



North Toronto Christian School The Yorkland School

OCTOBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

(from the desk of S. W. Cooke, Superintendent of Operations)

Calendar for 08/09 School Year

Get Acquainted Night – TYS	Tue	Oct 7
Thanksgiving holiday	Mon	Oct 13
Election—no school at NTCS	Tue	Oct 14
Gr 12 Earth and Space class to Ontario Science Centre	Mon	Oct 20
P/T Conferences (JK-Gr 2)	Wed-Thu	Oct 22/23
Gr 11 and 12 Law Class trip	Thu	Oct 23
Gr 7 Trip to Toronto Zoo	Wed	Oct 29
Interim Term 1 Report (TYS)	Fri	Nov 14
Prof Dev Day (NTCS only)	Fri	Nov 21
Prof Dev Day (TYS only)	Fri	Nov 28
P/T Conferences (Gr 3 – 6)	Wed/Thu	Nov 19/20
P/T Conferences (TYS)	Wed/Thu	Nov 26/27
Start of Christmas holidays	Sat	Dec 20
School starts after Christmas	Mon	Jan 05
Prof Dev Day (TYS)	Fri	Jan 30
Family Day Holiday	Mon	Feb 16
March Break	Fri-Mon	Mar 13-23
Easter Weekend Holiday	Fri/Mon	Apr 10-13
Victoria Day holiday	Mon	May 18

Election – NTCS

Since NTCS is designated as a polling station for the upcoming Federal election, there will be **NO SCHOOL** at NTCS on election day, Tuesday, **October 14th**. Since TYS is not affected by the election in any way, there will be a normal school day at TYS. However, there will be no shuttle for TYS students on that day, either before or after school.

Grade 6 Orientation – NTCS

This year's Grade 6 visit to The Yorkland School is scheduled for Wednesday, **November 5th**. This will give your child in grade 6 the opportunity to get a glimpse of "high school life" by spending a day at TYS. They will attend classes and meet a variety of teachers in a planned program of school activities.

Skate Exchange – NTCS

Our annual skate exchange will be held the week of October 6th. You may bring in equipment you want to sell with your name and selling price clearly marked on Tues. or Wed. **October 7/8th**. Then you may come to purchase items on Thurs. or Fri. **October 9/10th**. You may be able to get a decent pair of skates for your child at a reasonable price.

Take Our Kids to Work Day – TYS

This year's TOKTWD is on Wednesday Nov. 5th. All grade 9 students will be given the opportunity to participate in this government-sponsored program. **There will be no regular classes for grade 9 on this day.** The goal of the day is to allow students in grade 9 the opportunity to explore workplace options for the future. Generally, they would "shadow" a parent, relative or family friend around the workplace. Many workplaces also offer a program for these future workers, offering them a glimpse of what is possible. Please inquire with your workplaces to see if they offer such a program. If you are also able to accommodate an extra student or two, please let Mr. Ko know by email at kko@yorkland.on.ca. Families with a child in grade 9 will receive more information shortly by mail.

Get Acquainted Night - TYS

All parents should plan to attend the annual Get Acquainted Night at TYS on Tuesday, Oct 7 starting at 7:30 pm in the main floor Forum Room. This evening gives you an opportunity to meet your child's teachers and to receive more information about special events and activities that you can expect through the coming school year.

After School - TYS

At TYS, classes are officially over at 3:04 p.m. If you are picking up your children, they are free to go at that time. Students travelling by public transit may also leave the premises at that time to go home. There are a variety of after school programs in which students may participate. This is also a time when teachers offer remedial help in their subject areas or require students to complete extra work. You should be prepared for this as you come to pick up your child(ren). Please assist us by picking up your child(ren) as soon as possible after the end of the school day. If they are not involved in some after school activity, they are just wasting their time hanging around when they could be working on their school work.

Operation Christmas Child- NTCS/TYS

Both of the schools plan to participate in this program again this year. We feel that this emphasis on 'children helping children' during the Christmas season is something that we want to encourage, so we trust that all parents will support their children in this worthwhile project. The deadline for collecting the shoeboxes this year is **Friday, November 7th**.

University Visits - TYS

Each year, various universities and colleges visit TYS to recruit our graduating students. Representatives distribute information about their programs and are available to talk about their school. Generally, they spend the lunch hour (11:35 - 12:20) with their displays and literature just outside the TYS office in Central Square or in the cafeteria on the main floor.

Parents who are interested in visiting these representatives are welcome to come to the school to do so. The schedule over the next few weeks is as follows:

Tues., Oct 7	Wilfred Laurier
Wed., Oct 8	Ryerson
Thurs., Oct 9	U of OIST
Thurs., Oct 23	Univ. of Waterloo
Wed., Oct 29	Carleton Univ.
Fri., Oct 31	Kings University College
Tues., Nov 4	Redeemer
Fri., Nov 7	Lakehead Univ.
Mon., Nov 10	York Univ.
Fri., Nov. 14	Western
Wed., Nov 19	Univ. of Guelph
Thurs. Nov 20	Queen's Univ.

