



JOHN KNOX
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL • WYOMING

KNOX TALKS



Ephesians 2:10

“We Are His Workmanship”

Theme Verse 2023-2024



John Knox Christmas Program

The staff and students welcome all parents, grandparents and community members to a Christmas program featuring individual class presentations of music, drama and recitations. This year there are two presentations - one on Wednesday, December 20 at 2pm and the second on Thursday, December 21 at 7pm.



Early Release from School

On Friday, December 22, buses will be leaving the school at 1pm for an early start to the Christmas break!

Milk & Pizza Day

This Wednesday, December 13 is our milk and pizza day for the month of December!

Monday,
December 11, 2023

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 12

JK Field Trip - Library

Wednesday, December 13

Milk & Pizza Day

Basketball Skills & Drills

3:30-4:30pm

Thursday, December 14

Vouchers 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Friday, December 15

Gr. 4 Field Trip - Oil Museum

SK Field Trip - Library

Wednesday, December 20

Christmas Program 2:00pm

Thursday, December 21

School Skating Gr. 1-4 (11am-12pm)

Gr. 5-8 (12pm-1pm)

Vouchers 1:30 - 2:30pm

Christmas Program 7:00pm

Friday, December 22

Early Dismissal to start Christmas Break - 1:00pm

January 8, 2024

First Day Back to School



School Skating

The rink is booked in Watford for school skating on Thursday, December 21. Students in grades 1-4 are skating from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm and students in grades 5-8 from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Senior kindergarten students are welcome to join us at the arena from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. All students must wear a helmet on the ice and hockey sticks are not permitted. There are some students who do not have skates or a helmet, so if you have extras at home that the school may borrow please let the office know.

Basketball Skills and Drills

We resume our after school basketball club this week Wednesday from 3:30-4:30. Please let the office know if your child will be staying after school. The last meeting for this after school club will be Wednesday, December 13. Over the past few weeks it has been impressive to see how hard the students have worked to improve ball handling, shooting, and defence. Thank you students for your hard work and positive attitudes!

Beef Croquettes for Sale!

There is a limited supply of beef croquettes (frozen) for sale! If you are interested in purchasing a package (5 croquettes for \$10), please contact Dana Moesker at 519-490-4230 or by emailing helpinghands@jkcswyoming.com

Faith and Mortar

The Faith and Mortar team asks that you remember our John Knox Christian School in your year-end giving. The completed building expansion and renovation project has provided key opportunities for the school to welcome new families and students. God has blessed our school and this project: after six years, our fundraising drive is so near to its goal. Help us finish the task as we aim to raise the \$30,000 remaining. Donations can be made by

- Cash or cheques to the school treasurer.
- e-transfer to the school -
treasurer@wyomingjkcs.com
- Contact Brian Sipkens (519 466 1373) or Doug Boelens (519 384 0558)
- Contact a Faith and Mortar member to pick up your contribution.

Girls and Boys Basketball

Congratulations on great try-outs! The teams have been determined and the students who tried out know which team they are on: either the tournament team or the exhibition game league. The boys tournament team will be practicing Monday & Tuesday at lunch recess and the exhibition game team will practice Fridays at lunch recess. Girls will practice on Wednesday and Thursday. Stay tuned for dates for game play.

- Mrs. DeBoer & Mrs. Siertsema
- Mrs. Tetreault & Mrs. Bork



Classroom News

Kinderstart (A)

Mrs. Robinson

Nice neighbours notice nifty Nn!

***We will take a break from our "letter of the week" shared snack and show and tell next week to allow for more time to complete Christmas activities. We will resume with letter Oo the first week back to school in January. ***

Memory Work: Luke 2:8-14

Bible: We continue to add pictures to our Christmas Bible posters. This week, we will read about the night that Jesus was born and the angel's announcement to the shepherds.

Jesse Tree Ornaments: Moses, David, Daniel, Zechariah and Elizabeth

Shared Snack: Wednesday - Levi
Thursday - Cora

Green Day! Our December colour day is a festive one - green! The SK class will be wearing green on Monday, December 18. Please take note SK that our colour day is on a Monday and not a Wednesday! The JK crew will wear green the next day, Tuesday, December 19.

