



North Toronto Christian School The Yorkland School

MARCH 2009 NEWSLETTER

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

Calendar for 08/09 School Year

Ski Day – NTCS/TYS	Tue	Mar 03
March Break	Fri/Mon	Mar 13-23
Spiritual Emphasis Wk – TYS	Tue-Fri	Mar 24-27
Literacy Test – grade 10	Thu	Apr 02
Easter Weekend Holiday	Fri/Mon	Apr 10 – 13
ACSI swim meet at TYS	Wed	Apr 15
Math Olympiad	Thu	Apr 16
Term 2 – Interim Reports-TYS	Fri	Apr 24
Victoria Day holiday	Mon	May 18
Fun Fair – NTCS	Fri	May 29
Final Exams – grades 9-12	Thu-Fri	Jun 11-19
Final Exams – grades 7-8	Mon-Fri	Jun 15-19
Last day of school (JK - 12)	Fri	Jun 19

March Break – NTCS/TYS

Note the dates above, but especially note that we are taking the Friday before the week off as well as the Monday after the week.

March Break Day Camp - NTCS

During March Break, Monday, March 16th to Friday, March 20, TYS will be offering a day-camp program for elementary aged students. Registration forms are in both school offices. The program is intended for NTCS students, but if you have neighbours and friends who would like to attend along with your child, please encourage them to register as well. Extended care will be offered from 7:30 a.m. in the morning until 5:30 p.m. in the evening. We are planning an active program with swimming each day and other sports, games, crafts, Bible studies, worship times and some surprises too!

Camp Ke-Mon-Oya!!

Registrations are coming in rapidly for our summer camping program at Chandos. To avoid disappointment later, please get your registration form in quickly while there is still space available. Application forms are available at both schools. Registrations will be received on a first-come, first-served basis. The first three weeks will be **kids camp** starting Monday, July 6th (for students entering grades 3 - 6 in September); the last four weeks will be **youth camp** starting Monday, July 27th (grade 7 – 10 students). When you make your summer plans, consider a week or more at camp for your son or daughter – it can truly be a life-changing experience.

Enrolment – NTCS/TYS

A reminder - to all families and students in Grade 6 at NTCS who are planning to register for Grade 7 at TYS for the 09/10 school year. If you have not already indicated your interest in attending Grade 7, please do so immediately at either school office so that a place can be reserved for your child. Thanks to those who have already registered and to the many families who came to the recent TYS Open House to learn more about the junior and high school programs. If you know now that your son/daughter will not be returning to NTCS and/or TYS, please advise us in writing as soon as the decision has been made so that we can offer the place to others. Your intention will be held in confidence if it is addressed in writing to the office.

Swim School – NTCS/TYS

Registration forms are now available at both schools for the Swim Kids badge program. If you are interested in registering your child for swimming lessons, you are encouraged to do so as soon as possible as classes fill quickly for the spring session that begins on **April 3rd**. Lessons are offered on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, with private lessons being offered on Thursdays only. Please note that we are not offering lessons on Mondays this session so spaces will fill up more quickly.

Elementary Division; North Toronto Christian School, 50 Page Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2K 2B4; (416) 226-3366
 High School Division; The Yorkland School, 255 Yorkland Blvd., Willowdale, Ontario M2J 1S3; (416) 491-7667
 Outdoor Education Division; Chandos O/E Center, General Delivery, Apsley, Ontario KOL 1A0; (705) 656-2966
 E-mail: admin@yorkland.on.ca Website: www.yorkland.on.ca

Registration forms are available on the TYS website (www.yorkland.on.ca). Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross classes are also being offered this Spring session on Saturday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. The dates for the classes are May 2, 9, 23 and June 6. We are also offering an **Instructor Course** on two weekends in April. The dates are April 3rd – 5th and 17th – 19th. Check the school website for information on all of these programs or contact Mr. Schenk at aschenk@yorkland.on.ca for more information. Please note that during the Spring session of swimming there are no lessons offered on Easter weekend (April 10th – 13th) or the Victoria Day weekend (May 16th – 18th).

Grade 10 Literacy Test - TYS

Parents and students should note that the 2009 EQAO Literacy Test is scheduled for Thursday, April 2nd. All students must pass this test to graduate from high school. If your son/daughter is in grade 10 or did not pass the test in previous years, he/she will write this test on April 2nd. If they are sick or away for any reason, they must wait until 2010 to write the test. There are no makeup days. Please ensure your child is at school on that day.

To prepare students for the test, there are sample tests available. These are posted on the school bulletin board at <http://www.yorkland.on.ca/bb> under the category "The Yorkland School News."