Report Cards - TYS

Parents - please note that the first Interim report card at TYS will be given to students at the end of the day on Friday, November 14th. This will be the first official report of your child's progress for the 08/09 school year. Parent/Teacher Interviews will be scheduled for November 26th and 27th to discuss these reports. Prior to that date, please do not hesitate to contact a specific classroom teacher, or Mr. Ko, if you have questions or concerns about your child's work.

Sports - TYS

The sports program at TYS is up and running again (especially the cross-country team) and we are looking forward to a fun and successful year. The following competitive events will be taking place in the near future:

Grade 7 & 8 soccer tournament – Thursday, Oct. 2nd, Milliken Mills Park, Markham.

ACSI – gr. 7 & 8 cross-country meet – Thursday, Oct. 16th, Simeon Park (on Woodbine Ave. between Stouffville Rd. and Bloomington Rd.)

High school cross country team – Friday, Oct. 17th, The Nike Boardwalk Relay to be held at Woodbine Beach.

High school TDCAA Cross Country Championship – Thursday, Oct. 23rd, Centennial Park in Etobicoke.

High School Golf tournament – Tuesday, Oct. 7th, Station Creek Golf Club in Stouffville.

The **junior high volleyball season** will begin this month for both boys and girls. The girls' tournament is scheduled for Tuesday, November 11th and the boys' for Tuesday, November 18th; both will be at Philopateer Christian College in Mississauga.

The senior boys' volleyball season will begin on October 6th while boys' basketball tryouts will take place in late October or early November. High school girls' basketball will start on October 9th to be followed later by volleyball.

Parents are always welcome to come to the games. Please note that practices for many of our school sports teams are being held at Metro Sports Centre which is located at 1510 Birchmount Road. Access to the gym is from Burcana Road.

Christmas Concert - TYS

The music department will be hosting our annual Christmas concert on Thursday, December 11th at 7:30 p.m. at the Garden Church just across Yorkland Blvd from the school. All parents with students in the music program should plan to attend this inspirational event at a wonderful time of the year.

Chandos Schedule – NTCS

October	Sep 30-Oct 2	Grades 4A/4R
	02-03	Grade 3M
	06-08	Grade 6C
	08-10	Grade 6D
	20-22	Grade 5W
	22-24	Grade 5L

MedicAlert – NTCS

If you do not know about this free program, you might check out their web site at www.medicalert.ca. It is a free medical identification service for elementary school children and might be of interest to some of you.

School Reach – TYS

Senior School Reach trivia (grades 11/12) began on Tues. Sept 16th at 3:10 p.m. in Room N-5 and will continue every Tuesday. New players are welcome to come and play.

Intermediate School Reach trivia will begin on Tuesday, Sept 30th in Room N-7. All interested students in grades 7-10 are welcome.

Peanut Allergies – NTCS/TYS

We have several students in the school who have a potentially severe allergy to peanuts or any product containing peanut oil. While we are not insisting on a totally peanut free environment, I am asking parents to cooperate with the teacher if your child's class has a student who is affected this way.

Internet Security - TYS

Some of you have wondered what we do to help protect your children from improper content on the Internet. This past June we installed an internet filtering appliance that sits between the Internet and the school computers. This helps to monitor what and where students are visiting when using the computers. This appliance is updated daily to keep up with the number of "bad" sites that are out there.

Parents, please note that students should not be bringing personal computers to school for any reason. Computer labs can be used with data being brought to school on memory keys, CDs, or by personal email accounts. Because of the potential for loss or damage to these expensive items, they should be left at home. All data projectors for students to use have a laptop attached and during class time, each student has a computer to use.

Guidance – TYS

On Friday, September 26th liaisons from four Christian colleges and universities visited TYS to talk with graduating students. In the afternoon, all grade 12 students attended the Ontario Universities' Fair at the Metro Convention Centre. Students investigated and talked with representatives from universities of their choice. Beforehand, students investigated the universities by visiting the online websites www.ouf.ca and <http://electronicinfo.ca>.

The CCU Fair (Christian Colleges and University Fair) will be held at The People's Church (374 Sheppard Ave. E) on Sunday, November 9th from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more information, see <http://www.ccufairs.ca>.

The TYS Bulletin Board (www.yorkland.on.ca/bb) also has many resources for you to view under the Guidance Info section.

Miss Lee will be scheduling appointments with each graduating student as well as students in Grade 11 throughout the upcoming weeks. Parents/Students are encouraged to contact Miss E. Lee for any guidance concerns.

Choir - NTCS

Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, October 16th for students in grades 2 - 6 under the leadership of Mrs. Rebecca Cober and Mrs. Judy McKinnon. Rehearsals will be held during the 2nd lunch break, 1:15-1:50 p.m. in the extended care room, 109.

