



From the Principal...

### Stay at Home Order Extended to early June

As many of you heard last week, the Stay at Home Order in the province of Ontario has been extended to the first week in June. Meaning that online learning will also continue until the next announcement. There is still a significant amount of speculation that there will be a push to get students back in class for the last few weeks of June. Also, the vaccine rollout has been significant as of late and that is also very encouraging.

Note: A reminder to all our TCS parents that there is **no school on Monday, May 24** due to the Victoria Day holiday. Work that is usually posted on Monday mornings will be posted on Tuesday that week.

#### **Grade 8 Graduation 2021 at TCS**

We have been waiting for a clear understanding of the guidelines in June, but at this time we are fairly certain that the restrictions on school gatherings (with or without the Stay at Home Order) will be very similar to last year. At this time, we are in full grade 8 graduation planning mode with full discussions on awards for students and planning a drive-in/drive by style celebration very similar to last year. Last year was a wonderful celebration and this year will be the same. **Grade 8 parents** - Please look for an email this Wednesday from Mr. Berg and Mr. Wilcox about the events for grade 8 graduation 2021 that are being planned for June 18. We do have to work within the restrictions of the province for schools but if restrictions ease up in early June, we can modify/adapt our outdoor gathering plans to make it the best celebration possible for our 2021 grads! More information is coming Wednesday.

# TCS Homeroom Teachers Conducting Parent Survey this week via email or phone call

Each homeroom teacher in JK - 8 will be asking parents in their class for feedback this week through either an email or a phone call. Staff will be calling a small portion of parents in their classes and emailing others. Each homeroom teacher will connect with the parents in their class by this Friday, May 21st. Please take the time to give each homeroom teacher a few points of feedback when they connect with you about how things are going with the online learning at TCS. Each teacher will share a summary of the feedback with the principal to ensure we collectively have a clear understanding of how our parents and students are doing. We want to serve our parents and students well at TCS and are using this method to check in with our TCS families. We feel the homeroom teachers connecting with parents is a more personal way to have a dialogue on how things are going. It was a wonderful blessing seeing each of our primary parents last Friday at the JK - 4 student package pick up. We miss seeing our TCS community face to face and it really was great seeing each of you!!

# Taking Technology/Learning at TCS to another Level...Chromebooks starting in grade six next year!

The Board, senior teaching staff and the administration have been working together over the past few months processing ways to take technology to the next level at TCS. The Board recently approved this plan at the May board meeting. Starting next year in grade six (and every grade six year going forward), parents will be asked to purchase a Chromebook for their grade six student in August. Parents will have two payment plans available and will be able to take advantage of the school's bulk buying prices. The purpose is for each grade six student to purchase their Chromebook which they will use in grades 6 - 8 at TCS. The school will take care of both a virus protector and a parental control program for the duration of their time at TCS. As we will roll out this program over the next few years, it will eventually allow all students in grades 6 - 8 to own their Chromebooks. This will both increase accessibility for our senior students to create, type, research and work on Coding skills (Coding is now mandatory in the Ontario Math curriculum). By having our grade 6 (eventually 6 - 8) students own their own devices, we then free up the present mobile carts to be used more by the other classes. We wish to stay with the Chromebooks because we can manage them to cover the licences much easier than different varieties of devices. The result is a higher level of accessibility for all students in the school. There will be more information coming out over the next few months, but we are excited about this plan and are presently working on the best bulk buying price/care plan we can for our grade six students.

### TCS Spring Society Zoom meeting on Thursday, May 27 at 7:00 pm

Parents who are members at TCS received a package via email last week on the various reports from committees. Please contact the office if you did not get your package. As we did last Spring, this meeting will run via Zoom on Thursday, May 27 at 7:00 pm. The Zoom meeting link will only be forwarded to those members that RSVP.



#### Promoting TCS to new families using the TCS Virtual School Tour link

Please continue to invite prospective TCS parents to our school website and to view our TCS Virtual School Tour! If you know of anyone interested in attending TCS this September, email their name and number to the office. We will follow up to book a time with Mr. Berg to have a talk, or face-to-face zoom meeting, and link them up with our virtual school tour. We are eager to share what God is doing here at TCS as we learn and grow together! All new parent interviews in the coming weeks are being completed via zoom meetings. *Please encourage any potential families to register soon!* At this time, we have waitlists for two of our 10 classes for September 2021.

### **Bradford Greenhouses Fundraising Program**

Please remember the Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery fundraising season is here! At check out, tell the cashier (at either location in Barrie or Bradford) that you would like your purchase to support Timothy Christian School. A percentage of our combined sales is put on a gift card for the school to purchase products from the greenhouse for our Bazaar. Thanks in advance for shopping to benefit TCS!

#### The re-Source Thrift Shop Barrie - South

The re-Source Thrift Shop is in need of gently used donations! The Shop is closed but they are accepting donations Mondays and Fridays 10 am to 1 pm, and also on Saturdays 9 am to 12 noon. Be sure to follow them on Facebook as they are posting items for online shopping and curbside pick up.



# This week we celebrate:



Monday • Abriana Agostino (4)

Tuesday • Andrew Henderson (6)

Saturday • Sophie MacAdam (4)

No School May 24 Victoria Day

# TCS Spring Drive is now accessible online!

Our Spring Drive is now underway & we've opened more options online for your convenience. Would you consider supporting Timothy Christian School through our Spring Drive this year? Through your support, you will help to ensure that our students continue to receive dynamic and quality Christian education. The investment made to the Annual drive program would have a lasting impact on the families and students that God has entrusted us with.

Check out our Annual Drive page on our website: https://www.timothychristianschool.ca/support-tcs/annual-drive

