

Mr. Verburg's Message:

Two weeks ago, John Van Pelt read a selection out of a book called "Out of Solitude" by Henri Nouwen at our regional principal's meeting. Henri Nouwen argues that before ministry, or before action can occur, we need to follow a model of Jesus that moves from solitude to community to ministry (I like to think of ministry as action or work). Jesus first spent time alone with God in prayer, then called his disciples and finally engaged in his ministry.

Why solitude? Here is a quote from Henri Nouwen that explains its importance.

Solitude is being with God and God alone.

Is there any space for that in your life? Why is it so important that you are with God and God alone on the mountaintop? It's important because it's the place in which you can listen to the voice of the One who calls you the beloved. To pray is to listen to the One who calls you "my beloved daughter," "my beloved son," "my beloved child." To pray is to let that voice speak to the center of your being, to your gut, and let that voice resound in your whole being.

Who am I? I am the beloved. That's the voice Jesus heard when he came out of the Jordan River: "You are my beloved; on you my favour rests." And Jesus says to you and to me that we are loved as he is loved. That same voice is there for you. When you are not claiming that voice, you cannot walk freely in this world.

Jesus listened to that voice all the time, and he was able to walk right through life. People were applauding him, laughing at him, praising him, and rejecting him, calling "Hosanna!" and calling "Crucify!" But in the midst of that, Jesus knew one thing—I am the beloved; I am God's favorite one. He clung to that voice.

We were created to spend time in solitude. There are also other benefits to spending time in silence and solitude. Recently a parent shared with me two articles that list the benefits of disconnecting with technology, being bored. Silence, doing nothing can lead to greater boosts in creativity, relieve stress and anxiety, keep technology in its rightful place, teach resilience and create a desire for community and social interaction. Desiring and seeking out community is the second step in following Jesus' model.

The challenge is in a busy, noisy, connected world, do we leave space for silence, solitude? Do we hear God's voice or leave time to see evidence of His majesty? At school, as part of responsive classrooms, there is quiet time built into the schedule. This is precious time that teachers and students appreciate. It is time that is meant to refresh, rejuvenate, and be ready to work more effectively after a period of intentional rest. A more difficult task for educators is to build this reflection time into daily lessons. Reflection time is quiet time where students have the ability to hear God's voice and see His majesty in what they just learned or practiced. Time to organize new information with old information and understand concepts. Time to understand what they know well and what they need to continue to practice. Time to consider next steps. Time to hear God speaking to them in the moments of quiet reflection.

Take time for silence and solitude. Disconnect. Spend time alone with the Father. Become refreshed, renewed. Rejoin community. Be encouraged. Learn together. Go out and serve.

Inspiring Minds. Engaging Hearts. Building Character.

Community Christian School

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Tues. November 6	Hot Dog Lunch
Tues. November 6	Board Meeting
Wed. November 7	Grade 7 Immunizations
Sat. November 10	Family Skate Night
Mon. November 12	Remembrance Day Observance
Tues. November 13	Hot Lunch – Chicken Burgers
Tues. November 20	Pizza Lunch
Tues. November 20	Fall Membership Meeting
Wed. November 21	First Term Report Cards
Thurs. November 22	Parent/Teacher Conference (PM)
Fri. November 23	Parent/Teacher Conf. (no school)
Mon. November 26	Blood Donor Clinic

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

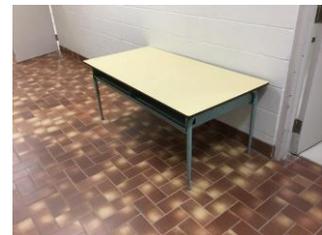
Mr. Ian Adams	November 7
Gabe V	November 8
Mrs. Gail Delahunt (Bus Driver)	November 9
Mrs. Betty Hovingh	November 10

**GRADE 7 & 8 OTTAWA TRIP in MAY!!****Upcoming Fundraising Campaigns**

We have several fundraising campaigns planned for the next month or so. The students will be selling cookie dough, Stemmler's pepperettes and sausage, as well as almond sticks, rings, stollen, and cheese from Norwich Deli and Bakery. Please consider supporting our students as they raise funds for their class trip. If anyone is interested in ordering frozen cookie dough, Stemmler's pepperettes or summer sausage, or items from the Norwich Deli and Bakery, to contact Mrs. Hovingh and she will have a student connect with you.

