

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

September 23, 2019

Back in April of 2018, I wrote an article about Responsive Classroom. In July 2019, I went for a week long seminar to be trained in Responsive Classroom specific to teaching intermediate level students. There are many RC practices that are consistently shared between primary, junior and intermediate teaching levels. One RC practice that is distinctly different at the intermediate level is the ‘Morning Meeting’. RC practices aim to mature and progress the social, emotional and cognitive domains of a learner. The purpose of the meeting is to give students a safe place to practice positive, intentional, social interaction. The group is led to greet and converse with one another through games, prompting questions and discussions. At the intermediate level ‘morning meeting’ becomes Responsive Advisory Meeting.

RAM is altered in appropriate ways to provide a safe place for adolescents to interact with one another. 12 year olds desire to be with friends, reflect on who they are becoming, feel safer in smaller groups and are ready to take on responsibilities (Wood, 2017). At 12 years of age, students are increasingly able to plan for and organize themselves. RAMs focus on 7 areas to support social, emotional and cognitive development: student-to-student affiliation, academic readiness, advisor-advisee relationship, communication and social skills, re-engagement, reflection/recalibration and service learning (Benson et.al., 2018). The students meet, and interact, in small groups of 4-6 students. Each RAM contains a greeting time, announcements, guided interaction (skill based), an activity (skill based) and a reflection. The teacher’s ‘advisory’ role is to consistently meet with small groups, noting and encouraging positive interaction and development. The teacher also meets individually with students to discuss short, and long term goal setting, and to monitor goal attainment.

There is much evidence that RAM is having a positive effect on our grade 7 learning community. Daily, students are practising active listening and speaking/presentation skills. Students report they enjoy sharing their feelings, and knowledge, with peers in ‘safe’ small groups. Students have begun intentional short-term goal setting, developing self-regulation skills and building confidence to use and share their God given talents.

Mrs. Racicot



Monday	- Cameron M., Gr.3 - Riley P., JK
Wednesday	- Lucas B., Gr.3
Thursday	- Luke M., Gr.2
Friday	- Ren V., JK
Saturday	- Kathryn V., Gr.4A
Sunday	- Eryn H., Gr.7 - Tiffany H., Gr.6

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Volunteers Needed: We are in need of a volunteer to help out every Wednesday and Thursday from 8:40-9:20 to support students in music class. No prior recorder experience is necessary; just a passion for helping students! An added bonus is that you will learn how to play the recorder along with the class. Please contact Mrs. Martin or Mrs. Bulthuis if you are interested in helping out for one or two mornings/week.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP): One of the ways that we measure student learning at WCS is through the use of the MAP test. MAP is an acronym for Measures of Academic Progress. We are now into our fifth year of testing using Northwest Evaluation Association's (NWEA) MAP test. The test is designed not only to compare students' scores to norms but also to measure individual student progress over time in reading, language usage, and math. The MAP is an adaptive on-line test that will adapt the level and complexity of the questions to be appropriate for each student's level of learning. As a school, and as Christian schools in Ontario, we receive detailed, accurate information about student growth. Over the past three years, NWEA has done some terrific work in building in assistive technology supports. We are excited about the new features for this year's test. Students will start the testing this week. If you are interested in learning more about MAP here is a link to further information on their website, some information for parents, including frequently asked questions. Check out <https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/> and/or <https://www.nwea.org/resource-library/welcome/family-guide-to-map-growth>. During parent-teacher conferences, there will be opportunity to ask questions about MAP testing and results as well. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to speak to our staff.

Girls Volleyball: Thank you to the many girls who tried out for the team. We have one more try out today at recess. Our hope is to post the team on by Wednesday. Thursday there will be an after school practice till 4:45 for those who make the team. Our first game is scheduled for Tuesday October 1. A schedule of all games will be sent home with players on Thursday.

