



TIMOTHY

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



From the Principal...

Being Careful and Cautious at TCS with COVID-19 Numbers on the Rise

As many of you have been following in the news as of late, the COVID-19 cases in Ontario are very high. Yes, there is a vaccine on the horizon but for now, it is very important that we remain *diligent, cautious, and very careful on the school front*. We have been very focused at TCS ensuring that we remain tight and focused on keeping students safe: following good routines of hand sanitizing, wearing masks, social distancing, and not mixing cohorts.

What can you do on the home front?

- When in doubt (if a child is not well), stay home. Better safe than sorry. Please notify the school of any absences as usual.
- If someone in your family has been in contact with someone with COVID-19, self-isolate and get tested.
- Stay diligent and careful about keeping your family from mixing with other students (that are not in their cohort).
- If you pick your children up after school, load them directly into your vehicle and do not allow them to play with students from other classes. All the hard work during the day can be lost with one group of students playing by the flagpole with others who are not from the same cohort (also prevents your children and your entire family from mandatory self-isolating if the other student is carrying COVID-19)
- Remind your grades 4-8 children that masks are mandatory on the buses as well as in the school during the day (the bus driver makes it mandatory as well but, parent support is very much appreciated in this journey).

We understand that we are all getting tired of the guidelines. We really need all of us to remain as safe as possible to allow the school to keep running as long as possible. The ability to stay open and running as a school is directly connected to how careful and cautious we are in staying focused and following the guidelines. **We have done so well...** we don't want to get careless in the last lap of this journey. A huge thank you, TCS parents, for all your hard work supporting us and we thank you in advance for keeping up the focus on safety for our students!



DECEMBER

- 11 Red, Green & White Day
 18 Christmas Chapel
 12-1:30pm – Grade 8 Skate @ Holly CC
 2pm - Early Dismissal from TCS
21 – Jan. 1 CHRISTMAS BREAK!

Red, Green & White Day – this Friday!

This Friday, December 11 we want to get into the Christmas spirit as a school community! Dress in red, green and white and bring your best Christmas spirit. Staff & students will flood the halls with Christmas colours to bring some extra cheer as we get ready for the Christmas season!

TCS Christmas Video Recorded last Friday Afternoon

Last Friday afternoon, we recorded the start of our TCS Christmas video which we will be editing and working on over the next week and hope to publish toward the middle of next week (December 14-18). A huge thank you to all the teachers and students for their hard work on this and we look forward to seeing it all finalized before the break. We hope you can sit down with a cup of hot chocolate with your own family and enjoy the TCS Christmas video in the comfort of your own home.

We have also been asked to share our TCS Christmas video with several senior/retirement homes which we are happy to do. Many seniors are not able to go out with the COVID-19 numbers so high, so sending them the link for our Christmas video will be a huge blessing to them as they are shut in during this time. TCS parents will be able to forward the link to grandparents and family members as well.

**Supporting Students Campaign: Public Use of Student Funds**

Did you know that our federal government has provided 381 million dollars to help students during the pandemic but none of these funds will be making their way to the independent schools (any Christian or private schools)?

Visit <https://www.supportingstudents.ca/> to join the campaign and get regular progress updates. They also give you a template letter you can send to your MPP to share your personal story on how the pandemic is impacting your school. If you have a minute over the holidays to voice your concerns it would be appreciated. We encourage you to like the [Supporting Students page on Facebook](#) to keep in touch with their latest updates.

Bus Cancellation Days at TCS

For all our new parents, *TCS will remain open for the majority of bus cancellation days in the winter.* Several years ago, the Board made the call to keep TCS open during the times when our bus company cancels the buses (due to weather conditions) which can be several times during a winter season (anywhere from 3-10). Please note that with COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no mixing of the cohorts (classes). So all students attending school on bus cancellation days will need to remain in their classrooms for the majority of the day. In past years we were able to mix groups, but we are not able to do that this year due to COVID-19 guidelines. Meaning even if there are only one or two students in a class, they will remain in their class for the full day. As usual, there will be no “new curriculum” taught on those days as most of the time only 20-50 students attend TCS on a bus cancellation day.

