



THE FRIDGE DOOR

March 17, 2021
Toronto District Christian High School
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Nota Bene

- William Groot

This is an extraordinary Fridge Door for two reasons: it will be posted during what would normally be the middle of the March Break and, secondly, the pandemic is now in year two.

As a school, we had our last in-person assembly on March 12, 2020. While Mr. Freeman and I were on stage, I remember saying that we don't know when we will be gathering like this again. I urged people to remember this time. However, I had no idea that it would be this long; even now, we don't know when it will be done. Nonetheless, I look forward with longing for the time I will be able to look out into a sea of faces of students sitting side-by-side at assembly. It will be a special and exhilarating moment!

During last year's assembly, we also read from Psalm 46, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

Yes, God is our Refuge and our Strength. Though we have had many losses and experienced several disappointments, individually and as a school community, he has given us means and ways to continue learning for service in the light of his word. God has never left us – He will always uphold his people. I see it in how students and staff support one another. Despite the weightiness, there is hope and, by the grace of God, resilience and moments of joy. We move patiently forward with purpose – always learning.

With that in mind, we launch with confidence into the last three weeks of Quad 3, looking forward to the promise and joy of Easter and then the April Break (April 9 to 19, inclusive for students) between Quads 3 and 4.

P.S. Two of my four children took a year after they graduated from high school to explore possibilities for future learning. It helped shape their lives. Out of that experience, as a parent and educator, came the idea for half-price tuition for fifth year students at TDChristian (who also contribute as student assistants; one of my children, thanks to Ben Freeman, was the first EBlock TA) and the idea for a gap year program for students who have finished high school in the past two years.

ACT FIVE at Redeemer is an eight-month program started by five Christian high schools and Redeemer University. Four TDChristian graduates (and one older sibling of current student) have been part of the program: Rianna Ho, Robyn Postma, Gillian Brouwer, and Ryan Vroom. It is a FABULOUS program that involves travel, earning university credits (if desired as part of the program), living in a home in downtown Hamilton and placements. Check out at actfive.ca. **Feel free to connect with me about ACTFIVE or a fifth year at TDChristian.**

Take a 3D Virtual Tour of TDChristian

See what our school looks like after the Project 20/20 expansion. See our interesting learning spaces in this highly detailed 3D Tour: tdchristian.ca/virtual.

Take a TOUR today!

Fire Hall Thrift Website Launch: firehallthrift.ca

- P. Haffenden



The Fire Hall Thrift website is now open for online shopping and curbside pickup. Over 300 items are for sale in many categories. New donations cannot be accepted at this time. Information on when you can donate and/or volunteer at Fire Hall Thrift will be announced on the website when we know the details. Have a look!

What's Upcoming at TDChristian?

- **March Holiday Monday:** Mon., Mar. 22. *No school. No buses will run.*
- **New Members Meeting:** Thurs., Mar. 25 @ 7 pm. *Email elliott@tdchristian.ca to find out more or to sign up.*
- **Good Friday:** Fri., April 2. *No school.*
- **Easter Monday:** Mon., April 5. *No school.*
- **Quad 3 Work Day:** Wed., Apr. 7. *No buses will run. Students use this day to complete Quad 3 work.*
- **Final Day for Quad 3:** Thurs., Apr. 8. *All classes will run and some will have final evaluations.*
- **April Break (replaces the March Break):** Fri., Apr. 9 to Mon., Apr. 19. *Quadmester turnaround days are Fri., Apr. 9 and Mon., Apr. 19 so staff will be in on those days.*
- **Drama Production "The 39 Steps" livestream:** Mon., Apr. 19 at 7 p.m.
- **April 22:** Spring Annual Meeting (for Members and Parents/Guardians/Homestay Parents) and Launch of the Virtual Auction. We will celebrate Fran Joosse who will be retiring at the end of the school year.

TDChristian's Online Auction



Are you ready? The countdown is on! TDChristian's Amazing Online Auction starts Monday, April 22 on TDChristian's website. Support the school by bidding on dozens of items in all kinds of categories. Start working on your bidding strategies ... more details are coming soon!

