



THE FRIDGE DOOR

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Toronto District Christian High School
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Page 1: Nota Bene, Learning Reports, Christmas Festival, Project 20/20, Finance Department, Presentations Day
Page 2: Praise & Petition, Mentorship, Music Notes
Page 3: Transportation, Athletics
Page 4: From the Library, From the Archives Department
Page 5: Guidance, Community Service Hours
Page 6: Calling All Alumni, School Trips, Donations Needed

Nota Bene

- W. Groot

I like that “adventure” has “advent” in it. As Christians, we look forward to celebrating the coming of Jesus Christ, a miracle child. The journeys taken by the shepherds and wise men after our Saviour’s birth are chronicled in the gospels but when I pause to ponder them, I realize what adventures they must have been. I am awed by the accounts!

Adventure can be defined as, “an unusual and exciting experience or activity.” That, I hope and pray, is something God provides for each of our students (and staff members) as they learn for service in the light of God’s word. When students are engaged in learning, they can go places they and we never imagined. “The Pirates of Penzance”, Robotics at UOIT, Imitations in Photography, Public Service Announcements in English, CEMC Math contests, Art at the Woodbridge Fair: these are just some of the more public places students have stretched, grown and journeyed.

Thank you for joining in the sometimes harrowing adventures of learning at TDChristian. As we look forward during this time of advent, let us keep our hearts and minds on the reason for the season.

Learning Reports

Learning Report #3 will be available in Edsby after school on Tuesday, December 13.

Christmas Festival @TDChristian

Bring the whole family to see the bands, choir, praise team, and soloists at TDChristian High School’s annual Christmas Festival! It’s a wonderful, community evening celebration of the true meaning of Christmas. It’s going to be busy, so don’t be late! That’s Thursday, December 15, at TDChristian High School in Woodbridge.

Project 20/20 Has Begun!

In less than five minutes, find out everything you need to know about TDChristian’s exciting new building expansion, Project 20/20. Watch a video walkthrough on our website at www.tdchristian.ca/project2020videos.

From the Finance Department

A reminder from the finance office that tuition payments and donations to the school need to be in the mail by Dec. 31, 2016 in order to qualify for a 2016 tax receipt. Cheques received in 2017 will be put towards the 2017 tax receipt.

Presentations Day

The school was abuzz with presentations today. Check [tdchristianhighschool](https://www.instagram.com/tchristianhighschool) on Instagram to see some of what transpired. Thanks to the many parents and guardians who gave feedback today.

Praise & Petition

- A. Vanderkooy/M. Laswick

Our Grade 12's and 5th year students are working on decisions for next year while managing their course loads and their lives outside of school. Please remember them in your prayers.

Mentorship

- S. VanEerden

The most recent Mentorship assignment, the Mentorship Approval Form, was due on Friday, November 18. For the next assignment, due January 11, students will have to interview their mentors and write brief articles with some information about the mentors and their careers. More information can be found on the TDChristian Splash Page or in every students' Period 2 Edsby library. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sean Van Eerden at vaneerden@tdchristian.ca.

Music Notes

- K.
Hayward

The Pirates of Penzance is now a very fond memory. All musicians, cast, crew and support staff are most deserving of the praise of our community for such a fun and entertaining show.

The attention of the music department is now focussed solely on the Christmas concert next week.

The concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday December 15 and will feature a mix of seasonal and non-seasonal music by the concert band, choir, jazz band, Ascension (Praise Band) the current Grade 9 music classes and soloists.

Grade 9 students who are not going home on the busses must remain on the school grounds until the end of the concert. Pizza will be provided for dinner at a cost of \$1 per slice. Drinks will be free.

Here is the sound check schedule:

TIME	GROUP
3:00	Jazz Band
3:25	Ascension
4:10	Soloists
5:00	Grade 9 Band
5:30	Concert Band
6:00	Choir

Dress for the concert is formal or dressy attire. The colour scheme for the concert is black bottoms (including shoes) and white tops.

Females should wear black dress pants or long skirts (no leggings, jeggings or yoga pants) and a white dress blouse or top. An all black dress or top is also appropriate. All tops must have sleeves.

Males need to wear black dress pants, black shoes and a white dress shirt. Black ties are optional.

Concert Band members will have their performance evaluations during the Tuesday and Thursday rehearsals following the concert. There will be a schedule posted in Edsby next week.

Choir performance evaluations will take place during the Monday and Tuesday rehearsals following the concert.

Please send any questions about the music program to Mr. Hayward at: hayward@tdchristian.ca

Transportation

- M. Heinbuch

Over the past two weeks, the tracking system for our buses was not working due to a software issue with the transfer of the GPS information to the website - Bus Planner. The issue is now fixed. In addition, and unknown to us, Bus Planner changed their URL so the link from our website was broken. That was fixed on Monday. So, as of December 6, bus tracking is working for all buses (except Bus #8 - check Edsby for details).

