



JOHN KNOX
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL • WYOMING

KNOX TALKS



Ephesians 2:10

“We Are His Workmanship”

Theme Verse 2023-2024

Battle of the Books

A team of thirteen will travel to London on Tuesday to participate in the Battle of the Books. Our teams have read, reread, and studied the books to prepare for a trivia competition against area Christian schools. Thank you to our lead teachers, Mrs. Bouma, Miss Hotke, and Mrs. VandenAssem for coaching our readers!

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!

Monday,
April 8, 2024

Upcoming Events

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

Tuesday, April 23

Gr. 2 Field Trip - Gordon's Farm

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

Friday, May 17

JKCS Track and Field Day Gr. 1-8
(Raindate May 22)

Monday, May 20

Victoria Day - no school

Grandfriends' Day

Welcoming Grandfriends to visit children at the school is always an honour and a delight! The morning will begin at 9:00, with refreshments, a program, classroom visits, and a light lunch. Students brought home invitations last week, and these can be handed out to your family's Grandfriend guests. More invitations are available upon request. Parents are asked to sign up their child(ren)'s guests on a Google Form to help us plan for the day. <https://forms.gle/zRqTRRLzWXHQ65eR6>

Please encourage your guests to park in the Wyoming CRC lot and use the school bus shuttle that day. The JKCS lot will be available for those with mobility or accessibility needs. Living Books will have a display for Grandparents to enjoy. They will accept cash or cheque.

Hanging Basket Fundraiser

Helping Hands is partnering with Sipkens Nursery to help get you ready for spring! Purchase a voucher for a hanging basket by April 19 and you will be able to pick up your hanging basket(s) from Sipkens Nursery anytime in the month of May. See the order form attached to The Knox Talks for more details.



Classroom News

Kinderstart (A)

Mrs. Robinson

Show me shiny “sh”!

Memory Work: Psalm 23

Bible: We have finished with the Easter story and pick up where we left off in the Old Testament. This week, we will read about the “Fiery Furnace” (Daniel 3) and “The Lion’s Den” (Daniel 6)

Shared Snacks: Wednesday - Darcy
Thursday - Eden

Weekly Theme: We are currently tagging along with Mrs. Munchkin on her trip around the world. After a lengthy car ride from Saskatoon to Montreal, Mrs. Munchkin has decided to cross the ocean on her way to London, England. What is the best way to cross the ocean and what will Mrs. Munchkin use to tour the city? Stay tuned for the answer to those questions as well as some information on a few popular British tourist attractions!

Show and Tell: Our “letter of the week” schedule has come to an end and we are turning our attention to digraphs, beginning with “sh” words. Students are invited to bring a show and tell item that contains the “sh” digraph or something related to our transportation / travel theme.

Handwriting: Both classes are nearing the end of their handwriting books! The JK class is finishing up with X, Y, and Z. The SK students are busy printing sentences with proper spacing between words and punctuation. Please take some time to check your child’s pencil grip as they complete their printing homework in their planners. While most have excellent tripod grip, some need reminders to properly place their fingers near the tip of the pencil.

Math: In keeping with our travel theme, we will be counting cars, patterning balloons, racing vehicles, and identifying transportation shapes.



Designer Cars!

Classroom News

Kinderstart (B)

Ms. VanOorspronk



I saw beautiful rainbows three days in a row last week. They are a visual reminder to this day of one of God's promises that was made long ago.

Current Event: Our barred owl mother now has three owlets. As we check in on them each day, we are amazed how quickly they grow. As of Thursday, the owlets were fuzzy and white and their eyes were still closed.

Star Student: *Tuesday* will be Riley, and *Thursday* will be Rory.

Show and Tell: *Tuesday* will Caleb, and *Thursday* will be Andi.

Memory Work:

Please review the "Our God is so Big" chorus found in the lyric video below

[My God Is All I Need/My God Is So Big - CityAlight \(Lyric video\)](#)

Bible: This week students will hear about the fear the disciples had on a boat during a sudden storm, and two miracles that Jesus performed.

Phonics: Students will be listening to identify the last sounds in words they hear. Two sight words for this week will be *he* and *she*. We will continue with centres time. I have sent home short activities for students. Please check your child's planner as I will send home these activities each day.

Math: On Thursday we made a classroom visit to Grade 3. We polled them with the question, "What is your favourite pet". Students learned about tally marks and filled in their worksheet. As part of graphing, they have finished the first step that is gathering information. We will now take the information and complete a bar graph.

Classroom News

Grade 1 (A)

Mrs. Siertsema

It's a new week in April, and we are excited for warmer weather and more learning!

