
Thunder Bay Christian School

VOLUME 1, OCTOBER 2025



Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year!

Thank you for the prayers and encouragement as we begin another year at TBCS and celebrate the starting of a new chapter; TCH – Thunder Bay Christian High.

It was wonderful to start the 25/26 year with an opening assembly at the church surrounded by so many members, family, and friends with the opportunity to pray, welcome, and reflect on the blessing of Christian education!

My prayer as we begin this year is based on 2 Corinthians 3:3, “Believers themselves are a letter from Christ, written not with ink but with the spirit of the living God, and carved not on stone tablets but on the human hearts”. I hope and pray that each student, over this upcoming school year, is blessed by hearing, singing, or studying Christ’s word and that it becomes written on their hearts.

As always, I love to hear from you, please never hesitate to reach out with questions, concerns or positive news; it really does “take a village”.

In His service,
Jolene Makkinga
Director of Operations

Volunteer Spotlight

This summer we had many volunteers help to get the school ready for the new school year. Thank you to the Maintenance Committee and the crew of students and alumni that helped put new flooring in five classrooms. It was a big job to take all the classroom furniture out, rip out the old flooring, and then put it all back. The classrooms went from old carpet to fresh, washable, laminate flooring.

We also want to highlight the team of ladies who organized, cleaned, and got the kitchen set up for another year of events and activities. There are many volunteers behind the scenes who help make our school an amazing place to learn, work and grow together.

Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving Day
October 13

Thanksgiving
Assembly
First CRC 9:15 a.m.
October 29, 2025

PD Days
October 30-31

Membership
Meeting
November 3

Bazaar & Auction
November 20-21



Spiritual Life at TBCS

During the month of September, we have been studying 1 John 4:7-9 and John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." We have alternated between Chapel and Bible Study Buddies on Wednesday afternoons to dig into these scriptures. The students have been pondering what it means to know God, to love others, and how to practically lay down their lives on a regular basis to show God's love at home, at school, or wherever they may be.

Pastor Adi Caciula from Westfort Baptist Church graciously came to speak at two of our Sr. Chapels (Gr.6-12), and Mrs. Awosika has led our Jr. Chapels (JK-Gr.5). The students have been engaged in singing songs of worship, prayer, response, and Bible lessons.



The heart of our Bible Study Buddies program is discipleship, taken from The Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20. Slowly, but surely, the older and younger students are building positive relationships with each other while growing in God's Word and Spirit together. It is such good practice for our older students to learn ways of reaching out to others with the truth and love of Christ.

Please keep the Spiritual Life of TBCS in your prayers! We want every student to have a life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ, and to bear the fruit of the Spirit in our school community.
-Ashleigh Awosika (Manager of Spiritual Life)

Sports



The school has been busy as sports start up again. The first sport of the year was Cross Country Running. The team practiced many times after school for the race on October 8th.

Students did a great job at the race and represented our school well. We are thankful to Katherine Lemieux who helped coach and coordinate this event and to our parent volunteers, Eric Bron and Jami Breukelman.

We are looking forward to participating in several SSSAA events this year and are so thankful to our teacher and parent volunteers that help make these opportunities available for the students.



Kite Night

On October 3rd, we enjoyed Kite Night as a community. The weather was warm, and we even had a bit of wind for the kites. It was a great opportunity for fellowship. Thank you to the Promotion Committee for hosting this fun event.

Volunteers Needed!

TBCS was first introduced to Gaga Ball last year on Fun Day, with a portable pit borrowed from First CRC. It is basically a giant wooden octagon, and the point of the game is to not get hit with the ball. Large groups of children can fit inside the pit, and you are only allowed to hit the ball with your hands (no legs or kicks). The students loved it so much that the Grade 3 students (at that time the Grade 2 students) decided to brainstorm ways that we could get two permanent Gaga Ball Pits (one for the Jr. Students and one for the Sr. Students).

Brainstorming was extended to Math as the class calculated how much lumber would be needed, as well as how much each Gaga Ball Pit would cost us to build. Finally, we settled on the idea to write letters to Home Hardware, explaining that we are a private school without government funding, and asked if they would consider lowering the price of the lumber and supplies to help us out.

The students really worked hard to make these letters extra special. They did a rough draft first, then used their best printing and artwork to complete their letters.

Assemblies



Our classes are excited to host assemblies 3 times a year. Assemblies are typically held at First CRC at 9:15 a.m. (with the exception of the Christmas Assembly).

Teachers work with their classes to create a fun themed assembly. It is great to see all the students' hard work and practice come together.

Oct. 29: Thanksgiving Assembly (Led by Grades 4-6)

Dec. 18 @ 7 pm.: Christmas Assembly (Led by Grades 7-12, all grades involved)

April 8 Easter Assembly (Led by JK- Grade 2)

Please contact the office with any questions.

We prayed for God to prepare the hearts of the managers, and I dropped off the letters at Home Hardware on Memorial Ave. Our class was overjoyed when just two days later, co-owner Shannon Sauer called to say that she and her husband loved our letters and would like to donate all the supplies needed for one entire Gaga Ball Pit!

Now Mrs. Kukkee and the High-School students are planning to build our permanent Gaga Ball Pits, adding another fun and active option for students at recess.

The students who wrote the letters felt a deep sense of joy and purpose throughout the entire process, and were thrilled to see how their hard work paid off in the end.

