

# KNOX TALKS



Weekly Newsletter of  
John Knox Christian School

December 5, 2011

It's Beginning to Look A Lot Christmas! The season of Advent is upon us, which is a time for preparation for the celebrations of the coming of our King! The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival". We at John Knox Christian School are anxiously awaiting the coming of Christmas, as this allows us to celebrate the birth of Christ! Christ's coming to earth to save us from sin is one of the core beliefs we share at JKCS, and so this is cause for celebration! We are preparing for events which will allow us to celebrate with the greater community as well, and we are excited about having the opportunity to share the message of Jesus! Yesterday, our Senior Choir had the chance to share this message at Innerkip Presbyterian Church, and on this coming Wednesday (late morning), the Choir and the Chimes Ensemble will share this message at the Southgate Center here in Woodstock. We will also have our annual Christmas program matinee for our Grandfriends on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, and our evening performance of the musical will be on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. All of this is done in order to celebrate our Lord and Saviour, who came to earth to redeem us from sin! This message is shared in our classrooms, in our Service-Learning projects, in our use of Restorative Justice at JKCS, and well in all that we do. Christ is King here at our school, and we want to celebrate Him this Christmas season!

Michael J. Meinema: Principal and COO

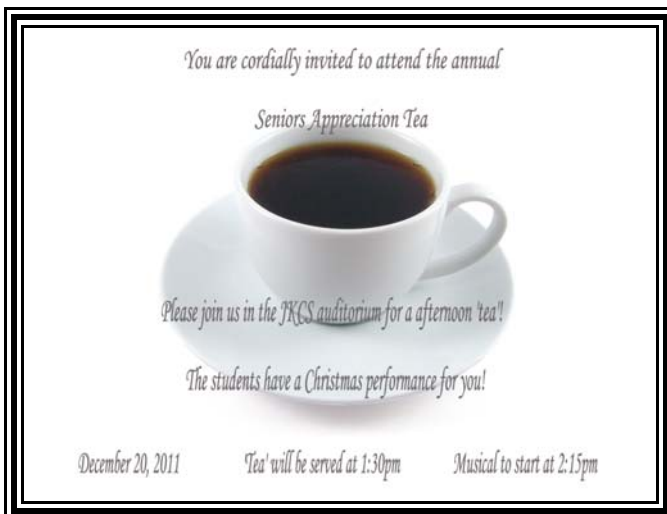


Tuesday - Mrs. Bulthuis, Gr.2B Teacher  
Wednesday - Allyson Schaafsma, Gr.1  
Saturday - Owen VanRooyen, Gr.1

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**December 20 (2pm) Seniors Tea:** Anyone who is able to help out by either donating food, serving, set up (crafty table decorations) & clean up for this event could you please send an email to [d\\_streutker@jkcs.on.ca](mailto:d_streutker@jkcs.on.ca)!! We are hoping to host a great event for the community again this year!! THANK YOU! If you know of seniors who would be interested in attending our event, please invite them. We will have invitation cards in the office to pick up if you need them.

**Chicken Orders:** will be ready for pick-up this Friday, December 9th, between 3 and 4pm.



800 Juliana Drive, P.O. Box 1597 Woodstock, ON N4S 0A8

phone: 519-539-1492

fax: 519-539-1893

email: [johnknox@execulink.com](mailto:johnknox@execulink.com)

website: [www.jkcs.on.ca](http://www.jkcs.on.ca)

**Ice Skating!** We have booked our annual Christmas ice skating outing again this year, so we will be going to the Community Complex (381 Finkle St.) on Thursday December 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have the Red ice pad rented from 12:15 - 3:15, so we will schedule the 2 skate times as we usually do with grades JK - Gr. 3 skating for the first portion (with Grade 8 there to help out) and grades 4-8 skating for the second portion of the booked time! You are always welcome to join us at the Community Complex to skate with your children! There are some new policies and laws in place now regarding health and safety (both with JKCS and our school's insurance, but also with the Community Complex), so this year, everyone who goes out on the ice must wear a helmet and gloves. I checked with the complex, and bicycle helmets are fine and any gloves will work, but all students, staff, parents, etc. who go out onto the ice must wear a helmet and gloves! Please make sure to send these items along with your children on the last day of school before the Christmas holidays so that we can all have a great, and safe, time out on the ice!

