



Listowel
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Listowel Christian School

Weekly Messenger

September 8, 2025

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

From the Principal's Desk...

New beginnings, change, and routine can bring nervousness, excitement, fear, and even peace. This year we welcomed our students into the building fully aware that all of these emotions were present as they stepped off the bus and into school life. Some ran immediately to their friends with warm hugs, while others walked more slowly, searching for someone familiar. For some, questions like "What will this year be like? A new teacher? A new classroom?" brought a sense of trepidation. For others, those same questions stirred joy and enthusiasm.

The same event can feel very different depending on the person. What brings one child joy may bring another anxiety. Recognizing and respecting these differences is an important step toward living out our theme this year:
Be Rooted in Christ. Growing in Community.

In our first chapel, the students were encouraged to practice showing God's love by looking for ways to help those around them. Sometimes that may be as simple as picking up dropped papers; other times it may mean noticing that a friend seems sad or lonely and choosing to sit with them. Growing in community means acknowledging that we are all unique, that our feelings are valid, and that our classmates' feelings are just as important as our own.

As the year progresses, students and teachers will settle into the routines. Nervousness will ease, excitement may fade, but opportunities to love one another will remain. My encouragement to our school community is this: let us continue to grow in love, to show kindness and grace, and to be a community where Christ is evident. As **Matthew 18:20** reminds us, "*For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.*" May we gather this year in a way that makes His presence known.

Calendar of Events

September

- 9 - Boys Soccer practice - after school until 4:30pm
- 10 - Girls Soccer practice - after school until 4:30pm
- 11 - Boys Soccer practice - after school until 4:30pm
- 16 - Boys soccer practice - after school
- 17 - Girls soccer practice - after school
- 18 - Boys soccer practice - after school
- 23 - Boys soccer practice - after school
- 24 - Soccer Tournament - Cambridge
- 26 - Picture Day
- 30 - First milk day

October

- 1 - Hot Dog day
- 2 - Cross Country Meet - Cambridge
- 8 - Grade 7 Immunization Clinic
- 8 - Pizza Day - New Orleans
- 9 - Cross Country Meet - Drayton
- 13 - Thanksgiving - NO SCHOOL
- 14 - Hot Dog Day
- 22 - Pizza Day - Dominos
- 29 - Hot Dog Day
- 30 - Edvance Teachers Convention - NO SCHOOL
- 31 - Edvance Teachers Convention - NO SCHOOL



Rooted in Love
Growing in Community



Theme Verse

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power though his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.
~ Ephesians 3:16-19 ~

Student Profile Forms

Student Profile forms for each student will be sent home today. Please take some time and review the information that is entered, update incorrect information and complete any missing information. Please pay extra attention to Health Card numbers and version codes. The information on these forms is very important to keep updated in the office. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

shout outs to...

Kinsley V
Sept 4

Ruby K
Sept 8

Mrs. Heida
Sept 13

Ronella W
Sept 11

Dominic M
Sept 13

Mrs. Heikamp
Sept 13

*Prayer &
Thanksgiving*

Please keep the following items in your prayers over the next week

- *Thanksgiving that the staff and students had a wonderful summer break*
- *Prayers for calmed anxieties for a new school year*

HOT LUNCH ORDERS

Hot Lunch & Milk order forms are coming home in Kidmail today. Please complete the form and return to the school - **WITH PAYMENT** - no later than **Friday, September 19th**. Late orders will **NOT** be accepted. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

TRANSPORTATION

Previously we've asked that you contact the bus company when you're student is NOT riding in the mornings. Due to privacy law changes, this is no longer a requirement. As a result, if your child is NOT riding the bus in the morning, there is no requirement to notify the bus company.

Family Directory

Last year we did not print a family directory and many families missed it. This year, attached to your Student profile form, is a sheet giving you the option to opt "in" or "out" of having your personal information listed in the directory. Please return that form to the office with your Student Profile.

REMIND APP

A reminder to sign up for the Remind app. If you need assistance with this, reach out to the office.

Library Volunteers Needed...

The volunteers in the library are busy preparing the library space to welcome our students. We are however in need of new volunteers for Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, but especially Tuesdays. Each volunteer helps out once or twice a month. On your scheduled day you are expected to be at the library from 9-12:45. Duties include checking in and shelving returned books, reading a story to the students, helping students to choose a book and checking out the books. Our system is computerized so it is helpful if you are familiar with a computer. We will provide training so no library experience is necessary. Parents, grandparents and community friends are welcome. The school requires a police check to volunteer. Please contact Andrea at 289-880-1355 or atboots@gmail.com to help out.

