

# JKCS KNOX TALKS



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March 23, 2009

## Theme: "Living in the Light"



**Spring:** The season of growth and wonder officially started last week. Maybe the evidence isn't as strong as we'd like but we will soon be awash in green. Spring is a time of reawakening and new birth and serves as an appropriate backdrop for the Resurrection

which we will be celebrating in a few weeks. Christians always have much to look forward to, something to lift our spirits. As we head into the final term of this school year, we ask that you keep all the students in your prayers. Please also pray for our school that it may prosper not only in numbers, but also in the fruits of the spirit.

**Welcome:** We are pleased to welcome Brandon Wierenga to our grade four class. We pray that Brandon will quickly feel at home at John Knox. Brandon is the son of Greg and Andrea; the family lives in Wyoming on Isabella Street. Please join us in welcoming them into our school community.

**A Big "Thank You"** to Jack and Joshua Koetsier, John De Boer, John Sipkens and Andrew Schenk who came out to work at the school along with the Building Committee. We were able to fix the fence around the basketball court as well as some other repairs around the school. As a Building Committee we plan on having more work mornings at the school. Please help carry the work and financial

loads by sharing a few hours helping out. Thanks again from the Building Committee.

**Heart and Stroke Fundraiser Update:** Our Heart and Stroke activity day went very smoothly! Grades 1-4 participated in jump rope activities while grades 5-8 participated in basketball activities. Prizes will be sent home with the students this week. All together, \$2,540.90 was raised for this event. Way to go!!



**Report Cards:** Just a reminder to return family envelopes and *signed* report card envelopes as soon as possible to the office so we can use them for our third and final term.

**Education Committee:** The JKCS Education Committee meets this Thursday at 7:30 pm.

**Sports:** Players are reminded to pay their fees for boys' basketball (\$8) and hockey (\$20).

**Lost and Found:** Our Lost and Found bin is quickly filling up again. Please come to the school and look through for any lost items.

**Custodial Position:** The custodian position is up for renewal after this year. Any one who is interested can submit a tender to Doug Korvemaker by April 1 2009. Contract information is available from our secretary, Amanda. The custodian job is a 2 year contract.

**Grandparent/Grandfriends' Day:** Our annual Grandparent/Grandfriends' Day is coming up! All grandparents and grandfriends are invited to come and spend time with the students on April 23. This day falls in Christian Education week and our theme this year is "Making an Impression" based on Romans 12:2. The day will consist of performances by the students, a time to spend with your grandchild(ren), and finishes with a lunch of soup and buns. We hope to see you there! Please note, invitations will be sent home with students this week to hand out to their grandparent/grandfriends.

**Spring Membership Meeting:** will be on April 2 at 7:30 in the school gym. Meeting agendas and information have been distributed via "backpack express" or church mailboxes. If you have not received a package, please call Maxine Zekveld.

**Talent Evening:** Our Time for Talents is coming up on Wednesday, April 1 (no fooling) at 7:30 pm in our gym. There will be performances by students as well as whole class activities that evening. Again, we want this evening to be a source of enjoyment and accomplishment for students as well as a rewarding time for the community. Please mark this date on your calendar.



**Voucher Committee:** Vouchers are on sale every Thursday afternoon from 1-2:30 in the spare room. Due to the small size of some of the vouchers, they will be returned in a smaller white envelope, not the brown voucher envelopes. What a great fundraiser and way to save on your tuition!

**Applications for Grants from Children First:** Every year for the past five years, the Children First



Foundation has offered grants for tuition help to families who wish to have their child attend an independent school. The grants are intended primarily for families whose children currently attend a public school but would prefer an independent school. There are also a limited number of grants for families currently enrolled in an independent school. For more information, please check with Amanda in the office. The applications must be filled out online at [www.childrenfirstgrants.ca](http://www.childrenfirstgrants.ca). The deadline is March 31, 2009.

**Beacon:** The Beacon will be processed and going out this weekend. If you have any announcements that you would like to see in it, please forward them on to Mrs. Bydeley at the office by Thursday, March 26.

**Gr. 8 Grad Photos:** Attention graduating class of 09: Life Touch will be coming to the school to take grad photos on Wednesday, April 1. A flyer was sent home with the students today with information such as what to wear and the cost to purchase a class composite. If you wish to purchase the 11x14 class composite, please return the envelope with the money inside the same day you are to have your pictures taken which is April 1. If you do not wish to purchase the composite, you do not have to bring the flyer back. Students, please dress appropriately. It has been suggested and recommended to wear a white blouse for females and a white collared shirt and dark ties for males.

