

Listowel Weekly Messenger

June 9, 2025

Educating children while nurturing faith in Christ to interpret and impact God's world

From the Principal's Desk...

Image-Reflecting: Seeing God in Ourselves and Others

On Friday we hosted 17 pastors and some spouses for our pastor appreciation breakfast and our chapel which focused on image reflecting.

"People reflect God's image!"

This powerful truth reminds us that our value and identity are rooted not in what we do, but in who we are. At the 1988 Manhattan Teachers Convention, Larry Day stated it clearly: "Being an image bearer isn't something we do—it's something we are."

We are created in the image of God. That means every person, regardless of background, behavior, or beliefs, carries something of the divine within them. We don't always act righteously or successfully, but that doesn't change the truth: we are image bearers. Our job is not to create God's image—it's already there. Our calling is to reflect it.

Imagine a mirror. It doesn't show the actual person but reflects what they are like. In the same way, our lives are meant to reflect what God is like—His compassion, justice, love, truth, and mercy. These aren't just abstract ideas; they are part of the divine DNA built into every human life.

Of course, mirrors can become fogged. Sin, shame, pain, and pride distort the reflection, making it harder to see the image clearly. But even when the mirror is dirty, the image hasn't disappeared. It's still there, waiting to be revealed again.

This is where our task becomes both personal and communal. We are called not only to see God's image in ourselves but also in others—especially in those we might overlook or avoid. We must look for His reflection in the hungry child, the hardened criminal, the school bully, and even the careless teacher. No one is exempt from the dignity of being made in God's image.

Jesus calls us to live in a way that helps others see this truth. In **Matthew 5:16**, He says:

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

When we live as faithful image bearers—when we love well, act justly, and walk humbly—we become lights in a dark world. Our reflection of God's character points others back to the Source. They don't just see us; they begin to see Him.

This is both a privilege and a responsibility. People often form their understanding of God based on what they see in His followers. If our lives distort that image through harshness, hypocrisy, or indifference, we block the light instead of reflecting it. But when our actions align with Christ's love and truth, our good deeds become windows through which others can catch a glimpse of God's glory.

Being an image bearer isn't about pretending to be perfect—it's about reflecting the One who is. It's about letting the light of Christ shine through us in real, everyday ways: in our kindness, integrity, generosity, patience, and courage.

So let us reflect well. Let our lives be clear mirrors. Let our light shine, not to draw attention to ourselves, but to help others see the God in whose image they, too, were made.

Calendar of Events

June

- **11 -** District Track & Field Day Brantford arrive at school for 6:45am
- 13 JK Field Trip to the Fire Hall
- 13 SK Field Trip to the Splash Pad
- **13 -** Grade 7 / 8 Field Trip to the Escape Room
- 13 Tuition Commitment Forms due
- 16 Kindergarten Graduation
 - 2pm everyone welcome to join us
- 18 Grade Eight Graduation 7:30pm
- **20 -** Last Day of School early dismissal buses depart at 2pm

Looking Ahead ...

AUGUST

28 - Back to School Social Evening - more details to follow

SEPTEMBER

2 - First day of School for 2025/2026



In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Image Reflecting

Special Request

We are still looking for someone who would be able to decorate for Graduation. If this is your gift or if this is something you could help out with, please reach out to Mrs. Veenstra, ASAP.

Thank you in advance!

NNOUNCEMENTS





next week

- Safety as a large group of students head to the District Track and Field meet on Wednesday.
- Perseverance for staff and students as the wrap up the school year we are all finishing well!



TRACK & FIELD

The students for District will need to be at school on **Wednesday**, **June 11**th **at 6:45am**. The buskers be leaving at 7am SHARP.

There is a concession stand at District, however, please pack plenty of food and water for the day as it is a long day with long periods of waiting for specific events.

If a parent will be picking up your student, **PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW ASAP** so that we can appropriately monitor the attendance. It is a hectic day and we have limited staff in attendance at the event. Please help us keep everyone organized.



Tuition Commitment Forms

A reminder to complete and submit your Tuition Commitment forms and return them to the office NO LATER THAN JUNE 13TH.

If you have any questions, please reach out to James VanderSlikke at treasurer@listowelchristianschool.ca

Golf Tournament!

Thank you to Brooklyn Thomas and her small team of volunteers for their work on the golf tournament. We will keep you posted on the results when we receive them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPORTS

NEWS



Baseball

The baseball teams each had a successful day last week at their tournament. Thank you to our Coaches - Mrs. Heikamp and Mrs. Stein for the girls team and Pastor Oegema and staff assistant Mrs. Vogel for the boys team.

