



TIMOTHY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



From the Principal ...

Student Projects being presented on Thursday, May 25, 6- 6:50pm at our Celebration of Learning Evening!

Over the next few weeks you will begin to hear a lot about 'PBL's' from your children. PBL stands for *Project Based Learning* which is a special part of the creative work we do at TCS in our curriculum. Each year every Teacher takes one Unit and teaches it in a project style to allow for a more creative, collaborative and integrated approach to the subjects. This project approach also calls for students to present their projects to an authentic audience and integrate a deep Christian perspective into the project. It is part of worldview training which calls our students to see God in 'every square centimeter of our Fathers' creation!'

This Celebration of Learning at TCS will take place **before** our spring membership meeting on Thursday, May 25 from 6:00 - 6:50pm. Please circle this date on your calendar as you don't want to miss the excitement and enthusiasm from our students about the projects they are working on! At TCS we are deeply committed to our vision statement which challenges us to '*deliver a dynamic, vibrant learning environment!*'. This challenges our students to present in a creative way which challenges them at a different level through PBL's which connects so very well with this vision. And it all has to point to our heavenly Father...that is where the last part of our TCS vision statement '*programs that inspire children to be alive in Christ*' links it all to a deep Christian worldview.

TCS Spring Membership Meeting will be Thursday, May 25 @ 7pm

A reminder that we have our spring membership meeting set for Thursday, May 25 from 7:00 - 9:00pm.

TCS Celebration of Learning Presentations set for May 25 from 6:00 - 6:50 (before the membership meeting)

A reminder that each of our classes/each of our students will be presenting their projects during the Celebration of Learning evening that is set for May 25, before the TCS membership meeting, from 6:00 to 6:50 in the evening.

TCS Survey Feedback

The TCS Board is very grateful for the feedback from the recent survey that parents filled out. We deeply value your input and use it yearly to plan and improve TCS to take us to the next level. See the letter from the board with the summary from the last survey at the end of the newsletter.

~ Key dates in MAY ~

8-12 Kindergarten Food Drive	12 11am Talent Show	24 Hot Dog Day
10 3:30-5pm Junior Sports Program	3pm Meat delivery	3:30-5pm Junior Sports Program
7-9pm re-Source Shop Mother's Day Celebration	15 Hot Dog Day	25 6pm Celebration of Learning
12 Yearbook orders DUE	17 Pizza Day	7pm Membership Meeting
Pizza Day & TCS Gear.	19 TCS Track & Field DAY (gr 3-8)	26 Pizza Day & TCS Gear!
9-9:45am Chapel hosted by gr.3	22 Victoria Day - NO SCHOOL	29 Gr 7 & 8 Immunization Clinic

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2 Tim 3:16-17 NIV

We welcome Ms. Saskia Van Ryn to our teaching team for September 2023

This past week we have had the wonderful blessing of hiring Saskia Van Ryn as our Tuesday and Thursday kindergarten teacher for next year. Ms. Van Ryn has accepted a 60% position with TCS next year which includes the Tuesday and Thursday kindergarten program plus primary prep time on Wednesdays. Ms. Van Ryn is an Ontario certified teacher who comes to us with six years of primary teaching experience in the Trillium Lakelands District School Board where she has specialized in teaching kindergarten. She has a deep passion for teaching primary students numeracy and reading. She has a heart for creative and dynamic teaching which she shares with our TCS staff. References commented on her strong faith, ability to build good rapport with students and how she is a very good team player who connects very well with her peers. We welcome Saskia to the kindergarten teaching team next year!

**Classes are filling up... NOW is the time to register at TCS for next year!**

If you know of a potential new TCS family for next year from your church or Bible study, please remind them that **now is the time to register for September 2023**. Classes are filling up and we already have two classes capped for September. Both the Tuesday and Thursday Kindergarten class and our grade eight class are already full and capped for the fall with waiting lists.

Food Drive:

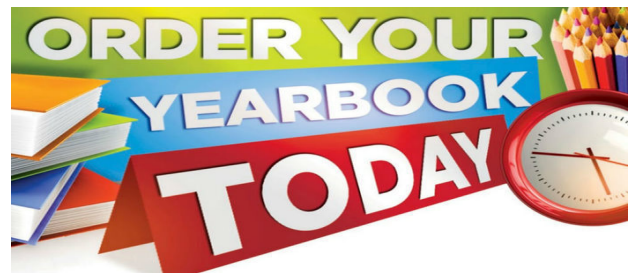
This week the Kindergarten classes are organizing a school-wide food drive for the Barrie Food Bank. We will be collecting non-perishable food items until Friday, May 12. We are having a competition to see which class can bring in the most food. There will be a freezie party for the winning class. Thank you for helping us share God's love with others!

