

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

September 9, 2019

**60 years today!**

Did you know that on September 9, 1959, exactly 60 years ago today, our school opened its doors for the first time. More than 90 children attended school on the first day and 3 teachers were hired. Tuition was set at \$4.00 per week and Mr. deGraaf was hired to drive students to school in his bread truck.

It's amazing to see how much change has transpired in the last 60 years and we are "Overflowing with Thankfulness" that this all happened. There is so much history that comes from this school and we are excited to share our school's history with you throughout this school year. Looking back at the last 60 years it is amazing to see how God has blessed our school over and over again.

Joleen Mulder



Tuesday	- Emily W., Gr.6 - Mrs. VanderPloeg, Gr.1 Teacher
Thursday	- Alissa D., Gr.5
Friday	- Julia B., Gr.5 - Ryan D., Gr.8
Saturday	- Leanne B., Gr.5 - Elias E., Gr.5
Sunday	- James B., Gr.4B

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**PrayerLink:** You, as WCS community, are encouraged to pray for each other. Please pray for healing and strength for those in our families who underwent surgery recently. At our dessert social & open house on Friday, be sure to connect with familiar families, and introduce yourself and do some sharing with new families as well. We are blessed to be able to share and pray as a community.

**Welcome Dessert Social:** Another school year is beginning! We are celebrating the return to another school year with our annual school-wide Welcome Dessert Social planned for Friday, September 13, 2019. We will begin the evening with classroom visits 6:30-7:15 pm. A time of prayer in the classrooms will follow at 7:17 pm. Dessert will be served from 7:20-8:30 pm. Each WCS family is asked to bring a dessert to share, PEANUT/NUT FREE. We are also looking for help in the kitchen and after the evening is completed to clean up. If you would be willing to help out in some way, please go to <https://signup.com/go/LouTUoO> to sign up for a spot. We look forward to fellowshiping together!

**Mobile Text Messages / REMIND:** A letter was emailed to all parents of Woodstock Christian School students last week explaining how to join the REMIND instant messaging system, which we use to alert you of changes to transportation or of urgent situations. Please look for the email and follow the steps to receive text messages delivered directly to your mobile phone. Fog Day and Snow Day notices will continue to be posted on the website. Please note that last year's REMIND groups have been archived and will not work this year. Please check to see that you have signed on to this year's bus route groups.

**Phys Ed Gear:** Students in grades 4 and up are required to wear proper clothing for their physical education classes beginning this week. The kit consists of a WCS t-shirt and gray shorts (those purchased in previous years are allowed). Phys ed gear is available in the school office at a cost of \$23.00/set. Please make sure that your child's name or initials are placed in the shirt and shorts since there will be many similar outfits in the school. Students should keep their phys ed gear in their backpack.

**Scholastic Books:** Hello everyone. We will be participating in the Scholastic program again this year. Last year we received Scholastic bonus money because we put in orders each month- awesome! With the money we are able to purchase items and resources for the classrooms. For example, a few items purchased last year were: a time clock, magnetic 10 frames, round cushions to sit on, books and more. Watch for Scholastic flyers to be sent home soon. A quick and easy way to see flyers and order is online. Note: look for my name under find a teacher. Any questions please contact me at [v.body@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:v.body@woodstockchristian.ca). Thank you for participating in the Scholastic reading program.

**Chicken Orders:** Thank you to those of you who have supported WCS through chicken sales. For every box sold, the school makes \$5 and over the past number of years, your purchases have raised over \$25,000 for our school! We are not asking you to collect orders necessarily, (you may of course) but we are simply asking you to purchase through the school what you would normally purchase at the grocery store. A pdf copy of the order form was attached to last week's parent link. Please return your order forms to the school, ACCOMPANIED WITH PAYMENT, by next Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. We are only able to accept cash, cheque or debit payments. Orders without payment will not be placed. Orders will be available for pickup on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> between 3 and 4 pm. Please make arrangements to have your orders picked up during that time frame. 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](mailto:jmsol@rogers.com).

**From the Library:** Welcome back to the Library! Please let me introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Dieleman and I am privileged to work with students at the WCS Library. I say privileged because the world of literacy brings joy and enrichment to anyone's life. This week your child will be able to begin participating in the weekly book exchange here at the WCS Library. Perhaps you have heard a bit about this from your child's teacher but here are a few items to remember. Books are signed out for a two week period. Anytime a child wishes to renew their book, that is available as well. If a book is overdue, you will get a reminder notice by e-mail. Please keep the communication open and going if a book is lost. We sometimes find it here in the library as well! I am very open to helping students with research as well and I work with teachers on this. In next week's announcement, I will give information on our online data base, so that research can be done anytime, at home or school! If your child is in any need of extra information or resources, they can also speak to me on the days I am here at the library, which usually are Monday and Tuesday.

I am most grateful for the volunteers who are helping us this year. They are, at this point, Mrs. Dorothy Geerlinks, Mrs. Gerda Renkema, Mrs. Janke Visser. If you have an hour or two to spare and would like to help out in some way, please contact me at [m.dieleman@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:m.dieleman@woodstockchristian.ca). There are many jobs which you can help with, from pre-reading some books, information input, shelf reading, and the list does go on! Even occasional help is very welcome. Please consider it.

