



THE FRIDGE DOOR

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Toronto District Christian High School
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Woodbridge, ON L4L 2V7

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(905) 851-1772
Toll free (855) 663-6632
Fax (905) 851-9992
Website: www.tdchristian.ca

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Optional Reading: It's About Learning

- William Groot

TDChristian is about learning, specifically for service in the light of God's Word. It includes everyone at the school being committed to growing as learners in all manner of ways. I highlight three ways for you, today.

A gifted writer, teacher Phil Vriend has continued to blossom as a learner setting up and growing the TDChristian Photography program since its infancy about 10 years ago. This year, he has also taken on two Civics & Careers classes. He and his Grade 10 students have really enjoyed it. Last night, Phil, who is now also an accomplished photographer, was part of the Global News story found at [bird watching](#). To find out more about Phil's photos go to philvriend.com.

More incredible learning continues with the next video for [Kristina's Wish](#) produced by 2020 grad, Jacob Lea. It features an update by Grade 10 student Julia Robinson, who along with Eliaura Kiervin-Starkey and Heidi MacLean, began the Presentation Centre seat campaign almost a year ago in memory of their TDChristian friend, Kristina Pazic, who died in February 2020. See the video on Presentations Day, June 9. **Earn volunteer hours by attending the Presentations Day Zoom meeting and providing feedback to our students on their presentations. More information will follow in the June 2 Fridge Door.**

Finally, teacher Luke Sawczak (as part of staff devotions this week) shared an exercise he assigns to his Grade 10 English. *Breathe* connects them to the world and to themselves. It's a poetry petry dish! I was so compelled by the exercise that I took 20 minutes to complete it myself down by the "triangle tree" at the creek's edge on the west side of TDChristian's property. The assignment follows along with my 'on-the-spot' poem. I suggest you do it, too.

Breathe Part 1: Go outside with something to write on. If it's too cold, you can open a window or go somewhere with natural light, but outside is best. Find somewhere to sit. Set a timer for 60 seconds. Close your eyes and listen. Carefully. Take note of what you can hear, however faintly. When the time is up, write it down. Try to describe it to someone who can't hear it. What is it like? By the way, are you cold? Are you hot? Are you tired?

Breathe Part 2: Now, set your timer again. Pay attention to your sense of touch. What can you feel? If and when there is nothing from outside, pay attention to your body. Your breath, your pulse. When the time is up, write it down. Try to describe your experience as if to someone else. What would they feel if they were you? When you close your eyes, can you picture your surroundings? In how much detail? Can you picture your own posture from the outside?

Breathe Part 3: Now, set your timer once more. This time, keep your eyes open. You can get up and walk if you want. Take note of what you see. Find a colour that's unusual. A shape. A pattern. When the time is up, write it down. Try to describe it to someone who can't see it. How are you doing?

Breathe Part 4: Set your timer one last time, but for 120 seconds. Live through the two minutes eyes open or closed. When the time is up, write down what you thought about. It doesn't matter how relevant it was.

Here's the poem I wrote after Part 4, written oh so quickly. Sadly, there's no room left on the page to properly space it.

Tangled trees. Tangled world. Imperfect yet pristine. Blue sky, calm, grounded. This is a beautiful world. This creekside place is good for my soul. I am reminded of my smallness but I have a purpose and a place. And it's here and now. This is a gift of God. With renewed gratitude, I shall go back continuously taking one step after another. And, it is good.

TDChristian Spring Appeal

- Leanne Fernhout, Community Engagement Manager

Thank you for being part of our community and for your prayers and gifts of time and money. As we end the 2020-21 school year, we ask you to participate in our SPRING APPEAL 2021. It highlights tuition assistance, mortgage reduction, and technology support (which helps us offer stellar remote learning for our 390 students).

Please prayerfully consider donating today! Do so securely online at tdchristian.ca/giving or send a cheque to 377 Woodbridge Avenue, Woodbridge, ON L4L 2V7. For more information contact fernhout@tdchristian.ca.

What's Upcoming at TDChristian?

- **Friday, May 21** is Project Day. Students should check Edsby feeds to complete assignments for each class.
- **Monday, May 24** is Victoria Day. No school.
- **Tuesday, May 25:** Quad 4 Midterm Learning reports are posted in Edsby.
- **Wednesday, June 2** is a Work Day. Students should use this day to complete work for Quad 4 classes.
- **Wednesday, June 9** is Presentations Day (more details to follow).
- **Friday, June 11** is the final Work Day. Students should use this day to complete work for Quadmaster 4 classes.
- **Friday, June 18** is the last day of regular classes. Note: Final Learning Reports will be mailed in late June.
- **Graduation date and details will be communicated once** more is known about school status after lockdown.

