

## **School Matters**

## February 28, 2024

Keeping you connected with what is happening at the school.

Mission: The mission of King Christian School is to equip students to positively impact society through a Christ-centred education in a supportive and dedicated community. Vision: As a vibrant, connected partner in our community, KCS integrates 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills, resources and strategies to engage students in a Christ-centred education.

## Calendar

Thurs. Mar. 7 **Report Cards** Fri. Mar. 8 - Mon. Mar. 18 March Break – no school Wed. Mar. 27 Parent-Teacher Conferences Fri. Mar. 29 & Mon. Apr. 1 Good Friday and Easter Monday -no school Mon. Apr. 8 Early Dismissal at 12:00 Wed. Apr. 10 Pastors' Breakfast Wed. Apr. 10 **Kindergarten Information Evening** 6 pm



Save the Date! We are pleased to announce the 27th Annual King Christian School Golf Marathon is on Thursday, May 23, 2024! More details to follow after March Break.

## Principal's Message



**B.Noble**, Principal

It's hard to believe, but the winter season is almost behind us. It has been a productive and engaging term with many clubs on offer at the school for students. We are thankful for the staff members and volunteers who have given their time to provide extra-curricular activities including needlework, chess, rainbow loom, indoor soccer, basketball, worship dance, and Lego club. All of these activities promote community and engagement. As we continue on our theme, "Come Into His Presence" students are learning to cultivate their faith in Jesus through reading God's Word, prayer and worship. We have been honoured to welcome guests to our chapel services to share how God can use Christians to help and serve others in our community. On the theme of home insecurity, the pastors at Victory Baptist Church shared how God has allowed their church to provide a safe place to sleep for those who are without homes and provide clothing to anyone who may be in need. A missionary from Emmanuel International shared how the knitting club at KCS was helping to provide needed blankets for orphans in Malawi. All of these examples help our students to understand our February Bible verse: "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10 We look forward to spring and the things we will learn on this journey of faith here at King Christian School.

SickKids The Abby Project	KCS is proud to be part of a campaign to provide treasure box items to Sick Kids Hospital in memory of Abby Clouter, a KCS student who passed away in 2023. At our March 1st chapel service Abby will be remembered and honoured. Each class will be placing donations in a special treasure box at chapel to support children at the hospital with games and toys as they pass time at the hospital. Thank you for the tremendous support of the KCS community!
Come into His Presence	As we gather together at chapel services and in our classrooms, students and staff are taking time to grow in their walk with Jesus through worship, prayer and the reading of God's Word. We always welcome parents and family members to our chapel services to take part in the worship and learning. Please note the following dates for upcoming chapel services. Services are held in the gym and begin at 8:45 AM. • Mar 1 • Mar 28 • April 12 • April 24 • May 10 • May 29 • June 14 • June 21
Solar Eclipse	On April 8, 2024 there will be a solar eclipse. In York Region we will experience the effects of the eclipse between approximately 2 PM and 4:30 PM. This time frame coincides with the dismissal time at KCS. In light of the concerns for students being outside and inadvertently looking at the sun, which could potentially cause harm such as loss of eyesight, we have made a change to our schedule that day. Out of concern for student safety, on April 8, 2024, <u>students will be dismissed</u> <u>at 12 noon</u> . Buses will conduct their usual routes, but they will start their runs at noon instead of 3:30 PM. There will be no school for the afternoon that day. Parents need to make arrangements to ensure that students are supervised that afternoon. Parents who pick up their children at school in vehicles need to plan to pick up their children at 12 noon that day as well. Thank you for your understanding of this unusual situation.

Coldest of the Year	Thanks to everyone in the KCS community who participated in the Coldest Night of the Year walks. Grades 1 and 2 classes promoted the idea to bring awareness to the needs of many in York region who struggle with homelessness. Their fund-raising efforts will support Inn from the Cold, a helping organization that provides needed relief to many who are struggling in our community. One of the KCS families enjoying the event!
	KCS is asking for donations of gently used sport balls and road hockey sticks for the recess yard. Do you have tennis balls, basketballs, soccer balls or hockey sticks in your garage that you can donate? Please send them in and we'll gladly take them off your hands.
Black History Month	KCS was honoured to welcome presenter Tracy Cain to the school for Black History Month. Tracy is a Christian who loves to share her ancestors' journey via the underground railroad from various places in the United States to Canada. Tracy brought history to life for students in grades 4 to 8 as they learned about the challenges of escaping slavery and building new lives in a new country. God and his faithfulness were highlighted as students gained a new appreciation for the freedoms and blessings they enjoy in this generation.
Basketball Girls and Boys	Our grade 7 & 8 basketball teams enjoyed a great season of building skill and competing. On February 22nd they travelled to Timothy Christian School in Barrie to compete against six other Christian schools. Both teams demonstrated great sportsmanship and effort. The boys advanced to the semi-finals and placed 3rd overall. Congratulations to both teams for a wonderful season!
Celebration of Learning	KCS looks forward to a Celebration of Learning and Spring Concert on May 2nd, 2024. Please mark your calendars and set aside 6:30 to 8:00 PM to visit classrooms and enjoy musical presentations. More details will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date.

