

March 27, 2023

In a struggle to write something profound this week, I found a piece I had written around this time in 2019. It reflects my thoughts today, so I am recycling it. Hope you enjoy it.

I am a sports enthusiast. I love playing most sports and I love watching most sports. For basketball, there is no time like the NCAA March Madness basketball tournament. I even love all the story lines, the ranking of the teams and the winner-take-all risks involved with each game. I love the strategy, the underdogs, and the commitment shown by the players of the teams. I love that, in the USA, schools have large followings and huge fan bases. I love the emotions of the seniors on the losing team, young men publicly shedding tears, because they just played their last game as a college player. There is so much happening on these teams and in this tournament that I can learn from.

I am always amazed at how, at many levels, sports is able to teach me something about my Christian life. Interesting that March madness falls at the same time as Lent. During March madness we marvel at the teams who work together, who focus on teamwork, and who selflessly elevate the team above the individual. During March madness we observe teams of young men working toward their ultimate goal, for them, a national championship. Lent is a time where we struggle to understand the commitment that Jesus had in implementing God's plan for our salvation and the dedication to the winner-take-all risk, even to death. We see Christ selflessly elevating the needs of others, over his individual needs and we celebrate Christ's commitment to his ultimate goal – salvation for all. As Christians, we also unite as a large following around the cross and empty grave of Jesus Christ. There are lots of parallels to draw.

And yet, watching the tournament makes me wonder why I don't live out my faith as passionately as these players live out their basketball. After all, the risks and rewards are even more winner-take-all in the Christian life.

March Events

- 27- Auction Item Pick-up
2-4pm & 7-9pm
- 31- Assembly at 9:40, Grade 7/8
Helmet of Salvation



March 30
Grayson B

March 31
Jolene K

April Events

- 7-Good Friday- No School
- 10-Easter Monday- No School
- 24- Spring Membership Meeting
- 28-Kindergarten Registration
9:30-11:30am

Junior Kindergarten- Mrs. Baarda

This week we will read a few more nursery rhymes and look for the rhyming words in them. I also have some rhyming riddles we can try out!

Our focus letter is **Tt**. We will practice recognizing upper and lowercase T, and practice the sound letter T makes using the Jolly Phonics song and some hands-on activities.

In our workbooks, we will be printing letters M and N.

In **Bible**, as we are nearing Easter, we will take a break from our unit on Parables, and we will be learning about Palm Sunday and the Lord's Supper.

In **math**, we will be looking for numbers in books and stories, and also trying to recognize different representations of numbers.

In **health**, we will learn about our sense of smell and create the next page in our Five Senses booklet.

Senior Kindergarten- Mrs. Heida

This week we are matching upper and lowercase letters, reviewing the sound of short vowel i, syllable sorting and listening for ending sounds. We will review the sight words the, see, like, a, and I. We will blend together short vowel a and i words such as tip, tap, sip, sap and Pip.

For **Handwriting Without Tears**, we are working on lowercase K and printing letters on lines and sentences with spaces between each word and punctuation.

In math, we are learning to add using objects and pictures. We will be printing numbers to 20.

In **Bible**, we will hear more about Passover and the Last Supper as well as Jesus's suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Memory Work is John 3:16.

This week, we will complete the final page for our healthy eating unit and their books will be sent home next week.

Library day Tuesday!

Please continue to send splash pants and/or snow pants and rubber boots. Our field is a mud pit. We will wear what we need according to the weather. Thank you in advance.

Have a super week!

Grade 1 - Mrs. Dykstra

We continue with our daily Resurrection Egg devotions. Each egg gives us a message of the story of Easter.

Bible: We learned that the people of Israel listened to the 10 fearful spies rather than the two with a good report on the land of Canaan. We discussed that God punishes disobedience to Him. We wrap up our unit on Moses by seeing how Moses lost his patience and what that act cost him. Then, we review Moses' life and show what we know near the end of the week.

Memory words: To connect with Easter, we are learning John 3:16. We practice these powerful words through song, group practice, and actions.

