

WINTER 2024

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KINGDOM NEWS

NEWSLETTER



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● **A Message from the Board**

Praise the Lord! It has been a very exciting school year so far and we are only just starting. For those who aren't familiar or are new to the school, we, as a board, meet once a month to discuss things occurring at the school and ways to continue stewarding the school well, while

always keeping our eyes on the Lord. Please pray that we will continue to be in tune to the Spirit's leading while making the decisions that need to be made.

While we said goodbye to some amazing, God-fearing families and students last year, we have welcomed some amazing new additions to our little slice of the greater Church family. We went from 140 students last school year to 141 this year. The Lord has blessed the school with so much growth over the last few years both physically and spiritually. With the growth, we have had to make some adjustments to try and make things run as smoothly and efficiently as possible. This has included new staff and new roles for our current faculty. These are great 'problems' to have for our growing school! It has been exciting to witness the building changing as well. We are currently in the process of putting the finishing touches on the blueprints of the gym addition which we hope will be able to start as soon as possible. Praise the Lord for this opportunity and huge thank-you to all the donors and volunteers who have and continue to pour so much of their time, finances and effort into this endeavour.

The board would also like to thank all the people that help serve in any capacity for and with the school. God is doing some awesome things with these servant-hearted people. We also have two new board members this year: Brian Hooyer and Jocelyn Kraayenbrink. These two have been great additions and have really stepped into their roles with both feet.

Our school wouldn't be able to run without volunteers helping in so many different ways. As most of you are aware, the school has implemented a new volunteering system to encourage families to get connected to the wonderful community at WCS, while helping meet tangible needs. Hopefully, as you continue to serve, or maybe are serving for the first time, you are coming to learn a wonderful truth: The families and individuals make up the school's population, and re:find are some of the most amazing people to serve beside and form friendships with. I speak from personal experience.

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I have made some lifelong friendships with brothers and sisters that I would not have ever met if God had not directed me and my wife to send our kids to the school. I challenge everyone who has not fully plugged themselves in, what are you waiting for? We want to thank all the Teachers, Admin and Staff for the hard work they do on a daily basis teaching our children about God's beautiful and wonderful design woven into every subject. We could have all the money in the world but if we didn't have these individuals, this school would just be an empty shell. We thank the Lord everyday and pray for you as well. You are loved by the board, the families and most importantly God.

- Josh Miller, 2024-2025 Board Chair



“Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”
2 Corinthians 13: 12-14 (ESV)

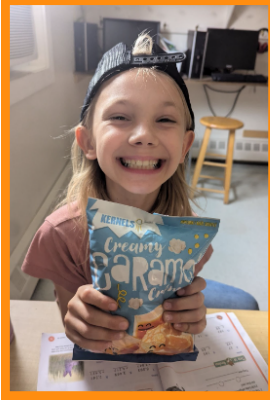


● Principal Ponderings

Can you believe that we are in our 64th year of Christian education in Wallaceburg and surrounding areas?! The longevity of our community is a testament to the rich and vibrant heritage we have, but most importantly, the result of **the faithful and mighty God we serve.**

This year our students have learned the motto of our 2024-2025 school year theme, “renew your mind”. Like you and I, our students are learning that a secular culture has twisted the truths we read about in the Bible. Our students are learning to recognize that our identity in Christ is under constant assault from the enemy. What better ways to counter these attacks than by diving into God’s word and applying it to our lives?

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Romans 12:2 says “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect”. We are teaching students to not let the world’s values, priorities, and pressures dictate our actions and mindset. Instead, our theme verse encourages believers to undergo a transformation by renewing their minds through God’s Word, prayer, and obedience. Our theme is especially important for our students because it provides a biblical framework for navigating the challenges they face in the world that may often be in conflict with their faith and values. The verse speaks directly to how students can live out their Christian identity and purpose in a world that pressures them to conform to worldly standards. I wonder the transformation our world would undergo if our students learned and applied

these biblical truths to their lives. Think of the effect they would have on the world if they were mindful with what they consumed, if they cultivated a heart of gratitude and humility, if they guarded their hearts and pursued holiness and if they embraced a transformation by surrendering to God. We are already beginning to see the influence our theme is having on our students when it comes to their school work, their relationships with their peers and their interactions with teachers.

What a great start to this year. We are so thankful for our community and the way in which God has been at work through our parents, teachers, students and others. I thank God regularly that He has continued to show us His sovereign hand though the vision of the school. May He continue to bless us as we seek His will for Wallaceburg Christian School.



Training up in Discipleship

Before He ascended to heaven, Jesus gave his disciples a mission to “make disciples”. This mission was not exclusive to just these men, but a call for all of His believers to take up. Unfortunately, salvation of a new believer has been treated as the end game, when really it should be viewed as a starting point in one’s faith. Discipleship is the ongoing process of following Christ, learning from His teachings, and growing in faith and obedience. We recognize that many of our senior students have a platform to be

disciple-makers in our school because younger students look up to and admire them. We wanted to leverage this fact by creating an environment in the school where discipleship is part of our culture at WCS. This year, after lots of research, brainstorming and prayer, we have started a discipleship program at WCS. Though the program was dreamed up by our staff it is led by our senior students. 12 of our senior students have been partnered up with 12 of our younger students in discipleship relationships. Each week our discipplers are required to read His word daily, pray daily, and connect with their disciple once a week at recess or during free time. Every so often, we meet as an entire

group of 24 students to take part in a communal event. In October, we took all the students on a fishing trip where we fished, shared in a devotion and built upon their newly formed friendship. The focus of our program is to make disciples through bible reading, prayer and communal support. We are already beginning to see the fruit of our labour. It is incredible to see our senior students share about what they are reading in God’s word and how they are being obedient through prayer and connecting with their disciple. We’ve got so much more planned for this year. At what other school would you get to see 24 students enter into a discipleship relationship? This program is just another reason why WCS is so special!