Mrs. Kukkee is looking for volunteers to help the Highschool students with this project. If you would like to help please contact Amy at amy.kukkee@tbc.sschool

Save the Date: TBCS Bazaar

The Annual Bazaar & Auction will be held November 20 & 21st. News will be updated on Facebook, our website and via email.

If you would like to help, donate or be part of this event please contact any member of the Bazaar Committee or Tina at 629-2699 or Jason Buitenhuis 629-0376



Thunder Bay Christian Highschool



Hello TBCS Community,

I'm looking for some TECH opportunities for students in the second term. I'm hoping to be able to coordinate with you and your families to give our students welding and small engine opportunities. I will have a large class of Gr. 9/10, and would like to group them into smaller numbers to rotate hopefully one day a week to learn about welding (create a small project), and small engine repair (lawn mower or snowblower maintenance for example). I understand this can be a commitment on your end to receive a rotational group of students, and it would likely last for a few months. Please let me know by email if you are able to help out in any way (rides, opening up your shop, supply materials or time, etc).

I am also looking for some more tools for the Tech Shop, especially since the class will be much larger this year. I am in the process of devising a list of some needed extra's. I would appreciate new or used hand tools, or power tools, and possibly some donated materials for planned projects. Feel free to inquire if you are able to assist in this.

Thank You!

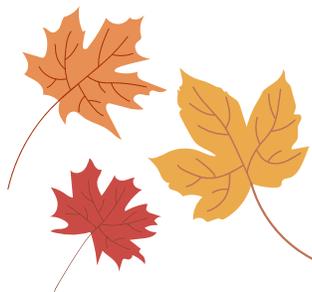
Amy Kukkee

Manager of TCH Highschool Program
amy.kukkee@tbcsc.school



Upcoming Dates

- October 23- Junior Football Game- 7p.m. Fort William Legion Stadium
- October 29th Midterm of Semester 1
- October 29th- In school First Aid Course (For those who signed up)
- October 30-31- PD Days



Sports

We are thankful that TCH has been paired with Hammarskjold Highschool for sports. Football season has begun and students have been practicing and working hard. Our team includes 2 offensive players, 4 defensive players and a back up quarter back.

We are also excited to have a student playing with the junior volleyball team!



Announcements

The high school students start the day by doing announcements for the school with the school phone system.

They announce upcoming events, faithful encouragement and student birthdays. They finish with a joke of the day which always puts a smile on our faces.

Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year!

It has been a great start to the 2025-2026 school year. We are thankful that God has provided us with the wonderful staff we have this year.

We are so excited to welcome **new families** this year:

Scott & Traci Bremner- Kendrik and Barrett
 Charles & Irene Brobbey – Yaw and Akwasi
 Anton & Sagaya Fernando – Avliya and Anaya
 Evan & Jessie Hughes – Eli
 Daniel & Katherine Lemieux – Lily, Milo, and Olive
 Mike & Justine Nystrom – Elsie
 Fred & Wilhelmina Quarcoo – Winston and Fredericia
 Spencer & Sandra Whomersley- Sebastian and Trinity

Staff for the 2025-2026 Year

Administration

Jolene Makkinga- Director of Operations
 Sandra deHaan- Manager of School Learning
 Ashleigh Awosika- Manager of Spiritual Life
 Amy Kukkee- Manager of TCH Highschool Program
 Emily Streutker- Finance Manager
 Courtney Henny- Administrative Assistant
 Kimberly Schelhaas- Manager of Promotion/ Admissions/Website

Teaching

Lauren Allem- Resource Teacher
 Nicole Anderson- JK/SK Teacher
 Kimberly Schelhaas- Kinderschool
 Michelle Bolt- Grade 1/2 (AM)
 Ashleigh Awosika- 2/3 (Math), Grade 1/2(PM),

Mr. Fred Quarcoo- Grade 2/3 (AM), Grade 6
 Mrs. Portia Addai Adusei- Grade 5 & Grade 2/3 PM
 Erica Cavar- Grade 4
 Maxwell Janssens- Grade 6 (AM) & Grade 5 (PM)
 Sagaya Fernando- Grade 8 & Highschool
 Katherine Lemieux- Highschool Teacher
 Sandra de Haan- Resource/Spec. Ed., Grade 8 (pm)
 Irene Boateng - Highschool Bible
 Amy Kukkee- Highschool Teacher
 Emmy Armstrong- Music

Teachers' Assistants

Kristen Mol JK/ SK
 Melissa Staal- Resource & EA
 Mrs. Emily Bakker
 Irene Boateng
 Mrs. Theresa Henny
 Emelie Henny

Support Staff

Jim Budowski- Bus Driver
 Marlene Schelhaas- Bus Driver
 Jeannette Meijaard- Bus Driver
 Leslie Arsenault- Bus Driver
 Stephanie Trickey- Janitor
 Jackie Bakker- Volunteer Librarian
 Joanne Lemieux- Volunteer Librarian
 Bonnie Fiorito- Volunteer Librarian
 Joanne Schep- Volunteer Librarian
 Ken Paulusma- Twice As Nice Store Manager
 Rose Drewek- Twice As Nice Store Assistant Manager

To God be The Glory

<p>THUNDER BAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL</p>	<p>807-939-1209</p>
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