



# THE FRIDGE DOOR

September 29, 2021  
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## Fridge Door Message

- William Groot, Principal

Being back in school full-time (without hybrid learning) has been exciting, busy, and quite intense. However, I am glad to report that it has been good for connecting and therefore, learning. Having improv, music, and sports back is marvelous.

The largest difference between last year and this one is the increased opportunity for students to interact with others. For this, we (and I) am particularly thankful. However, we must continue to be diligent with respect to protocols including daily pre-screening, mask wearing, handwashing, and physical distancing (especially when eating).

Students and staff are making the needed adjustments daily to create a school where learning for service in the light of God's Word can flourish. We do this together – one day at a time!

A few final notes:

- #1. Adherence to the dress code has improved as a result of last week's message. Thanks for working with us.
- #2. The weather has been great allowing many students to eat outside. This has been a blessing!
- #3. Some students are still anxious while adapting to being in-school full-time. For support, students (or their parents) should connect with a person from Guidance (Ms. VanScheper, Ms. Dengerink) or the Admin Team (Mr. Dykxhoorn, Ms. Gretton, Mr. Hoving or me)
- #4. If all goes well, this will be the final Fridge Door. We anticipate Screen Shot to be rolled out on October 13.

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### WHAT'S UPCOMING?

- #1. Thursday, September 30 is **National Truth and Reconciliation Day**. See Mr. Dykxhoorn's School Life piece below.
- #2. Thursday, October 7 is our annual **Fall Open House** (beginning at 6:30 pm). More details in Admissions below.
- #3. Tuesday, October 12 is **Project Day 1**. Students will have a four to six hour project for their period 1 classes. (See Ms. Gretton's note below for more details.)
- #4. Thursday, October 14 from 3 to 8 p.m.: **Learning Dialogues**. Parents, guardians, homestay parents and students can meet with teachers about their classes. We will send an Edsby message next week with information on how to sign up and if these parent/guardian, teacher, and student interactions will be conducted by Zoom or in-person.
- #5. Thursday, October 14 at 7:30 p.m. **New Members Meeting**. If you are interested in learning about and/or becoming a voting member of TDChristian contact Lynne Elliott at [elliott@tdchristian.ca](mailto:elliott@tdchristian.ca). We will determine if this is done by Zoom or in-person closer to the date.
- #6. Wednesday, October 27 is **Picture Retake Day**. Students who missed having their picture taken the first time and students who unhappy with the photos they will receive soon can their have photographs taken on this day.

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FROM Ms. GRETTON: Thank you all for a great first month of school!

Our first Project Day is coming up on Tuesday, October 12. During Project Days, students work at home on a project for one of their classes while teachers are at school engaging in professional development activities. For our October 12 project day, you'll be working on a project from your period 1 class. Teachers will post and explain the requirements for their Period 1 classes in class and in Edsby no later than Thursday, October 7.

If you need academic support at school for Project Day, please email Ms. Jaworski on or before Thursday, October 7 at 3 p.m. Help will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Transportation is the responsibility of the home.

SCHOOL LIFE by Mr. Dykxhoorn

Clubs have now been running for two weeks here at TDChristian. We have over 35 different clubs running for students to participate in. The main “why” behind our new club initiative is our desire to have students experience an increased sense of belonging here at TDChristian, a focus of the recently completed strategic plan. I am very thankful for the work of staff members who are passionately leading our students in this way.

Yesterday, Grade 10 students participated in Empathy Day at TDChristian. Students were together all day learning about empathy, how we can be empathetic, and how empathy relates to tomorrow’s National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Students listened, participated in discussions, and in group activities. Thank you to Pastor Vijay Krishnan for leading the students in the opening session.

The following are quotes from a few of the grade 10 students about some of what they learned:

“Christianity is based on empathy. God wants to help you to become a new person, not just help you complete things but help you grown to be a better person.”

“God knows what we go through because he became one of us.”

“An idea that impacted me was that it’s hard to challenge our idealism and judgement and really see and know someone.”

