



North Toronto Christian School

NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Remembrance Day Saturday, November 11th

Poppies will be available soon in the school office for a small donation.

All students, both in the elementary and high school grades, will be joining together for a Remembrance Day chapel on Friday, November 10th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Interim Reports Gr. 7-12	Nov 10
Term 1 Reports JK-Gr. 6	Nov 17
Parent/Teacher Interviews (all grades)	Nov 22, 23
PD Day (no school)	Nov 24
Christmas Break	Dec 25- Jan 05, 2024

Report Cards & Parent/Teacher Interviews

Grade 7 to 12 Interim Term 1 reports will be emailed to parents in the afternoon of **Friday, November 10th**. JK to Grade 6 reports will be emailed a week later, on **Friday, November 17th**.

All parent/teacher interviews, from JK to Grade 12, will be held through **Google Meets** OR **in person** as follows:

Wednesday, November 22nd - 4:30pm - 8:00pm - **Google Meets**
Thursday, November 23rd - 4:30pm - 8:00pm - **in person - in the track area**

Bookings will be scheduled through www.schoolinterviews.ca. Details for making your interview bookings will be emailed to all parents on **Friday, November 10th**. Bookings will open on **Friday, November 10th at 4:00 p.m.**, and **Google Meet links will be included in your confirmation email**. The deadline for booking an interview is **Tuesday, November 21st**, by 3:00pm.

If you have difficulty booking a time, please contact the school office and we will assist you. Interviews are strictly 10 minutes. We encourage you to focus your attention on the teachers of your child's core subjects, or those subjects which your child is finding challenging, especially if the teacher has requested an interview. In the elementary division, you should plan to meet with your child's homeroom teacher.

Please be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with your child's teacher(s).

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thank you to everyone who participated in donating to this year's Thanksgiving Food Drive! Many families will benefit from your donations, and the Grace Place Food Bank is incredibly grateful for our school's tremendous support.

In the JK-6 division, the top contributors were:

- 1st Place: Grade 2 (11,694 pts)
- 2nd Place: Grade 3 (3,152 pts)
- 3rd Place: Grade 4 (2,664 pts)

In the 7-12 division, the top contributors were:

- 1st Place: Grade 11 (4,001 pts)
- 2nd Place: Grade 7B (3,585 pts)
- 3rd Place: Grade 9B (1,081 pts)



Altogether, NTCS collected a total of **1,442 kilograms of food**, and a grand total of **37,648 points**! Many thanks to the members of the Service and Leadership Team for organizing and recording all of the food drive donations each day.

SaLT (Salt and Leadership Team)

Bible-Based Streaming Video Resources for NTCS Families

We are excited to share again this year that NTCS has unlimited access to RightNow Media — the world's largest streaming library of video Bible study resources (it's been called the "Netflix of Bible studies"). This extensive library has more than 20,000 professionally produced videos, many of which include interactive discussion guides. NTCS teachers are making use of this resource for homeroom devotions, Bible classes, and Chapel times at all grade levels.

[Follow this link to a video showcasing the features of RightNow Media.](#)

In addition to Bible study series, RightNow Media has videos on a variety of topics like marriage, parenting, personal finances, mental health, and more. There is even a library just for kids with over 2,000 safe, uplifting, and entertaining videos. RightNow Media has a free app that is available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anytime, anywhere.

We are happy to share this access as a gift to our high school students and all families (JK-12) connected with NTCS! To accept this offer, simply click the link below, create your free account, and start browsing. You will never be asked to pay for this service, and your account will never expire, even when your children are no longer students of NTCS. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing to all NTCS families!

[Click this link to create your free RightNow Media account](#)

Mr. D. Vant Erve, Vice-Principal

Vulnerable Sector Checks for Winter Chandos

We continue to accept Vulnerable Sector Checks from parents. As we prepare especially for our elementary winter Chandos trips, we are in need of parents who have submitted the documentation so that the students can participate in these highly anticipated excursions to our camp property. Without sufficient supervision for our elementary classes, we will not be able to send the students at certain grade levels. Please consider applying for the VSC as soon as possible as the process can take some time.

