

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

I checked my last Weekly Messenger (March 9) and it was also about Covid-19. The message on March 9 was that the risk in Ontario was considered low, we should not panic, practice good hygiene, monitor our international travel and be aware that, when we returned, we may have to self isolate. One month later, Ontario is in a state of emergency and we all get an emergency text message that Covid-19 can be deadly and we are to stay home unless we are an essential worker, picking up groceries or prescriptions, or going to a medical appointment. Life has changed!

Education has also changed in the last month. We went from traditional school to March break, to remote learning. For staff and students, we forfeit being together every weekday to seeing each other through computer screens. New schedules and routines are being established. Dining rooms and basements are turned into workspaces, for parents and students alike. This new model provides us opportunity to evaluate traditional school through the lens of remote learning.

Our staff is working through the steep learning curve of remote teaching. We are wrestling with what can be accomplished with students at home, how much work is enough or too much, and how do we accomplish the value of interactive, dynamic education through distance learning. We had a good start to this process, and we hope that we will continue to adapt to provide quality learning opportunities for your children.

We still meet remotely with our staff every Monday morning. Through these times we pray together. We also support each other as teachers learning a new craft. We share our new daily schedules and activities, our successes and frustrations in remote teaching, and we wonder how to work together as a team to serve our students and their families. I value these two hours and it sets a good start to my week.

Some of the things you can expect:

- We continue to create learning opportunities for all students knowing that these opportunities are different for JK students than for Grade 8 students. Classroom teachers are responsible for providing learning activities that engage their students and encourage growth. If you have specific questions regarding student learning, please contact their teacher directly.
- We will continue to discuss this new educational model. Whether it involves emailed assignments, recommended websites, Google Classroom communication, teleconference gatherings, or interactive teleconference teaching we are learning on the go. As a result, our style and expectations may be changing too.
- We will continue to communicate with you through the Weekly Messenger. Although classroom teachers have already created direct communication with many of you, the Weekly Messenger will continue to be a tool for you and our broader community.
- We continue to serve you as families and students. You will all be called by Rita Ann to discuss your current situation and learning from home. Please provide her with your perspective of our new reality. If you have any specific questions, concerns or joys, you can also contact me directly. Call or text me (416-557-7511) or email me (principal@listowelchristianschool.ca).

I also want to mention a warning and caution. In order to facilitate remote learning, access to video communication is provided through most of our student LCS Google accounts. We ask that you, as parents, please discuss appropriate use of online video access. I suggest that you monitor each device that has video capabilities and ensure it remains in a public setting in your house. We are all thrown into this new reality without instructions, training, direction, and cautions. Please discuss this with your child(ren).

These are scary times. We hibernate and isolate. We listen to the news, we are fearful, and we contemplate our own mortality. In contrast, this week we also prepare for Easter and consider the suffering Jesus went through on our behalf, suffering that turns our physical mortality into spiritual eternity. This week I challenge you to balance your personal fears with your trust in God, your self isolation with your partnership with Christ, and your relationships in your house with your relationships in Christian community. Easter gives us Hope! I pray that you will experience that hope in your life today.

School Theme – The Fruit of the Spirit “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5: 22-23 (NIV)

SCHOOL NEWS

Spring Communicator: All submissions to the Spring Communicator are due this week Friday. Please send submissions to the school office (office@listowelchristianschool.ca).

Fundscrip: A reminder that Fundscrip orders will be available for pick up this Thursday, April 9 at the home of Rodney & Janel Hiemstra. Please contact Janel (519-749-5263) for more information.

Battle of the Books (Junior) - Unfortunately, Battle of the Books has been cancelled for this year. Thank you to the many students on the teams who were dedicated to reading their books and practicing. They are considering doing the same books next year, so hopefully your hard work won't go to waste and we have a head start on next year!
- Mrs. D.

Government financial support: As the economy changes and it affects you personally, the government is offering financial support. Check out the following website. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-support-families>.

BIRTHDAY CORNER

Belated Birthdays: Tess V – Mar 24 Monique K – Mar 25 Katherine V – Mar 25
Celebrating this week: Anna V – April 9 Levi S – April 12 Gregory D – Apr 12
 Tamara V – Apr 12 Jensyn H – Apr 13



U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

April

9 – Gift card delivery (to the home of Rodney & Janel Hiemstra)
13 – Board meeting

FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Junior Kindergarten – Mrs. Baarda

Hello JK families! I am so missing seeing all of your precious little ones. I have sent several emails over the past two weeks, if you have not received these please let me know. I know that I have had a couple of incorrect email addresses and I apologize for that. Moving forward I hope we can have good contact with each other. As we will be away from our school building for a while longer, I am hoping to send you a packet of printed printing pages that your child can work through. These include the remaining letters from our workbook as well as numbers 1-10. There are also some pages to practice printing their names. Each week via email, I will "assign" a couple of pages and, if possible, request that you send me a picture of the completed page. I will also send the next phonics song video. I hope to include a "challenge" each week to help practice some core concepts like colours, shapes, patterns, number and letter/sound recognition and rhyming. Thank you for all of the pictures and videos that you have sent, I love seeing them!

