



TIMOTHY

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



From the Principal...

A few Reminders to keep us safe:

We are in week three of school and are very thankful that we are into a good safe school routine. With the COVID-19 cases on the rise in Ontario we need to and will remain very diligent in keeping our students safe in all areas. Please note the following areas where we need your help:

1. **Masks for students is the expectation:** We realize that masks are a challenge to wear... and... according to the guidelines direct from the health unit, *masks are the 'gold standard' for students to stay safe* (not shields or other alternatives). So, the expectation from our health department (please note that it is from the health department not TCS) is that masks are mandatory for all students in grades 4-8. They are optional for JK-grade 3. The only exemption to a mask for grades 4-8 is a note from a doctor.
2. **Students going directly to cars after school:** *A huge thank you* to all the pick up and drop off parents who quickly complied and loaded students directly into cars vs. allowing them to play in the flag area. We noted that you made that adjustment quickly last week and we are very grateful for the wonderful parent support. It was one area we were feeling very uncomfortable with and asked for the adjustment as soon as we noticed it. Thank you! A key and critical component of stopping the spread of this virus is to not mix cohorts (classes) and we are doing our utmost to ensure this happens on the school front. Your support in the flag area is so very appreciated.
3. **Self-Monitoring:** We know this will be one of the most challenging and painful parts of the next few months. Here is the updated parent screening tool from the province: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> We are getting a lot of questions on when to stay home and when to come to school. Students do get sick and a lot of times it has nothing to do with COVID-19, but you do need to *be wise in this process and especially cautious* as we see the second wave hit and the numbers spike in the province as we have read this past week. [Please read over this link again](#) and be keenly aware of the top symptoms of COVID-19 and check with your doctor, Telehealth, or the health department when in doubt. Also, when in doubt, keep your child home and get a test done. Many results have been coming back within 48 hours.
4. **Google Classroom for JK - Grade 2:** Primary parents, please tune into a Zoom workshop at 6:30pm this Tuesday evening (invite was sent last week, email the office if you need it resent) led by Mr. D Wilcox that will do a short review of how to connect with Google Classroom and he will also review any questions that parents will have. As we mentioned last week in our memo to our Primary parents, we really want to get ahead of the process and be ready should the numbers spike. Primary parents, please take advantage of the workshop this Tuesday evening.



TCS is on the run for Terry Fox!

In honour of the 40th anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope, TCS will be holding our annual run on **Friday, September 25**. It will look quite different this year, but I know our community will rise to the challenge! The day will begin with a special 'Google Meet' chapel for all of the classes, hosted by Grade 1, since we can't all be together as a whole school body. Then each class will be signed up for a time slot during the day when only their grade will be running around our track, to allow for physical distancing of the cohorts. All students are invited to dress in our Canadian colours of white and red to show our support for this national hero. Fundraising is also changed for this year, into an entirely online donation system. We will be pooling all money donated into the one TCS fund. Please **DO NOT** send any money or cheques to the school with your child. We ask instead that you follow this link: <http://www.terryfox.ca/TimothyCSBarrie> where you can select an amount to donate and enter your information for tax receipt purposes. Feel free to pass this link on to other family members and friends! So, let's 'Try like Terry' and help to support the fight against cancer!

Internet Use Form

Normally we only ask grades 3-8 to sign the Internet Acceptable Use Policy Permission Form because we want students in grades 3-8 who get access to computer classes and research times to be wise and careful. This year we added JK-grade 2 just because of the fact that we noticed in the spring our entire school was involved in Google Classroom and being online.

It really is to heighten the awareness of all our students that computer use is a privilege and we all need to be wise in the responsible use of technology in general at TCS.

Picture Day Reminder

Don't forget! Picture Day is this week **Wednesday, September 23rd**. Flyers should have been sent home with your child(ren) last week. Students will be photographed by grade (not mixing cohorts) and as soon as we receive the proofs from Lifetouch we will send those home with your child(ren). You can then review their pictures and purchase directly from Lifetouch on mylifetouch.ca. More information to follow!



Board Reflections from the September Board Meeting

- Thank you to all our TCS parents for the hard work everyone put into the online program this past spring. We realize it was abrupt and challenging especially for our primary parents. Thank you in advance as we start the year off a bit more proactive and attempt to embrace the Google Classroom communication platform more this year to keep us as ready as can be this year.
- Thank you to the Transportation Committee (especially the committee member who worked so very hard on all the routes) for all the good work done to both make the routes work, but to also get us down to only the one extra shuttle. The committee saved TCS parents tens of thousands of dollars making the routes work this year.
- A huge ‘thank you for your patience TCS parents’ as we adjusted the bus routes several times throughout September. It takes all of us working together and extra grace on your part this year with all the changes.
- The TCS Board of Directors processed the fact that we are down 7 families from our budgeted 120. Some adjustments need to be made and we will need to creatively think through the various fundraising events to find alternatives.
- The Board is welcoming any suggestions for nominees to the TCS Board of Directors. Please email Krista Westerneng directly with any recommendations at kristawesterneng@hotmail.com.

Looking for OCT Certified Supply Teachers

Do you know of a certified Christian teacher who might be interested in being interviewed for our TCS supply list? If you do, please send them our way. We are presently taking applicants for our TCS Supply List. We are looking for certified teachers with a strong Christian perspective to add to our teacher supply list. You can find more information here: <https://jobboard.edvance.ca/job/timothy-christian-school-750-essa-road-barrie-temporary-supply-teacher/>

From the Office...

Bradford Greenhouses Fundraising Program

Some of you who have been with TCS for a long time know that we are part of a fundraising program with Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery. For those who have not heard of this in the past, this is how it works! When shopping at Bradford Greenhouses (in Barrie or in Bradford), you must mention to the cashier **before inputting your purchase** that you would like your purchase to support Timothy Christian School. A percentage of the value of all sales directed towards TCS is put on a gift card for the school to purchase Bradford Greenhouses products (that we normally use to benefit the Bazaar each year). It's that easy! Thanks for your help in spreading the word about this program.