I am also most grateful to be a partner in the link of your child's education! Sincerely, Mrs. Marion Dieleman

**TRANSPORTATION:** Thanks for your cooperation and patience through the first week. There were a few bumps along the way, but we made it! Our drivers are being challenged by new routes and some construction sites around the city and county. A few reminders...

\* Our drivers carry cell phones on the bus, but these are for emergency purposes only. We ask that you not text or call the drivers while they are driving. If your child(ren) will not be using the bus, please notify your driver before 6:30 am, otherwise please call the family before you on the bus list.

\* The routes will run as is for the first 2 weeks. We will make any adjustments needed at that point. If you have any concerns or would like to address the transportation committee, please submit your concerns in writing to the chair of the transportation committee, Wim Duizer, via email at [w.duizer@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:w.duizer@woodstockchristian.ca) by September 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Woodstock Christian School and the Buses are NUT FREE** (not just peanut-free)!

We have students enrolled who have allergies to more than just peanuts, so we need to be a NUT FREE FACILITY for the safety of all students here at WCS! Please ensure that when you are packing lunches, treating our staff with goodies or sending birthday treats, no nuts of any kind are included.

**Classroom Volunteers:** Have you ever considered volunteering at school in our classrooms on a regular basis? Do you have a passion for working with students, enjoy marking, or have an interest in putting up bulletin boards? We have a variety of opportunities inside our classrooms, and our faithful volunteers help us provide an excellent program for our students. Please contact Mrs. Tracy Bulthuis if you are interested in being a classroom volunteer this year ([t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca)).

**Cross Country Team:** Students in grades 5-8 are invited to join the cross country team. We practice during school hours 3 times per week. We will have 3 after school practices, Wednesday Sept. 11 + 18 and Tuesday Sept 24. The meet is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> at Stratford Christian School. Team members will take home more info this week. The whole grade 3 and 4 classes will also be participating at this event. They will train during school hours. Any questions? Contact Mrs. Hickey

**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](mailto:crenkema@hotmail.com) or 519-535-8969. Thank you for being a blessing to our staff!



Coming November 15

We are looking for more people to help with canvassing. Would you be willing to take on a list of even just 5 companies and contact them to see what they are willing to donate? This is a great way to help out that really doesn't take a lot of time and you can do it anytime in the month of October. Please contact Lisa Schaafsma (email: [lschaafsma3@gmail.com](mailto:lschaafsma3@gmail.com) or text: 519-535-3947) this week if you can do some of this canvassing! We really need your help to make this auction successful!

**Student Support - Mrs. Bulthuis:** We are thrilled to have the Student Support Services Program now fully up and running, with all Barton programming and Learning Place groups meeting this week. Our team of Educational Support Staff is providing assistance to students within several classrooms. If you have any questions about the support your child is receiving this year, please do not hesitate to contact me at [t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca](mailto:t.bulthuis@woodstockchristian.ca).

**J.K. - Mrs. Westerveld:** Welcome to a new week. I am very thankful for a good first week with more smiles than tears. This week we will continue to focus on Creation as well as learning about monarchs, goldenrods and roadside stands. Please consider donating small gourds and cobs of corn. This week it is Hailey's turn to bring in something for our Fearfully and Wonderfully made bulletin board. Watch for the AppleLand station letter coming home tomorrow. Please fill it out and return ASAP. I hope to see many of you at the dessert social on Friday night at 6:30. Have a great week!

**S.K.1 - Miss Body:** Welcome to our second week. I pray you had a great weekend and everyone is ready for school. An email was sent with more back to school details. Conversation question: What body part did you use to paint with last Friday? This week: Letters: s and t; Words: look, at; Math: numbers 1 and 2.

**S.K.2 - Mrs. Poort:** We had a great first week of school. I hope you all enjoyed the Seesaw pictures from the first week. Jhenia is the helper for the week. Please send in a picture of your family by Wednesday, so we can hang it in our classroom. Please bring in all forms by Tuesday.

- Tuesday - Library
- Forms Due
- Wednesday - show and share: picture of your family
- Friday - Join SKB in afternoon
- Dessert Social

**Grade 1 - Mrs. VanderPloeg:** Welcome to our first five-day week! I hope you had a restful weekend! We have an exciting week ahead of us. Check your emails for an update on what is happening in Grade 1 this week. I look forward to seeing you at the Welcome Evening & Dessert Social on Friday night!! Happy belated Birthday to Mrs. VanderSpek who celebrated her birthday on Sunday!

- Monday - WCS Picture Day!
- Phys. Ed
- Tuesday - Library
- Happy Birthday to Mrs. VanderPloeg!
- Thursday - Phys. Ed
- Friday - Welcome Evening & Dessert Social {6:30 - classroom visits begin}

**Grade 2 - Mrs. Horinga:** Welcome to our first full week of Grade 2! Today we smiled big for picture day. Have you been hearing your child talk about being a Bucket Filler? If not, be sure to ask them about it! I hope many of you can make it on Friday night to visit our classroom and say hello at the Welcome evening and dessert social - this event begins at 6:30 with classroom tours, followed by prayer and desserts.