**Wee Creations Christian Preschool** is

accepting registrations for January, 2012. We have openings on Tuesday & Thursday mornings. Children aged 2-4 can attend once or twice a week. Call the preschool at 519-421-9755 for more info or to arrange a tour.

**Podcasting for JKCS!** In an effort to share more about what happens here at John Knox Christian School, I have started recording short podcasts on topics that pertain to life around our school. So far, I have done 5 podcasts under the title "From the Principal's Desktop", and I am working on my 6<sup>th</sup> podcast, which will be posted by mid-week. A new section has been added to our school website ([www.jkcs.on.ca](http://www.jkcs.on.ca)), where you can listen to these 3 to 5 minute pieces about the happenings of JKCS; we are also posting the podcasts on the school's facebook page. It is my hope to be able to do some podcasting for our school choir and our school's concert band, so that you can eventually download some of their performances from our school website as well! I hope that this will help you will learn more about all the great things happening at our school, and that these podcasts might also provide information for new families interested in exploring who we are, and what we do, at John Knox Christian School! Michael J. Meinema: Principal and COO

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR:** We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped out with our book fair in one way or another. You all helped to make this year a great success!! Congratulations goes out to the Burrill family, the winners of the draw that took place. Thanks to all those who came out and supported our school!! Thanks to you, we were able to purchase \$750 worth of books from Scholastic, and \$250 from both Usborne and Christian Suppliers.

**JKCS presents our Annual Dessert Social "WIN IT IN A MINUTE" style.** Put your game face on and come on out to support the school. There are prizes to be won, dessert to be eaten, and fun to be had. Individual tickets are \$20 or host a table for \$150. There will be contests for the best themed table, best dressed individual and highest scoring team. Come





and join us on January 28, 2012 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. For tickets contact the school office or a member of the fundraising committee (Steve Haagsma, Jenny Morton, Allyson Heidinga).

**Bazaar:** I know it is early but we are starting already to plan the bazaar on March 31 2012. We are really in need of people who can organize the games. I was thinking on a committee of 4 men/women. It is a lot of work, but if you do it together it is less work, more fun and more new ideas. The first meeting is in January. If you like to be a part of the committee, please let me know so soon as possible. Thanks, Hilde Makkink [hildeschuringa@hotmail.com](mailto:hildeschuringa@hotmail.com) phone: 519 688 6312

### Music Notes:

**Grade 4/5:** Please keep your recorder skills growing through practice. Remember our practice challenge!

**Grade 6, 7, 8:** Practice Journals are due Tuesday. If you cannot locate your journal please record your practice and supervisor's signature on a piece of paper - Don't forget!

**Grade 6:** Theory p6 and History p 4 & 5 due Tuesday.

**Grade 7:** Theory p8 and History p 4-9 due Tuesday

**Grade 8:** Baroque reading assignment continues.

**Choir & Chimers:** Thank you choir members and parents for your wonderful participation at IPC's worship service on Sunday. It was fabulous! This week is busy - we will present a program for seniors @ Southgate Centre on Wednesday. You will need to be dressed in your white JKCS shirt. Listen to morning announcements for when we will have rehearsal this week.

**Junior Kindergarten:** Welcome to a new month and theme in Junior Kindergarten! It was a blessing to meet and speak with most of you during our Parent-Teacher interviews. Please let me know via e-mail if you did not receive the e-mail sent out last Friday as it contains important information for our class. Today is Karina's last day in our class and we are very thankful for all the help that she has given to the children in our class since the beginning of the year! May she be blessed as she returns home. Please check the message bags today for the December JK calendar. Also please take a look at the information regarding the Sloppy Joe lunch coming up this Friday (also found in last week's Knox Talks). Last Thursday Vanessa celebrated a birthday; I pray that she may have a blessed year ahead of her! Have a wonderful week!

Tuesday - Show & Share: a picture of past Christmas celebrations; Library; Miss Karina's last day  
Friday - Sloppy Joe lunch

**Senior Kindergarten:** Welcome to a new week. It was a real blessing to meet with you all last week. As always, let me know if you have any concerns. We want to wish Landon a belated Happy Birthday for Sunday. We hope that you had a great day celebrating. This week we will begin learning about the TRUE meaning of Christmas in our devotions and Bible stories. We will learn about some of the symbols of Christmas. If you have bells, sheep,

stars or candles please bring them in this week. We will also use these for our show and tell this week. On Friday, we will have a chilli lunch to support schools in Nicaragua. Please refer to the list of donations on this Knox talks. Have a great week!

