

# The Beacon

Summer 2025

## Graduation Edition



Have I not commanded you?

Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you.

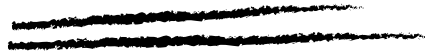
*Joshua 1: 9*





I had attended JKCS since I was in SK. I have had lots of good experiences, made good friends, and had lots of fun. The school here does a great job teaching us about Christ, and everyone helps each other grow in the faith. I would like to thank all the teachers, volunteers, and people who took the time to teach us and helped us grow in the faith over the years. I have learned how to live a Christian life and how to share the gospel. Some memories I have at JKCS are the hockey tournament, the softball tournament, the graduation trip, and field day. I enjoyed playing basically any sport.. Some advice I have for future grade eights is to keep doing your best no matter what happens in life, and to do your schoolwork with passion and to be proud of what you accomplish! - Cade Wilpstra

JKCS was an amazing experience. I will cherish all the memories I have made here and take everything I have learned and bring it with me into highschool. In the 9 years I have been here I have seen my faith strengthened and I have learned a lot about God. John Knox was great because I was surrounded by amazing friends who were kind and taught me more about God in their actions. My favourite memories from John Knox were hanging with friends, sports, and my grad trip. John Knox pushed me to strive for my best, that is why I chose the verse Colossians 3:23a, "Whatever you do, work at it with your whole heart." I will carry this verse with me into highschool and tell myself that God told us to always give our best in everything we do. - Amelia Graham



My best memories at JKCS are our field trips. My all-time favourite field trip was when we went to a park and got to play games and hang out with friends. Some other field trips we went on were to Western University for a science experiment, where we made slime. After we went to a frisbee golf park and we got a frisbee in the pond, Alyson went into the water and got it. Another one of my favourite memories was having class parties every year and playing games and watching movies. We always had so many snacks and pop. Some more of my favorite memories are playing sports in gym class. I loved playing soccer, volleyball, and baseball. It was so fun playing sports with my friends.  
- Lauren Hoekstra

I have attended JKCS since the seventh grade. This is a good school, and I have had a pretty good experience here. JKCS is rooted deeply in faith and Christian values. The teachers here have taught me good Christian lessons, and I have grown a lot in my faith. I have learned some valuable lessons, such as trusting Corbin to fix the bus when it breaks down. Of course, he fixed it. My favourite memory here was going to Canada's Wonderland - especially Greyson's face on the roller coasters! I'd like to tell future grade 8s that once you start grade eight, the year flies by! - Titus MacDermid





I have attended JKCS since I was in first grade. I made lots of friends and have had lots of fun with them. All the teachers here work hard to educate us in Christ and help everyone grow in faith. Sports were fun, especially since our teams were always well coached. My favourite memory from JKCS was the hockey tournament this year. We have lost in the finals of the hockey tournament, until this year. We finally won. I would like to thank all volunteers who put their time into our class, whether it was sports teams, field trips, or electives. Some advice that I would give to future eighth-graders is that the sooner you get all your work done, the better you cooperate, the more time you will have to relax. Work hard, then have fun.  
- Greyson Poort

I have been at the school for three years. It is the best school that I have been to. My best memory from JKCS is the Track and Field day. It was so much fun. I remember Christmas, how we played some games, we had snacks, and opened presents. I will never forget how we got to go skating with school. And then we went to the university in London, and after that we got to play golf. My Bible verse is Psalm 140:13: Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name; the upright shall dwell in your presence. I will not forget my TEACHER, she is so kind and nice. - Daryna Voronko



I have attended John Knox for 9 years and have made many friendships that I hope to keep throughout the next couple years of my life. I have been very blessed to be a part of the JKCS community and each teacher, helper and classmate has made a big impact on my life. John Knox has taught me how to look at every situation in life from a Christian perspective and how important it is to have Christian-based friendships. John Knox has helped me grow in my faith and love for God and his people. My favourite memory was while we were on the grad trip when we all went and jumped in the lake on the first night. Some advice for the future grade eights is to appreciate the time you have left and to value your relationships with your classmates and teachers because it all goes by very fast. - Alexis Bork

John Knox has formed the person I am today in so many different ways. From grade one to eight, I have always been encouraged to persevere, to try my best, and to have "grit". But most importantly, I have been welcomed into a Christ-centered community and have been built in my faith. My best memories vary from simply laughing with friends to trekking in the woods, while trying not to fall in a stream and avoiding poison ivy. I'm not going to deny it; I'm going to miss this place. There's no doubt that I'm nervous about high school. But Ecclesiastes 3:11-12 says that God makes everything beautiful in his time, so I'm able to trust that even in high school, God is making me into the person he wants me to be and beautifying my soul. My hope; that God will use me for his glory. - Avalina Batterink





After 10 years of going to John Knox Christian School, my best memory will be winning the school hockey tournament. I know that my Bible verse was well chosen because God will always be with us wherever we go. And no matter what, stay strong and trust in him because he has your whole life planned. A. My favourite hobbies are dirt bikes, fishing, and golf. I praise and thank God for all the gifts and abilities He has given to me. I hope high school brings me closer to God and I end up where I need to be, to be successful.  
- Logan Sipkens