Classroom Updates

Grade 1 is a sweet group of children who love each other and Jesus! We have had a great start to the year and I am blessed everyday by their prayer requests for others. I have discovered that their favourite subject by far is Science! They love to put their safety glasses on and explore matter and materials as part of God's wonderful creation for us. Mapping, Our Senses, and Ooblek Day were a big hit!

Grade 2 has been working on a socials unit about important Canadians throughout our country's history. As a culminating project, each student researched a local WWII war hero from Wallaceburg and surrounding areas. After completing their research the students had the opportunity to visit the cenotaph to find their soldier's names on the Stones of Remembrance. We also attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at the cenotaph followed by a visit to the Wallaceburg Museum to view their Remembrance Day exhibits which included artifacts from some of the war heroes that the students studied.



Grade 3 has had an exciting and rewarding start to the year! Our A-Team activities have been a highlight, including collecting cereal boxes to donate to the local food bank. The students not only made a meaningful impact in our community but also had a blast creating a giant cereal box domino run! Additionally, we've enjoyed participating in various fundraisers like Kernels popcorn sales, which brought the class together while supporting great causes. It's been wonderful to see the students' enthusiasm and teamwork shine through these projects!

Grade 4 is a wonderful class with big hearts. They love to learn, and are always eager to try new things. We've had students try Cross Country, Drama Club and Battle of the Books. Our class was especially excited to complete their Pulleys and Gears projects. These were so creative, and it was neat to see all of the different ideas come together. Last week we had an awesome time at Sloan's Village together. These kids are great friends. We're now building and observing worm habitats in our study of Habitats and Communities.



The **Grade 5/6** class has extended a lovely, warm welcome to me as their new classroom teacher this year. We have spent time getting to know each other. As a class we travelled to the LC Henderson conservation area for a fantastic learning experience in the great outdoors, exploring how to use a GPS navigator. We were blessed with beautiful weather, fellowship and time to appreciate God's creation. We recently just wrapped up our novel study "Out of My Mind"- learning about a young girl with Cerebral Palsy and what her life and struggles are like. We are hoping to invite Mrs. Stalker's sister into our class for a visit to engage with someone with a disability, who uses a wheelchair and is non verbal. We are looking forward to many exciting Christmas activities to celebrate the season.



We have had a great start to the **Grade 7/8** year . It kicked off with a leadership trip to Lakewood campground. Many of my students participated in the soccer tournament and Cross Country tournament. The students love the opportunity to serve and demonstrate leadership skills through school opportunities like "partner reading" and our discipleship program. Recently, we took part in a trip to Sloan's Christmas village.





● Building Progress

If you've walked through the halls at Wallaceburg Christian School or just driven by, you'd recognize very quickly how much the physical footprint has changed. We are thrilled to share that phase 1 and phase 2 of our building campaign, called "More than Bricks", is complete.

This is a testament to our generous donors and God's faithfulness. All our attention as a building committee is now focused on phase 3. This phase will consist of a gymnasium, three new classrooms, new washrooms, additional parking, a kitchen and a common area. We recognize that this phase will take some time but the planning is already underway. We have been in continued contact with our architect who is drafting up our mechanical and electrical plans for the new addition. We hope to hear from him soon. In the meantime, he has provided us with a promotional video of what the new addition will look like. We have put the video up on our school Facebook page.

The fundraising efforts have recently begun. It is our hope to tap into new donors who believe in our mission and to access more grants, like the one received for phase 1. Though we don't have a concrete estimate of how much money this phase will cost, we know that it will be significantly more than the other two phases.

That being said, we serve a big God who can do so much more than we could ask or dream of. Keep looking for future updates about our building campaign. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact myself (Mr. Matt Charron). There are many ways you can support our vision for Wallaceburg Christian School.





A Word from Re:find

Re:find Charity Thrift Shoppe was established in 2013. It began as a vision to help sustain Wallaceburg Christian School as well as support and bless the Wallaceburg Community. In return, the community supports and blesses re:find with their generous donations. This has been even more present in the last couple of years. We are thrilled to be able to be a part of the growth and changes we see at WCS. We are so blessed.



Re:find us always looking for new volunteers to join our team. There are a number of areas you can help at the store; donate, spread the word about re:find and what we do, sort donations, check puzzles, share our social media posts, assist with pickups and deliveries, answer the donation door, put products on the store shelves, assist with cleaning, help with decorating, use unsalable product to make 'something new' that can be sold in store...If you feel the call to join our team, please come in and see us, even helping out for 4 hours on a Saturday would improve our profits.

Why Thrift?

It's affordable and eco-friendly.
It's less expensive too!

It supports a good cause: re:find is operated by and supports the work of Wallaceburg Christian School. re:find also blesses a number of local charities in our community like Knox Presbyterian Soup Cellar of Wallaceburg, Habitat for Humanity Chatham-Kent, Dresden Food Bank and others.

Can I Volunteer? YES! Volunteers help with day-to-day operations. Volunteers are always welcome! Try it twice a month, once a week or every day. We are currently seeking volunteers to help with heavy lifting as well as pickups and deliveries. It's a wonderful way to meet new people, have fun, learn something new and support the community.

519.626.9814

"blessing the community in a green way"

What Can I donate?

Thank you for choosing the eco-friendly option of donating your surplus goods! We accept clothing and household items such as:

Antiques and collectibles	Bedding and linens	Books	Clothing	Footwear
Furniture	Hardware	Home Décor	Household Goods	Jewelry
				Toys

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