Here are some of our learning goals for this week!

Phonics: This week we are looking at words with a long 'i' sound and a silent 'e' at the end.
Ex. hike, wide, five, hive, slide etc.

Spelling: time, white, ride, mile, size, five, slide, prize, write, read

Memory work: This week's memory verse is the theme verse for our Creation Studies unit on 'Homes Around the World'. *From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.* Acts 17:26-27

Bible: After some thoughtful and meaningful Easter conversations, we are returning to finish our unit on David. This week, we'll see how the ark of the covenant is returned to Jerusalem, we'll talk about David and Absalom and then review the unit and have a quiz.

Creation Studies: We are continuing our study on Ecuador by learning about the plants and animals in Ecuador. The students will be choosing an animal to make a report about.

Writing: We will focus on nonfiction writing this week and tie it into the animal from Ecuador that your student chose to make a report about.

Art: Students will create a 3-D version of their animal and create a habitat around their animal.

French: We are continuing a unit on numbers.

Math: We are continuing our unit featuring numbers up to 50. We will be ordering numbers and skip counting this week.

Poetry: Thank you to those who have sent in a poem that your child is planning to memorize. If you would like me to pick a few poems for you to consider, please let me know. Just a reminder that it's a Bible passage or a poem that has a positive theme, is 8-12 lines long that they can memorize and use actions and props to enhance their presentation. The goal is to have it chosen by April 15 and sent to me. 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 was sent home.

Looking forward to a great week!

Classroom News

Grade 1 (B)

Miss Konzelmann

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

Spelling: time, white, ride, mile, size, five, slide, prize, write*, read*

Memory work: In theme with our socials studies unit of "One God, Different Homes" we will be working on memorizing Acts 17:26-27. The students will need to know verse 26 by next week Friday.

Acts 17:26 From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands.

Bible: We have finished our Easter unit and now will move on to continuing our journey of David and his trials with Saul. We will look at David's necessary run against Saul, Saul's last battle, and how David finally becomes King.

Socials: The students started creating different kinds of homes based on the landforms and different climates of Ecuador last Friday. I have enjoyed seeing their creativity and unique ideas through many different examples of houses using simple tools found in the classroom (popsicle sticks, paper, Lego, cardboard, etc).

Math: We are continuing to learn how to compare and use numbers to 50. This week we are focusing on place value, skip counting (2s, 5s, 10s) and estimating amounts of items. A great home exercise to practice skip counting with your kids, is asking them to count items by skip counting!

Writing: Most students have finished their fiction stories and have all worked very hard to complete a final draft. As we are learning about Ecuador in our socials unit, we will be learning what it looks like to write something Non-fiction by researching an animal found in Ecuador.

Grandfriends' Day: We are preparing for our special presentation for Grandfriends' Day. It will include some singing and boom whackers! We will be spending the next few weeks preparing during our music classes. Check you child's take home folder for an invitation!

Poetry Presentations: A reminder that 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! We will have time during a few days to practice with our classmates, but they will not be given time in class to pick a poem!

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 move into a new unit in Phonics. In this unit we will study r-controlled or r-influenced vowels. R-controlled vowels can be tricky because when the letter r comes after a vowel it changes the sound that the vowel makes. For example, the sound of letter a in "hat" is very different than the sound of the letter a in "car". This week we focus on ar, ar_e, are and air.

Spelling: Our spelling words are **part, dark, garden, care, share, glare, square, air, fair** and **chair**. Our spelling test will be on Friday, April 12.

Math: We started to practise making change last week. If we go to the store to buy something, how much change should we get back? This week we will finish up our unit on Money by looking at and counting bills. Next week we will have a quiz on counting money.

Writing: We have finished our novel study and now we will begin looking at persuasive or opinion writing. Our final project for this unit is to choose our favourite restaurant and tell the class why they should all eat at our favourite place.

Science: We will begin a short unit on Simple Machines this week. We will start with the lever, looking at the three types of levers and discovering examples of each of these around us.

Field Trip: We have a fun Field trip coming up on Tuesday, April 23. We will be taking the bus to the Gordon's dairy farm near Arkona for a tour of their barns. This will complement our next Science unit on animals as we learn about mammals. I am looking for a couple of parent volunteers for this trip. You can email me (jodymferguson@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining us.

Speechfest: An information sheet went home last Thursday explaining our poetry recitations. There was a rubric attached that helps each student understand what we are looking for in their performance. A copy of each student's recitation needs to come to the school by Monday, April 15.