Reading: We continue learning about vowel teams with a focus on the sounds of long i and long o; we will learn that ie and igh and even y can make the long i sound. We will also look at the sounds of long o that are spelled oe, oa and ow.

Word study: word (yes, the word is word)

Spelling words: This week, we are learning the number of words to ten: zero, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. Bonus word this week is: eleven. We will word map the sounds in these words, notice which are heart words, and find other clues to aid in our correct spelling of these words.

Media Literacy Unit: We sure laughed at many of the commercials we watched together to grow in our understanding of media literacy. Ask your child about what product the commercial "Dancing Babies" was selling. Now, we will work on understanding the author's purpose by reading many different books: did the author write their book to inform, persuade, or entertain the audience? This week, students set off to design a cereal box cover to try and persuade a chosen audience (grown ups or children) to buy their newly created brand of cereal.

Math: We continue with skip counting by 2 and 5. Then, we will work on really knowing our doubles to 12, mostly through games. The hope is that students will see that grouping by 2s, 5s, and 10s makes objects easier to count.

Creation Studies: We investigate waterproof versus absorbent materials. Then, we review the purposes of structures and objects. The rest of our week will be spent drawing blueprints and the opportunity to build with various materials; written reflections follow each building opportunity.

Chapter book read aloud: Heartwood Hotel: The Greatest Gift. Videos are posted daily for any absent students.

Art: We make a watercolour resist using blow painting with straws and oil pastels.

Announcements

Upcoming Pizza Days

Wed. April 5th: New Orleans Pizza

Choreography Team for the Spring Musical

Thank you to all who auditioned for the choreography team.

Congratulations to Savannah W, Nadine N., Natalie K., Grayson B., Darren R., Emmalyn G., Pasey B. and Dayna W. These fine folks make up our musical's choreography team. We rehearse Monday and Wednesday at first recess in Mrs. Dykstra's room. Just a head's up for parents of team members. Each team member will need the following to wear for the musical.

Boys: white t-shirt and black pants.

Girls: white t-shirt, black privacy shorts OR black gym shorts OR black leggings (poodle and grass skirts provided). Please contact Mrs.

Dykstra if you have any questions (d.dykstra@listowelchristianschool.ca)

Spring Online Auction

Thank-you to everyone who came to our Gala Dinner on Friday evening and everyone who supported our auction online! Auction Item Pick-up is Monday March 27 2-4pm and 7-9pm



Battle of the Books

The JUNIOR team will be meeting every WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY regularly. The date for the tournament is April 13 and more details will be sent home before Easter.

Grade 2- Mrs. Grundlingh

I hope you will have a blessed week! Here is our work for the week :

Math: This week, we are still working on number sense with our focus changing to adding, subtracting and order. We work on adding with a number line and adding by counting on. We will also start working on subtracting with a number line and subtracting by counting backwards and counting on.

Writing: We are still working on narrative writing and focusing on adding detail to our writing. We will make use of our chrome books this week to do some research for our writing.

Spelling & phonics: We work with vowel team syllables this week. Please see the letter attached for the word study practice and spelling homework for the week. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. Spelling test on Monday.

Reading: In our decodable readers, we read a story focusing on the vowel team syllables.

Library: We have library on Tuesdays. Please return all library books tomorrow.

Grade 2- Mrs. Koersen

Hello Grade two families! I wanted to thank you for a lovely belated birthday celebration and gift last week with our class and Mrs. Smith. March certainly has had a lot of birthdays in our class!

Here's the plan for this week:

Creation studies: We will continue to map things and learn new vocabulary. Last week, we mapped our heart and desk. This week our classroom and school.

Bible: We will learn about Jesus calling his disciples and will be quizzed on our memory work.

Health: We will learn about nutritious foods.

Art: We will finish our Ming Dynasty inspired porcelain vase art.

Reminder about wet clothes! If wet socks or pants come home in your back pack please send a clean pair! Also splash pants are a very good idea as well as boots for mud! Please join us for our Assembly Friday morning !

