

A Few Thoughts from our Principal ...



This week is a short, but busy, week! I hope you signed up for an interview with your child/ren's teacher on either Tue/Oct/26 or Wed/ Oct/27. Although you can reach out to our teachers at any time during the school year, these formal interviews are meant to give you an overview of how your child is doing academically, socially, and emotionally. It is also an opportunity for you to ask questions about what your child is learning or how you can best support them at home in relation to their schoolwork.

One of the many things I have always loved about our school is the foundational belief that home, school, and church are working together. If there are things going on at home that you believe may be affecting your child's learning, please let the teacher know. If a teacher makes a suggestion for improvement in your child's learning, please know that it comes from a desire to help your child flourish here at school.

On Thu/Oct/28 and Fri/Oct/29, there will be no school for the students as staff will be participating in 2 days of Professional Development organized by our professional organization -Edvance Association of Christian Schools. Normally (pre-COVID days), these 2 days would be held at Redeemer University but are now done remotely. WCS's teachers will gather in our gym and participate together. The theme this year is "Education as Hospitality - Exploring a Christian Vision of Welcome". The primary speaker is Dr. David Smith. On Thursday, he will unpack many areas in education where hospitality plays a pivotal role such as - inclusion (are our schools more welcoming to some than others?), does hospitality mean we all have to agree? (what does it look like in our schools when we don't agree?), and what does all this look like in our classrooms (the books we read, the curriculum we teach, how we ensure our students 'see' themselves in what we teach?) On Friday, staff will participate in various sessions that are more unique to the grades and subjects they teach.

As an aside, I am happy to report that a few families have availed themselves of our PCR saliva tests done through Sick Kids and, at the time of this writing, we have had no cases of COVID-19 in our school community! Praise the Lord!

HEDGEHOG FOR ADOPTION!



Ms. VanderMeer and her husband are excited to move back to Alberta but, sadly, Winston (the hedgehog) isn't able to make the trip. So ... Winston is looking for a new home. He was born in March 2018. Hedgehogs live to 4-5 years old, so he is an old man. He is nocturnal and spends most of the night running on his wheel in his large cage. To take care of him, you need to feed him every 1-3 days and clean the cage every 1-2 weeks. All the supplies you need will be provided (except his bedding and food). If your family is interested in taking in this sweet little hedgehog, please email Ms. VanderMeer at kenedyhart@me.com



Mrs. Cathy Sallows (Principal) - <u>csallows@willowdalechristianschool.org</u> Mrs. Miriam Venneri (Office Administrator) - <u>office@willowdalechristianschool.org</u>

PRAYER @ WCS

- As we look forward to Parent-Teacher Conferences this week, let's be praying for united efforts from both home and school to benefit our students' academic and spiritual lives.
- Pray for Mrs. Hay as she leads Wednesday Worship. Name of God ~ Jehovah Yahweh

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

Parents Prayer Group (via Zoom) - Every Wednesday @ 8:00 pm CANCELLED THIS WEEK due to PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Contact Person ~ Surance Tunggal (WCS Parent) <u>wcsprayerbox@yahoo.com</u>. She will provide the Zoom link. When entering the meeting, TURN ON your camera. Once you've been admitted, you may turn OFF your camera.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Wed/Nov/03 @ 9:00 am ~ PHOTO RETAKE DAY

- RETAKES ~ If you choose to have your child's photo retaken, you do not have the option of picking between the original photo and the retake photo. You will be given the RETAKE photo, if you order a package.
- RETAKES ~ If you choose to have your child's photo retaken, your child MUST return the original photo package to school. This is given to the photographer on Retake Day. Without it, a new photo will not be taken.
- ORDERING ~ Orders must be done ONLINE with Lifetouch directly. WCS is not accepting manual orders.
- CLASS PHOTOS ~ Each student will receive (at no charge whether they place an order or not) a composite of their classmates photos.

Wed/Nov/03 - DEADLINE for CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ORDERS

WCS's Annual Christmas Bazaar is a fundraising event that has occurred for over 20 years! It is always a family favourite! However, unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions we will be unable to hold the Bazaar in person for the second year in a row. Attached is an Order Form for the delicious products we are selling to help raise funds for our school. You can stock up on Christmas plants or porch pots, cheese, croquettes, chocolates, and other treats. **NOTE:** Order Forms MUST be submitted no later than Wed/Nov/03.