Praise & Petition

- E. Dengerink/M. Laswick

We have been living through the pandemic for a year. At the beginning of March Break 2020, we had no idea that our lives would be turned upside down for this long. Please pray for patience, endurance and hope as we continue to battle Covid.

This week there are a number of students and teachers who had to switch to remote learning as one of our students tested positive for the coronavirus. It is very challenging to switch from in-school to remote learning and then back again, especially if one is perfectly healthy but has to stay home to follow the safety protocols. We are thankful for all the negative cases that have been reported and that there are no further new cases. We pray for good health for all students and teachers.

A part of community is sharing the difficulties and concerns of our lives. Many of us have secret sorrows that we dare not express to others. We pray for families that are experiencing turmoil, loss, and pain that is hidden from view.

We praise God that our numbers are growing for next year's Grade 9 class and that new international students from Nigeria, Korea, and China, are excited to join TDChristian in the fall of 2021.

Transportation

- J. Dykxhoorn

Buses continue to run well and on time. One bus did not run this week due to Covid protocols, but we are thankful for no additional positive tests. This is a great example of why following mask and seating protocols is important, and students are encouraged to keep up the good work! Don't forget to thank your bus drivers.

From the Finance Office

- M. Rosie

All tax receipts for 2020 were mailed by Canada Post in mid February to donors, parents, and guardians.

Admissions

- P. Schuurman

Dear Families with Grade 8 children:

We have been busy these last few weeks accepting new registrations in all grades. If you have not already done so, families with students who are planning to attend TDChristian starting in September 2021 should sign up using SchoolAdmin found [here](#) (or use the instructions below). We are starting to organize our year ahead, and the more information we have, the better. Thank you, in advance!

Go to "Student Admissions" on our website: www.tdchristian.ca/studentadmissions then click on "Admissions Application" and you will be launched to a new screen to begin the process. If you have any questions at all, please let Patty Schuurman know at schuurman@tdchristian.ca. TD is the place to be!

Please note that current students do NOT need to register on SchoolAdmin as tuition forms will be sent in the spring so that you can re-enroll your child at that time.

Board Matters

- Nicky Laxton-Ward, Board Member

Alongside our executive functions, another important role of our board is to care for staff, students and community members. As a board we pray for the various needs of those within the school. As well, we strive to reach out with compassion to those who are suffering, and in celebration with those marking significant life transitions. We honour years served by staff, as well as births, marriages, and transitions to new employment. We grieve deaths of staff and student family members, and seek to support those who are sick. Please do reach out to us with your requests, as it is our honour to stand in prayer with you.

School Culture

- J. Dykxhoorn

We continue to try to strike the right balance between safety and building community at school. One way we have tried to do this lately at school is through a student-led event called March Madness. Students compete within their cohorts in a series of events like an escape room, bingo, and cookie decorating.

Thanks to an awesome crew of Grade 11 students who spent hours of their personal time to make this event possible and the many families who baked delicious cookies!

"Good Morning, TDChristian!" ran a new episode on Tuesday morning. Check it out on our Youtube channel, TDCHWoodbridge. It's a great way to see some of the things happening, highlighting students learning at school and remotely. Well done, Comm Tech class!

Community Engagement Volunteer Opportunity!

- L. Fernhout

We are looking for volunteers to be an Ambassador in their church for TDChristian!

Objective: To support churches with information and tools that will keep people informed about TDChristian and its mission.

Role and Responsibilities:

- Provide Information folders to church leadership and church members. Put us in touch with anyone who may be interested in knowing more about TDChristian.
- Deliver our @TD newsletters and Annual Report Cards to your church for member mailboxes or Information Centre.
- Advocate to deacons or church leadership for financial support through offerings.
- Support TDChristian in providing your church with Bulletin and other Announcements.

