

## Mr. Verburg's Message:

Over the last two weeks, there has been a lot of excitement coming from the Grade 3/4 classroom and I have been unable to determine who is more excited, the students or the teacher. Sometimes, excitement is a teacher speaking over rowdiness and unruly behavior. This is not the type of excitement that I am speaking about. I am talking about excitement that comes from engagement and joy in the learning process.



Mrs. Cooney has started a series of ongoing STEM projects for the year. STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering, and math. STEM education plays a significant role in 21st century education. In STEM education, students are challenged to think deeply and to think well so they have the chance to become the innovators, educators, researchers, and leaders who can solve the most pressing challenges facing our nation and our world, both today and tomorrow.

Each month Mrs. Cooney organizes a challenge for the students. Sometimes the project ideas are defined, others will be self-generated ideas, and sometimes the students will be given a set of materials and told to build something using those materials only. The Grade 3/4 students have been inspired and they eagerly shared their first month projects with their classmates; parents, through SeeSaw videos; visitors to the school; and myself. Some students have gone beyond creating one project; as the ideas shared by others, motivated them to create second or third projects that had their own unique take on a design.

Beyond being excited by seeing the level of student and teacher engagement; I am excited by how this yearlong project fits our vision and values as Community Christian School. Students are creating beautiful work. There are two important words in this statement, creating and beautiful. We want our students, as image-bearers, to be creative and we want them to create beautiful things. Watching students take an idea, create a design, build it, and resolve difficulties and flaws is a beautiful process to watch. Their pride is an indicator that they recognize their work is beautiful as well.



**Inspiring Minds. Engaging Hearts. Building Character.**

**Community Christian School**

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Passion is another word that we have defined as being important in Christian education. Passion in discovering God's world and the materials he has given us to create our own innovations for the good of the world. Passion in sharing ideas, designs and solutions. Drop by the Grade 3/4 class and ask them about their STEM projects and discover their passion for yourself.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Tues., October 16	Pizza Lunch
Fri., October 19	Cross Country Meet - Dundas
Tues., October 23	Hot Lunch – Tacos
Thur., October 25	Teacher’s Convention – No School
Fri., October 26	Teacher’s Convention – No School
Tues., November 6	Registration Open House
Tues., November 6	Hot Dog Lunch
Tues., November 6	Board Meeting
Wed., November 7	Grade 7 Immunization
Sat., November 10	Family Skate Night
Mon., November 12	Remembrance Day Observance
Tues., November 13	Hot Lunch – Chicken Burgers
Tues., November 20	Pizza Lunch

Congratulations to the following people who are celebrating birthdays next week:

Mrs. Rachel Ajiel                      October 21



We had a very exciting visitor come and visit with us in Grade 3/4 today. Our Local MPP, Randy Pettapiece, came to see the class and share about his role at Queen’s Park.

This was a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn about our provincial government firsthand.

**FYI:**

- **Cross-Country:** Congratulations to our cross country runners. They ran a great race last Thursday in Cambridge. Here are their results:
  - Novice Girls (grade 3/4):** Maya (1), Sydney (11), Seryna (13). There were 83 runners in this category.
  - Novice Boys (grade 3/4):** Kyle (23), Rodney (29), Timothy (45), Tye (57). There were 110 runners in this category.
  - Junior Girls (grade 5/6):** Kara (4). There were 54 runners in this category.
  - Junior Boys (grade 5/6):** Will (3), Reid (22), Nick (38), Levi (58), Owen (64). There were 92 runners in this category.
  - Senior Girls (grade 7/8):** Samantha (9). There were 44 runners in this category.
- **Spirit Day: Look-a-Like Dress-up Day:** On Tuesday, October 23 students are encouraged to get together in 2's, 3's, 4's etc. and dress alike!
- **Tuck Shop for Ruth:** The next tuck shop will be next week Tuesday, October 16 during the first nutrition break. Students will be able to eat their purchases with their pizza lunch during second nutrition break. All proceeds from the tuck shop will go toward supporting our sponsor child, Ruth.
- **October Hot Lunch Schedule:** Thank you Room Mothers for providing these lunches!
  - October 16: Pizza Lunch (don't forget some change for the Tuck Shop)
  - October 23: Soft Tacos (please note the change of date for October's hot lunch)

**Dates to Remember:**

- **Cross Country:** Practices continue to be held during the second nutrition break! The All Ontario Meet, which will be our final meet is on Friday, October 19 at the Dundas Valley Conservation Authority. We wish the runners all the best as they prepare for this meet. Please look for Permission Forms in backpacks today.
- **Educator's Convention:** The annual teacher's convention, hosted by Edvance Christian Schools Association is scheduled to be held on Thursday and Friday, October 25 and 26 in Burlington. There is **No School** for students those days!
- **Important Notice!** The **Fall Membership Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, November 21. More information will follow but please mark this important date on your calendars.

