

On Friday we had our staff PD day. The plans for this day were already in place in November: a strategic review of our language program and some presentations for alternatives. I was looking forward to the day because it was a carry over from last year and I was expecting to make some good progress toward completion. I was also looking forward to when we, as teachers, would intentionally brainstorm together about curriculum and teaching. In the busyness of a school day, we don't always have that freedom.

As the building closure continued, I lost some of my enthusiasm for the PD day. Would it be the same over Zoom? Would teachers be too tired of Zoom meetings to be fully engaged? Would we accomplish the goals for the day? I wasn't looking forward to it. We started the day with devotions and a time of re-connecting. That was excellent! Then we dove right into the curriculum presentations and discussion. I was impressed! It worked well over Zoom as teachers presented ideas and programs, shared their screens, and engaged in good discussions. I could see their use of Zoom strategies in teaching their own classrooms as it was evident in our staff meeting.

Aside from a half hour lunch break, we were on Zoom from 9:00 – 3:00 and for me the time flew by. We didn't get everything done, not because teachers were tired of Zoom or not engaged in the discussion, but because we ran out of time. We made good progress toward our goal. I want to publicly thank the staff for their participation, their passion, their expertise, and their professionalism on Friday. I am reminded of their dedication to good teaching. What a blessing.



## Birthday Corner

**January 25**  
Carson W  
**January 26**  
Kenzie T  
**January 30**  
Trey V

## February Events

12 - PD Day (no school)  
15 - Family Day (no school)

## From the Classrooms

### Junior Kindergarten – Mrs. Baarda

I want to thank you for accommodating my Zoom assessments last week. It was so nice to see each of the students! I have scheduled a Zoom meeting for Thursday morning at 9am for the whole class. We will work through our morning circle activities together. I will send out an invitation Tuesday morning.

Our **focus letter** this week is the letter O. I will send a video with the letter O Jolly Phonics song as well as how to print letter O. I encourage you to complete the letter O page in your alphabet book. It has been great to see how many of you have been enjoying our online Epic Books classroom. So far our class has read 184 books online! Way to go!

In **Bible**, this week we transition to a new unit "Stories about Jesus". Our first two stories are "Jesus and the Children" (Mark 10:13-16), and "Jesus Heals the Blind Man" (John 9). I encourage you to read these stories from a favourite children's Bible. I will also send out short videos of these stories. We have new **memory work** this week to go with our new unit. "The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor." Luke 7:22b

In **math**, this week we will work on number recognition and counting. I will send some links to games that practice these skills. We will also do some counting during our Zoom meeting on Thursday.

### Senior Kindergarten - Mrs. Heida

This week we will focus on letter Jj and letter Ff. We will match beginning sounds and take away beginning sounds to see what word we have left. We will be solving rhyming riddles and having show and tell on Thursday and Friday. Our new **sight word** is "and" and we will see how it connects objects together.

This week we will wrap up our **patterning unit** and will begin adding and looking at our teen numbers.

In **Bible**, we will wrap up the unit on Joseph and reflect on how God has been good to us and our families.

I have added some more audiobooks to our **Epic assignments**. I have added some extra worksheets and the website Starfall for some more practice work.

Please be mindful that if your child does not have headphones on, we can hear conversations and happenings in your home.

Have a great week!

### Grade 1 - Mrs. Duiella Boekestyn

Look at us go! Can you feel the Lord with us? He is supporting us through these times. He was, and is, and is to come! As the novelty of Online Learning has worn off, let's remember that we can adapt to these times with Him as our guide. Our comforter. Our Saviour. **Bible Verse:** For the last two weeks we focus on the change... that there is a time for everything. For this week (1 week instead of 2), we will meditate on Hebrews 13:8, that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever". Don't you love that consistency? I do.

**Sight Words:** cut, kind, both, sit, which, fall, carry, small, under, read, why

**Spelling Words:** Please send me last week's spelling tests on Seesaw or email. This week, our spelling words are: fan, hat, sad, jet, rip, hill, log, top, cut, bun

**Art:** Please remember, that Seesaw Activity #11 "What do you 'heart'" is due by Wednesday, January 27th. Please take your own creative liberties with this. It can be as simple or elaborate as you would like. They are looking great! Thank you.

### Grade 1 - Ms. ten Brink

Bonjour, grade 1! I loved seeing the printing work that was done last week! I have added another instruction video and work pages to Seesaw for this week. Take some time to complete the review page and the new letter page. If you have any questions about the pages or are in need of ideas of how to get in printing practice without using the pages or even a pencil and paper, send me an email (l.tenbrink@listowelchristianschool.ca) and I can share some with you.

### Grade 2 - Mrs. Dykstra

Thank you for your continued efforts partnering in your child's daily learning. Please refer to Week Three paperwork for this week.

**Bible** - our zoom devotion time will focus on the amazing Sermon on the Mount by Jesus. Our **memory words** are Matthew 5:44 "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Test is on Wednesday, February 3.

**Math** - We completed an entire math unit and assessed it on Zoom. We are really doing this! Next up: Addition and Subtraction to 100.

