

# THUNDER BAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

37 Cooper Rd., Rosslyn, ON P7K 0E2

Website: [www.tbaychristianschool.ca](http://www.tbaychristianschool.ca)

Email: [office@tbaychristianschool.ca](mailto:office@tbaychristianschool.ca)

Phone: (807) 939-1209

Fax: (807) 939-2843

**Theme:**

**"GOT FRUIT?  
Fruit of the Spirit"**

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**Our Mission:**

To serve God and assist Christian families *by*:

- providing a quality, Christ-centered education within a loving environment,
- exploring and evaluating all of life under God,
- nurturing students in the development of their abilities,
- encouraging a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

## Staff Member Article

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

Does anyone else read this list as a "checklist" for Christian living? As our year comes to a close, I find myself re-reading these verses and thinking about whether or not I have shown these attitudes towards my students and colleagues. I think about the times when I showed love to struggling colleagues and hurting students. I also think about the times when I was not patient or self-controlled in my reactions to them or their behaviours. But is this really what God wants us to do when we read these verses? Am I supposed to write myself a report card on how well I've demonstrated these attitudes and behaviours this year? Read them again.

"But the *fruit of the Spirit* is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

Instead of focusing on the list of attitudes and behaviours at the end of the verse, let's zero in on the first few words of it. These attitudes and behaviours do not come from me. They are not *my* fruit to bear. They come *through* me, but not *from* me. As both Christians and sinful human beings, we know that any good we do comes from God working in us, through the Holy Spirit. I think this might be what Paul is trying to tell us here. He is saying that the good things we see in our lives do not come from how good we are or how hard we work. They are gifts from God.

At this time of year, with MVP trophies handed out at sports banquets and awards handed out at graduation, we tend to forget this. We pore over report card marks, celebrating every percentage point. We turn our focus to the things we think *we* have done. What if, instead, we looked at a report card and gave a prayer of thanksgiving, no matter the marks? "Thank you, God, for giving my children the patience to complete this year."

What if, instead of being disappointed your child wasn't chosen as the team MVP, you thank God for the faithfulness He has shown by keeping them safe all season?

I'm not saying awards and trophies are a bad thing, or that we should not celebrate our children's achievements. What I'm saying is that we need to shift our focus to where these gifts come from: our good and gracious Heavenly Father.

Got fruit? Yes I do, but I didn't grow it myself.

Carolyn Mol

But the fruit of the Spirit is

love

joy

peace

patience

kindness

goodness

faithfulness

gentleness

self-control;

against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

# Class Assemblies



Both the grade 3/4 and grade 5/6 classes recently shared their class assemblies with the students and parents. The classes did a great job with their songs, skits, and readings as they continued to work on developing our theme for the school year, the Fruits of the Spirit. The classes gave everyone great examples of how we can and should show the fruits of the spirit to one another every day.



# Around the School



The school has been a busy place with many different activities taking place as we are coming to the end of the school year. The students really enjoy reading together and to each other. Students have had fun making pizzas as part of their food unit in French. In art class, students had fun creating plaster molds of their hands. The high school students have been completing a number of woodworking projects in their technology course. The students also enjoy getting together for our weekly chapels to sing praises to our Lord.



# Fort William Historical Park

The grade 7/8 class had a great experience visiting Fort William Historical Park on their overnight voyageur trip. The students were dressed as 1815 voyageurs and they learned about the role of the fort in the fur trade during that time period. The students also played a number of different games, cooked some bannock, made some different crafts, and also got a little wet when they paddled the big canoe on the river.



## Track and Field



Our school's athletes once again had the opportunity to participate in the annual Catholic School Track Meet. The athletes represented themselves and the school in a very positive manner as they demonstrated their God given skills and did their best during the competition. Thank you to all the coaches who helped the athletes prepare for the competition.

## JK/SK and Grade 1/2 Swimming



Our primary students have had a great opportunity to participate in some swimming lessons at the Canada Games Complex for the past several weeks. The students are learning a great skill that they will be able to use during the summer vacation that is now only days away. The students have had a great time participating in this activity.



## Grade 1/2 Field Trip & Grade 5/6



The grade 1/2 class enjoyed a great day on their field trip to the conservatory, a park, and Fort William Historical Park. Not only did the students have fun, they also learned a lot about plants and what life was like in the fort many years ago.

As a culminating activity for their Electricity unit the grade 5/6 class had a number of guests come to visit and show them with some real hands-on activities how circuits are made and how they work. Really practical and really fun.



## Grandparent's Day

The school recently held its annual Grandparent's Day Tea. The students performed a variety of acts for the grandparents and special friends and a great afternoon of coffee, cheese and crackers, desserts, and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone.

# Field Day



Every year the students look forward to our own Field Day. The students have a great day running and jumping in all the different track events. They also really enjoy the great food and treats that are available during the day.



# Skate-a-thon



The students worked really hard and were able to reach and surpass the budgeted goal of \$25000 for the annual Skate-a-thon. As a result, during a Monday chapel the students were able to see Mr. Himanen have some pies thrown in his face by several students and also get his hair coloured for the day.



# 2017-2018 Graduates and Certificates



**Sabrina B.**



**Ryan B.**



**Leah B.**



**Glenn D.**



**Kathryn H.**



**Chloe G.**



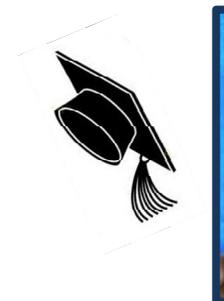
**Emma S.**



**Kieryn T.**



**Mitchell V.**



**Jori B.**



**Adam K.**

## TBCS ADMINISTRATION

**Team Leader of Principal Duties:** Mr. Peter Himanen  
**Administrative Assistant:** Mrs. Grace Boyes

**Board Rep.:** Mr. Joe Veurink

**Team Leader of Learning:** Miss Sandra de Haan  
**Board Rep.:** Mrs. Jolene Makkinga