Sports Corner

Cross Country

Students in grades 3-8 are able to participate in cross country! If students are interested, they can sign up with Mrs. Delleman. Practices will take place right before snack recess, during school hours - bring proper footwear for running! **Grades 3/4/5** will practice Wednesdays and Fridays, **Grades 6/7/8** will practice Tuesdays and Thursdays. Grade 3/4 run 1.5km, Grade 5/6 run 2km, and Grade 7/8 run 3km. Please practice your running at home to work on stamina! We have two cross country meets this year - Cambridge (Oct. 2) and Drayton/Moorefield (Oct. 9). More details on the meets will be sent out once the team is decided on. In order to make the team, students will need to be able to complete their distances, running the whole time!

Soccer

The **Boys Team** will practice Tuesday & Thursday after school until 4:30 pm

The **Girls Team** will practice Wednesday after school until 4:30pm and Friday at lunch.

The Tournament is scheduled for **September 24th** at Fountain Street Sports Complex in Cambridge. We will require parent drivers. If you are interested, and able to drive, please contact the office as soon as possible so that we can ensure that we have enough vehicle space for all of the players.



Classroom News

JK/SK - A

JK/SK-A - Mrs. Baarda

We had a great first week of school last week! We spent some time getting to know each other and exploring the classroom. I am excited about the year ahead!

Language - This week we will be learning about the sounds that we make when we speak and how we use our lips, tongue and teeth and even our nose to make different sounds. We will learn that some sounds continue and some sounds are stop sounds.

We will do some sky writing and tracing to practice making curves, circles and different types of lines.

Math - We are beginning with a unit on counting. We will practice counting up to ten and associating a number of objects with spoken and written numbers. We will also be doing some sorting and matching activities.

Bible - Our first unit is about Creation. We will learn about days 1-4 and what God created on each of these days.

Health - In health we will be making an "All About Me" book to learn more about ourselves and get to know a little bit about each other.

Art - We will be learning about colour in art. Last week we used primary coloured paper to make our names. This week we will be reading Rainbow Fish and creating our very own colourful fish.

Chromebooks - Monday is our first time using the chromebooks. SK students have been very excited to use their headphones! We will try out Teach Your Monster to Read which has educational games and activities.

Library - Tuesday is our first library day. Students will be allowed to choose a book to take home for one week. Please do your best to return books next Tuesday so students can bring home their new book selection.

Reading Buddies - Thursdays we will be having Reading Buddies with the Grade 4 class. We are sharing this time, and the Grade 4 class, with the JK/SK B class.

I am looking forward to our first full week of school!

JK/SK - B

JK/SK-B - Mrs. Heida

Wow! The first three days of school have already passed. It has been a time of adjusting to a new routine and it has been good. I am looking forward to the second week of school.

This week we are going to learn about **straight, curvy** and **diagonal** lines. We will work on some hand strengthening exercises and learn how to hold a pencil with a proper pencil grip.

In **math**, we will be counting to **10**, learning some number rhymes and focusing on the numbers **1** and **2**.

In **Bible** we will learn how God created the world. Our memory verse is **Genesis 1:1, 31: *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. God saw all that he had made and it was very good.***

The song we are learning is called Hip Hip Hip Hippopotamus. Here is a link:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqt8RKNEB9k>

We will also spend some time learning about each other and some of our favourite things.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at m.heida@listowelchristianschool.ca or text me at 519-492-2981.

Have a great week!

Classroom News



Grade 1 - Ms. den Hartog:

What an amazing first week at school! It feels good getting into a routine after summer holidays. We have been full of energy, curiosity of God's world and showing lots of enthusiasm for learning.

Bible: Our Bible unit for September is all about the world God made. We started by talking about how God created the earth and it all started as darkness. Our unit will show how much care God took to create our earth and how much he loves us. Our unit will end with the story of Noah and the flood at the end of the month.

Math: We jumped right into our Jump math books at the end of our first week. This week we will continue looking at sorting attributes and reviewing our numbers 1-10.

