



North Toronto Christian School

OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Our Theme For The Year

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18.

When I was trying to establish a theme for the school year in the midst of a world-wide pandemic, it presented a challenge. I didn't want to focus on doom and gloom because as Christians, we have a source of eternal hope. Also, I didn't want to neglect to respect the sacrifices that people have made. Then, this passage was brought to my attention by our student agenda cover artist, Gr. 12 student, **Olivia Sit**.

What a great lesson to have not only the students focus on, but the wider school community as well - expressing our faith while looking at the eternal picture and not just our current snapshot! I pray that this year finds your family safe and healthy and with the ability to look past current circumstances to God's promised eternal glory.

Mrs. N. Brouwer

UPCOMING EVENTS

PD Day	Oct 09
Thanksgiving (no school)	Oct 12
Interim Reports Gr 7-12	Nov 13
Term 1 Reports JK-6	Nov 20
Parent/Teacher Interviews (all grades)	Nov 25-26
PD Day (no school)	Nov 27



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Activities and Special Events

There are many events and activities that we have to put on hold for now. Our Thanksgiving food drive is always a time when we enjoy giving to others. The fall aquatics session and Cantonese and Mandarin classes have always been wonderful opportunities for learning, and we will re-evaluate the feasibility of implementing them back into our program when we feel the time is right. The 'Buy and Sell' Skate exchange and our fall soccer and cross-country competitions are also annual activities that we all look forward to in October. Whether or not we will be able to skate in the New Year, however, is still yet to be determined, and our Christian school association has not encouraged gathering for sporting events at this time. We know that you understand and look forward with us to when we can resume these activities.

During this season of thanksgiving, let us not dwell on the things that we are setting aside or doing without but rather focus on what we have at this moment. May we be thankful for God's daily blessings and the opportunity that He has granted us these past weeks to walk the halls of our school building once again and share our days with teachers and friends!

Get-Acquainted Night Videos

We trust that you were able to watch the video(s) that your child's teacher(s) prepared to inform you about class routines and expectations, as well as course information/expectations in the middle/high school. Please note that the video(s) are still on the stream of your child's Google classroom for awhile longer in case you have not yet had an opportunity to view it (them).

We are hoping that we will be able to give you an opportunity, in person, to meet with the teacher(s) of your child(ren) later in the Fall (November 25-26) during the Parent/Teacher interview evenings. In the meantime, please feel free to connect with your child's teacher(s) by email if you have questions or concerns.

Parking Lot—Reminders

North driveway - both an entry and exit point

Middle driveway - ENTRY only

South driveway - EXIT only (please use both sides of the laneway - northbound stay to your left; southbound stay to your right).

Please follow the arrows! Please do not back in to parking spaces but rather park front first.

Please drive slowly at all times!

Please follow Public Health guidelines as they pertain to social distancing and encourage your children to do the same as you prepare to leave the school playground and parking areas.

To alleviate congestion in the parking lots, please do not loiter but rather leave promptly after picking up your child(ren). Parents and students are encouraged to practice extreme caution before and after school as students are arriving and departing. Everyone needs to be aware of their surroundings and students should avoid darting out in front of moving vehicles or standing behind cars that are backing out. Cyclists are encouraged to ride responsibly. Thank you for your cooperation.

Grade 12 Graduating Class of June 2020

The Grade 12 graduation celebration is an event that we eagerly anticipate in June, however, we regret to inform you that we will not be able to host an in-person celebration for our 2019-2020 graduating class to officially recognize their achievements and graduation from high school. Current restrictions make it impossible to have a meaningful gathering or celebration. We are deeply saddened by this situation, but we are obliged to follow the government restrictions on social gatherings.

By Monday, October 19, our graduates will be able to do a curbside pickup for all of their official documents, as well as their 2019/2020 yearbook and any awards that we were unable to present at a graduation ceremony. Anytime after October 19, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., students may come to the main east entrance of the school and use the intercom button to the left of the main door to contact the school office. If students are not able to come themselves and want someone else to pick up their documents, please inform us by email at 'office@ntcs.on.ca' so we have your authorization to do so.

We wish our graduating class all the best in their current studies or work and hope that we have an opportunity to see you briefly at some point in the coming weeks.

October Updates from the Guidance Office

Take Our Kids To Work Day: Our school will NOT be participating in the Grade 9 "Take Our Kids To Work Day" this year. Students in Grade 9 will attend school as usual on Wednesday, November 4th.



