
Thunder Bay Christian School

VOLUME 5, JUNE 2026



End of another school year!

It has been a wonderful blessing to spend the end of the school year with the staff and students at Thunder Bay Christian School. The community has welcomed my family with the love of Christ, and we appreciate it so much. I look forward with anticipation to what the Lord will do next year in the lives of everyone who is part of the school community.

As I have been able to connect with people—both in the joyful moments, like our recent field day, and in the difficult moments, especially when students have conflict—I am continually reminded of what the Lord said.

“And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:30-31.

As we strive to become the community of believers—saved by grace through faith—that God calls us to be, everything that is truly important rests on these two commands. They are simple enough that the youngest students grasp them, yet profound enough that even the oldest among us still need continual reminders. These commands beautifully capture the vision of our school: to instill in our students a passion for God and His Word, and to shape them into faithful image-bearers of Christ.

So, as we close out the current school year and look ahead to the next, let us commit ourselves once again to loving God first and then extending His love to our neighbours. May this be the heartbeat of our community as we move forward together.

Mathew Wylie

A Parting Blessing - John 17

Thank you TBCS/TCH community; what a blessing it was to serve the Lord, as the school administrator over the past 6 years. Thank you for the support and prayers during this term and the kind words as I departed. I was very touched and have said to many “I got the best end of this deal; the rest of my days will be blessed by the time spent at the school amongst the students, staff and community. To God be the Glory”.

As I prepared the office and passed the responsibilities to Mr. Wylie over the past 2 months, I spent many hours reflecting on the past 6 years. The highs and lows, the challenges and the triumphs; I praise God for his providence to not only the students learning and growing in His Word but for us, as the older generations, given this opportunity to learn as well. I pray that we continue to be a village, young and old, of humble lifelong learners of His Word.

One of the biggest challenges God put on my heart when I started was to always “promote unity”. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 explains that just as a human body has many parts, Christ’s church is one body made of many members. My mentor, Ray Hendricks, told me many times, “through it all focus and fall back on your school’s vision and mission.” Our Christian School family is blessed with many churches, backgrounds, and ethnicities. I often stood in awe of God’s plan, blending this all together for His Kingdom work to be accomplished. It was a privilege to speak to so many of you, hear your stories, and share in your yearning to protect your children and enrol them in a school based on God’s word.

The call to promote unity felt natural because I grew up here; I love this community. But, discipline or growth challenges, world view issues, or any change in general, at times, brought me to my knees. How can I promote unity to achieve our mission and vision when there are multiple opinions. The devil definitely tries hard to divide and conquer what God is trying to build and bless.

Recently I read and felt so blessed by John 17 “The Prayer of Jesus”. I pray that this blesses your heart the way it did mine and carries the school through the generations to come.

As Jesus prayed for His disciples, He prayed for 3 things: that they would be unified, that they would be protected from the evil one, and that they would be made holy:

Unified - In John 17:11 Jesus cried out to His father “protect them by the power of your name, so that they will be united just as we are”. Jesus knew how different His disciples were and the cry of His heart was for them to be unified, make them a village so that together they will bring Glory to my name.

Protected - We as parents want to protect our children, many of you expressed how you wanted the Christian School to help protect them. John 17: 14-15 “I have given your word, and the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world but to keep them safe from the evil one”. Jesus was saying this world needs their light. He knew the darkness we’d face; don’t take them out but protect them while they are in the world!

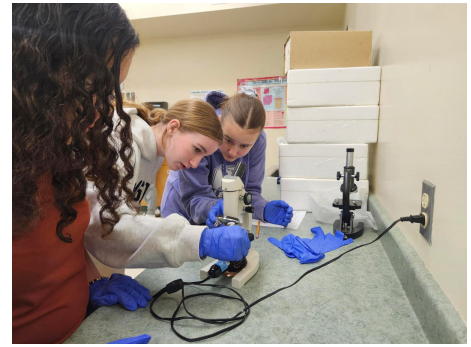
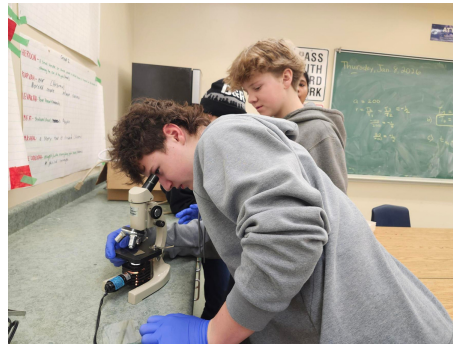
Made Holy - John 17:17 “Make them holy by Your truth; teach your word, which is truth” How are we made Holy? Only through God’s word, which is truth. We cannot live the life God fully intended for us, apart from the bible. Praise God for a school that works to base everything on God’s word.