Thursday - Library and bookbags  
Friday - Show & tell about a Christmas symbol, chilli lunch

**Grade 1:** You will find the grade 1 newsletter posted at [www.jkcsgrade1.wikispaces.com](http://www.jkcsgrade1.wikispaces.com).

**Grade 2:** Hi parents! We hope you all enjoyed the extra days with your children this past weekend! Thank you for participating in PTIs last week. It is a wonderful blessing to be able to partner with you. December will be a busy month as start some new units and prepare for Christmas. Please check out the latest newsletter and calendar for an overview of what will be happening in grade two over the next few weeks. On Tuesday, we wish Mrs. Bulthuis a very happy birthday! May God bless you in the year to come. Please return November reading calendars by tomorrow. Thanks.

**2A:** Our Flat Stanley's will be getting ready for their trips this week. Please send in an address somewhere in Canada that we can send Flat Stanley to. Our new spelling words are coming home today. Please keep reviewing your

words at home. Show and Share this week: Free choice.

**2B:** We had a great time presenting our Munsch plays last week! Many thanks to those who came to enjoy the performances. Spelling lists were sent home last week; please keep reviewing spelling words at home. Show & Share this week: Free choice.

Tuesday - Phys. Ed.  
 Wednesday - Library  
 Thursday - Phys. Ed.  
 Friday - Sloppy Joe Lunch  
 - Spelling test

**Grade 3:** Welcome to a new week. It was good to meet with all of you last week. Please return the report card signature card this week. We are finishing up a number of units. On Friday bring a money or school supply donation for the Nicaragua Sloppy Joe Lunch (hosted by grade 8 students).

Tuesday - Library; - Phys. Ed.  
 Wednesday - Bible Test on Abraham  
 Thursday - Health Test on Body Systems  
 Friday - Spelling Test: Week 13  
 - Mem. Work: Gen. 17:7-8  
 - Phys. Ed.; - Sloppy Joe Lunch

**Grade 4:** I hope everyone enjoyed their long weekend. Thank you parents for meeting with us this past week. I treasure the opportunities to get to know you all a little better. In math we will continue to "defeat" long division. It has been difficult, but I think you children should be proud of how well they learning the process. We are still enjoying our Magic School Bus unit. Next week, we will finish this unit with individual presentations.

Friday -Spelling Test on Lesson 12. Words went home today.

**Grade 4/5:** Welcome to grade 4/5. It was awesome to meet with your parents last week. Grade 5, we will be making cue cards for our speeches this week. Make sure your speech is here every day. "Trust in the Lord, with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight."

Monday - Kira; - Phys. Ed.  
 Tuesday - Music; - Math test grade 5  
 Wednesday - Jonathan; - Library  
 Thursday - Jeffrey; - Music  
 - Phys. Ed.: bring your clothes  
 Friday - Wytze; - Gr.5 Spelling test: lesson 13  
 - Memory work: Jeremiah 30: 18,19a  
 - French vocabulary quiz

- Buddy activities

Monday - Madelyn; - Phys. Ed.: bring your clothes

**Grade 5/6:** It was good to meet with you and your parents last week Wednesday and Thursday. Let's have a great second term! There are a few more signature cards to be handed in. We should again be practicing two math drills at home this week. Watch for an emailed letter regarding a gift exchange and donation request for our last week prior to Christmas. We will be working on topic sentences and paragraph development in class as we start thinking about a speech topic. We will begin speech writing after a poetry test this Friday, but not after our poetry project which is due on December 16th.

Today - Spelling test: Unit 13  
 Thursday - Math Quiz: this week's work (dividing, multiplying, metric system)  
 Friday - Spelling: Unit 14 work due & test  
 Memory Work: Luke 16: 10-13 (Grade 5/6)  
 - Literature: Poetry test  
 Next Wed. - French quiz on vocabulary and conjugating ER verbs. Review sheets will come home on Wednesday.

**Grade 7:** Thank you parents and students for all the conferences we had last year; they were a blessing. Parents, I'd like to continue communicating with you so please feel free to email, call or come in to school and visit.

