

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Policies, policies, policies. Because I work in a people business, I haven't always been a huge fan of policies. I believe that each situation needs to consider the needs and characteristics of people, of individuals, so that fair and good decisions can be made. However, I have also come to value policies to help with decision making. So, I thought I would share some ideas with you here as I prepared for potential decisions on Monday.

Since it was expected to be very cold on Monday, I started looking into what other schools did in relation to cold weather. I found a lot of good practices that we can, and have, borrowed. When it comes to whether to send students outside for recess, we monitor the temperatures including the wind chill factor. If the temperature is between -20 and -25 degrees Celsius, it is grounds for reducing the students' time outside (10 – 15 minutes). If the temperature goes below -25, we keep students indoors. As parents, it is important to know that students should come to school bundled up in snow pants, warm coats, good mittens, warm hats, and possibly a scarf because in most cases, we are sending them outside.

I also noticed that some school districts will cancel school in extreme cold. The Avon Maitland School Board uses -40 degrees and the Waterloo District uses -35 degrees. I think these are valid numbers to use.

Policies, policies, policies. In this case it is good to have solid criteria in place to make these decisions. I hope that sharing them with you will help you understand our decisions if or when they are applied. Ultimately, it is the health and well-being of the students that stands behind these numbers and decisions.

SCHOOL NEWS

Office Help: Thanks to those who responded to volunteer in the office. I am awaiting a few who are still thinking about it, but I will connect with you soon. *Ed Boelens* (e.boelens@listowelchristianschool.ca)

Pizza Day is scheduled for this Wednesday, January 23.

FundScrip Gift Card Order: The next online order deadline will be Monday, February 4 with delivery on Feb. 8. We've got so many participating retailers that you will easily find one or several you can use for daily expenses and for those special occasions. If you would like a paper order form, please email giftcardprogramlcs@gmail.com or call Janel Hiemstra at 519-749-5263. Spread the word!

Reminder that a **PD Day** is scheduled for this Friday, January 25 – no school.

Choir (grades 3-8): Students may still sign up this week if interested. Range checks begin this week (see board for times). Full choir rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, February 5 at lunch recess.

Standardized Testing: In an effort to measure the progress of our students, we are participating in the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) tests. Students are evaluated in their language and math skills. We trust this process will help us understand the abilities of each student and develop strategies to meet their needs. Online tests will occur January 28 – February 15.

Communicator: All submissions for the Family/Love issue of the Communicator are due to the office by Wednesday, January 30 (office@listowelchristianschool.ca).

Fundraising News: Plans are well underway for the LCS Spring Auction that will be held on March 29. In the next couple of weeks, the committee will be contacting members to assist with canvassing. Please consider helping out. For more information, please contact Michelle (coolmom343@hotmail.com or 519-291-7292).

School Theme – But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well. – Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

School Skating continues for two more weeks at the Steve Kerr Memorial Complex (965 Binning St. W). Parents and younger siblings are welcome to come and join us for this fun activity. **Reminder:** Helmets are required for all skaters! This includes all adults as we ensure our own safety and model safety to the students. Parents, if you wish to pick up your child/ren, please do so at the school. It is too difficult to make arrangements for the students with their skates and backpacks. Skating will be held on:

Thursday, January 24

12:00pm – 1:00pm (hockey practice) ~~ 1:00pm – 2:00pm (Gr. 4-8 skate) ~~ 2:00pm – 3:00pm (SK – Gr. 3 skate)

Thursday, January 31

*Hockey tournament in Fergus ~~ 12:30pm – 1:30pm (Gr. 4-8 skate) ~~ 1:30pm – 2:30pm (SK – Gr. 3 skate)

Battle of the Books - For students planning on competing with Battle of the Books, the goal is to have all the books read by March Break. Ideally, students should be rereading the books at this stage. If there are students who have any finished books to return or students who need to get new ones so they can meet the deadline, please remember to come and exchange them during snack recesses! Cozy reading on the couch is a great activity in this cold weather! :)

BOARD REPORT

The operating statement as of Nov 30, 2018 was reviewed. We are in a good financial position. Utility and transportation expenses continue to be monitored closely. The Board has begun the nomination process. Three current board members will be fulfilling their terms. Please pray for this process and for the members who are asked to consider the position of Board member. A Board & Staff social is being planned for an evening in February.

