



January 27, 2010

Theme: "Helping all to Serve" (H.A.T.S.)

News #19

"Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up. And we urge you, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each and to everyone else."

1Thessalonians 5:11a, 14 & 15

Calendar of Events:

Jan. 27	-	Board of Directors' Meeting
Jan. 28	-	Kick-off for Magazine Sales Campaign
Jan. 29-Feb.12		Magazine Sales Campaign
Feb. 1	-	Basketball Tournament at LDCSS
Feb. 3	-	Grocery Day
Feb. 3	-	Ice-Cream Party for winning House - Dutch Biathletes
Feb. 5/12	-	JK Drop In Days
Feb. 8	-	SK Winter Walk
Feb.5,12,19,26		Electives or "Fun Fridays in February" ☺

Advance Notice:

Feb. 15	-	Family Day (No School)
Feb. 17	-	Board of Directors Meeting
Mar.11	-	Pancake Breakfast



From Mrs. Baird's Desk:


The topic of **school lunches** has surfaced in a variety of settings around the school. The staff and I want to encourage healthy food choices for school snacks and lunches. Part of our curriculum involves units on food and the importance of eating wisely. Teachers notice that students who make good food choices are better equipped for learning, participating in gym class as well as sports after school. Please help us by encouraging your child(ren) to make wise food choices when coming to school.

Magazine sales are beginning this week. This is one of our biggest fundraisers for the student fund. The student fund is used for sponsoring our compassion child as well as a needy school in Dominican Republic. It is also used to cover half the cost of school trips as well as student functions. We encourage all our families to participate in this program and recruit some friends and families to join in.

- ▶ **You Should Have Seen:** Our Opening Assembly on Monday morning. We officially announced the house winner for the first half of the year: **The Dutch Biathletes**. In the last week they managed to sneak past the **Swiss Skiers**. We had a full Olympic ceremony with the winning stage receiving their medals while listening to their country's national anthem. The teams now receive a fresh start and time will tell who will win in June!

The mission of St. Thomas Community Christian School is to assist Christian parents in providing Christ-centred quality education, in a caring environment, to develop the academic abilities and talents of children through the integration of faith and learning and living.

GENERAL:

- * **Lost and Found** - Our lost and found box is overflowing! Parents, please come in and check out the items. There are many hats, mitts, and winter clothing you might like your child(ren) to have back.
- * **Milk Order Form** - is attached for month of February. 
- * **STCCS Certificates** - Just a reminder that orders are to be placed on Monday BEFORE 7 p.m. and will be available for pickup on Wednesday morning. Please note that **orders after 7 p.m. may not be processed** until the following week and we ask that you do not call / e-mail after Monday to "slip" orders in. We're hoping this will cut down on extra work for us. Thanks so much! If you need the link for certificates, here it is: <http://stthomaschristian.org/Certificates/>
P.S. We will gladly start-up standing orders for those who don't have time to do the online ordering or often forget. Please feel free to e-mail us with any questions.
Please Note: Not all the products that can be purchased with certificates available through the program, are endorsed by STCCS. We encourage you in the words of Philippians 4:8: ".....whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."
- * **Magazine Sales Campaign** - will begin this Friday, **January 29 to February 12.** Our kick off to the campaign will be held tomorrow. We encourage all families to participate in this very worthwhile fundraiser for the student fund as all students benefit from it. Parents, please fill in the forms and be sure the correct amount is sent along. All cheques are made payable to "STCCS." You can order your magazines on-line as well which is very easy to do. See letter in package for more details. Students may bring completed order forms to school every day except Tuesday (when Mrs. Groenenberg is not in the office.) Thanks! Packages will be sent home tomorrow. Please look for them.
- * **Before and After School Care:** We have begun a pilot project of "Before and After School Care" at STCCS. Several families have registered and are participating in this program with flexible hours. We are pleased to have a well-experienced caregiver playing with and caring for the children. There are still a few spots open. Please call the school and speak to Nancy Baker if you need any information about this program.
- * **JK Drop In Day:** All children who are turning 4 years old this year are invited to come and visit JK on Friday, Feb. 5 or Friday, Feb. 12, anytime in between 9a.m. and noon. This is a fun opportunity for children and their parents to visit the classroom, meet Mrs. Baker and check out our JK program. Do you know any families (friends or neighbours) with a four year old child who may like to come out to one of our JK Drop In Days? Please let us know as Mrs. Baker would love to send a personal invitation to them. Our JK program runs full days every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 - 3:30.
- * **Girls Basketball:**
Wednesday, January 27: Girls vs. Boys game until 5:00pm
Thursday, January 28: Game @ Aylmer (Drivers Needed)
Monday, Feb. 1: Tournament at LDCSS (Schedule to follow)
- * **Boys Basketball:**
Wednesday, January 27: Boys vs Girls game until 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 28: Game vs Aylmer @ home until 5:00 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 1st: Tournament at LDCSS (Schedule being sent home today)
- * **Concert Band:** It looks like there is going to be quite a group of instrumentalists for our Concert Band! You will be hearing from me shortly to discuss practice times. I am considering one before school practice and one lunchtime practice per week. I am also waiting for a shipment of new music to arrive at school. Then we can begin!! Please contact me if you have any questions: (519) 773-8550 or henryandbarb@amtelecom.net. (Mrs. VandenBrink)



