KING CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER WINTER 2021-2022





2021-2022 THEME:



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our school theme for the 2021-2022 school year is **Love One Another**. We are asking the essential question: what does love require? When we read the New Testament, it is clear that Jesus came into the world to introduce something brand new. He came to demonstrate a new kind of relationship with God and each other. This arrangement would require one simple term, love.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another." (John 13:34-35 NIV).

He asks us to love others as He has loved us.

In Luke 10:29, Jesus also communicates that we are to love our neighbour as ourselves. While this may initially seem easy, we often discover it can be very hard to put into practice. The Greek word for love is agapao, which means "to welcome, to entertain, to be fond of, to love dearly" (blueletterbible.org). Loving others in this way shows that we value them and desire to build them up.

Some people can be very challenging to love, especially when they are different from us or when they have hurt us in some way. At times, our treatment of others is harmful and does not reflect the love Jesus is referring to.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL CONTINUED...

As a school, we are pondering who we are to love. How do we love when our capacity to love others is low? When we spend time deciding who deserves love and justifying our own unloving actions, we lose sight of what Jesus has called us to do as His followers. We need to spend time asking "what does love require of me right here, right now? In this place and time, what does loving God and others look like?"

As we spend the school year taking a closer look at what it means to love God and love others as ourselves, we will truly recognize that as a Christ-follower, this is the only option. When we get this right, just imagine how it will impact our families, community, and world.



Together in Education, Maureen Jarvis







NEW STAFF AT KCS

KCS is a vibrant community where everyone is loved and treated as an unique image bearer of God.

This year we have added some new faces to the dynamic staff team that works to ensure that each child is known by their community and deeply cared for.

The Kindergarten program has been enriched by the loving presence of Katrina Byron. She shares her day with both the JK and SK classes.

Jennifer Elford is a new educational assistant, who capably works with students in the primary grades to help ensure a strong foundation for their learning.

The grade three class is blessed by the addition of Suzanne Moss's cheerful, consistent, and competent presence.

Wendy Lohrentz serves as the new grade seven teacher. Her enthusiasm and life experiences from around the world have made her classroom a place where kids thrive and strive to be their best.

Stephanie Smith works diligently to clean all hightouch areas throughout the day, so that students and staff have a clean environment in which to work and learn.





Jennifer Elford











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IF YOU WERE TO TAKE A WALK AROUND THE SCHOOL,

WHAT WOULD YOU SEE STUDENTS DOING

AS THEY LEARN TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER?

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE IN KINDERGARTEN?

In JK we take turns sharing and listening to others using the "Talking Stick" during our Morning Meeting. This is a practice some Indigenous people groups like to use and it helps us be inclusive.

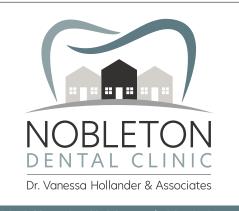
We studied the life of Moses and learned that God gave His people ten "rules" to help them live lives of love for God and one another.

In SK, we talk about how we can show love to others through our actions as community builders. We have a post office that has many blank greeting cards. Students have used these cards to send special notes to their friends and family. As a class, we have written notes to other classes in the school, thanking them for leading the chapel or doing some beautiful artwork.

Together with the JK class, we're learning about the stories of the families in our classes, so far we've learned about Egypt for the letter E, Hawaii for the letter H, and Iraq for the letter I.







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WHAT DOES LOVE LOOK LIKE IN THE PRIMARY GRADES?

In the primary grades, "Loving One Another" looks like being "People Smart". We practice taking turns, sharing, using kind words and encouraging each other when we do partner work. If there is a problem, we listen, talk it over, and we are quick to forgive. Students often show their love for one another when they greet a student that comes late or when they say goodbye when a student leaves early. Love is also demonstrated when a student drops something and several students will come to help pick up the pieces. We are learning to be each other's cheerleaders and build each other up.

Students in the Grade 1 and 2 class had the opportunity to show love in our community by organizing a food drive for Thanksgiving. They are organizing another one for Christmas.

Love is the way the Grade 3 students worked cooperatively when they planted 400 spring bulbs. They each had a job and a section where they needed to work. Some students would work together to use the bigger tools and other students helped plant the remaining 80 bulbs around the school.

















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WHAT DOES LOVE LOOK LIKE IN THE JUNIOR GRADES?

Grade 4 recently hosted Chapel and acted out a "modern kid version" of the Good Samaritan story, giving ideas of how we can show love in even the smallest ways. Each morning we incorporate active listening skills in our morning meetings to show care and kindness to each other. When a student is absent in Grade 4, another student is given the responsibility of helping them to organize materials and understand assignments to demonstrate love and hospitality. We have celebrated each other's achievements as well in class when our class made book report mystery projects. We had a "gallery walk" around our classroom to share projects and give words of encouragement for the good work we have seen. Our Remembrance Day artwork used silhouettes of soldiers and incorporated words of love and thanks for those who have fought for our freedom.

During the month of October, the students started to train for cross country. Many of the Grade 5 students were trying out for the team and it was a topic of conversation during snack and lunch conversations. Some of the students, who were not training, came to school with signs that contained words of encouragement for those who were running. They then proceeded to line the training route and cheer their classmates one during the recess practices. What a great way to show love to one another.

As we spend time reflecting on Remembrance Day each student drew ¼ of a poppy; some of them drew many poppy quarters. We put them together to make several poppies each one having very unique quarters.



WHAT DOES LOVE LOOK LIKE IN THE SENIOR GRADES?

Students have worked hard to incorporate the theme of "Love One Another" into everyday life in the classroom by responding to one another with respect and by helping and supporting one another. We are reminded that love should be the basis of every action and reaction.

Grade 6 students wrote and then acted in their own skit. The skit explored a situation in class when loving each other was difficult. Writing and then acting out the skit helped the class discuss and understand how to resolve this situation in a loving way.

Students have had the opportunity to apply for and receive job positions in the class. Using their gifts and talents to serve others has given the students an opportunity to practice being loving to their class community.

Leading up to the Grade 8 chapel, we wrote letters of gratitude to active and retired service members. We also asked Lieutenant Colonel Ross Semeniuk some questions and wrote a letter to Retired Army Colonel Warren Price, who we have communicated with since last year.













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The KCS Kindergarten classes would love to say a **HUGE thank you** to the generous anonymous donors who transformed the kindergarten play area into something truly beautiful. Every child loves to explore, imagine, create, and enjoy their amazing surroundings. It is a gift that will be enjoyed for years to come.





