



**JOHN KNOX**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL • WYOMING

# KNOX TALKS



Ephesians 2:10

**“We Are His Workmanship”**

Theme Verse 2023-2024

## Graduation

The John Knox Christian School community is invited to attend the grade eight graduation on Wednesday, June 19. The ceremony will begin at 7:00pm at Peoples Church at 3888 London Line. All students in grades JK through grade seven have been working on a song to present at the graduation. We encourage all families to come out to this community event. Students will sit with their parents and then be called up to the front when it is time to sing.

## Wyoming Fall Fair

The Plympton-Wyoming Agricultural Society will visit JKCS on Tuesday morning to present details about the September fall fair. Students will hear about ways they can participate throughout the summer through activities like baking, building, crafting, and raising animals. Our students will participate in this special community event by marching in the September fair and creating a bulletin board of artwork.

## Staffing Update

We are grateful for God’s provision of faithful Christian teachers at John Knox Christian School. Knowing that God’s timing is always good, we are thrilled to share that after a one-year wait, Nadia VanWyk has been approved to move from South Africa to Canada! Nadia is an experienced teacher who has a passion for teaching the sciences, math, and sports. We look forward to welcoming Nadia to the John Knox community this summer.

**Monday,**  
June 17, 2024

## *Upcoming Events*

### Monday, June 17

School-wide practice at Peoples Church 9am  
Gr 8s visit the Inn of the Good Shepherd  
Helping Hands Meeting

### Tuesday, June 18

Visit from The Plympton-Wyoming Agricultural Society  
Last Day for JK

### Wednesday, June 19

Chapel 9am - Honouring the Grads  
Last Day for SK  
Staff & Grad Pizza Lunch 12:15pm  
Grade 8 Dismissal 1:00pm  
Graduation 7:00pm @ Peoples Church

### Thursday, June 20

Lakewood Trip Grades 1-7 (all day)

### Friday, June 21

Last Day of School - Early Dismissal 1pm

## Early Dismissal

Students will be dismissed at 1:00pm on Friday.

## Staffing

We are still looking to fill positions for a teacher (LTO from August to January), and a PSW for the upcoming school year. Please share this information with anyone who may be interested in joining our team!

## Farewell

We wish a fond farewell to the educators who are moving on from John Knox. Thank you to Miss Konzelmann for her endless joy in first grade, and to Ms. VanOorsponk for her dedication to the JKs and our Resource program. We thank our LTO staff: Mr. Boersma and Mrs. Deelstra in grade 7, and Mrs. Koetsier and Miss Hiemstra in grade 8. We appreciate all of the meaningful work you've done for our senior students and are thankful to God for your presence here this year. Mrs. de Schiffert will be starting maternity leave this summer, and we pray for God's blessings upon the de Schiffert family as they prepare for a new baby.

## Lakewood

Our annual trip to Lakewood Christian Campground is a wonderful way to wrap up the school year together! On Thursday, June 20, Grades 1-7 will be traveling to Lakewood shortly after our arrival at school. We will split into groups to enjoy swimming, games, and the playground. Helping Hands will be providing a pizza lunch for the students. Here are some other notes for the day:

-Please pack for swimming in the pool (towel, sunscreen, swimsuit) (girls must wear a one-piece or a t-shirt over top).

-You may send your children with a lifejacket or puddle jumper. Please do not send other pool toys.

- Students should have snacks and a water bottle for the day.

Volunteers are invited to join classes; please contact your child's teacher if you're available!

-Senior students will have a swim test in order to swim in the deep end of the pool. Younger children will be in the shallow end regardless of ability.

-Please get in touch with the school office if you are a qualified lifeguard and willing to volunteer.

## School Jerseys

Please return all school jerseys to the school office by this Wednesday, June 19.

## Lost and Found

Lost and found items will be donated at the end of the school year. Please stop by the school to check for your child's belongings. Thanks!

## Catering Help Needed

If you are able to help serve, prep or need more information for any of the following dates please contact Samantha Boer at [boer.samantha@outlook.com](mailto:boer.samantha@outlook.com) or 226-402-3308.

June 21 - food prep  
June 22 - prep, serving or dishwashing  
July 12 - food prep  
July 13 - prep, serving or dishwashing  
July 20 - food prep  
August 8 - food prep  
August 9 - prep, serving or dishwashing  
August 23 - food prep  
August 24 - prep, serving or dishwashing

## Library News

Congratulations to Grades 3, 5 and 6 who brought ALL of their library books back by only *one day after* the scheduled day :) They earned an early dismissal and a freezie as their prize last week.