Speech Meets – NTCS

Our annual grade 3 and 4 speech meet was held in the gymnasium on Friday, February 13th and the grade 1 and 2 meet was held on Friday, February 20th. Congratulations to all who participated -

Grade 1

Taylor Wilson	1 st place
Alan Mak	2 nd place
Amanda Cheng	3 rd place
Gabrielle Lai	4 th place

Grade 2

Ethan Appadurai	1 st place
Ingrid Leung	2 nd place
Zachary Schenk	3 rd place
Matthew He / Meagan Tse	4 th place

Grade 3

Megan Chan	1 st place
Jory Seath	2 nd place
Juliana Lee	3 rd place
Aaron Li	4 th place

Grade 4

Jessie Kim	1 st place
Dominic Kon	2 nd place
Olivia Embry	3 rd place
Daniel Meikhal	4 th place

Graduation Rings - TYS

Graduating students and parents are reminded that custom-designed graduation rings are available for order for students wishing to purchase a memento of their TYS high school career. A sample of the ring is in the school office for any interested students or parents to see, as well as order forms.

Basketball – NTCS

On Tuesday, February 24th, the junior girls' basketball team participated in the annual ACSI tournament at Philopateer CS in Mississauga. They competed against six other Christian schools and came away with a **second place finish**. Congratulations to the girls who practiced diligently and played with enthusiasm, determination and discipline. Thanks to the coach, **Mrs. Moore**, for her good work with the team and for the help of the manager, Natasha Symons.

Tabitha Allman	Natalie Marcuzzi
Lianne So	Julia Cooke
Sophia Jung	Renae Appadurai
Sydni Taffe	Yena Lee
Jessica Edward	Victoria Chan

Basketball - NTCS

The junior boys' basketball team finished in **first place** out of six schools at the annual ACSI basketball tournament held at Brampton CS on Saturday, February 21st. The games were mostly won quite handily as the boys were the 'class' of the tournament led by the scoring of Timothy Yee and the playmaking of Zach Wilson. Special thanks to rookie coach, Caleb Lau, who won his first major tournament as coach, student Natasha Symons who helped as manager of the team and to parent, Jeff Wilson, for driving the team to the tournament and for his help refereeing the games.

Dylan Chau	Alex Klas
Timothy Yee	Vincent Lee
Christopher Leung	Nathan Cho
Zachary Wilson	Bryan Mo
Daniel Meikhal	Dominic Kon

Swim Team Results - TYS

The high school swim team participated in the annual TDCAA swim meet on February 11th at the Etobicoke Olympium. TYS finished in 4th place out of a total of 18 schools. For a small school, this was an excellent achievement. The junior boys' division of the team actually came in first place to earn a TDCAA Championship Banner. Students who placed in the top six in their events were -

Midget Boys

Osmond Xie	50M breaststroke	2 nd place
	50M freestyle	3 rd place
	50M backstroke	1 st place

Junior Boys

John Sherret	50M freestyle	3 rd place
	100M freestyle	3 rd place
Brandon Brown	50M breaststroke	5 th place
	50M freestyle	5 th place
	50M backstroke	4 th place
Peter Newell	50M backstroke	6 th place
Joshua Yew	50M butterfly	4 th place
	50M backstroke	1 st place
	100 M Ind. Medley	1 st place OFSAA
Joshua Y., Brandon B., Dan Klas., John S.	200M freestyle relay	1 st place OFSAA

Junior Girls

Anca Draghiciu	50M breaststroke	4 th place
	50M butterfly	1 st place OFSAA
Ioana Draghiciu	50M freestyle	3 rd place
	50M butterfly	3 rd place
	50M backstroke	2 nd place
Sarah Moore, Lauren Chan, Anca D., Ioana D.	200M medley relay	1 st place OFSAA

Open Girls

Jackie Alexander	100M breaststroke	5 th place
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Senior Boys

Sam Moore	100M breaststroke	1 st place OFSAA
	50M freestyle	3 rd place
	100M Ind. Medley	1 st place OFSAA
Paul Klas	50M butterfly	3 rd place
	100M freestyle	4 th place
Chris Lau	100M breaststroke	4 th place
	100M backstroke	4 th place
Sam M., Neil Grenade, Chris L., Paul K.	200M freestyle relay	3 rd place
Jason Kim, Sam M., Paul K., Chris L.	200M medley relay	3 rd place

Senior Girls

Enya Malnis	50M freestyle	1 st place
	200M freestyle	1 st place
	100M freestyle	1 st place OFSAA
		for all 3

Final Exams - TYS

The final exams are scheduled for June 11-19 (grades 10-12) and June 15-19 (grades 7-9). The only exceptions allowed will be for absences confirmed by a doctor's note. Please ensure that any family vacation plans do not overlap with these important year-end evaluations.