We do reserve the right to close the school on occasions where the weather is extremely dangerous, such as extreme lack of visibility (blizzards/severe snowstorms) or extreme ice. In all situations (bus cancellation or closing of school), **we email all TCS parents by 6:30am** to inform you of the situation. Parents, please ensure the TCS office has your current email address on record so you receive this information in the morning. If you are ever in doubt, our buses are cancelled when the Simcoe County District School Board cancels buses. If this website shows buses are cancelled (<https://simcoecountyschoolbus.ca>), that means our email is coming soon to let you know. A reminder to all parents who send their children to school on bus cancellation days, that drop off time is 8:35-8:45am and pick up is 3:25-3:35pm.

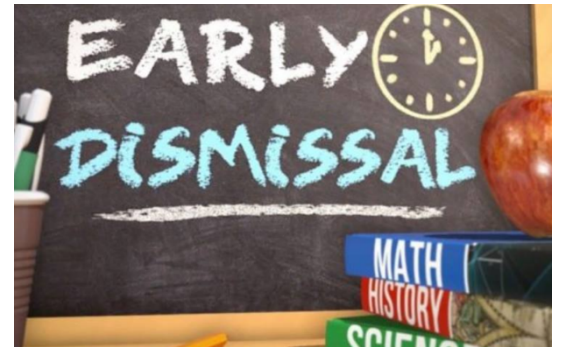


New Board Orientation Tonight - led by Edvance

We have invited Ray Hendricks from Edvance Christian Schools Association (formally OACS) to run our yearly New Board Orientation tonight. A reminder to all Board members, this will run from 6-7:30pm on Monday, December 7th with all Board members expected to attend. Departing Board members will join us at 7:30pm.

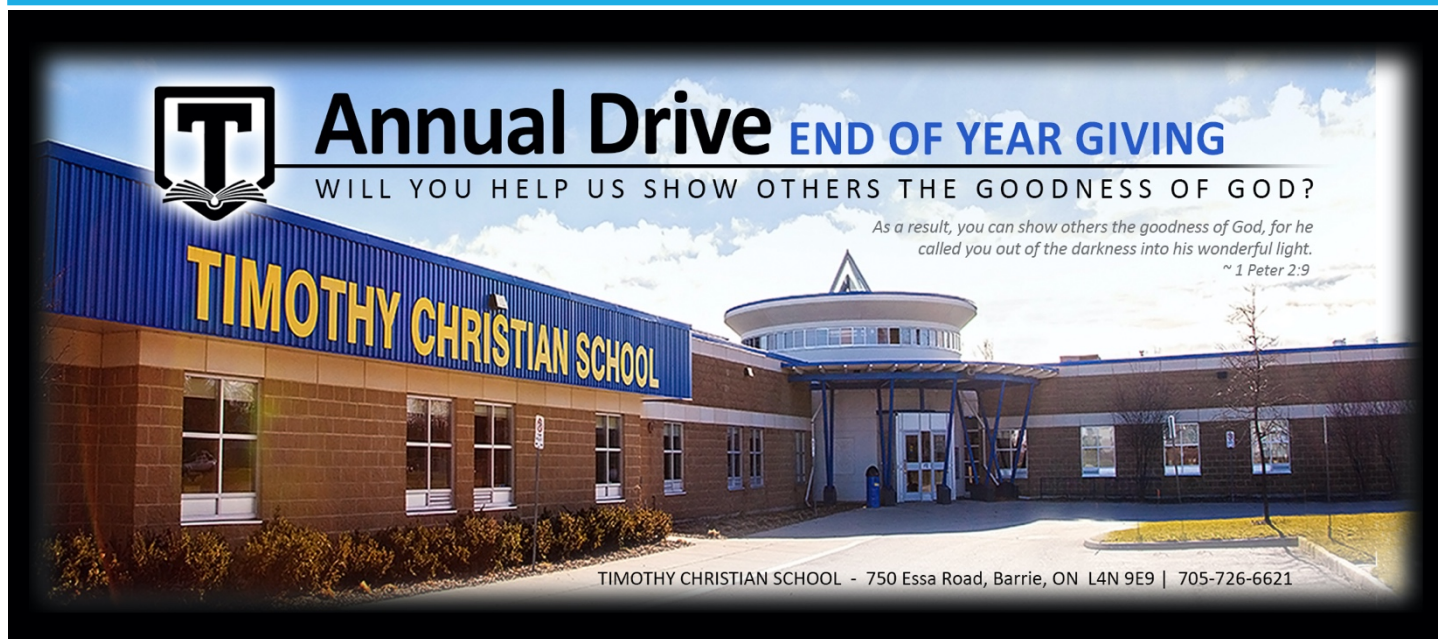
Early Dismissal on December 18 (No Family Skate)