There are still a few books that need to be found and returned. You will know if this is relevant to your family, as fine notices will be going home today or tomorrow. **Please either return the book(s) or pay the fine by Friday.** If you happen to find your missing book(s) over the summer, we will refund your money. The fine amount is \$10 per book.

## Summer Vouchers and Payouts

Vouchers will be available to purchase throughout the summer at the school. Voucher dates are: July 11 and July 25/August 8 and August 22

If you would like a payout in June, please send in a signed note letting us know how much you would like applied to your tuition

## Bus Drivers Needed

John Knox Christian School is looking to hire additional School Bus Drivers for the coming 2024/2025 school year. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Ryan Sipkens by phone or email for more information. 519-331-6428 or [ryansipkens@gmail.com](mailto:ryansipkens@gmail.com)

## Save the Date

School cleaning is planned for August 21. More info will come via email over the summer.

# Classroom News

## Kinderstart (A)

Mrs. Robinson

Memory Work: Romans 3:22-24

We are also learning the song, "Trust In God" (Elevation Music - Radio Version).

Bible: We will review some of our favourite Bible stories of the past year.

Shared Snacks: Monday - Yana

Weekly Theme: We will wrap up our year by reflecting on what we have done and what we plan to do on our summer break!

Show and Tell: During these last few days of school, students are welcome to bring in an item of their choosing. Both JK boys and girls can bring an item on Tuesday as it is their final day.

Happy Birthday! There are some summer birthdays to acknowledge! Birthday wishes are extended to Teddy on June 27, Sophie on July 11, Koegn on August 3 and Porter on August 12. Happy Birthday, friends!

Schedule Notes: The last day of JK is Tuesday, June 18 and the last day of SK is Wednesday, June 19. Both classes will receive their report cards on their last day of school.

Last Days! Both classes will have extra items to bring home on their last day of school. It would be helpful if students had a sturdy reusable bag in addition to their backpacks in which to pack extra things.

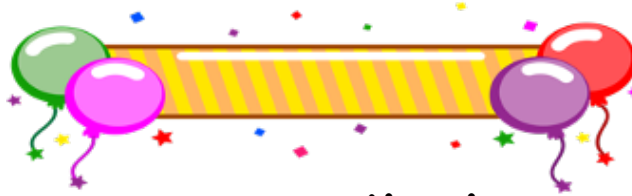
Thank You and Goodbye! I want to thank my students for a wonderful year in KinderStart! It was amazing to see the growth in all of the students. They truly brought a smile to my face everyday! It is my prayer that God will bless and watch over each one and their families during the summer break. See you in September!



# Classroom News

**Kinderstart (B)**

**Ms. VanOorspronk**



**Hooray, summer vacation is very near!**

**Star Student:** Everyone

**Show and Tell:** All students may bring something for show and tell!

**Memory Work:** Give thanks to the Lord. We are thankful for a successful year in JK!

**Bible:** You (students) choose 3 stories.



\*Because it is the last day we will celebrate with games and activities throughout the day! \*We will have a few water games where a little bit of water may spill so if you would like to have your child bring shoes that could tolerate water that would be great.



Many thanks to the Lissons for hosting our lunch during the field trip. Thank you to Mrs. Deelstra and Mrs. Pike who accompanied us. We had a great day!

Thank you to all of you for a wonderful year in JK. It has been a privilege to walk alongside your child as they journeyed through their first school year at JKCS. May you all have a blessed, and joy-filled summer! - Ms. Van Oorspronk

# Classroom News

## Grade 1 (A)

### Mrs. Siertsema

As we start this last week, I just wanted to take a minute to say thank you to each of you who has been supporting your child's education this whole year! Grade 1 is a big step from Kindergarten, not to mention a teacher change part way through the year. Thank you for being there for your student; for helping him/her study for his/her spelling test, for helping with his/her poem recitation, for helping him/her continue to learn what it means to be respectful and to work hard at school, even when they would rather be playing. Thank you for your support of me as I worked hard to teach your children. Thank you for your patience when I did things differently than Mrs. Tetreault. Thank you for entrusting your beautiful, inquisitive, friendly, fun-loving children to me. I hope that they have had a wonderful year and have learned a lot. I was definitely blessed to have a front row seat as they grew this year, especially in their reading abilities. Thank you!