Ways that we thank ambassadors:

- TDChristian Church Ambassadors who are TDChristian parents or guardians will receive ONE hour per month for 12 months (starting May 1 with hours counting towards the 2021-22 school year). They will be required to fill out a questionnaire/ checklist each month. This helps us know what's being done within the church to help fulfill the objective and so we can support ambassadors in their role.
- They will receive TDChristian apparel!

You can even earn ONE volunteer hour for this school year for April. Get started now. If you are ready to sign up or you have more questions, please contact Leanne Fernhout at fernhout@tdchristian.ca or call (905) 965-6733.

Course Selections

- M. Heinbuch

Course Selections using myBlueprint will close this week. Any students who have not submitted their course selections by Friday will not be able to do in myBlueprint and will instead need to go through their guidance counsellor.

Estate Planning Seminar

- Leanne Fernhout, Community Engagement Manager

What a fantastic turnout! Approximately 60 households attended the virtual Estate Planning Seminar hosted by Christian School Foundation and presented by Christian Stewardship Services on March 9. If you missed this event but are still interested, check upcoming seminars on the CSS website at www.cssservices.ca

If you wish to have a full review of your Personal Will and Estate you can book a time with Christian Stewardship Services using <https://calendly.com/cssservices-marinusk>. If you simply want to discuss a few questions you can choose a 15 minute "Discovery Call" and take that hard first step! There is NO cost to you for any of these services. For more information, contact Marinus Koole at marinusk@cssservices.ca.

FlipGive

- Leanne Fernhout, Community Engagement Manager

Tip of the week: FlipGive is running a 'Bonus Give Event' until March 21. Earn up to 2x more with certain brands like Tim Horton's, Sobey's, Freshco and more. The Esso Fuel Discount card that usually earns 30% is now 35%!

If you've already signed up but haven't made a purchase yet, there's still plenty of time! You have until April 30 to earn volunteer hours for this school year. Every \$20 in earnings is ONE parent/guardian volunteer hour.

Here are the steps to participate:

1. Install the FlipGive app on your mobile device (or access from your computer).
2. Sign up with this link/code: 6KGYX6 at <https://www.flipgive.com/teams/join>
3. Make all your purchases through FlipGive (online or gift cards for in-store).
4. TDChristian will take care of the rest and track your hours based on earnings.

Questions? Send an Edsby message to the contact person in your area:

Georgetown/Halton Hills/Milton: Susan VanDenHoek

Brampton South: Johanna DeGier

Richmond Hill/Markham: Alla Pereboeva

Bradford/Holland Marsh/Newmarket: Maureen Lawson

Orangeville/Caledon: Sondra Burton

Toronto/Rexdale/Etobicoke: Mary Fantilli

Not on Edsby? Send an email to passwords@tdchristian.ca requesting access. Contact Leanne Fernhout at fernhout@tdchristian.ca to become a FlipGive contact for Brampton North, Mississauga/Oakville, Nobleton/Kleinburg/King, Vaughan/Woodbridge, or Willowdale.

The Learning Commons

- M. Jaworski

If you need learning support or simply want a quiet place to study, come to homework club! It runs every week from Monday to Thursday from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. in the Learning Commons. Virtual homework club is also available for students learning at home. It runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. Simply click on the link in the Edsby announcements to access support. We hope to see you there!

Music Notes

- K. Hayward

Have you considered preparing something for your church congregation? Students who are working towards that next conservatory level are also challenged to share the fruits of their talents. We want to hear from you!

As we work our way through Quad 3, students are encouraged to find ways to share their music with the community. Music for assemblies is most welcome. Contact Mr. Dykxhoorn or Mr. Hayward.

Send any other questions you have to Mr. Hayward at hayward@tdchristian.ca.

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, and 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 Monday, March 8, March 15, or March 22. No new projects or work will be given on any of these days.

The entire project is due on Tues., Apr. 6, which is the second last day of Quad 3. 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.

NOTE: If you are in English and New Testament classes next for Quadmester 4, you have been sent an Edsby message with the assignment so you know what is required of you in case you want to do it during the April Break. Although there will be more days offered to do Mentorship during the quadmester, it might save some stress at the end of the school year to get it done in advance.