CHESS CLUB	Students have enjoyed the challenge of learning and developing their chess skills through the chess club opportunity. According to Healthline, an online health web site, there are many benefits to playing chess including developing perspective, improving memory, deepening focus, elevating creativity and boosting planning skills. We hope that the students who have joined the chess club will share tips and strategies with family members and continue to grow in their skill!
Pastors' Breakfast	On April 10th, KCS is excited to welcome pastors to breakfast and a special program. There are dozens of churches far and wide of various denominations represented by KCS families and our hope is to forge strong connections with the churches. When our faith and hope align between home, school and church, a child is truly building a foundation on biblical truth. Students will be given invitations to share with their pastors in the coming weeks.
Knitting Club Service Project	This term a knitting club came together to knit 8-inch knitted squares for a very special project. Missionary Helen Jones visited KCS on February 23rd to explain how the squares are packaged and sent by shipping container to Zomba, Malawi by Africycle. Once there, a widows' sewing group takes the squares and sews them into a 35-square blanket for a child who may be orphaned and/or in severe need. We are proud of our knitters who are using their time to serve others and to be a blessing to those in need.
The Grade 7's and Sainte Marie Among the Hurons	The grade 7 class at KCS had the privilege of travelling to Sainte Marie Among the Hurons in January to experience the life, culture and history of the First Nations people in community with Jesuit priests. Experiences included storytelling around a fire in a longhouse, quill pen writing, wood carving, tea sampling, corn husk doll-making, and eating bannock roasted over the fire. Olivia V., a grade 7 student said, "I really liked learning about how they lived in a different time and hearing about how the Jesuits had to learn how to survive." A few weeks after this trip, Carl, an Indigenous police officer, visited the grade 7 class to answer questions about First Nations' perspectives and modern day life for Indigenous people. Finally, the pen pal writing program continues to allow grade 7 students to build relationships with First Nations kids living on reserve in southern Ontario. We are pleased that KCS students are developing a greater awareness of some of our neighbours and understanding how we can demonstrate the love of Christ.

SU Sports Partnership	KCS, in partnership with the Christian Home Educators' Network of York Region and Scripture Union Sports, has enjoyed an 8-week after school sports and Bible study program. Almost 50 children from KCS and CHEN enjoyed learning and growing in their sports abilities and Bible knowledge. KCS looks forward to a continued partnership with SU Sports in the coming months.
Intramural Soccer and Basketball	This term grade 4 and 5 students have been invited to participate in intramural soccer and grade 5 and 6 students have had the opportunity to participate in intramural basketball. Having organized sports for students allows them to practice skills and game playing. We are so thankful for parent volunteers Coach John and Coach James who have stepped up to help us!
Math Olympics	Congratulations to the KCS Math Olympics teams. On February 7th they travelled to Orillia Christian School to compete against other teams in Math challenges. For the grade 8s, Brenton won the first-place medal and Connor won the second-place medal. For the grade 7s, Lily won the first-place medal, Isabelle won the second-place medal and Chase won the third-place medal. The two grade 7 teams tied and won the group competition and received the plaque. For the grade 6s, Melody won the first-place medal and Jason won the second-place medal. The grade 6 team also won the group competition and received the plaque. Out of the 12 possible awards our school won 9 of them. A big thank you to Mrs. Lee for her coaching!
Parent-Teacher Conferences Wednesday, March 27, 2024 Edsby	Parent Teacher Conferences are optional for the Spring Term and are only offered one evening, March 27, with limited availability. Please book only if necessary. Also note that there is no childcare available. Conference bookings will open on March 4 and close on March 22 to allow the teachers time to prepare properly. Please check for the Parent-Teacher Conference link in your Edsby messages on Monday, if you would like to book. When you arrive for Conferences, please enter the school through the North-East doors, the front doors will be locked.
Bursary Program	We are always thankful for the generous support of the re-Source Thrift Shop in Bradford for donating much needed money to our bursary fund. We would like to be able to expand this fund so that more families (both new and returning) could be considered for a bursary. As more families seek a Christ- centred education, we don't want finances to be a barrier. Please consider how you might share this need with your churches and other Christian organizations. We would love to add emails to our distribution lists so that more people could help us support families in financial need with tuition. If you wish to bless a family with tuition assistance, please consider donating. You can e-transfer to the following email: <u>finance@kingchristian.ca</u>