

# Important Notes for 2017-18

**\* Welcome! These two pages highlight items of significance. For more information, check other files posted near the right top of the TDChristian Splash! Page or reference the Family & Student Handbook. \***

**Daily Schedule:** School runs from 8:55 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. The time schedule is posted daily on the Infoboards found throughout the school. Some of the daily schedules can be found in the Family & Student Handbook. Devotions and prayer occur in first period and/or homerooms except on Assembly Days.

**Homerooms:** These are groups of students formed from all grades who meet for 10 minutes three times a week to help build rapport and connections across the grades. For the first two weeks, homerooms will meet at the **beginning** of most days instead of between first and second periods. Students will be assigned lockers based on their homerooms.

**Lockers, Bags, and Coats:** Over the past few years more and more bags and coats have been taken to class or left in the halls during the day. This year, students will not be permitted to bring school bags into classrooms (including the gym) or leave them in the halls during class time or assembly. The only exception will be laptop bags for students who bring their laptops. We realize that this will be an adjustment for students but given increasing fire and safety concerns, as well as the constant clutter, it is a necessary step. Students will be expected to store their belongings in their locked lockers.

**Hats:** Students may wear hats in a respectful manner throughout the building before and after school and during lunch. At all other times, including assemblies, hats are expected to be out of sight, preferably in students' lockers.

**Longer Lunch:** In response to requests to lengthen the lunch break, it will now be 36 minutes. Lunch cannot be longer without lengthening the school day, adding school days, or eliminating scheduled holidays connected to the breaks.

**Schedules:** These will be posted in Edsby for returning students during the last week of August. Students who wish to make changes should have a parent or guardian send an email with the requested change to [schedules@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schedules@tdchristian.ca). The *tentative* Grade 9 Schedule for Week One is in this booklet. Grade 9 students, as well as NEW students in grades 10 to 12 students will receive printed schedules during homeroom at *Back in the Groove Again* or on the first day of school.

**Immunization:** York Region Public Health will require all families to provide immunization records or valid exemptions for students up to and including 17 years of age. A letter about immunization is included as the final page of this booklet.

**Fifth Period:** There are two main guidelines for this period which concludes most school days.

1. Students are required to work quietly and independently (exceptions are made for courses such as PE and Shop).
2. Students who miss Fifth Period should be able to complete assigned work at home or elsewhere alone.

Fifth Period is used for leadership, prayer group, and choir; school teams leave without athletes missing teaching time.

**Homework Club:** On most **TUESDAYS** until 5 p.m. designated teachers and staff provide students with homework help. Attendance is taken but it is the responsibility of the home to determine student attendance. Find out more in Room 24

**Project and Focus Days:** Immersive activities are important to learning. TDChristian schedules four Project Days and four Focus Days each semester. Dates are on the school calendar found at [tdchristian.ca](http://tdchristian.ca).

- Project Days are **stay-at-home** days during which students complete a four to six hour project for one class.
- Focus Days are scheduled school days on which students have an all-day class. They complete a project at school, go on a field trip, or complete any of a number of different activities related to one class under the supervision of their classroom teachers. It also allows time for integrating classes or doing grade activities.

**Presentations and Exhibitions of Learning:** Students will be required to present their work in every course as presentations are integral to learning at TDChristian. Students will work at presenting their learning in various ways and to diverse audiences. Thurs., Jan. 11, Tues., Jan. 16, Wed., Jun. 6, and Tues., June 12 are the scheduled *Presentation of Learning* days during which many students present to their peers, parents/guardians, and the larger community (8:55 a.m. to noon or noon to 2:55 p.m.). In addition, parents/guardians and community members are invited to view *Exhibitions of Learning* at the Open House on Thurs., Nov. 17 and at the *Notice Book Launch* on Thurs., May 11.

**Learning Dialogues:** These occur four times a year (Oct. 19, Nov. 21, Mar. 27, and May 3) and are for parents/guardians, students and teachers to connect about how students are learning. Some know these as "Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews." Read *The Fridge Door* to find out how to schedule these 7 minute appointments as we work together to help students learn for service in the light of God's word. Find out how you can become a **Voting Member** of TDChristian High School during 60 to 90 minute sessions scheduled at 7:30 p.m. on the Learning Dialogues of Oct. 19 and Mar. 27.