The most needed items:

- Canned meat
- Canned fish
- Juice boxes
- Beef jerky
- Children's lunch snacks
- Protein shakes

**YEARBOOK Orders**

ORDER forms for the 2022-2023 Yearbook were sent home today and are ***DUE back to school by THIS Friday*** and are to be paid via cash or cheque (\$25 each).



Junior Sports Program (Gr 4-6) Dates: THIS Wednesday, May 10 & 24.

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TCS Dress Code

With the weather finally changing and warming up we thought it was a good time to remind families of our TCS Dress Code (the link for the *Parent Handbook* is posted on the Sycamore homepage under “Headline News” or [you can access it here](#)). Thank you parents in advance for your support with this. Please remember:

Dress Code

- No clothing that inappropriately reveals the body (short skirts, halter tops, muscle shirts).
- No bare midriffs.
- No torn jeans/short shorts.
- No exposed underwear (ensure wide shoulder straps). Clothing must cover all undergarments completely.
- No negative or inappropriate slogans/advertising on clothing articles.
- No hats/caps are to be worn in class.
- Shorts need to be appropriate in length – half the length to the knees when standing.
- Indoor shoes are to be worn at all times while inside the school.

Students dressed inappropriately will be required to change or will be handed a Timothy shirt until a change of clothes can be delivered from home.

All students are required to have a pair of indoor shoes for classroom and gym use. In addition, students in Grade 5 – 8 need gym shorts and a change of shirt for their gym classes.

Dress Code for Physical Education/Team Sports

- Mandatory changing into gym attire for PE class for gr. 5-8
- Students must wear appropriate length athletic shorts/track pants and T-shirts
- No spandex
- Appropriate athletic footwear
- For team sports, members must wear provided TCS attire and follow the above requirements as well.

Lost & Found is spilling over, please come take a look!

Parents, please plan to stop by the school and look through the Lost & Found as there are a lot of items! Come before you forget what cold weather items belong to your family 😊. The school office is open 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday.

🌟PITCH Opportunity: TCS Track and Field May 19th Volunteers needed

TCS Track and Field is for grades 3-8, but help is welcome from any of our families! Please mark your calendars to join us on Friday, May 19th as we will need many volunteers to help with our TCS Track and Field Day! We will need people to run different events and lead the class teams. If you are able to help, [please complete this form to let us know](#)... Thanks!

🌟PITCH Opportunity: Hot Dog Day Volunteers needed: We are looking for volunteers to help on Hot Dog Days 11am to 1pm. Please email rachelkapteyn@gmail.com



Hot Dog Days: Please mark your calendars for these hot dog days : Monday May 15, May 24 (Wednesday), May 29, June 5, June 15, and June 19.

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PIZZA Days: Please mark your calendars for these Pizza Days: May:12, 17, 26, June: 2, 7 & 16. **Please note: April 26, May 17th, and June 7th are Wednesdays - no pizza on Fridays those weeks.*

UPDATES from re-Source Thrift Shop, South (28 Commerce Park Drive, Unit B) - Celebrating Moms May 10th!

 Wednesday, May 10, 7-9pm, the re-Source Thrift Shop is celebrating Moms with an exclusive shopping event! See the poster at the end of the newsletter. Tickets are available in the store for a minimum donation of \$20.



 Spring Cleaning? Your Donations Matter!

Did you know our volunteers are happy to help you unload your donations at the front door? Just pull up and pop inside and ask for someone to help you! We know a "drive-thru" is easier however, your donations MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE in our community. We are fully NON-PROFIT and grateful to be able to give back to our Community and local Christian Education in Simcoe County Over 730,000 given back already!!



Be sure to log your PITCH hours!

An email was sent to all TCS families today with a reminder to log all PITCH hours as the committee has been reviewing and approving appropriate logs. Families will be advised within the next week how many hours they will need before the end of school to ensure that they will not be billed for their outstanding hours. Remember full-time families are required to volunteer for 25 hours and part-time (and families with a child in another Christian school) are required to volunteer 15 hours.

How to record PITCH hours: Recording PITCH hours is done via Sycamore.

- Log onto Sycamore with your family-specific login (TCS School Id: 3982)
- On the left side of the School Homepage: Click "My School"
- Click "My Service Logs"
- Click the blue button "New Log" in the top corner
- Complete the form choosing the appropriate heading
- Click 'Submit'

Thank you for adding to the life of the school by volunteering your time!



How to contact Landmark Bus Lines Barrie on days when they are late

TCS parents please note you can call **Landmark Bus Lines Barrie** (our bus company) anytime the buses are on the road to check in with dispatch on an ETA. **Landmark's contact: 705-722-6666.**

TCS School Directory: Family & Employee Contact info: Log into your Sycamore School account. You will find the family and employee directories under "Front Office" in the menu. You can print this by clicking the blue "PRINT" in the top right of the page.