Toronto Police Services has their new online portal available for Vulnerable Sector Checks (VSC), and NTCS is registered with the organization code of: **202309TPSON25260**. You need this code for both the online portal at www.tps.to/police-checks and for paper applications (which are available from the school office). A VSC is required of all parent volunteers who will be helping out at school. This includes elementary Chandos trips, pizza days, field trip chaperones and those planning to help with Fun Fair in the spring.

Do not submit an online application if you have already mailed in a paper application. This portal is only to be used if your home address postal code begins with an "M". Other regions and municipalities have their own process and application systems.

GUIDANCE NEWS

Ontario University Application Centre/Ontario Colleges Application Services—OUAC/OCAS

All information for our Grade 12 students has been uploaded to OUAC and OCAS. Students in Grade 12 received a tutorial on Thursday, October 26th, leading them through the application setup process online. This means that students are now able to work on selecting and submitting their Ontario university and college applications. Students will need to double-check that the academic information in their account is correct once visible in mid-November. The equal consideration deadline for Ontario university applications is January 15th, 2024, and the college application deadline is February 1st, 2024. It is recommended that applications are submitted prior to Christmas break due to the increasing load on the application system in the new year.

In addition, students are reminded to pay attention to deadlines for scholarships and supplemental applications as these may be different from OUAC and OCAS deadlines, depending on the program and institution. Students applying to colleges and universities outside of Ontario are responsible for informing Mr. Brown of any records that need to be transmitted to the institution from NTCS.

Students and parents who have questions or concerns may contact Mr. Brown, Guidance Head, at cbrown@ntcs.on.ca.

The MCU (Monthly Chapel Update)

Primary Praise and Junior Mini-Chapel:

Students in JK through Grade 6 have been lifting up the name of Jesus through weekly times of worshipping together. **Mrs. Cooke**, **Mr. Garay**, **Mrs. Ierullo-Gialone**, **Mrs. Li**, **Mrs. Newsted**, and **Mr. Vant Erve** have all taken turns leading our times of singing. On the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, **Mrs. Cooke** led the JK - Grade 3 crowd in understanding the respect we owe to the Indigenous people of Canada for the enormous length of time they have cared for the land on which we live. **Mrs. Li** and **Mr. teBokkel's** Grade 6 classes led the Grade 4s and 5s in a very meaningful retelling of the story of *Shi Shi Etke*, a young Indigenous girl who was taken from her family to attend a residential school.

At our Thanksgiving Chapel, **Mrs. Lew-Ong's Gr. 2** class prepared a beautiful choral reading of Psalm 100, and we were visited by some improvisation experts from the high school drama class. We have just recently begun a fun and engaging RightNow Media video series called, "Where Does Joy Come From?", based on the book of Philippians, which should help us to learn some of the ways we can "Be Like Jesus" a little more each day.

Intermediate & Senior Chapel:

Though we did not start chapel times until the Grade 7-12 classes finished their trips to Chandos, we have now had a few very meaningful times of worship and reflection together in the track area. On the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we were led by the Grade 10B Civics class through a stirring and informative reflection which included a dramatic choral reading.

For our Thanksgiving Chapel, we laughed along with some excellent improvisers and were moved nearly to tears by some touching moments, all presented by members of the high school drama classes. **Mr. Vant Erve** led an introduction to the year's theme, "Be Like Jesus", which centres around Philippians 2:1-5, Ephesians 4:4-16, and the lyrics to the hymn, "May the Mind of Christ, My Saviour", which he hopes the whole student body will have memorized by the end of the year! Most recently, we were joined by **Phil Pharoah**, Youth Pastor at Uxbridge Baptist Church, who encouraged us to be a friend like Jesus was to Mary and Martha.

We have been led in worship by **Mr. Lau's** student worship bands, which have already been practicing twice a week and continue to involve a large percentage of the student body using and developing their talents to serve the Lord and the NTCS community.