Weekly Theme: It's been fun to talk about and make different Christmas symbols! We will be crafting Christmas candles and ornaments this week. With each symbol, we will continue to also complete pages in our Christmas symbols booklet. Look for all of this Christmas work to come home next week after the Christmas program.

Field Trips: We are going to the Wyoming Library! The JK class will be going on Tuesday, December 12 and the SK students will be going on Friday, December 15. Both visits will be from 1:00 until 2:20ish. Sarah, our local community librarian, will show us around the library as well as read some Christmas themed books and make a Christmas craft with us.

Bags: There seems to be muddy and wet snow/splash pants and mittens at the end of everyday. Please send a bag to school for your child to bring these dirty items home.

Christmas Program: Both JK and SK classes will be participating in the Christmas programs on December 20 and 21. Check your child's planner for a note regarding the programs.



Bells and Candy Canes!



Classroom News

Kinderstart (B)

Ms. VanOorspronk

Here we are in the month of December with only 4 days left until Christmas break. Students are excited about Christmas, and we have shared together what the true meaning of Christmas is. As we mark Advent with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love we are called remember the one true gift that is beyond compare.

Star Student: *Tuesday* will be Evelyn and *Thursday* will be Riley.

Show and Tell: *Tuesday* will be Emme and *Thursday* will be Caleb.

Memory Work: Students have done a fantastic job memorizing this poem! Well done!

*A little child,
A shining star.
A stable rude,
The door ajar.
Yet in that place,
So crude, forlorn,
The Hope of all
The World was born.*

-Author Unknown

We are making good progress on memorizing this song. We continue to practice in preparation for our program next week.

*Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay,
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray!
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And take us to heaven, to Live with Thee there.*

The version we are singing starts on a lower note. A link is provided below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dq34Clq3QKY>

Bible: Students have heard about when the angel visited Mary and her response. Mary and Joseph have found a place to rest and baby Jesus is born. This week we will hear about a few visitors who will travel to see baby Jesus.

Phonics: Students continue listening for a variety of beginning sounds and different letters in our final sounds in the words they hear. We will focus on the letters U and G. This week's sight word is, /

Math: We will be finishing up with shapes and will review numbers for the days remaining until Christmas break.

Christmas Theme: Students will be learning the different symbols of Christmas.

Class Trip: Tomorrow is our class trip to the Wyoming Public Library. We plan to leave at 1:00 and plan to be back around 2:30pm. We look forward to hearing stories and participating in an activity.

Classroom News

Grade 1 (A)

Mrs. Tetreault

Phonics: This week we'll focus on consonant blends at the end of a word.

Spelling: Our last test of the calendar year will be this week Friday.
mask, desk, last, best, cost, must, first, be, if, as

Math: We'll work on comparing and ordering numbers and using base ten blocks to represent numbers to 20. We will wrap up this short unit with an assessment on Friday.

Christmas Program: We're just a week and a half away from our program! We've been meeting with our friends in 1B to rehearse our Boomwhackers song.

Skating: We can't wait to skate on December 21! Students must wear skates and helmets on the ice. Please feel free to use our class' email thread if you're looking to borrow or lend out a pair of skates. Parents are welcome to join in the fun to help out on the ice!

Snowpants bag: A reusable shopping bag makes a great catch-all for wet snowpants and mittens at the end of the day, especially as students are building independence in packing up their things.

Christmas Fun: This Wednesday, December 13, we will make a few special crafts and enjoy Christmas-themed activities in small groups. We now have enough volunteers to run the activities, but when it comes to Christmas crafts, the more the merrier! Let us know if you'd like to join in the festive fun from 1:40-3:15.

Social Studies: Students have finished their imaginative maps and legends, and they represent each child's unique perspective. Some are full of whimsical animals and colourful donut shops, others are carefully organized into straight roads and neatly drawn homes, and some take students into a world of forests, volcanoes and waterfalls. Student groups will prepare secret treasure maps for a real treasure hunt at school next week!

Art Portfolios: Students will be taking home their artwork this week in a giant bristol board envelope. Please empty it out, keep the art at home, and then return the envelope with your child. I'd love to have them all back to school before Christmas.

