

THE WEEKLY

Monday, January 20, 2024



Thoughts from our Principal ...

"HARD!" I look around and wonder, who is yelling so loudly, and why? Seconds later again, this male voice is bellowing for all to hear..."HAARRRRRRD!"

On Friday nights, my husband, Tim, and I have joined a co-ed curling team. This is a brand new experience for me, one that is taking some time to warm up to. I have exchanged playing soccer on Friday nights to curling with Tim so that I can begin a fresh era of growing athletic skills in a sport that I can do as I age with my husband and friends. To be honest, I look around at the curling club, watching participants on sheets of ice and I think to myself, "there are so many old people, and now I'm one of them!" (My apologies to those of you who curl and stay youthful as ever!) BUT these "old people" can flexibly lunge AND hold the pose for meters. They sweep effortlessly yet vigorously with a broom. They also strategically throw the rock so that it curls and stops exactly where they want it to, likely in the house or taking out the opponents' rock. This is all so new to me! And the hardest part is that I am not good at it...not yet.

I write this because I find it a coincidence that as I am trying something new in my sport's world, I am also trying something new in my professional world. Being a principal and being a curler are new endeavors for me. Between these two initiatives, there are two observations I've made:

- I am engaging my brain and body to do something new and different. This engagement takes intentional training and instruction. I need time to develop and draw on resources that will help me improve over time.
- I am part of a team of players working towards a common goal. I am surrounded by good people who have a variety of gifts and roles to perform, skills I can learn from them, but more importantly, qualities I can appreciate as we complement each other.

This week, teachers are working hard on report cards. Skills don't always come that quickly. Our students – like adults – take time and training to continue to improve what God has given us. We are not perfect, but we continue to strive to improve, step by step. In addition to this recognition, I also want to remind myself and others that our students are surrounded by peers, teachers and a community who work hard toward a common goal. We are a team. That ultimate goal is to serve our King and Creator in the place He has put us, with the talents He has provided. We continue to build His Kingdom for His glory, doing the best we can, one step at a time (and if I was a real curler, I probably should say, "one rock at a time").

This calendar lists upcoming HIGHLIGHTS only. Refer to 2024/25 School Calendar for ALL events.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
Mon/Jan/20	—	PAJAMA & BED HEAD DAY	Dress Down Day
Mon/Jan/20	LUNCH	E2F LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Wed/Jan/22	LUNCH	PASTA LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Wed/Jan/22	7PM	WCS OPEN HOUSE	Let your friends know!
Fri/Jan/24	—	PIZZA LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Mon/Jan/27	—	PAJAMA & BED HEAD DAY	Dress Down Day
Mon/Jan/27	LUNCH	E2F LUNCH	For those that have ordered.
Tue/Jan/28	—	SR BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	Refer to separate email.

Mrs. Patty Schuurman (Principal) - pschuurman@willowdalechristianschool.org

Mrs. Elisa Santiago (Office Administrator) - office@willowdalechristianschool.org

PRAYER @ WCS

Weekly Parents Prayer Zoom Meeting: Tuesdays @ 8:00 pm

- Wednesday Worship ~ Armor of God: Belt of Truth will be continued by Mr. Glen Eyre
- Staff of the Week: Mrs. Aimee Janzen (EA) and Mrs. Shelley Smith (EA)
- Families of the Week: *Guevara-Biolley (Gr.2), Ha (Gr.2), Han (Gr.6/3), Hau (Gr.5/3), Henry (Gr.3)*
- Contact Person ~ Claudia & Cissy (WCS Parents) wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com.
- *Please feel free to email your prayer requests throughout the year.*

SAVE THE DATE!

TALENT SHOW: FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

The sign up sheet for the talent show will be up until end of day today, Monday, and the auditions will follow shortly. The talent show is scheduled for Friday, January 31; time TBD. Please see attached.

PASTOR'S DAY: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Please mark your calendar and invite your pastor to our Pastor's Day, here at WCS. This will be a great way to let pastors and churches know what WCS is like! Please see the flyer attached and forward it to your Pastor/Youth Pastors

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

OPEN HOUSE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

Please invite friends to our Open House that is taking place this Tuesday starting at 7:00 pm. This is a great way to tell others about our wonderful school. We have two more open houses: **February 19 and April 15**. We love to share WCS with others!

PAJAMA DAYS: Today is our second of three Pajama Days at school! Please continue to see the announcement in your child(ren)'s Weekly for guidelines for their classroom. If not wearing pajamas, students must wear regular dress-code. Please make sure your child(ren) is/are dressed warmly enough for recess.



AFTER SCHOOL CARE (ASC)

Just a friendly reminder that if you are planning to make any changes to your child's After School Care attendance (for those families that registered), the office must be advised immediately. We hire the ASC staff based on the number of children attending this program. Thank you.

PARKING: Parents **DO NOT** park in the reserved parking spot nor in the accessible parking spot unless permitted. Recently, those that need these spots have not been able to access them. If you have made arrangements for others to drop off/pick-up, please inform them as well.



GROCERY GIFT CARDS – Year Long Fundraiser

Fundraising is very important to help defray tuition costs for all WCS families. A practical way to support the school in this initiative is to purchase Grocery Gift Cards from the office. These cards can be used at **Valu-Mart, Loblaws, No Frills, etc.** For each dollar that we sell, we receive 5% back. Annually we hope to raise \$8,000 - \$10,000. Gift Cards are available at the office year round office@willowdalechristianschool.org.

WCS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

What did the Board discuss this month?

- Meeting on January 14 was a special workshop on the Equip to Flourish (E2F) project.
- E2F is evaluating hiring a professional fundraiser and conducting a community assessment and feasibility study.