Volleyball - Boys: Tonight we have a practice after school until 4:45 for those boys interested in trying out for the team. This Wednesday after school we will have another practice until 4:45. A list will be posted this Thursday who will be attending next Monday's match at St. Jude's in Ingersoll. This will be the procedure until a team is chosen. Those attending next Monday's match can be picked up at WCS at 5:30 p.m. I will be looking for a driver for next Monday's match.

Cross Country Team: This Thursday WCS will be competing at the Christian Schools Cross Country Meet at Stratford Christian School. The first race begins at 10:30 am. Information was sent home to the team last week. All students in grades 3 and 4 will be participating. There is an after school practice on TUESDAY till 4:30 pm for grade 5-8 students. Any questions please contact Mrs. Hickey.

Chicken Thank you to those of you who ordered chicken this month. Your orders will be available for pick-up this THURSDAY, September 26th, between 3 and 4 pm. Please make arrangements to have your orders picked up during that time frame, as we will not be storing any orders at the school. We ask that you do not come for your order before 3, as we are often sorting orders right up until that time. This ensures accuracy for everyone. Please keep in mind that the school no longer has a large deep freezer so it is very important to make arrangements to have your orders picked up. Please note that we will not be responsible for orders that are not picked up without prior arrangements. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Sol at 519-539-7839 or jmsol@rogers.com.

Terry Fox National School Run: Woodstock Christian School is proud to be participating in the 2019 Terry Fox School Run on Friday, September 27th. Grades 3-8 will be walk/run the course to Heart FM and around the perimeter of the school grounds. They will be wearing a sticker stating who they are running for. Please join us and support this wonderful cause by donating to our school's fundraising page at: <http://www.terryfox.ca/WoodstockCSWoodstock>. Thank you for joining us in the fight against cancer. If you have any questions ask Mrs. Hickey.

Soccer: Thank you to parents who came to the tournament in London last week to cheer and encourage our soccer teams! It was a beautiful day to celebrate healthy bodies and the opportunity to participate in sports. We give thanks to God for all his blessings. Both teams played well. Congratulations to the boys team for winning the tournament and taking home the banner. A special thank you to Coach Andre, to Mrs. Poort and Mr. H for leading the teams this year. Thanks to all parents your support. Students who have not returned purple socks and jerseys should return items as soon as possible.

Child Cognition Lab: For parents of kindergarten and primary classes, consent forms have gone out regarding the research being done by the Child Cognition Lab of the University of Waterloo. Please return your forms if you agree to have your child participate in this research. Thank you.

Transportation: Bus drivers needed: Would you be interested in a career as a bus driver? Many of our drivers report that they love this job because of the children and because the driving schedule completely matches that of their children's school schedule. If you are interested, or you know of any bus drivers that are willing to work as spare drivers, part-time drivers or train to be full time drivers, please connect with principal@woodstockchristian.ca.

Leadership Teams: These teams help our students uncover and share their leadership qualities and grow the gifts God has

given them. Please note that application forms were due last week. If you have not, please submit those as soon as possible. The teacher team will review sheets this week and meet with students as necessary. We are excited to review the applications, chat with students, and put our teams in place.

Scholastic Books: We put our first scholastic order in for the school year. We earned \$140.20 in scholastic dollars. \$90.20 from the order and we received a \$50 bonus this month for our order being over \$200.00. WOW! Thank you for participating in the Scholastic book program. October flyers coming soon.

Staff Appreciation Monthly Meals: This year instead of doing a full week of meals for Staff Appreciation week in February the Community Relations Team has decided to try for 1 meal a month instead. For these meals we would need 2 main dishes (each feeding about 12-15 ppl) a salad and a dessert. Here is the sign up link: <https://signup.com/go/RBcqmcv>. If you have any questions please contact Cara Renkema: crenkema@hotmail.com or 519-535-8969. Thank you for being a blessing to our staff!



WOODSTOCK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
PRESENTS
Winter Fest
2019

Coming November 15

Meeting TONIGHT at 7:30 for all canvassers at the school. We will give you your list of companies, copies of the letter and discuss tips/tricks on how to be successful! If anyone else is willing make some calls/visits or to pick up donated items, please contact Lisa Schaafsma (email: lschaafsma3@gmail.com or text: 519-535-3947).