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S	
January	February
21 – Education Committee mtg	4 – Board Exec
22 – University of Waterloo – child lab researchers on site	4 – Gift card orders due
23 – Pizza Day	6 – Pizza day
23 – Boys basketball practice (3:30 – 4:45)	8 – Return Intent to Register forms
24 – Hockey Practice and School Skating	8 – Gift card delivery
25 – PD Day (no school)	11 – Board meeting
30 – February Communicator submissions deadline	12 – Basketball clinic at Woodland
31 – School Skating	15 – PD Day (no school)
31 – Hockey Tournament in Fergus	18 – Family Day (no school)
	20 – Pizza Day
	March
	1 – Basketball Tournament
	2 – LCS Information Morning (9am – 12noon)
	11 - 15 – Spring Break
	29 – LCS Spring Auction

BIRTHDAY CORNER

Celebrating this week: Myjah V – Jan 23 Carson W – Jan 25 Kenzie T – Jan 26



Sports

Hockey practice: Thursday, Jan. 24 (11:30 – 12:30). Full hockey equipment is required.

Basketball: The boys will have an after school practice on Wednesday (3:30 – 4:45). Other practice times to be determined.

School Theme – But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well. – Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Music – Mrs. Wright

The composer of the month is Robert Schumann.

Grades 1 and 2: This month we are learning about instruments of the orchestra. The students were able to try an acoustic guitar and ukulele last week as we were learning about the string family. This week we will learn about woodwind and brass instruments and continue singing "I am a Fine Musician", and "Bonhomme, Bonhomme."

Grades 2 and 3: We are learning about Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*.

Grades 3 and 4: "Left hand, thumbs up!" We are learning about playing the recorder with good technique. Left hand is on top and blow gently to make a good sound. Students in the 3/4 class should have a recorder at home for practice (soprano recorder with German fingering recommended).

Grades 5 and 6: We have begun our study of the recorder. Check out Orlan Charles' YouTube recorder videos for some inspiration! Students should have a recorder at home for practice (soprano recorder with German fingering recommended).

Grades 7 and 8: Instrument research project and model.

Group 1: due Monday, January 28

Group 2: due Monday, February 25

Instrument Demonstrations: The grade 1 students are studying the instruments of the orchestra. I am looking for some parents or former students who play an instrument who would be willing to demonstrate and talk about their instrument to the grade 1 class in January or February. The class runs from 11:50 am-12:20 pm on Mondays and Tuesdays. Perhaps some former students could come in if they have a day off after semester 1 classes are complete. If interested and willing to help out, please contact Mrs. Wright (a.wright@listowelchristianschool.ca).

Junior Kindergarten – Mrs. Baarda

Our winter theme continues! This week we will make painted snowflakes and do some mitten lacing. We will also play the *Snowky Pokey*.

Our focus letter this week is Nn. Children are welcome to bring in a show and tell that begins with N. Last week we printed the letters H, T and I in our *Handwriting Without Tears* book, and we will continue working through the next few pages.

In math, we will continue in our *Measurement* unit by comparing lengths.

In Bible, we are going to learn about Esther and how she became Queen and helped save her people.

In health, we are beginning a unit about *Families*. If you are able, could you please send in a family photo to display in the class for this unit. Thanks.

Senior Kindergarten – Mrs. Heida

This week we will focus on the short vowel sound of Aa, please bring a show and tell in a bag again so that we can guess what it is. We will continue to learn about syllables and putting letters together by their sound to build words. This week we will focus on the sight word "of". I kept the reading bags that we received on Friday. They will come home today with the photocopied readers and the sight words your child has made. Keep reviewing the sight words, encourage your child to create a sentence using one or two sight words. I will need the coloured copies back and on Thursday, January 24th, 2019, we will bring home our first decodable reader and will be given a new book bag.

In math, we continue to see pattern in stories and the actions we do. We will complete our patterning book and work on patterning using a variety of manipulatives.

In Bible, we will continue to see how God leads His people through Moses.

We will go skating on **Thursday from 2 to 3 pm**. This means that the students will not have time for snack at school before heading home. So please send a snack that they can quickly eat on the bus such as a granola bar and a drinking box. **NO SCHOOL ON FRIDAY!** Have a great week!

Grade 1 – Mrs. O' Boyle

Class News

Pizza Day – Just a reminder that Wednesday is pizza day.

If you are reading this, please have your child record six different emotions that a person may experience.

School Theme – But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well. – Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

Skating – Just a reminder that skating will be on Thursday this week. Please remember to send your child with a helmet, skates, and gloves/mitts. If you are joining us, please ensure you also have a helmet for yourself.

PD Day – Please enjoy a wonderful extra day with your children this week. I'm looking forward to a full day of planning, learning and collaboration.

Library Books – Just a reminder that library books are due back on Wednesday.

Spelling – Please check your envelope for this week's spelling list. Our spelling test will be on Mon. Jan. 28th.
The Plan

Math – We will continue a unit on 3-D and 2-D geometry.

Creation Studies – We will conclude our unit titled *Our Home and School Communities*.

Physical Education – We will continue our unit on wall and net games.

Bible – We will continue our unit on Moses and Israel.

Writing – We will work on adding details to our writing, while sticking to the topic.

Reading Comprehension – We will begin to work on visualizing.