Mr. Vant Erve, Vice-Principal

NTCS Supply Teachers

NTCS is a busy place! We have an active program and often that takes our teaching staff off campus for field trips and sports events with our students and sometimes professional development courses. Our supply teachers play a vital role in allowing our students to continue to do meaningful work at school while their regular teachers are away for these various reasons. We are very grateful for their availability and willingness to come in, often on very short notice, for a day or two or more! to help us keep our students on task and continue their learning. As parents, you may not have much contact with them, but your children certainly do, and we want to recognize their valuable contribution to school life. Our thanks to **Mrs. C. Bonadie, Mr. J. Goh, Ms. A. Kim, Mrs. E. Mac Neil, Mrs. M. Richards, and Mrs. C. Sanderson** for their work at NTCS so far this school year, and throughout the rest of the year.

Chandos Fall Class Trips

Our Fall Chandos class trips are now over. We want to express a special thanks to all the parent volunteers, coach bus drivers, supervising teachers, and staff who helped to make our Chandos trips a memorable experience for our students. Thank you to **Mr. Mark Collins**, our cook, and his assistant, **Mr. Eric Kim**, who prepared food for the groups and to our camp director, **Mr. Garrett Brinkman**, for looking after the students during their stay and helping with the program.

We are in need of parents who will accompany elementary classes for the winter trips. The camp is a winter wonderland in January, and the students thoroughly enjoy tobogganing, skating, and snowshoeing. A VSC is required to accompany your child's class, so please submit your completed documentation early as the process can sometimes take some time.



NTCS Aquatics

Lessons began the week of October 15th, and we were happy to welcome swimmers, both old and new, into our pool. We have had a great turnout these past two weeks and look forward to teaching everyone in the remaining six weeks. Classes are currently scheduled to end the week of December 3rd. For up-to-date class schedules, families are encouraged to look at our Aquatics Google calendar, which can be found on our school website under the Aquatics tab [here](#).

If families were not able to register for our fall program, we plan to run a winter session in the New Year. It is tentatively scheduled to begin the week of January 7th.

Along with regular lessons, NTCS Aquatics will be offering two advanced courses this session. Swimmers looking to obtain their Bronze [Medallion](#) or Bronze [Cross](#) can find the registration form on our website. The deadline to register for Bronze Medallion or Bronze Cross is **Monday, November 13th**. A minimum of six candidates in each class is required to run either course.

NTCS Aquatics Staff

Biology Class Visits the ROM

The Grade 11 biology class had a meaningful learning opportunity at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) on October 27th. Given the vast collections at the ROM, the students were able to explore the diversity of living things from the different kingdoms of life. The students also investigated the consequences of human impact and climate change on biodiversity through a self-guided tour while completing an interactive scavenger hunt. It was certainly an enjoyable and organic learning experience for the class.

Mrs. Tse

Art Gallery of Ontario Visit

The Grade 9 to 12 art students recently had the opportunity to visit the Art Gallery of Ontario, in downtown Toronto. The students attended a guided tour entitled, *Art, Identity and Intersectionality* where they explored “personal and cultural expressions of identity through art, while also examining the social and cultural influences that shape both individual and collective identities.” The students also enjoyed seeing the KAWS:Family exhibit which included sculptures of cartoon-inspired characters that were “larger than life”, as well as many other wall murals, sketches, and paintings by the artist.

For their next project, the students in Grades 9 and 10 will seek to apply what they observed to their work as they design their own 3D sculpture, inspired by KAWS, and construct it using plaster rolls and paint. Grade 11 and 12 students will be using mixed media to apply lines and bright, vivid colours, as in the style of KAWS, to their portrait of an individual expressing a single emotion.

It will be exciting to see how the students incorporate the elements which they observed into their own artwork.

Mrs. H. Kim, Visual Arts teacher

Trip to the Kortright Centre for Conservation—Grade 4

The Grade 4 students participated in a field trip to the Kortright Centre for Conservation on October 25th. This trip was an extension of our science strand, *Habitats & Communities*. During our hike, we identified several producers, consumers, and decomposers and explored their adaptations and life cycles. We found a herd of sheep, several frogs, salamanders, a millipede, and some other decomposers, as well as a huge mushroom.

