● OFFICE: 705-726-6621 ● Email: tcsgen@timothychristianschool.ca ● Website: https://timothychristianschool.ca
● Facebook: **facebook.com/tcsbarrie** ● Instagram: **@tcs_barrie**

TCS Gathering non-perishable food (for the foodbank), hats and mittens…to bless our community!

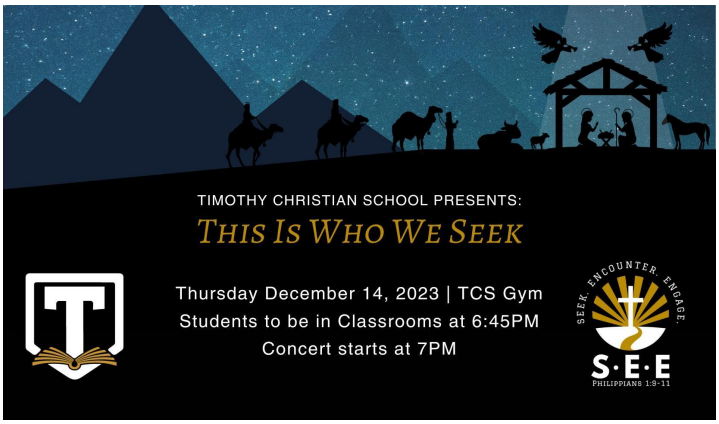


Inspired by our grade six class, TCS is embarking on a service project over the next few weeks! This year the Grade 6 class is learning about how we can be a 'city on a hill' (based on Matthew 5:13-16) by boldly proclaiming and practicing the love of Christ. We desire to share the love of Christ by loving our neighbours and caring for the needy in our community. One way we want to do this is by organizing a food & winter clothing drive. We invite you to consider joining us by donating much needed non-perishable food items as well as warm winter clothing (i.e. hats & mitts) in support of local organizations such as the Barrie Food Bank and the Busby Centre. The Barrie Food Bank has indicated that these items are most needed now: canned meat (turkey/chicken/ham), baby formula, large size diapers (size 4-6 & pull ups), canned fish (tuna, salmon, sardines), children's lunch snacks, protein shakes, juice boxes, toiletries, incontinence products, beef jerkys, soap & shampoo, and feminine products. Students can bring donations to their classroom. At the end of each day they will be put under our school Christmas tree in the front foyer. *Donations will be taken until next Friday, December 15th.* Thank you in advance for your generous support! Help us bless our community!
One of our TCS strategic planning items this year was to build strong community! This fits so well as we bless our local Barrie community!

TCS Christmas Program - December 14, 7pm

The TCS Christmas program will take place next Thursday, December 14 at 7pm (we ask that students be in their classrooms by 6:50). We are expecting every TCS student to attend as we count on everyone for the choirs and the bands! Join us for a wonderful celebration of God's gift to us this season.

In the case of challenging weather our snow date is the following Tuesday, December 19 at 7pm. This is only in case of very challenging weather conditions as we will make every effort to have the evening on the planned day of December 14.



Key dates in December

6	3:30 - 4:50pm Junior Sports Program	15	Pizza Day
8	Pizza Day	20	7-8am Hockey
11	Hot Dog Day	22	9am Christmas Chapel
13	7-8am Hockey		***2:00pm Early Dismissal***
14	***7pm TCS Christmas Program***		

Christmas Holidays:
Dec 25 - Jan 5
School reconvenes January 8

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God."
Phil 1:9-11

December 22 Early Dismissal at 2:00pm from Peggy Hill Team Community Centre

The last day of school before Christmas holidays will be Friday, December 22. We will have an early dismissal from the Peggy Hill Team Community Centre at 2:00. Buses will leave directly from the Community Centre. Parents are welcome to join in the family skate and take your children home at 2:15pm. See below for further details.

