



The Monthly

# KNOX NEWS

APRIL 2019



## LANGUAGE: One of the most precious gifts

By Principal Paul Marcus

On March 27th, we had the pleasure of hosting our first (hopefully annual) French Café. Students in grades 3-8 took turns performing a number of different acts that they had been working on in their French classes this year. They performed skits, sang songs, all in a gym that had been transformed into a café complete with tasty treats and delicious drinks.

So, why did we do this? I think there are a few good answers. The first is that it simply gives an authentic audience to listen to what our students have been hard at work preparing. There is motivation in preparing for a performance. But that's not all there is to it. For more to the answer, I dug into our curriculum outline for Language studies and found the following: "Language is one of the most precious gifts that we have received from God. Language allows us to think, imagine, express thoughts and ideas,



*"Language allows us to think, imagine, express thoughts and ideas, as well as learning and sharing..."*



as well as learning and sharing... it has tremendous potential for building the community of God and giving honour to Him."

Do you think of language as "one of the most precious gifts"? So often language can be used for hurt, lies, slander, malice. Our words, even when we try to use them with the best intentions, can often be taken the wrong way or used against us. But there's still tremendous truth in the fact that words allow us to communicate in a way that few other means do.

I believe, too, that one language only communicates part of who God is. It is often said that "there is no word for (fill in the blank) in the (fill in the blank) language." Could it be that God created the multiplicity of languages because together they bring a fuller understanding of who God is in creation? I think so, and that is why we hold events like the French Café.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## LEARNING GARDEN UPDATE

With the spring weather, work has resumed on our Learning Garden project. Thanks to the hard work of some amazing volunteers, especially from Prolawn Landscaping and R.W. Contracting. We have nearly completed Phase II and we can't wait for our students and classrooms to use this idyllic space!

## KNOX'S AWESOME ARTISTS!

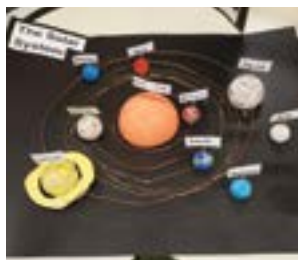
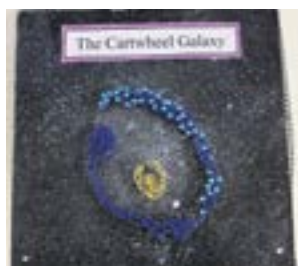


## JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

A glimpse into the creativity of our Primary Division. They've developed a cross-grade integrated studies unit centred around the Jack and the Beanstalk fairy tale. To cap it off, they'll be going to a production of this story in May. Looks like a tonne of fun!



## GRADE 6 SOLAR SYSTEM PROJECTS





# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Book your calendars and plan to attend the Mayor's and Community Leaders' Prayer Breakfast being hosted at Knox on Tuesday, June 4th. See the poster at the back of this newsletter for more information and to book your tickets.

## SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Join us on Monday, May 6th at 7:30pm for our annual Spring Membership Meeting. See the Board update at the back of this newsletter for more information.

## EYEGLASSES DONATIONS

We have been asked to keep a donation box for used eyeglasses in the office. 153 million people cannot go to work or school because they don't have glasses. Such a simple thing to have that we can all buy, but some people don't have them. We can donate our old non-used pairs so that others can see!



## STONE SOUP

Our Senior Kindergarten students enjoying some "stone soup". The kids were inspired by the traditional tale about a community that each contributed a small amount of food to create a dish that everyone enjoyed together. Each child brought in an ingredient for this tasty dish.

## CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

We'll be hosting our 3rd annual Celebration of Learning event on Thursday, May 30. We'll be sending out more details soon, but we'd love to see you come and do a gallery walk of our incredible student work and what God has been doing in their lives this year.

## KNOX SPIRIT WEAR

Knox spirit wear with our new logo is now available by visiting the following website: <https://knoxgear.itemorder.com/sale>

## TRACK AND FIELD

We're hosting our annual Track and Field event on Wednesday, May 22. Come cheer on our Grade 3-8 students as they try to achieve their personal bests and perhaps earn a trip to the Regional Track and Field event on Tuesday, May 28.