This week in between all of the fun activities and cleaning that we will be doing, we will also wrap up our last units:

**Math:** Adding and subtracting numbers up to 50

**Bible:** The Exile

**Science:** Building

**Writing:** Poetry

**Memory work:** Proverbs 3:3-6 ESV Part 4 this week!

(part 1) Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

(part 2) So you will find favour and good success in the sight of God and man.

(part 3) Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

**(part 4) In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.**

There will be no spelling this week.

Keep an eye out for work coming home this week.

This Thursday is our school trip to Lakewood. Please send your students with a labeled water bottle, towel, bathing suit, puddle jumper/life jacket, snacks and a change of clothes. We are still looking for volunteers to come with our class. If you would like to come along, please send me a message. Thank you so much!

We are looking forward to a great last week!

# Classroom News

## Grade 1 (B)

### Miss Konzelmann

Congratulations to everyone for making it to this final week of school! It has been truly the greatest blessing being able to be a part of this year and getting to know each of your special children. I am incredibly proud of every student that has been a part of this class and how much work and effort they have shown. I would also like to give a huge thank you to all of you parents who put in your time working with your children to support them from home, or those of you who committed to coming along on a field trip this year. It never goes unnoticed!

**Phonics:** We will be covering small amounts of review this week as we will be quite busy catching up on other curriculum! There will be no spelling test!

**Math:** We will wrap up learning how to regroup numbers to 50 with addition and subtraction. The students have been enjoying being able to solve big math problems!

**Writing:** We will finish up the year by some bucket lists for the summer and writing in our journals.

**Science:** We are learning various building structures and processes. This week we will be learning about what shapes are found in different structures, the strength of each shape, and various key factors of building bridges (arch and beam).

**Wednesday clean up:** We will be clearing out our desks on Wednesday to allow a smoother finish for Friday. I ask that you could bring an extra bag along with your child in case they do not have enough room in their backpacks to take everything home.

**Lakewood:** It would be lovely if we had a few more volunteers to come along with us to Lakewood on Thursday. We will be spending the day outside enjoying the pool during our schedule time, lawn games, playing on the playground, and a short hike. It is calling for quite hot weather so please make sure your child brings plenty of water and food along with sunscreen and a hat and lifejacket (or puddle jumpers). We will be able to enjoy the pool but the students will be asked to do a small swim test in order to swim without a life jacket.

# Classroom News

## Grade 2

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### Mrs. Ferguson

It has been such a blessing teaching each of you this year. I wish you all a wonderful summer as you take some time to rest and spend time with your families and friends. This week we will focus on some fun review activities and Wednesday we will clean up our room and bring home our school supplies. This would be a good day to bring in a reusable grocery bag to take home our supplies.

**Year End Field Trip:** Our year end field trip to Lakewood is this Thursday. This will be a fun day of swimming and outdoor play as well as a small hike. A pizza lunch will be provided. Please pack items for swimming (towel and bathing suit) as well as sunscreen, bug spray, snacks, and a water bottle for the day. Life jackets are encouraged for those that are not strong swimmers. There will be lifeguards at the pool. Please let me know if your child will need help or a reminder to apply sunscreen that day. Thank you to those that volunteered to join us. I am still looking for two more parents. Let me know if you are able to join us.

**Reading Calendar** - June calendars can be returned this Friday for a small prize from my bin. Thank you parents for your help with our reading program this year.

**Summer Birthdays** - If your child has a summer birthday we will celebrate with them this Wednesday. Feel free to send in a small treat if you want!

**Year End Celebration** - This Friday is our last day together so we will have a small class party. If your child has a special game that they would like to bring on Friday to play with the class they are welcome to. Please let me know if you would like to send in a treat for the class. This day will be an early release with the buses leaving the school at 1:00.

# Classroom News

## Grade 3

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### Mrs. Bouma

**And the last week is here!** Some students are super excited about that and others have mixed feelings. As a teacher, I have mixed feelings too - I have enjoyed working with these students over the last 10 months and now I have to send them off! May God bless them and you, their families, with a wonderful and safe summer!

**What are we going to do this week?** We will still read, have fun with probability, watch and listen to some instruments give life to an old story, review our French vocabulary, have choir practice, say good-bye to our Grade 8 graduates, play some games, and clean up the classroom.

On Wednesday, the plan is to have the students empty most of their desk and take a lot of their classroom belongings home. We will keep their pencils, pencil crayons, and markers to use on Friday yet - but folders, duotangs, etc will go home so sending an **extra bag** would be helpful.