As we head into December, there is an increased chance calling chains will be utilized. Call lists for each bus are posted in the bus groups in Edsby, rather than on our website. Families should now be able to find their bus groups in Edsby by searching by bus numbers in the Edsby search engine (i.e. "bus 5"). Make sure to join the group in order to access the calling chain and receive notifications of bus messages.

When buses are cancelled, school is cancelled because over 90% of our students use buses. The decision to cancel school is made around 6:00 am. and is posted on the website. Phone chains are also started and you will receive a phone call or text as per your calling chain.

TDChristian buses come from many different areas. While some areas may receive several centimeters of snow, other areas may receive little to no accumulation. The end result is that often questions are asked as to why we had or didn't have a snow day. Many factors are considered when deciding to cancel buses or not:

- Accumulation in Caledon and Newmarket, the locations of our two Parkview hubs. If either hub is unsafe, school is cancelled as having half the school missing is not productive.
- Accumulation in Woodbridge making getting to the school difficult.
- What the Peel, Toronto, Caledon, Halton, and York school boards are doing.
- Timing of the weather effecting the commute to or from school due to road conditions or poor visibility.
- How much precipitation - merely having a few centimeters on the ground will likely not be enough to cancel school.
- What kind - freezing rain versus snow.
- Temperature - having long delays on an extreme cold weather alert may not be safe.

Occasionally buses will be late to school due to the weather. If it is a particularly slow morning and several buses are late, we may delay the start of the school day to minimize the number of students who will be late to class. Depending on the timing of the weather, we may end school early in order for buses to get ahead of the potential traffic chaos.

In the end, if buses are running and the weather is bad in your area, as parents or guardians we trust to decide whether or not to send your children to school.

Athletics

- C. Hoving

The fall sports have finished and we have headed full swing into the winter sports. Here is the latest update.

Falcon Volleyball

The Senior Boys Volleyball team wrapped up its season at OFSAA in North Bay with a good showing, losing in the quarter finals to the eventual winners, Louis Riel. The boys had a good season and are already looking forward to next year as TDChristian will be hosting OFSAA in 2017. Thank you to Ms. Dibbitts, Ms. Weening and Mr. Groot for coaching.

Junior Girls Tier 1 Volleyball started its league play dropping its first two matches but look to get back on track today at Stephen Lewis. The team had a good first tournament at the University of Toronto this past Friday, advancing to the quarter finals.

The Senior Girls Volleyball team has had a strong start to the season winning its first two YRAA league games and finishing fourth at their first tournament at Mentor College. The girls have league games Tuesday at home and a tournament this Friday at St. Jean de Brebeuf.

Falcon Basketball

The Junior Boys Basketball team kicked off its season last week dropping its first league game at Tommy Douglas. The boys have a busy week with two more leagues games and a tournament this Friday and Saturday at Brampton Christian School.

The Senior Boys Basketball team won its first league game last week, also at Tommy Douglas and had a pretty good weekend, winning one and losing two games at the Brampton Christian School tournament. The Seniors also have two league games this week.

Please continue to keep an eye out for information in the Edsby groups or contact the specific coach for the team if you have any questions. If you would like to help drive to away games or tournaments we are always looking for assistance. Again, contact the coach if you can help!

Falcon Hockey

TDChristian will be playing an exhibition junior hockey game against Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at Al Palladini Community Centre in Woodbridge. We started playing exhibition games against CVCA, a Christian high school team from the state of Ohio that travels to Southern Ontario every other year, in 2011.

TDChristian grad Nick Weening (head coach) joins Mr. Terpstra and Mr. Hoving on the coaching staff. The team's first practice is Monday morning before school.

Families, friends, students and teachers are invited to the game to cheer our team! Pre-game festivities, which begin shortly after 3:00 p.m., include the singing of our national anthems. The game itself begins at 3:30 p.m.

From the Library

New books in the collection: come and check them out!

- Are you a dyed-in-the-wool Leafs fan? "100 Years in Blue and White" is a book that documents the history of the Toronto Maple Leafs over 100 years, based on Toronto Star articles.
- "Romeo and/or Juliet" by Ryan North – a chooseable-path adventure. Similar to his previous book about Hamlet, "To Be or Not to Be", the author provides over 100 different storylines and endings for the classic Shakespearean tale.
- Did you know that TD subscribes to a great online information resource? Encyclopedia Britannica Online is accessible to all students and parents. Go to the TDChristian Splash page and click on "Encyclopedia Britannica". The user name and password are available by contacting the librarian: knibbe@tdchristian.ca. Not only are there thousands of articles on thousands of topics available, but also pictures and videos. Once you click on an article, a number of options appear in the dock above the article, including the ability to print, email, save as a favourite, enlarge for easier reading, or switch to an audio version. Be sure to check out this reliable resource.
- Please send in any textbooks or library books that display the TDChristian stamp. We are always happy to receive books that have been missing, whether for a short period of time or for several years.

From the Archives department

Anyone who has photos, slides, movies or videos of past TD events is encouraged to send them our way. We would be happy to scan and return them.

