

Knox Christian School

Bowmanville Christian Pre-School

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A Weekly Newsletter to Bowmanville District Christian School Society Families

the Green Gazette

From the Principal's Desk

When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, "...take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan...and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight... to serve as a sign among you." Joshua 4:1-6

Today marks the halfway point of the school year. This is a time to reflect on the past and plan for the future. It is a time to celebrate the hard work we have done so far this year, to put things in place for the next five months, and to begin thinking about next year. Students and teachers can look back at academic success and think about what needs to be done prior to report cards going home in just over a month. We are beginning to prepare for our Spring Musical, for Grand-Friends' Day, and for year-end activities. Even though we continue with our work of shaping hearts, souls, and minds, it is important to take some time to reflect on the past. When we look back, we can see evidence of God's faithfulness in our schools. Although there are not "twelve stones" (like Joshua took out of the Jordan river) for us to see, there are many signs of God's goodness over the years. Even with the challenges we face today, I see God's goodness evident each day. It has been amazing to see the generous support from our churches and our school community, both in finances and in prayer. These are visible reminders of God's goodness and faithfulness. We can move forward, with faith, seeing the signs of His goodness. And just as the people of Israel had to step out in faith into the Jordan River, and only then did the waters stop flowing, so we too must step out in faith. As we reflect on the past, let us remember God's goodness. As we plan for the future, let us depend on God's faithfulness.

Community News

Thursday, February 2, 2012

JK/SK Registration for 2012-2013

Yes! It is time to start thinking about registering for the 2012-2013 school year. Our Kindergarten registration and open house will occur on Feb. 14 and 15 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. If you have a child starting in Junior or Senior Kindergarten in the fall, please contact the office.

Pre-enrolment Forms

Pre-enrolment forms will also go out in February to be returned by Friday, March 9. If you know of any families that may be interested in attending Knox, please have them contact the school office.

Speech Festival

Our local Speech Festival is coming up soon - February 10. Please read your class updates for deadlines and connect with your child on their progress.

Cookbook

The Knox Fundraising Committee is excited about plans for the Knox Christian School Cookbook to be published this Spring. The cookbook will be available for sale at such events as Grandfriend's Day, Maplefest, Applefest and the Bazaar. Please forward your favourite recipes to fundraising@knoxchristian.com, or to the Knox office addressed "cookbook" by February 3rd. Thanking you in advance for your help in making this another successful fundraising endeavour.
The Knox Fundraising Committee

Teaching Opportunity

Maternity Leave Position: Durham Christian High School is looking to fill a maternity leave position for the months of May and June 2012. The position is 2/3 time. The two courses to be taught are Biology 3U and Chemistry 4U. Qualified applicants are invited to contact Mr. Spoelstra at the school. Application deadline is Friday, March 9th.

Save the Date

The Knox Fundraising Committee is hosting a Spring Fling Dinner/Evening out on March 31 and would love to see you there! Details will follow.

Transportation Update

We wish to welcome Anita Schutt back to driving the Courtice run. We wish to thank everyone who helped out in the past month while drivers were absent. Special thanks to Len Broersma, Harold Westerman and Herman Zwart. Jen Schaller will be driving the Orono route for the balance of the year.

Thanks

With heartfelt gratitude, we want to thank the leadership and congregation of Rehoboth CRC for their generous support of Knox Christian School in this time of need. The special offering for BDCSS totaled almost \$25,000! We are truly blessed to be part of such a giving community. Please continue to support the students, families, staff, and leadership of our schools with your prayers.

Pastors' Day

Pastors' Day was a lot of fun, as various students toured their pastors and their wives around the classrooms, and pastors got to know students while trying to fill in their bingo games. A great lunch and class performances topped off a wonderful morning. We are thankful to God for our Pastors!

Spirit Day

Next week Wed., Feb. 8 is Crazy Hat Day! Start with a strong and simple hat, and be a designer extraordinaire! We will enjoy a spirit day assembly and a pizza lunch on that day, as well. It's not often we are allowed to wear our hats in class - we look forward to some creative themes!

The Inside Scoop

Students are maneuvering around "Lake Knox" outside. Please be sure rubber boots and mud pants are available, as well as winter attire when the cold winds blow!

We have two people interested in joining us for chess? Anyone else? There are lots of students interested. Call the office if you have a few lunch hours available.