FYI:

- **Free Tables!** Is anyone in need of a table? There are two tables from the kindergarten class that are available. If no one claims them by the end of next week, they will go to the end of the driveway marked "Free".
- **Volunteers Needed!** We are seeking 3 volunteers to help the Grade 7/8 class rake leaves for some senior members of the community on Tuesday, November 14 or Wednesday, November 15. We are doing this as a service project in connection with the Seniors' Centre for Excellence who offers services in the Township of Mapleton (lead municipality), Town of Minto and the Township of Wellington North. It is funded by the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network. Please contact the school if you are available and let us know which day would work best for you. Thank you for your help with this great opportunity!
- **Thank You** - Thanks to Mike & Angela Hessels, Steve & Liisa Slot, Ken & Sheree DeVries, Nathan & Rachel Duimering, Scott & Emily Nieuwland, Tom & Alison DeVries, Frank & Brittany Deen, and, Al & Jolene Hiddema for taking care of the lawn and flowerbeds this season. Your work is much appreciated; it does not go unnoticed!



- **Remembrance Day (and a Volunteer)** – On Sunday, November 11 we will remember the cost of freedom. Since Remembrance Day falls on a Sunday this year, it is difficult to find **volunteers**, but we are looking for a student who would be willing to read the poem “In Flanders Fields” as well as two students or perhaps a family who could represent our school by laying a wreath at the cenotaph. Please contact the school as soon as possible. You are all encouraged to attend the outdoor service at the Drayton cenotaph at 2:15 p.m.

ENVELOPES:

- **Gift Card Order Forms** have been sent home today. An Updated Order Form has also been attached to this email. (Please disregard last week’s attachment.) This one now includes McDonald’s, iTunes, and Amazon Gift Cards. This fundraising option is the easiest way to raise funds for the school. If you would like to order gift cards for Christmas, please return order forms to the school by Monday, December 3 to be received in time for Christmas.
- **Blood Donor Clinic Flyers** – Monday, November 26 from 3:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the school
- **2018-2019 Directory** – If you have any questions, please contact the office.
- **Scholastic Order Forms** – The Christmas Scholastic order forms are available. Order forms should be returned to the school by Monday, November 12 so that any Christmas gifts will be at the school in time. If you are ordering gifts for your child (ren), please send a note with the order so that we can hold it at the school.

Dates to Remember:

- **Volleyball** - The Volleyball Teams will be travelling to Woodland next week on Tuesday, November 6. They will catch a bus, here at our school, for 8:00 a.m. (don't be late). The bus will be leaving Woodland at approximately 3:15 p.m. and should be back at CCS by about 4:00 p.m. Please pick up your child then. There is a concession stand that will be selling pizza and snack foods. Come to the school dressed to play.
- The **Grade 7** class will be receiving their vaccination shots on Wednesday, November 7. Please make sure all Grade 7 children are at school that day.
- **Family Skate Night!** Our first **Family Skate** is Saturday, November 10 from 7 – 9 p.m. Come and lace up for a fun evening of skating!
- **Important Notice!** The **Fall Membership Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, November 20. More information will follow but please mark this important date on your calendars.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences** – At the end of the month, conferences will be scheduled for Thursday, November 22 after school and evening, as well as Friday, November 23 during the day. There will be NO SCHOOL for students on November 23. Please let the office know if one of those dates does not work for you as the schedule will be made soon.

FROM FUNDRAISING:

- **Gift Cards/Grocery Cards!** Gift cards are the easiest form of fundraising for our 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.

- **Croquettes:** Order forms have been distributed and should be returned to the school by November 5. Orders will come to the school on November 23. Thank you!
- **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

FROM THE GRADES:

JK / SK:

We have had a busy week with lots of learning happening. Next week we will be concentrating on letters 'e' and 'h'. We will be starting to do surveys in math surrounding our favourite food, activities, and animals.