TCS Family Skate December 22, 12:30 - 2pm

We are looking forward to our annual TCS Family Skate with all classes, JK - 8, at the Peggy Hill Team Community Centre on Friday, December 22 at 12:30 to 2pm. Everyone is welcome to join in skating! Please note the following details:

Safety items required for all children (including ALL students in JK - 8):

- ALL students who are skating must wear either a **hockey helmet or a bike helmet** when on the ice.
- All Skates **must be in a gym bag or have good skate guards** while carrying around school or on the bus (not in a plastic bag or without guards).

2pm dismissal from Peggy Hill:

- ***Bus students:*** Students who will be on the bus going home will be ushered off the ice at 1:45 to be ready for buses to leave the Community Center at 2:00. Parents please be sure to be at bus stops early to meet students. Buses will only have a few students on them so the routes will be much shorter than usual. The buses will most likely arrive at the stops between 2:15 and 2:45 on December 22.
- ***Students being picked up:*** Parents will need to meet us at Peggy Hill Team Community Center by 2pm to pick your children up.

To help us coordinate the skating and early dismissal, *we are asking parents to inform teachers if their child is on the bus or a pick up from the arena by Wednesday, Dec 20th.* Teachers will be sending home more information and asking forms to be returned.

Christmas Holiday: Dec 25 to Jan 5th

We will all enjoy the Christmas holiday December 25 to January 5th. There will be no school for these 2 weeks. The first day back to school after the holiday will be Monday, January 8, 2024.

Junior Sports Program

Parents please remember that this week is the Junior Sports Program, Wednesday, 3:30 - 4:50pm. This is the only session for the month. The next date will be January 17th.

Parent Google Groups

To assist with communication from the school, the office has created google groups. You should have received an email indicating that you have been added to a group. Please note that there is no group for you to access, this is merely for administrative purposes for outgoing messages. These groups assist with batch emails and may go to your spam folder. Please be sure you have indicated that messages coming from the school domain (@timothychristianschool.ca) are safe. Ensure that you have added the office and your child(ren)'s teacher emails in your contacts to prevent messages going to spam. Thank you!

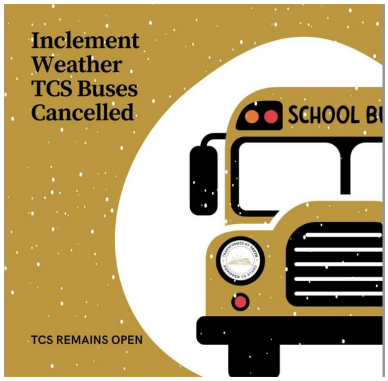
Remember if you are looking for other family contact info you can find it in the Family Directory in Sycamore.

Bus Cancellation Procedure In Challenging Weather

***UPDATE:** *On these days you do not need to inform the school if your children are staying home as our assumption is that all students are home unless a parent drops them off at 8:45am. Also, an apology from the office as some of you did not receive the snow day email last week until close to 7am… this was due to a technical issue. We hope this has been fixed!*



"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God."
Phil 1:9-11



As we are getting into winter we want you to be aware of our TCS procedure if Landmark Bus Lines cancels buses when the weather is challenging.

TCS process when buses are canceled:

1. Once Landmark informs the school of cancellations, the TCS office will send an email to all TCS parents informing them that the buses are canceled but TCS remains open (*99% of the time TCS will remain open when our buses are canceled*). The email will be sent by 6:30am. We will also post on social media.
2. When the TCS buses are canceled, parents have the option of keeping their children at home for the day or driving their children to school. The hours the school is open is the same as normal with parents dropping off by 8:45am and picking up by 3:25pm. Please use the front door for drop off and pick up on snow days. *On these days you do not need to inform the school if your children are staying home as our assumption is that all students are home unless a parent drops them off at 8:45am.*
3. Because we usually have less than 20% of our students at TCS on these days, no new lessons will be taught as it will be a quiet work day to catch up on outstanding work and reinforce skills already taught.
4. Landmark will cancel the TCS buses *when the Simcoe County School Buses are canceled* in times of challenging weather. If you are ever in doubt and are waiting for the school email, feel free to check the Simcoe County School Board website and, if they have canceled their buses, there is an almost 100% chance you will be getting an email from TCS soon letting you know that the TCS buses are also canceled.