Monday - Geog map quiz Southern Africa  
 Tuesday - Math quiz: perimeter  
 Wednesday - Gym: don't forget you gym strip  
 - AR book due  
 Thursday - Science Quiz: terms  
 - Speech outline and introduction due  
 Friday - Memory Work: Psalm 139: 1-16  
 - Spelling: Lesson 14  
 - Sloppy Joe lunch for Nicaraguan schools: See list of items in the Knox Talks.  
 Next Mon. - French quiz on ER verbs and vocabulary. Review sheets came home today.  
 Next Wed. - Geography test

**Grade 8:** Students, you did a terrific job sharing your portfolios and leading first term conferences. It was a blessing to meet with you and your families. We will be working on speeches this week. You may bring your Nicaragua contributions any time before Friday.

Monday - Phys Ed, Lit. quiz: Hobbit ch1-3  
 Tuesday - Music, Library, Concert band  
 - Science: Cell project due

- Wednesday - Phys Ed, Science: Cell quiz-structures  
(+requiz functions)
- Thursday - Music, Speech outlines due
- Friday - Mem.Work: Isaiah 9:2-3b  
- Spelling test 14  
- Sloppy joe lunch for Nicaraguan schools  
- Caressant Care

**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Dec. 7 Choir at Southgate Centre
- Dec. 8 Staff Meeting
- Dec. 9 Chicken order are in!
- Dec. 13 Coffee Morning 8:30
- Dec. 15 Pizza Day
- Dec. 16 Choir at Woodingford Lodge
- Dec. 20 Senior Tea (1:30)  
Christmas Program Matinee (2:15)  
Board Meeting
- Dec. 21 Staff Meeting  
Christmas Program (7 pm)
- Dec. 22 Carol Sing (8:30)  
Skating  
LDCSS Christmas Concert
- Dec. 23 P.A.Day
- Dec. 26 - Jan. 6 - Christmas Break

## 'Sloppy Joe' Lunch for Nicaragua December 9, 2011 1st recess!

Remember the last bake sale? Well, next week again, our Nicaragua mission-bound students in grade eight, along with their parents and classmates, are inviting the whole school to lunch. That's right - sloppy joes for lunch in our gym on Friday, December 9th. As we seek to be God's heart, hands, and feet to our world and seek to find opportunities for Service-Learning at home and internationally, we ask that students assist by bringing either a cash/cheque donation for the lunch, or choose an item from the list suitable for their grade as their donation. Cash or cheques are always welcome, and are considerably less bulky to transport!

### **Here is a note from the organizers in Nicaragua:**

*Hola!!! We are working with a local organization called the Hope and Development foundation which works with various schools in the Villa Carmen area. We would love to share some of the projects they are involved in as well. We are currently hosting their monthly workshops they hold for the English teachers and we are excited about what God has planned for the different schools in the area by bringing together various ministries and churches. Here is a list of supplies that some of the teachers put together as a "wish list".... (items do not need to be new, but they should be in very good condition)*

### **Donation Suggestions for JK, SK, Gr.1,2,3**

- Letters of the alphabet in plastic or paper
- Easy learning games
- Floor puzzles or games for different subjects
- Large puzzles to learn letters
- Large puzzles to learn numbers
- Fingerpaints
- Glue sticks
- Glitter
- Coloring books and crayons
- Easy reading books in English or Spanish
- Posters that promote education for their classrooms:  
learning English, alphabets, math, etc



### **Donation Suggestions for Grades 4,5,6:**

- Staplers and staples for the teachers
- Watercolors and brushes
- Paper for painting
- Lined paper for schoolwork
- No. 2 pencils
- Permanent and acrylic markers in various colors
- Adhesive tape in various sizes
- Scissors in various sizes for teachers and students
- Bottles of glue
- 3 (or 1) hole punch for teachers
- Used magazines appropriate for children with lots  
of pictures to use as vocabulary teaching tools



### **Donation Suggestions for Grades 7&8:**

- Calculators
- Backpacks or book-bags
- Notebooks for students
- Spanish dictionaries
- Pencil sharpeners
- Index (recipe) cards
- Construction paper
- Tape recorders or CD players
- Tapes or CDs of songs in English or Spanish for (e.g. Alphabet Song; Head, Shoulders, Knees & Toes; Days of Week)
- Used magazines appropriate for children with lots of pictures to use as vocabulary teaching tools