

SNAPSHOT

STORIES FROM OUR CLASSROOMS

ISSUE FOUR

Welcome to the fourth edition of our school magazine, where each page offers an insightful glimpse into some of the enriching experiences, achievements, and memorable moments that have been at the heart of our educational journey this term.

@GCCS



Grateful Hearts, Growing Minds

News and stories by our students from every Grade.
PLUS: What we have achieved united as a school community.

MAGAZINE BY
YOUNG REPORTERS CLUB
Grades 4 - 8

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GUELPH COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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OUR THEME

A NOTE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

This fall has flown by with many highlights including welcoming new staff members: Kiera Seguin in Grade 6, Teresa Oussoren in Grade 7, Wilma Guetter in Grade 8, Kyla Slotegraaf as an EA in Kindergarten. We've also welcomed a record number of new students (55 and counting) to the school including a record number of kindergarten students (26 JK students and 5 new SK students and counting).

Our Walk-a-thon raised over \$55k and we've had tremendous support for a Thanksgiving food drive, a toy drive, a coat drive, and also a Christmas vendor market organized by our new Community Connection Team (CC Team).

AND WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU?

TO

ACT
justly



AND TO

LOVE
mercy



AND TO

WALK
humbly



WITH YOUR GOD.

MICAH 6:8

TEACHING

This year we have continued to implement the Teaching for Transformation framework which includes teaching students about 'ten throughlines'. We've used the throughlines as monthly themes for our chapels all under the school theme of "What Does God Require?" which is answered beautifully in Micah 6:8.

As you peruse the pages of this edition of Snapshot, I hope you get a good feel for the great things God is doing at GCCS so far this year!

Blessings,

Mr. Justin DeMoor, Principal

Throughlines:

SHAPING PURPOSEFUL LEARNERS

Throughlines provide our learners with opportunities to engage in "real work that meets real needs for real people." These throughlines offer guidance on how to engage with the world—as worshippers of God, justice seekers, beauty creators, and more. By incorporating these throughlines into their learning, students are inspired to actively contribute to shaping culture. Rather than focusing solely on what students should know, throughlines encourage students to step into the place they are called to be in God's story; empowering them to live with purpose and intention.

01 Community Building



This September, our focus has been on fostering communities of grace and belonging within our school. Students are learning to be active pursuers and builders of communal *shalom*—a sense of peace, wholeness, and unity. In our classrooms, we strive to create spaces where grace abounds, and everyone feels valued. Together, we walk and work in a spirit of *shalom*, growing as learners and community members who make room for others to thrive.

02 Creation Enjoying



In October, our students have been engaging with God's creation, marveling at His eternal power and divine nature revealed in the world around us. Through exploration and celebration, learners have delighted in the beauty and intricacy of God's handiwork, deepening their awe and gratitude for His creative brilliance.

03 Justice Seeking



In November, the focus has been on justice-seeking, as students learn to pursue restorative transformation. They are exploring what it means to bring wholeness where there is brokenness and to act as agents of change in their communities. By identifying and responding to injustices, our learners are discovering how they can make a meaningful difference in the world around them.

KINDERGARTEN

KINDER P EXPLORE

As our school year began, Kinder P welcomed 20 students into our class. Three of these students are returning for their 2nd year at GCCS and 17 are new to the school. The students have enjoyed getting to know each other and are now spending time engaged in learning and play with one another.

We began our school year focused on the Creation story and learned how God made each of us special and unique. The beautiful fall weather allowed us to spend a lot of time outside exploring our school property and as the weather got cooler, we watched the leaves change colour and collected fall items. We were intrigued by pumpkins and spent time doing a pumpkin investigation, even carving them to allow them to shine a light in the world. Kinder P took on the challenge of hosting a Toy Drive for The Salvation Army. We were thrilled with the toys collected and are excited to know that these toys will be given to children in Guelph this Christmas. Other special moments include; Walk-a-thon, number and letter learning, the 50th day of school, and lots of singing and dancing. We have loved our fall months and look forward to experiencing all that God has instore for us in the months ahead.



