

# Knox Christian School and Bowmanville Christian Pre-School

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A Weekly Newsletter to

## the *Green Gazette*

### From the Principal's Desk

*"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* Galatians 6:9

In February, our focus for the fruit of the Spirit will be on "Goodness" and we will even have an extra day (February 29) to do good. But what does it mean to **be** good or to **do** good? Being good and doing good is simply a reflection of God's love. Jesus, in discussion with the Pharisees, indicated that the greatest commandment is to love God and the second greatest to love others as ourselves. It is human nature to see things from our own perspective and to take care of our own needs. It is not easy to see things from somebody else's perspective and strive to meet their needs, especially if it means our needs may go unmet. We tend to be willing to do good when it is convenient for us and doesn't require a sacrifice. But if it means great sacrifice to ourselves, are we really willing to put others first? In our modern world of instant communication, fast food, and on-demand tv, we have become accustomed to expecting an instant response. We tend to become weary and give up when we don't immediately reap a harvest. Galatians 6:9 is a reminder that we are in it for the long haul, and that our actions of goodness today will reap a harvest at the proper time.

### Highlights from the BDCSS Board

The Board of BDCSS met on Monday, January 16, 2012:

- Encouraging news was received that Maranatha CRC and Rehoboth CRC have confirmed that special offerings will be held to help offset our current operating budget deficit and communication is ongoing with other churches.
- Began process of planning for staffing for the 2012-13 school year.
- Update was received regarding mortgage financing options.
- information regarding the property between Knox and Durham from a land developer was presented to the Board.
- Board reviewed the roll of Transportation Co-ordinator and considered bus maintenance options.

## Community News

Thursday, January 26, 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 February 14 and 15 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. If you have a child starting in Kindergarten in the fall, please contact the office.

### TRIP (Gift Card Program)

Are you taking full advantage of the TRIP gift card program? Christmas is over, but there are still so many ways to use TRIP. You may be planning a night out to dinner and a movie, or need a birthday gift for someone, or those everyday needs like gas and groceries. Be sure to pick up your cards to support BDCSS while reducing your (or designated families) tuition cost.

### 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.

### 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.

### Pastors' Day

Students enjoyed taking their pastor's to their classrooms. The pastors were treated to performances from all the classes.

### 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. We are asking for your favourite recipes. Please forward your recipes to [fundraising@knoxchristian.com](mailto:fundraising@knoxchristian.com) or to the Knox office addressed "cookbook" by February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thanking you in advance for your help in making this another successful fundraising endeavour.

### Teaching Opportunity

Maternity Leave Position: Durham Christian High School is looking to fill a maternity leave position for the months of May and June of this year. The position is 2/3 time. The two wonderful 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.

### It's Literacy Day!

Tomorrow is Literacy Day! All of our students, teachers, educational assistants and office personnel will be reading from 1:00 pm till 1:50 pm. Here are some suggestions: Read books to your children, read together, read a play with each reading a part, read a variety of materials (menus, newspapers, magazines, recipes, greeting cards - as well as books), let your children see what you read, and have family discussions about books. And of course, don't forget to play lots of fun games. For more ideas look up [www.abclifelifiteracy.ca](http://www.abclifelifiteracy.ca).

### The Inside Scoop

A prize has been awarded to Keana Sloos (grade 8) for coming up with the idea of calling the Knox News "the Gazette"! Congratulations, Keana. Staff added the adjective Green to give it a good ring. After all, historically it has been published on green paper for many years! Now many of you receive the 'paperless' version, which saves many green trees. Enjoy the new look, and thanks to our "new" Mrs. L. Wielinga for designing it.

# CLASSROOM REPORTS

## **Bowmanville Christian Pre-School – Mrs. Reid**

The pre-schoolers are exploring the meaning of migration and hibernation. What do they mean? What kind of animals does this affect in the winter? What about the animals that don't do either of these? How do they find food? So many questions... Thank you, God, for taking care of all the animals in winter!

## **JK/SK – Mrs. DeJong**

Our letter of the week is "Gg". We enjoyed an old-time favourite folk story of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." We've started a unit on God's gift of food and healthy eating. The first of the four food groups we discussed are vegetables and fruits. What is your favourite vegetable? What a miraculous event when God caused the waters to part to allow His people to cross the Red Sea! We're looking forward to celebrating Family Literacy Day this Friday. Also, remember to wear something blue!

