



THE FRIDGE DOOR

February 5, 2020
Toronto District Christian High School
377 Woodbridge Avenue
Woodbridge, ON L4L 2V7

VOL XXV1 NO. 10
(905) 851-1772
Toll free (855) 663-6632
Fax (905) 851-9992
Website: www.tdchristian.ca

Page 1: Nota Bene, Project 20/20

Page 2: Finance, What's Upcoming?, Praise & Petition

Page 3: School Culture, Board Matters, Transportation, Admissions

Page 4: Mentorship, Falcons' Perch, Music Notes, Centre Stage

Page 5: Guidance Corner, Library Shelf

Page 6: Volunteer Opportunities, Art Room, Items Wanted, Pastors' Breakfast, Sandi Melro - Voice Lessons

Nota Bene

- W. Groot

Communication is central to how we operate as a school. I have been reminded of its importance over the past month. In the Family & Student Handbook, we read, "Throughout this year, in praise or concern, let us interact in ways that are honest, helpful and encouraging. If you, as a student, parent or guardian, have a suggestion or idea on how we can better achieve our focus, connect with us in person, by e-mail, phone or via letter. Let's work together!"

Thank you, parents and guardians, for messages, thoughts and calls providing feedback and opinions with respect to the coronavirus concerns. This is a difficult place for families and the school; in a sea of information from diverse sources, we need ways to move forward. Even in disagreement, we are tasked with continuing to work together. I have appreciated how people have done so. I hope that our communication has been clear and helpful to you.

As for students, my hope is to increase student input. I sent out the following to all students about Advisory Grade Groups which we had a few years ago. Discussions with Advisory groups in the past led to the start of Photography courses and helped define the Grade 12 Perspectives course at TDChristian, it has helped improve teaching and learning in certain courses, and has provided ways for students to learn firsthand about what's happening at the planning level at the school. Feel free to discuss this idea with your child(ren).

An Advisory Group of four or five students from each grade will meet during fifth periods on a regular basis with Mr. Groot:

- to give feedback on how things are going at school, in your grade, with its learning.
- to find out what's happening at the admin level.
- to make suggestions on how to improve TDChristian.
- to ask questions about why we do what we do at TDChristian.
- to share concerns and celebrate good things.

If you are interested in being part of an Advisory Group for your grade or know someone who might be a good person for such a group, contact Mr. Groot by email, Edsby or talking to him. Not everyone suggested will be taken but each person will be considered. The key is to get representative students from all parts of each grade.

Project 20/20

L. Fernhout, Campaign Fundraising Manager

- TDChristian's Annual Report Card was sent out this past month. Please check it out for an overview of what happened in 2019. It also provides more specific updates on Project 20/20 and Fire Hall Thrift.
- Fundraising for the Project continues and we are blessed by the many people that have come on board with the Vision of Project 20/20 and thankful for those contributions. Gifts and Pledges are now over \$3.2M !
- Have you caught the vision yet for Project 20/20? If so, please share the vision with others! Tell them why you support Project 20/20 and what you are most excited about. Send me your comments, your questions and your stories about 'Catching the Vision' of Project 20/20. Leanne Fernhout at fernhout@tdchristian.ca.
- Did you know it has almost been 3 years since pledges started coming in for Project 20/20? Many people have finished their pledges and are giving again! Please consider how you can make Project 20/20 part of your giving plans for this year whether it's for the first time or whether it's to renew a pledge.
- Donate anytime online to Project 20/20 at tdchristian.ca/giving

TOTAL at PRESENT: \$3,209,052

From the Finance Office

- M. Cate

The 2019 tax receipts will be mailed by February 29, 2020. Tuition forms and re-enrolment will occur in late May.

Do You Need a Shed? Empower Students and Get a Good Deal

Matthew Groot and Michael Aukema are putting a little twist on their STEM class this semester. In grade 11, Michael did an internship block where he would build sheds Tuesday and Thursday. Last summer, he worked with the same company building sheds. Matt has been working with his dad for a number of years building cabinets and other items out of wood. He has also built and repaired things around the school as a volunteer.

Michael and Matt are beginning this adventure in shed building as part of their shop/STEM class. They want to do it because they are both going to get into trades next year and they believe that this is a great way to get experience while doing class work that is authentic.

What they need is customers. If you need or want a shed and wish to invest in the future of capable entrepreneurs, email tdsheds02@gmail.com. This is a not-for-profit project.

What's Upcoming?

Course Selection Sheets and Sessions for next year's grades 10 to 12 have or will take place within a week. They will be due in the office the week of February 24 to 28.

The Grade 10 French Class travels to Quebec from February 7 to 14.