Historically Landmark has cancelled buses about 5 to 8 times between December 15 and April 15.

Do we ever close school in challenging weather…*yes*! It is very rare but if we feel it is too dangerous for drivers to be on the road, we will cancel school completely due to very poor visibility or freezing rain. Again, we will send out a school-wide email to all parents and post on social media.

Signed Student IEPs / Profiles are to be returned asap

We have received most of the signed IEP's and Student Profiles back from parents. Please, please return these asap this week! Parents of students who receive Resource Room support, all IEPs or Student Profiles are to be returned to school.



Yearbook Cover Contest Submissions due by Wednesday, December 20th

Students are welcome to submit a Yearbook cover suggestion by Wednesday, December 20th. The cover needs to include:

- The school name: Timothy Christian School
- The year: 2023-2024
- The theme of the year: Seek, Encounter, Engage
- Include the theme verse reference - Philippians 1:9-11.
- Be sure to make your cover neat, easy to read, and colourful!
- Please check spelling!!!

Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter.

TCS Hockey Team

Students in grades 5-8 are welcome to try out for the TCS Hockey Team once the permission form and $15 payment are received in the office. The permission form and information will be handed out to students tomorrow by our Hockey Coach Mr. Wilcox (grade 6/7). Tryouts will be held 7-8am Wednesdays

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at the Thornton Arena on December 13 and 20. Players are to be on the ice for 7am and will need to have a ride back to school for 8:45 am. Players will need their own gear, full ice hockey equipment is required (including a neck guard).

TCS Family Skiing at Snow Valley

For those families that wish to participate, please remember to email Kathryn Cryer (bodybykat@hotmail.com) 2 weeks before the date you wish to participate in order to reserve your spot (& so tickets can be purchased on your account). TCS Family Skiing will be Thursday nights, 4pm - 9pm, on these dates: January 18 & 25, February 1, 8 & 29, and March 7.



Costs:

- $27 lift & ticket
- $21 rental
- $21 tubing

Logging your PITCH hours

Please be aware that it is each family's responsibility to track and log their own PITCH hours. Hours logged are pending until they have been reviewed by the PITCH Committee. To enter your hours, please follow these instructions:

- 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 "NEW" button on the right side
- Complete the form *choosing the appropriate heading*
- Click "**Save**"... entered hours are pending until approved by the PITCH committee
- Families that are required to complete ONLY 15 hours, please be sure to log the SPECIAL PITCH AUTHORIZATION of 10 hours (these are the hours granted to you so you only need to complete 15 hours in total).

Remember, each family is permitted to enter 2.5 hours for attending Society meetings (even if you aren't a member!).

If you have questions or need further assistance, please contact pitch@timothychristianschool.ca
Thank you for adding to the life of the school by volunteering your time!



Donations to Timothy Christian School

Did you know ... you can donate gifts of stocks and shares to Timothy Christina School through the Christian School Foundation? For certain donors, tax rules are changing in 2024 which may mean paying additional taxes. 2023 could be a great year to consider a gift to TCS in advance of these changes; check with your advisor if this is of interest to you. Or contact Kevin teBrake at the Christian School Foundation to get started: ktebrake@christianschoolfoundation.ca

School Calendar

The school calendar was sent out as part of the Back To School email package. It can also be found on the TCS website (www.timothychristianschool.ca under Events), on Sycamore, and at this link.



Bus information:

1. Please remember to have students at their bus stop *10 minutes before their scheduled pick up*. This assists drivers in staying on schedule, especially in uncertain weather. Thank you!

