

Thunder Bay Christian School JOURNAL

#1 September 4, 2012

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FOREVER FAITHFUL

*“For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations”*

Psalm 100:5

Greetings TBCS,

Welcome to our 51 first year of Christian Education here at Thunder Bay Christian School. I am so excited to be joining your community and I look forward in time, to meeting all of you. I have set an early goal for myself this year which is to meet with every family one on one, for 15-20 minutes. I want to give everyone the opportunity to ask questions, share stories, and feel that their voice is heard. If this is something that you would like to take part in, please contact me, by calling the school, or by sending an e-mail to aalblas@tbaychristianschool.ca.

Since this is a year of celebration (50-years), our teachers decided to choose the theme: “Forever faithful” based upon Psalm 100:5. This is a year of celebration that acknowledges all those that have gone before us with the vision and passion for Christian Education, and it is calling for our current generation to keep this flame fueled. We are a community, and as a community we gather together for this calling. For this reason, a note later on in the journal is requesting that all families provide a 4x6 photo of their family, which we will hang on the main theme bulletin board. This will symbolize that our community is united as one body, and we are forever faithful. May the Lord of peace be with you during this exciting year. *Shalom, Andy Alblas (Principal)*

We Welcome Our Staff:

JK/SK: Mrs. Patricia Kaemingh & **Teacher’s Assistant:** Mrs. Sharon Breukelman

Gr. 1/ 2: Miss Sandra deHaan

Gr. 3/4: Mrs. Jetty Boer

Gr. 5/6: Mrs. Joanne Himanen

Gr. 7/8: Mr. Peter Himanen, Mr. Andy Alblas, Ms. Sarah Baxter

Grade 9/10: Mrs. Jennifer Drost, Mrs. Margaret Hawkins, Mr. Peter Himanen, Mr. Andy Alblas

French Gr. 3-9 - Mrs. Alexandra Baxter

Resource: Mrs. Margaret Hawkins; Music K - 6

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Grace Boyes **Secretary-**Mrs. Jackie Bakker (Fridays)

Personal Support Worker: Mrs. Kari Otke

Our enrollment is anticipated to be 105 with the number of families at 50. What a joy and blessing it is to be joined together in the endeavour of Christian Education.

We extend a very special welcome to our “first-time” JK/SK families:

Poul-Erik & Trudi Binderup (MacKenzie JK)

David & Jolene Makkinga (Brendan JK)

Jesse & Shannon Jones (Olivia Gr. 2, Wesley Gr. 3)

Al & Karissa Postma (Lydia SK)

Gary & Jenny Small (Toby Gr. 5, John JK)

Also, welcome to new students in SK to Grade 10:

Hope (Gr. 4) & Leah (Gr. 2) Brown (Parents - Tim & Sherri Brown)

2. **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:** *for parents only.* Monday, September 10, at 7:30 p.m. has been set aside as a night for parents to learn more about their children's classrooms, curriculum, and homework expectations. The teachers will be in the room to answer any questions that you may have. Latest information from the Board will be presented and a time for fellowship provided. The Board requests that at least parent from each family attend this important informational night.
3. **JOURNALS:** Expect the Journal to be emailed every Friday, unless you contact the school office to indicate otherwise. Other materials that need to go home will be sent with the oldest child in every family. (H.S. students: if you have a younger sibling, the Journal will go home with him/her). Please take a few minutes to read and respond as needed every weekend. It will be a blessing to you and many others of us if you do. The journal is also published on our web page: www.tbaychristianschool.ca.
4. **THREE CHEERS FOR PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS!** You provide a valuable service to the students of TBCS. You help keep them safe on the playground, give teachers extra time to help students catch up on work, and allow staff time to set up for special activities. Your assistance is invaluable. Thank you for your willingness and time.
To volunteer, please call Emily Bakker at 475-0244.
5. **NUT FREE:** You are reminded that TBCS has been designated as "Nut Free". Information and updated "Safe Food list" are included in this mailing.
 - i) **Please ensure that food brought for lunch, snacks and special occasions is free of peanuts, peanut oil, tree nuts, and nut proteins.**
 - ii) Children who have eaten any of the above before school, should wash their hands and face prior to coming to school.
 - iii) **PLEASE READ ALL LABELS** before sending in lunches, i.e. granola bars, chocolate chips, crackers, cookies, etc.
6. **STUDENTS IN GR. 7 - 10 →** Just a reminder that you are responsible for supplying your own note paper. Students must have a lock for their locker.
7. **SEPTEMBER CALENDAR** will be available with Friday's Journal information.
8. **GYM T-SHIRTS:** Students in Grades 3-8 are asked to wear TBCS T-Shirts (navy blue/white school logo) for gym. Prices: Youth \$5.00 and Adult \$8.00. We have various sizes in stock and more are on order. Indoor shoes required for class and gym. Please ensure all indoor shoes are **NON-MARKING**.
9. **JK/SK SCHEDULE:** JK and SK will have class again together on **Friday, September 7**. There will be **NO** classes for JK and SK on Wednesday. The regular schedule will resume on September 10 with SK on Mondays and JK and SK combined classes on Wednesday and Fridays.
10. **STUDENT AGENDAS:** **ALL** students from Gr. 5 - 8 inclusive have been/will be given a Student Connection Planner (from the Bible League) in which to record their homework, assignments, important reminders. Grade 9/10 will be given the option as to whether they would like to use the planners. **PLEASE** ask to see it two or three times a week so students get in the habit of using it, and taking it back and forth from home to school.
11. **MILK:** This year milk will be sold at school again, starting next Monday (Sept.10). Milk forms have been emailed and a copy sent home with the oldest child. Please return by **Friday, September 8**. Cheques made out to Thunder Bay Christian School "Student Fund".