The students enjoyed several games along the way that included a favourite, “Camouflage.” Students enjoyed playing the roles of foxes, bunnies, owls, and rodents as they learned about prey and predators. As geese, they learned about the effects of habitat loss and destruction due to manmade construction, paving of roads, deforestation, and pollution. Finally, we learned about the habitats of several birds of prey and were delighted to see a *Burrowing Owl*, a *Great Horned Owl*, a *Bald Eagle*, a *Peregrine Falcon*, and a *Ferruginous Hawk*. We also dissected real owl pellets!

The class discovered the importance of following God’s biblical mandate to rule the earth and care for all creatures, mankind, and habitats responsibly. This understanding will be important during our spring novel study of *Owls in the Family*, by Farley Mowat.

Mrs. A. Seenaraine



Kindergarten and Grade 1 Visit Brooks Farm



On Friday, October 27th, the JK, SK, and Grade One classes went to Brooks Farm. They had a wonderful time exploring the different activities available such as the pirate ship, the big, red fire truck, the zip line and, of course, the farm animals. Their very favourite was the big yellow and blue bouncy trampoline.

After lunch, the students went on a tractor ride around the farm with farmer Maddy. While on the ride, they learned that pumpkins grow from a vine and that a pumpkin is a fruit and not a vegetable. After the tour of the farm, the students walked to the pumpkin patch so that they could each find their very own perfect pumpkin. What an awesome day at Brooks Farm!

Mrs. Etinger

NTCS FLAMES—High School Cross-Country

The Birchmount Cross-Country Invitational

The NTCS high school cross-country team started their season at Centennial Park, in Etobicoke, on Tuesday, October 3rd. A very hot, sunny day greeted the runners and made running a challenge for expert and novice runners alike. Each field of runners was larger than normal. Etobicoke is this year's site for OFSAA, and thus, competition was intense on the very first race. Yet, despite the heat and crowded races, all the NTCS runners ran personal bests. Results were as follows:

Novice Boys 4000m 286 runners from 37 teams

Michael Chan	15:12.75
Noah Sargeant	17:39.44
Mide Akinnawo	17:42.18

Junior Girls 4700m 287 runners from 33 teams

Shannon Goligher	27:13.95
Priscilla Wang	28:49.91

Junior Boys 4700m 359 runners from 43 teams

Samuel Barradas-Villegas	21:57.37
Ivan Chan	24:06.23

Congratulations on an excellent effort by all team members.



TDCAA Cross-Country Championship Races

The end of the cross-country season was met with perfect running temperatures at Centennial Park in Etobicoke, on Thursday, October 12th. The top runners, 554 from 34 schools, in the Toronto area competed. Race results are as follows:

Novice Boys 4000m 106 runners from 11 teams

Michael Chan	16:20
Mide Akinnawo	18:38
Noah Sargeant	18:42

Michael Chan has qualified to go to the Ontario Cross-Country Championships on Saturday, November 4th. He is the third athlete in NTCS history to represent the school at the OFSAA XC Finals. Super finish!

Junior Girls 5000m 59 runners from 7 teams

Shannon Goligher	27:46
Priscilla Wang	31:57

Junior Boys 5000m 89 runners from 11 teams

Ivan Chan	24:17
Samuel Barradas-Villegas	25:31

NTCS FLAMES—Elementary Cross-Country

Golden Horseshoe Cross-Country Invitational Meet

The NTCS elementary cross-country team travelled to the Golden Horseshoe Cross-Country Invitational Meet in Grimsby, on Thursday, October 12th. A beautiful fall day awaited the 894 runners from 21 teams.

Students who achieved in the top 105 are as follows:

<u>Grade 3 & 4 Girls 1500m</u>		292 pts	143 Runners
Kate Brooks	21 st		
Lucy Brooks	59 th		
Eliza Hackmann	81 st		

Other team members weaving their way through the competition included **Miyuki Chan** and **Isabel Wan**. The girls team **improved their ranking over last year by 4 places**.