Science Fair - TYS

Each year, Mrs. Cottrill's grade 8 science students produce projects that are presented in a Science Fair. The students are currently working hard in preparation for the Fair on March 11th/12th when the projects will be judged and the students will be interviewed about their work. **Parents are welcome to come to the school on Wednesday and up to 3 p.m. on Thursday to view the interesting projects.**

Children First Program – NTCS/TYS

This program, sponsored by the Fraser Institute, is accepting applications for the 09/10 school year until **March 31, 2009**. This current year, 1000 students at more than 200 independent schools across Ontario are grant recipients. The program offers tuition assistance grants, so that parents who could not otherwise afford it can choose an independent elementary school for their children. The grant amounts to 50% of the tuition to an annual maximum of \$4,000. The grants are available to the students **until they complete grade 8**, as long as they remain financially eligible and in good standing at school. If you are interested, the easiest way to apply is to go online at www.childrenfirstgrants.ca where you can apply directly online or print out a copy of the application form and mail it to them.

Basketball – TYS

Congratulations to the grade 7/8 girls' basketball team who competed in the annual ACSI tournament on Wednesday, February 11th. The girls were undefeated all day to finish in **first place** for the second year in a row! The team got off to a strong start with Florence and Emily's excellent shots, Nikki and Melanie's effective defense and Rian's drives to the basket. They maintained their strong play with the help of Samantha's ball handling, Bethany's hustle, Kaitlin's steals, Cindy's rebounds, Claudia's long range shots, Deborah's passes and Mindy's enthusiasm. Every single player scored some points! Thanks to Mr. Primmer for his coaching of the team.

Emily Cooke	Bethany Lahn
Melanie Yu	Mindy Kim
Florence Ip	Claudia Chan
Kaitlyn Smith	Cindy Mouawad
Niquesha Norris	Riann Grant
Samantha Lau	Deborah Kwok

Biology Field Trip - TYS

Dr. Newsted's grade 12 biology class recently attended the DNA fingerprinting workshop at the Ontario Science Center. It was a full day laboratory workshop where students learn state-of-the-art techniques in molecular biology. Success of the participants depends on careful and precise laboratory procedure. He reports that all the students were successful in amplifying their own DNA and was told by the coordinator that a 100% success rate for a class is very rare (maybe once in a year). Congratulations to all of the students involved!

Band Festivals - TYS

Here is a message from the Ontario Band Association Festival coordinator, Mr. Mark Caswell, after the TYS Junior Band (Grade 9) and the Concert Band (Grade 10-12) performed at the OBA festival on Feb 11th/12th in Thornhill. "On behalf of the Ontario Band Association, I would like to congratulate Mr. Birdsell and the TYS bands for their wonderful performances at the 7th OBA Band Festival. The OBA Festival is the largest concert band festival in Ontario and has become a well recognized event in Canada. Based on a formal rating system, the standards of adjudication at this festival are extremely high and you should be proud of both your students and their teacher, Mr. Birdsell. I am very pleased to inform you that The Yorkland School Junior Band has received a **Silver Award** for their excellent performance at the festival."

I would like to add my congratulations to Mr. Birdsell and to the instrumentalists for this fine achievement.

Thanks

My personal thanks to all the teachers and to the many parents who assisted with our Fall and Winter outdoor education trips to Chandos this year. Without your willingness to be involved, these trips would not have been possible.

World Vision - TYS

This year the TYS student body will participate in the World Vision 30 Hour Famine on Friday, April 3rd & 4th. These dates coincide with the larger, nationwide, World Vision 30 Hour Famine drive. Every year the students, with your support and encouragement, have raised significant funds to help deal with poverty and social concerns around the world. This year there is a plan to direct funds raised by TYS to a specific project that World Vision is doing in places such as Uganda and Kenya. More details on the events of the day will be available later, but if any students approach you to support them, please do so generously to encourage them to participate in this activity that focuses their attention on the needy in this world.

Reports – NTCS

Second term reports for grades JK through grade 6 will be sent home with your son/daughter on Thursday, March 12th. Since the majority of the students are doing just fine, we do not schedule personal parent/teacher interviews after this report like we do in the Fall, but if you have concerns or want to have a private visit with your child's teacher, please call the office and we will arrange a mutually suitable time for you.

Next Year – NTCS/TYS

Attached to this month's Newsletter is a sheet requesting information about your intentions for next year. Please read the letter carefully and respond quickly. Enrolment is the key to our revenues, so it is critically important that we have as exact a number as possible when planning for the coming school year. If we miss our enrolment projections by any significant amount, the difference between our revenue and our expenses narrows dangerously. Currently, we are operating from a strong financial position, but in this kind of economic environment, it is important that we do not let our expenses get out of control. So your cooperation in providing us with this key piece of information is very much appreciated.

Note: if you have made the decision that your son/daughter will NOT be returning to the school next year, please be assured that if you return the attached form directly to the school office, as requested, that your decision will be held in strict confidence – neither the teacher nor fellow students will know of your decision until you choose to tell them. The information will be used by the office for planning purposes only.