If you have a school jersey and you are NOT participating in District Track and Field, please return your jersey to the office.

On Friday we had our pastor appreciation breakfast and we are grateful to have had nine different churches represented and 17 pastors and spouses join us for chapel.

We give thanks for healthy churches supporting our homes and our school to help raise children who desire to be image reflectors.

Twelve students from grades one to eight volunteered to pray for their pastors. What a beautiful part of our chapel to witness-children in prayer for the adults in their lives!

Thank you to parents who helped your child to prepare to pray. They had beautiful words to share.



FLY IN BBQ - June 14, 2025

We have a wonderful opportunity to come out to the Goderich Airport on **Saturday, June 14** for a barbeque lunch and for students to get the opportunity to meet pilots and sit in some airplanes.

Lunch is available for a donation and the proceeds will go to the school.

We thank Gerald Allin for sponsoring this event and inviting private pilots to showcase their aircraft.



Principal for the Day

Principal Jadon Burgsma was very busy on Friday helping with chapel, yard duty and other duties as assigned. He visited every class to give out two little "piggies" (pig shaped candy—who knew!?) and the final school mission Bible passage for the year.



JR Kindergarten

Junior Kindergarten - Mrs. Baarda

Tuesday is **Purple Day**. Students can wear something **purple** if they have it.

In **language** we will be printing letters \emph{Oo} and \emph{Pp} this week. We will also be practicing rhyming words and blending and segmenting.

In **Bible** we will be reading some more parables from the parable storybook. We will also be learning a new memory verse "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:15.

In **math** we will be printing numbers 6 and 7 in our number book. We will also practice counting by ones, fives and tens.

In **health** we will have a lesson on "*Reporting Emergencies*" and then we will also learn about fire safety during our trip later in the week.

Field trip: Thank you to the parents who have volunteered for our field trip this Friday, Emily Schinkel, Hilbert Koersen, and Kylie DeJong. We will plan to leave the school at 9:15 to take the bus to the fire station in Listowel. Following our visit there we will head to Memorial Park to play. We will return to the school at lunch for pizza. Please dress for the weather as we will be outside for a portion of our morning. We are looking forward to a fun day!

We will be working on some art for the Listowel Fair for the next two weeks.

Library: We have had our last opportunity to check books out of the library. Please return all books that you still have at home so that the library volunteers can reshelve them before the summer.

Senior Kindergarten

Senior Kindergarten - Mrs. Heida

This week we will be focusing on the letters **Jj** and **Yy**. We will be sorting by beginning sound, segmenting words and blending them together again.

In **Handwriting Without Tears**, we will learn how to print the lowercase "**ZZ**", printing words on a line and printing sentences. When we print a sentence, we always put spaces between our words and end with punctuation.

SHOW AND TELL: YOUR CHILD MAY BRING THEIR FAVOURITE SHOW AND TELL ITEM ON ONE DAY ONLY. WE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT ITEMS ON MONDAY, TUESDAY AND THURSDAY.

In **math**, we will be learning about all different types of graphs and how they tell us information. We continue to count to 100 by 1s and 10s.

On Tuesday we will celebrate summer birthdays with *Marlie, Amelia, Atlas, Calvin and Adelaide*. If you want to send in a treat you can. I will be bringing a treat for the class.

On *Friday June 13, 2025*, provided the weather is not raining and/or freezing cold, we are heading over to the splash pad by bus around 10am and will walk back to school. We hope to be back at the school at 2:30pm.

We will be having McDonald's for lunch, please be sure to send back your Google Form by Tuesday morning so that the order can be placed. Please send a snack to have for before we leave and when we return to school. Please send your child to school with their bathing suit underneath their clothes. Please send a towel and apply sunscreen on your child.

The rain date for the trip is Tuesday June 17, 2025. We will have McDonald's for lunch on Friday regardless if we have to postpone the splash pad until Tuesday.

On *Monday June 16, 2025*, we will celebrate the SK graduating class of 2025. It will begin at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to join this celebration. Please let the office know if you are taking your child home afterwards.

Please return **ALL library books on MONDAY OR TUESDAY** as we are no longer taking books out and the librarians are organizing the library for September 2025.

On *Friday June 20, 2025*, the last day of school, we will be doing water team events and having a water fight as we end the year together. Please have your child dressed in clothes and shoes they can get wet in and send a towel, dry shoes, dry clothing and underclothing, a bag for wet clothes and a WATER GUN to school that day. We will be having a 2pm dismissal and buses are running that afternoon.