**And Lakewood on Thursday:** We will hike, use the playgrounds, and enjoy the pool! Lunch will be provided but please send lots of water (it's going to be a hot one!) and some hearty snacks. Sunscreen, bug spray, hats, swimming suit, towel, and an extra bag for wet bathing suits are all necessities to make our day away great! If your child is more comfortable with a life jacket, please send that along as well. We would still welcome one or two more volunteers!

### Mrs. Pries

Happy Last Week of School! It has been a joy getting to know your child and teaching them this year. I hope you have a wonderful summer as a family!

This week we will be doing educational activities. We will also be reflecting on our Gr. 3 experience: what we learned and how we grew this year!

**Friday:** Our last day of school, I will be with the students the second half of the day. We will be enjoying games and snacks. If you would like to send in a snack or treat, you are more than welcome!



# Classroom News

## Grade 4

### Mrs. Noordam

Welcome to the last week of school! This week will consist of finishing up units, creating a grade four memory book, cleaning out our desks and tidying up the classroom. We will be practicing for the graduation song as well as joining the assembly to honour the grade 8s! This will be an exciting week especially as we have our school-wide field trip to Lakewood on Thursday! I wish you all a wonderful summer break!

**Lakewood:** Helping Hands will provide a free pizza lunch at Lakewood! Students should pack snacks, drinks, swimsuit, towel, an optional life jacket (no pool toys), and sunscreen. Please let me know if you would like to help out for this full day adventure .

# Classroom News

## Grade 5

### Mrs. Raja

Thursday's trip to Rock Glen was such a beautiful joy. It blessed my soul greatly to watch your children soak up all the simple and good pleasures that God has afforded us: fellowship, breaking bread together, finding adventure in creation, and frolicking under the waterfall. We even caught a few fish! It was all so simple, so special, and a day I will remember fondly.

This is my last Knox Talks of the school year, so it must be said, your children are wonderful! Rarely, is there a class that is so unified, compassionate, and joyful. Yes, there were times of correction, usually because they were over enthusiastic, but for the most part they were willing pupils and faithful disciples. I pray they continue to look out for one another as the years progress.

We will need some parent volunteers for Thursday's Lakewood trip; please consider joining gr. 5. Let me know via email if you are interested.

As for this week, we are building wooden candy dispensers as our year-end gift. We painted all the pieces today. If you have a small hammer, please bring it to school on Tuesday. Wednesday, we will be taking the majority of our school supplies home. Please send a few reusable bags to school for all the extras coming home that day. Wednesday, we will also have a "very merry UNbirthday party" for our friends who celebrate in the summer. It'll be our classroom party. Board games and crafts are welcome activities for the day. We also have paracord bracelets to make that we never got to on our field trip.

How can you support your child and ensure a smoother transition back into school for the fall? By setting aside time for your child to read leisurely over the summer. Many students LOVED Scott O'Dell's *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, and reading another novel by him may be a good place to start. Also keeping flashcards etc. handy in the car when you have 5-10 minutes to travel is a great way to keep their timetables fresh and recall time low.

Finally, thank you for the honour and privilege of teaching your children. I do not take it lightly. I appreciate every ounce of grace and mercy I have received. I am thankful for our classroom community and the joy of being with them day in, day out this year.

### Mrs. Tetreault

It has been an honour and a privilege to teach you this year, grade 5! It was an unexpected change, but certainly a blessing to work with you all! I've enjoyed our time together learning math, Bible and music, and I hope that you continue to grow and learn through the summer. Read widely, practice those times tables, and pick up an instrument (even if it's just your voice!) to give praise to your Maker. I am grateful for the time we had together, and I wish you God's blessings as you move on to grade 6.

- Mrs. Tetreault

# Classroom News

## Grade 6

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### Mrs. Kamel

This is our last week of school! What an exciting, great accomplishment for all of our students (and teachers). Parents, your children have been a treasure to me and I am thankful and feel privileged that I was able to educate them this year. Thank you for entrusting them into my care.

This week will be a little bit of a wild ride. We will start off on Monday going straight to Peoples church for a full choir practice. Monday and Tuesday will also be full curriculum days for the grade 6's.

On Wednesday we will wrap up our curriculum studies. Students will begin to clean up their things in our classroom. **Please bring a couple reusable grocery bags to school so that your child can easily transport their belongings back home.** Wednesday we will also have a farewell chapel for our grade 8 students. Lastly, Wednesday evening will be the graduation ceremony for the grade 8 students. I strongly encourage all students to attend.