**JKCS Hanging Basket Fundraiser:** Attached to the Knox Talks a couple of weeks ago was a flyer for selling 10" flower hanging baskets from Sipkens Nurseries. You can order from the flyer or from any student from John Knox. The orders are due back at the school by this Friday, March 27. When you send in your order we will send a coupon to you which you can use at Sipkens Nurseries any time in the month of May. Thank you for your continuing support of our school. If you have any questions please call Liz Sipkens at 519-542-9215

**Board Report:** *March meeting:* Where has the time gone? Already Spring is near and we are making plans for next year. One new student couldn't wait until next year to join us so after March break Brandon W. will be attending grade 4 at JKCS. Many of you probably already know the Greg and Andrea W. family but please take a moment to say 'hi' and 'welcome'.

Since our last board meeting there were a few other families requesting to attend JKCS next year. If you know of interested families please encourage them to contact the school to apply for admission. This was one of the policies the board accepted earlier in the year.

Our March 11/09 meeting was lengthy but it accomplished much. Ymko filled us in on the many programs happening at JKCS. Heather is looking at the possibility of a grant for the school. The Fund Drive is well on its way with donations coming in. Pledges and post-dated cheques are welcome. The membership packages are being put together for the April 02/09 Spring membership Meeting. Doug K., Bill V. and myself are retiring. We have 6 names nominated to stand for board, 3 need to be elected. The 6 names are John D., Shelley K., Angela M., Margaret N., Paul S. and Kathy V. Please make every effort to attend the meeting.

Thank you for your prayers and support for JKCS.  
On behalf of the Board, *Maxine Z.*

**Fine Arts Day:** Twelve students from our school will be attending the Chatham District Fine Arts Day this Wednesday, March 25. This day will be held at the Chatham Cultural Centre in Chatham. Participants will be leaving the school at 7:45 am (please note the time change) and arriving in time to take to the bus home. Students participating in Acrylic Paint and Printmaking are advised to wear old clothing or bring a paint shirt. Thank you to Karen Sipkens and Maxine Zekveld for volunteering to drive for the day.

**Book Orders:** Attached to today's Knox Talks you will find a book order flyer from Living Books. These, along with the Scholastic book orders that are also being sent home today, are due back next week Wednesday, April 1. If you are interested in receiv-

ing these flyers, please contact the school and we will send them home in a sealed envelope.

### **Friends and supporters of John Knox Christian**

**School:** This is just a friendly reminder regarding our tuition reduction drive, if you have not yet made a contribution towards the drive, we prayerfully ask that if you are able, to forward your contribution in the coming week. Thank you for your continued support. *JKCS Finance Committee.*



**Happy Birthday**



**Josh N.**

**Mar. 25**

**6**

### **Upcoming Events:**

**MARCH 31** - Gr. 7/8 trip to see "The Hiding Place"

**APRIL 1** - Grad Photos/Time for Talents

**APRIL 10** - Good Friday

**APRIL 13** - Easter Monday

**APRIL 17** - Arbour Day (Clean-up Day)

**APRIL 23** - Grandparent/Grandfriends' Day

**MAY 13** - Local Field Day

**MAY 28** - District Field Day

**JUNE 18** - Two Pitch Tournament

**JUNE 22** - Graduation

**JUNE 24** - Last Day of School

**KINDERSTART:** Mrs. Robinson  
Quickly question quiet Qq!

**Memory Work:** Luke 7: 22

**Bible: Tues:** Lazarus is Raised

**Thurs:** Jesus Heals Ten Men

**Socials: Tuesday:** land transportation

**Thursday:** air transportation

SK students will continue on their trip with Mrs. Munchkin. This week they will go from Montreal to London, England and on to Rome, Italy.

**Brown Day!** Tuesday, March 31 is "Brown Day". Remember to wear brown and to bring a brown show and tell.

**1000 Books:** The class has read 1000 books at home! Way to go, KinderStart! Thank you parents and family members for reading to the students. We will celebrate our 1000 book milestone with a class party before Easter. But, don't stop reading and bringing in the "Snuggle Up and Read" forms. Let's see how many books we can read this year in total.

**Reminder:** This Friday is an SK day.

### **GRADE ONE AND TWO: Miss Sluys:**

**Memory Work:** Matthew 22: 37, 39b - "You should love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. Love your neighbour as yourself."

**Bible: Mon:** Samuel as Judge

**Tues:** Samuel's Anointing

**Wed:** Israel's First King

**Thurs:** Saul's Disobedience

**Spelling:** Gr. 1 - asking, bending, milking, dusting, resting, jumping, standing, acting, hunting, twisting

Gr. 2 - basic, music, public, picnic, poetic, plastic, electric, magnetic, dramatic

**Student Reader:** This Friday: *Mystery Reader*  
Next Friday: *Lauren*

**A.R:** We has a wonderful day on the Friday before March Break! The sunglasses, shorts, t-shirts, flip-flops and smell of suntan lotion helped us realize that spring (and summer!!) are just around the corner. Congratulations Gr. 1/2 for all achieving your goal. Look for an information sheet regarding the AR incentive and goals for this final term to come

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home tomorrow in your child's Student Planner.

