

KINGDOM *news*

A NEWSLETTER OF WALLACEBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2023

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Board Message

It has been a very busy and exciting school year so far and we are only a few months in! As a board we meet once a month to discuss things occurring at the school and ways to continue stewarding the school well. This year has been another record-breaking year with our student population, praise God. We went from 119 students last school year to 136 this year. The school has grown so much in the previous two years that we have had to add some new staff and classrooms, taking a slight detour from our plans for a gym; those drawings are being prepared right now. It has been a challenge logistically with so many students, but we thank God for this growth and we're blown away by the amount of support and patience that the WCS community shows. As a board it can be difficult at times to chart a course for the school and determine which direction the Lord would have us take. We are so thankful for the entire WCS community that prays and supports us in our decision making.

One of the highlights of this year is the new addition out back which will add two new classrooms to our growing community. One of the students favourite new additions is the new playground out back. They absolutely love it! A huge thank you to re:find for their donation toward the playground, and thank you as well to all the workers, volunteers and donors who have helped



make these building additions to our school possible, with the Lord leading the way.

I would like to thank all the people that help serve in the school. God is doing some awesome things with some amazing people. We have four new board members this year: Phil Kraayenbrink, Matt Feddes, Tim Kramer and Karen Roche. They have really stepped up to be great additions to the school's board of directors. As most of you know, our school wouldn't be able to run without volunteers helping in so many different ways. If you are feeling the Holy Spirit's pull to serve, please let us know; we are always looking for more help in every

department at the school.

Being a part of growing the kingdom comes in all different ways, and doing that at our school can be as little as helping the teachers mark, volunteering for some yard duty, or as much as joining a committee. If this is something that interests you, please reach out and we can set you up to help using the gifts the Lord has given you.

We want to thank all the teachers, admin and staff for the hard work they do on a daily basis, teaching our children about Jesus. Thank you to everyone for being part of this school, and we are looking forward to what God is going to do in this school next!

Kirstie Feddes, Board Chair

Jude 1:24-25 "Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever."

Building Update

The motto of our building campaign is "More than Bricks". The new spaces in our school have certainly provided us with more than just space, but opportunity. Opportunity for new learning, opportunity for growth, opportunity to commune together and much more. Phase 1 is completed! The entire project cost roughly \$600,000. This phase of our campaign has been paid for in full.

Phase 1.5 is nearly complete. So much has happened in this phase since our last society meeting, including a new steel roof on the entire school, soffit and fascia and downspouts were replaced.

New landscaping was installed at the front of the school. The hallway doors, and baseboards were all painted to match and freshen up the school. The old office was turned into the new resource room. A new playground was put in, compliments of re:find. Concrete was poured around the front and side of the school. The new letters on the front of the school were installed. A wall was put up to make a new hallway for the new classrooms. Dry wall, electrical, insulation and painting has been completed in the new classrooms. The new floor has been completed in the new hallway and the classrooms. The heating and electrical systems have been put in. Concrete around the back of the new addition was ripped up and replaced. A new camera system has been installed. New cameras



will be placed around the perimeter of the school as a deterrent to vandalism and theft. New steel siding is currently being put on the exterior of the existing Grade 3-4 and Grade 2 room, as well as the two new classrooms. New windows were put in in these four classrooms also. We are very hopeful to be able to have two functional new classrooms in the new year. The intention would be to move the Grade 1 classroom into one of the new spaces. We could use the other classroom as a multi-purpose room with the intention of making it a single grade classroom next year

We are currently working with our architect to get official drawings for the gymnasium and more new classrooms. We currently sit at a total of \$1,360,000 of

pledged donations and just shy of \$950,000 of received money. Most of phase 1.5 is already paid for and we currently have a balance of \$64,000 in our building account. All of our attention will be placed on fundraising for the next phase.

A continued thank-you to Matt Feddes and crew for their hard work on phase 1.5, as well as Charles Feddes, our chair and contractor. Your service, patience and hard work have made this possible. Praise be to God, to Him all the glory is given!

Matthew Charron, Building Committee

Jr-Sr Kindergarten Mrs. DeJong



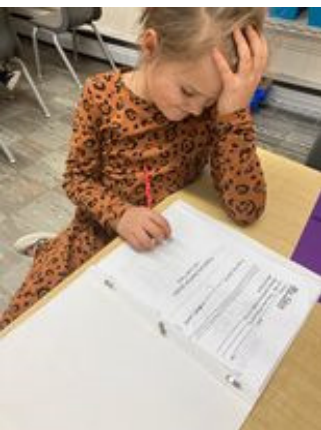
This year we have 26 students in our Junior and Senior Kindergarten classroom, which makes for a very busy and lively classroom!

The students have been enjoying learning new things in fun ways.



Grade 1 Mrs. France

Art The grade ones have been working on understanding the different elements of art. We have just finished watching and learning about the element of value. The students were able to finish their piece of art. Their art involved making three separate spheres and understanding how light casting down from different angles produces different shadows



Science We have recently started a new unit for science called Matter and Material. Within this unit we have already covered the understanding of the five different senses through different activities. The students have also worked on understanding the different words associated with each of the senses and how the body uses these senses.





Field Trips and Special Activities

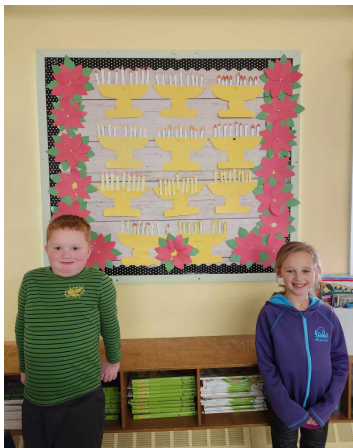
We just had the opportunity to go on a field trip to the library and the museum! This field trip allowed the students to understand what is in our community and some history about Wallaceburg. All of this learning was an extension of what they just learned in our past unit in Social Studies that discussed different communities.