Classroom News

Grade 3

Mrs. Bouma

Poem Recitations: JKCS is preparing for our Poetry/Speech Fest! During the week of April 29th, the primary students will be reciting a poem to their class and one student in each class will be picked to share his or her poem at our in-house Poetry/Speech Fest on May 6th. Oral communication and presentation are important skills for students to learn. We ask that parents help their child pick a poem to memorize and hand in a hard copy to their teacher. While most of the memorization should be done at home, students will have some class time to practice at school. Attached to the agenda page is a rubric which shows how students will be marked and some information on poem length. We can't wait to see and hear our students share their poems!

Solar Eclipse Day: We had fun watching Grade 5 skits about the solar eclipse and working on some different activities to highlight the day. Ask your child what they learned!

Spelling: Lesson 24 words are coming home today! Test will be on Friday.

Reading: We will be reading about pyramids, tunnels, and bridges this week! What kinds of building material are used to make them strong and stable?

Math: We will finish up our math unit on perimeter and area this week and start our next unit on fractions.

French: We have learned our prepositions of sur (on), sous (under), devant (in front of), and derriere (behind). A review sheet is coming home today and our test will be on Friday.

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.

We have visual aids and will work on this verse throughout the week.

Bible: This week we will be looking closely at the symbols and objects in the Tabernacle, and how the Israelites were to worship God. We will make connections with how we worship God today.

Writers Workshop: This week we will briefly evaluate our short stories from the previous weeks. I have introduced the concept of self-evaluation and constructive criticism. We will look at how we could improve next time. We will also begin to work on short comic strips, using onomatopoeias. Toward the end of the week, I will start giving 10 mins a day to practice for the poetry competition. Please choose that poem with your child and bring a paper copy to class.

Science: Our structures unit is going very well! The students have been having a lot of fun working on building and thinking like an engineer! We will complete our bridges on Tuesday. For the rest of the week we will begin a new structure building project to see if our towers can withstand a jello earthquake.

Classroom News

Grade 4

Mrs. Noordam

Bible: We will continue our unit on Psalms and Proverbs.

Spelling: Our Lesson is due on Friday and the students will write a spelling test. Spelling lists have been sent home today.

Grammar: Our preposition unit is complete and we begin a longer unit on 'Sentences'. We begin with the focus on declarative, interrogative, exclamatory, and imperative sentences.

Literature: We will begin a novel study and the children are very excited! This week we will begin to read, *Sign of the Beaver*, by Elizabeth George Speare.

This story is about a 13 year old boy, Matt, who is faced with enormous responsibility. He is more than a little apprehensive when his father leaves him alone to guard their newly built cabin in the wilderness.

Speechfest: Remember to have a hard copy of your poem/Bible verse sent to the school by Monday April 15th. You can also send it to me by email and I can print it off. You keep practicing those poems/Bible verses, grade 4!

Math: Students finished up our measurement unit and wrote a test on Friday. These tests have been sent home today. Our next unit is a short unit on Area.

Music: On Tuesday April 16 it will be Ella's turn to share with us her song choice.

Kleenex Boxes: We are in need of more boxes! If you have any extra please send them to school! Thanks!

French (Madame DeBoer): The roles have been chosen for our plays; please have your child memorize their parts for the play.

Classroom News

Grade 5

Mrs. Raja

Psalm 8

*O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?*

Praise God who has authority and dominion over the sun and the moon. What an awesome creator he is!

The class is looking forward to today's eclipse. Check your inbox for your child's full skit today. They are a creative bunch!

Speeches continue to be our focus in language arts. There is a real push on for us to finish our rough drafts by this Friday! There is a bit of wiggle room to push it to Monday, if you need it. This will give enough time for revisions, edits, and memorization.

French (Madame DeBoer): We are almost done our 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 received a paper copy of the lyrics, and we will have a quiz on Friday. Here is a link for at-home practice. [My God Is All I Need/My God Is So Big - CityAlight \(Lyric video\)](#)

Math: Our new unit is on measuring triangles, rectangles, and parallelograms.

Music: We are working on our Spring Showcase and Grandfriends Day performance of *Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me*. Students will be playing recorder for this song, and are asked to practice the music at home.

Classroom News

Grade 6

Mrs. Kamel

Science: For the past week and a half, grade six has been gathering information about an object they selected found in the universe. Last week we had class time to work on the model. I will give the students two more work periods to complete their projects in class. The project itself will be due on Wednesday or Thursday (depending how much we can accomplish on Monday and Tuesday).

Math: Math test will be on Tuesday (Monday for those in the battle of the books). On Friday, each student was given a study sheet and practice questions. I will expect the students to memorize the formulas for the area of the polygons found on that study sheet. We will start a new unit on 3D Geometry and Surface Area after our test on Tuesday.