Classroom News

Grade 1 (B)

Miss Konzelmann

Phonics: We are diving into learning about consonant blends at the end of a word this next week!

Spelling: This will be our final test on Friday before the end of the year!

mask, desk, last, best, cost, must, first, be, if, as

Math: We are learning numbers to 20 and developing our understanding of using base ten blocks to understand our teen numbers. We will be having an assessment on Friday.

Christmas Program: Our Christmas program is quickly approaching. We have been working with our friends in Grade 1A to practice our boomwhackers a special song.

Skating: We are so excited to participate in school skating on December 21! Students have to wear skates and helmets on the ice. Parents are welcome to join in the fun and help out on the ice!

Bible: We will be wrapping up our Moses unit and will be looking at Moses final years this week.

Christmas Fun: This Wednesday, December 13, we will make a few special crafts and enjoy Christmas-themed activities in small groups. We now have enough volunteers to run the activities but we will always welcome more helpers if you are willing! Please email me if you are considering. Activities will happen from 1:40-3:15!

Social Studies: We will be preparing to create a secret treasure map that will involve a real treasure hunt at school next week! The students are eager to begin!

Classroom News

Grade 2

Mrs. Ferguson

Memory Work: Our last memory work for this year is Luke 2:13, 14 (NIV) *“Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.”* Memory work will be tested on Friday, December 15.

Phonics: This week we will look at words that have the long ‘a’ sound in them. There are different ways to spell the long ‘a’ sound, including with a silent ‘e’, ‘ai’ and ‘ay’.

Spelling: Our spelling words are **late, wave, plane, main, train, paid, day, may, stray** and **page**. Our spelling test will be on Friday, December 15.

Math: We will learn the units centimetre and metre and find out when it is most appropriate to use each one. We will do some more hands-on practice measuring things in our classroom using our rulers. If your child didn’t bring a ruler to school at the beginning of the year, this is a good time to send in a ruler with centimetres on it.

Writing: We will look at how to write a letter to someone and then make a Christmas card for someone special.

Social Studies: Last week we had fun learning about some of the culture and traditions that came over from Mexico. This week we will look at India and see how their culture and Christmas traditions differ from ours.

Phys Ed: This month we are enjoying some fun cooperative games in the gym. This is a great way to build teamwork and show good sportsmanship.

School Skating: Next week is school skating on Thursday. Please let me know if you do not have a pair of skates for your child. We have some skates that we can loan out for those that need them.

Classroom News

Grade 3

Mrs. Bouma

The countdown is on at school! Students know that Christmas and Christmas Break are around the corner. They are excited to guess how our Advent devotions for the day fits in with God's Big Story of Jesus. We are excited for the Christmas Program, skating, and the last day of school in 2023! So much to look forward too!

For this week:

Spelling: We are on Lesson 12 this week. We are looking at the "au" sound which can be spelled with an au, aw, a, and o. With the different combinations, our words this week can be tricky, so be sure to practice at home. Our test will be on Friday.

Reading: We are continuing on with our Fables unit.

Math: Students completed our multiplication and division unit last week. The vocabulary page was challenging for some, but overall, students understand how multiplication and division works. We are looking closely at the 2, 5, and 10 times tables in our next math unit. You can practice them at home! We are not looking for speed right now, but remind students to count by 2s (or use doubles, 2x6 is the same as 6+6), 5s, or 10s to find the answer.

French: In Unité E, we are looking at the following phrases using numbers: Deux et trois font cinq. ($2 + 3 = 5$) Neuf moins un font huit. ($9 - 1 = 8$) J'ai neuf ans. (I am 9 years old.) Voici quatre dollars. (Here is 4 dollars.)

Music: While our ears always ring for a bit after playing, we have been enjoying our handbell playing this month!

Mrs. Pries

Memory Work: Isaiah 9:7 *"Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."*
Due on Monday the 18th (Last memory verse of the year).

Health: On Tuesday this week you will be receiving a Unit Overview. I am handing that out a week early, and it contains all the key information from this term. The test will be Tuesday, December 19th. This week we are focussing on digestion (so if you study early, we are just learning about digestion this week).