If you are in the process of downsizing, and you wonder what to do with your TD yearbooks or other TD memorabilia, please bring them or send them in. If you are able to provide the TDChristian Archives with any of the following yearbooks, it would be much appreciated:

- Missing years: 1973-1974, 1980-1981, 1984-1985
- Missing: any yearbooks produced before 1969-1970
- Damaged yearbooks in the collection that should be replaced: 1979-1980, 1989-1990

We are in the process of archiving all kinds of objects from TD's history, including cookbooks, commemorative spoons, mugs, pins and articles of clothing. If you have an item of historical significance to TD and wonder if you should donate it, please feel free to get in touch with me by emailing knibbe@tdchristian.ca.

Application time is here!

Ontario University and College applicants: you should be in the process of applying. Try to complete your application by the end of December. Carefully check the academic data on your application to make sure it is accurate. If there are errors, please notify guidance. The deadline for applying is January 11 (OUAC) and February 1 (OCAS). Here is a from note the Ontario Application Service: "For 2017, the OUAC expects the majority of secondary school applicants to apply to Ontario universities online. In order to reduce the chances for delays and the frustration of slower online response times, we ask that you encourage your university-bound students to complete and submit their online application as soon as possible and well in advance of the January deadline."

Students applying outside of Ontario or to Christian Universities or Colleges will be filling out separate applications. These can be found on the websites of the university. Many Christian universities have a rolling application deadline, but will waive the application fee if you apply by a certain date. For example, if you are applying to Redeemer, do so before December 15 in order to get a \$250 book credit. If you apply before January 31, Redeemer will waive the \$40 application. Please notify your guidance counsellor if you are applying to a private university or Bible college, or if you are applying out of province.

Students applying to post-secondary programs that need a portfolio: please check the websites carefully for portfolio deadlines so you are not taken by surprise.

Grade 10, 11 and 12 students: SHAD is an opportunity to be challenged, to network for life and to connect to future internship opportunities. Attend this transformational month-long summer program at one of 13 Canadian universities. SHAD exposes you to advanced topics and supports students to discover new ways to learn, engage, experiment and excel. Check it out at www.shad.ca.

The University of Waterloo is now accepting applications for their Grade 11 Theme of 'Design' program from March 13-17, 2017. From engineering and the environment to science fiction and virtual reality, students will spend a week exploring the theme of "Design" with a community of like-minded peers. The ideal candidates are: well-rounded academic achievers: literate, articulate, numerate, and collaborative; engaged with and contribute positively to family, community, and public good; and curious about an array of subjects, creative, positive, responsible, and enthusiastic self-starters! The program fee: \$550 plus supervised hotel accommodation: \$330. Deadline: Wednesday, December 14th, 2016.

Summer Opportunities

If you are in Grade 11 or 12, consider taking EXPLORE. This five-week intensive immersion program is adapted to all skill levels. It is an opportunity to travel, learn and practise your French while discovering a new culture. The \$ 200 bursary (available to all applicants) pays for most of the cost. You could also apply to Languages at Work, which provides opportunities to work in your host community following the Explore program. Check www.myexplore.ca and www.languagesatwork.ca/en.

Community Service Hours

Just a few reminders of some of the rules for earning Student Community Service Hours (one of the requirements for receiving an Ontario Secondary School Diploma):

- Students may not take school days off to get volunteer hours. They must work on them before or after school, during lunch, on their spares, on holidays or weekends.
- TDChristian is only required to record 40 hours. Students should keep copies of their own hours and paperwork as well.
- Hours will not be awarded for jobs that would normally be performed for wages by a person in the workplace.
- Hours will not be awarded for duties normally performed in the home (i.e. daily chores) or personal recreational activities.
- If you are unsure of the eligibility of a planned activity, please talk to Marg or Mr. Groot or someone in Guidance before you get started. Check the TDChristian Splash!Page for guidelines.

Calling All Alumni (and their families)

Did you know over 4000 students have passed through the doors of TDChristian? We are currently building our alumni database and would love to hear from you. Please go to our website at www.tdchristian.ca/alumni.

Is there something new and exciting going on in your life? Something you'd like to share with the greater community? Did you get married? Have a baby? Land a new and exciting position? Study hard and get a degree? Write a dissertation? Feel free to share it. Let us know.

TDChristian's newsletter, @TD (which goes out to churches, grandparents, feeder schools, and more) has space put aside specifically for alumni news. We love to hear from you. Email our school secretary Marg (marg@tdchristian.ca) and let her know what news we can share.

School Trips

The E-Block class will be going to the Toronto Zoo on Wednesday, December 14. Students Should to bring a lunch or money (\$10.00 should cover it) to buy one. We will return by 2:55 pm in time to catch the school busses.

Donations Needed

The International Block and Belize teams are in need of school and craft supplies, medical supplies (things like tylenol, bandaids, polysporin, gauze), sports equipment, jerseys, and baby clothes to take along with them on their upcoming trips. Any items you can donate would be greatly appreciated. Also, if you have any large luggage in good shape that you do not need back, we will use them to transport the extra supplies.