Any questions, please feel free to ask m.heida@listowelchristianschool.ca

Have a great week!

Grade 1

Grade 1 - Ms. Denhartog:

in agendas every Monday.

Math: We will continue to finish up our time unit and then do a quick unit of probability and data management to finish up our math this year.

Language: In our UFLI program this week we will be working on words that say "o" using (oa/oe). Words that say "i" (ie/igh). Please continue to practice your spelling words every day so that we aren't only practicing at school. The words are sent home on a Home Practice sheet from UFLI and are also written

Heart words: again, against, always, almost

Science: We will continue learning about plants/seeds and what they need to grow. It has been lots of fun watching our seeds sprouting in the windows!

Bible: This week our stories will learn about Solomon and how God gave him riches and honour and how he blessed the Israelites during Solomon's reign.

Wednesday: Bring back ALL library books- or you have to pay a fine.

THURSDAY: Spelling test

Show and Tell: For the month of June our theme for show and tell will be: *something special your dad had as a child or your favourite book.*

THURSDAY: June 12: Jolene, Dominic, Cameron, Josiah, Roman, Wesley

Field trip: On *Friday June 13, 2025*, provided the weather is not raining and/or freezing cold, we are heading over to the splash pad by bus around 10am and will walk back to school. We hope to be back at the school at 2:30pm.

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The rain date for the trip is *Tuesday June 17, 2025*. We will have McDonald's for lunch on Friday regardless if we have to postpone the splash pad until Tuesday.

Grade 2

Grade 2 - Mrs. Grundlingh:

This will be our last week for new phonics lessons. The last week of school will be filled with some learning, theme days and lots of fun.

Math - Number sense: We are working on subtraction and multiplication

Bible: We continue our unit on parables. Our Bible verse for June is: "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Phonics, spelling and reading: This week we will look at graphemes that spell /air/ and /ear/.

The **spelling words** for the week is: chair, care, bear, dear, year, clear, hear, airplane, who, whom, whose, toward

Social studies: We will be "visiting" different countries focusing on their flag, their climate, their wildlife and activities.

Library: We do not have library for the remainder of this school year. Please remember to bring your library books (and magazines if you have any) back tomorrow. If you are not sure of the name of the books, please let me know and I can send you the information.

Grade 2

Grade 2 - Mrs. Kuipers:

Wow! Only 2 more weeks of school. I can't believe how fast this year has gone.

Math: As out time comes to a close, we will play some probability games, explore capacity, and review some things we have already learned this year!

Science: We have wrapped up our four main units for the year. We will finish up the next two weeks doing a few fun inquiries and STEM/CODING activities.

Gym: We will be playing soccer baseball when the weather is niceplease send shoes your child can run in! On rainy or cooler days, we will also build on our skipping skills.

Next week the class will have an end of year trip to the splash pad. Check the mail bag for your invite! Join us if you can!

Grade 3

<u>Grade 3 - Mrs. Claus</u>

I still can't believe that we are entering the second last week of school. Time has gone too fast with this crew. We have had such a great year.

Bible: Moses lead the people our of Egypt.

Math: Fractions

Language: Book reports

Science: Soils in the environment

Grade 4

Grade 4 - Mrs. Delleman:

Bible Quiz - We have finished our unit on King Saul and will have a quiz on WEDNESDAY (those at District will do it on THURSDAY). Smartboard notes will be sent home the night before the quiz and we have been working on a study guide with questions to review.

I Know It - Capacity Conversions (Metric) - due FRIDAY

Spelling - The final spelling teams and their lists are below and also on <u>spellingcity.com/tdelleman</u> if students would like to practice their words online. Students will need to know all their spelling words, but only 10 are chosen for dictation. Dictation will be on FRIDAY.

- **Golden Pencils** our, form, more, board, your, four, thorn, store, roar, word, north, shore, soar, hour, court, fort, pork, wore, fourth, pour, storm, sore, tore, oar
- **Super Spellers** hopped, hoped, joined, acted, planned, saved, waited, wanted, grabbed, closed, mixed, helped, nodded, scored, shouted, started, stirred, stepped, named, passed, dropped, chewed, lived, seemed
- Three Girls and Those Guys operate, operation, explode, explosion, create, erosion, invade, conclusion, decorate, expand, creation, comprehend, allude, illustration, erode, decoration, invasion, imitation, conclude, comprehension, illustrate, imitate, expansion, allusion

Memory Work - Matthew 5:16 - "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." - **due June 18**



Grade 5 - Mrs. Tenorio:

Only 2 more weeks of school! I am thankful for every student and the learning that they have accomplished as we look back on this past school year.

