



THUNDER BAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Theme:

"Get Out of the Boat"

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Our Mission:

To serve God and assist Christian families *by*:

- providing a quality, Christ-centered education within a loving environment,
- exploring and evaluating all of life under God,
- nurturing students in the development of their abilities,
- encouraging a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Team Leader of Principal Duties

In the Grade 7/8 Bible classes, the students have been studying the unit "Every Bit of Who We Are". In this unit the students have been learning that during the times of the kings of Israel the world seemed to be in a big mess. The country of Israel had been conquered, and the prophet Habakkuk was wondering where God was and why he would be allowing all of these bad things to be happening. We do not have to look very hard at our own present day world to see all of the dysfunction that is taking place on a daily basis. There is all of the armed conflict around the world, the crime happening on our streets, the prejudice that we see happening even here in Thunder Bay, and the provincial government attempting to force an inappropriate sex education curriculum on students and parents here in Ontario. These are just a few examples of the things that are not 'right' in the world in which we live. It would be

easy to begin to wonder where God is, and why is He allowing these things to happen? In our unit the class, and Habakkuk, learned that God is always there and that we just need to continue to trust Him even when things may be very difficult.

The second part of this discussion, which is just as important, is that as we live in these days of turmoil and trouble it might be necessary for us to ask several questions. What is our purpose? What is God expecting from us, as His followers, during these times? The answers to these questions can be found in the several verses from the Old Testament and they are:

Micah 6:8 "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the

LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?"

From these verses there seems to be a number of key ideas that are required of us as we live in this troubled world. These key ideas are justice, mercy, humility, obedience, love and reverence, and service. The term justice deals with the concept that we live with a real sense of the difference between right and wrong, and we always act in ways that provide equity and protection for the innocent. Mercy can be described as showing love to our fellow human beings even when that love may not be deserved. Humility is clearly understanding that we are depending on God for everything in our lives and not on our own abilities. It is carefully looking at the attitude of our

Team Leader of Principal Duties Cont.

hearts toward God and how much of our lives we are really giving to Him. Obedience is the willingness to do whatever God asks of us even when it is something we do not want to do or we may even be scared to do. Sometimes we have to 'Step out of the Boat' if we are truly going to obey. Love and Reverence can refer to the idea that we understood fully who God is, and that He fully deserves our love. The Bible tells us that we are to love the Lord with all of our hearts, our souls, and our minds. The final requirement that God has laid out for us is that of service. Jesus, himself, came down to earth to serve others before looking out for himself. In the same way we need to be people who are ready and willing to look out for the good of others before ourselves.

The world needs us to be more willing to show the concepts of justice, mercy, humility, obedience, love and reverence, and service more often. In this way we can help make this world just a little bit better than it presently is. As we live our daily lives there are many different ways that we can become involved in working on the requirements that God has set out for us. There are many ways that we can get involved to show more justice, mercy, service, etc. in our communities. Some of the groups and organizations that we can get involved in are the Right to Life group, anti-racism groups, anti-bullying groups, the Twice as Nice store, Shelter House, the Regional Food Distribution Agency, and Habitat for Humanity. These are just several of the possibilities,

and some of us may already be involved in some of them. Where we get involved will depend on our interests, our passions, and where God is leading us. Of course we cannot forget that we need to show the concepts mentioned to those closest to us as well.

I do not believe that we can solve all the problems of the world, but we cannot sit back and expect things to get fixed on their own. Sometimes we may be required to take a stand for what we believe to be right and true. We know that all of the turmoil in the world is caused by sin, but we have to remember that we have access to a power and strength far more powerful that we can use to fight against it. Let's get to work!

Peter Himanen

On Behalf of the Leadership Team

JK/SK OPP STATION VISIT



During the month of February, the Kindergarten class ventured out to learn more about a wide number of careers. One of the highlights was visiting the O.P.P. Station where we got to have a station tour, an opportunity to sit in a police car and jail and meet the Thunder Bay canine unit. We loved learning about the police dog and his handler!

GRADE 1/2 AT THE MUSEUM



Our class went on a field trip to the Thunder Bay Museum to learn about polar bears. We saw a polar bear's fur, claws, hair, and teeth. Then we did some activities like a polar bear maze and making a bookmark.

After that we went and looked at the old fashioned clothes, bikes,

telephones, jails, guns, medals, and trains. There was also a teepee, a classroom, a movie theatre, and stores that we could go inside of.

Written by Grade 1/2



GRADE 3/4

As a reward for reading 100 novels, the class had Book Character Day. Do you see any of your favourites?



Grades 3 and 4 recently went to Giant Gymnastics to use and develop the talents and skills that God has given us. We were happy that Haley Swift could come and coach us. We also enjoyed seeing her presentation!



Discovering what type of posts make strong structures during our Simple Machines unit.

GRADE 5/6

The Grade 5/6 class presented their assembly in February. They participated in skits and dramatic readings, played their ukuleles and violins, and performed a worship dance. These presentations highlighted how to "Get out of the Boat" (our school theme) by:

- 1) following Jesus
- 2) being a disciple of Jesus
- 3) serving God by serving others with kindness
- 4) letting our light shine in a dark world.



The Grade 5/6 class spent a fun afternoon at the Canada Games Complex for one of their winter electives. The classes participated in a boot camp fitness session, learned how to play squash, climbed the tread wall and went swimming! It was a great time of fun, friends and fitness!



GRADE 7/8 SKIING AT LOCH LOMOND

As part of their winter electives program the grade seven and grade eight classes were able to participate in a great day of downhill skiing at the Loch Lomond ski hill during the month of March. The students were



able to enjoy a great day of skiing and interacting with their peers throughout the day-long event. The weather cooperated as well giving the students a beautiful day to enjoy the slopes. A great day was had by everyone.



Thunder Bay Police Officers' Visit

Several officers from the Thunder Bay Police force recently came to the school to talk to our junior high students about the issues of bullying and cyber-bullying. The students were informed about what bullying is, and how everyone can play a role in making sure that it does not happen here at T.B.C.S. The officers also focused on the many electronic devices that young people have now and how they are used inappropriately. It was mentioned many times that the students need to protect themselves when they are on all of the different social media sites, and that parents need to be become more aware of what sites their children are visiting and participating in.

TBCS ADMINISTRATION

Team Leader of Principal Duties: Mr. Peter Himanen
Team Leader of Learning: Miss Sandra deHaan

Team Leader of Student Life: Mrs. Patricia Kaemingh
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Grace Boyes

Board Rep.: Mr. Peter Kaemingh
Board Rep.: Mr. Bram Drost