Grad Photo retakes will take place on Tuesday, February 11. Grade 12 students who are new to the school, students who missed the original photo session, or those who are unhappy with their pictures should sign up in the office. Pictures are taken by appointment only.

A Mandatory Trip Meeting for students and parents/guardians/homestays for those heading to the Dominican Republic, or Europe will be held on Thursday, February 13 at 7 pm. Please make plans to be there. Sign important documents, ask questions and meet others.

Family Day is Monday, February 17. No school. Students should be enjoying time with their families.

Grade 10 Careers & Course Selections Night on Thursday, February 20 at 7 p.m. We invite parents, guardians and home stay parents to this annual evening where you, in your role, can support or supplement what your child is learning or has learned in the Careers course. Grade 10 students are encouraged to attend, as well. While the focus of the night is for Grade 10 families, all are welcome to come and learn more about post-secondary options and requirements in a new format. Families can earn up to 2.5 hours for attending.

Student Fundraising Day is Friday, February 21. Students who are taking part in a church or school missions related trip or students who would like to support a cause near and dear to them may use this day to raise funds. Ideas need to be pitched to Mr. Hoving or Mr. Dykxhoorn by Friday, February 14.

Pastors' and Youth Directors' Breakfast on Tuesday, February 25. Invite your pastor, youth director and youth leaders to a delicious breakfast and an intriguing talk on faith and teens. We begin at 8:15 with refreshments. Listen to our teacher and speaker for the morning, Mr. John Terpstra. Talk with high school students and discuss with other pastors and youth leaders about what it means to really grow your teens' faith in 2020. To RSVP or to hear more information, please e-mail Mrs. Patty Schuurman at schuurman@tdchristian.ca (more details on page 6).

Praise & Petition

- E. Dengerink/M. Laswick

As you pray for our school, please remember the following:

A new semester brings a fresh start for students and teachers alike. We welcome new students and families and pray that they may soon feel at home among us.

The Grade 11 students spent time with their mentors, gaining wisdom and insight. They will share their experiences in their classes next week.

A lot of students and teachers are feeling under the weather. Pray for good health for all.

Emma & Julia Hilborn's nana passed away today. Please pray for strength for the family as they prepare to both celebrate her life and grieve her loss.

Calum Chisolm and Alex Mikelsons who will be travelling to Guatemala in March with other members of their church. Contact them if you would like to know how you can support them.

Careers and Course Selections: February 20 at 7 p.m.

Course selections, college, university, apprenticeship, bible college, fifth year programs, scholarships: the journey towards post-secondary education has many roads. It can be exhilarating and/or frustrating, simpler or complex. The amount of information is huge; getting help to find the right path is important.

Learn how you, as a parent, guardian or homestay, can supplement what students are learning in their Careers course and support their search for post-secondary options. The evening is geared towards grade 10 students (who are encouraged to attend) and their parents or guardians, but all are welcome.

School Culture

- M. Heinbuch/J. Dykxhoorn

It has been a positive start to semester two. It was a fantastic assembly on Friday where we looked back at the different ways students were enfolded, engaged, and empowered at TDChristian in the first semester through a slideshow of pictures. If there are any students that are looking for ways to get involved in assemblies, please Edsby message or talk to Mr. Dykxhoorn or Mr. Groot.

There are a few new clubs that are starting this semester so students are encouraged to make sure that they keep their eyes and ears open to take advantage of these opportunities.

Board Matters

- Lynne Elliott, Board Administrative Assistant

Each January the Board starts to look ahead to the needs and composition of next year's board. Finding the right people to lead any organization always starts with knowing what is needed. Generally, great board members understand their community and its needs. They have a passion for the cause and are willing to commit the time necessary for board meetings, committees, planning and special events. It is essential that board members are team players. They must listen well, thoughtfully consider issues, actively participate in meetings and respectfully support the decisions of the Board.

Specifically, board needs vary each year. At TDChristian, bylaws state that "the Board shall seek as far as possible to provide for balanced representation of all its support communities." Finding balance in geographic representation, gender, skill sets and experience as vacancies arise with terms ending is no easy task. Please pray for wisdom and guidance for this year's Board members as they plan and prepare for the 2020-21 Board.

Transportation

- J. Dykxhoorn

I am thankful for the continued good weather and mild winter that we are having. There have been very few delays, aside from a few mechanical issues. Thank you for patience and understanding as we deal with such delays. We had one issue with the group text program that we use but I have been informed that the bug has been fixed. Students are reminded to drive with caution in our school parking lot. There have been a couple instances in the past couple of weeks where cars have entered and exited with excessive speed. It is important that we drive carefully to ensure safety for our students, staff, guests, and construction workers.