“Moving forward, I plan to be more empathetic within my daily life. I plan on working on listening to people without interrupting them. I plan to try and understand people, even when I don’t agree with them. I am also going to ask people more questions to learn about them and their lives. Lastly, I will imagine myself in another person’s shoes.”

“The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation commemorates the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of Residential schools. The first Nations people have gone through so much and have so much hurt that if we can take a day to recognize that, we should, because it will show empathy. Empathy is important because it shows that we see them, we care, and we recognize their hurt.”

Tomorrow, September 30, TDChristian staff and students will participate in the new National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. During the week leading up to the day, awareness was raised in our school through various posters and videos viewed as part of our daily announcements and classroom devotions. Thank you to teachers and students who participated in putting together a short assembly to be viewed by all students at school, tomorrow. The short assembly video will also be posted on our YouTube channel, TDCHWoodbridge.

The second round of assemblies will be on Monday, October 4. Students will be led by one of their peers in devotions and watch a class project from E-Block. For Thanksgiving, we will officially kick off our Food Drive. Non-perishable food and hygiene items can be brought to the office at any time starting tomorrow and all next week. They will be dispersed between the local Vaughan Food Bank and The Good Shepherd Centre in Hamilton.

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Our ADMISSIONS cycle for 2022-23 is ramping up. Next week, Thursday, October 7 at 6:30, we will host our annual Fall Open House in-person at TDChristian.

Your help in promoting this event would be greatly appreciated.

Prospective families can RSVP for this event by completing the form found at [info.tdchristian.ca/open-house/](http://info.tdchristian.ca/open-house/) or by sending an email to Mr. Dykxhoorn at [dykxhoorn@tdchristian.ca](mailto:dykxhoorn@tdchristian.ca).

One way that you can help us in our efforts is to share the link or promotional poster with at least one family that you know who might be considering where to send their son/daughter to high-school.

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LEARNING COMMONS by Ms. Jaworski

After School Homework Help: Homework Help is available mainly for students in Grades 9 and 10 on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 2:25 to 4 p.m. Parents or guardians of ANY student who wishes to stay after school for homework help must send an email to Ms. Michelle Jaworski [jaworski@tdchristian.ca](mailto:jaworski@tdchristian.ca) or Edsby message her. In your message please include the name(s) and the day(s) which you would like your child to be in the Learning Commons. present. All students who wish to attend must be registered to ensure we have staff present to support all who come.

## ATHLETICS by Mr. Hoving

#1. We have slowly begun bringing sports back into school. We have had a good start for Junior and Senior Boys Volleyball as well as Girls Basketball. Each are, at least one day a week. Students work on skill development and scrimmage.

#2. We have fielded Junior and Senior Boys Soccer teams in our York Region Athletic Association League. Games began this week. See [yraa.com](http://yraa.com) for schedules, standings, and scores.

#3. Newcomers' skate for all students playing in our Intramural Hockey League for the first time was held last week. We are in the process of putting teams together. The first game is on Friday, October 8 after school. More information will follow in Edsby once the teams are finalized.

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## MUSIC by Mr. Hayward

#1. Band, choir and Acension have successfully launched. All groups have a number of enthusiastic members who are working through the process of getting reacquainted with their instruments and voices. Jazz band will lift off this week, as well. Please pray for our young musicians as they hone their skills and develop their gifts.

#2. Vocal lessons are also starting soon. Interested students, their parents or guardians should contact Mr. Hayward by e-mailing [hayward@tdchristian.ca](mailto:hayward@tdchristian.ca).

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## MENTORSHIP by Mr. VanEerden

The Grade 11 Mentorship Program gives students the opportunity to explore in depth a career that might interest them. After exposure to the workplace environment, many students have a clearer picture of what they would like to do after high school.

In the first semester, students should work with their families, their homestays, or their guardians to find a placement where they can work for 15 to 18 hours. Although students can do their mentorship whenever it is convenient for them and their mentor, the official time to do it is during the break between semesters.

During the week of February 11, students will be asked to do a presentation about their experience. For more information or if you are interested in being a mentor (for which we offer up to 18 volunteer hours), contact Mr. Van Eerden at [vaneerden@tdchristian.ca](mailto:vaneerden@tdchristian.ca) or check out the documents in the Edsby group called Grade 11 Mentorship.