Jesus desires and grants Unity, protection, and holiness upon the “village” of TBCS. These three things have graciously been given to us. As we look ahead may this bless every effort to “instill in our children a passion for God’s word and the desire to live in the world as image bearers of Christ, stewards of His creation, and Christ-honouring citizens”.



In His Service,

Jolene Makkinga



Experiment to Examine Plant cell and Human cheek cell

Our Grade 8 class stepped into the hidden world of biology using microscopes to examine plant cells! We started by analyzing the neat, brick-like patterns of onion skins, cheek cells, and the intricate structures of green leaves. Things got really exciting when the students took their own creative initiative, hunting around the classroom to find extra samples to test under the lens. Seeing their curiosity light up as they discovered life at a microscopic level was incredible. We definitely have some brilliant future scientists in the making here at TBCS!



Eating Well: Grade 8s Build Balanced Meals

Our Grade 8 class became nutrition experts! We spent time exploring essential food nutrients, figuring out exactly what our bodies need to stay strong, energized, and healthy. To put this knowledge to the test, the students teamed up for a hands-on kitchen challenge. Each group had to design a real, healthy plate that hit a perfectly balanced, average calorie count—making sure it wasn't a single calorie too high or too low. They had to think about portion sizes, balancing proteins with greens, and making the food look as good as it tastes.

Which plate looks like the winner to you?



Spiritual Life at TBCS

The Bible Study Buddies started out by praying together, followed with a recap of 1 Corinthians 13:4: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. Next, they had to work together to create a kindness wheel, which involved brainstorming different ways to be kind to their peers, siblings, neighbours, strangers, friends, parents, and teachers. It was great to see the thought and creativity put into this activity by both the older and younger students. Last of all, the buddies worked together to colour a piece of a puzzle which when combined, will become a bulletin board display reminding our school community to “BE KIND!”



Field Day

Field Day was held June 3rd, and we had a great day! We are so thankful for the hard work of Erica Cavar and the staff to make this day possible for the students. Students had so much fun participating in all of the activities and enjoyed the food and drinks that the Booster Club organized for them. It was great to see the students cheering each other on and encouraging each other.





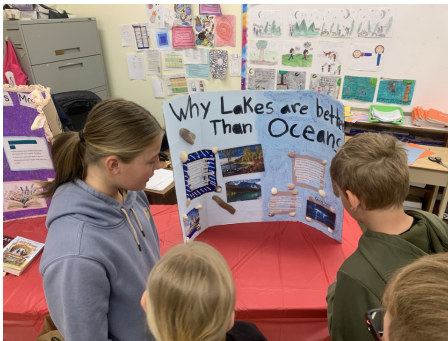
End of the Year Activities and Field Trips!



Grade 6 Rocket Launch Day



Grade 5
Swimming & Ice
Cream Trip



Grade 6 Persuasive Writing "Hot Take" Festival

Our school participated in the SSSAA Track Meet that happened June 16-17th. The athletes did a great job and we are so proud of their hard work and effort. A huge thank you to Jami Breukelman, Tiffany Cramer, Melissa Staal, and Kristen Mol for organizing, supervising, and coaching the kids.



The Grade 7/8 girls participated in the SSSAA baseball tournament and went undefeated! The boys' team lost 2 and tied 2 games. Great job teams!

Thunder Bay Christian Highschool



As we reflect on another successful school year, we are proud to celebrate the many accomplishments of our students across Grades 9–12. This year marked an exciting milestone as we expanded from offering only Grade 9 and 10 courses to providing a full secondary program. Students demonstrated growth in academics, skills development, leadership, and personal responsibility across a wide range of courses and learning experiences. Throughout the year, our school community enjoyed memorable events, field trips, athletic activities, service opportunities, and celebrations that strengthened school spirit and fostered meaningful connections.

We are especially proud to recognize our first-ever Grade 12 graduating class, whose perseverance and achievements have helped establish a strong foundation for future graduates. Congratulations to Sarah and Owen! We congratulate all of our students on their hard work and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Amy Kukkee
Thunder Bay Christian High



The Highschool students have been doing announcements daily, with words of encouragement, birthdays, and daily announcements. Students have been submitting a joke for the “Joke of the Day”. Thank you to the Highschool students for helping out the younger students.