Our Bible focus will be on disciples and what that means.

Our first stem challenge will happen on Thursday.

I am hoping to go on a trip to the 'forest' for a time to explore, closer to the end of the week. Let me know if you could walk with us.

Have a great weekend!

Grade One/Two:

Math: Grade 1 has worked hard to read and show numbers using base 10 blocks. Grade 2 reviewed what they learned in their geometry and data management unit.

Language Arts: Our **banana split books** party will be on Friday, November 9. Great reading, Grade 1/2! We learned about "short o" this week and are eager to master our new short vowel books.

Creation Studies: We have started a Health unit about our bodies. How can we care for our bodies as "God's temple"?

Bible: We are working in groups to present the story of Joseph. We're so excited to share our puppet show that when we are done we hope to share it with every class! Our memory work for November is **Psalm 100** and is due **Friday, November 30**.

Show and Share Friday: Jolene, Mykayla, Averi, Ellanna, Sam, AJ.

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

Crest Buddies: Our next visit will be on Wednesday, November 28 at 11:30 am. We will leave right after 1st recess. If you would like to join us, please let me know!

Grade Three/Four:

Wet and muddy sock and shoe season has begun. If you have any extra plastic bags to transport these wet items home, we would greatly appreciate it.

Memory Verse: Romans 12:1-2 is our new memory verse. We will recite it tomorrow, Friday, November 2.

Math: We have finished our first number sense unit of the year. Grade 3's will begin thinking flexibly about numbers as well as strengthening their mental math skills. Grade 4's will begin expanding their multiplication skills through arrays.

Daily Five: Our next spelling test will be Wednesday, November 7. Our Read to a Million challenge has begun. Please read regularly at home to help us reach this achievement. Both grades have been finding and correcting run-on sentences. As a class, we have a goal of finding and fixing both run-on sentences and sentence fragments in our daily writing.

Creation Studies: This week we have been comparing land use in Drayton and Kitchener-Waterloo. As a class, we also explored some of the world's more densely populated cities. The "Living and Working in Ontario" test will be Friday, November 9. Review sheets will go home on Tuesday.

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

Grade Five/Six:

Pumpkin People, Trick or treating, tests and Memory work. This pretty much sums up our week!

- Math - Grade 5 has moved onto word problems using addition and subtraction skills. Grade 6 still isn't quite ready for a test. This test has been postponed a number of times and the new date is now Tuesday, November 6th.
- Writing - Mystery story planning has been taking place and students are going to be starting their rough drafts today.
- Creation Studies - The Biodiversity test is tomorrow. Today the students had time to review their material and work on the questions that I had assigned. Yesterday we tried our first STEM challenge and there was a buzz of excitement in the room. Students were challenged to create a pumpkin person for a local pumpkin patch. They had to build the cheapest and the tallest person that would hold a mini pumpkin for a head. We tested out our people today. Check out Bloomz for the pictures and video of what happened.

Coming up.....

Tuesday - Volleyball tournament at Woodland

Tentative Math test date (Grade 6)

Friday - Spelling menu and test

Memory Work - Matthew 5:3-6

Grade Seven/Eight:

Math: After this week's unit tests, the Grade 8s will begin the study of Perfect Squares and Square Roots, while the Grade 7s will begin a unit in Geometry.

Language: The focus for the coming days will be the completion of our Remembrance Day poems and essays. We will also be completing our Hatchet novel study.

Science: Students will be receiving their culminating project outlines shortly. Written reports or oral presentations will be due the third week of November.

Geography: This week we are looking at the Factors that Determine Climate.

Memory Work: Isaiah 40:29-31 for Thursday, November 8.

French: Test on adverbs and expressions of quantity on Friday, November 9.

Community Service Project: During the week of November 12, the grade 7/8 class will be doing a service project involving raking leaves. We hope to divide into 4 groups as we have 4 properties to rake. We are in need of 3 parent volunteers for this. If you can help us out, please send an email to the office indicating that you are able to help out. The date will be set next week as this activity is somewhat weather dependent. This will likely take place on Wednesday (14th) or Thursday (15th) in the afternoon.