## **Grade 1/2 – Mrs. Crookall**

This week, the grade 1 Word Wall Words were: "house", "after", "from", "them", and "want." Grade 1 is finishing up the sound of short "O" in phonics this week and moving on to short "E" next week. Grade 2 is working with compound words this week for their spelling list and in their phonics lessons. Is your child reading 10 minutes each day and marking it on their reading log? January reading logs are due on February 1st. Next week's Show & Tell theme is: "Fish."

## **Grade 3 - Mrs. McDowell**

What fun it was to have our pastors and their spouses visit our classroom! We are excited about beginning our Multiplication Unit in math! Our word patterns this week are "-all", "-ell", "-ill", "-oll", and "-ull". We have a spelling quiz tomorrow, including the remaining January Word Wall Words. In gr. 3/4 we have "explored" Earth, our moon, and the sun! Now, off to the other planets of our solar system.

## **Grade 4 - Ms. Ullman**

We will be completing our novel study on *Mr. Popper's Penguins* next week. The culminating activity will be creating a newspaper. Details will come home tomorrow. In math we will look at how to use estimating when rounding. Please have your children continue to practice their multiplication facts.

## **Grade 5 – Mrs. Bandstra & Mrs. Rozema**

We are enjoying the blessing of a job almost finished! Our speeches are wonderful! Look for them to come home for final edits on Fri., and we will begin to learn about public speaking! The Apostles Creed - part 1 and 2 - is due for memorization for Feb. 3. We are working on our native Canadian projects in groups. We are realizing the profound influence of the land on the culture and development of all people. Please keep reading your "Accelerated Reader" book.

## **Grade 6 - Mrs. Fayer-Murphy**

We are writing, editing, and listening to rough drafts of speeches in class. Our good copies must be handed in on Mon. Next week we'll work on memorization and presentation methods in preparation for the Knox contest. Thanks, Elida and Matthew T., for reading their superb comparative essays to the Pastors yesterday. We have begun a new Bible unit entitled "Tell Me The Secrets", based on the book by Max Lucado. Our math unit on division is nearing completion.

## **Mrs. Feddema**

Students are writing a French test today. Stay tuned for the results! They have worked very hard on their speeches. Final copies are due Fri. Don't forget to include a bibliography. Be sure to use [easybib.com](http://easybib.com) for formatting the bibliographic information. Students are also working on short fauna reports about tundra wildlife. They will present the information in a chart format. They will learn to make a chart, split and join cells, add fill, etc. There will be a geography quiz on Friday. Lesson 15 for spelling is also due Friday. Keep up the great work, students!

## **Grade 8 - Mr. Janssen**

"Inquire first of the Lord." Ahab sought out claim back the prized possession of the city of Ramoth Gilead, but ignored the prophet Micaiah strong words of warning that it was not God's will. Do you know that there are hundreds of unsettled land claim disputes regarding the first nations of Canada. We've struggled to see what reconciliation, healing, and peace looks like when two sides so passionately argue opposing opinions. Our integer math unit has progressed well. Extra practice with multiplication operation questions is encouraged. Continue to work on your speeches, they look great grade eight!

## **Resource - Mrs. VandeMeent and Mrs. Hoogendam**

One reading group is enjoying a story about "Foods Around the World." How many exotic foods do you have in your home? We would love some examples if you are willing to share! Other students are learning about ratios, while another math group is learning about the metric system. Both "Earobics" and "Brain Builder" (excellent computer program) are used each week too. Sometimes we don't have enough time to do everything we want to do!

## **Athletics at Knox:**

The boys represented Knox well last Wed. They split each of their three matches winning one game and losing one game. We were just short a little to make it into the playoffs. Thank-you, players and parents, for your dedication and support during the volleyball season.

## **Upcoming Dates**

*January 26 – LDAD Parent Meeting  
Tuesday, January 31 – Program Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, February 7 – Finance Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, February 8 – Hot Lunch & Spirit Day  
Friday, February 10 – Knox Speech Festival*

## **Prayer Items**

*If you have a Prayer item you would like included in the Green Gazette, please email at [office@knoxchristian.com](mailto:office@knoxchristian.com) or phone at 905.623.5871.*

Please pray for Mrs. Crookall, as she has been ill.

Please pray for the BDCSS Board and committees as they plan for the upcoming school year.

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