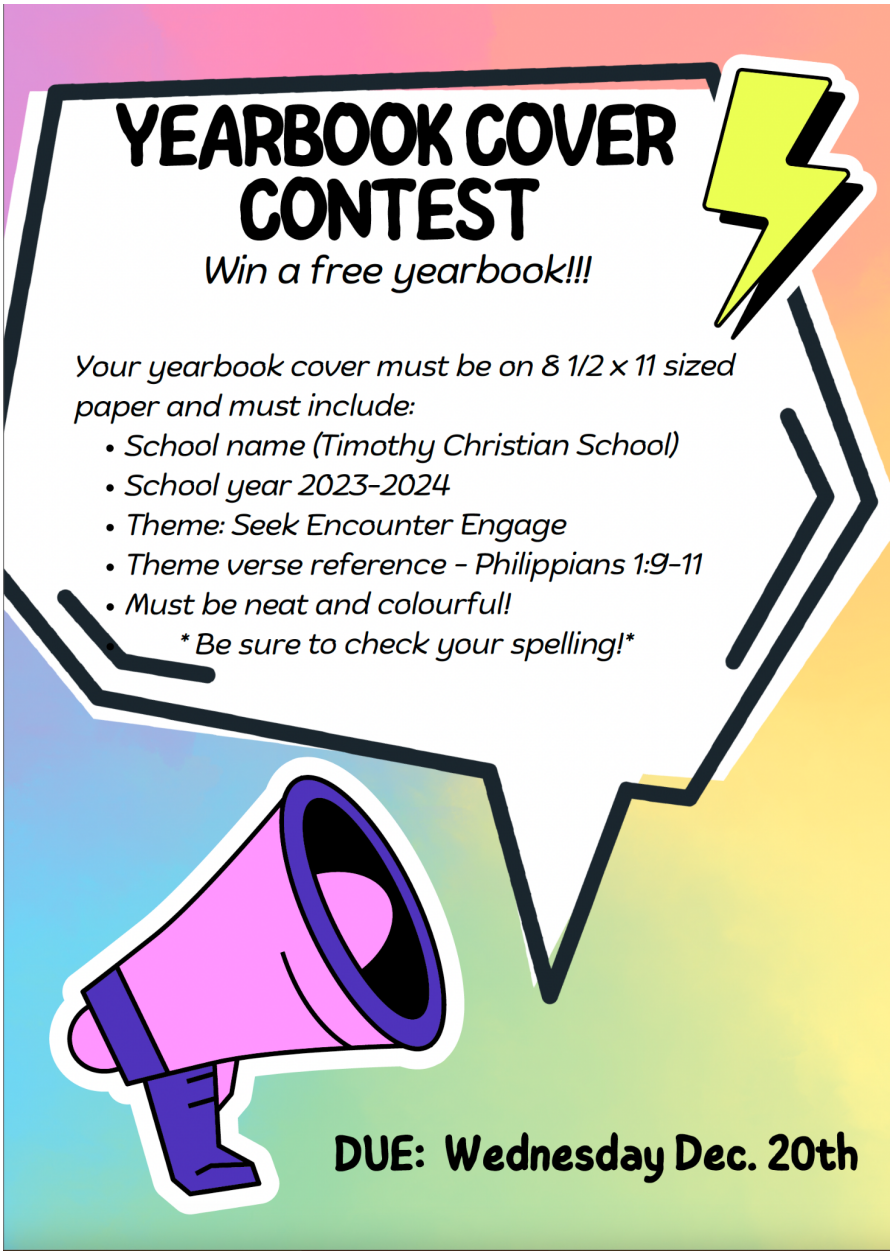
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2. TCS parents please note you can call **Landmark Bus Lines Barrie** (our bus company) anytime the buses are on the road to check in with dispatch on an ETA. **Landmark's contact: 705-722-6666**. Additionally, the office will send an email to bus route families to inform them of any delays.

** TCS is a nut-free school. Please be sure all snacks/lunches do not have items that contain nuts! Thank you!**

From The re-Source Thrift Shop South

We are looking for volunteers who are interested in doing cash. If you know of anyone who may be interested in giving back to their community while meeting and working with great people who have an awful lot of fun, please encourage them to drop by the store and talk to Brenda any time!



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