READING BUDDIES



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

WALK-A-THON



OUTDOOR FUN



PRACTISING NUMBERS AND SHAPES



REMEMBRANCE DAY



READING BUDDIES



PUMPKIN CARVING

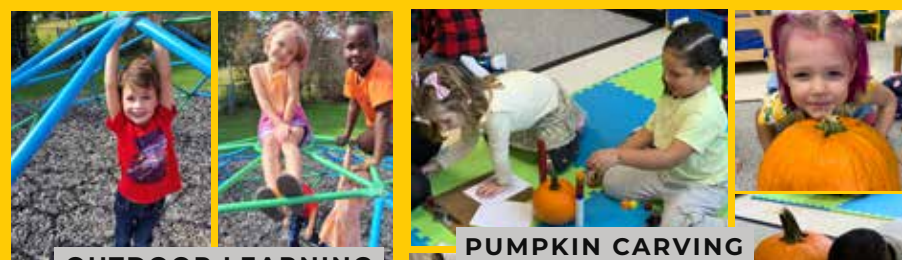
50 DAYS!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

PRACTISING NUMBERS AND LETTERS

DOOR ART

TOY DRIVE PROJECT



OUTDOOR LEARNING



PUMPKIN CARVING



THANKFUL OWLS

KINDER C ADVENTURES

Kinder C has been a buzz of excitement and learning this fall! We have enjoyed getting to know our new classmates and making new friends. The fall season was a perfect time to go exploring God's creation, and we enjoyed nature walks to see the trees and watched them transform through the season. The warm fall sunshine also allowed us to spend some time in our outdoor classroom, but we especially enjoyed playing in the leaves once they began to fall!

Inside, we've been exploring our letters and numbers and have been busy making patterns. We've learned all about the life cycle of pumpkins and especially enjoyed cutting them open to look inside them. Some of us were even brave enough to touch the slimy parts! The fall season also brought a time of remembrance, and we learned about how peace and freedom have been bought at a price and how much we have to be thankful for.

GRADE 1

DELIGHTING IN GOD'S WORK

We've been diving into the Teaching for Transformation (TFT) throughlines that guide our learning and help us see God's hand in all we do. So far, we've explored what it means to be Image Reflectors, Community Builders, and Order Discoverers.

In September, as we got to know each other, we talked about how every one of us reflects God's image. We celebrated how we are all special and unique, learning to show respect and kindness because each person is made in God's likeness.

In October, we turned our focus to being Community Builders. We discovered how our roles and responsibilities change and grow, and we learned that everyone has an important part to play in a community. We worked together toward a common goal during the Walkathon, strengthening our school community and building connections as we walked.

In November, our focus shifted to being Order Discoverers, recognizing the patterns and rhythms in God's creation.

Through these throughlines, we're learning to see ourselves, others, and creation in deeper, more meaningful ways, as we grow together in our learning and faith!



WALK-A-THON INCENTIVES

To celebrate and motivate our Walkathon fundraising efforts and to mark our achievements, we enjoyed a couple of fantastic incentive days!

First, a Costume Day saw students transform into a Lego man, a pirate, The Flash, Supergirl, a dinosaur, a duck, an owl, and other creative characters.

A week later, we had a PJ & Stuffie Day, where everyone came to school in cozy pajamas, accompanied by their favourite soft toys.

These special days brought so much joy and excitement to our class and the school community loved seeing our outfits!

BEING IN GRADE 1

Our Grade 1 students are absolutely loving their first year in the big playground! With winter on the way, their excitement is building as they look forward to sledding down the snow hill and joining the older grades to create giant snowmen. Being part of the bigger playground community has brought so much joy and energy to their days—what a wonderful way to experience the fun and fellowship of outdoor play!