Like every last day before the Christmas break, **buses will be leaving at 2pm from TCS** (as opposed to leaving from Holly Community Centre like other years). To keep the festive spirit and excitement of the holidays this year, we will be keeping with the early dismissal on December 18th. There will not be an 'all school skate' because of the limitations of the Holly Community Centre to only 25 skating at one time and only from the same class in a school. We have decided to allow our grade 8 class to enjoy this skate since this is just the right size for their class of students and being that they are our graduating class this year, we wanted them to have this special honour on December 18th.

**A Note from the Resource Room**

Just a reminder to all that received a package from the Resource Room last week. Please return all documents signed by Monday, December 14. A copy will later be sent home for your records. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the support your child is receiving, please do not hesitate in contacting Mrs. Covert at tcovert@timothychristianschool.ca. Thank you and Merry Christmas.





Our theme this year at TCS is based on 1 Peter 2:9 "...As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light." As the year draws to a close, we would like to present the opportunity to support our TCS Annual Drive Campaign - End of Year Giving.

https://www.christianschoolfoundation.ca/donate-individual/?donate_to=Timothy-Barrie

Firstly, we would like to thank those who were able to support TCS last year. It was a challenging time of rapid change to end the school year in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, but TCS was well positioned to adapt quickly to online learning in a way that continued to provide a vibrant and leading edge learning environment to our students. This year sees TCS with continued dependence on our donor community. The Annual Drive is a key fundraising initiative to assist with our operating costs to keep tuition as affordable as possible for all current and inquiring families. We are asking our local community to partner with us as together we invest in Christian education in Barrie. Through your giving, please join us this year in "Fearless Faith" on our mission to provide an affordable, Christian worldview environment that delivers quality education and inspires children to be alive in Christ! Thank you in advance for your support.

Annual Drive

END OF YEAR GIVING

FOR TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, BARRIE

Please complete all the information and enclose with your donation.

☐ MONTHLY: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ OTHER: \$ _____

☐ ONE-TIME: ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ OTHER: \$ _____

☐ Cheque or cash (Payable to Timothy Christian School, NOTE: Annual Drive)

☐ TCS website: "SUPPORT TCS" link at www.timothychristianschool.ca

☐ Credit Card: Visa or Mastercard (Complete information or call the school to provide)

NAME ON CARD: _____

CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRY DATE: _____ SECURITY CODE: _____

AMOUNT OF GIFT: _____



*For any inquiries about our Annual Drive campaign, please contact our Development Director, Michelle Roberts at mroberts@timothychristianschool.ca or call 705-726-6621 ext. 228

Thank you in advance for supporting the TCS Annual Drive.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

PROVINCE: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE FOR CONVENIENCE:

Visit our website at: www.timothychristianschool.ca and click the "Support TCS" link & "Donate Now" tab.

*Online giving is administered with the assistance of the Christian School Foundation.