NOTE: Item/s will be available for pick up at WCS on Sat/Dec/04 @ 3:00 - 5:00 pm.

You may use the attached Order Form or you may order online with this link: <u>https://forms.gle/2JX5gZddiBjGfxh47</u> Please consider placing your order knowing that you will get a quality product and ALL the profits benefit WCS. If you have any questions, please email <u>carol.griffioen.01@gmail.com</u>. Thank you, in advance, for your ongoing support of our school!

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TAKE NOTE
Tue/Oct/26	6:00 - 9:00 pm	Parent-Teacher Conferences	Online Booking Site is now locked.
Wed/Oct/27	3:50 - 6:00 pm	Parent-Teacher Conferences	Online Booking Site is now locked.
Thu/Oct/28 & Fri/Oct/29 ~Professional Development Days (Edvance Convention) ~ NO SCHOOL			
Wed/Nov/03	9:00 am	Photo Retake Day	More information above.
Wed/Nov/03	—	Christmas Bazaar Orders	DEADLINE!
Mon/Nov/08	All Day	Ultimate Frisbee Tournament (Off Site)	Co-Ed Team (Gr. 5 - 8)
Thu/Nov/11	—	Remembrance Day	Will YOU be wearing a poppy?
Fri/Nov/12	Lunch	Pizza Day	For students that pre-ordered.
Mon/Nov/15	—	Professional Activity Day	NO SCHOOL
Wed/Nov/24	Lunch	Pasta Day	For students that have pre-ordered.
Wed/Nov/24	7:00 pm	Fall Membership Meeting (via Zoom)	Watch for upcoming details.
Fri/Nov/26	—	Book Character Day	Plan NOW - costumes are on sale!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

GROCERY GIFT CARDS – Year Long Fundraiser



Fundraising is very important to help defray the tuition costs for all WCS families. A practical way for you to support the school in this initiative is to purchase Grocery Gift Cards from the office. These cards can be used at Valu-Mart, Loblaw, 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 always available from Mrs. Venneri. Simply email her with your order. Once your cheque or e-transfer (payment@willowdalechristianschool.org) has been received by the office, your Gift Cards will be sent home via "kid-mail". Please note that we only carry \$100 denominations.

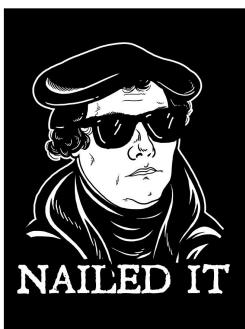
MILK & POPCORN - Year Long Fundraiser (for Grades 6-8)



Grade 6-8 students are selling popcorn and milk (white and chocolate) to raise funds to offset the cost of their overnight trips. Milk and popcorn will be sold every day of the week. (Milk is ONLY available at lunch time.) The cost of the **Milk and/or Popcorn is \$1 per Carton/Bag**. For your convenience we are offering parents the opportunity to pay with cash or tickets. (Tickets may be purchased in advance.) To purchase tickets, simply send in cash with your child. Each classroom teacher has tickets in quantities of 10 - so you can buy \$10, \$20, \$30, etc. worth of tickets. If you run out of tickets during the year, you can send a note to your child's teacher (with cash enclosed) and request more. If tickets are lost we cannot replace them. Thank you for your support!



DID YOU KNOW...



... that October 31st is **REFORMATION DAY**?

This is such an important historical event for Christians everywhere!

Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483 in Germany. He was a theologian and religious reformer who was the catalyst of the 16th-century Protestant Reformation. Through his words and actions, Luther precipitated a movement that reformulated certain basic tenets of Christian belief and resulted in the division of Western Christendom between Roman Catholicism and the new Protestant traditions - mainly Lutheranism and Calvinism. Martin Luther is one of the most influential figures in the history of Christianity!

A short animated video for children - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tox2TflUH90

A great article for adults - https://www.ligonier.org/blog/what-is-reformation-day/