

THE WEEKLY

Monday, October 16, 2023



A Few Thoughts from our Principal ...

Yesterday I had the privilege of being involved in the worship ministry at church. I was the worship leader and played the piano and sang. It is wonderful to be part of this ministry in my church. I love being part of the team that works together to lead our congregation in singing. This week we have a group of students who will be leading worship during our Wednesday worship time. These students signed up to be part of the worship team at school, choosing to share their gifts and passion for worship with the school. It can be quite scary to be in front of a group, and even scarier to be playing an instrument or singing. When I first started with the worship team at church, I was a singer. I would stand behind the lectern and ask to have my mic turned down. With time and experience I started to become more confident. Then one day someone asked me to play piano. I took years of piano lessons but never played in front of people. I agreed, but only one song, and only once- never again! I shook with fear the whole time. A few months later, I was asked to play the same song. It was becoming my song! This time I shook less. In fact, I actually enjoyed it- a little bit. The next time I was asked to play, I played 2 songs. Fast forward 10 years, and now I am a regular pianist and leader. Some would say that I was a late bloomer; I say that I was resisting God's calling to serve in my church. I was letting my fear be bigger than His plan. Well, after many years I have learned that He always finds a way to use those He chooses to use. I am so thankful that those who are joining our school worship team aren't as stubborn and fearful as I was. I pray that God will richly use them and that through their praising Him, they may continue to grow deeper in love with their Creator. My hope is that this will be the beginning of many years of serving using their gifts and talents in service of Him. Also, worship team isn't the only student leadership team. We have students leading announcements every day, another group that sets up and cleans up worship every week, and a group that is helping with special Spirit Team days. We are so thankful for our students and their willingness to serve their community! On a side note, this Wednesday worship is also Pastors' Day. If you haven't invited your pastor, it's not too late.

This calendar lists upcoming HIGHLIGHTS only. Refer to 2023/24 School Calendar for ALL events.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
Wed/Oct/18	—	Pastor's Day	Invitation attached to this email
Fri/Oct/20	—	Backwards Day	Dress down day!
Thu/Oct/26 & Fri/Oct/27 ~ Professional Development Days for Staff ~ NO SCHOOL!			
Fri/Nov/03	—	Chocolate Sale Prize for WCS	Dress down day!
Mon/Nov/06		Ultimate Frisbee Tournament (Co-Ed)	Off Site
Tue/Nov/07	Morning	Photo RETAKE Day	Student Dress-Code Attire
Fri/Nov/10	—	P.A. Day	NO SCHOOL!
Wed/Nov/15	11:30am	Prologue Performing Arts Theatre Show	For ALL Students to enjoy!
Fri/Nov/17	—	Mid-Term Progress Reports	Going home with students at end of day
Sat/Nov/18	9am-2pm	Christmas Bazaar	Save the date!
Wed/Nov/22	3:50-5:30 & 6-9pm	Parent-Teacher Conference	Sign-up Link will be provided shortly

Mrs. Donna Miles (Principal) - dmiles@willowdalechristianschool.org

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

PRAYER @ WCS

Join our **Weekly Parents Prayer Meeting** (via Zoom) every Tuesdays @8:00pm!

Contact Person ~ Suan Fong (WCS Parent) wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com.

If you have items to include in our PRAYER section, please send an email to: office@willowdalechristianschool.org

- Pray for Pastor's Day (Wednesday) as we host our very special guests.
- Wednesday Worship ~ Pray for Mrs. Miles as she leads Praise & Praise and what it means to be blessed.
- Staff of the Week ~ Mr. Thiessen (Gr. 3)
- Families of the Week ~ *Cheong (5/3/JK); Cheung (8); Cheigirev (7); Choi (4/3).*

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE: We celebrate with the Keoshkerian family (Michael, Clare and Alanna (KA)) with the safe arrival of a baby boy, Jacob! We praise God for a healthy new life and give thanks that both Jacob and Mom are doing well!

FROM THE STUDENT SPIRIT TEAM COMMITTEE: *Dear Parents, next Friday, October 20st will be Backwards Day! Students are encouraged to come to school wearing their clothes backwards (and still be comfortable). Students can also wear their clothes inside out as well! School uniform is not required - DRESS DOWN DAY! This will be fun and we will do many things backwards.*

PHOTO DAY PROOFS: Picture Day proofs are coming home today. All ordering is done online (instructions are on the proof sheet). Note that orders must be in by OCTOBER 23 to have delivery through the school (no fee). If you are unhappy with your child's proof, please return the proof to us before the retakes are done on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7.**

CHOCOLATE SALES: Thanks to everyone for their efforts in the chocolate fundraiser this year! It was a big success and raised funds for our school field trips that will result in many fun learning opportunities. The prizes were a hit with the students. The only one that was not achieved was Mr. Thiessen and Mrs. Wells dying their hair pink. Our top salesperson was Matteo Lucas with 6 boxes! WCS has won a DRESS DOWN DAY NOVEMBER 3. If you still have not sent in your money please do so as soon as possible. Thank you! Ms. Chow and Mrs. Wells

ULTIMATE FRISBEE: Practices continue most Mondays and Wednesdays after school (check your schedule that was in the initial paperwork). We have enough drivers now (thank you!). Reminder that the tournament is on **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6.** Contact Ms. Kim (jkim@willowdalechristianschool.org) if you have any questions.

VOLLEYBALL: Volleyball season is also underway. Both the boys and girls will be coming home with paperwork that needs to be read and signed. If you can help out by driving to the tournament on **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23,** please contact Mrs. Miles for the boys (dmiles@willowdalechristianschool.org) or Mrs. Wells for the girls (pwells@willowdalechristianschool.org)

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

PASTOR'S DAY ~ THIS WEDNESDAY @ 8:35 am ~ (See Attachment)

It is not too late to invite your pastor to this special morning. Be sure to ask them to RSVP to the office, if attending.

WCS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ~ Saturday, November 18, 2023

Plans are already underway for this wonderful event! This is a great opportunity to receive FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEER Hours and to meet new people. Please see the Attachments for the following: (1) WCS Information (README); (2) Community Save-the-Date Invitation; (3) Sign-Up Form/Link; (4) Volunteers Job Description; (5) Pre-order form for **Gouda cheese, Dutch croquettes, poinsettias, seasonal flowers, and chocolate and cookies.**

Vendors wanted, for we want to fill our gym with various shopping opportunities for our community! Vendor Fee = \$55 + \$13 (insurance) (\$45 for WCS families).

Please note - all questions should be emailed to the Bazaar Committee (not the office.) Contact Helen Kapetanios and Cissy Ho at - wcsbazaar@yahoo.ca.



GROCERY GIFT CARDS – Year Long Fundraiser

Fundraising is very important to help defray the 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, Lo-blaw, 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