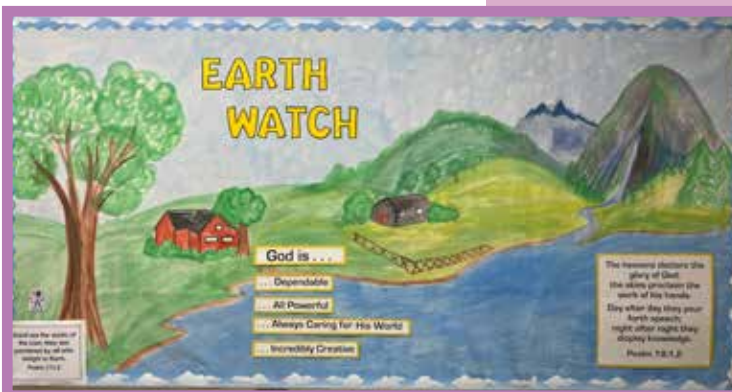


EARTH WATCH EXPLORERS

Grade 1 has been on an exciting journey of discovery with their Earth Watch project, learning all about the wonders of God's creation through the lens of Psalm 111:2: "Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them."

Through this project, students explored the patterns and rhythms of the earth, from the changing seasons to the cycle of day and night, even asking big questions like, "Where does the sun go?" They also dove into the beauty of order, uncovering number patterns, ABC patterns, and seasonal patterns in creation. This exploration has deepened their awe for God's design and the marvels of His world.

Their Earth watching continues....



READING BUDDIES

Grade 1 eagerly looks forward to their time with their Grade 6 Reading Buddies! Whether it's sharing a favourite story or discovering a new one together, the Grade 6 students always pick just the right books to make reading time fun. But their connection goes beyond books—they've also been working on creative projects together. This Fall, they collaborated on crafting paper orange shirts to mark Truth and Reconciliation Day, reflecting on the importance of understanding and compassion. More recently, they spread thankfulness by making beautiful Thanksgiving cards for our GCCS staff. These moments of shared learning and creativity continue to deepen their bond, making Reading Buddies a highlight of each week!



GRATITUDE JARS

Since Thanksgiving, our Grade 1 students started each morning with hearts full of gratitude. Together, they reflected on their blessings and recorded their ideas in a special gratitude jar. This meaningful practice was much more than a classroom activity; students took their jars home to continue this joyful tradition with their families. It was a wonderful way to remind ourselves daily of God's abundant provision and goodness. Seeing the jars fill with notes of thanks has brought so much joy, inspiring us all to pause and celebrate the countless ways we are blessed.



ARTWORK GALLERY



FALL FUN DAY

Grade 1 had an incredible time participating in their very first Fall Fun Day! They enthusiastically joined in every activity organized by the student council and especially loved being part of the colour teams with students from all the other grades. It was a day full of laughter, teamwork, and memorable moments as they experienced the joy of school-wide community fun!



GRADE 2



CHAPEL

In September, our Grade 2 class led a heartfelt chapel performance focused on community building and embracing the unique way God created each of us. Through a powerful story about crayons, we learned that while Blue tried to be Red, it just didn't work. It wasn't until Blue was asked to colour the sea that he discovered his unique purpose, created perfectly by God. The story reminded us that, just like Blue, we each have a special role to play in God's bigger picture.

The chapel concluded with the Grade 2s leading the school in singing "If I Were a Butterfly", a joyful song celebrating the beauty of God's creation and our individual worth as part of beautiful community. It was a special moment that encouraged everyone to appreciate their unique gifts and to support one another as part of a loving, purposeful community.



ART PROJECTS



DONKEY SANCTUARY

This term, our Grade 2 class visited the Donkey Sanctuary, learning valuable lessons about empathy, compassion, and the power of service. Students met donkeys with unique rescue stories and discovered how volunteers provide them with a safe and caring home. They saw a beautiful connection between the sanctuary and Hope House. As one student observed, "The Donkey Sanctuary is a safe place for donkeys, and Hope House is a safe place for people."

The class also voted to sponsor a donkey named Oliver, whose story touched their hearts. To support the sponsorship, students were invited to EARN a toonie by doing a chore at home, empowering them to contribute through their own efforts. This meaningful experience has taught the Grade 2s the importance of kindness and helping others—whether animals or people.



READING BUDDIES

Our Grade 2 students have been enjoying their time as reading buddies with the Grade 5 class this year! Every week, the Grade 2s pair up with their older buddies to read stories, practice their reading skills, and share in the joy of books.