Language: In our Phonics program this week we will start listening for the beginning sounds of simple words. In our printing book we will be reviewing our corner capital letters. In our UFLI program this week we are starting with review from kindergarten of all our letters and the sounds they make. In our Handwriting Without Tears book we will start this week with practicing corner capital letters.

Social Studies: We are starting our unit titled "My Local Community". In this unit we will start by looking at different natural and built features. Throughout this unit we will discuss the different parts that make up our community and at the end of the unit we will look at different maps and gain some skills in using a map.

Health: This week we will start our first health lesson on Zones of Regulation. Our word of the month for September in health is "*regulation or regulate*". We will practice how we can regulate our body to help us feel comfortable in the space we are in.

Gym: In Gym we will play lots of different games that will help us practice safety in the gym as well as showing active participation.

Show and Tell: Every Friday we will have a few students who will have a chance to bring something for show and tell. For the month of September, the theme of show and tell is "*something that is special to you or an item that begins with the first letter of your name.*" Please help your child find an appropriate item that fits the theme. Your child will be asked to share a few facts or details about what they brought to share, please practice so they are confident to share with the class.

Friday Sept 12: Marlie, Calvin, Avery, Atlas, Violet

If you haven't joined the **Grade 1 Remind App**- I sent an email on Friday the 5th inviting you to join. If you can't get in, send me an email and I can send you the class code.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at h.denhartog@listowelchristianschool.ca

Have a great week!



Grade 2 - Mrs. Kuipers & Mrs. O'Boyle:

Weekly Highlights - Hello and welcome to Grade 2! This year, Mrs. Kuipers and Mrs. O'Boyle are excited to be team teaching Grade 2! Mrs. Kuipers is teaching on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, while Mrs. O'Boyle is teaching on Mondays and Wednesdays. We are so excited to continue building relationships and getting to know both you and your children better as the year unfolds.

You can contact us through email at:

Mrs. O'Boyle: b.o Boyle@listowelchristianschool.ca

Mrs. Kuipers: d.kuipers@listowelchristianschool.ca

Phonics - This week we are focusing on a review of short vowel sounds. Students will practice reading and spelling words with short vowels, as well as review heart words (words that don't always follow regular spelling rules and need to be remembered by sight.) Through hands-on activities and word practice, students will strengthen their decoding skills, improve their reading fluency, and build a strong foundation for both reading and spelling.

Each week, you will see UFLI practice pages coming home in your child's Kid Mail envelope. These pages review the skills and concepts we are working on in class, such as phonics patterns, heart words, and reading fluency. They are meant to give your child extra practice and help reinforce their learning at home. Please take a few minutes to go through the pages with your child, encouraging them to read the words and complete the activities. This consistent practice will support their growth and confidence as readers and writers. - *Mrs. O'Boyle and Mrs. Kuipers*

Spelling - We will be having weekly spelling lists that coincide with our phonics program. The list will also include common heart words that do not follow regular patterns. The list will be in the messenger at the start of each week and dictation will take place on Fridays. Our first spelling list is: - *Mrs. O'Boyle and Mrs. Kuipers*

Short Vowel Word: flat, swim, cost, spot, sent, lift, just, sled, prop
Heart Words: from, the, said, are, was, you

Math - This week we will be learning about counting and matching numbers to quantities. Students will practice counting objects, pictures, and dominoes, and connecting these quantities to their written numerals. We will also explore one-to-one correspondence by pairing items to see which group has more or fewer. These hands-on activities help students build a strong foundation in number sense and set them up for success in future math learning. - *Mrs. O'Boyle*

Penmanship - This week in printing, we will begin our Printing Power handwriting lessons. We will review how to sit properly, hold our pencils correctly, and position our paper for neat writing. We will also practice writing familiar letters using simple, step-by-step strokes to build confidence and consistency. The focus will be on developing strong habits for neat and efficient handwriting, which will support all of their writing throughout the year. - *Mrs. O'Boyle*

Classroom News

Grade 2

Grade 2 - Mrs. Kuipers & Mrs. O'Boyle cont'd:

Bible - We are starting a unit called The Christian Life, which is based on the Book of James. Throughout this unit, students will explore how Christians are called to live out their faith through their actions, words, and attitudes. We will look at practical topics such as listening carefully, speaking kindly, showing wisdom, submitting to God, and the power of prayer. The goal of this unit is to help students understand that genuine faith is reflected in the way we live and to encourage them to grow in their relationship with God by putting their beliefs into practice. - *Mrs. O'Boyle*