TDChristian's Online Auction

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in TDChristian's Amazing Online Auction. Over \$10,000 was raised!

A special word of thanks to everyone who donated items. The auction could not have happened without your generous contributions. Also, we are most grateful to TDChristian staff member Luke Sawczak who designed and maintained the auction platform.

For those of you who managed to post a winning bid, congratulations! If you have not already picked up your item or made arrangements for pickup, please come to the school on Saturday, May 22, between 10 a.m. and noon for curbside pickup. If you cannot come at that time, please email Joni Knibbe at knibbe@tdchristian.ca to arrange an alternate time. Thank you again for your participation!

Grandparents Day 2021

- Leanne Fernhout, Community Engagement Manager

On Thursday, May 6 we celebrated our annual "Grandparents Day." Once again, we had to hold this event online via our YouTube channel, TDCHWoodbridge. As much as we ourselves miss being at the school, we especially miss having our grandparents visit the classrooms, walk the halls, engage with us, and just be in fellowship with each other.

Despite the things we missed, we were still able to host a wonderful event that has over 850 views! To see the displays of student work, the gifts of music and story and the sharing of devotional time from the comfort of home, allowed for many more grandparents to be part of the day. You can still view it [here](#).

We are delighted that Holland Christian Homes was also able to share in this day as the video was aired on their in-house TV/Channel. We recently heard back from HCH that it was very quiet in the halls because many of the residents were watching. Many of them expressed that they absolutely loved it especially given the pandemic.

Below are comments from TDChristian Grandparents:

Just continue to do exactly all the presentations that you gave us this year. We enjoyed every part of this year's program! - Anonymous

Watching the Grandparents Day video we saw joy on the faces of the students and felt the love and care of the staff. - Gary & Mary

The confidence that the students gain was very impressive. We thoroughly enjoyed watching. Thank you for including the grandparents, we are always the champions of our grandchildren. - Karen & Herb

As we mentioned in the video, Grandparents are important in the lives of our students and the life of TDChristian. We love all the stories we hear and the connections between students and their grandparents. It reminds us of God's faithfulness; God is the Rock on which our school is built. In this, TDChristian's 58th year of operation, we are reminded of the importance of our supportive grandparents. Thank you!

Praise & Petition

- E. Dengerink/M. Laswick

Jerry Klompmaker's daughter, Sadie, was in McMaster Children's Hospital due to a burst appendix. We thank God that, after many anxious days, Sadie is back home and recovering well. The family is thrilled to be back together!

Teacher Rachael Weening continues to gain strength and energy as she recovers from liver donation surgery. It is truly amazing how God created livers so that they can grow again!

Many Grade 12 students are waiting to hear about final acceptance offers to universities and colleges. Please pray for them as they make decisions for moving forward and work at finishing well. Adding to the uncertainty is that what schools will do in September is unknown; we pray that they feel God's guidance as they navigate the next steps.

We give thanks that the Covid infection numbers are decreasing and the vaccination rate is increasing! Continue to pray for health and strength for health care workers and that we will be able to determine when a return to school is wise and safe.

Transportation

- J. Dykxhoorn

Bus routes for next year are in the planning stage. Please contact Marg with address changes so that our records are as up-to-date as possible. Correct information improves our planning.

From the Finance Office

- M. Rosie

The tuition forms for the 2021-22 school year were mailed on May 14. Please watch for them this week. A stamped return envelope has been provided. Please return the completed package to the school by June 4.

Admissions

- P. Schuurman

Thank you to those who helped with and participated in our Spring Open House last week. We saw familiar and new faces. We lived streamed to families who are learning more and more about TDChristian. If you know of someone who would like to know more or if you have a son or daughter ready to come this fall, please [apply now!](#)

If you have any questions at all, email me at schuurman@tdchristian.ca. TDChristian is a dynamite place to be!

School Culture

- J. Dykxhoorn

Relay for Life officially kicked off last week with the Relay Rally. View the rally on our YouTube channel and follow along on Instagram [@tdchristianrelay](#). If you would like to support Relay for Life, and you are not approached by one of our students, you can donate towards our goal of \$8,000 at www.relayforlife.ca/tdchs. **Tomorrow, people are encouraged to wear GREEN to help raise awareness and support those who are battling or have battled lymphoma and liver cancer.** Send pics of yourself or others wearing green to [@tdchristianrelay](#) on Instagram. Tag us in your stories!