This partnership not only helps the younger students develop their reading abilities, but it also fosters meaningful connections between the two grades. The Grade 5 students have embraced their role as mentors, offering encouragement and guidance, while the Grade 2s are excited to learn from their buddies. It's a wonderful opportunity for both classes to grow in friendship and literacy!



HOPE HOUSE

Our Grade 2 class has been learning the ropes of serving others through their ongoing service project, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts! Each month, they have been packing toilet paper for Hope House, putting their hearts into this important task. The



students were trained and have been doing a wonderful job, demonstrating the power and joy of serving others. It's truly inspiring to see how these young learners are embracing the opportunity to make a difference. Thank you, Grade 2, for showing us the true meaning of service with your dedication and care!



STUDYING NATURE

Our Grade 2 class has been thoroughly enjoying studying nature and discovering where we see God in the world around us. One of the highlights was examining sunflowers up close, marveling at their intricate design and how their perfect formation reflects God's handiwork. We discussed how the beauty and structure of sunflowers point to God's amazing creation. To bring this study to life, we created our own paper sunflowers, which we proudly displayed in the corridors, brightening the walls like little rays of sunshine. It was a wonderful reminder of how we can see God in even the simplest aspects of nature!



WE WON!

Wow! Our Grade 2 class was the TOP class in the Walk-a-thon! As a reward, each student received a "one of a kind" GCCS hoodie with their name on it, and we are absolutely loving our new Walk-a-thon hoodies! A huge thank you to all the parents who helped their children raise this money for our school and congratulations to Grade 2 - we are the "golden" class!



GRADE 3

EARTH KEEPERS PROJECT

We've been excited to kick off our new composting program at GCCS as part of our ongoing Organic Food Waste project, with our mission to "Send Less to Landfill"! As EarthKeepers, we've designed and set up compost bins and waste sorting signs in each classroom, and we presented our project to each class to help everyone get involved.

As part of our "Send Less to Landfill" initiative, the EarthKeepers collect organic waste daily at 1:55 p.m. It's a big responsibility, but the Grade 3 students are up for the challenge! They're learning valuable lessons about sustainability and waste reduction. Each day, they put on their rubber gloves, collect the organic waste, and ensure everything is sorted correctly before bringing the waste to the correct collection disposal bins. We're so proud of their dedication to making our school a cleaner, greener place!



CONCRETE PUMPKINS

Our Grade 3 students had a fantastic time working with their reading buddies to create concrete pumpkins! Each team of two collaborated to form and then paint their pumpkins, using their creativity and teamwork to bring their designs to life. The students enjoyed the hands-on experience of mixing concrete and shaping their pumpkins before adding vibrant colors and unique details. It was a wonderful opportunity for the Grade 3s and their buddies to bond, work together, and have fun while learning the value of cooperation and creativity.



GRADE 11 EDITING

Grade 3 had an incredible experience working on their fractured fairytale writing project, where they created unique twists on classic stories. The excitement reached new heights when they visited Woodland Christian High School to meet with Grade 11 students. Paired up with their Grade 11 editors, the Grade 3s shared their fairytale drafts and received valuable feedback to help improve their stories. The editors helped revise and refine their work. Afterwards our Grade 3s wrote notes to our helpers: "I liked that you were happy with my fairytale. You were helpful by being friendly."; "Thank you for letting me come to your classroom. It was helpful when you edited my story. You changed words to make it better." These meaningful connections and collaborations are a wonderful part of the students' creative journey, and we can't wait to see their fractured fairytales come to life as illustrated books!



MOUNTSBERG TRIP

In October, Grade 3 students embarked on an exciting adventure to Mountsberg Conservation Area for a hands-on plant and soil study! Equipped with curiosity (and a willingness to get their hands dirty!), they explored natural areas, digging into the fascinating world of soils and plants. Students learned about how plants and soils play a critical role in supporting our planet. They were also challenged to think about ways they can protect and care for these natural treasures. The trip came with a "creepy crawly and messy hand zone" warning, but the joy of discovery made every moment worthwhile!



