



# THUNDER BAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

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### Theme:

**"GOD'S TOP TEN"**  
*I John 5:3-4a*

**December 21, 2018**  
*Volume 14 - Issue 2*

### 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 Article

### Finding Real Joy!!

"It's the most wonderful time of the year"...until you become an adult and the Christmas season finds you going to three different stores to find one specific gift, staying up until two in the morning to make cookies for a baking exchange, and constantly consulting your calendar to try and schedule in yet another Christmas party/social/recital/play. And don't even get me started about stressing over online gifts being delivered on time!

Part of what I love about being a teacher is getting to experience these things through children's eyes. Where I see tasks getting added to a never-ending to-do list, my students see an opportunity for joy and laughter. Class gift exchange? Decorating the classroom? A Christmas program, complete with costumes, props, skits, memorized lines, cordless microphones...? Normally these are the things that adults complain about to each other, but my students have given me a new set of eyes this year.

They've reminded me that a gift exchange does not mean one

more item to shop for, it's one more opportunity to show love to a classmate. A decorated classroom is not messy, cluttered and adding to the hydro bill (my apologies to the Finance Committee), it's something that can be worked on together to build our class community. A full-fledged Christmas program is not something to stay up at night stressing over, it's what happens when Christians are overflowing with the Good News and just NEED to share it with others.

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.'" (Luke 2:10) God tells us right in His word that this good news, the news of a saviour coming into the world, will cause JOY. He does not say this news will bring stress and over-planning; He does not say it will be the centre of a season of overeating and indulging; He says "IT WILL CAUSE JOY."

I feel like this is just another instance of God trying to give us a great blessing, and our sinful selves manipulating it to cause ourselves harm (we're so good at that, aren't we?). So, let's stop. Stop making the Christmas season about anything other than joy. If the sixth batch of

cookies doesn't get baked, oh well. If all your halls aren't fully decked, too bad. Jesus has come to earth to save you, and nothing else matters. Revel in that joy.

Carolyn Mol

P.S. Thank you to the grade 7/8 class for reminding me of this joy and inspiring me (and this article). I love you all and am grateful to be your teacher.

On behalf of the staff at Thunder Bay Christian School, I would like to wish everyone in the Thunder Bay Christian School community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As believers, the Christmas season is such a blessing for us as we thank our Lord for the great gift we received that first Christmas. May this Christmas be a safe, joyous and reflective time as you enjoy all the festivities with your family and friends. May God truly bless you and your family with love, grace and His peace. We look forward to how God will work in and bless the T.B.C.S. community in the coming year! Thank you to everyone for your continued support, prayers, and involvement in all the events at the school.

Peter Himanen

# Around the School

Students in grade 5/6 had fun breaking open their Christmas crackers and learning about their origin while working on their Victorian Christmas unit.



Merry Christmas from all the French students. Each class cut their hands out of a different colour paper to create this nativity scene.



The students are really enjoying the fun they can have playing outdoors in our large playground area. They are very busy each recess making their forts.

While learning more about the gingerbread man, the JK/SK students were challenged to make something to help the gingerbread man across the river so he didn't have to rely on the fox because that never fared well for the him. The students built either a boat or a bridge and tested them out to see if they would be successful or unsuccessful.



Late in the fall the staff of T.B.C.S. spent several days learning many different first aid skills that were part of the course that allowed the staff to gain their First Aid certification.



# Christmas Program

Thunder Bay Christian School held its annual Christmas program at Hope Christian Reformed Church. The students shared with the community the Christmas story, and explained the meaning behind the many symbols that we see and use each Christmas season. It was a great evening of sharing and celebrating the Christmas story, and it was great to see the students share their skills and talents which were very evident in their performance. Thank you to everyone who had a role in this wonderful evening of the whole community gathering together to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus.



# Musicians in the Classroom



The grades 5-8 classes were able to enjoy a great musical experience when members of the brass section of the symphony orchestra visited the school to share their skills and some great music with the students. The students were amazed at the skills of the musicians and will hopefully appreciate the time and effort that was required to really develop their skills to such a high level. Practice, Practice, Practice!!