**FROM FUNDRAISING:**

- **Gift Cards/Grocery Cards!** Gift card sales are the easiest way to raise funds for the school. As parents, members, associates, and supporters purchase gift cards, a percentage of the purchase is used towards the school's budget and a portion can be used towards next year's tuition payment. This voucher program includes many types of gift cards and can be purchased directly from the school anytime during office hours from cards we have on hand. We encourage everyone to start using the voucher program. Post-dated cheques can be left at the office and gift cards will be sent home with the family's oldest child.
- **Mabels Labels:** If you are in need of any labels for your children's clothing, school belongings, and accessories, please consider Mabel's Labels. Our school is signed up to receive 20% from any order received. Shipping is free! Please visit the following website to place your order: [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com)

## FROM THE GRADES:

### JK / SK:

Wow, this week seemed to zoom by. Thanks to those who donated a pumpkin for our class inquiry. I am very excited to see all the new learning that the students demonstrate every day. I hope you see some of those things at home too.

### **Next Week:**

Monday October 16th - Author visit @ Wellington County Library @ 10:30ish

Tuesday October 17th - Pizza Day - This is the day to bring money for the tuck shop if you wish to participate.

Ask your child about the 'at' family. Do they remember some of the words that are in **that** family?

Ask your child about the wise/foolish man. Are they going to be wise or foolish?

- Next week we will be starting to talk about Joseph and the story of his life.
- Next week we'll be learning about the 'in' family.

### Grade One/Two:

**Math:** Grade 1 wrapped up their patterning unit this week while Grade 2 began to study properties of shapes.

**Language Arts:** We are working through the "short e" word families as we build our blending skills. Grade 2s had excellent fluency practice when they read morning announcements for our school this week.

**Creation Studies:** We examined fruit and seeds this week and reviewed all the parts of a plant. We are taking our seeds home today - some are ready to plant!

**Bible:** We learned how God kept his promises to Abraham. Our memory work for October is **Psalm 100:4-5** and is due **Wednesday, October 31**.

**Show and Share** Friday: Abby, Rhianna, Emma, Aubrey, Matthew.

**Parent Read Aloud:** Tomorrow, Mrs. Claus will join us. Next time, Mrs. Myer will come. Thank you for sharing your love of reading with us.

### **Coming Up:**

- **MAP Testing:** Monday, October 15 and Wednesday, October 17.
- **Library Visit:** October 16, leaving at 10:10.
- **Crest Partnership:** October 17, leaving at 10:45.
- **Everdale Farm Trip:** October 24, leaving at 10:45.

### Grade Three/Four:

**Memory Verse:** We are making progress learning Psalms 51:7-13. Reciting: Friday, October 18.

**Bible:** Elijah had an incredible ministry journey. Students have been surprised and challenged by how many trials and obstacles he faced. They have also been encouraged by how greatly God provided for Elijah.

**Math:** We have begun regrouping while adding two and three digit numbers. Both grades are practicing converting hundreds, tens, and ones as well as gaining confidence adding and subtracting 10, 100, and 1000.

**Daily Five:** The next spelling test will be Wednesday, October 16. Both grades have begun creating an interactive notebook as a writing reference book. Students have been practicing identifying subjects and predicates, which has helped to strengthen their verb skills.

**Creation Studies:** Yesterday, we finished our presentations on the three different physical regions of Ontario: Hudson Bay Lowlands, Canadian Shield, and Great Lake Lowlands. Today we had an exciting visitor in Grade 3/4. Local MPP, Randy Pettapiece, visited the class to share about his role at Queen's Park. This was a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn about our provincial government firsthand.

**Music:** Students must bring their recorders on Tuesday and Fridays.

### **Grade Five/Six:**

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend. Grade 5/6 was right back into the swing of things after the weekend.

**Math** - Both grades have started a unit on Number Sense. Currently we are focusing on place value, how to write numbers in their word format and expanded form. There will be a short test next week Wednesday for both grades on these topics.

**Writing** - How to write a topic sentence. What's a great hook? How do we get are readers invested into our writing? Hmmm. These are the challenges that we are currently working through.

**Creation Studies** - This week we have been focusing on the animal/plant relationships. Mutualism, competition, predator/prey, ask your child about these.

**Bible** - We will be looking at the message the angel had for Joseph and the plans that God had for him.

**Music** - FYI - Students will no longer be able to call home to have their instruments dropped off at school when they forget them.

**Coming up....**

- Friday - Memory work - Psalm 1:1-2
- Wednesday - Math Test (both grades)
- Thursday - Spelling Menu due/Spelling Tests
- Memory work - Psalm 1:3-4

### **Grade Seven/Eight:**

**Math:** Only one more day to prepare for our end of unit tests. The Grade 8s have completed a unit in Number Sense, while the Grade 7s have finished an Algebra unit.

**Language:** We are continuing our Hatchet novel study, and examining another short story in our Building Community unit. Next week, students will be presenting a short memorized section of Hatchet, to flex their oral presentation muscles.

**Science:** We are now in the second section of our Science unit examining the transfer of energy in ecosystems and the cycling of matter.

**Geography:** This week we are tackling the creation of North America, and discussing the concepts of catastrophism versus uniformitarianism.

**Music:** Now that we have performed for Thanksgiving, the class has started working on Kingsfold, a familiar hymn tune, as well as a Christmas Medley called Holiday Fantasie.

**PLEASE NOTE** - Instruments: In order to encourage students to be responsible to bring their instruments to school on music days (Tuesday and Friday), students will no longer be given permission to call home to have an instrument brought to school.

**Memory Work:** Numbers 6: 24-26 for Thursday, October 18.

**History:** There is a Test scheduled for Wednesday, October 17. We are presently working on review questions to prepare for the test.