Social Studies - We are starting a unit on Changing Family and Community Traditions. Students will learn what traditions are, why they are important, and explore their own family's traditions. They will also learn about ancestors and how our families and histories shape who we are today. These lessons help students appreciate their heritage and the role families play in our communities. - *Mrs. O'Boyle*

Health - We will be learning about the Zones of Regulation. This program helps students recognize their feelings and understand how emotions affect their actions. The four zones use colours to represent different states, such as feeling calm, excited, upset, or tired. Students will learn strategies to manage their emotions and make positive choices, helping them build self-regulation skills for both school and home. - *Mrs. O'Boyle*

Art - This week, we will continue building on the idea that our class is a family. Students will create self-portraits that interlock with their classmates' portraits to form a large, collaborative "quilt." This project celebrates each child's individuality while showing how we all fit together as part of our classroom community. From a Christian perspective, this reminds us that we are all part of the body of Christ, uniquely created by God and called to work together in love and unity. - *Mrs. O'Boyle*

Library - Library will be Tuesday morning each week. Students will be responsible for taking their books home and returning them back the following week. Please keep track of these books and respect them so they stay in good shape. Happy Reading! - *Mrs. Kuipers*

Science - We will begin the year off with a unit on All Creatures Large & Small where we will explore how God created animals to move, live, and what our role in creation is along side animals. Please bring in an animal stuffy or picture on Tuesday this week with 3 interesting facts to share. - *Mrs. Kuipers*

Gym - Although we do not require gym clothes in grade 2, please be mindful when dressing in the morning that our Gym periods are on Tuesday and Thursday. Running shoes are required. - *Mrs. Kuipers*

French - Throughout the year we will explore various units with a focus on word recognition and speaking orally. Students in grade 2 will not be required to know how to spell French vocabulary, but we will have quizzes, some oral and some matching, after each unit. - *Mrs. Kuipers*

Grade 3

Grade 3 - Mrs. Claus

Our first week was great! I hope you each received the email I sent about how it went for your child. Your children are very special, and I am excited to teach them. God is so good.

For future reference, I will let you know about upcoming quizzes and tests in our weekly message. I will also give you a basic message about what we are doing in each subject.

Bible: We are learning about Paul and his letters.

Math: We are working on place value.

Science: Our unit is on stable structures.

Language: Today, we started UFLI and writing.

Health: We are learning about healthy eating habits.

Please reach out via email (c.claus@listowelchristianschool.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.

Grade 4

Grade 4 - Mrs. Delleman:

Hello Grade 4 Students and Parents,

We had a good first week back at school and I'm excited to start another week as we establish routines and get to know each other a little better!

I will have more information in the next messenger. My weekly messenger usually has information on memory work, spelling lists, upcoming tests/quizzes, and assignments on IKnowIt, a math program online for students to practice some math at home.

For now, I just want to make you aware of certain scheduled days! Library is on WEDNESDAYS, and this week we will be able to checkout some books. P.E. is on TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS, so please make sure students have proper outdoor footwear those days.

If you have any questions or concerns, or want to meet in person, please email me at my school address (t.delleman@listowelchristianschool.ca) - I will be answering emails until 7pm each weekday.

Sincerely,
Mrs Delleman

Classroom News

Grade 5

Grade 5 - Mrs. Neil:

This week in Grade 5, we will be working on the following topics:

Bible - working through Creation, the fall, and how that still affects our lives today

Math - multiplication and division, using different strategies such as skip counting, hundreds charts, and number lines

Writing - proper sentence structure, and adding details to make our writing more interesting

Gym - soccer skills

Health - reviewing the zones of regulation

Science - continuing our unit on the different states of matter

We will have our first library on Tuesday this week. Our current class read aloud novel is "The Trumpet of the Swan" by EB White.

Grade 5 - Mrs. Vogel:

I have the privilege of teaching spelling and penmanship to grade 5 this year. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please reach out to me either by calling the school or through e-mail at j.vogel@listowelchristianschool.ca.

This year, grade 5 will be working through the Words Their Way curriculum. This is a familiar curriculum for those that attended here last year. Every 2 weeks they will receive a new sort and will work with the words in that sort for two weeks. They will receive their sort and half their assignment on Wednesday and have a quiz Friday. The following week they will receive the rest of their assignment and have their sort test on Friday.