School Theme – The Fruit of the Spirit “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5: 22-23 (NIV)

Senior Kindergarten – Mrs. Heida

This week our **sight word** will be “his”.

The **letters of the week** will be r and n on Monday and Tuesday. For Thursday we will work on letter m and printing words on a line and a sentence using an uppercase letter to begin the sentence, spaces between the words and punctuation at the end.

Show and tell this week will be something that is red and something that is new. Please send in your pictures.

In **math**, we will continue to work with teen numbers, using a ten frame to help with place value.

In **Bible**, we will hear the story of Jesus Dying on the Cross. Our **memory work** is John 3:16.

For **science**, find some signs of spring....do you see flowers blooming like crocuses and daffodils? Do you hear the birds sing? Have you seen a robin? What are some signs of spring?

I am planning to have a **Zoom meeting** (video conference) with SK on Monday April 13th at 1pm. Let me know if that interests you. Have a great week!

Grade 1 – Mrs. Van Veen

Welcome to At Home Learning Week 3. Even though we had all greatly anticipated our return to school and our classroom today, we know that learning at home is the best way to keep everyone safe during this time. Thank you for the pictures, messages and fun video chats. We will continue with the routine that has been developing over the past few weeks. I will continue to send a daily email with tasks and suggestions.

Here is this week’s outline:

Bible – We will finish the Easter Story together.

Daily Fundamentals – One page per day with a focus on Language, Math and Reading

Reading – Weekly story with comprehension questions

Spelling – New words are ride, boat, funny, because, fast - Quiz on Thursday.

Writing – This week try to keep a journal about the week (2 days is a good start).

Math – We will finish our unit on Monday and Tuesday (pg’s 218-222) and then I will introduce our new topic on Wednesday.

Extras:

Creation Studies – We will continue to record the daily temperature and weather. I will include a graph that you can transfer the weather data onto at the end of each week.

Online Activities – Reading on Epic

- Scholastics Learn At Home –Week 3
 - Dreambox Learning Online
 - Additional Art/Drawing/Craft activities
-

Grade 2 and 3 – Mrs. Claus

Today marks the start of our third week of school outside of the building. We continue to thank our Heavenly Father that we are safe and healthy and able to carry on with education despite being stuck at home.

I miss each one of my students. I continue to pray for health and strength as we go through this together. Thank you so much for pairing with me in educating your child.

Math: Grade 2- More sheets sent home on multiplication, division, and fractions. Test on Wednesday.

Grade 3- More sheets sent home on fractions. Test on Wednesday.

Spelling: Group 1- Unit 26 sent home. Test on Thursday.

Group 2- Unit 26 sent home. Test on Thursday

Group 3- Unit 21 sent home. Test on Thursday

Phonics: Grade 2- Unit 26 sent home.

Grade 3- Unit 26 sent home

Writing: Group A- Week 2 of Word Choice

Group B- Week 3 of Word Choice

Group C- Week 2 of Word Choice

School Theme – The Fruit of the Spirit “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5: 22-23 (NIV)

Reading: Writing Group A must write 2 paragraphs giving a summary of a book they are reading. It can be from the beginning of the book until you stop reading to write the summary or it can be from what you've read this week. Due Thursday.

Writing Group B must write 1 paragraph giving a summary of a book they are reading. It can be from the beginning of the book until you stop reading to write the summary or it can be from what you've read this week. Due Thursday. Writing Group C must write at least 3 sentences about a book they read this week. Who was in it? Where did it take place? What was the problem? Due Thursday.

Socials: Pick a mammal that lives in the rainforest to do your research project on and let me know by Thursday.

Bible: Review the answers provided for the worksheets that were sent home before the break.