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## GUIDANCE

#1. Who is your guidance counsellor? We continue our practice of assigning students to specific guidance counsellors who are responsible for the same group of students through their time at TD Christian. Students in Homerooms A to K are with Ms. Judy Van Schepen (ext. 220) and Homerooms L to U have been assigned to Ms. Evelyn Dengerink (ext. 212) Homerooms are not meeting currently but each student is able to see which homeroom they belong to on Edsby.

#2. Mr. Andrew Peterkin is our school therapist. He will be coming in to school to meet with students on Fridays. If you would like to be referred to him, you should connect with your guidance counsellor.

If there are concerns or questions, you would like the school to address, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers or guidance counsellor.

#3. Grade 12 Guidance Group is live on Edsby. Students and parents can access Information about scholarships, open houses, deadlines, university/college virtual visits at TD, and so much more by checking this group regularly! Parents or guardians who would like to join must message Ms. Dengerink via Edsby.

## Scholarships

#1. Not all scholarships are based on academic achievement. Many reward creative thinking, community involvement and extra-curricular participation. Scholarships take time to research and apply for, but are worth the effort if you qualify. Fast, free, and easy, [Yconic.com](http://Yconic.com) matches you with thousands of scholarships and awards.

#2. Loran Awards offers scholarships to certain universities in Canada for students who have an 85% average and hold Canadian citizenship or residency status. "We seek well-rounded students who demonstrate character, promise of leadership and strong commitment to service in the community." See [www.loranscholar.ca](http://www.loranscholar.ca). Apply online. The deadline is October 13.

#3. The Horatio Alger Ontario Scholarship Program seeks to honour students who have demonstrated integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity, strength of character, financial need, a good academic record and a commitment to going to a public college or university in Ontario. Check [horatioalger.ca](http://horatioalger.ca) to see if you qualify. Deadline is October 25, 2021.

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#### TRANSPORTATION by Mr. Hoving

#1. If you are having issues with bus tracking, please email [hoving@tdchristian.ca](mailto:hoving@tdchristian.ca). Mr. Hoving will pass it along to the bus tracking company to troubleshoot.

#2. Students must follow the COVID protocols of mask wearing and staying in assigned seats.

#3. A reminder that there are currently no bus passes to go on buses other than those assigned to students.

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#### VOLUNTEERS

Firehall Thrift will soon have many opportunities for volunteers to sort and price items, to receive items, to serve our customers, and to pick up items from off-site locations. If you are interested, please fill out a Volunteer Application Form available on the TDChristian Website.

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#### FINANCE by Ms. Rosie

Questions for the finance office? You can reach Meg Rosie at [mrosie@tdchristian.ca](mailto:mrosie@tdchristian.ca) or at extension 214.

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#### PRAISE and PETITION

We are so incredibly thankful for the gift on in-person learning. Staff are grateful to be back in front of their classes doing what they love, and the hallways are filled with joy-filled students who love being reunited with their friends and classmates. Continue to pray for the safety of all.

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#### DRAMA by Mr. Peters

Radio Plays! For this year's ShowPro class, our ensemble will be producing over a dozen radio plays. There is sure to be something for everyone over the next few months; kids shows, radio dramas, classics, Christmas-themed series and more, so don't touch that dial!

More accurately ... look to our next update for more details, including links to our shows. We will be livestreaming some, dropping others as podcasts and even (public health regulations permitting), performing some in front of a live studio audience.

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#### FUNDRAISER

Fall comfort food will be arriving at TDChristian this week. Although we have not been able to visit our friends, Richard and Lucille Zul in Belize since COVID began, we would still like to continue raising funds to support them when we can.

If you would like a box of 36, pre-cooked beef croquettes for \$50 - please email [marg@tdchristian.ca](mailto:marg@tdchristian.ca) or [rdengerink@tdchristian.ca](mailto:rdengerink@tdchristian.ca) and reserve a box (or more). Spread the word in case someone in your family would like some too.