### **GRADE THREE AND FOUR**

Welcome back to our last school term! We hope you had a wonderful March Break! We are excited to welcome Brandon Wierenga who has joined our grade 4 class! We hope you will soon feel right at home with us, Brandon. Just a reminder that artwork and photo displays must be submitted by Thursday, March 26 for our "Time for Talents" held Wed. April 1.

**Mrs. Noorloos:**

**Memory Work:** We will begin work on memorizing 1 Corinthians 13. For Friday, March 27 please learn 1 Corinthians 13:1 NIV.

**Bible:** We have been studying about the divided kingdom of Israel. We have looked at the Kings who ruled Israel. We are now taking a closer look at the Kings who ruled in Judah.

**Math:** Gr. 3 will work with place values and comparing numbers. They will continue to practice long column addition.

Gr. 4 will work on rounding numbers to the nearest ten, hundred, and thousand. They will continue to practice four digit by one digit multiplication with carrying.

\*Both grades should practice their timetables for their "mad-minute". Also, a **homework assignment** will be sent home with both grades and should be completed and handed in on Thursday.\*

**Current Events:** *Tues.:* Liana K., Esther K.

*Wed.:* Clayton K., Caleb N.

**Social Studies:** We will begin a new unit called *Exploring and Discovering*. We will see that people were becoming increasingly curious about other lands and they were eager to explore unknown territories in the hopes of enlarging their own country's domain. Explorers were sent to find the East by going west. The continents of Africa, North America, South America, and Australia were discovered and claimed by countries such as Spain, France, and England. It is part of God's plan that people develop, care for, and enjoy his good creation. Despite some sinful motivations (greed, power and selfishness) God has used many different people all over the world to unfold his plans.

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**Mrs. Tamming:**

**Spelling:** Lesson work is due by Thursday, test is on Friday.

Gr. 3: **city, cereal, face, could, guess, huge, age, danger, goose, gone, coast, clean, guard, giant, carton**

Gr. 4: **turtle, birch, world, squirrel, third, curve, author, circus, motor, nurse, birth, doctor, church, mirror, burst**

**Reading:** Our new novel study is *StoneFox* by John Reynolds Gardiner. This is a terrific story about a boy who tries to save the family farm.

**A.R.:** We have a fun celebration of reading on the last Friday before March Break. We are currently setting our goals for Term 3. Keep reading!

### **GRADE FIVE AND SIX: Miss Rekman**

**Memory Work:** Acts 2: 38-39.

**Spelling:** This week both grades will be learning and studying fifteen frequently misspelled words. They are: **especially, answer, favourite, probably, enough, surprise, clothes, frighten, babies, tomorrow, terrible, science, literature, machine, business**

**Science:** We have finished our unit in class on invertebrates. Student projects on their chosen animal are due next week March 31st.

**Writing:** Students have been working on a descriptive writing piece over the past weeks. A revised draft is due Friday, March 27.

**Socials:** We are beginning a new unit on the province of Ontario. Students are encouraged to bring a photo of a place in Ontario.

**Health:** This week we begin a short study on the lungs. We will focus on how lungs function, how to care for them, and common lung diseases.

**Art:** For Friday's art class students need to bring in a picture from a magazine, newspaper, photo, etc.

### **GRADE SEVEN AND EIGHT:**

**Mrs. Koetsier:**

**Spelling:** Unit 21 for Wednesday. Please check for word list and encourage extra practice at home.

**Geography:** This week we'll learn about indigenous people of the rain forest. This will include some group work and class presentation activities.

**Literature:** We continue with our study of the novel *I am David*. Please encourage your student to keep up with assignments as given.

**Writing:** We've been working at writing poems for our poetry projects. These projects will be due April 1 - no fooling! Your student has a handout outlining the exact specifications for this endeavor. Class time will be given next Tuesday for the "art" aspect of these projects. This week we'll be learning about, and putting into practice, essay writing techniques.

*A homework reminder:*

**It is expected that all students complete all homework assignments by the assigned dates, with the exclusion of illness or injury! Students that do not will be given extra assignments to complete at recess time in addition to the unfinished work.**

**Mr. Boersma:**

*Welcome back, grade 7&8 students! This week marks the start of term three. We encourage you to start with determination and build on it to finish strong.*

**Memory Work:** Romans 12: 1,2. Please know for Friday.

**Bible:** We conclude our study of Romans this week. A writing assignment will be given; it is due on Friday.

**Math:** Integers are back in focus. After a brief review, we will work on multiplying and dividing negative numbers. Quiz on Thursday.

**Grammar:** We continue with daily "mini-lessons" in grammar on verbs and verb use.

**French:** Grade seven will review the vocabulary and grammar from unit four to prepare for another test next Tuesday.

**History:** Some students still need to complete the small essay on "God's Sovereignty" as a wrap-up to our 16th Century Reformation unit.

**Science:** We move into our cells unit this week. There will be a quiz on microscope use on Thursday. Students are encouraged to review their notes on a daily basis to help manage the wealth of information in this unit.