



TIMOTHY

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



From the Principal...

Grandparents Day Greeting from last Friday—Please Pass it on!

Following along with our typical school calendar of events (before the building closure), last Friday was scheduled to be the annual TCS Grandparents' Day. This is such a wonderful TCS community event that we did not want to let it go too quickly. Last Friday morning, each of our TCS families received an email from our school office with a warm and heartfelt greeting to all our TCS Grandparents along with a video from Mr. Berg standing outside of the school parking lot letting them know how much we missed them, along with a collage of pictures from Grandparents' Day last year reminding all of us of what a wonderful event this always is! This video has been played over 200 times since Friday morning which tells us that a lot of you sent this greeting to your child(ren)'s grandparents over the weekend! Thank you!

Did you miss the chance on Friday? You can still do it... consider:

- Having your child(ren) forward the email greeting by adding a few 'we miss you' lines from each of your children to their grandparents
- Take a screenshot of some of the wonderful project or Bible work that your child did over the past few weeks and include this in your email to each of their grandparents along with the warm school greeting. Give them an idea of the great work presently going on that they would have engaged in at Grandparents' Day at TCS last Friday.

- Take a photo of your grandchild and include it in the email to their grandparents encouraging them!

Let's make a point in the next day or two to reach out to all of our grandparents connected with the TCS community and let them know we deeply care about them and missed them last Friday! We can really make this a community connecting moment by reaching out to every one of our precious grandparents over the next few days. Our wonderful seniors have spent a lot of time in self-isolation these past few months and we want to bring as much sunshine into their lives as possible! Remember... only the school building is closed! The deep TCS community we enjoy and the

learning through a powerful Christian perspective that we do everyday is alive and well! Pass that on to your children's grandparents!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM
ALL OF US AT TCS!

- April 27: Aria (JK-A)
- April 29: Esther (6)
- April 30: Ana (4), Makai (7)
- May 1: Micah V (2), Andrew (5)

From Surviving... To Thriving During These Unique Times

Last week in the newsletter we talked about moving from the Red Zone (yikes—what is happening with this school work at home process? I can't adjust!) to the Orange Zone (okay—this is the new reality... we might be able to survive) to the Green Zone (Can we actually thrive and make these some of the most special educational moments this year and get into a flow where we actually... “inspire children to be alive in Christ” as our TCS vision statement pushes us to?)

What does that look like?

- **Taking care of yourself:** Making sure both the person facilitating the learning on the home front and the student are taking a mental health break and a physical break now and then. It is the same during school times. Active bodies make for active brains. Take a recess break, take a lunch break, and remember to get active now and then. Burnout and stress are very, very real during these times of extreme transition and we need to be aware of how we are doing mentally. Don't let it sneak up on you! Get in front of it!
- **Finding structure in the day that works for you:** Find that window in the day that best works for your family. If someone is home, that window is most likely from 9-3ish. But if both of you are still working that may look like 'do what you can during the day' and after supper mom and dad (as they can manage) can help a bit more with technology and lessons.
- **Ask your teacher for help:** We have talked with several families over the past few weeks who have asked for advice and help. Your teacher is an educator and does this for a living. They understand momentum, lessons, a child's attitude, and different tricks of the trade to help you facilitate a morning of learning. Educating is not an easy task and it takes incredible collaboration among staff members to talk things out. That is why we, as a TCS staff, meet every Monday morning before school, every Friday afternoon after school and have two two-hour staff meetings a month (not to mention the endless one on one meetings between teachers, resource, admin, and support staff). There is a lot to process and talk about to get on the same page at school. Check in with your teacher if you get stuck... we are here for you!
- **Make use of the tools in place:** Most of your teachers have moved quickly to video instructions and Google Meet times (upper grades) or phone call check-ins. It is critical for your child to capitalize on these methods of learning. We have heard many times over the past month how a student struggled with a concept, but slept through the Google Meet time the class had set for Math or not listened to the teacher's instructional video that was sent at 8am that morning. Just like in school (especially for the grade 3-8 students), a student needs to own his or her learning. If you don't ask, if you don't listen to videos, and if you don't reach out... you miss the window for help.

Board Survey Regarding Enrolment

The Board sent out a family enrolment parent survey nine days ago. It simply asked our TCS parents if you are planning to enrol in September 2020 and if you feel you may require financial support next year (basically it was re-confirming your registration from February 1st earlier this year and asking your outlook for the fall). We have heard from *113 out of the 117 potential families* who had originally had re-registered at TCS for September prior to the school closure. Those final few families have received a reminder email today and we hope to hear from you by the end of the day this Tuesday. We are pleased to announce that almost all of the families we have heard from are fully intending to return to TCS in September. The TCS Board is revisiting the draft budget for September 2020 that it started back in February and confirming family numbers, as well as preparing for the Spring Society meeting later this month which will be an online presentation to our members.

Reminder of “Redeem the Times” Family Videos

This week you will see a video that is part of our TCS “Redeem the Times” fun challenge intended to keep our community well connected and having fun during this time of self-isolation. Thanks to the Burton family who took up this challenge to greet one another in this fun way to stay connected.

We are adding *three more fun challenge ideas* to up the ante and give you more options to participate:

- Keep up with the fun family greeting videos like this one:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OdUTAAqM2E> - A short, fun greeting from your family to our greater TCS family. Everyone is welcome... grandparents, parents, teachers... we pick two a week to post!
- We are now adding photos of a fun greeting or a verse you hold up in a picture... or how you are keeping yourself busy?
- A Wacky Wednesday look... this may include a picture of you in a fun hat, shirt, outfit that you put on... on the Wednesday of the week... to keep us all smiling and laughing!
- Wear your TCS shirt or jerseys in a picture to show your TCS school spirit!

Please send any of the above items to Michelle Roberts: mroberts@timothychristianschool.ca by Wednesday so we can begin to share school spirit on our TCS Facebook and Instagram pages. Mrs. Roberts will consult with Mr. Berg and pick two of the above to share and post each week. We can all use a smile to get through our day, join us! (Videos must be under 1 minute in length, thanks in advance!)

Still need textbooks?

Don't forget to please email tcsgen@timothychristianschool.ca if you are a TCS family and missed out on the textbook pick up or the primary drop-off, and we will arrange a time to get you those materials.

Helpful Educational Websites for TCS Students

Looking for good educational websites that your children can work on when they are finished with schoolwork? Here is a link with several resources:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1n7j6v8WZk1Co7zulqQtC0XJf4nujvtT6Y-Xys0sCods/edit?usp=sharing>

Thanks to Miss Gronfors who surveyed the TCS classroom teachers and pulled together a list of websites that parents may find helpful from Primary through to Senior grades as well as French. We will try and update these websites now and then throughout the next few weeks.



PRAYER CORNER

Prayer is a powerful part of our community at TCS. For this reason, the staff prays for a group of families each week. The TCS staff prayed for the Skuljicak, Smith (J&B), Smith (R&A), Sorokine, and Stachowiak families during devotions this week. May you feel God's ever ready presence in your