The results of our recent diversity survey have been collected and highlights will be shared during tomorrow's assembly. Over 30 students have offered to be part of this initiative, which is really exciting. More details will be shared before the end of the school year.

Music Notes

- K. Hayward

Students in Grade 9 Music are currently working on their Presentation of Learning projects featuring Christian music artists. The grade 11 guitar class is focused on learning about blues artists and preparing for an upcoming assembly in June. Everyone is encouraged to look for future announcements on when the assembly will occur and what we can all look forward to seeing and hearing.

If you have questions about the Music program at TDChristian, please email me at hayward@tdchristian.ca.

Grade 12 Kindergarten Pictures & Yearbook Profiles

By now, grade 12 students or families should have sent a kindergarten picture to this link: [Kindergarten picture](#). Grade 12 students also need to fill out a form for their yearbook graduation profile. Click [Grade 12 Form](#). Parents, guardians, and homestay parents, encourage your grade 12 student to get this completed this week.

Answering Big Questions

- Liz Blaauwendraat, TDChristian Board Member

Sometimes we open our board meetings by sharing answers to “Will’s Big Question”, one Principal William Groot poses to us. We take time before the meeting to prepare our answers and then we spend time sharing and discussing them around the board table.

These questions are usually related to big picture ideas around TDChristian, its students, and community. Taking time to think, ponder, and answer these questions provides the board with a time for creativity, personal reflection, and often dreaming and visioning about our ideals and hopes for the school.

Our most recent Big Question was, “What is the most important thing you desire for the students at TDChristian in their learning?” As we shared our answers, the word connection kept coming up. Connection was seen as important to our student’s success at our school whether it was connection to the curriculum, teachers, fellow students, or the community. Many of us reflected on how grateful we were to see, hear, and experience our students connecting in various ways to TDChristian, despite the challenges created by Covid 19 and disruption to in-person learning.

As a board member and a parent, I am grateful that despite our extended social isolation brought by the pandemic, we are experiencing connection as a community. I am thankful for the different ways our students, staff, teachers, and community are connecting whether through prayers, online learning, or even virtual membership meetings.

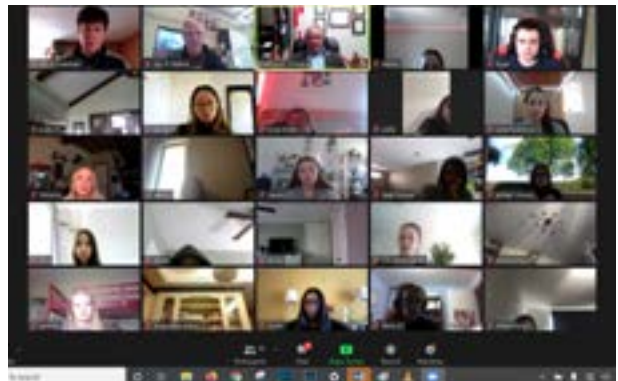
As our days continue in lock downs and isolation, I will continue to pray as both a parent and a board member, that our connections continue, and grow stronger, built on the firm foundation of Christ, our Rock.

MP Sorbara Visits Gr 10 Civics Classes

On Monday May 17, Mr. Vriend, Ms. Sanita & Mr. Freeman combined their three Grade 10 Civics classes to hear from MP Sorbara. Mr. Sorbara is the Member of Parliament for Vaughan-Woodbridge; he is also the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Revenue and the Chair of the Canada-Italy Interparliamentary Group.

Mr. Sorbara explained his roles in government and then took multiple questions from students. One student commented after the session that they were surprised how Mr. Sorbara “talked to us normally and treated us like adults.” It was a conversation that covered many issues from local concerns to the government’s pandemic response.

Mr. Sorbara also explained how his committee work and voting have changed during Covid. He showed how he participates in Parliamentary voting via an App on his phone. Here are two photos of his visit.



The Learning Commons

- M. Jaworski

We are well into the final quadmester of learning for 2020-21. As assignments and tests pile up, students, parents, guardians, and homestay parents are reminded of the ways students can receive support from the Learning Commons:

- 1. Come in person** to school and learn here. During remote learning, you have instant access to teachers and EAs who are willing and able to support you with school work and helping you answer questions you may have. **Contact Mrs. Jaworski to get permission and to make arrangements.**
- 2. Attend Homework Club:** In-person or virtually, in-school homework help is available from Monday to Thursday from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. Virtual Homework Club is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. Zoom links can be found in the daily announcements.