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Check out this link to buy TCS Gear: <https://timothychristian.entripyshops.com/>
Show your TCS school spirit and wear black, gold, grey or your TCS gear on Fridays!

Please remember the TCS Fundraiser at Bradford Greenhouses has begun!



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RE: Strategic Planning Survey

April 2023

To the TCS Community,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to extend thanks to all of you who participated in our Strategic Planning Survey earlier this year. The survey asked many open-ended questions as we wanted to solicit a broad range of feedback – and that is exactly what came in! Your participation exceeded our expectations with over 84 unique survey respondents spread across parents, teachers, staff and our broader society membership. This resulted in over 2,500 unique comments to our various questions. Because of this excellent response, it took some time to analyze, digest and summarize the feedback. With some preliminary analysis now complete, we wanted to take this opportunity to report back to you on some key themes.

Let's start with the positives.

We heard loud and clear that the success of TCS has been due to our strengths across three important areas: (1) a strong commitment to Christ-centered academics; (2) a robust TCS community; and (3) a facility that enables the first two. Let's take a brief look at each:

Christ-Centered Academics

We received an abundance of positive comments across all stakeholder groups that solid Christian worldview, buttressed by strong academic instruction, is a fundamental reason for the continuing success of TCS. This feedback was not surprising as it closely aligns with the TCS vision statement and is supported by our current core values. That said, the feedback was important to us as it let us know that our vision continues to resonate with our community. This brings us to our second area of strength.

The TCS Community

The second cluster of positive comments centered around our robust TCS Community and the exceptional person-to-person interactions that TCS is known for. Feedback included the welcoming and friendly atmosphere of the school, the caring and loving teachers and staff, the purposeful interactions that connect students between older and younger grades, and the meaningful communication between school families, teachers, and the larger society. This theme of community also manifested itself in comments about school events that bring our community together such as the TCS Bazaar, multi-generational events like grandparent days, and other family-school-church connections. TCS is clearly considered more than just a school to our community.

TCS Facility

Lastly, we were greatly encouraged by the comments regarding our TCS facility, of which we asked some more specific questions in the survey. It is obvious that we continue to be blessed by our school building and grounds that offer our students a no-compromise option when compared to other institutions. While there are always specific annoyances that can be improved-upon, the comments were predominantly positive. We received appreciation for our classrooms, specialty spaces (eg. gymnasium and music room), and our outdoor spaces. Importantly we heard that our facility enables us to support our Christ-centered academics as well as host events for our strong TCS community. We are truly

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thankful to the generations of the TCS community that preceded us, that built and maintained this facility for us to continue to use today.

While we always appreciate the positive comments, thankfully many thoughtful respondents to the survey also provided us suggestions for short and long-term improvements to build upon our current strengths and highlight some areas where they may have concerns. We now know that there are some important topics we need to have on our radar. Financial stewardship and tuition affordability remained top of mind for those that responded to our survey. Similarly, an accelerating shift of cultural values within our nation, and what that means for TCS, was another theme that was repeatedly commented on.

Apart from the two mentioned above, there were fewer systemic themes in this area and the administration team will be reviewing the more specific one-off operational related comments to see if and how improvements can be made.

TCS Strategic Planning Cycle

As you may have noticed over the past five years, many strategic initiatives have been brought to completion by the dedicated team of TCS staff and volunteers. Some more recent and noteworthy items include the implementation of the apologetics/worldview curriculum across all grades, improvements to our resource program offerings, a new approach to marketing and promotions as well as strengthening of the school's financial position which included the enactment of tuition support bursaries and updates to the compensation structure for our staff. Because of this hard work by so many people, we are pleased to report that most of the strategic goals that have been set over the last number of years have now been completed. This is a great accomplishment! This also means it's time to think about what comes next. As TCS begins the process of setting new strategic priorities this year, the survey comments have provided us a good head start to identify some areas to look at.

TCS has been blessed with strong enrollment growth over the last two years. As we consider the day-to-day operations of TCS, as well as what we may need to do to accommodate this growth, we will be looking at ways we can continue to build upon our current strengths, take advantage of opportunities, and improve upon our shortcomings wherever possible.

While this letter is only an initial summary of the survey results, the TCS Board is committed to exploring the feedback further to inform our operations and governance of the school as we embark to identify a new set of strategic priorities.

We express our sincere thanks for your participation in our 2023 Strategic Planning Survey and look forward to engaging with you further this year on the long-term plans for TCS.

Nolan Hooper

Chair, TCS Board of Directors

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