# Jasper Place Visit

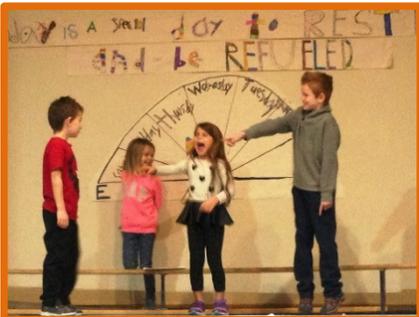


The grades 5-8 classes were recently able to spend part of the afternoon at Jasper Place in order to play guitar and sing some Christmas carols for the residents there. The students had a great experience demonstrating their new guitar



playing skills and using their voices to share the good news of Christmas. The residents at Jasper Place enjoyed the event and they were also able to participate in the singing. After playing, the students were able to meet and talk with the residents and share some Christmas cheer.

# Grade 1/2 Assembly



The grade 1/2 class recently performed their assembly for the students and families of the school. The students shared with everyone more about the Ten Commandments. They did a fantastic job of telling us how we need show proper respect for the Lord's name and that we need to remember to take that day of rest to refresh and recharge ourselves both physically and spiritually.

# Victorian Tea



The grade 5/6 class spent time learning about the many Christmas traditions that we currently observe which were joined together by the Victorians in the 1800's. The class completed a special booklet and celebrated by hosting an "Old Fashioned Dainty Tea" where the



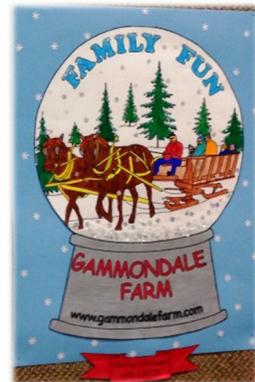
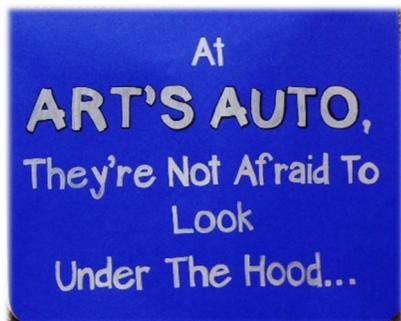
students dressed up in Victorian type clothes and served their guests dainties, cider, tea, and coffee. A silver collection and non-perishable food items were also collected for charity.

# Bazaar and Auction 2018

The annual Thunder Bay Christian School bazaar was a great success again this year; raising **\$50,000!** The event was two days of fun with all the games, great food, good vendors, and of course, the auction. Thank you very much to the bazaar committee for all their hard work during the months of preparation for this event, and to everyone for coming out and supporting the school in such a great way. Thanks to our Lord for all His blessings!

# Pancake Breakfast 2018

The annual Pancake Breakfast was once again a great success. This year, the breakfast was put on by the grade eight students who all did a great job hosting the event. It was a great morning of food and fellowship. Thank you to everyone for their support of the grade eight class as they plan and look forward to their school trip during this year. The money raised at the breakfast (\$10,071.09 when all sponsor money comes in) will go a long way in helping to finance this annual trip. Congratulations to the posters winners who were Lauren Kaemingh, Ashlyn Schep, and Kara VanElburg.



## Twice As Nice Store: Gift Cards

The Twice as Nice store sells good quality used merchandise and all proceeds from the store help support Thunder Bay Christian School. The school is located at 250 North May St. You are welcome to come and visit the store.

Gift cards are available to be purchased in any denomination. They are a perfect gift for all your friends and family.

## 2019 Registration

# Thunder Bay Christian School

## REGISTRATION/OPEN HOUSE



for new students in JK - 10 will be held on  
**Tuesday, February 5, 2019 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, February 6, 2019 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Come visit the classrooms, take a tour of our school, enjoy some refreshments and see what T.B.C.S. can offer your children!

### HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING

**Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.**

Parents and students (currently in Gr. 8 & 9) are invited.

*\*Please bring copy of child(ren)'s proof of identification (eg. birth certificate)*



#### TBCS ADMINISTRATION

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

**Board Rep.:** Mrs. Jolene Makkinga

**Team Leader of Learning:** Miss Sandra de Haan  
**Board Rep.:** Mr. Robert Mol