



TIMOTHY

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



From the Principal...

Getting back to Routine!

A huge thank you to our TCS parents for your patience as we get into a safe routine with all the COVID guidelines that come along with the start of this school year. We are adjusting as we go to keep things both as safe and tight (following guidelines) and remembering to keep the joy in the school year as well. We have heard good feedback from our parent community and feel we are off to a great start!



A few key areas we need your help with and a few updates:

1. Patience at the start of the day and end of day:

We are into a wonderful routine and appreciate your patience as we pace and social distance at the start of the day and end of the day. We have invested a lot of time into making sure students social distance and keep within their class cohorts especially during morning and after school times. This has been our most challenging time at school for us, but we have a good system going.

Today we will adjust again (tighten the system) and keep all of our JK - grade 8 students at the back of the school and load the buses class by class that way. Allowing for the movement in only one direction of loading buses. We learn and improve as we go on. Pickups will then be received at the front of the school. JK & SK students will continue to be picked up from their porch at 3:15pm; JK/SK (Mrs. Klingspohn's class) can be picked up in the school at the double doors in the rotunda at 3:15pm.

2. We need your help after school with pickups:

Parents, please note that as a school we *must comply with the Health department* and not mix cohorts at all on the school property. That means instead of students playing together on the grass area by the flag after school, parents instead need to take their children directly into their cars and go home. We totally get it that they miss each other (sorry, we wish it was different) and, if you wish to do that off of school property that is in your control but, we can't mix the classes at all on the school property. *We are looking for your help stopping the mixing of the classes by the flag area after school.* Next week we will assign a teacher to this area to direct students to their cars to load up. Thank you for your help with this adjustment.

3. Self Monitoring:

[Here is once again the link for the parent screening tool.](#) 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. 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. When in doubt, keep your child home and get a test done. Most results now come back within 24 hours. We've consolidated some more COVID-19 information on page 4 of the newsletter.

4. Google Classroom for JK - Grade 2:

We know the process of learning how to get on Google Classroom has caused some anxiousness in our primary parents and we plan to give you as much support as possible in this area. [Here is a link for a basic tutorial on how to use Google Classroom for JK - Grade 2 parents.](#) This will be followed up by a live Zoom meeting after school this Thursday led by two staff members. Primary teachers will be as gracious as possible in this process using email when and if parents are confused.

Note: The reason we need to move completely to Google Classroom for JK - 8 is because we can no longer have agendas coming to and from home (to limit contact areas) and to prepare for the unlikely chance that we have to move to full online school again this year. The pain of transition will be much less if we can understand it now vs. the dramatic change we had to go through last March.

JK - Grade 2 parents: please note that classroom newsletters will still go home for these grades and the teachers at these levels will communicate how Google Classroom will be used for their class.

5. Staff Completed Professional Development on Virus Spreading in August:

A huge thank to our COVID-19 Advisory Team who provided a health specialist who spoke to our TCS staff for several hours the week before school started on "evidence-based information on COVID-19 transmission" from person to person. This was extremely helpful for our TCS staff as we built our school routines around this evidence. This direct live time with a health specialist and our TCS staff was critical as we locked down our routines at TCS. It allowed us to listen to an expert from the Health Department and gave us a chance to ask questions and get evidence-based answers.

Welcome to Mrs. Han!

Today we welcome Mrs. Han to the TCS staff as she starts as the full-time EA working with Mrs. Regeling in grade four. Because the numbers in grade four are a bit lower than expected, we will review the full-time status of this EA position in December to determine the needs from January to June. Mrs Han is a long-time wonderfully supportive parent at TCS. She comes to us with a lot of experience both working with students at this age and also has a Theology degree and Linguistics degree that will be a blessing in supporting students in their learning. We were also very blessed with her strong faith and deep worldview through the references checked. We know Mrs. Han will be a blessing this year in her roll as the EA in grade four.

New Parents—Update on your child's first week!

To all our new families this year... please send a five line update on how the first week of school at TCS went for your child to Mr. Berg at rberg@timothychristianschool.ca (and your child's teacher if you'd like). We hope to hear from all our new parents by this Friday, September 18 if possible. Thank you!



18	New Parent Orientation Information will be emailed
23	Picture Day
25	Terry Fox Run

New Parent Orientation Change for Thursday

Normally we have our New Parent Orientation face to face with our new parents this week, but this year, like many other gatherings, we will instead be sending our new families the information and asking them to review it on their own time. Our new families can read the information and email or call the principal or office if they have further questions about the school. Since we are being very cautious in a lot of areas, we will take this approach with the new parent orientation as well. Our new families can expect to receive an email by the end of this week with the slides and information that are normally presented to our new TCS families. Most of this information we have explained in detail at each new parent interview (prior to enrolment), but this will give an extra layer of information.