My favourite memories of JKCS are hanging out with the boys and winning the hockey tournament. My favourite Bible verse is Romans 12:12: " Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer". I chose this verse because it reminds me of God's grace and that He will always have our backs no matter what. I would like to thank Mrs Schenk for all she did with the younger grades and our teachers over the years. I can't forget to thank the coaches who led the school sports teams over the years. Thanks to everyone who has helped and taught me. - Corbin Leystra



Most of my favourite memories at JKCS are the sports tournaments. My top one is the hockey tournament as it was the first time we won the championship in many years. Another fun time is when me and Colin went head-to-head in high jump on track day. I also loved being part of the baseball team. We went undefeated through the whole day. I am really excited for soccer, hockey and track in high school next year.  
- Kallee Elliott

The last 8 years at John Knox have been filled with so many memories. My favourite memory is being captain of the girls volleyball team as that taught me a lot about what it meant to be a leader. Although we lost in the finals, it was great to be part of such an amazing team! My Bible verse is Philippians 4:4-7 and it really means to be happy in every circumstance. In high school I hope to keep working hard at school and be able to play sports. - Reese Hordyk



I have been at JKCS for 10 years. My time at JKCS has been exciting, with many different sports events. The best memory is the hockey tournament. It was the best experience ever, and it brought our class and school together. My favourite Bible verse is Psalm 23:4-5. It says, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me". This means to me that even though I walk through dark times or tough times, it reminds me that the Lord is with me wherever I go, no matter what. - Calvin VanStempvoort



I have been at John Knox for ten years and it has taught me that I am God's child, His masterpiece. The many different teachers I have had have shown me all I need to know. These past 9 years of attending JKCS I've made so many amazing memories, and friendships along the way. Throughout my time here this school has really shaped my faith by helping me understand what it means to strengthen my relationship with God. I am very grateful to be able to experience what it is like to be a part of such an amazing community, and to be surrounded by so many amazing people. Some of my favourite memories are going on all the rides at Canada's Wonderland, the grade 8 volleyball tournament, and our recent field trip to Spring Bank Park in London. In high school I hope to make more good memories and to keep most of my friendships from JKCS. My advice to the upcoming grade 8 students is to make the most of your time here and to cherish the moments you have even though it may seem like a hassle to have to go to school, but the memories you make along the way are worth it. - Carly Moesker

I've been here at JKCS for 3 years now, and I've made some amazing friendships that I hope to last a lifetime, and great memories like participating in sports. The most important thing is that I came into JKCS as an unbeliever and came out as a believer. JKCS made me feel very comfortable in this environment, and if I had never come to JKCS, it would have taken me a lot longer to come to know Christ as my Saviour. One of my favorite memories at JKCS is the volleyball tournament. I got to be captain alongside my best friend, and I was on a team with all my friends. We got to go to the University of Windsor and play against other Christian schools. We beat all the schools except in the last round, where we lost and got second overall. My advice for future Grade 8s is to cherish your time here at John Knox and to put Christ first in everything you do. - Layla Zantingh



I have been at JKCS for 2 years. My time at JKCS has been good in almost every way. I enjoyed meeting new people and playing in the hockey tournaments. My favourite verse is Jeremiah 1:5, which says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." This verse assures me that God knows what is going to happen to me and has a plan for my future. My goal for high school is to do my best in all of my classes. For any future grade 8s, just try your hardest in all you do. - Jasper Kamel

My best memory at John Knox is hanging out with my friends and making memories that I will never forget. I hope to make more in my high school years with the same friends. My personal Bible verse is Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." I picked this verse because it reminds me that I can do all things through Christ no matter how difficult, as long as I do it through Him and with Him in my heart for the rest of my life. This verse will also help me in the future because anytime I'm going through a hard time, I can think of this verse and it will help me move forward. - Colin Tweedy





I have made many good memories that I will never forget, and made good friends here at JKCS. I have been at John Knox for 10 years. JKCS has the best teachers, students, and classmates. They are always trying to help out in every possible way. One thing that JKCS has taught me is to always put Christ first before anything else. My favourite memory of JKCS is the grad trip it was the best just to walk and talk with friends, and enjoy time around the campfire. Some advice for future grade eights is to enjoy the time you have left, appreciate the opportunities you get and the memories you get to make! - Alycia Huizinga

I have learned so much and made so many memories during my time here at JKCS. I attended John Knox for 10 years. I have made some amazing friendships that I hope will last for the next few years of my life. I have been so blessed by the teachers I have had. They taught me not only about various subjects but about life. I have learned how to look at everything from a Christian perspective. John Knox has taught me how to grow in my faith every day. My favourite John Knox memory was going on the grad trip and going to Canada's Wonderland. My advice for future Grade 8s is to value the time you have left and your relationships with friends and teachers. - Alyssa Pool



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**JKCS**

# GOLF TOURNAMENT



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