Student Support - Mrs. Bulthuis: Individual Education Plans (IEPs) help guide the programs for our students needing accommodations and/or modifications. IEPs will be sent home in the coming two weeks. Feel free to contact me if you have questions about your child's plan (t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca). Books bags for students in grades one and two need to be returned this Wednesday.

SONBeams - Mrs. Westerveld: We have had a great couple of weeks getting to know each other in Sonbeams. We have 6 members on Monday and 9 members on Thursdays. We have already had lots of outdoor adventures, exploring rolling things and playing on our playgrounds. Next week we hope to go on an outing to the Woodstock Public Library and Southside Park. Part of our adventure will be taking our local city bus. Have a great week!

Next Mon. - Trip to the Woodstock Public Library and Southside Park

Next Thur. - Trip to the Woodstock Public Library and Southside Park

J.K. - Mrs. Westerveld: Welcome to a new, beautiful fall week. We want to wish very Happy Birthdays to Hailey (Sunday), Riley (Monday) and Ren on Friday. May God bless you all in the coming year. Thanks to all the parents and Grandparents who came with us to AppleLand last week. We had a great time learning about apples and how wonderfully God created them. This week we will work with apples in Art, Math and in Cooking time. Please bring in two apples for

these activities. We will have our photos taken on Friday. Get your smile ready. If there are special instructions for your children please message me or send me a note. Our show and share this week is free choice. Have a great week.

Tuesday - Bring in two apples for JK activities

Wednesday - Library books (Bring two back)

Friday - Picture Taking Day

- Show and Share: Free Choice

S.K.1 - Miss Body: Welcome to a new week. It is officially fall. So thankful for the beautiful weather we have been having. What a great time we had Friday at Apple Land. Check out See Saw for pictures. I would like to welcome a new addition to the Baan family. Jennifer (Levi's mom) had a baby girl Thursday Sept. 19th. Her name is Evelyn Melinda and weighed 7lbs 10oz. Mom and baby are both doing great. We pray God's blessings upon you Evelyn.

Letters: p and n; Sight words: is, my

Tuesday - Library

Friday - Picture day

S.K.2 - Mrs. Poort: Thank you to all the parents who came out to Apple Land. It was a beautiful day.

Tuesday - 'p'

- Library

Wednesday - 'n'

- Show and Share 5 of something

Friday - apple baking

Grade 1 - Mrs. VanderPloeg: Welcome to another week! Check your emails for an update about what is happening in Grade 1 throughout the week.

Monday - Phys. Ed
Tuesday - Library
Wednesday - Memory Work due!
Thursday - Phys. Ed
Friday - cheering for the Terry Fox run (wear WCS purple, if you can!)

Grade 2 - Mrs. Horinga: There are several important papers coming home today - check your child's message bag for information about and upcoming field trip, as well as our first spelling list of the year.

Home question - Ask your child what three writing goals we accomplished last week?

Tuesday - gym
Wednesday - Library
Thursday - gym
Friday - Spelling Test: short a
- Books and Blankets: bring in a cozy blanket and a stuffy to enjoy some fun reading time.

Grade 3 - Mr. G. Hiemstra: We are on our fourth week of school. Remember to raise funds for the Terry Fox campaign. Anyone who has any outstanding leadership sheets (green sheet), can bring it in tomorrow, Tuesday. Spelling words will be coming home, and students will be practicing these words throughout the week with the test on Friday. Students will be taking some review work home for math practice for Friday's test. We will begin Map testing this week; this testing for grade 3 occurs in three areas: language, reading, and math.

