



Ephesians 2:10

“We Are His Workmanship”

Theme Verse 2023-2024

Spring Membership Meeting

All parents and supporting members are invited to attend our John Knox Christian School Spring Membership Meeting this Thursday, April 4 at 7:30 pm. The proposed budget for 2024/2025 will be presented, and committees will share an update about their work for the school. Membership meeting packages were emailed out last week; if you didn't receive one please email the school office. Paper copies of the proposed budget will be available at the meeting. Our grade 8 students will also host a bake sale at the meeting to raise funds for their graduation trip. We look forward to seeing you there!

Early Dismissal

Due to the total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024, our buses will depart from the school at 1:00 p.m. Parents have received an email with more information. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Tuesday,
April 2, 2024

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 2

Ed Committee Meeting 7:30pm

Thursday, April 4

Chess Tournament - Strathroy
Vouchers 1:30 - 2:30pm

Spring Membership Meeting 7:30pm

Monday, April 8

Solar Eclipse - Early Dismissal 1pm

Tuesday, April 9

Battle of the Books - London

Thursday, April 11

Vouchers 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Wednesday, April 17

Milk & Pizza Day

Thursday, April 25

Vouchers 1:30 - 2:30pm

Spring Showcase - 7pm

Friday, April 26

PD Day

Thursday, May 2

Vouchers 1:30 - 2:30pm

Friday, May 3

Grandfriends' Day!

Monday, May 6

Speechfest 1:45pm

JKCS Has a Chess Team!

This Thursday, April 4 our JKCS chess team will be representing John Knox at the 2nd Annual SCCS Grade by Grade Bluewater Chess Championship at Strathroy Community Christian School. We are looking forward to a great day of chess playing!



Spring Showcase

Please join us on April 25 at 7:00 p.m. for our Spring Showcase! Each class will present the same performance as they're preparing for the Grandfriends' Day program. We ask that students arrive at the school by 6:40 that evening and be brought to their classrooms. We look forward to this evening of celebration and worship through musical gifts, acting, and a school choir performance!

Speechfest

Presentation and public speaking skills are important for our 21st-century learners! Students in grades 1-8 will participate in a classroom public speaking event during the week of April 29. Students in grades 1-4 will recite poetry, while our older students write and present a speech. Information about the assignments will be handed out by classroom teachers. Top speakers will be asked to present at a school-wide Speechfest during the afternoon of May 6!



Kleenex

A request for Kleenex. We are very low on our supply of Kleenex. If families would like to donate boxes to the school we would be very grateful. Bless you!

Classroom News

Kinderstart (A)

Mrs. Robinson

Zigzag around zany Zz!

Memory Work: Psalm 23

Bible: Jesus is risen! - Matthew 28:1-10
Jesus returns to his disciples - John 20, 21

Shared Snacks: Wednesday - Brynn
Thursday - Cora



Weekly Theme: We are taking a “trip around the world” with Mrs Munchkin! As we visit various cities, we will use a variety of ways to travel by land, water and air. We will start out with Mrs Munchkin in Saskatoon by considering what to pack for such a big trip. After a brief stop in Montreal, it’s off to London, England. Bon voyage, Kinderstart!

Show and Tell: This week’s letter Z is the last “letter of the week” for our show and tell and snack schedule. Beginning next week, we will be moving on to digraphs beginning with “sh”. During the month of April, students are invited to bring a show and tell item that contains the digraph of the week or something related to the theme of transportation.

Math: Both classes will have sorting activities as they relate to our new unit on transportation. The JK class will also learn how to count with tallies and the SK crew will continue with more addition work.

Literacy: JK students are brushing up on beginning and ending sounds of words as well as counting syllables. In the SK class, we will be putting our skills to work as we sound out CVC words. (Consonant/Vowel/Consonant)



The JK class harvested the last of our lettuce and enjoyed it with their lunches last week. It was delicious! Our tomatoes and peppers have been transplanted and continue to grow. We will now plant some herbs with the hope of making spaghetti sauce before the end of the school year!