WALK-A-THON INCENTIVES

The Grade 3s have been enjoying some exciting Walkathon incentives! So far, they've had a cozy PJ & Stuffy Day, complete with a viewing of Charlotte's Web, and a creative Dress-Up Day, where students came dressed in all sorts of fun costumes. Ms. Pennings stole the show as Little Red Riding Hood, joined by a horse, a bee, a butterfly, a policeman, and even a hamburger car! These special days have been a fantastic way to celebrate their efforts and build excitement.



CROSS COUNTRY FUN

This year, the Grade 3s were thrilled to join the district cross-country meet for the first time! They embraced the challenge with energy and determination, channeling their enthusiasm and showing incredible effort and teamwork. What a memorable milestone—way to go, Grade 3s!



EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIKE MATH MATH LOVES YOU

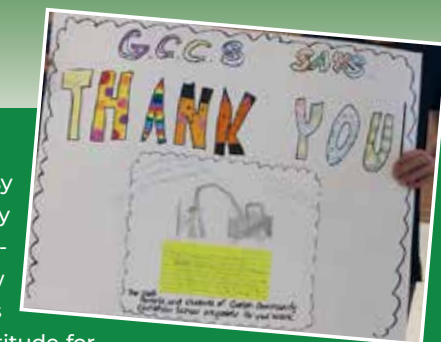
IT IS UNCONDITIONAL AND ALWAYS GIVES

RIVER RUN VISIT

In November our Grade 3 students had a fantastic time at the River Run Centre with SAMAJAM! Armed with Music Bags, they dove into a high-energy, interactive musical adventure - creating rhythms, playing percussion, and celebrating global music. The room came alive with beats, laughter, and joy as our students took part in this unforgettable experience!



Our class has been busy spreading kindness! They wrote heartfelt thank-you cards for the crew upgrading our school's generator, showing gratitude for their hard work. We're proud of our students for recognizing the amazing people who support our school community!



GRATEFUL FOR OTHERS

GRADE 4/5

CHARTWELL VISITS

The Grade 4/5 class has begun monthly visits to Chartwell Retirement Home, and they've already been twice! During their visits, students have enjoyed chatting with residents, asking questions to learn more about their lives, and spending time playing games together. These visits have been a wonderful opportunity to build connections, share joy, and create meaningful moments with the lovely residents who are eager to spend time with them.



READING BUDDIES

Our Grade 4/5 students have taken on the special role of reading buddies for our Kindergarteners, with many paired with two buddies which makes their time together extra fun. Each week, they visit the Kindergarten classes with a selection of books they've carefully picked just for their buddies. It's heartwarming to see the older students nurturing a love for books while encouraging their younger buddies—an experience that has become a favourite part of the week for every student.



TERRY FOX WALK

Early in the school year, our school walked around our school grounds to honour Terry Fox. Our Grade 4/5 students had a wonderful time walking with their reading buddies. The weather was perfect, and the time walking was filled with laughter, chatting, and fun, and it was so great to see our kindergarteners enjoy the time with their buddies. The event concluded with the entire school gathering in a circle to pray, making it a meaningful and memorable experience for everyone.



CHAPEL: CREATION ENGAGING

Our class led an inspiring chapel on thankfulness, using the story of Jesus healing the ten lepers to challenge us to reflect on our own gratitude. Why did only one leper return to thank Jesus? What might the others have been thinking? Through this thought-provoking performance, the students reminded us to be thankful for everything God does, big and small. Each student also shared something they are personally grateful for and something they enjoy in God's beautiful creation, inspiring us to live with hearts full of gratitude.



FIELD TRIPS

BELL HOMESTEAD

Our Grade 4/5 class took a step back in time at the Bell Homestead, where Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone! They toured Bell's historic home, learned how the telephone worked back then, and traced its evolution to the mobile phones we use today. Hands-on science activities on light and sound brought the learning to life as students explored how sound travels and discovered the steps Bell took to create his groundbreaking invention. The day was filled with discovery, inspiration, and a fun lunch break running around the beautiful grounds!