Assemblies - TYS

Parents are always welcome to visit the school and attend our chapel services. This month on Friday, October 10th, Pastor Ed and his wife Ligia will be visiting from Nicaragua and will share what God is doing in Bluefields, Nicaragua as they serve the families and children in this impoverished area. His wife founded Verbo Christian School and Pastor Ed helps and serves his community – many of whom live in and around the local town dump.

Please keep them in prayer as they travel and pray that we would all hear what God has to say to us through them as they share about their ministry. Chapel starts at 10:15 a.m.

Electronics Policy - TYS

Parents, please remember the policy with respect to electronics (ie: mp3 players, iPods, gaming devices, and CELL PHONES). Students **should not** be using any of the above mentioned electronic devices while on school property. In the event of an emergency, please phone the school office to leave a message. If your son/daughter needs to contact you there are two payphones available.

Moms2Moms Sale – NTCS/TYS

A Moms2Moms sale will be held from 1-4 p.m. on October 19th in the track area at TYS. This is a sale where you can rent a table and sell your children's used clothes, toys, books, or buy the same from other Moms who want to pass on their child's things to another. You can come as a seller or as a buyer. Admission is \$1 which will be donated to charity. If you want to rent a table, please contact Wanda Bengio at awbengio@sympatico.ca or phone (416) 635-8562 for more details. Snacks and coffee will be available as well.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Distribution Trip to Uruguay

Last winter, Mrs. Roberta Moran, who most of you know from the school office at TYS, had the opportunity to be a part of a distribution trip with Samaritan's Purse Shoebox program. Please read the following report she has written about her trip as you consider your involvement in the shoebox program this year.

'I was invited to take part in a shoebox distribution trip to Uruguay this past February. The trip consisted of 12 distributions, 1,118 boxes given to children, along with 1,118 "Greatest Gift of All" booklets and 2500 km of bus rides with a group of 24 people from across Canada. At each location, children were invited to attend a festival. The festivals were held in very small, plain, but clean church sanctuaries, gymnasiums, village squares, run-down houses, or even outdoors. Children came wearing their very best clothes, things our children wear everyday. The gospel message of Jesus Christ was always presented with passion in the form of puppetry, drama, clowns, balloons, music and then preaching by a children's pastor. The message was always about letting Jesus clean you from the inside out. There was always an invitation for the children to commit their lives to Jesus. The children showed their decision by raising their hands. Local churches will continue with discipleship training and the giving of New Testament Bibles to the children. Samaritan's Purse has local leaders who co-ordinate and teach others how to present the gospel and to arrange for the distribution of the shoeboxes. The boxes are arranged in order by age, boy and girl. So you can picture this—200 children sitting on the floor. They have just heard how much Jesus loves them and one of the adults asks them if they like to receive presents. Of course they do! So they sit patiently to receive one of the shoeboxes that God has provided for them, through you. Then all together, 1,2,3, they are allowed to open them. Different reactions are witnessed. One little boy started to cry thinking he was not worthy to receive a gift. Some open the boxes and then close them in bewilderment. Then they begin to get really excited and they slowly go through the box and touch all the

items. The candies start to find their way into the mouths of these beautiful faces. Toothbrushes are held up. Jewellery is put on. Toy cars are taken out and played with. The mothers and children tenderly pick up the school supplies and look at each other in amazement. Grandparents thank you for the school supplies. The pretty little socks bring squeals of delight. One mother is very grateful for a spool of white thread to finish a school uniform. Baseball caps land on heads. Perfectly sized sandals for the girl whose worn-out ones were falling apart are received with joy. Then they come and kiss you good-bye and thank you for the boxes. These gifts would be considered extravagant. The families might have seven or eight children. At Christmas, they would not receive very much. School supplies are very expensive and parents are not able to provide them for their children. For some children, it would be the first time they would receive anything brand new. Yes, there was excitement over a bar of soap! One of the highlights for me was to share the message of salvation through an interpreter and a mother of five children gave her life to Jesus. I was able to purchase a Bible for her through donations that were given to me for this trip. Many generations will be blessed because of her decision. Jesus said it was more blessed to give than to receive. He knew why. What a wonderful work you have each done with your participation in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox program. THE CHILDREN THANK YOU! Mrs. Roberta Moran.

Scholarships

There are many scholarships available to graduating students. Please stop by to see Miss Lee for more information or for application forms. Information is placed in the main office as well as on the online bulletin board. An example is the following -

The TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership, one of the largest and most prestigious scholarship programs in Canada. The value of each scholarship has increased up to \$70,000.

Scholarships are for those in their final year of high school across Canada who have shown exceptional initiative in making a meaningful and lasting difference in their community. The scholarship includes: (1) full tuition to any approved university or college in Canada, (2) \$7500 a year towards living expenses, and (3) an offer of paid employment at TD Canada Trust, access to mentorship opportunities and invitations to annual gatherings and events.

Key Criterion: outstanding community leadership, in conjunction with high academic performance.

Deadline for application is October 31, 2008. For more info: www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship