teachers to go deeper with some of the learning initiatives that we have started at WCS, such as the Responsive Classroom, project-based learning, differentiated instruction, application of growth mindset strategies and more.

**Volleyball - Boys:** Tonight we have a home game after school versus St. Patrick's. Posted players can be picked up at WCS at 5:00 p.m. On Wednesday posted players will be playing an away game against Monsignor O'Neil in Tillsonburg. We should be back at WCS at 5:40 p.m. at which time players can be picked up. Next Wednesday we have an away game at Notre Dame. Those posted players playing in that match can be picked up at WCS at 5:15 p.m.

**Girls Volleyball:** Great games last week girls! Tuesday October 8 girls will have a home game against St. Pats. Our Thursday games is at Monsignor O'Neil in Tillsonburg. Girls will be dismissed at 3 from their classes so we can arrive in a timely manner. Pick up at WCS will be closer to 5:30 due to distance travelled.

**From the Library:** This week is Encyclopedia Britannica Week, here at the library. All classes will become (re)acquainted with this data base of current, age appropriate, cited research information which can be accessed any time, any day from any electronic device. WCS pays a yearly subscription for this service and I am so pleased that the database, although produced in the USA, has greatly improved their Canadian content. Most public and Edvance schools are subscribers. Each student will again receive a bookmark with the username and password information and it is also at the end of this announcement. Copyright does not allow us to include it on our school's website, for obvious reasons. <https://school.eb.com/levels> Username is woodstockcs and Password is student. Parents, please take a look at it. It is awesome! We have also subscribed to Image Quest which comes up with our information from enc. Brit. All image are copyright approved and citations are provided. Thanks! Mrs. Dieleman

**SONBeams:** We still have a few spots left in our SONBeams program. If you are unsure if you child would enjoy SONBeams, you are welcome to have a 1 month trial period, and then decide after the month if you want to continue with SONBeams. SONBeams is held every Monday and Thursday with Mrs. Westerveld. Transportation to and from school is included in the cost. For more information or to sign up please contact Joleen at [j.mulder@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:j.mulder@woodstockchristian.ca).

**Child Cognition Lab:** Thank you to parents of students in kindergarten and primary classes for being willing to participate in the University of Waterloo's child cognition study. Consent forms may still be returned this week. We will let you know when the researchers will be at WCS to conduct the study.

**Leadership Team** assignments have been made. Thanks to all the students who applied for the various positions! This week teachers will meet with their teams to establish meeting times, explain tasks, and establish learning targets. Bus safety patrollers have parent consent forms that will need to be signed and returned.

**Play Days & Visiting:** A reminder to families to notify the school office or the classroom teacher if students will be going to take the bus to visit a friend or classmate. There is room on our buses for visiting friends but we need to know in advance.

**Lost & Found:** Be sure to check the rack around the corner from the foyer, toward the library for Lost and Found items. There are sweatshirts and jackets as well as some lunch boxes and containers.



We are so thankful to all our canvassers who have been busy collecting donations! Some amazing items have already been donated, but we would love to have more! Have you approached at least 1 business contact to make a donation? Just imagine the gym full of amazing items to bid on if every family made 1 contact! If the company would prefer to make a cash donation then our committee could also buy an item that we know would do well in the auction.

**Student Support - Mrs. Bulthuis:** Most Individual Education Plans (IEPs) were sent home last week Friday, and the rest will be coming home this week. Please sign and return one copy. The second copy is for your personal records. IEPs are fluid, working documents and can be changed throughout the year. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like a meeting to discuss your child's education plan. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend!  
Wednesday - Return book bags (Gr. 1-3)

**J.K. - Mrs. Westerveld:** Welcome to a new week. We are thankful for so many blessings in our lives. A Happy Birthday to Wyatt who turned 4 yesterday. Congratulations to Landon and his family as they welcomed two baby boys into their family this weekend. Please bring in something for our stone soup this Wednesday (washed and chopped). We will have a food drive on Wednesday for those who are in need. Please bring in canned or dried goods. Have a great week.

Wednesday - Library  
- Stone Soup  
Friday - PD Day: No School

**S.K.1 - Miss Body:** A brand new week. A short one but it will be a good one. Praying each day you are able to give thanks to the Lord for a blessing in your life. Connection question: How do you say hello my name is \_\_\_\_\_, in French?

Letters ck, e  
Sight words: red, to  
Tuesday - Library  
Wednesday - Thanksgiving Chapel  
Friday - PD Day: no classes

**S.K.2 - Mrs. Poort:** Welcome to another fall week. Remember bring in Clovermead forms. Happy Birthday to Zac, this week. On Wednesday we will have thanksgiving chapel please bring in a canned food to donate to the food bank. Jolly Phonics letters this week are m and d.

Tuesday - Library  
Wednesday - show and share: Something you are thankful for.  
Friday - No Class

**Grade 1 - Mrs. VanderPloeg:** Welcome to a four-day week! Friday is a PD Day. Happy Birthday to Mrs. Renkema who celebrated her birthday on Sunday! Check your emails for an update about what is happening in Grade 1 throughout the week.