Speeches: Speech writing rough draft will be due and handed in on Friday, April 12. Grade six has had class time to write their speeches. All their speech work and writing is kept in the middle section of their W.O.W. binders. They may need you (parents) to look over and fine tune some writing with them before they hand it in.

Gym: This week will be our baseball week. Please have your child bring their baseball gloves to school on Wednesday and Thursday.

Bible: We have started a new unit on Paul's first missionary journey.

No spelling or memory this week.

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

Welcome to another week of school! I will be away on Tuesday for Battle of the Books. Below is a preview of the week to come.

Bible: Last week we had a test on our Job lessons. This week we will begin looking at the book of Ecclesiastes. Our memory work for this week is found in **Proverbs 3:27-30**. We will have a quiz on these verses on **Friday, April 12**.

Math: Last week we finished up our chapter on 2-D Geometry. We will not be having a test on this unit. This week we will dive into Chapter 8: Variables, Expressions and Equations. 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 continue working on memorizing the graduation and Grandfriends' song: *My God Is All I Need, My God Is So Big* by CityAlight. We will have a school wide practice on Friday.

Literature/Writing: We are nearing the end of our novel study on the book *Lost in the Barrens* by Farley Mowat. There are nine chapters left and we will split those chapters into two sections and have two more quizzes on the remaining chapters.

History: We will continue working through our unit on The Middle Ages. Students have chosen a topic for their history project and a way of presenting their findings. This month we will be focusing on completing our speeches and then in May we will focus on completing the projects.

Phys. Ed: Baseball and Track and Field are the upcoming sports. We will begin working on sprint, distance running, and track and field drills in anticipation of these events. **Students should bring a change of clothes for class.**

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): This week we are finishing our unit on microbes (and our final project!) and beginning our new unit on assistive technology.

Classroom News

Grade 8

Miss Hiemstra

Science: We are continuing to learn about solutions and the role of water in our ecosystems. This week, we will be working on our “Water Issues” projects, where students are working in groups to research a specific problem related to our use of water.

History: We are wrapping up our unit on the Middle Ages this week by looking at life in a medieval town, as well as the impact of early Reformers like John Hus.

Math: We have a test on Chapter 7 (Transformations) and Chapter 8 (Equations and Relationships) this **Tuesday, April 8**. After the test, we will be moving on to our new unit on Fraction Operations.

Bible: We are moving forward with our study of the Jewish calendar feasts and how they are fulfilled in the New Testament.

Music: We will be continuing to practice “How Great Thou Art” on the tone chimes, as well as singing “My God is All I Need” in preparation for Grandfriends’ Day.

Mrs. Koetsier

Literature: We’ve begun our literature circles unit on the theme of prejudice. We have outlined what the roles for each discussion group time include, how to fill them out in preparation for good discussion, and how to be a good discussion group member. Reading assignment number one has been given and the first group discussion will take place Wednesday morning.

Writing: Speeches are the assignment of the week. Students will have had ample writing time at school to work on a rough copy, which will be due on Thursday - please print them out at home. This is a great time to check in and offer feedback and encouragement at home!

Geography: We’ll be doing some comparisons on quality of life from countries around the globe in order to learn about determining factors!

Art: We’ll welcome a special guest artist this week Wednesday who will lead us in a lesson on watercolours - thanks, Makayla Wilpstra!

Graduation Update:

A graduation committee composed of myself, Emily Anjema, Brooke Leystra, Katie Nutma and two grade 8 students (to be determined today) will meet this week. Students will be asked about a favourite Bible verse and their choice of study Bible or Bible handbook this week. Parents and students should start thinking about pictures to include for the slide show - three pictures from each graduate are needed. More information to follow after our meeting!

French (Madame DeBoer): This week we continue to do our unit on bizarre animals; we will have a quiz on the subject “on” on Thursday.

JKCS Hanging Basket Fundraiser

Helping Hands is selling hanging baskets from Sipkens Nurseries

Vouchers will be delivered to you and you can pick up your basket any time in the month of May at Sipkens Nurseries.

Orders are due April 19

Name: _____

Phone: _____

10" Hanging Basket

Cost: \$19.99 +tx = \$22.59 (same as retail)

Quantity: _____

Total: _____

*If you would prefer a bigger hanging basket or an annual patio pot, just take your voucher in and pay the difference at the store.

*For each basket sold the school makes \$6.49.

_____ Cheque *Please makes cheques payable to JKCS helping hands

_____ Cash

Any questions please contact Rebecca Tamminga: 519-464-8820 or rebeccatamminga88@gmail.com



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

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