12. **ALLERGIES &/OR MEDICAL PROBLEMS:** if your child has a serious, perhaps life-threatening allergy or medical problem that the school is not aware of, please send a note to the school office this week.

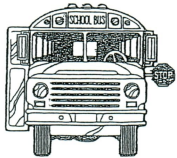
13. **USE OF TELEPHONE:** Students are allowed to use school phones, **ONLY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**, with the permission of the child's teacher. **STUDENTS ARE NOT** to use school phones to arrange parties, social events and sleepovers.



These matters should be arranged at home. We ask for your cooperation in this matter.

14. **BUS ALERT!** We praise God for the excellent bus drivers he has given us and for their safety-mindedness. We trust the benefits of our transportation system will be appreciated by all and remembered in your prayers.

In order to help the younger children find their bus at the end of the school day, each bus will have a picture in the window. Drivers and teachers will help children find their correct buses as noted below:



<u>Bus Route</u>	<u>Driver</u>	<u>Picture Designation</u>
City	Ken Semeschuk	Tiger (cell# 472-3094)
Slate River	Jenny Groenheide	Cow (cell# 620-6489)
Kakabeka/Murillo	Jeannette Meijaard	Giraffe (cell# 629-0322)

Parents, please make sure your child or children are on time for their scheduled pickup.

Children should be at the road 5 minutes prior to their pickup time.

It is recommended that parents of students in Gr. 5 and under be home when the bus drops off their child(ren). If other permanent arrangements are desired, those arrangements need to be made in writing for the school. Please be aware that buses may arrive **early** when dropping students off (sports practices, parents picking up their children etc.). As usual, please call the school if other day to day arrangements need to be made.

Anaphylactic Policy applies to the buses also. We now have children on the buses who are allergic to nut products.

-With ever **increasing fuel prices**, please take your children home with you if you are at the school, **even if your children prefer to ride the bus.** -Transportation Committee

15. **BUS DRIVER CHANGE:** Lydia Buitenhuis will be driving for Jenny Groenheide for the month of September. Her cell phone number is 629-7920.

16. **A BIG THANK YOU** to all the volunteers for all your work in keeping the building and grounds of the school in such great shape throughout the summer. A lot of work went into trimming the shrubs and cleaning up all the flower beds outside as well as everything (cleaning/painting) that went into getting the inside ready for the school year.

17. **NOMINEES TO TBCS BOARD ARE NEEDED:** Three vacancies are anticipated this coming year. Ingrid Schelhaas, Jonathan Bakker, and Dan Breukelman will have completed their term. The Board, acting as a nominating committee would like names presented from the membership for consideration. Please submit names in a written format, to a board member before **September 11, 2012**. Please confirm with the nominee their acceptance of being nominated. The Board will be presenting a slate of six candidates prior to the Annual Fall Membership Meeting at which election of Board members will take place. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the school.

Please Note: Nominations for Board candidates do not need to be solely from parent members of the school, but also those who are full members of Thunder Bay Christian School Society.

18. **POLICE CHECKS/CRIMINAL REFERENCE CHECKS:** Criminal Reference Checks are required this year for all volunteers who have contact with the children. A current C.R.C. must be on file at the school. If you have a valid one on file with another organization, than a copy of it is sufficient for the school's records. If you need to obtain one, please contact the office for required administrative forms. Reminder: C.R.C.'s are good for two years.

19. **THEME BULLETIN BOARD PHOTOS:** Miss Baxter is gathering family photos for the front hallway bulletin board. I require nothing larger than a 4X6 photo. This photo should include all members of your family and can include others in your immediate family. If you do not want to supply us with a picture we will be writing your family name in place of it. Thank-you!

20. **INFORMATION PACKAGES SENT HOME TODAYINCLUDE:**
 - Student Accident Insurance Form
 - School Bus Rules
 - Address Form
 - September Milk Form

21. **GR. 7/8 BAND AND GUITAR:** Grades 7 and 8 band and guitar start **tomorrow, September 5.** Please bring your band instruments and guitars if you have them.