We will also be spending some time Every Wednesday and Friday on practicing and refining our penmanship skills.

Grade 6 & 7

Grade 6 & 7 - Mr. VanDerWal:

Math	Grade 6 started their first unit on Number Patterns. Grade 7 started their first unit on Patterns in Whole Numbers.
Language	We will be reading and writing about Terry Fox.
Science	We started our first unit on Interactions in the Environment.
Bible	In Bible we are starting our first unit on Themes of the Old Testament.
Phys. Ed	This week we will be starting our soccer unit to help practice for the upcoming tournament.

Grade 6 & 7 - Mrs. Vogel:

I have the privilege of teaching grade 6/7 band and history/geography this year. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please reach out to me either by calling the school or through e-mail at j.vogel@listowelchristianschool.ca.

We will either be working on a history unit or a geography unit, but not both at the same time. Work will be due as it is assigned and larger assignments and tests will be noted in the weekly messenger. I also will be using google classroom with the students and they can check on their work on that platform at home as well if needed.

Geography - We have started off our year with a mapping unit. The students reviewed what is important to remember about making a map and some map terminology. We started working on a map of Canada. We will have some time to work on it on Tuesday. It will be due on Wednesday of this week.

Band - We are reviewing some music theory and practicing our note reading and comprehension over the next week or two. After that we will start our instrument exploration. Look for more details to come in the coming weeks.

Classroom News



FRENCH

Du bureau de Madame Van Kampen

4e Niveau:

This past week we focused on some classroom procedures such as the opening greeting [Bonjour, classe!/Bonjour, Madame!] and posing the question "*Comment ça va?*" and the possible responses. We also reviewed colours and began counting aloud. This week we will continue with numbers and review the question "*Comment t'appelles-tu?*", days of the week and months of the year as we work towards composing the date on each day of class. The plan is to tuck in a game of Lotto which uses the numbers up to and including 31 – the max number of days in a month.

5e Niveau:

This past week we reviewed colours as we completed a *Je m'appelle* name tag; portions had to be coloured based upon such things as personal preference for sports, eating broccoli, a place of destination, etc., one's family composition, and one's favourite colour. We also reviewed our daily greeting & farewell statements, "*Comment ça va?*", the date, and the weather descriptors. This week we will focus on numbers – minimally up to 40 – with a view to reach 60 or higher. Worksheets will review number names, spellings, and incorporate some simple math operations. Hopefully a game of *Autour le Monde* and/or *Lotto* can also be incorporated.

6e/7e/8e Niveaux:

This past week we resumed our classroom opening procedures [i.e. greetings, use of the question "*Comment ça va?*", establishing the date, describing the day's weather, etc.]. Students began completing a "C'est Moi!" poster with various bits of personal information with a view to present the information orally [oui, en français] this week, about oneself – if in grade 6, or about one's desk partner – if in grades 7 and 8. Either form of presentation incorporates use of the possessive adjectives my [=mon/ma/mes] or his/her [=son/sa/ses] respectively. Students will receive an outline of the pertinent statements in which to insert the details about oneself or one's classmate.



Grade 7 & 8

Grade 7 & 8 - Mrs. Vogel:

I have the privilege of teaching grade 7/8 band and history/geography, language arts, health, Bible, and art this year. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please reach out to me either by calling the school or through e-mail at j.vogel@listowelchristianschool.ca.

We will either be working on a history unit or a geography unit, but not both at the same time. Work will be due as it is assigned and larger assignments and tests will be noted in the weekly messenger. I also will be using google classroom with the students and they can check on their work on that platform at home as well if needed.

Guided Reading - We are starting off the year with a short story unit.

Writing - We are going to be working through some grammar review and editing skills as well as looking at what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

W.W.W. - Every 2 weeks students will receive a new sort and will work with the words in that sort for two weeks. They will receive their sort and half their assignment on Tuesday and have a quiz Thursday. The following week they will receive the rest of their assignment and have their sort test on Thursday.

Geography - We have started off our year with a mapping unit. The students reviewed what is important to remember about making a map and some map terminology. We first worked through a map of Canada which was due last week Friday. We are now working on a map of the world which is due on Wednesday. There will not be any more class time to complete this assignment.

Band - We are reviewing some music theory and practicing our note reading and comprehension over the next week or two. After that we will start our instrument exploration. Look for more details to come in the coming weeks.