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/>

**Thank You to our Summer Maintenance Volunteers!**

A huge thank you to the following team of wonderful volunteers who have blessed us over the past few months with significant help:

- Art Van Loenen (A&L Plumbing & Heating) and Greg Van Loenen for the help installing the water bottle filling stations
- Chuck Zylstra for the electrical work (installing hand dryers)
- Sion Jones for the great electrical work for the water bottle filling stations
- Larry Eisses for supplying and building the theatre bench (outside classroom)
- Harry Eisses for the great maintenance work on the school lawn this summer
- Harry Eisses and Henry Winters for removing weeds and smoothing out the track
- Harry Regeling for the help with the roof and interlocking base of the outdoor classroom

We are so very grateful for all the wonderful help that comes on a regular basis from the long-term supporters in our TCS community. We are also grateful for our diligent caretakers, Mike and Bernice Huitema, who always keep the facility in great shape.

Congratulations, Miss Van Loenen!

We celebrate with Miss Van Loenen as she got engaged over the weekend! So happy for you and Ben as you plan for your future together!

From the Office...

COVID-19 Information

The [COVID-19 Supplemental Guidance for School Settings](#) has been **updated** – this revised version reflects the new direction provided by the Ministry: **Any household members of staff /student/visitors experiencing symptoms are to self-monitor ([self-monitor fact sheet](#)) for 14 days. These household contacts of the ill individual can continue to come to school, as long as they have not developed symptoms themselves.** This Supplemental Guidance was drafted to support clarity in messages related to screening, isolation of ill individuals at school and case and contact management. We anticipate that this is the first of many changes – the health unit will continue to update this document as new guidance emerges and will house the most current version on their [website](#) (see Outbreak Management section). Please note, the health unit is anticipating a school (staff and student) screening tool from the province shortly. In the interim, we recommend that you use the [provincial screening tool](#). In addition, the health unit has created the following resources that may be useful or informative for our TCS Parents.

- [Parent Screening Tool](#)
- [Parent Hand Out](#) – My Child Has COVID 19 Symptoms – Now What?
- [Parent FAQ](#)

Change in Contact Information?

The office is working hard to finalize this year's Phone Directory. If you have any changes in your contact information or address that you haven't already informed us of, please email tcsgen@timothychristianschool.ca ASAP! Thank you!



Bus Routes

Thank you for your patience with the buses as the “beginning of the year kinks” get worked out. This year especially has been like none other for our Transportation Committee as you can imagine! They are still working on alternatives to the temporary extra loops we have been running. More updates will be sent out as soon as they are available. If you have any concerns, please email tcsgen@timothychristianschool.ca for the Transportation Committee to review. The Committee will meet to review any requests (along with Landmark's input) and make any changes to be implemented late September or early October.

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.

From the Community...

Happy New School Year from re-Source Thrift Shop Barrie South

Just a quick update from the shop. We have had a great summer since we re-opened after COVID. God has blessed us with a Student Summer Grant and a small but mighty group of volunteers. Sales are up! Donations are up! In October our remaining students will be finished their term and we will be in need of additional volunteers to keep the store running. If you are interested in helping or would like more information because you haven't volunteered before please contact Laura McFadden lmcfadden0227@gmail.com or Kathrin Veenstra jkveen@rogers.com. The shop operates under strict COVID protocol, including wearing masks.

Brenda Goodnough's Email Address

As many of you are aware, Mrs. Brenda Goodnough retired after many years of teaching at TCS. She wanted to publish her personal email address in case you ever needed to contact her in the future. It is: rbgoodnough@bell.net

PROGRAM COM MANUAL	
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Internet Acceptable Use Policy & Guidelines

At TCS our mission is to “deliver a dynamic, vibrant learning environment offering leading edge programs that inspire children to be alive in Christ.” The Internet, while supporting the school’s curriculum, will help our students achieve the goals of Christian education as outlined in the TCS Handbook.

The Internet is the library of the new millennium. As with libraries as we currently know them, the Internet provides access to massive amounts of information. Much of this information is very good, but some of it is also harmful and detrimental to the health of our children.

At TCS we feel that, along with the home, it is our responsibility to teach the students discernment. They live in this world and every day they are bombarded with its value system through TV, newspapers, magazines and listening to the talk on the streets in their communities. Our children need to know the difference between God’s ways and the world’s ways and choose to serve God. At TCS, we believe that computer technology has God given uses and application and we need to educate students in the proper uses of this technology and in respectful use of the Internet for educational purposes and computer resources. To allow students to access the incredible wealth of information about God’s world using the internet, a net minder will be in place to protect our students from access to unsuitable sites. Along with this, students will also be taught that the World Wide Web contains unacceptable sites that they are not permitted to access. While our children are exposed to such technology, we must remain true in our commitment to ensure our Christian perspective permeates all areas of study.