Remember! Do what you can and don't stress about not getting everything done. We are all in different positions as far as being able to help our kids. *Mrs. Claus*

Grade 3 and 4 – Mrs. Delleman

Parents - An **email** was sent with all the information and materials for completing work in reading, writing, math and Bible this week. Please refer to the email for any questions about the websites we will be using. Below is a review of what was in the list of work to do for this week. **All assignments are due by Saturday.**

Reading

- watch video/PDF on "Author's Purpose"
- complete Author's Purpose assignment
- complete Epic assignment online (read book "Light" and answer quiz questions)
- read daily

Writing

- watch video/PDF on "Sequencing"
- complete writing assignment on writing a sequencing paragraph

Math

- watch video/PDF on "Fractions to Decimals"
- complete IKnowIt assignment (Fractions and Decimals, Tenths and Hundredths)
- complete worksheet "Decimals: Hundredths and Tenths"

Bible

- watch video/PDF on "King David Part 2"
- complete Bible pages 137-141 from Bible pages sent home for March Break

Spelling List Words:

- Grade 3: suddenly, animal, finally, tiger, happily, forest, really, gold, sadly, wolf, fox, circus
- Grade 4: lesson, presents, blossom, sign, secret, it's, person, science, biggest, sudden, present, bottom, picnic, that's, favourite

Online Options:

- complete Brain Pop assignment (Learning About Light)
- typing.com
- spellingcity.com
- Scholastic Website (Week 3 or 4) <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-3-5.html>

Zoom Meetings: I will be having a ZOOM meeting for **Grade 3s at 1pm on Friday**, and for **Grade 4s at 2pm on Friday**, so students can see each other and ask me any questions they have about their work. I will be sending an invitation for the ZOOM meeting on Wednesday.

Grade 5 and 6 – Mrs. Vogel

Looking forward to starting to work with all of you!

French - You can all look for instructions on how to access a Duolingo account this week. We will work through this together. If you already know how to use Duolingo, you're ahead of the game.

School Theme – The Fruit of the Spirit “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5: 22-23 (NIV)

Grade 5 and 6 – Mr. Katerberg

Parents are continuing to receive daily updates on their children's assignments.

Everything is posted on Google Classroom.

Math: This week new math work will be assigned on Tuesday and Thursday.

Bible: Each day there is a new Bible lesson adapted from our current Bible unit on Pentecost.

Language Arts: Students are asked to read and respond daily in their reading journal on articles from the Scholastic website. Various language activities are dispersed throughout the week with spelling work assigned on Monday and a writing assignment each Tuesday. Students are asked to keep up with the daily work.

Grade 7 and 8 – Ms. tenBrink

Bible – We have been working through weekly assignments for Bible posted on Google classroom. The lessons consist of a lesson on slides and a response that can be printed and completed or done online. Each week the assignment is posted by 8:30 Monday morning and is due Friday at 3:00pm.

This week we are doing more reading and answering questions. Students were reminded to give full effort in their work. It needs to be done well, i.e. proper sentence structure, proper spelling, and capitalization. Read through everything carefully before you turn in.

Lastly, this week's lesson is on when God says no, with a focus on the story of David and Bathsheba's son. The due date is usually Friday at 3:00pm but since it is Good Friday this week, the assignment is due on Thursday at 3:00pm.

Grade 7 and 8 – Mrs. Vogel

Hello grade 7/8 families! The encouragement and support received from you all as we made this transition online has been amazing. Thank you for supporting our school so well as we do the best we can. If there are any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to reach out and I'll get back to you as soon as I can. Also, please encourage your student(s) to check their school e-mail at least every other day if not every day. I sent a number of students e-mail about missing work and have yet to receive it. Thanks! Students - You've all been doing so well.

French - You can look for instructions on how to access a Duolingo account this week.

Guided Reading - We are continuing to work through the online Scholastic literacy resources. The instructions are uploaded every day (if not a day early) and they are due every Friday.

WWW - Assigned as usual on Wednesday. Work and Test on Friday.

Writing - We are going to start up again with our poetry unit.

Typing - I will unlock around 10 levels every week for the students to be able to work on. They should be aiming for 3 stars minimum on every typing level, 1 star minimum on every game level (the games tend to be challenging to accomplish more stars). If they have accomplished the 3 stars on 3-5 levels that week and they need more to do they can try to get all 5 stars on all levels.

Geography - We started a group project but no fear! All the students need to do is finish the 2 sections of the chart associated with their topic. I will plan group meetings with them once all that work has been completed.

Phys. Ed. - Get outside, play, go for a walk/run/jog. Enjoy the beautiful creation God has placed all around us.

Grade 7 and 8 – Mr. Boelens

Math: We are finishing the units on Percents (Grade 7) and Geometry (Grade 8). Tests are on Tuesday – parents check your email. Our next unit is on Integers and everything is uploaded to Google Classroom.

Grade 7 and 8 – Mr. Katerberg

Science: This week we will go to topic 3, Fresh Water Systems, see Google Classroom for details.

School Theme – The Fruit of the Spirit “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5: 22-23 (NIV)