**Read Aloud (new)** - we will add a read aloud of "Heartwood Hotel" to our 1pm Zoom, extending it to 40 minutes total.

**Spelling Words** - check for your differentiated list on Spelling City. Test on Friday in morning zooms.

**Reading** - Book clubs continue to work on our nonfiction unit, "How to Get Super Smart about Nonfiction Topics!"

**Writing** - Students will be editing their animal writing and practice reading their own writing like an expert. We will share our writing on Thursday in morning zooms.

## School News

### FundScrip

Valentine's Day is fast approaching! Order your FundScrip gift cards to purchase a nice gift, groceries for a romantic meal at home or restaurant gift cards for when we are able to eat out again! If you want to spoil people that you can't meet in person, you can also offer them electronic gift cards. Our February FundScrip orders are due Monday, February 1st at MIDNIGHT. Delivery is set for Friday, February 5th.

### Family Support

Recently, the Ontario government announced that, once again this year, all parents could apply for direct financial support as part of the new Support for Learners program. Under the program, eligible parents or guardians will receive a one-time payment of \$200 for each child up Grade 12 and \$250 for each child or youth up to age 21 with special needs. Please follow this link to apply for this financial support (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-support-learners>). The deadline for applying is February 8, 2021 but I encourage you to apply as soon as possible.

## Contact Us!

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### Grade 3 - Mrs. Claus

We are ready to take on another week of remote learning! Let's stay positive and keep on doing our best. We had our **math** test today. Please send a copy of the finished test to me. Scanning preferred to pictures. If you have an iPhone this can be done easily by going to Notes, then the camera icon, Select Scan Document, and away you go!

I am introducing money tomorrow so if you have some change you can let your child manipulate that'd be great. Otherwise I have sent a few pages of cutout coins (YOU DON'T NEED TO CUT THEM ALL OUT!!!) If you would like your child to have extra math practice our school subscribes to an online math site. Please let me know if you would like their login info.

In **language**, Epic books will continue to be assigned, small groups will do writing, and spelling is practicing your words for our test on Friday!

**Bible** videos will continue to be sent starting on Tuesday.

On Friday we will have 2 whole class meetings. One at 9 and the other at 11. Have a fantastic week everyone!

### Grade 4- Mrs. Delleman

**Videos and Assignments** - Please refer to the email sent to parents with all the videos and assignments for Grade 4 this week! Everything is also on Google Classroom (under Week 4 Activities).

**Art** - Grade 4s have the opportunity to provide artwork for the upcoming February Communicator! Instructions for our artwork piece were sent by email and are also posted on Google Classroom. Students can do their art on paper at home or online on the website link sent - just send Mrs. Delleman a picture by THURSDAY if students want to participate!

**Zoom** - Office Hours are 12-1pm each day, with a link and passcode sent by email and posted on Google Classroom. Friday's office hours we will do review activities for the week for anyone who wants to join us! Thank you for all the support and hard work being done at home! Hang in there! We can do this! - Mrs. D

### Grade 5 and 6 – Mr. Katerberg

**Bible:** We will continue studying the four gospels.

**Word work:** Lesson 16. Something different this week.

**Literature:** I will be posting daily literature concept practices and quizzes.

**Math:** We are working on data management. Daily zoom meetings at 10:00 (grade 5) and 10:30 (Grade 6). Practice test for both grades on Monday, test on Wednesday.

**Social Studies:** We have started a unit on Canada's trading partners. This week we will study longitude and latitude, and global climate patterns.

**Writing:** Work on speech writing should be complete. This week I plan to review each speech and possibly suggest edits.

### Grade 5 and 6 - Ms. Van Kampen

**Zoom sessions:** We will continue to hold our Zoom classes on Wednesday and Thursdays. Grade 5 at 1:00 pm and Grade 6 at 1:40 pm.

### Grade 7 and 8 – Ms. Van Kampen

We will continue to hold our Zoom classes at 10 am daily. Thank you for your attendance and participation!

- **Monday:** Bible -- Godly Worship versus Idolatry. Worksheet posted on Google Classroom and due by end-of-day.
- **Tuesday:** Guided Reading -- students need to have read section 8 (pp. 216-252) of Refugee
- **Wednesday:** History -- students will verbally share/present their Gladiator Designs (due Tuesday to Google Classroom as a scan/photo upload of worksheets)
- **Thursday:** French -- listening, speaking, reading, & writing activities
- **Friday:** Writing & WWW -- constructing better paragraphs, concluding sentences, etc.



- Favourite T-Shirt Day!! Be sure to wear your most favourite t-shirt on Friday!

### Work due:

**Writing & WWW:** worksheets posted last Thursday (Jan. 21) due today.

**History:** Gladiator Design (actual drawing + worksheets with descriptions of parts): posted last Tuesday (Jan. 19) due Tuesday.

Further information & assignments will be posted on Google Classroom

**Grade 7 and 8 – Mr. Boelens**

**Math:** This week we will finish our Data Management unit. End of Unit reviews are due on Tuesday and the test will be on Thursday. Parents, tests will be emailed to you. If you could supervise the test and upload it back to Google Classroom when done, that would be great. A reminder for students to join tutorial sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Check your email for Zoom times. See you online!

**Grade 7 and 8 - Mr. Katerberg**

**Science:** Unit Review is due on Wednesday, Chapter 6 quiz on Thursday. Unit Test on Friday. I am planning zoom meetings on Wednesday and Thursday to help you complete the review and prepare for the big test. Times to be determined.