College and University Visits: In past years, there have been visits from college and university representatives to our school during lunch hours in the Fall for our Grade 11 and 12 students to interact with and learn more about possible post-secondary destinations. These visits have been postponed for now due to the guidelines that our school and the representatives are following. Please refer to specific college and university websites to view alternative offerings for getting in touch with the representatives. Spaces are limited for Campus Visit Days in light of current regulations, and many institutions are offering virtual events for prospective students.

The Grade 12 students have each had an initial meeting with Mr. Brown to review requirements for graduation and plans for next year. Grade 11 students will continue to meet with Mr. Brown in the coming weeks. Please be aware that if you are planning to register for an online course this year, there is a much higher demand for these types of courses than in the past and therefore these classes are filling up faster than usual.

Grade 12 students will begin the university application process this month. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at (416) 491-7667 ext. 232 or cbrown@ntcs.on.ca

Mr. Brown, Head of Guidance

Chapel and Praise & Worship

Chapel is an important part of school culture at NTCS and is something that needs to continue, especially in our current times. This year, our chapels are happening through Zoom, with students staying in their homeroom cohorts. Our Jr. High and Sr. High worship teams have risen to the challenge and record a song each week so that we can come to Chapel through worship. Though unable to sing collaboratively, the worship music puts us in the right frame of mind. The new delivery method for Chapel has brought its own blessings. Students are currently watching a series of videos on "How To Read the Bible". They are then able to discuss and respond in the moment to the video content. This is a great way for the conversation to continue past the designated chapel times. A big thank you to the Chaplaincy Team for finding resources, developing worship videos, and providing talking points to get the conversations going. We encourage you to ask your children about Chapel. Grades 4-12 participate this year, at different times, on Chapel days.

In JK to grade 3, the students continue to enjoy Praise & Worship every Friday as they enthusiastically participate with worship movement videos in their individual classrooms.

Yearbook Distribution

The 2019-2020 yearbook has arrived and been distributed to all current students who attended NTCS during the 2019-2020 academic year. All former students may pick up their yearbook during school office hours, 8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. Please use the intercom at the main east door, facing the street, to let us know that you have arrived, and we will come down with your yearbook. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing while on school property. Thank you for your cooperation.

Congratulations to last year's yearbook team for producing a wonderful yearbook for all to enjoy! Special thanks to Mrs. Crouse and her fabulous team for their hard work in overseeing the production of this major annual project!

NTCS

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*It is the purpose of
NTCS to provide a
sound academic edu-
cation integrated with
a Christian view of
God and the world.*

Let the wise listen and add
to their learning, and let
the discerning get guid-
ance —

Proverbs 1:6



Immunizations

At the present time, Toronto Public Health has not contacted us about holding an immunization clinic for grade 7 students. We will notify you when we have been able to schedule a date for them to come in.

It is important to keep your child's immunization records up-to-date. Student immunizations can be reported on the website of Toronto Public Health at www.toronto.ca/studentvaccines.

If your child is a Junior Kindergarten student or new to our NTCS community this fall and you have not given us a copy of your child's immunization record, please send a copy with your child to give to the office or scan to dnewsted@ntcs.on.ca. so that we can forward it to Toronto Public Health.

Online Google Classroom

Be sure to check your child's Google classroom on a regular basis. Teachers use it to post homework, upcoming tests and assignments, and information pertaining to their class(es). It is not meant to be a detailed source of information but will highlight important details so parents can be kept up-to-date. The **Daily Announcements** from the school office are also posted there. The **Calendar** link on our site shows all school events and activities that are taking place each month. You can find it at <http://ntcs.on.ca/shortcuts/calendar.html>

NTCS Calendar 2020-2021 (major dates)

Oct	9	PD Day
Oct	12	Thanksgiving
Nov	27	PD Day
Dec	21-Jan 01	Christmas Break/New Year's
Feb	12	PD Day
Feb	15	Family Day
March	12-22	March Break
April	02-05	Good Friday/Easter Monday
May	21	PD Day
May	24	Victoria Day
June	14-24	Exams (gr. 7-12)
June	25	Last day of school

Newsletter

Newsletters will be sent via email on the first day of each month. Please take the time to peruse it as it provides interesting and sometimes valuable information about events taking place in our school. Please ensure you provide the school with your current email address and, if it changes, please notify the office. For your convenience, it will continue to be posted monthly on the school website.