Grade 3- Mrs. Claus

Thank you so much for your support this past weekend with the auction and gala fundraisers. The donations, the work, the bidding, the serving, the prayers, and so many other efforts were made to make it a great success. THANK YOU!

Bible: Our focus is on Passion Week for this unit.

Math: We are learning about different shapes in our geometry unit.

Language: We will be looking at homophones: sail, sale, made, maid, main, mane, hare, hair, their, there, waist, waste.

Social Studies: We are studying Saudi Arabia where they are predominantly muslim. We are studying the religion of Islam and how it affects their culture.

Grade 4 and 5 - Mrs. Delleman

Bible - We have finished our unit on Samuel and will have our quiz on THURSDAY. Smartboard notes will be sent home the day before the quiz. We are currently working on a review, and the students' memory work will be on the test as a fill in the blank.

Memory Work - due THURSDAY (on Bible Test) - 1 Samuel 8:7 - "And the Lord told him: 'Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king.'"

Math - We have finished a short unit on patterns and will have our quiz on THURSDAY. Smartboard notes will be sent home the day before the quiz. Students will need to know how to skip count and solve pattern rules. They should be able to complete missing terms in a pattern and solve pattern word problems.

Spelling - We have new spelling teams this term. Students should know which group they are in. Below are the team names and their spelling lists:

- **Spelling Spiders** - day, trade, nail, glass, stay, snail, grain, brave, play, grave, stand, slave, they, tray, may, gray, gain, taste, fail, say, shape, past, trash
- **Speed Spellers** - benches, chairs, foxes, guesses, brushes, speeches, splashes, lunches, clothes, mixes, churches, crashes, books, peaches, classes, kisses, taxes, ditches, leashes, changes, branches, watches, places, ashes
- **Spelling Sloths** - active, activity, safe, safety, festive, special, novelty, tranquil, festivity, specialty, novel, loyal, casual, loyalty, tranquility, humid, minor, humidity, certain, casualty, sensitive, minority, sensitivity, certainty

Every three weeks, we will have a dictation where 10 words from each lists will be chosen. If you go to spellingcity.com/tdelleman, students will be able to access their lists and play games online using their words.

Grade 4/5 and 6 French- Ms. VanKampen:

We will pickup from last week's introduction to the Prepositions of Place (sous, sur, dans, devant, derrière, à côté de) looking to apply them to 'real-life' situations in the classroom with respect to the location of objects and classmates. An assessment is planned for Thursday.

Grade 5/6- Mr. Siebenga

An email will be sent with this week's information.

Grade 7/8 Science- Ms. VanKampen

Our current unit = **Form and Function of Structures**. Upcoming topics = 1. Structural Failure (and its causes) with notable real-life historical examples. 2. Key Considerations When Selecting Materials to build structures. 3. the Confederation Bridge -- one of Canada's top structural achievements.

Grade 7/8- Mrs. Vogel

Bible: We are continuing our unit.

French: Test on Wednesday, March 29. Students have been advised of all the papers they need to study and the test will be a similar format to their worksheets.

Art: CD art is due on Friday, March 31.

History: We are continuing our study of the Middle Ages. Currently, Bible and history are combining a bit as we look at how the Christian church grew and changed through the Middle Ages.

Healthy Living: We had a small in-class tournament this past week. We will be moving on to a skipping unit this week.

Writing: We are doing a mini grammar unit on adjectives and will be working on how to write instructions shortly.

W.W.W.: We are beginning a new form of Working with Words that uses a similar method as the rest of the school. As we are beginning, look for more information to follow with groups and spelling tests coming up. You can expect the first spelling test on Friday, March 31.

Guided Reading: We have begun our second short story unit for the year. The first story has been read and more thought and conversation will happen around the story topic, and then we will move on to the second story.

Grade 7/8 Math- Mr. Boelens

We are completing our current units. This week, end of unit reviews will happen along with our unit ending tests. Our next units are on integers for both grades. I will provide them a homework list. Daily work will continue to be assigned.