Writers Workshop: We have been working on poetry for a few weeks now. This week we are reviewing our terms, as well as the types of poetry we have been writing/looking at. (Rhyming Couplets, Alliteration Poetry, Cinquain and Haiku). We will also work on Bio Poems, Diamonte and Shape Poems). This unit will continue in the new year.

Bible: This week we will be finishing up the life of Joseph. Tomorrow you will be receiving a Unit Overview. Again, this will be a week early. Next Tuesday the 19th will be our Unit Test. If you begin studying early, we have not completed the unit until Friday.

Classroom News

Grade 4

Mrs. Noordam

Class Trip: Our class trip is this Friday! Thank you to my volunteers! We plan to leave at 9:30 am by bus and the program finishes at 1pm. We will be eating our lunches there, so students will need to take their backpacks and water bottles with them. Students also need to dress warmly as we will be outdoors for part of that time.

Science: Rocks and Minerals: We will be focusing on the rock cycle this week and then start to prepare for the final test which will be next week.

Bible: We have a test this Thursday. A review sheet has been sent home today.

Spelling: With a new week we begin a new spelling lesson. The words have been sent home and our test will be this Friday.

A reminder that book reports are due on Tuesday, December 19th.

Math: We will begin a new unit on division. I will continue with timetable quizzes throughout this unit - so keep on practicing, grade 4's!

Grammar: The 'noun' worksheets have been sent home today. We will focus this week on adjectives. In literacy class, we will be comparing and contrasting rocks and minerals.

French (Madame DeBoer): This week we continue to expand our knowledge of the play through oral questioning and practicing our vocabulary in different contexts.

Classroom News

Grade 5

Mrs. Raja

The lyrics of our Christmas songs keep replaying in my heart and mind. I just cannot see how people can leave Christ out of this season. What is Christmas without the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ? The hope, the assurance, the expectation? To me, it just builds crescendo after crescendo. We are praying that people everywhere make room in their hearts for God to write his story this Christmas season.

The class has been asking, over and over, for a gift exchange among classmates. We have compromised on a "Handmade & White Elephant" Gift Exchange in class on the last Thursday/Friday of school. We will pick names, and your child can MAKE a small gift AND BRING a little something from home. If you are new to the White Elephant-you simply find a giftable item you already own that is happily looking for a new home.

We will not do traditional memory work this week; instead, we will practise sign language for our Christmas concert. The class has been working daily and this is no small feat with the amount of signs they are creating. I am proud of them for their efforts. I hope you will be able to attend one of our two concerts next week.

We are off to the Sarnia Library on Wednesday morning and will return in time for our pizza lunch. Grade 6 will accompany us as we learn about proper research techniques, robotics, and explore the Maker's Space. A casual conversation with your child about potential local topics would be helpful for brainstorming ideas. I look forward to hearing about everyone's ideas.

We are in the home stretch of our Social Studies poster. Some students may have some extra work to complete at home. The intention is that students will complete 5 paragraphs of 5-10 sentences, each outlining an Indigenous group found in Canada. Students have been working in pairs. Titles, pictures, and diagrams have already been completed.

In math, we are completing a two-week unit on understanding decimals which should wrap up in time for the holidays. Yellow multiplication duotangs will also be coming back home for extra daily practice.

French (Madame DeBoer): We continue to work on our play: *Comment Y Aller!* Play practice groups have now been established and we review pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar structures as we go.

Classroom News

Grade 6

Mrs. Kamel

Field Trip: We will be going to the Sarnia Public Library on Wednesday! We will take a bus and join the Grade 5 class from 9:30-1pm. We will be learning how to do research to prepare our students for their upcoming History project in the new year. We will also be having some fun with the maker space and robotics!

Bible: About a week ago, your children had you sign a slip of paper stating how they were going to help someone in need. I would like this act of service to be completed by Friday, December 15. They will be writing an essay regarding these acts of service starting on Friday.

Spelling: Last spelling practice and quiz before Christmas! Quiz will be on Friday.

Writing: Persuasive writing will be due this week. We will also start on mastering our letter writing.

Memory work: Memory this week will be due Wednesday, December 13. They are memorizing either their music for the Christmas concert or their lines. Our next memorizing task will be their words to the song all the students at JKCS will be singing for the Christmas concert. The lyrics will be found in your child's W.O.W. binder after Wednesday and this will be due on Dec. 20th.