Computer based learning is carried out by TCS staff, parent volunteers and/or the computer teacher, who will be present while the students are working on the computers. It is expected that this Internet Acceptable Use Policy (AUC) will be read and discussed with your children. The *Student Internet Agreement* is to be signed and returned to the school.

The mission at TCS is *to equip children to love, honour and serve the Lord through a sound Christ-centered education*. This education includes access to the Internet for educational purposes. While our children are exposed to such technology, we must remain in our commitment to ensure our Christian perspective permeates all areas of study. It is with this objective in mind that the guidelines for the Student Internet Policy be established.

Guidelines:

1. Student Safety:

- a. Students shall not reveal personal contact information about themselves (full name, address, phone number) when using the Internet.
- b. Students shall agree to not meet with anyone they have met online.

2. Student Access to the Internet:

- a. Students shall not access material using the Internet system that has been deemed inappropriate for school use. Inappropriate material is defined as:
 - *Dangerous Information* – information that if acted upon could damage or presents a danger of disruption.
 - *Criminal language* – information that advocated or condones the commission of unlawful acts including instructions on breaking into computer systems, child pornography, drug dealing, gang activities, etc.

- *Inappropriate language* – obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, disrespectful, threatening, or inflammatory language; harassment; personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks; or false or defamatory material about a person or organization.
 - *Inappropriate information* that is inappropriate in an educational setting or violates school rules.
- b. Should students accidentally encounter inappropriate material or receive inappropriate e-mail or information that makes them feel uncomfortable, they shall immediately report it to their teacher.
 - c. Students shall not post inappropriate or illegal material to the Internet.
 - d. Students shall not use inappropriate language in e-mail messages.
 - e. Students shall not send “spam”. Spam is sending an annoying or unnecessary message to a large number of people, such as chain letters.
 - f. Students shall not download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks.
 - g. Students shall not deliberately attempt to disrupt the computer system performance or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means. These actions are illegal.
 - h. Students shall not read, copy, modify or erase other people’s files.
 - i. Students shall not violate privacy of others by sharing photos or text without permission.

3. Limitations on Non-Educational Activities:

Students shall not use the Internet system for the following non-educational activities:

- a. Students shall not use the Internet system for commercial purposes, defined as offering or providing products or services.
- b. Students shall not use the Internet system for purchasing products or services.
- c. Students shall not use the Internet system for political lobbying except to analyze legislative measures and communicate their opinion to elected officials via the Internet.
- d. Students shall not use the Internet system to download and/or play games.

4. Student Privacy:

Students acknowledge that the routine maintenance and monitoring of the system may lead to discovery that they have violated the law or a school rules. Timothy Christian School reserves the right to search e-mail messages or Internet cache files.

5. Plagiarism and Copyright:

- a. Students shall not reproduce copyrighted material without explicit permission.
- b. Students shall not plagiarize. Students shall stay within the bounds of the “fair use doctrine” of copyright law and must cite the source of information taken from the Internet.

6. Technical Services Provided Through the Internet:

Students have access to the following technical services:

- a. E-mail. Email will allow access to communicate with people throughout the world. Users will also be able to subscribe to mail lists to engage in group discussions related to educational subjects. Students in grades 6-8 will obtain a Google account and will use it to complete academic projects.
- b. World Wide Web. The Web provides access to a wide range of information in the form of text, graphics, photographs, video, and sound, from throughout the world. The Web is a valuable research tool for students.

7. Discipline:

- a. Students will receive notification about an alleged violation and will be allowed to tell his or her side of the story.
- b. TCS may suspend access to the Internet system upon any violation of the AUP.
- c. Violation of the Moral Code of Conduct when using the Internet system will be handled in accord with the Discipline Policy of the school.
- d. Suspicion of illegal activity when using the Internet system or violation of the law will result in the appropriate legal authorities being contacted to handle the situation.

Parent or Guardian Section

I have read the Student Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

I hereby release TCS, its personnel, and any institutions with which is it affiliated, from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my child's use of, or inability to use, the Internet system, including, but not limited to claims that may arise from the unauthorized use of the system to purchase products or services.

I will instruct my child/ren regarding any restrictions against accessing material that are in addition to the restrictions set forth in the Student Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

I will emphasize to my child the importance of following the rules for personal safety.

I give permission to allow my child/ren to use the Internet according to the Student Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Student Section

I agree to follow the rules obtained in the Student Internet Acceptable Use Policy (IAP). I understand that if I violate the rules my account may be terminated and I may face disciplinary action in accordance with the IAP.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____