Classroom News

Kinderstart (B)

Ms. VanOorspronk



Current Events: We have been keeping tabs on a Barred Owl through a bird cam found on Cornell Lab of Ornithology website. This past Sunday two owlets were born. Students enjoy checking in each break to see how the owl and her babies are.

Star Student: Thursday will be Declan

Show and Tell: Thursday will be Evelyn

Memory Work: We are focusing on the part of the song that begins with, “Our God is so Big...” and the words that come after which is the chorus.

Bible: After focusing on the Easter story we turn back to when Jesus was preaching and teaching. We will hear the story about a Captain’s faith and about a hole in a roof.

Phonics: Students are practicing their letters and sounds in words in a variety of different activities.

Math: Students are focusing on the ways we can gather information as a step to creating a graph.

Healthy Eating: We will finish up our food group unit this week. Students are eager to share what food groups they have in their lunches with me. :)

Classroom News

Grade 1 (A)

Mrs. Siertsema

I hope that everyone had a blessed Easter; remembering and celebrating God's great love for us!

Here are our learning goals for the first week of April!

Phonics: This week we are looking at words with a long "a" sound and a silent e at the end.

Ex. cake, rake, make, plate, shake etc.

Spelling: made, make, came, take, safe, game, brave, grapes, shape, skate

Memory work: A review of the past few weeks:

Isaiah 43:1b-3

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

Bible: The resurrection, Jesus appears to many people, and the ascension

Creation Studies: Continuing our study on Ecuador by learning about landforms, houses, jobs, plants and animals.

French: Continuing a unit on numbers.

Math: A new unit featuring numbers up to 50. It will involve ordering numbers and skip counting. If you get a chance, you can practice skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s, up to 50 at home with your student.

Literacy Centres: Continuing literacy centres and reading groups.

Poetry: We are beginning school-wide speeches. For primary-aged students, that means poetry. Parents, please help your child choose a Bible passage or a poem that has a positive theme and is 8-12 lines long that students can memorize the piece and use actions and props to enhance their presentation. Please let me know what you have chosen and send me a copy by April 15. Your child will be given some class time to work on memorizing and practicing. We will be having classroom presentations the week of April 30th. One student from the class will be chosen to present in the gym on May 6th. A rubric will be coming home today as well.

Thursday: I am away for most of the day on Thursday with the chess team, so a supply will be in to cover the class.

Looking forward to a great week!

Classroom News

Grade 1 (B)

Miss Konzelmann

Phonics: This week, we'll be studying words with the long "a" sound. In these words, the long vowel sound is created by the silent 'e' at the end of the word.

Spelling: Test this Friday: made, make, came, take, safe, game, brave grapes, shape, skate

Memory work: We will review the last three verses of our recent passage from Isaiah 43: 1-3

*I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God, the Holy one of Israel, your Saviour.*

Bible: We will finish our Easter unit this week by learning more about Christ defeating death and his ascension to Heaven.

Math: The class did an excellent job with their graphing test. We will now be moving on to numbers to 50. This includes skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s as well as ordering and comparing numbers.

Social Studies: Our class had a blast with the other Grade 1s as we boarded our flight to Ecuador. The class learned how to prepare for their trip by researching the forecast and discussing Ecuador's climate. This week, we will talk more about the special landforms of Ecuador as well as discussing common jobs and homes of Ecuador.

Writing: Students are working very hard on their stories. We hope to finish them up this week!

Music: We will focus on our presentation for Grand Friends this week!

Poetry Presentations: Speechfest is coming up in the first week of May. As a primary class, we are asking that all students prepare a poem to memorize and share in front of the class. This poem may be 8-12 lines (may also be a Bible passage) and actions and props are encouraged! Please find some time to look over possible poems with your child at home. You may email me if you need extra help finding something! An info page will be included with more additional information soon!

