



**February 3, 2010**

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

**News #20**

"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."

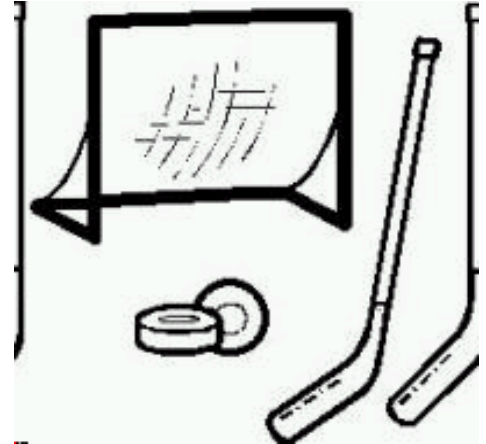
1Thessalonians 5:11a, 14 & 15

**Calendar of Events:**

Jan. 29-Feb.12	Magazine Sales Campaign
Feb. 4	- JK Trip to Children's Museum
Feb. 5/12	- JK Drop In Days
Feb. 8	- SK Winter Walk
Feb. 8	- Ice-Cream Party for House Winners (rescheduled)
Feb.5,12,19,26	Electives or "Fun Fridays in February" ☺

**Advance Notice:**

Feb. 15	- Family Day ( <b>No School</b> )
Feb. 17	- Board of Directors Meeting
Feb. 24	- Speech and Storytelling Assembly
Mar. 5	- Report Card Writing Day ( <b>No School</b> )
Mar. 10	- Hockey Tournament
Mar. 11	- Pancake Breakfast



**GENERAL:**

- \* **Milk Program - Advance Notice:** Due to a increase in the cost of milk we will have to also increase our milk prices effective for March.
- \* **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/>
- \* **Magazine Sales Campaign** - has begun and will run until **February 12.** 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. Groenberg is not in the office.) Thanks! Thanks for your orders so far!

*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.*

- \* **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 and their parents are invited to come and visit JK on Friday, Feb. 5 or Friday, Feb. 12, anytime in between 9 a.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 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
  
- \* **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 this 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 before Friday. 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.
  
- \* **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>

**Lunch Box Corner:**

Here is a great lunch box idea:

**Tortilla Wrap**

- whole wheat tortilla with lettuce, tomato, cheese and your favourite luncheon meat and dressing.
- fresh fruit or yogurt
- 100% unsweetened fruit juice, milk (chocolate or white), or water

### **JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN - MRS. BAKER**

The unit of study for the month of February has a strong emphasis on science. This week the children discover that it is okay to be curious about the world around them. The children are discovering that questions are a good way to find out some answers. Our question box game encourages the children to ask questions to figure out what is hiding inside the box. Please play the "Question Box Game" at home too!

Our class is looking forward to our field trip to the Children's Museum on Thursday. Please send in permission slips, car seats and \$3.00 for the museum fee. We will leave the school just after 10:00 AM and return at 3:00 PM.

**Letter of the week:** "Ee"

**Math:** Rote Counting

### **SENIOR KINDERGARTEN - MRS. VANDENBRINK**

It is hard to believe that it is February already. We are still waiting for the right weather conditions to do some activities outside — a day that is not too cold, with some snow on the ground. We are looking forward to the winter walk on Monday. You are more than welcome to join us — we leave at 11:30 am. The Sound Books have been updated — please continue to practice these at home. We have also been counting to 100, reviewing shapes, and printing numbers. A copy of rhymes that we use to print the numbers correctly is going home today. Three children have returned a blue Snuggle-Up-and-Read sheet. Way to go!!! Please continue to read to your child and bring the blue sheet back to school so they may choose a free book.

**Handy Helpers:** Monday, Feb. 8 — **Noah**; Wednesday, Feb. 10 — **Seth**

### **GRADE 1 & 2 - MRS. DEWEGER**

Memory work for Friday is Mark 9:35. We are busy building lots of structures for our building unit! the grade 2's did an excellent job of presenting their projects to the class.

Our Storytelling presentations begin next week! Please make sure your child is ready to tell their story to the class beginning on Monday. the grades 2 are scheduled for Monday/Tuesday. The grade 1's will tell their stories on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Valentine's Day is around the corner! We will celebrate it in our class on Friday, Feb.12. If you choose to give out cards, please make sure everyone in the class gets one. A class list will be sent home.



### **GRADE 3 & 4 - MR. VANDERKOOI**

As part of our new Social Studies unit on the explorers and First Nations people we have begun to learn the song "Make me a Channel of your Peace" which was written in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century by St. Francis of Assisi. It's amazing how such an ancient song is relevant to us today. You will notice that throughout this unit for child will come with a discussion question. These questions are designed to get them thinking about the next topic in the unit so please discuss these questions with them. Just a reminder to initial your son or daughter's reading calendar on days they have read. Many students are forgetting to have them initialed. Please also ensure that your son or daughter is memorizing their storytelling book at home. They have chosen one today and we will do some practice at school, but the bulk of the memorizing will be done at home.

**This week:** Practice Storytelling

**Next Week:** Bible quiz on Israel, Memory Work Psalm 46: 1-3

**French - Thursday, February 4** - French vocabulary quiz on "Les heros et les heroines" and includes our new "superhero" words. Spelling counts, so please take your cahiers home to study!

## **GRADE 5 & 6 - MISS SAARLOOS**

We are getting very excited for our upcoming unit on the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, B.C.. In class we will be keeping track of medals earned by Canada and our other "house" countries. We will also be subscribing to the London Free Press and making scrapbooks including events covered in the media. It would be very helpful if students were able to view some of the events at home to get a good idea of how the sports are played and to get them into the "Olympic spirit."

### **Schedule:**

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

**Fri., Feb. 5** - Vocabulary lesson #10 due; vocabulary lesson #10 quiz; speech rough copy due.

**Mon., Feb. 8** - French test (Grade 6) on Natalie au Quebec.

**Thurs. Feb. 11** - No MW due to speech memorization.

**Fri., Feb. 12** - Speech good copy due; Valentine's day card exchange.



## **GRADE 7 & 8 - MRS. MIEDEMA**

The students and I had a great time at the basketball tournament. Both teams did well. The boys' team played better with each game they played. Again it must be remembered that this year was a rebuilding year. Most of the players were from grade 5. The girls' team did better than their predecessors. This is the first year in years that the girls' team made it to the semi-finals. They lost out to the team that won the tournament. Well done girls! A huge thank you to the coaches, Mr. Gauthier and Mr. Portelance for the boys and Mrs. Baker for the girls.

As well we would like to thank the following parents for greatly assisting our school by organizing and running the concession stand at the tournament this year. Thank you to both Mrs. and Mr. Boekestyn for organizing, buying and making the food for the concession stand, as well as running the stand all day. Thank you also to Mrs. and Mr. Oegema, Mr. Stuart DeVries, and Amanda DeBoer for helping in the stand all day. Additionally we would like to thank all those who helped for an hour or two. Without your help the concession stand would not have been a reality.

The **schedule of the week** is as follows: **Tuesday** - Grammar Test; **Wednesday** - Math Test; Thursday - Bible Test; **Friday** - Bible Memory (Colossians 3:13). A reminder - the Science Fair project is due February 16.

**French - Friday, February 5** - French quiz on the irregular verbs *Vouloir, Pouvoir, et Devoir*. Know how to conjugate, translate, and spell correctly.