Bible - We are wrapping up our unit on the Parables of Jesus and will conclude this week with a Unit test on Friday. Memory work is also due on Friday.

Memory Work: "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Language - We are working on a writing extension activity from our health assignment, where the students will write three non-fiction paragraphs about the disease that they researched. We are editing rough drafts and the final copy will be typed in class on Tuesday. Last day to submit the typed writing assignment is on Wednesday. We are working on a new spelling sort and will have a spelling test next week. Additionally, last week was the final library day so please return your library books this week and next week!

Creation Studies - This week, we are continuing to work on a final project that will be due on *Thursday*, *June 12*, *2025*. The students will work in partners and will create a public service announcement video or skit about how to take care of a human body system. They have the option to record a video using a cellphone, or camera, or to present a skit to the class. They will choose a human body system that we have learned about and present how to take care of this body system. They will also create a worksheet for the class audience to complete about the system and the things that they talked about in their presentation, with at least 3 questions on it from their presentation, to quiz the class. We will have multiple class periods to work on this project, and students will present on June 12-13.

Grade 5 - Math - Mr. Tenorio:

We will be reviewing key topics that students have found challenging in order to prepare them for the next school year. A test will be given at the end of the review to measure their progress and highlight areas of improvement.

Grade 6 & 7

Grade 6 & 7 - Mrs. O'Boyle:

Weekly Highlights:

Here are some of the highlights from last week...

- 1. Soul Surfer and Faith in Action We watched Soul Surfer, the inspiring true story of Bethany Hamilton. Her courage and faith are sparking deep discussions about perseverance and what it means to reflect God's image—even when life doesn't go according to plan. We look forward to tying this throughline to some literary tasks this week.
- 2. **Field Trip to Anne of Green Gables** Wednesday took us to the theatre for a live performance of Anne of Green Gables! The students loved seeing a literary classic brought to life and reflected on Anne's resilience, creativity, and zest for life.
- 3. **Birthday Proclamation Celebration** We had a blast delivering one of our auction items this week—a dramatic, joy-filled birthday proclamation for one lucky student! With flair, fanfare, and just the right amount of silliness, it was a special reminder of how fun it is to celebrate one another.

Language - This month, our class is enjoying a "Book Buffet" reading celebration, where students sample a variety of short texts and genres to spark curiosity, build fluency, and discover new favourites before summer break! In writing, we will work on report writing/reflection writing as we write a final report titled "The Year That Was: A Personal Year-in-Review". Through this we will write a structured report reflecting on the school year, highlighting academic growth, memorable moments, challenges, and personal goals. In grammar we will look at verb moods. Watch for spelling activities coming home this week in your child's agenda.

Spelling Test - Jun. 19th

The Bills - Sort 39 - how, down, count, growl, shout, brown, through, found, owl, cloud, crow, out, clown, plow, show, south, mouth, rough, round, glow, frown, ground, gown, town

Grimace Spellers - Sort 27 - morning, shorter, order, forest, corner, orbit, forty, northern, border, horrid, chorus, florist, stormy, before, record, perform, ashore, report, explore, ignore, adore, inform, sorry, fourteen

The Goats - Sort 57 - present, desert, record, permit, rebel, object, subject, reject, produce, conduct, export, contact

The Doorknobz - Sort 62 (cognates) - fabulous, bicycle, artist, office, bicicleta, electricity, pharmacy, artists, electricidad, oficina, farmacia, geography, gymnasium, initial, exasperated, fabuloso, geographia, gimnasio, inicial, exasperado

Bible - We will continue our unit on Old Testament Themes.

Memory Work - In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Grade 6 & 7

Grade 6 & 7 - Mrs. O'Boyle:

Science - We will continue our unit on Biodiversity. We will look at the importance of biodiversity, what an organism is, and types of vertebrates and invertebrates. We will also complete a butterfly disguise STEM challenge.

Health - We will continue our *Substance Abuse, Addictions, and Related Behaviours* unit.

Art – We will be working on self-portraits and self-reflection this week.

Thank you - A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Jantzi, Mrs. Stein, Mrs. Heikamp, and Mrs. Koersen for generously giving your time to drive and chaperone our class trip last week. Your presence and support helped make the day smooth, safe, and so enjoyable for everyone!

Library books - Please return all outstanding library books.