CRAWFORD LAKE

Our class went on a trip to Crawford Lake, where we learned about Longhouse culture at a reconstructed village. We took part in hands-on activities like traditional games, fire starting, craft-making, and we explored the longhouse. Then we went on a hike around the lake which helped us understand more about our relationship with the environment. It really brought history to life in a memorable way!
- by Aaron, Gr 4/5



RIVER RUN TRIP

Our class went to the River Run centre to see SAMAJAM! We were each given a music bag which had a tambourine, drum sticks and boomwhackers. The event was run by a man and a lady on stage, and they got us to play all the instruments in different ways. At some points we were playing along to music on a video and other times we just pounded the instruments as loud as we could. We had a lot of fun being loud!
- by Aaron, Gr 4/5



ART



GRADE 5

CHAPEL: JUSTICE SEEKERS

The Grade 5 class recently led a powerful chapel focused on the theme of justice-seeking. Rooted in the call to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8), their performance highlighted what it means to advocate for fairness and stand up for those in need. Students shared their unique perspective on justice, exploring how small actions can make a big difference in creating a more compassionate world.

Through drama, storytelling, and a video presentation, the Grade 5s inspired the school community to think deeply about justice in everyday life. It encouraged us all to be advocates for God's peace and fairness in the world around us.



OUR TEACHER IS AWESOME

Hi, I am going to talk about our teacher Mrs. Burton. Mrs. Burton is a very good teacher. Mrs. Burton is a good teacher because she helps us and is always kind, caring, loving and encouraging. If we're stuck in math or any other subject, she'll explain it another way and more ways until we get it. Mrs. Burton challenges us to try new things. She is very patient when we aren't doing the right things.

Here are some facts about Mrs. Burton: She has three sons and one daughter-in-law and one granddaughter. She has a brother. She loves to ski and swim, hike and be outside. She likes to help people. She would like to learn how to play the guitar and knit. She enjoys sitting quietly each morning while she drinks her coffee. - by Abi, Gr 5



CHARTWELL VISITS

Once a month our class visits Chartwell Retirement Home. On our latest visit I met a senior named Marsha. She was really nice. Some of us played games with the residents like pool, chess, and other games. They were really happy to see us. I loved how they were super happy. I am hoping to learn more about them and learn their stories. I am excited to go back. - by Ava, Gr 5



READING BUDDIES

Our Grade 5 class has embraced the joy of being reading buddies to our Grade 2 students this year! Each week, the older students share their love of reading by pairing up with their younger buddies to explore stories, practice reading skills, and build friendships. It's a special time that fosters connection, mentorship, and a shared enthusiasm for books, making it a highlight for both grades.



CRAWFORD LAKE

On November 11th our class went on a trip to Crawford Lake. It was a really fun day out and we had a really good time. We went hiking, learned about endangered animals, and went into longhouses. We loved exploring inside the longhouses and seeing how Indigenous people lived. We also learned how to play lacrosse. Everyone learned a lot. - by Ava, Gr 5



WALK-A-THON 2024

Despite the rain, our Walkathon was a huge success. Watching the Grade 5 students chatting, walking and laughing through the drizzle, demonstrated that community spirit shines brightest even in gloomy weather and that we were united for the same cause!



ARTWORK

GRADE 6

WALK-A-THON 2024

On Friday October 4th, our class participated in a walk-a-thon to raise money for our school. We walked a couple kilometers as a class. There were also some parent chaperones that joined us. As we walked, we ran and danced and had fun with our classmates. Our route took us down by the river and then past the place where our old school used to be. Along the way we passed a group of parents who were playing music to encourage us and we danced with them. Another parent on the route was dressed up like a dinosaur and that was really funny. When we were all done our long walk, we were treated to ice cream sandwiches. They were delicious! - *by Hana, Gr 6*



MEET MS. SEGUIN



Why did you decide to become a teacher? I've always wanted to be a teacher! My dad is a high school chemistry teacher, so I grew up with a wonderful and passionate teacher in my home.

What's your favourite subject to teach and why? I really love teaching science because there are so many fun, hands-on activities you can do!