## SPRING FLING

It was an evening of fine dining and even finer company as we gathered for our annual Spring Fling Fundraising Dinner on April 6th. Thank you to the efforts of our Fundraising Committee and Spring Fling organizing team as they managed to raise almost \$14,000 for Knox Christian School!

## CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 6:** KCSS Spring Membership Meeting (7:30 pm)
- May 7:** Knox Open House
- May 20:** Victoria Day Holiday
- May 21:** KCSS Board Meeting
- May 22:** Knox Track & Field Day
- May 28:** Regional Track & Field Meet
- May 30:** Celebration of Learning

## PRAISE and PRAYER REQUESTS

- Prayer for families who are considering Knox for their children.
- Prayer for those mourning the loss of a loved one.
- Prayer for the health of staff and students as we head into a busy few months of school activities
- Prayer for the Board and leadership as they make decisions for next school year.



## SERVICE LEARNING: COOKIE BAKING!

At Knox we take seriously our mandate to "Love God and Serve Others." This month our Grades 4 and 5 classes decided that they would bake cookies and serve them at a local soup kitchen. The kids had a blast baking cookies and meeting some new people.

# BOARD UPDATE: April 2019

Greetings from your Board of Directors. Happy spring to you. We're excited about the shifting of the seasons and the promise of warmer weather. We're also excited by the work that is going on around the Board table preparing for a new school year. It's hard to believe that 2018-2019 is already almost behind us.

First, let us cordially invite you to our annual Spring Membership Meeting. On Monday, May 6, we will be meeting as members of the Knox Christian School Society. At this meeting, members will be invited to vote on the 2019-2020 budget and tuition scale, vote for new Board Directors, and hear stories about where Knox has been and where it is going. Please plan to join us at 7:30pm on Monday, May 6. Packages for the meeting will be published and sent out during the week of April 22.

At our most recent meeting, we spent a great deal of time talking about student population and teacher hiring. We have been blessed to have a number of years of growth, and we are again projecting growth next year. With growth comes many decision-making opportunities. We get to decide how and who we're going to hire, how we're going to use our spaces, and where we see ourselves in 5, 10, and 15

years. There is always a lot of uncertainty at this time of year, but if there's anything that 61 years of Knox Christian School's existence has reminded us, it's that God is faithful and that God is in charge.

This spring, we invited a number of our stakeholders to provide input into the strengths and areas of growth for Knox and its leaders. We were pleased with the overall positive responses that we received, but also at the helpful recommendations that were given. With honest feedback we can grow, and we are looking forward to setting goals for the future that will help us serve a future generation of Knox students and families even better.

As always, please pray for your Board as we strive to make wise, prudent, and stewardly decisions on behalf of Knox. God is good, so let's remember to give thanksgiving and praise for all things. On behalf of the Board of Directors, *Lisa Myers*, Board Chairperson [chair@knoxchristian.com](mailto:chair@knoxchristian.com)  
*Alisha Dreyer*, Board Secretary [secretary@knoxchristian.com](mailto:secretary@knoxchristian.com)



### KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Some of our school music groups participated in the 2019 Oshawa-Whitby Kiwanis Music Festival. We heard from our Grade 4 recorder ensemble, our Grade 5 ukulele group and our Grade 7 & 8 band. We are very proud of the hardwork of our students, some of them performing an instrument for the first time in public, and their teacher Mrs. Small. Thanks too, to the organizers and sponsors of the event.

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## KEEP in CONTACT

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[facebook.com/PrincipalM](https://facebook.com/PrincipalM)

### OPEN HOUSE

We're hosting another Open House event on Tuesday, May 7th. Principal Marcus would love to give prospective families a personalized tour of the school. Please RSVP to the school office to book your time between 9:00 - 3:00.

**RISE. SHINE. BE INSPIRED.**

**Clarington Mayor & Community Leaders Prayer Breakfast**

Join us for the inspiring story of Feed the Need Durham and its impact on some amazing food ministries in Durham's Region.

7:30am - 9:00am  
Tickets \$25. Available on Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/2UgU07F>

Knox Christian School  
410 North Scugog Court, Bowmanville

June 4, 2019

**ed** the school in Durham  
**Clarington**