Thursday will be a fun day at Lakewood for the entire school. **I do not have any parent volunteers yet and I need 2/3. If you are able to attend please text or email me.** Be sure your child has the proper gear for this trip (sunscreen, towels, hat... it looks to be a hot one, water, bathing suits, insect repellent, etc). I believe that there will be pizza supplied by Helping Hands for the students this day so you don't have to make lunches (yay!), just maybe have some snacks packed for your child.

Friday will be our day of fun, farewells and food. If your child has a summer birthday and desires to bring a treat, this will be the day to do so. Please let me know if you want to bring in a treat for our class's last day together so we can get organized. We will do a little more clean up on this day as well and also help some of the younger classes do their classroom cleanup. **Early dismissal is at 1pm.**

Have an amazing summer!!

# Classroom News

## Grade 7

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### Mrs. DeBoer

Well, here we are in our last week of school together in grade seven! It's my pleasure and blessing to spend the week with this crew to close out the year.

This last week of school is a busy time and this is when Gr. 7 really takes on the mantle of leadership. We will have assigned work crews to take care of various tasks around the school from moving furniture and curriculum from room to room to helping younger grades clean their chairs and desks, along with other school-wide organizing tasks. If it needs doing around the school, we'll be in charge!

**Thank you!** We had an incredible time last week at Rock Glen learning how to use a GPS system, enjoying a hot dog lunch, fishing, exploring the waterfalls and learning the square knot to make paracord bracelets. A big thank you to our parent volunteers Mr & Mrs Elliot, Mrs MacDermid and Mrs Pool ,and to Mrs Raja for coordinating everything for our trip!

**Math:** We'll be taking a look at angles this week.

**History:** We'll be talking about government and the American revolution.

**Writing:** We continue to forge on with our journal writing and honing our technique for how to construct an excellent paragraph.

**School Trip:** The whole school is headed to Lakewood this Thursday for swimming, hiking, games and a pizza lunch. If any parents are interested in joining us for the day, please feel free (and please shoot me an email: [s.deboer@jkcswyoming.com](mailto:s.deboer@jkcswyoming.com)). You're welcome to bring along frisbees and your ball gloves (and baseballs) for this day. Students in the senior grades will have a swim test in order to swim in the deep end of the pool. Don't forget to bring your: swimsuit & towel, sunscreen, water bottle & snacks.

Have a blessed summer, all! I look forward to teaching this class again for French in the fall!

# Classroom News

## Grade 8

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### Miss Hiemstra

We've made it to the final week! Over the next couple of days, we'll be cleaning up the classroom, doing some fun activities, and celebrating these students' graduation. A few notes for this week:

- On Tuesday, students are encouraged to bring in a reusable grocery bag. This will make end-of-year cleanup easier!
- On Tuesday, we'll also be having a class party to celebrate our last full day of school. Although it is not mandatory by any means, students are welcome to bring in snacks and games!

All parents are welcome to attend the Grade 8 graduation chapel on Wednesday morning. We will have pizza at 12:15 before the 1:00 pm dismissal.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the students and parents of this class for an amazing term. They have been an incredible group to work with, and have made my first few months as a teacher a great experience. It has been a gift to teach this group for the past several months, and I wish them all the best as they move on from John Knox!

### Mrs. Koetsier

The work is (mostly!) done, the marks are in, and the big day is almost here! Today, along with practicing for grad and a tiny little bit of classroom time, we enjoyed being at the Inn of the Good Shepherd, learning about their work in the Sarnia area, and helping out in the kitchen and elsewhere.

This marks my last classroom day with the class. Congratulations, grade 8 (and parents)! It's my prayer that you all have a wonderful day of celebration on Wednesday, and that God will bless each one of you as you move on from here.

The kids' last art project is a pretty neat one, and is hanging on the wall outside the classroom. Feel free to wander down the hall before or after the grad dinner and have a look! These, as well as the rest of their projects, will be available for students who wish to take them home.

If there are any novels, geography or writing books lurking around at home yet, please return them tomorrow or Wednesday.

# **JKCS Grocery Vouchers:**

Voucher sales take place every Thursday from **1:30 –2:30 p.m.** in the **front lobby.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**NO FRILLS/SUPERSTORE/INDEPENDENT** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$250.00

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**FOODLAND** \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$250.00

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**TIM HORTONS** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00

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\*\*All Vouchers Subject to Availability\*\*

**CHEQUE TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **or** **CASH TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: J.K.C.S. VOUCHERS

4738 Confederation Line, P.O Box 81,  
Wyoming, Ontario, NoN iTo  
Ph: 519-845-3112 / Fax: 519-845-1404

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