Did you have a favourite teacher when you were in school? What made them special? My favourite teacher in school was Mlle Leslie! I had her for both grade 6 and 8. She was kind and compassionate, but had high expectations.

What's your favourite food or snack? I prefer savory snacks! Salt and vinegar chips or nachos and salsa are definitely among my favourite.

Do you like sports or play any games? I love watching sports! I'm a big Detroit fan - Detroit Lions, Detroit Red Wings, and Detroit Tigers.

Do you have any pets? I have 2 dogs and 2 cats. Maisie is a 1 year old St. Bernard/Great Pyrenees mix, Lucy is a 8 year old Maltese Shih Tzu mix, Marley and Mayhem are 4 year old medium haired cats. I love them all very much!

Do you like to play music in the classroom? What kind? I sometimes play music in the classroom when we're doing quiet, independent centres. The music is always calm, instrumental music.

What do you like to do when you're not teaching? When I'm not teaching, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, going for hikes, camping, and watching my favourite sports teams play!

Have you travelled anywhere interesting? I went on two mission trips in grade 11. I went to an orphanage in Nicaragua with my high school and to five remote communities in Guatemala with my church's youth group.

What's one thing you're really excited about this year? I'm really excited to learn and grow alongside my class this school year!



READING BUDDIES

Every week we meet with our Grade 1 reading buddies. We choose a book to read together with them. We get to make positive connections with younger kids and hang out in the library. Most recently, we worked together to make Christmas cards for the elderly in long term care homes and hospitals. It was a team effort! - *by Hana, Gr 6*



CLASSROOM FUN

CRAWFORD LAKE TRIP



On Monday, November 11 our class went on a field trip to Crawford Lake to learn more about the Indigenous longhouses and culture. One thing we learned about was longhouses - they are really long and big. The longhouses could fit from 20 to 100 people or more. Inside the longhouses we could see and touch furs and skins from a wide variety of animals like coyotes, foxes, beavers, deer and bears. The Indigenous people who lived there played Lacrosse. We learned how to catch and throw with a lacrosse stick and ball. We also learned about Crawford Lake as we went on a walk on the boardwalk trail. It is a really rare lake - there are only 50 in ALL of the world! The layers of the lake don't mix so if something like an apple drops in the lake it won't decompose but it stays preserved. I thought this trip was really fun and interesting. We got to see and touch things in person. We didn't just sit and listen to a speaker but we got to be active and move around a lot. - *by Hana, Gr 6*

ARTWORK



BRIDGE BUILDING



In Science class we were learning about what makes bridges strong and safe for us to drive and walk on. To apply our learning, instead of a test, we made bridges in small groups. Then we tested our bridges with weights to see if they were steady and strong and none of our bridges broke! - *by Hana, Gr 6*

GRADE 7

LIFE IN GRADE 7

There's been lots of changes after moving up into Grade 7. To begin with, we're in a whole new hallway, and have to travel more to different classrooms, but everyone is adapting to it very well, and we're all getting into the flow of things. Being a grade 7 student also means that we get to join patrols. Being a patroller is a big responsibility, as we are helping students stay safe on their way to school. We love helping our fellow students, and look forward to what else Grade 7 holds for us. - by Jessie, Gr 7



SONGWRITING CLUB

During October, a group of Grade 7 students wrote the school theme verse: Walk Humbly. There were eleven students within the group, three students wrote and planned the song, the others prepared the performance that we presented the song to the school. We spent our recesses inside, writing and playing music to create the school song. When we shared it with the school during a chapel, they received the song amazingly and we hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed the process. We also hope we've expressed Micah 6:8 well. - by Jessie, Gr 7



READING BUDDIES

Grade 7 has been paired up with Grade 3 for reading buddies. It's nice knowing a student in a different grade, as it helps you build more community within the school, and also gives us as Grade 7s a chance to be good role models. One of the things we've done with our Grade 3 buddies, is we got to make concrete pumpkins for autumn. It's been particularly special because we didn't get to do it when we were in Grade 3 because of Covid. We're looking forward to getting to know the Grade 3s more in the future. - by Jessie, Gr 7



MEET MRS OUSSOREN

In Grade 7 we have a new teacher. Mrs. O is a really fun teacher, and the whole class loves her. We have lots of fun in class with her. We're all very thankful that she's joined our class this year.