Math: Instead of starting a long unit on Fractions and us all forgetting where we left off in the new year, I will introduce your children to coding! We will be working off a website called code.org.

Secret Gift Exchange: Your children were very eager to have a gift exchange with their classmates. They all chose names a couple weeks ago (some students wanted to shop for their gifts on black Friday). I will have them exchange their gifts on the last day of school at our Christmas party. Please don't spend more than \$10 on this gift!

French (Madame DeBoer): This week we continue to practice our play, use the vocabulary we're learning in different contexts and understand French grammar structure better!

Classroom News

Grade 7

Miss Hotke

Hello Parents and Students! This is the last full week of school before the Christmas holidays! Our classroom is decorated and ready to go!

Memory work: The students did very well on their last memory work quiz; I am proud of them! This week we will be having a shorter verse, John 14:6, and our quiz will be this Friday, December 15th.

Bible: We are continuing our study of 'The Feasts of the Lord'. We are starting by looking at the Jewish calendar and how it is similar/different from ours.

Math: We are continuing our study of Chapter 3, Data Management. Last week, the students created a survey for their fellow schoolmates to take. They worked on avoiding bias, collecting data, explaining their data, and creating a graph to represent their data.

Science: We are continuing our study on Marvellous Mixtures this week. On Wednesday, we will be working with some of our parents to create rock candy! I hope it will not be as messy as it sounds!

Music: We are not actually starting into ukuleles until the new year. Sorry for the confusion. We are working on our Christmas play and song for the program coming up next week.

Literature/Writing: The students did very well on their vocabulary quiz! Thank you for all the hard studying you did! We will continue our study of *The Hobbit* this week.

Phys Ed: We will continue working on our basketball skills this week. See the note in the KT about the basketball tryouts and practices.

Silent Reading: We have been reading silently almost every day and students are encouraged to leave library books in their desk or to bring a book from home to leave in their desk.

Communication: Parents, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns; my contact information is in the handbook. Please feel welcome to pop in to say hello if you are in the building!

French (Madame DeBoer): We continue working on our unit: *Le Rythme de la vie!* Please bring in something from home to create a rhythm for Tuesday. This week we will continue to review l'imperatif (giving an instruction) and some verb conjugations.

Classroom News

Grade 8

Mrs. Siertsema

Our classroom is beginning to look a lot like Christmas! The students have been busy decorating, and it looks great! In Bible, we have been looking at the names of God and have many of them posted on our bulletin board. In morning devotions, we have been focusing on the names of Jesus, so we have those posted as well, to help us keep Jesus at the focus of our Christmas anticipation.

Our curriculum focuses for this week are:

Math - Finishing Chapter 5 on circles.

Bible - We will be considering the theme of conflict in the Bible.

Memory work: Isaiah 6:9

Literature: Finishing project presentations

Music - Tone Chimes - Rehearsal of our Christmas songs.

History - History Review - Test will be December 19.

Grammar and Writing - Sentence structure and beginning to write a compare and contrast expository essay about physical processes in geography.

Geography - Physical processes, continuing chapter 2

Phys Ed - Basketball and cooperative games continued.

Art - Students will continue art classes with Mrs. Raja.

French (Madame DeBoer): This week we will present our mini mysteries (Tues) and have an open book quiz on the passé composé Thursday.

JKCS Grocery Vouchers:

Voucher sales take place every Thursday from **1:30 –2:30 p.m.** in the **front lobby**.

NAME: _____ PHONE # _____ DATE: _____

NO FRILLS/SUPERSTORE/INDEPENDENT _____ x \$50.00 _____ x \$100.00 _____ x \$250.00

=====

FOODLAND _____ X \$50.00 _____ x \$100.00 _____ x \$250.00

=====

TIM HORTONS _____ x \$10.00 _____ X \$15.00 _____ x \$20.00 _____ x \$50.00

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****All Vouchers Subject to Availability****

CHEQUE TOTAL \$ _____ **or** **CASH TOTAL \$** _____

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: J.K.C.S. VOUCHERS

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