Admissions

- P. Schuurman

We are accepting applications to TDChristian High School for the 2020-21 upcoming school year. We have recently launched our new, online admissions process. If someone you know is interested in coming to TDChristian next year in any grade, please direct them to tdchristian.ca/studentadmissions or have them contact Mrs. Schuurman with their questions (schuurman@tdchristian.ca).

Spread the word about our school – the more people hear about your awesome experience, the better! Word of mouth is one of best ways of letting people know about TDChristian (plus you could earn 10 volunteer hours for a new family who registers who has no ties to one of our feeder schools).

Grade 11 Mentorship

- S. VanEerden

We have arrived at the final project of the Mentorship program. During the week of February 10 to 14, all Grade 11 students should complete a Mentorship Presentation in one of their classes. At the time of the presentation, students should hand in their Mentorship Completion Form as well as their Mentorship Journals.

Thanks to all mentors, parents, and students who have worked hard to make this experience a success. Many students report that significant learning occurred as a result of mentorship. If you have been a mentor, please contact Sean Van Eerden at vaneerden@tdchristian.ca to ensure you receive volunteer hours credit. Please send all other questions to the same email address. Thanks again.

Falcons' Perch

- C. Hoving

The Junior Boys Basketball team finishes the regular season versus Maple HS on Thursday. Playoffs will follow.

The Senior Boys Basketball team had a successful tournament at Durham Christian High School winning both of their games. This past weekend the team competed at the Ontario Christian Secondary School Athletic Association (OCSSAA) with 19 other Christian schools. Despite losing their games, the team had a good weekend together. The playoffs begin later this month.

Both Junior Girls Volleyball teams continue practicing and getting ready for more games. The teams hosted Mentor College last night for exhibition games. The Junior Girls team is at Father Michael McGivney SS for a tournament on Friday and begin league play next Thursday at Woodbridge College.

The Senior Girls Volleyball team sits near the top of the standings with 9 wins and 1 loss in YRAA play. The team wraps up its regular season tomorrow evening with home games. The girls team competed at OCSSAA this past weekend (hosted by Providence Reformed Collegiate). Despite being short players, they played well losing in the semi finals to the eventual champions, Hamilton District Christian High School.

The school's hockey team held its first practice on Monday, and practice again next Monday morning. The team plays in a tournament on Tuesday, February 18 hosted by Hamilton District Christian High School. Players and their parents will be sent the tournament schedule information when it is received.

Music Notes

- K. Hayward

Parents of students interested in taking vocal lessons during the school day are invited to contact Mr. Hayward for further information. The session for this semester begins next week. There are still spaces available for students wishing to study with Ms. Melro. (Her bio is on Page 6).

There are no band rehearsals on February 18, 26, March 24 or April 14.

All music students who have projects in the music room, need to collect them this week. Next week, work not collected risks being recycled or worse.

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

Centre Stage

- R. Peters

The Canadian Improv Games season is in full swing! Last week, we filmed our "Wildcard" submission. On Tuesday the 18th, we will be competing in the Toronto Regional Tournament at Iona Secondary in Mississauga. Should we place in the top five teams overall in Toronto, then on Saturday the 22nd, we will compete at St. Marcellinus in Mississauga for the finals (and a chance to travel, all expenses paid to the Nationals in Ottawa). Both shows are 7pm. Also, on the 22nd (in the afternoon) our Juniors will compete in the Toronto Junior Tournament. Last year we earned silver, and this year we're gunning for Gold!

Congratulations to Emilie Loopstra and Thomas MacKenzie for winning TD's "Improv U" scholarship! These two will be travelling to Bishop's University this summer to play with, and learn from, some of the best improvisers in the country.

Our "SketchPro" class has already begun the process of writing scenes for their comedy spectacular show in June. There are still a couple of spots available, so any students (Grade 10-12) who love writing, and comedy - talk to Peters TODAY!

Guidance Corner

- E. Dengerink

Grade 12 students need to read the postings on the Grade 12 Guidance Group as important information regarding next steps and scholarships has recently been posted. Read "The Scholarship Report" carefully; there may be scholarship opportunities that you did not know about and for which you are eligible.

Students with diagnosed learning disabilities should get in touch with Students Services Department in the community college or university to which they are applying to inform them of their IEPs. Many institutions offer transition programs during the summer to help students get prepared for university and/or community college. Students are trained in technology, learn how to set up accommodations with their special needs office and learn how to navigate the campus experience. Students should take advantage of such opportunities in preparation for the school year. Students should check the website of the college or university to which they are applying for further details.

