



THE FRIDGE DOOR

February 19, 2020
Toronto District Christian High School
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Nota Bene

- W. Groot

We were reminded this past weekend of the fragility of life. Yesterday's assembly was a time we could gather as a learning community to celebrate Kristina Pazic's life. I learned again of God's goodness in times of sorrow and hurt. Death is difficult. Separation is hard.

As we support each other and especially students, at this time, my hope and prayer is that every one of us is reminded again of God's goodness in people and, even more, our need for Jesus Christ. He has conquered death and promises eternal life to those who believe in Him.

I remember my teenage years and learning more about who God was and is and what it means to be a Christ-follower. Hard things, like Kristina's death after eight years of battling cancer often makes us think about life's meaning. I pray that as each of us supports and connects with students, we may be given the wisdom to help them learn about and/or grow in understanding the meaning and purpose of life. At the assembly, Alex Pazic, Kristina's father, who became a Christian 4.5 years ago, thanked the students and the school for their support and encouraged each of us to continue to grow in faith or learn more about it – because Jesus lives, we can face tomorrow and live today!



Development at TDChristian

- L. Fernhout, Campaign Fundraising Manager

You are an integral part of the TDChristian community. We want you to BUILD with us! How can we continue to stay connected and grow and strengthen this community? What are the best ways for parents, guardians, and students to stay connected and engaged during their years here and beyond?

Will you volunteer? Will you be an Alumni Ambassador or Church Ambassador for TDChristian? Will you attend the many events, fundraisers or a Will clinic? Would you include TDChristian on your list of charitable organizations to donate monthly to? Connect with me; let's have a conversation, I'd love to hear your ideas at fernhout@tdchristian.ca.

Will Clinic

A will is on everyone's To-Do List. Whether you need to start one or update it, a will is a crucial document that needs our attention. Will your spouse get everything if you die? Not if you don't have a will. Will you get to choose who will be the guardian of your children? Not if you don't have a will. We are here to help!

For helpful information (and simply delicious desserts), TDChristian is hosting a complimentary Estate Planning Seminar on Thursday, March 5 at 7 p.m., the same evening as the TDChristian Talent Night. Please email Anne Vos (vos@tdchristian.ca) to confirm your attendance. It is completely free. Note that you can earn one volunteer hour for attending.

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.

What's Upcoming?

Grade 10 Careers & Course Selections Night is tomorrow, 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.

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. It begins at 8:15 a.m. with refreshments. The event features a time to listen to teacher, Mr. John Terpstra, and then talk and discuss with high school students and other pastors and youth leaders about helping teens grow in faith. To RSVP or to get more information, contact Ms. Patty Schuurman at schuurman@tdchristian.ca. For the full advertisement, see page 6.

Student Fundraising Day is Friday, February 28. Please note that the date has changed due to the movement of our tournament. Students who are taking part in a church or school missions related trip or students who would like to support a charity 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 21.

The TDChristian Talent Show is fast approaching: March 5 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. (estimated end time).

Tickets are \$6 prior to the event and \$8 at the door. A ticket covers admission, a pizza slice, and a drink.

This event requires four parent/guardian volunteers. Earn two or more hours depending on the length of the event. Please email klompmaker@tdchristian.ca if you wish to volunteer.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is scheduled for Tuesday March 31 for Grade 10 students throughout Ontario. New senior students, students who were previously eligible but have not yet written the test, and students who were unsuccessful on previous attempts may also write the test. Preparation is on going in all Grade 10 classes this semester. Senior students have or will be given individual practice packages. Any student writing the test may also come to After-School Homework Club on Tuesdays from 3 to 4:45 pm for help and practice.

Praise & Petition

- E. Dengerink/M. Laswick

Yesterday, we held an assembly to honour Kristina Pazic, a grade 9 student, who died on Saturday following an eight-year battle with cancer. Kristina was a brave, kind soul who loved coming to school. Her dad, Alex, shared that Kristina's faith was strong and he encouraged all of us to "keep the faith." Please pray for the family and Kristina's friends as they mourn her loss. The funeral will be held tomorrow, Thursday, Feb. 20 at the Richmond Hill Pentecostal Church at 11 a.m.

David Kim's mother in law, Kyungsoon Park died on Tuesday night after a battle with cancer. Please pray for David, his wife Mirim and their boys, Nathaniel, Timothy and Noah who will go through the difficult process of grieving a beloved mom and grandma.

Course selections are due at the end of next week. Please pray for wisdom for our students and parents as they navigate the challenge of choosing a future direction for post-secondary education and beyond.

Please pray for the final preparations that are underway for the March break trips to Europe and the Dominican Republic. Excitement and nervousness are building as people prepare for these wonderful opportunities to serve, be with, and learn about our neighbours in Christ.

School Culture

- M. Heinbuch/J. Dykxhoorn

We had an amazing assembly this past week with Front of the Line and an episode of The PULSE. Thank you to all students who participated. Grade Advisory Groups are being formed and will continue to meet throughout the year with Mr. Groot. We have many clubs that are happening this semester at TDChristian; this is a great development. We encourage students to continue to find places to get involved at school. A great opportunity coming up is Talent Night on March 5. Check the announcements for deadlines and try-out information.