3 Fun Facts: (1) I went on my first overseas mission trip (to the DR) when I was 10 years old. (2) I was raised on a dairy farm and I know how to calve out a cow. (3) I like 80s music, country music, and instrumental music.

Why Teach? God called me to teach, and I love this profession. My goal is for students to see themselves as made in God's image, with unique gifts and abilities they may not have discovered yet.

The word "yet" is powerful—it turns "I don't understand this" into "I don't understand this yet," offering hope and encouraging lifelong learning. As Christians, we have eternal hope, and sharing that hope makes our world and the next one better.

Favourite Subject: I teach all the best subjects, but my favourite is Language. There's beauty and power in communication—how we express ideas clearly can inspire and connect. My close second is Bible, where we see ourselves in God's story and discover our role in His plan.



BAND

One thing that our class has enjoyed coming into Grade 7 is band class. We are loving learning our instruments and see it as a privilege. Mr. Patick has let us choose which instrument we want, not only based on our personal opinion, but also what he thought we would be good at. We are really excited to show our families and the school what we've learnt this year in band. - by Jessie, Gr 7



WALK-A-THON INCENTIVES

In Grade 7 we reached many fun walk-a-thon goals. Here are a few of our favourites. Firstly, we got a pet turtle, whose name is Doug. Doug lives in our classroom, and everyone in the class plays a part in looking after him. We also got a stuffy/PJ day, where we came to school wearing our pajamas. We stayed cozy all day! Lastly, we got to watch a movie. We ate popcorn and watched Incredibles 2. All of our walk-a-thon goals have been great! Our class has had so much fun over the last few months. - by Jessie, Gr 7



ARTWORK



GRADE 8S/8G



CLASS LIFE

Life in our Grade 8 classrooms is vibrant and full of energy! From engaging discussions and hands-on projects to building leadership skills and preparing for high school, each day is a mix of hard work and meaningful connections. We are seeing our students engage in everything with curiosity and teamwork, developing their personal growth.



BAKE SALE SUCCESS

Our Grade 8 students have had great success with their monthly bake sales this term! From delicious cookies to mouthwatering cakes, their treats have been a big hit with students during recess. These bake sales not only share sweet treats with everyone, but also help raise funds for the end-of-year grad trip.



ARTWORK



I AM BIBLE PROJECT



READING BUDDIES

This school year, our Grade 8 class is lucky to be partnered with Preschool once again! We have the wonderful opportunity to spend more time with the youngest members of our school, where we get to have fun, be silly, and create lasting memories with these little ones.



WALK-A-THON WARM UP

It's become a Grade 8 tradition to kick off our yearly Walk-a-thon with a silly walk routine during our launch chapel. They get more crazy and more imaginative every year, and this year was no exception!



JOHN MCCRAE VISIT

In November, our Grade 8 classes visited John McCrae's house, just down the road from our school. It was a meaningful opportunity to learn about the life of the famous poet and soldier who wrote 'In Flanders Fields'. Exploring the historic site helped everyone connect with Canadian history and reflect on the sacrifices made for our freedom.



GCCS SPORTS



SOCCER

CROSS COUNTRY

VOLLEYBALL

REMEMBRANCE DAY

GCCS EVENTS



TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

GCCS EVENTS



BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

TERRY FOX WALK

WALK-A-THON

FALL FUN DAY

YRC: ABOUT US

THIS MAGAZINE WAS WRITTEN BY STUDENTS AT GCCS WHO ATTEND THE YOUNG REPORTERS CLUB (YRC).

At the heart of our Young Reporters News Club is a passionate commitment to keeping our school community informed, connected and inspired. Our mission is simple yet powerful: to share the vibrant stories and happenings within our school, spanning different grades and age groups.



Scan here to read more of our articles on our YRC page, or visit our school's blog page for more school insights.

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THANK YOU FOR READING