FlipGive

- L. Fernhout, Community Engagement Manager

We have now started a new fundraising season with FlipGive! Start earning volunteer hours for next school year.

If you are already signed up with FlipGive:

1. Login to your FlipGive account.
2. Click on the team name on the top left hand corner (Toronto District Christian High School).
3. Scroll down below the settings area to where you see 'Switch Account' heading.
4. Click on 'Join Team' with the + button and enter the code L2HTJW.

To sign up for the first time to FlipGive:

1. Join team TDChristian by clicking: [Join Team Link](#). The join Code is L2HTJW.
2. You will get a \$5 bonus the first time you shop.

Here is how family and friends can now also participate and help you earn hours:

1. Parents and guardians must first join or sign-up to team TDChristian using the set of steps above.
2. When we see you have joined, we will then set your family name up as team Player.
3. Once #2 is complete, family and friends can be invited to join the team by clicking this link: [Join Team Link](#). When they do, they will be given an option via a dropdown menu to choose under which player they want to sign up. Be sure they choose your team as we won't know all of your family and friends. Alternatively, you can invite others to sign up by sending an invite link/join code directly from your account to them.
4. Shop!

Here are particulars for this new session of FlipGive (which runs from now until April 30, 2022):

1. Every \$20 you earn for TDChristian earns you ONE parent/guardian volunteer hour up to a maximum of 12.5 hours.
2. After you've reached 12.5 hours, you can earn ONE volunteer hour for every \$40 earned via FlipGive for TDChristian.
3. Earnings from family and friends who are signed up under your team will count towards your total.
4. The maximum number of volunteer hours is 18 hours to encourage people to diversify their volunteering.
5. Earnings for volunteer hours will be counted for the 2021-22 school year.

Finally, earn volunteer hours by becoming a HUB leader for the FlipGive program. Email Leanne Fernhout at fernhout@tdchristian.ca to learn more.

Grade 11 Mentorship

- S. Van Eerden

Because of the pandemic, Mentorship is looking a little bit different this year. First and foremost, it is connected to English and New Testament classes more directly, so only students in those courses are doing Mentorship right now. Secondly, it only requires a five-hour placement. The hope is that this can be completed in one day, either online or in person, depending where we are at that time.

In discussion with the students, we have recommended either Friday, May 21 or Friday, June 11. No new projects or work will be given on either of these days.

The entire project is due on Friday, June 18, which is the last day of Quad 4. The details of Mentorship can be found on Edsby in the English class library. Feel free to contact Mr. Van Eerden directly with any questions that arise.

Falcon's Perch

- C. Hoving

We are at the halfway point of our session with Ms. White, also known as "Coach Carolyn" (a parent volunteer) who leads the *Fit for Summer 8-Week Fitness Club*. We encourage students to join for the second half! See the announcements for more info. The club runs every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. You can also join the the Edsby group "TDCH 8 Week Fit for Summer Challenge (TD Fitness Club)" for nutrition tips and links to the past workouts.

The sun is shining and the weather is warming up! For me, beginning the day with bright blue skies for the past few mornings has really helped me mentally. Take time during your day to enjoy the warmer weather; it definitely helps with motivation when we get outside and move. Keep focused on doing your work daily but take time for yourself, too.

Guidance Corner

- E. Dengerink

Grade 12 students: The next round of university offers finishes on May 27. Check for offers on OUAC and the University portals regularly. June 1 is the deadline for accepting a university offer. If you plan to live in residence make sure you apply and pay the registration fee on time! Do you need help? Contact your guidance counsellor.

Many universities offer a summer transition program for students with disabilities, including guidance from a Program Coordinator, academic support from a Learning Strategist and training in the use of assistive technology. Contact the university's student support center for further information.

Are you planning to go to **University of Waterloo**? Apply to Grebel Residence today! Grebel is a great, faith-based residence where community is key! <https://uwaterloo.ca/grebel/grebel-glance>. Grebel residence offers will be sent out beginning on May 26 so apply now. Students need to fill out an online application and participate in a group interview. Note that this is a separate application process from the Waterloo Residence Community Ranking form. Grebel comes highly recommended by many TDChristian alumni and has had our students for many years!