Thursday - Cross Country Running
Friday - Spelling Test 3
- Math test: patterns
- Terry Fox Walk

Grade 4A - Mrs. VanAndel: Welcome back to learning grade 4! This will be a busy week with tests, the Terry Fox run, and the Cross Country Run. We are leaving for the Cross Country Run in Stratford at 9:00 on Thursday morning and should return around 2nd break. Remember to collect monies for cancer research grade 4! We will also begin MAP testing.

Monday - Music
Tuesday - Math test: Place Value
- Phys. Ed.: gym clothes
Wednesday - Bible test: The Bible
- Library: remember your books
Thursday - Cross Country Run in Stratford
Friday - Spelling test
- Terry Fox Run at 8:30
- Memory work: Hebrews 11:1,2
Saturday - Happy birthday Kathryn!!!!

Grade 4B - Mrs. Hickey: Welcome to a new week. We have been running every day and are ready to participate at the Cross Country Meet this week. Remember to wear your

purple WCS shirt. Remember to collect donations for the Terry Fox Run. Be sure to review for the 2 tests this week. Study sheets will be coming home today.

Tuesday - Math Test: Unit 1 (Place Value)
- Phys. Ed. (gym strip)
Wednesday - Bible Test: Unit 2 (The Bible)
- Library
Thursday - Cross Country Meet (wear WCS shirt)
Friday - Spelling Test: Unit 1
- Mem. Work: Hebrews 11:1,2
- Terry Fox Run (bring in donations)

Grade 5 - Mr. A. Hiemstra: Welcome back. I hope you had a good weekend! I'm excited again for the learning ahead. This week students in Gr. 5 will be learning about our service learning project for the year: Lagosette Christian School in Haiti. A school I've become quite passionate about (having visited last year). We'll be discussing the school, (which is a part of the Children of the Promise campus) and learning how we can support them. On a different note: I trust that you received my letter/email on Friday - please let me know if you did not.

Monday - PhysEd: bring gym clothes
Friday - PhysEd: bring gym clothes
- Spelling: Lesson 04 of workbook due.
- Spelling test based on lesson 04
- Math quiz based on Jump Math pages 19-28
- Memory Work: Genesis 17:4 & 6

Grade 6 - Mrs. Dam: Thank you to all the parents who responded to our request for chaperones. I am so thankful for the support! We're looking forward to a great trip. Reminders: We regularly use mini white boards in class. However, our classroom dry erase markers are becoming broken/ damaged quickly. Students may wish to bring in their own for their personal use. Also, parents should have already seen the tests from last week.

Reading: We have begun a study of the novel "My Side of the Mountain" and the independent reading response activity "Book in a Box" will be due on Oct. 3.

Writing: We have begun a project with grade 8. Our driving question is "I'm just a kid, how can I write a fantasy story?" This week we are working on the brainstorming and planning stages.

Word work: Spelling test is on Wednesday.

Math: Everyone did a fabulous job with the first math unit. Our second unit is almost done and we will have our next test on Thursday.

Science: We have our trip to the Canadian Heritage Warplane Museum on Monday Sept. 30. Remember to pack a lunch and dress for the weather.

Grade 7 - Mrs. Racicot: Please refer daily to Google Classroom for grade 7 homework, assignments and tests. Your child needs to share his/her password with you for this site.

Grade 8 - Mr. Schaafsma: Welcome to a new week of school. Please remember to get your VanStraten Orders in on Tuesday so we can compile them and send them to the bakery. Also, the Grad Wear order forms are due back this Friday.

Monday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)

- Music (bring instruments)

Tuesday - VanStraten orders are due

- Picture Orders are due

Wednesday - Memory Work (Matthew 5:3-6)

Thursday - Music (bring instruments)

Friday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)

- Grad Wear orders due

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 23 Map Testing Session 1 begins
26 Cross Country Meet (Rain date 30th)
27 Terry Fox Run
JK & SK Photos
- October 2 Staff Meeting 7:15
Prayer Group 8:30
Sub Lunch
7 School Photo Retakes
9 Thanksgiving Chapel 8:30
10 Interim Repoets
11 P.D. Day*
14 Thanksgiving Day*