Show and Tell: Next week I will provide a time for Show and Tell! Stay tuned for next week's Knox Talks.

Classroom News

Grade 2

Mrs. Ferguson

Memory Work: *"I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me."* John 15:5. I will listen to memory work on Friday, April 12.

Phonics: This week we will be studying words that end with the suffixes -ful (full of), -less (without), and -ly (in a certain way).

Spelling: Our spelling words are **hopeful, playful, truthful, useful, painful, useless, restless, costly, safely,** and **small**. Our spelling test will be on Friday, April 5.

Math: This week we will look at adding and subtracting coins and some word problems that go along with this. This is a great time to pull out some coins at home and practise counting them to get faster!

Writing: We will finish up our novel study this week and get a chance to watch the movie. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Health: Last week we completed our unit on Health. We have learned many ways to keep ourselves and our bodies healthy and safe. This week we will use this knowledge to create a poster or advertisement that teaches others how to be safe and/or healthy.

Speechfest: Students in grades 1-4 will recite a poem or Scripture passage from memory for Speechfest. In grade 2 our passage or poem must be 8-12 lines in length. A copy of your chosen passage/poem must be sent to the school by April 15 for approval. If you need some ideas, we have a binder of poems at the school. These will be presented in our class on April 30 and one student will be chosen to represent our class at Speechfest on May 6 at 1:45. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail or text me.

Classroom News

Grade 3

Mrs. Bouma

Spelling: There will be no spelling list this week!

Reading: There are so many amazing structures around us! We thank God for creating so many things to build with and giving us the creativity to build! We look forward to reading more about amazing structures this week.

Math: We continue on with our Perimeter and Area unit. We will be comparing them and using them to measure zoo exhibits in the coming week.

French: We will have fun using our prepositions this week: sous (under), sur (on), devant (beside), and derriere (behind).

Music: We will be reading about and listening to Pachelbel this week!

Mrs. Pries

Memory Work: *“Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle...throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.”* Exodus 40: 34, 36-38. This memory verse will take a few weeks. It connects to our new unit on The Tabernacle.

Bible: We are beginning our new unit on the Tabernacle. This week we will look at the relationship of God's presence in the Old Testament, and the symbols that were used.

Science: We are continuing to learn about structures. We are talking about bracing and strengthening our structures to withstand forces. This week we will focus on the 5 basic types of bridges. In groups the students will work to construct a bridge from various materials.

Writers Workshop: Students will be completing their short-stories. They have worked diligently to create a story with a clear setting, plot, conflict and resolution. We will be sharing our stories with the class and a younger grade.

Grammar: We will begin looking at onomatopoeias, words such as, bang and pop! Students will create a comic strip using onomatopoeias, connecting this term to our writing unit.

Classroom News

Grade 4

Mrs. Noordam

Bible: Tests have been returned today. We begin a unit on Psalms and Proverbs. Lesson 1 discusses how Psalms can be seen as prayers, songs, and poetry.

Grammar: We concluded our adverb unit and will begin a unit on prepositions.

Spelling: Lesson 26 test on Friday.

Math: We finished learning about mass(grams and kilograms) and we will focus on capacity this week.

Science: Last week we created a pinhole camera! We also worked on a science experiment demonstrating about how light reflects off objects. Students experimented with aluminum foil and pondered the question, "What does light do on different surfaces?" We observed and had a great discussion! This week we will discuss the total solar eclipse coming up on April 8.

Please note: I sent an email to all parents on Thursday (March 28) about the upcoming Speechfest. I also sent home a paper copy (yellow) with the information. Please reach out if you have any questions!

French (Madame DeBoer): This week we begin to answer partial questions about the play; where the students need to come up with the answer themselves! We are also solidifying our roles & groups for the play. A lot of the students are well on their way to memorizing the play-bon travail!