<u>Grade 3 & 4 Boys 1500m</u>		343 pts	211 Runners
Mayo Akinawo	40 th		
Tristan Lee	77 th		
Julian Nassar	89 th		

Topping up the team were **Coen Kwok**, **Orion Kwong**, and **Shane Park**.

<u>Grade 5 Girls 2000m</u>		137 pts (only 3 runners)	149 Runners
Sofia Awadalla	103 rd		

Victoria Li and **Samantha Rofaiel** also gave their race a great effort!

<u>Grade 5 Boys 2000m</u>		481 pts	175 Runners
Elias Jara	41 st		

Kirubel Ermias, **Theodore Salama**, and **Michael Shenouda** rounded out the boy's team.

<u>Grade 7 & 8 Girls 3000m</u>		137 pts	101 Runners
Naomi Croft	18 th		
Toni Viterbo	22 th		
Sophia Liu	35 th		
Cathryn Kwok	62 th		

Completing the team were **Carrie Chan**, **Allison Chuang**, **Aksha Joel**, **Tina Mazaheri**, **Nala Pinsent**, and **Audrey Rofaiel**. The girls team **improved their ranking over last year by 5 places**.

<u>Grade 7 & 8 Boys 3000m</u>		268 pts	115 Runners
Brian Song	34 th		
Aaron Wang	73 rd		
Mena Matta	74 th		
Luke Yeo	87 th		

Bringing home the finish for the team also included **Damola Eleso**, **Alvin Deng**, and **Michael Wong**.

An excellent effort by all the NTCS runners!

A sincere thank you to **Mr. Arcangel** and **Mrs. Sanderson** for their wonderful help.

Mrs. J. Cottrill, Coach



NTCS

255 Yorkland Blvd
Toronto, ON
M2J 1S3
416 491 7667
www.ntcs.on.ca

Mrs. Nicole Brouwer
Principal
nbrouwer@ntcs.on.ca

Mr. David Vant Erve
Vice Principal
dvanterve@ntcs.on.ca

Mr. Gordon Cooke
Administrator/Treasurer
gcooke@ntcs.on.ca

*It is the purpose of
NTCS to provide a
sound academic
education inte-
grated with a
Christian view of
God and the world.*

"While the earth re-
mains, seedtime and
harvest, cold and
heat, summer and
winter, day and night,
shall not cease."

Genesis 8:22



Lost and Found

Please ensure that you **LABEL** your child's gym uniform items, school uniform items, jackets and outdoor clothing, footwear, water bottles, lunch pails, backpacks and school textbooks. Items are picked up daily and put in lost and found areas. You can avoid having to replace these items by making sure your child's name or initials and grade are on them. We will return any lost items that can be identified to your child.

Colder Weather

Parents, please help ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the colder weather that is starting to come upon us. We will be continuing with outside activities, even during cold conditions, to enable students to enjoy their recess breaks.

Warm hats and mitts or gloves are essential items to have available at school, as the temperature can change throughout the day. Also, please make sure your child wears a suitable coat/jacket to school each day to ensure they are warm during recesses.

Snowpants and a pair of winter boots are necessities when the snow arrives, and extra socks kept in your child's shoe bag are also recommended. We do not have extra clothing in the office, so please make sure your child has everything they will need.

Please be sure to **LABEL** all of your child's winter clothing, including their boots, so that we can return items to your child if they become lost.

NTCS Calendar 2023-2024 (major dates)

November 22/23	Parent Teacher Interviews
November 24	PD day - No school
Dec. 25-Jan. 5, 2024	Christmas Break - No school
February 16	PD day - No school
February 19	Family Day
March 8-18	March Break
March 29-April 1	Good Friday/Easter Monday
May 17	PD Day - No school
May 20	Victoria Day - No school
June 10-20	Exams (Gr. 7-12)
June 21	Last day of school



Newsletter

The next newsletter will be sent via email on December 1, 2023. Please let the office know if your email address changes.

The newsletter and other information can be found on our website at www.ntcs.on.ca. As well, student homework, assignments and test dates can be accessed in your child's Google classroom or by reading the weekly parent/guardian summaries upon accepting the invite.