



Thunder Bay Christian School

Issue 2

To God be the Glory!

Christmas Edition

BUT SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS,
AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE
ADDED TO YOU. MATTHEW 6:33

From the Office

I wanted to pass on a heartfelt thank you, for the prayers and support since September. Seeing the students recite and study Christmas/advent scripture over the last few weeks encouraged me to read through the first few chapters of Matthew myself. As I read through these chapters and grasped the many different individuals that the spirit spoke to and the many different "paths/plans" that changed because of this, I could not help but compare this to the story of TBCS. God works through so many individuals for His kingdom work here. Our plans and paths change and at times I timidly question, "Why God, is this your will? Help us make the right decisions." Those questions are never deliberately answered, but continuing to move forward, it always brings peace and makes sense. I pray that we, as a community, continue to humbly listen and follow the way the Wise Men did. Our needs continue to be met; God has TBCS in His hands. Praise God, this Christmas, for the gifts of community and Christian education. On behalf of the staff we wish you all a blessed Christmas.

Pancake Breakfast

The Pancake Breakfast held at the beginning of November was a huge success. Thank you so much for helping to support the Grade 8 Toronto Trip! The Pancake Breakfast and Poster Sponsors this year raised around \$15,000! Great job, Grade 8's!



1st Place: Slate River Dairy
by Mason M.



2nd Place: Holland Bakery
by Mason M.



3rd Place: Thunder Bay Co Op
by Brock Schelhaas

Prayer Corner

Please lift up the Hoogsteen and DeVos families in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Wiebe Hoogsteen (Bill) and Willem DeVos.

We praise God for guiding us through the first half of the school year and ask for a safe and blessed Christmas holiday.

Offer a prayer of thanks to all the volunteers who faithfully donate their time to help the school in any way they can. We are truly blessed to have a community that continues to support our students.

Volunteer Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers for the morning and afternoon recesses! If you would like to volunteer, please call or email the office. Recess times are 10:40-11 a.m. and 1:10-1:45 p.m. Anyone can volunteer for this and you are welcome to take your little ones along.



Choir

The TBCS Choir has been a HIT the past 3 months! It has been a joy having 35 kids each week to sing and prepare songs like *Joyful Joyful*, *Here I Am to Worship*, and *Sounding Joy*. The kids have been learning so much and seeing their smiles and hearing their voices has been a blessing! New kids are welcome to join us again after the holidays.

Merry Christmas! - Mrs. Armstrong



Dates to Remember

December 19th - 7:00pm
December 21st- Jan. 5th
January 27th

Christmas Program First CRC
Christmas Break
PD Day

Weekly Announcements www.tbcs.school/announcements

Chapel

In Chapel, we have learned about trusting God. A trusting high schooler volunteered to sit in a chair under Mrs. Awosika while she poked holes with pencils through a water filled Ziplock bag right above his head to demonstrate trust! We recalled that God exists without anyone else creating Him or providing for Him. God has no limits and sent His Son Jesus to die in our place, for our sin, and for the restoration of our relationship with Him.



The students agreed that we can trust God! We will continue to learn more about this truth with our Bible Study Buddies.



Last week in Chapel, we learned that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Mrs. Awosika did an object lesson on the importance of building our lives on Jesus and His unchanging Word, using a pillow, a slab of rock, and a dollhouse. We saw that if we build our lives on things that change, like our emotions, people's opinions, or media, then when storms come, our lives will fall apart. Because Jesus never changes, we can trust Him, rely on Him, count on Him, and build our lives on Him. We also had some of our city pastors come and see how we do Chapel at TBCS, and many of them will be partnering with us in the new year to help enrich Chapel for the older students. We will be wrapping up our 2024 Chapel with a Carol Sing!



Sports

We give thanks to our coaches & junior coaches of the 7/8 Boys' and Girls' Volleyball teams for their help these past few weeks! Unfortunately the Volleyball Tournament has been postponed into the New Year. Both teams are still practicing, when able, at recess to keep up their skills!



Bazaar

The Bazaar was an incredible event held in November at the school. The hallways were buzzing with excitement as once again, the live auction returned in a hybrid model with an online auction, the games were back in the classrooms with new additions like target practice and bean bag toss, and the Market Room displayed a multitude of preserves and handmade items created by people from the community. One of the greatest blessings we have to enjoy within the school community is this event.



A quick story about why this is such an important part of fellowship within the school; A new family had volunteered their time on the Thursday night to help with games and other activities. The family was clearly overwhelmed by the amount of people flooding the hallways and rooms, however, people engaged with them. They made new friendships. Their children were brought by groups of other children and included in activities. The family had only planned to stay an hour to put in their time and actually stayed the whole evening and even came back the next night to continue in the fun!

This is why the event is important: Fellowship within a Christian community cannot be overlooked. We are so blessed to have this successful fundraiser annually and I think through all of the feedback and all of the prayers. We held yet another fun evening for the families of the school and in our community.

God has richly blessed our school, and we can see He continues to support and care for those of TBCS and our Christian community daily. The exact numbers are not yet completed however the committee is happy to say that the approximate funds raised was near the \$70,000 mark. That is a huge accomplishment to both the committee and the supporting community. Plans are already in place for the next Bazaar, if anyone is looking to join the committee and bring ideas forward, please connect with Jason Buitenhuis.

Students' Council

Thank you to everyone who donated to our warm winter drive! With your help, we are now able to donate 406 new hats, pairs of mittens, and pairs of socks to children and youth in our community to help keep them warm this winter! -Mrs. Dykstra, Mrs. MacCallum, Mrs. Schelhaas, and the Student Council

And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. -Matthew 1:21