Board Matters

- B. Van Laare, Board Chair

Greetings from the Board! As Project 20/20 nears completion, the Board will begin to focus its priorities on the future by developing a strategic road map for the next three to six years.

Visioning has always been a big part of the TDChristian's Board responsibility. We believe that that now is the time to start a process that consistently looks forward; to discern God's will as we plan for the future. It is exciting!

During our last meeting, a parent from the TDChristian community shared a process in which he was involved at one of our feeder schools. We were given good insight into what is necessary for strategic planning to be successful.

As the Board develops a timeline and plan for the future, we will definitely need support and assistance from our families and the supporting community. As we consider future directions, we ask you to pray for God's wisdom and guidance and to think about how you might be able to help TDChristian in this important task.

Transportation

- J. Dykxhoorn

Since the previous Fridge Door, some bus drivers have connected with me about the conduct of some students on their buses. We have fantastic drivers who care about our students. Many drive long routes, just like our student riders, but through the years they have shared how they take these routes because of how well they are treated and appreciated by TDChristian students. Please encourage your son/ daughter to help us continue this reputation. Throwing food, moving from seat to seat, playing music loudly, or standing up constantly are ways that can distract our bus drivers. Students, if a peer is listening to music without headphones, please ask them to use them and not external speakers. Or let us know in the office. Thank you for your support of our drivers.

Student drivers are reminded that even with a parking pass, there is no guarantee that there will be an open space in our parking lot. We still have construction happening, and we are short parking spots. Sometimes spots are taken up by visitors to the school. This means that there may be times that students need to park on a neighbouring side street. Be careful not to block others from getting out or go onto our centre island. We look forward to a time when we have full access to our entire parking lot. Until then, thank you for working with us.

Quebec Exchange Part 1 is a GREAT Success!

- F. Joosse

Last week 20 of our Grade 10 French students were blessed by the warm hospitality of a group of students from Val-d'Or, Quebec. As a group, we experienced the grandeur and vastness of this northeastern community by visiting Canada's largest open pit mine in Malartic, Quebec and by going down into a gold mine. We look forward to hosting our friends from Quebec from May 4 to 11.

Admissions

- P. Schuurman

Get the word out! Tell people about your positive experiences at TDChristian especially to families who are looking for a place of learning for their high school-aged kids. New students can apply to TDChristian for Grades 9 to 12 by going to tdchristian.ca/studentadmissions. Online admissions has been working smoothly and we are thankful for how well it has been received.

If you have a child in Grade 8 and/or you know someone who is, please steer them our way; I would be happy to tell them more about this amazing school! Contact me at schuurman@tdchristian.ca

Drama Camp

If you are a student going into grade 8 or 9 in September 2020 and enjoyed shows like “Who’s Line Is It Anyway?”, you’ll love this week of improvisation and laughter. Mark the week of August 31 to September 4, 2020 on your calendar. (*Note: The camp which was originally scheduled for August 24 to 28 has been moved to a week later.*) For more information, please contact Mr. Peters at peters@tdchristian.ca. The cost is \$150 if you reserve a spot by April 30. After that, the price goes up to \$200. Forms can be found on our SplashPage.

Grade 11 Mentorship

- S. VanEerden

The Mentorship program has concluded for this year. Thank you to students for being willing to try something new, to parents for their work on making it all happen, and to mentors for volunteering their time and energy.

Last week students did presentations reflecting on what they learned. Many reported on learning about possible careers while discovering more about their own working preferences.

Students who still have paper work to hand in should do so as soon as possible. Anyone who qualifies for volunteer hours, please contact Mr. Van Eerden. Finally, students should take time to thank their mentors for the time they invested in their lives and learning.

Falcons’ Perch

- C. Hoving

The Junior Boys Basketball team completed its season last week after losing in the first round of playoffs to St. Theresa of Lisieux. Thank you to Mr. J. Sjaarda and Mr. E. Vrieling for coaching.

The Senior Boys Basketball team lost in the first round of its playoffs 63-59 to Bill Hogarth SS. Thank you to Mr. Hoving, Mr. B. Vrieling and, alumnus, Peter Groot for coaching.

The Junior Girls Volleyball team began YRAA league play last week winning both of its games at Woodbridge College. The girls continue with games this evening at Tommy Douglas SS. This team, along with the Junior Girls Tier 2 team, will participate in the TDChristian Invitational next Friday, February 28.

The Senior Girls Volleyball team begins its YRAA playoffs this evening with a first round game at home against Sutton District HS. If the teams win, it will play in next week’s A/AA semi finals.

The school Hockey team competed yesterday in an annual tournament for many Christian high schools hosted by Hamilton District Christian High School. The team won its two pool games against Guido de Bres Christian High School and London Christian High School before losing in the semi-finals to Woodland Christian High School. Thank you to parent, Mr. Edwin Van Schepen, and staff members, Mr. Dykxhoorn, and Mr. E. Vrieling for coaching.