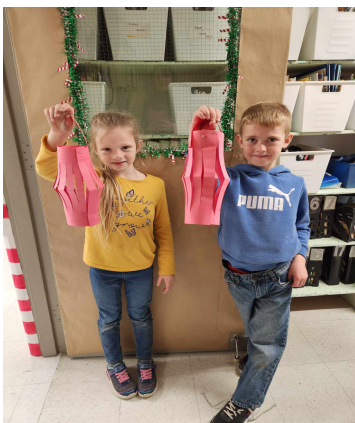
In addition to our field trip, we had the opportunity to do reading buddies with the Grade 7-8 class. The students thoroughly enjoyed being able to have an opportunity to read with the older students and it gave them another great opportunity to enjoy the great school community that we have!



Grade 2 Miss VanderHeide



Grade Two has been busy traveling the world, learning about Christmas traditions in various countries. The students have tried their hand at making potato latkes in Israel, tasting tamales in Mexico as well as many other cultural foods along the way. Most eye opening for the students was learning that not every country in the world celebrates our Saviour's birth at Christmas. They learned that so many in the world still need to hear about Jesus both here in Canada and abroad.



Grade 3-4

Mrs. Hoogstad

Grades 3 & 4 have been very busy so far this year. We began our year discovering soil in God's creation. We were able to bring in our own samples from home and test them to see what kinds of soil we were each working with. Hendrik (& Mr. Scott Kramer) assured us that we could grow things in clay, and after our own testing, we discovered that they were right! We were able to wrap our unit up by enjoying an educational visit to L.C. Henderson Conservation Area. We are thankful for the staff there who share their expertise with us.

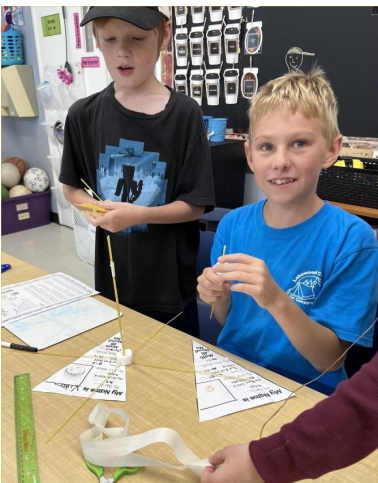


Grade 5-6

Mrs. McLachlin

The Grade 5/6 class has been busy these last few months with activities such as Field Trips, STEM challenges, Novel Studies, Art Sculptures and VIP, just to name a few.

We have had some great discussions about God's word during Music class and enjoyed Reader's Theatre in Bible. It has been so interesting getting to know each student and discovering some of their God-given gifts.



We seem a little more 'full' in our class this year but are so thankful for each and every body that sits in the chairs of our classroom. God is good!



Life at WCS



Upcoming Events

Open House:

Date to be determined

Dessert Gala & Live Auction:

February 24, 2024

Online Auction:

March 11-15, 2024

Drive Thru Dinner:

April 13, 2024



To seek first the kingdom of God by being a visible, active organization of support and blessing to our surrounding community and to Wallaceburg Christian School, and to be stewardly in providing affordable resources and creative ways to reuse the things we have.

In May of 2013, the idea to start a thrift store to help support Wallaceburg Christian School was conceived.

There was so much to do: find a money manager, choose a location, come up with a name, come up with a logo, find someone to build us shelves and clothing racks...the list went on and on. There was a very clear vision as to what the store would look like and a drive to pull it off!

Our first test-run day was on Thursday, November 28, 2013, just before our official Grand Opening. Committee members were there to work out any kinks we might encounter during the day-to-day operation of the business. On that day, a newspaper reporter dropped in to see the store and talk to us. He couldn't have been kinder in the things he said about the store. He was very impressed by what he saw and learned.

So much has happened concerning re:find since the fall of 2013. The business has grown beyond our wildest dreams. The fact that we had to move in September of 2016 was a ton of work, but it turned into a real God-send. Although we didn't necessarily know it at the time, we would soon need a larger floor space and much bigger donation room. That location, 369 James St., was a

dream location compared to 508 James. Three times as much space and the perfect 'ambiance' for the look and feel we were hoping for. We were thoroughly convinced that we were 'settled' for good. However, God had other plans for re:find. To our big shock and some initial dismay, that building was sold and we were going to have to move again. So, after a lot of searching and praying, we were offered our current location, 216 Nelson St. We once again faced the daunting and enormous task of moving, just a little over a year ago in September of 2022. We cannot say thank you enough to all those who helped us accomplish that move. The old adage, "many hands make light work" is certainly true - the move was done seamlessly. Thank YOU to EVERYONE that helped us out!

Here we are in the fall of 2023 and we are celebrating our tenth anniversary. We've come such a long way since we opened ten years ago. To date we've grossed about 1.5 million dollars! Outside of monthly expenses, it's all gone back into this community.

every good and perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of heavenly lights
...thanks be to Him!

*Thank you to Express Printing and Copies, Chatham
for printing this Kingdom News*



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Our Mission Statement

At Wallaceburg Christian School we strive to see students **discover** Christ in all areas of learning, **develop** their God-given talents and **dedicate** their lives to Christ's service.