Monday - Phys. Ed  
- MAP Growth (Math)  
Tuesday - Library  
Wednesday - Thanksgiving Assembly @ 8:30 {bring in canned goods for the Food Bank}  
Thursday - Phys. Ed  
- MAP Growth (finish Math)  
Friday - NO School  
next Mon. - NO School (Thanksgiving Day!)

**Grade 2 - Mrs. Horinga:** This week we will be putting together our "Out of this world" family tree! With a shorter week we will have our spelling test on Thursday this week.

Monday - MAP testing: reading test  
Wednesday - Thanksgiving Chapel: please bring in food donations  
Thursday - Field Trip to Snyders Farm  
Friday - PD day  
Monday - Thanksgiving Day

**Grade 3 - Mr. G. Hiemstra:** On Wednesday Grade 3 will be leading the Thanksgiving Assembly. Students will need to practice their saying/reading part(s) for Wednesday. We will be collecting canned goods and packaged foods for the local Salvation Army Food Bank. Please bring in your donations the next two days. We will be finishing up our map testing this week. Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Tuesday - bring in non-perishable food item(s)  
Wednesday - Thanksgiving Assembly (bring in food item(s) if not brought in on Tuesday)  
Thursday - Spelling Test

**Grade 4A - Mrs. VanAndel:** Welcome to a short week of learning grade 4! Please bring canned food to school by Wednesday for the Thanksgiving Chapel. Have a great long Thanksgiving Weekend!

Monday - Field study to Mountsberg Conservation Area

- Tuesday - MAP testing  
 Wednesday - Thanksgiving Chapel  
 - Library: remember your books  
 Thursday - Spelling test  
 - MAP testing  
 - Science test  
 Friday - PD day: no school

**Grade 4B - Mrs. Hickey:** Welcome to a new week. Today we went to Mountsberg Conservation Area and saw birds of prey. It was awesome. We will be wrapping up the unit this week. Next we will be doing a research project on a bird of our choice. Please bring items for the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Student progress will be shared in the Interim Reports at the end of the week. No memory work this week.

- Tuesday - Phys. Ed. (gym strip)  
 Wednesday - Library  
 - Thanksgiving Chapel (food drive)  
 Thursday - Science Test: Birds  
 - Spelling Test: Lesson 3  
 - Phys. Ed. (gym strip)  
 - Interim Report  
 Friday - PD Day

**Grade 5 - Mr. A. Hiemstra:** Welcome to another week of school. A short week for students due to a PD day on Friday. This week we continue MAP testing and finish up a few assignments before thanksgiving weekend. A poster will be coming home soon outlining an opportunity for our class to raise money for Lagossette Christian School in Haiti - pulled pork dinner fundraising event will be happening at Covenant CRC in a couple of weeks. I hope that you and your family can make it. Or perhaps order take-out! Stay tuned for those details.

- Monday - PhysEd: bring gym clothes  
 Wednesday - Music: bring recorder  
 Thursday - Math quiz: study journal and Jump Math pages 30-40  
 - Memory Work: Romans 12:2 (NIV)  
 - Spelling Test and Lesson 06 due  
 - Bible Quiz: based on notes/handouts so far  
 Friday - P.D. Day: no school

**Grade 6 - Mrs. Dam:** We look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving this coming weekend. We have so much to be thankful for every day! Don't forget to send in items for the food drive. Giving is a way we can show our gratitude. We continue working on our fantasy stories with the grade 8 students. For October, students are asked to choose a non-fiction book to read. The reading response assignment will be given out today. It will be due early Nov. Students are starting their plane designs with a partner this week.

- Wednesday - Spelling test  
 Thursday - Data management test

**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! Thank-you to Mrs. Duizer for joining us on our visit to Caressant Care last week. This Thursday the VanStraten Baked goods will be available for pick-up at 3:30, please do not come sooner as parents will be busy sorting and this makes their job more difficult.

- Monday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)  
 - Music (bring instruments)  
 Tuesday - Bring in food for Thanksgiving Food Drive  
 Wednesday - Thanksgiving Chapel  
 Thursday - Math Quiz  
 - VanStraten Baked goods pick-up - 3:30 pm  
 Friday - PD Day (no school)

#### **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- |         |        |   |
|---------|--------|---|
| October | 7      | School Photo Retakes                            |
|         | 9      | Thanksgiving Chapel 8:30                        |
|         | 10     | Interim Reports                                 |
|         | 11     | P.D. Day*                                       |
|         | 14     | Thanksgiving Day*                               |
|         | 15     | Beginning of the Forward Drive<br>Board Meeting |
|         | 16     | Prayer Group 8:30<br>Pizza Lunch                |
|         | 24, 25 | P.D. Days** (Edvance Conference)                |
|         | 30     | Chapel 8:30                                     |