Music Notes

- K. Hayward

On Thursday, March 5, the skilled, the talented, the funny, the bizarre and the curious can be seen at the annual TDChristian Talent Show! Watch announcements for details about auditions and tickets. It’s great event!

Parent/guardian volunteers will be needed that night to assist with setup and cleanup. If you have questions about the show, contact Mr. Klompmaker or Mr. Kim.

There are no band rehearsals on March 24 or April 14.

Music students who wish to keep their projects need to collect them from the music room ASAP. Leftover projects will be recycled very soon.

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

Centre Stage

- R. Peters

TDChristian’s Canadian Improv Games season has (most likely) come to a close. As of this writing, the team is ranked third in Toronto. With many more teams to compete, it looks like it will finish out of the top five and consequently not compete in the Toronto Finals this year. The team gave its all. Despite entertaining the

audience with a few stunning performances, at the end, we found that what we did clearly wasn't as impressive to the panel of judges.

Our team has no time to rest, though! We will be performing in the Christian High Schools' Drama Festival next week at Redeemer University! While the other schools will be performing scripted one act plays... we will be performing a "Guest List" long form improvisation. With a single suggestion from the audience of "an event that brings people together," our team will create a half-hour long play, on the spot!

Today, Wednesday, February 19, a group of intrepid drama students traveled downtown to see "Hamilton, the Musical" and Second City's latest sketch revue for our once-every-semester "Dinner and a Show." Our community version of "Dinner and a Show" is on April 16.

Guidance Corner

- E. Dengerink

Grade 12 students need to keep up with what's happening in the Grade 12 Guidance Group. Important information regarding next steps and scholarships were recently posted. Read "The Scholarship Report" carefully; there may be scholarship opportunities that you did not know about and for which you are eligible.

University and College Visits: March break is a great time to visit the universities and colleges that you are considering attending in the fall. Sign-up for a tour or attend an Open House.

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 March 1, 2020.

SUMMER IDEAS

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority is once again offering the Boyd Archaeological Field School in the summer of 2020. (August 7-23) This two-week interdisciplinary program offers a Grade 12U (IDC4U) credit and a DCO30 Creating Opportunities through Co-op. 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. It is an opportunity to travel, learn and practise your 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. Discover another region of Canada while learning French. Have an adventure and make new friends summer! Check myexplore.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. Golf courses have job fairs this weekend and next. Check at your local course for jobs in maintenance, landscaping or hospitality.

Intervarsity Pioneer Camp is looking for summer students to volunteer or work at camp. Check pioneerontario.ca for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities

Parent/guardian volunteers are needed as scribes for individual students during the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) on March 31. Please contact Shelby Contos (contos@tdchristian.ca) if you are interested.

Course Selections

Students were given instructions and shown how to complete course selections for 2020-21 over the past over the past two weeks. Instructions can also be found on the school Splash! Page under the “Course Info” tab.

Course selections are to be completed in MyBlueprint and the sign-off sheet printed, signed and handed-in to the the office by the following dates:

Grade 10 Course Selections (for current grade 9 students) - Tuesday, February 25

Grade 11 Course Selections (for current grade 10 students) - Wednesday, February 26

Grade 12 Course Selections (for current grade 11 students) - Thursday, February 27

Fifth Year students (who may qualify for half-price tuition) should contact Mr. Groot or Mr. Heinbuch.

As a way to help students and parents, particularly those students in grade 10 and 11, with course selections, there is a careers and course selection information night this Thursday, February 20, at 7pm. Parents/Guardians and students are all welcome to attend.

Library Shelf

- J Knibbe

The tenth and last book on our Book Club list for this year is *Skating Over Thin Ice*. The author, Jean Mills, will be our guest on April 9, when TDChristian hosts this year’s “The Final Word,” a gathering of all of the Christian high school book clubs. We are looking forward to hearing her share information about her life as an author, and answering our questions about the writing process, in general, and her latest book, in particular.

Skating on Thin Ice features Imogene St Pierre, a young gifted classical pianist, who tours with her father and grandfather. She attends boarding school where children of diplomats and celebrities are enrolled. A socially awkward 18-year-old, she has few friends, but connects with Nathan, who is on the verge of being drafted by the NHL. These two, along with another student, are assigned to do a project together, and they use their talents of music, skating and film-making to complete the assignment. One reviewer described the book in this way: “This isn’t a fast-paced novel, and it also isn’t just about the chemistry between the two [main] characters. It’s more of a look into the life of someone who specializes early and what that might feel like.”

Donations Needed

A crew of 19 students is heading out on a service learning trip over the March break. We would love to be able to bless the local communities that we work among. What is most needed is: clothing donations, medicine, medical supplies, school supplies, common tools and eye glasses. If you can help in any way, please contact Ms. Weening or drop off donations directly at the school.



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](http://tdchristian.ca)