Words of the Day – We will continue to focus on/review sight words: run, said, and the.

Phonics - We will continue to work on short a, i, and e words.

Health – We will begin a new unit called *Living with Others*.

Art – We will continue our unit on colour.

Printing – We will work on magic c letters.

Chromebooks – We will focus on math games and will continue working on addition and subtraction games on mathplayground.com

Memory Work - We will be saying Exodus 20:3-17 (The Ten Commandments -shortened form) on Tues. Feb. 5th.

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
5. Honour your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not give false testimony.
10. You shall not covet.

Grade 2 and 3 – Mrs. Claus

Wow! It is freezing outside today! Luckily we were blessed with a warm school to learn and play in. Remember to have your children dressed for the cold.

Socials (Creation Studies): We have just started a new unit in socials (creation studies) on *Solids, Liquids, and Gases*. The students are excited about this new science unit.

Math: Tuesday the Grade 2s will have a math test on money. They will be given an amount and will need to show which coins to use. They will also be shown a number of different coins and need to show the total amount.

Wednesday is pizza day! It is the last pizza day for the first half of the year. Next week is our last week of milk orders for the first half of the year.

Scholastic Orders: Please have your SCHOLASTIC orders in by Wednesday!!!

Spelling: Thursday is our spelling test:

Gr 2: paint, rain, way, chase, away, wait, today, played, chain, play

Gr 3: boy, enjoy, oyster, choice, chocolate, loyal, destroy, pointing, oily, voice, joined, choose, voyage, poison, coin

Friday is a PD day. As a staff we will be working and studying on improvements here at the school. Enjoy your day off!

Grade 3 and 4 – Mrs. Delleman

Math - We are finishing our unit on data management and will be having our quiz on THURSDAY. Students will need to know how to read bar graphs, pictographs, Venn diagrams and circle graphs. They will also need to know how to draw pictographs and bar graphs and how to complete a survey. Students will take home their duotangs on Wednesday night to help them study. Smartboard notes are also available if requested.

School Theme – But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well. – Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

Cursive - This past week we did lowercase letters h and k. Grade 3 pages are 8, 10, 31 and Grade 4 pages are page 20, 28. These pages are due back WEDNESDAY.

Memory Work - Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." - due NEXT Friday

Spelling - Unit 15 Dictation will be NEXT Friday.

Grade 5 and 6 – Ms. Van Kampen

French: We will continue to focus on the irregular verb ÊTRE (to be) and begin to learn adjectives so that we can build simple sentences.

Please make an effort to commit the verb être and its conjugations to memory (je suis, tu es, il/elle est, nous sommes, vous êtes, ils/ells sont).

Grade 5 and 6 – Mr. Katerberg

Bible: After a very busy week preparing for last week's assembly, we are continuing with the book of Esther.

Spelling: Lesson 17 work due on Tuesday, quiz on Thursday.

Science: We will continue with protists and monerans.

Math: Our new unit in math is on *Data Management*.

Writing: This week we are working on finalizing our speeches and starting to memorize them.

Grade 7 and 8 – Ms. Van Kampen

French: We will continue to focus on the irregular verbs VOULOIR and POUVOIR. As with AVOIR, ETRE, FAIRE and ALLER, make a concerted effort to learn/memorize the conjugations of these verbs.

One-on-one reading assessments will occur on Thursday with me. You are to prepare and read one of the following passages "Quel Gardien", "Au Secours!", "L'Anniversaire de Mariage". A sight passage will also be used.

Grade 7 and 8 – Ms. tenBrink

WWW - Blue books are due today and our test is on Wednesday.

Writing - We are starting a look at writing newspaper articles. Watch the calendar for any due dates this week.

GR - We are continuing with the Bronze Bow. Chapter 15 needs to be read by Thursday.

History - We are finishing up our unit on *Ancient Rome* this week. Our end of unit test will be on Tuesday, January 29.

Grade 7 and 8 – Mr. Boelens

Math: We are still working through our *Data Management* unit. This week we will complete the second half of the unit, so the reviews and assignments will be due next week.

Bible: This week we complete our unit on *Spiritual Disciplines*. The unit review will be due Wednesday. The next unit will be about church history.

Gym: Wednesday we continue with basketball.

Grade 7 and 8 – Mr. Katerberg

Science 7&8: Our unit is on structures. We will complete our unit this week complete our review. Test is this Thursday, January 24.

Requested Announcements:

Listowel Minor Baseball Registration

Location: Upstairs at Listowel Memorial Arena

When: Wednesday January 30 from 6:00 - 800

Saturday February 2 from 9:00 – 12:00

Wednesday February 6 from 6:00 - 800

Saturday February 9 from 9:00 – 12:00

Registration forms are available on the website or at registration events. www.listowelminorbaseball.ca

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