- * **Electives** - The grade 3-8 students are signed up and ready for the elective course to start on Friday, Feb. 5th. The elective course fees are Hockey \$25.00, Baking \$10.00, Crochet \$10.00, Guitar \$0, and Photography \$10.00, Please send the money in to the office. Thank you.
- * **Pop Cans** - Did you know we collect/save aluminum pop cans and bring them in for recycling to earn funds for the school? You may place your rinsed, aluminum cans in the newspaper storage bin (north side of school). Please **do not** include anything else with your cans (ie other bottles, garbage, etc). We are very grateful to our volunteers, Jack and Diane Page, who faithfully store and bring these cans to London each month. However, in June, they will be retiring from this task and we are hoping another family can take over this fundraiser. Please consider if this could be you and let the office know.
- * **Congratulations** - to Brian and Amanda Luth, big brother Joey (JK) and big sister Kara on the safe arrival of a healthy baby girl, Charity, born on Friday, Jan. 22. May God richly bless you all.
- * **Free Piano** - If you are interested in a free piano, please call Ryan and Laura Dolby at 764-9580.
- * **Moms in Touch** - We are excited to have a group of 3 school moms who are meeting weekly to pray specifically and scripturally for their children here at STCCS and for the school, staff, and their needs. Their purpose is to be an encouragement and positive support to our school. Please prayerfully consider if you would like to become part of this group in future. For more information about the Moms In Touch organization please visit their website at <http://www.momsintouch.org>

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN - MRS. BAKER

This week in JK, the children are learning some more about decision making. The children experienced decision making in the area of choosing songs, leading the group activities and in art expression. We talked about how they can ask God to help them make good and wise decisions. Can you give your child lots of practice at home in making decisions?

Letter of the week: Dd (please send in a "d" snack on Thursday).

Math: Measurement terms (big/small, empty/full, heavy/light)

SENIOR KINDERGARTEN - MRS. VANDENBRINK

There are some great stories that have been chosen for Storytelling! I am really looking forward to hearing them. Please let me know if you are having trouble finding something — I can find a book from either our classroom library or the library at school. The boys and girls should be working on learning their story by this time. How are the blue Snuggle—Up—and Read sheets coming along? Reading stories to your child is a very important step in helping them develop the necessary skills in learning how to read. There is a bucket full of brand new books waiting to be given away! We hope to observe snowflakes under magnifying glasses at the first sight of falling snow this week. We talked about 6 different kinds of snowflakes. The most beautiful are formed in colder temperatures. The boys and girls enjoyed making and eating Puffy Snowmen on Monday during 'Kindercooking.'

The boys and girls will not be visiting the home for seniors next week. We will wait until spring when our colds/coughing should be gone.