Falcon's Perch

- C. Hoving

We are thankful for the tease of warmer weather last week and we are hoping we are trending back in that direction. It was great to see students and staff outside during breaks, class times, and lunches getting time outside. My continued encouragement is that you take advantage warmer days to be outdoors. Use evenings and weekends to be active and reset.

Over 50 students and staff have taken part in the Ping Pong Tournament (Recreational and Competitive divisions). Winners will be determined next week!

Guidance Corner

- E. Dengerink

Universities are beginning to announce their plans for Fall 2021. Many are planning for on-campus learning! Check the websites of the schools you are interested in for more information. This may be a key factor in your decision making!

March Virtual Tours for University and Colleges: March is a great time to visit the universities and colleges. Sign-up for a virtual tour or attend an Open House. Students don't have to be in grade 12 to go on a tour – plan ahead and check them out! Information is available on the schools' websites.

Trent University is offering in-person tours of their campuses. You must book a date and time prior to going. For more information click [here](#).

University of Guelph Interaction Conference: This two-day conference on April 28 and 29 is for university-bound grade 10 and 11 students. It is an opportunity to discover the University of Guelph community and to learn more about academic disciplines! Registration details available very soon. Check admission.uoguelph.ca/events.

Grade 11 Students: Spring is when Mrs. Dengerink and Mrs. Van Schepen meet with Grade 11 students to discuss their future plans. You may meet in person or via Zoom. Please check your Edsby messages to find out when a meeting with your counsellor will be scheduled; or better yet, request a meeting with your counsellor first.

Summer School information for local Public and Catholic School Boards will be available in the next few weeks. You can already check out what the Peel District School Board is offering by clicking [here](#). Students can take a course to recover a credit or to take a new course. You must check with Mrs. Dengerink prior to signing up! TDChristian does not offer a summer school program.

Art or Design Portfolios

- C. Sanita

Interested in creating an art or design portfolio? Interested in a future career related to art? Do you have artistic talent and want to begin sharing that with the world? Introducing Portfolio Sessions with Ms. Sanita after school in Room 17 every Wednesday until 3 p.m. You can get help with creative direction or opportunities to improve on the use of different mediums and techniques when it comes to your art and design work. You'll learn how to put together collections of art, create websites to start displaying your work and guidance about participating in exhibitions both local and abroad. See you then!

Centre Stage

- R. Peters

We have a date for our entry at the Canadian Improv Games. Because of safety protocols, all schools' entries will be done on video. Our Juniors and Seniors will be performing at 8 p.m. on April 1st. Unfortunately, we will be unable to have an audience, but if you wish to see our entry, you can always reach out to any team member for the link! With lower numbers for CIG this year, we are automatically entered in the National Tournament. The top five teams move on to an online final (dates TBD). We are still looking for a videographer, so if you have the equipment, and are interested in being our ONLY lucky audience member, contact Mr. Peters at peters@tdchristian.ca.

Library Shelf

- J. Knibbe

Some of the new books that have been added to the collection include "1919 – A Graphic History of the Winnipeg General Strike" and a graphic memoir by Brian Fies entitled "A Fire Story". If you love trivia, check out Canadian Geographic's "Biggest and Best of Canada – 1000 Facts & Figures".



TDChristian Archives

- J. Knibbe

For several years, teacher Richard Vanderkloet created small wooden mementoes as gifts for TDChristian graduates. The example pictured below was given in 2000. 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 2020 includes the construction of a bank of display cases along the History Wall, in which we plan to display many items from the archives 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. See the FlipGive announcement in this Fridge Door to earn up to 12.5 hours by simply using this app while doing regular shopping.
2. Become a Church Ambassador. See the announcement in this Fridge Door.
3. If you are able and interested in doing small monthly jobs around the school, such as replacing ceiling tiles, light bulbs and ballasts, etc. please contact Rod at rdengerink@tdchristian.ca.