Power to Change: Graduating from high school is an exciting milestone. Will you be continuing your studies at a Canadian college or university? Make your faith count. Connect with Power to Change: click [here](#). You can sign up for their newsletter at p2c.com/students/subscribe.

Summer School information for local Public and Catholic School Boards can be found on the TDChristian Splash! Page. TDChristian does not offer summer school. Virtual summer school is available through your local school boards. Students can attend to recover a credit, upgrade a course, or to take a new course. You must contact Mrs. Dengerink in order to register and for course approval.

Summer Opportunity: BETA Camp is a virtual enrichment program for exceptional high school students focusing on business, technology, and entrepreneurship. It provides high school students the tools to become leaders in fields of their passion by guiding them through the process of building a business from the ground up. Campers will learn directly from industry professionals from leading companies and entrepreneurs at the forefront of innovation. They then take that knowledge and apply it immediately to building their own ventures. See [here](#). To learn more, sign up for one of the information [sessions](#). Applications are due on May 31. Click on this [link](#) to access the application.

Centre Stage

- R. Peters

39 Steps to THE 39 STEPS?

"Once more to the breach, dear friends, once more!" may be a line from Shakespeare's HENRY V – but for our production of THE 39 STEPS it seems completely appropriate!

A few years back, Country Day School mounted a production of THE 39 STEPS. Former TDChristian Drama student Blake Garbe's uncle works in the theatre there. When he heard we were doing the show as an Alumni Production, he generously offered to loan us the set. We loaded it into a cube van and unloaded it into the Commons, excited to begin rehearsals after the break.

The March Break.

2020.

Well... that was step one.

Flash forward to next week.

Cast and crew, Mr. Peters, his wife Jane Miller, along with Jade Hoekstra will Zoom-meet on Tuesday to organize one last attempt at "the breach." Will we be successful in getting this show to opening night? Will it be a livestream? Will it be an outdoor performance? As always, your prayers are appreciated and coveted as we step forward in faith with this year's school show!

Library Shelf

- J. Knibbe

Thank you to all of the families and students who have returned textbooks and library books recently. If your family has received an Edsby message with information about items that still need to be returned to the school, thank you in advance for following up and returning the books and supplies that were borrowed in the last quadmester.

Archives Collection: For several years, teacher Richard Vanderkloet created small wooden mementoes as gifts for TD graduates. The example pictured here was given in 1997.



If you remember receiving a similar gift at your grad breakfast, and still have it, it would be great if you could send us a photo of the object and the year that it was given. We are also happy to accept the actual object if you would like to donate it to the archives collection.

Project 20/20 includes the construction of a bank of display cases along the History Hall, in which we plan to display many items from the collection. Stay tuned for further developments!

Photos and Videos: Anyone who has photos or videos of past TDChristian events is encouraged to send them our way. We would be happy to scan and return them.

@TD Newsletter: We love to keep in contact with all of our alumni and send them the @TDChristian quarterlies! We encourage you to send us your email address via alumni@tdchristian.ca.

Everything else: If, while reorganizing and cleaning up files etc., you come across anything from TD, such as Newsletters, play programs, graduation programs, posters, school clothing, that we could add to the archives, email me at knibbe@tdchristian.ca.

Volunteer Opportunities

1. We are looking for families to fill in a review of your TDChristian experience for our online profile at Ourkids.net. This is a comprehensive review that may take two hours to answer all of the questions (the volunteer hours are to reward you for your time, not your glowing review!). It can be written by a parent, guardian, or a Grade 11 or 12 student. You can read other reviews by clicking on the link on the very bottom of our home page. If you are interested, please send an Edsby message to Mr. Buwalda or email buwalda@tdchristian.ca.
2. Check the next Fridge Door about how to earn volunteer hours by attending our, hopefully first and only-ever, Zoom Presentations Day on June 9. The time of the event will depend on Covid restrictions at that time.

Home Base Vaughan

OPEN FOR SCHEDULED DROP-BY
PROGRAM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

**1:00-2:00 PM | 2:15-3:15 PM | 3:30-4:30 PM |
4:45 -5:45 PM**

DUFFERIN CLARK COMMUNITY CENTRE

**APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED
TO DROP-BY**

**TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT CALL/TEXT THE
PROGRAM STAFF STEPHANIE AT
(647) 459 7773**

**MEALS | EMPLOYMENT & HOMEWORK
SUPPORT | WORKSHOPS | HYGIENE
KITS | GIFT CARDS | BUS TICKETS |**



**360^o
kids**