Handy Helpers: Friday, Jan., 29 — **Kaylie**; Mon., February 1 — **Keegan**; Wed., February 3 - **Lauren**

GRADE 1 & 2 - MRS. DEWEGER

A big thank you to Mrs. Bosma for teaching our class this week!

Our new memory work will be given out next week.

Both grades need to have their stories for Storytelling memorized by the end of next week. We will have practise sessions next week, so please make sure their books are with them on Monday.

Show & Tell for this Friday -Sam Laarman

GRADE 3 & 4 - MR. VANDERKOOI

We certainly enjoyed our field trip last week. Most of the students probably slept well on Thursday night after a long afternoon of snowshoeing. We had great weather and a good time. We also finished our bird poster presentations. I was very impressed with the level of effort that was put into the posters. It was great to see them. Our next math unit will be on Multiplication and Division. Grade 3 has a test on Measurement this Friday. We will also be reciting our memory work on Psalm 46: 1-2 this Friday. We are beginning a new Social Studies unit today. It focuses on the early European explorers and their interactions with First Nations peoples in Canada.

This Week: Friday - Grade 3 Math quiz, MW Psalm 46: 1-2

French -

Tuesday, Feb. 2 - "Les heros et les heroines" vocabulary knowledge quiz. This quiz will allow students to demonstrate that they know the vocabulary terms.

Thursday, Feb. 4 - "Les heros et les heroines" vocabulary spelling quiz. Please be able to recognize spelling patterns and spell the vocabulary words correctly.

GRADE 5 & 6 - MISS SAARLOOS

We've been having lots of fun learning about the systems of the human body in our experiments lately. You should have seen our model of muscles in our respiratory system and the fun that we had finding out where digestion begins in our body. Thank you for all the encouragement of reading AR books at home. Keep it up! Please also remember to send pens and pencils to school as we are always in short supply of these materials. Please take a look at our schedule as we are beginning our speeches this week and aim to have our rough copies completed by the end of next week. Students will be given guidelines in class and will be able to select their own suitable topics.

Schedule:

Thurs., Jan. 28 - MW: Isaiah 53:7; Bible test on The Patriarchs - Part 1.

Fri., Jan. 29 - Speech topic selected; Math test for Grade 5 on Chapter 5: Measuring Length and Time.

Mon., Feb. 1 - Bible test on The Patriarchs - Part 2.

Tues., Feb. 2 - Speech outline due.

Wed., Feb. 3 - French knowledge quiz (Grade 5) on "les aviateurs et les aviatrices," French test (Grade 6) on "Natalie au Quebec."

Thurs., Feb. 4 - MW: Isaiah 53:3-7

Fri., Feb. 5 - First draft of speeches due.

GRADE 7 & 8 - MRS. MIEDEMA

Today our class became servant leaders by preparing and serving to the rest of the students in our school, a spaghetti dinner, complete with caesar salad and garlic bread. It was heartwarming to see the grade sevens and eights helping the younger students of their respective "houses" by placing the food on the plates of the younger ones before serving and eating themselves.

The basketball teams are gearing up for the tournament on Monday, February 1 at LDCSS. Both teams have an exhibition game on Thursday. The girls will be going to Aylmer to play the girls there while the boys will play the Aylmer boys at our school. A huge thank you to the coaches: Mrs. Baker for the girls' team and Mr. Gauthier and Mr. Portelance for the boys' team. Mr. Gauthier and Mr. Portelance also helped coach the girls' team during Mrs. Baker's absence. Just a reminder: a letter went out yesterday regarding the concession booth at the basketball tournament. Each family is requested to send a parent and/or older sibling to help with the food booth. All proceeds will go to the student fund and specifically the Ottawa trip scheduled for the end of May. A huge thank you to Mrs. Grace Boekestyn who has volunteered to be in charge this year along with Mrs. Annie Oegema.

The **schedule for the week** is as follows: tomorrow, January 28 - History Introduction Quiz; **Friday**, January 29 - Spelling Review #7 and #8, Proverbs journal; **Monday** - basketball tournament; **Friday** - Bible Memory (Matthew 7:13-14).