- Tuesday - gym
- Wednesday - library
- Thursday - gym
- Friday - Welcome Evening & Dessert Social

**Grade 3 - Mr. G. Hiemstra:** It has been a good first week! As we now are in to the second week of school, we are working on mastering our routines. I hope to see many of you this Friday at the dessert social!

Creation Studies: We have started our study of Trees, a unit that will continue all of this month and into October. Last week we discussed the difference between coniferous and deciduous trees. We took a walk into the school yard to count all of the trees we have in the backyard and then decided whether they were coniferous or deciduous. This week our focus will be on the function of roots, the tree's trunk, and

bark. I encourage students to take a look around their own yard or neighbourhood to pick a favourite tree. Please take a picture of your child in or beside that tree as it can be a part of a small project that will take place later in the unit. More details will follow!

Today - Picture Day: Smile!  
 Friday - Spelling Test: assigned words  
 - Dessert social

**Grade 4A - Mrs. VanAndel:** Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school grade 4! We had a great first week! Let's keep on doing our best!

Monday - Music  
 - Picture Day  
 Tuesday - Phys.Ed.  
 Wednesday - Library  
 Thursday - Phys.Ed.  
 Friday - Music  
 - Memory Work: Colossians 2:6,7  
 - Buddies

**Grade 4B - Mrs. Hickey:** Welcome to a new week. We are settling in to the new routines of our class and teachers. We will have Library visits this week. We are practising running everyday as we train for the Cross Country meet on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> at Stratford Christian School. More info to come. Remember to get WCS Phys.Ed. gear this week.

Monday - Class Pictures  
 Tuesday - Phys. Ed. (gym gear)  
 Wednesday - Library  
 Thursday - Phys. Ed. (gym gear)  
 Friday - Mem. Work: Colossians 2:6-7

**Grade 5 - Mr. A. Hiemstra:** Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school already. I hope you had a good weekend. We are now in full swing when it comes to curriculum! Each Friday, students will complete some quizzes to demonstrate their understanding of the content taught. It is important that students prepare for these quizzes throughout the week, studying a bit each night. Phys Ed clothes are to be bought from the front office if your child does not yet have a set: \$13 for shirt, \$10 for the shorts. The recorder instrument is to be at school for each Wednesday and Thursday.

French: In French this month, we have started a unit called, Le Temps, which is the study of the weather and different seasons. The unit particularly looks at weather attributes so that students can practice using adjectives and learning character traits such as shy, sad, furious, strong, etc.

Monday - Phys Ed: bring gym clothes  
 Wednesday - Music: bring recorder  
 Thursday - Music: bring recorder  
 Friday - Math Quiz: based on notes in Math Journal and Jump Math Workbook pages 1-8.  
 - Spelling quiz based on lesson 02 of spelling workbook.  
 - Vocab Quiz (students know which 10 words)

**Grade 6 - Mrs. Dam:** Our first week is done and we have made strides learning new routines and building our stamina for independent work. Students have been working hard to establish good habits! What a blessing to have a class of bright, enthusiastic students!

Coming up: Reading: book selections for our first reading response work (book in a box) are due by Friday. Students have already received the assignment.

Word work: the first spelling test will be next Weds. and every Weds. following.

Math: We will have our first unit test next Monday. Review will be sent home on Thursday.

Science: We have begun our "Great Paper Airplane" project. Ask your child about our driving question.

Reminder: Students are asked to show their agenda to a parent every day.

**Gr.6, 7 French:** In French this month, we have started a unit called, Les Pompiers, Firefighters. This unit will teach students about the different rooms in a house and in school. They will also become familiar with using direction words, as they will be drawing a layout of their house and a fire evacuation plan. It may be helpful to discuss, in English, what the best fire escape evacuation Plan A and Plan B may be.  
 Gr. 6 - Vocab Quiz - Tuesday, Sept 17  
 Gr. 7 - Vocab Quiz - Friday, Sept 13

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

**Grade 8 - Mr. Schaafsma:** Thank-you to everyone who attended The Box Project Showcase on Friday afternoon. The students enjoyed showcasing their work. This week we will be working on routines and focussing on each individual subject in homeroom. Be sure to check in with Google classroom to stay on top of homework. The VanStraten Baked Good Fundraiser will be kicking off soon, stay tuned for order forms.

Monday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)  
 - Music  
 Tuesday - French  
 Wednesday - French  
 Thursday - Music  
 Friday - Phys. Ed. (bring gym clothes)

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

September	9	School Photos for Gr. 1-8
	11	Staff Meeting 7:15
	13	Welcome Evening & Dessert Social
	17	Soccer Tournament (Rain date Sept. 18)
	18	Prayer Group 8:30 am Pizza Lunch Staff PLC Session @ 3:45 pm
	23	Map Testing Session 1 begins
	26	Cross Country Meet (Rain date 30th)
	27	Terry Fox Run