CLASSROOM REPORTS

Bowmanville Christian Pre-School – Mrs. Reid

The preschoolers are taking a close look at bears in winter this week. We used our fine motor skills to color and cut bear hats, our cognitive/math skills as we sang the bears jumping on the bed song, and lots of imagination when we went on a bear hunt...all of this learning while having a ton of fun! Thank you, God, for bears :)

JK/SK – Mrs. DeJong

Many, many thanks to the wonderful volunteers who came to read and share in our Family Literacy Day events last Fri! We had a fantastic time! "Chicka chicka boom boom; will there be enough room?" God first gave the Ten Commandments to Moses and those very important rules for our lives are very relevant today. We were all looking very blue last week; but don't be alarmed! It was all great fun! This week's letter is "Oo." Learning about God's wonderful octopuses, is great! Tipping over the fruit basket was a fun game we played in the gym. Did you know we need to eat fruits and vegetables every day to grow and stay healthy and strong? Thank you, God, for such an abundance of good food!

Grade 1/2 – Mrs. Crookall

February is a busy month in grade 1/2. You should have received a note about some of the upcoming events yesterday. The grade 1 Word Wall Words for this week were: "all", "be", "good", "new", and "old". We have been busy writing snowman tales in our class. Some of the snowmen had some amazing adventures! Jan. reading logs are now due. Book orders are due on Feb. 8. Next week's Show & Tell theme is: "Love/Valentine's Day".

Grade 3 - Mrs. McDowell

We have begun learning to write capital letters in cursive... and we're very excited! This week's word patterns are: "class", "mess", "kiss", "loss", and "fuss". We have our word quiz tomorrow on our words that follow these patterns. Feb. flyers and Word Wall lists were sent home today. Some of our glue sticks and pencil crayons are running out. Please check with your child to see if they need any replacements. Also, please send an empty regular sized cereal box into school by next Wed. Thank you!

Grade 4 - Ms. Ullman

We are beginning a two-week unit on money. At the end of this unit, there will be a test on rounding, estimating, and money. We have completed our Basketball P.E. Unit. Next week, we will play various games. Students are very enthusiastic about the *Mr. Popper's Penguins* newspaper assignment. They have some fabulous ideas. If students use their time wisely, they should be able to finish the assignment at school.

Grade 5 – Mrs. Bandstra & Mrs. Rozema

We continue to practice our speeches this week! Next week Mon. and Tues. will find us presenting our passions to our peers as we prepare for the Knox Speechfest next Fri! The Apostles Creed parts one and two (memory work), as well as our personal multiplication goals, will be tested this Fri. Our term 2 Accelerated Reader due date is coming up quickly. Accelerated Reader goals need to be met by Feb. 23rd. Look for weekly updates in the agenda. Keep on reading!

Grade 6 - Mrs. Fayer-Murphy

We loved dressing up and displaying our Ancient Greek projects on Wed. All the classes came to see our projects and listen to us talk about our areas of expertise. Class speech presentations will take place on Mon. and Tues. next week. Cue cards will need to be ready by Mon. if the speeches aren't totally memorized. Our new unit in math is 2-D geometry and each student must have a complete geometry set for it. Math tests were returned today and take-home folders will be sent home soon.

Mrs. Feddema

Students received a handout yesterday with many tips for preparing for Friday's speech presentations. Have you seen it? Have you heard your child's speech? Thank you, parents, for your loving support through this challenging process! We have begun group projects for geography. Each group has been assigned a different political region of the tundra biome. This project does not require getting together outside of school. All of the tasks can be divided and completed at school and individually as homework. We started a new French unit entitled Portraits Canadiens. Lesson 16 for Spelling is due Fri.

Grade 8 - Mr. Janssen

"Prejudice is the child of ignorance." "Laundry is the only thing that should be separated by color." While considering the Black Loyalists who came to British North America from the southern colonies, we've had opportunity to discuss racism in cultures past and present. It's clear that God's word directs us in this area. In math, our integer unit has challenged us to become experts in all four operations with positive and negative values. Please ensure you practice your speeches (use a stopwatch) in front of an audience this weekend.

Resource - Mrs. VandeMeent and Mrs. Hoogendam

February is Black History Month (started in December, 1995) and in the Literacy Room we are finding out more about Black history. We'll learn about Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, as well as various black Canadians who helped make our nation what it is today.

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, February 7 – Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 8 – Hot Lunch & Spirit Day
Friday, February 10 – Knox Speech Festival
February 14 & 15 - Kindergarten Registration Days
Monday, February 20 - Family Day (School Closed)
Thursday, February 23 - Regional Speech Festival
Friday, February 24 - Regional PD Day (No Classes)
Monday, February 27 - Report Card Writing Day (No Classes)

Prayer Items

If you have a Prayer item you would like included in the Green Gazette, please email at office@knoxchristian.com or phone at 905.623.5871.

Please pray for the whychristianschools.ca initiative, as Christian schools are working together to promote Christian education.

Please pray for Jane Hoogendam's mother as she is suffering from the ill effects of the Norwalk virus.