The Study and Go Abroad Fair is Canada's largest international and student travel expo. It offers students a unique opportunity to learn about undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and certificate and diploma programs abroad. Check it out at www.studyandgoabroad.com or attend the fair at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Mar. 1/20.

SUMMER IDEAS

- The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority is once again offering the Boyd Archaeological Field School in the summer of 2020. (August 7 to 23) This two-week interdisciplinary program offers a Grade 12U (IDC4U) credit and a DCO3O Creating Opportunities co-op credit. Days alternate between working in the field and in the classroom. Check trca.ca/boydfieldschool to learn more about this exciting opportunity.
- Explore! Live the Canadian experience! Consider taking EXPLORE. This five-week (16+ years of age) or three week (13 to 15 years of age) intensive immersion program is adapted to all skill levels. Explore is an opportunity to travel, learn and practise French while discovering a new culture. Participants in Explore receive funding that covers tuition fees for the programs, instructional materials, meals and accommodations, workshops, and other mandatory activities. Participants discover another region of Canada while learning French and meeting new people. The early bird application is due on February 15, 2020. Check www.myexplore.ca for more information.
- Queen's University offers Summer Enrichment Experiences, Leadership Training and Summer Sampler Programs for high school students. Check esu.queensu.ca/ for more information.
- Thinking of going abroad this summer and earning a course credit at the same time? Check out Blyth Academy International Summer Programs at BlythSummers.ca or Mei International Academy at meiacademy.com.
- It's only February but it's time to consider finding a summer volunteer or paid job. Check out your favourite summer camp for details or your City Recreation website. There are lots of jobs in day camps, overnight camps, and at your local pool. Interviews and hiring often begins in February. A representative from Pioneer Camp will be at Friday's assembly.
- Camp Shalom needs staff for their summer camp program! Positions include counsellors, kitchen staff, maintenance staff, and lifeguards. Now is the time to apply. Interviews start in the middle of February. Check country-sidecamp.com for more information.

Library Shelf

- J Knibbe

Girl in the Blue Coat is the next book in our Book Club series. Hanneke is a teenager living in Amsterdam in 1943 under Nazi occupation. She searches for and delivers black market items to a list of paying clients as a way of supporting her parents, who don't know about her job. One client tells her that she had hidden a Jewish girl in her house, but the girl has disappeared. Initially Hanneke wants nothing to do with finding this girl, but she is drawn into the Resistance movement and her eyes are opened to the terrible things that are happening under Nazi rule.

The author, Monica Hesse, at the end of the book, outlines the considerable research she did in order to write this very compelling story.

Volunteer Opportunities

Looking to help students effectively demonstrate and explain their learning while earning volunteer hours at the same time? Contact Ms. Contos at contos@tdchristian.ca in the Resource Department. We are looking for parents and/or guardians to act as scribes (writers) for different students completing their Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test on Tuesday, March 31. Please send an email to Ms. Contos if you are available!

From the Art Room

All art students are required to have a spiral bound sketchbook and drawing pencils in class daily. This is fundamental to the course.

Items Needed

Our grade 9 PULSE Class is building a spaceship set and is looking for interesting/unique dials, gauges, joysticks, gears, and equipment to use for props and decoration. It doesn't even have to work. What weird treasures do you have for us? If you may have something we could use, please Esbsy message or email Mr. Buwalda at buwalda@tdchristian.ca. The stranger the better!



How is the gospel 'good news' for today's generation of young people?

Parents, invite your church's pastor, youth workers, and ministry staff to our **PASTORS' BREAKFAST 2020**.

Our Perspectives teacher, John Terpstra, will lead a discussion on sharing the gospel with today's generation of teens. How have students changed over the last 20 years? What do today's teens hope for and seek? How does a culture of instant gratification affect them? **Together**, how do we reach them with the beautiful truths of the Bible?

8:15 Arrival, coffee time, fellowship
8:30 Welcome and breakfast
9:15 Reaching today's teens with the gospel
9:45 Q&A and teen panel discussion
10:05 Optional school tour & class visits

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020

RSVP to schuurman@tdchristian.ca

Details at tdchristian.ca



Sandi Melro
647-888-3335
sandi.melro1@outlook.com

My passion for music started at a very young age. Music, to me, is a universal language that speaks to and welcomes everyone. To be able to teach students how to use their voice and connect it with music is such a joy. Vocal is such an emotional part of music and I love seeing how each student grows in their own confidence through singing. I have formally worked on my voice through my vocal teacher and using The Royal Conservatory Syllabus since 2011.

I am excited to be offering vocal lessons here at TD Christian beginning February 12th for 12 weeks. I will be offering 30 minute lessons at \$25 per lesson.