Grade 6 & 7 - Mr. Tenorio:

We are focusing on a review of concepts that students have struggled with throughout the year. This review will help them feel more confident as they move into the next grade. A test will be administered to assess their understanding and growth.

Grade 6 & 7 - Mrs. Vogel:

History: We will be watching the movie "Luther" in history class this week; looking at the life of the reformer, Martin Luther.

Band: This will be the last week of taking instruments home and practicing. It has been a great year of band with lots of learning and discovering. I'm looking forward to what we will be able to accomplish next year. Students will be learning how to properly clean the instruments for storage for the summer and assisting in getting the band equipment sorted and stored properly both this week and next week. Instruments will stay at school after their class on Wednesday. Please help your student(s) to bring their instruments, books, pockets, and any music they may have to school on Wednesday. Thank you for your support this year!



Calling all Grade 6/7/8 Students (and Parents)!

We need some students and/or parents to help serve the food at the fly in on June 14th.

Please contact Mrs. Vogel if you and/or your student are able to help for 1 1/2 hours (11-12:30 or 12:30-2:00).

Grade 7/8

Grade 7/8 - Mrs. Vogel:

Class Trip!!! We are looking forward to our class trip this Friday. An email was sent out last week detailing the trip. I am asking for \$5/student to help with the cost of the trip. If that is not something you are able to do at this time, please just reach out and we will figure it out on the schools end. Otherwise, please have the \$5 in to Mrs. Vogel by Wednesday, June 11.

W.W.W.: We are finishing up our last WWW unit this week. Unit work and the test are due on *Thursday, June 12*.

Writing: We are working through some year end writing activities, remembering to pay attention to all the instructions and watch for basic writing conventions.

Guided Reading: We will finish the final short story of our current unit today (Monday) and the worksheet for it will be due on Thursday. We will have a unit test for this final unit next week Tuesday.

History: We will be watching the movie "Luther" in history class this week; looking at the life of the reformer, Martin Luther.

Band: This will be the last week of taking instruments home and practicing. It has been a great year of band with lots of learning and discovering. I'm looking forward to what we will be able to accomplish next year. Students will be learning how to properly clean the instruments for storage for the summer and assisting in getting the band equipment sorted and stored properly both this week and next week. Instruments will stay at school after their class on Tuesday. Please help your student(s) to bring their instruments, books, pockets, and any music they may have to school on Wednesday. Thank you for your support this year!

Grade 7 & 8 - Mrs. O'Boyle:

Health - We will not have health class this week. Enjoy your class trip!

Art - In art, we will continue to work on self-portraits and self-reflection this week.

Grade 7 & 8 - Mr. Tenorio:

Math: Students will be reviewing important math topics they have found difficult. The goal is to strengthen their understanding and readiness for the upcoming school year. A test will follow the review to evaluate their improvement.

Science: We are revisiting key topics such as movement and energy, which are essential for next year's curriculum. Students will also participate in experiments to reinforce their learning through hands-on practice.

Bible: We are continuing our study of the New Testament, focusing on the core teachings of the Christian faith. This includes reflecting on the life and ministry of Jesus and exploring what His message means for us today.



<u>4e Niveau: Madame Van Kampen:</u>

- → Plans: * We will continue with the Grammar topic dealing with the **pronouns je, tu, il, elle, and vous** (= I, you, he she, and you *formal or plural*) and creating basic sentences.
- * some **prepositions of place** will also be introduced: **sur, sous, dans, derrière, devant, et à côté de** (= on, under, in, behind, in front of, and beside).

<u>5e Niveau: Madame Van Kampen:</u>

→ Plans: * We will be reading through two short passages that continue with the theme introduced in last week's story (i.e. La Fête de Natalie) of birthdays and gifts: "Mon Anniversaire" and "Un Cadeau Pour André". * we will begin a **mini-unit**: *Les Sports*.

<u>6e/7e Niveaux: Madame Van Kampen:</u>

→ Plans: * reading of the short passage "Bon Voyage, Gisèle!" and answering the accompanying comprehension questions. * French-English dictionary use for completion of Jeu d'élimination #5. * pronunciation focus: AY sound as occurs with the spellings -er, -ez, and é.

7e/8e Niveaux: Madame Van Kampen:

→ Plans: * Grammar continuing from last week, [page 77] involving writing statements containing the partitive article: du, de la, de l', des (= some) in the negative form. * pronunciation focus: 1) AY sound as occurs with the spellings -er, -ez, and é. 2) the silent -ent (i.e. as with the plural conjugations of verbs).