Classroom News

Grade 5

Mrs. Raja

He is risen. He is risen indeed! Death could not hold him, and today we serve a risen saviour! Thanks be to God.

April is a BIG month. We have the eclipse, speeches, our Spring Showcase, track and field prep, and so much more! Our class also has students participating in the chess tournament and Battle of the Books! I love it when children discover their strengths and dive into their hobbies.

For speeches, our goal is to be finished writing by next Friday. This gives me the opportunity to add final revisions over the weekend and the class roughly two weeks for practice. It is a tight deadline. Some may require support from home, but all will need some encouragement. If research could be done at home, then we can focus on the writing in class.

This week we will learn about four different forms of government: theocracy, democracy, dictatorship, and consensus. If you hear any rumblings about inequality in the classroom, it is for the sole purpose of understanding, in a practical manner, just how each type of government operates. The end goal is to create students who are knowledgeable and feel a sense of responsibility for the manner in which we are governed- to be steered with justice and integrity in the process.

French (Madame DeBoer): We started story retelling in partners and the goal is to write as long of stories as possible! It's amazing to see how much language they have learned as they attempt to retell the story of the play in different words. Please have your child start taking their play home to memorize their part.

Mrs. Tetreault

Memory Work: We will be studying the lyrics of our school song, *My God is All I Need* (Cityalight). Students will receive a paper copy of the lyrics for a quiz next week. Here is a link for at-home practice. [My God Is All I Need/My God Is So Big - CityAlight \(Lyric video\)](#)

Math: Students should review their work on metric measurements and conversions at home this week. We will complete a practice test tomorrow, and a unit test on Friday.

Classroom News

Grade 6

Mrs. Kamel

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! I pray you all had a wonderful long weekend meditating on our loving Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

Here is our week at a glance:

Gym: We have completed our unit on pickleball. We will start this week by getting back into shape and preparing for track and field. Grade 6 will be introduced to shot put and triple jump this week. Every other week until track and field, we will focus on improving our skills in various events. When we are not working on track and field, we will be playing baseball.

Math: New unit! Chapter 11: Area of Polygons. This will be a short unit. We will most likely have a test next Tuesday, April 9.

Bible: Students started writing a small paper on Godly leadership last week. These will be completed this week. We also will start a new unit in bible on Pentecost.

Memory: Due Friday April 5th. It is written in your child's W.O.W. binder

Language Arts: Students have already written some beautiful poems for our new literature unit!

Speeches: Topics have been chosen. We will work on writing the speeches over the next couple of weeks. Speech writing will be due April 12.

Spelling: Quiz on Friday April 5th

Science: Research for projects is almost complete. We will have one more research class, then students will start putting together their posters.

Art: Art this week will be an extension in science and model making/poster completing.

French (Madame DeBoer): We are done story retelling...now it's time to extend the story in our writing! We are also nearing our play presentation time...it's time to memorize your parts. Please practice at home with a family member.

Classroom News

Grade 7

Miss Hotke

He is Risen! I hope you all had a wonderful, restful Easter weekend! Here is a look at what is to come this week.

Bible: Last week we finished lessons 1-7 on Job. We will review the lessons today and our test will be on **Thursday**. Students already have review sheets. Our memory work for this week is found in **Proverbs 3:27-30**. We will have a quiz over these verses on **Friday, April 12**.

Math: This week we will continue working on Chapter 7: 2D Geometry. Students will have homework each night but will also be given time during class to work on it.

Science: We will continue working through our unit on 'The Amazing Atmosphere!'

Music: We will begin working on memorizing the graduation and Grandfriend's song: *My God Is All I Need, My God Is So Big by CityAlight*. We will use some of this time to work on our Grandfriend's presentation and speeches for our Spring Showcase.

Literature/Writing: We will continue our study of the novel *Lost in the Barrens* by Farley Mowat. On **Thursday** we will have a quiz over Chapters 9-16.

History: We will continue working through the unit on The Middle Ages. Students have chosen a topic for their history project and a way of presenting their findings. I will give them time in class to work on completing their project. More details to follow.

Phys. Ed: This week we will start into another intramural sport.

Silent Reading: The students need to continue bringing books to school for silent reading time, or keep a book in their desk from library time. Some days I allow them to complete their homework instead of reading.

French (Madame DeBoer): We continue to practice the verb *devoir*, adjectives and possessive adjectives as we begin a small unit project (introduced this week) on *les microbes*. We also have a listening quiz (no prep required!) on Thursday; if you do not have headphones at school, please bring a pair that day for this.

Classroom News

Grade 8

Miss Hiemstra

Bible - Last week, we learned about the Feast of Weeks/Shavuot, the Feast of Trumpets/Rosh Hashanah, and the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur on the Jewish calendar. This week, we'll continue to study the Jewish feasts, moving on to look at the Feast of Tabernacles and Purim.

Music - This week, we'll be starting to look at potential song selections to play on Grandfriends' Day!

Science - We are continuing our study of solutions and mixtures. Having learned about saturation, distillation, and concentration last week, we'll be moving on to look at different types of solutions and the role of water as the universal solvent.

History - We are continuing to work through our study of the Middle Ages. This week, we will be looking at the Crusades.

Math - We are finishing up Unit 8 this week on using equations to represent and solve problems.

Mrs. Koetsier

Geography: We began our new chapter, "Understanding Quality of Life", with an assignment to help us focus on what "quality of life" refers to, some investigation of data on food bank use in Ontario, and some Biblical perspective on these issues. We'll continue with that this week.

Writing: Students have been given a rubric for grading and expectations, and have received feedback on outlines for their speeches. Students are reminded that an important component of their speeches is how well they connect their topics to the Christian faith - it must be something that is woven through the entire speech, not just a mention in the conclusion. They'll begin working on a rough copy this week. Please do discuss these and give ideas and encouragement to your students at home! A great way to get ideas is to check out videos of winning speeches via Toastmasters International, TedTalks or other public speaking organizations.

Literature: I'm VERY excited to pass on that we'll begin our "Literature Circles" small group novel study, on the theme of prejudice, this week! This is an excellent way for your child to experience a new novel, develop vocabulary, writing and comprehension skills, become more aware of what prejudice looks like and what our Christian response should be, and to work on collaboration within a group. Students will be able to indicate a first, second and third choice from the following list of novels: Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor, The Slave Dancer by Paula Fox, Esperanza Rising by Pamela Munoz Ryan, Front Desk by Kelly Yang, and My Name is Not Angelica by Scott O'Dell. Students will be formed into groups based on their choices as well as other considerations :), and will work through the novel and the assignments as a group. There will be homework, as well as a "two strike" philosophy for its completion - if a student is not prepared for his/her group discussion because their work is not done the first time an alternate assignment will be given. If it happens again he/she will be removed from the group permanently and will need to complete alternate assignments and work on his/her own for the duration of the unit. The same consequence will be given if a student is struggling to be an effective group member. Assignments for group activities will see each student taking turns performing a different "role" each day for discussion purposes, keeping up with assigned reading, individual journal and other assignments, and a culminating art activity. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to email me at koetsierliz@gmail.com or call me at 519-383-5695.

Art: This week we'll learn about graffiti: its roots and how it's evolved from vandalism to a respected art form that can express our God given uniqueness and therefore bring praise to Him. We'll be creating some "name graffiti" to express these concepts.

French (Madame DeBoer): Our animal profiles are due today (Tuesday) and we continue on with our unit on bizarre animals.

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

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

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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

4738 Confederation Line, P.O Box 81,
Wyoming, Ontario, NoN iTo
Ph: 519-845-3112 / Fax: 519-845-1404

info@wyomingjkcs.com www.wyomingjkcs.com www.facebook.com/WyomingJKCS