**Technology:** Read the new *Technology Code of Conduct* which can be found in the *Family & Student Handbook*.

**Scheduling Changes:** Parents or guardians need to email [schedules@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schedules@tdchristian.ca) and request the change on behalf of their child. Mr. Heinbuch will respond to them in the order they are received.

**Community Service Hours:** In order to graduate, all students are required to do 40 hours of community service while in high school. Check the Splash! Page for the guidelines and form. Our advice is to finish the hours by the end of Gr. 11.

**Mentorship:** Grade 11 students and their families should read the page (later in the package) to get a good start on finding an interesting, challenging, enlightening and/or positive mentorship during Mentorship Week: Jan. 26 to Feb. 1.

**Fall Evenings @ TDChristian:** Keep these in mind – *New Families Night* (Thurs., Sept. 14), *Future Directions Night* (Thurs. Sept. 14), *Learn about Resource* (Thurs., Sept. 14), *Anxiety in Teens – Information and Strategies for Parents and Guardians* (Nov. 9), *Fall Membership Meeting – Open to All* (Nov. 21).

**Trips:** Below is an overview of this year's required curricular trips. *Please keep dates free for required trips.*

- *Grade 9 Boys Toronto Service Trip:* Wed., Sept. 6 to Thurs., Sept. 7 (see a later page in the booklet for details)
- *Grade 9 Girls Toronto Service Trip:* Thurs., Sept. 7 to Fri., Sept. 8 (see a later page in the booklet for details)
- *Grade 10 Class Trip:* Wed., Sept. 27 to Thurs., Sept. 28 (see a later page in the booklet for details)
- *Grade 11 and 12 Earth and Space Science Algonquin Trip:* Thurs., Sept. 28 to Mon., Oct. 2
- *Grade 12 French Trip to Quebec:* Mon., Oct. 2 to Fri., Oct. 6
- *Grade 11 Toronto Service Trips:* Tues., Oct. 3 to Fri., Oct. 6 for English 11 (sem. 1) and Tues., Apr. 3 to Fri., Apr. 6 for English 11 (sem. 2) includes Internship Block students (see a later page in the booklet for details)
- *Grade 10 French & History Block Trip (tent.):* Away part is between Feb. 3 and 15. Here part is May 11 to May 18.
- *Grade 11 and 12 Improv Team Trip to Ottawa:* Wed., Apr. 18 to Sun., Apr. 22

**Optional Trips:**

- *European Cultural Trip:* Thurs., Mar. 8 to Sat., Mar. 17 (email [cate@tdchristian.ca](mailto:cate@tdchristian.ca) to find out more or to sign up)
- *Grade 12 March Break trip to Belize:* Sat., Mar. 10 to Wed., Mar. 21

**Mini-Handbook (and Phone Directory) for 2017-18:** This will be published and distributed near the end of September to ensure a higher-level of accuracy and to include all TDChristian families.

**TDChristian Hosts Boys' Volleyball Championships (OFSAA "A" Nov. 22 to 25):** We last hosted in 2006. Mr. Hoving, this year's convener, was a student volunteer. Check with him to find out how you could help out. Come to TDChristian or Humber College to watch the action. It's going to be good!

**Project 20/20 and the Fire Hall:** Plans for our exciting new expansion are moving forward as we work diligently with the architect, builder, and city. The Campaign Committee has met during the summer. Options for the Fire Hall building have been explored and presented but have not yet come to fruition. We continue to work faithfully and with purpose as we manage our assets. We are confident that the vision began in 2004 will result in future success. We continue to ask for your support in prayer, ideas, and finances. Thank you to many who have and continue to contribute. For more information connect with William Groot ([groot@tdchristian.ca](mailto:groot@tdchristian.ca)) or Rod Dengerink ([rdengerink@tdchristian.ca](mailto:rdengerink@tdchristian.ca)).

**For More Information and Details of All Things TDChristian:** Check the *Family & Student Handbook* which can be accessed by clicking the link on the Splash! Page. (Reminder: Read the new *Technology Code of Conduct* found in it.)

**Looking Ahead to 2018-19:** On Thurs., Oct. 12, starting at 7 p.m., we will host a *Fall Open House & Information Night for Students & Families* (to learn more about TDChristian). On Thurs., Nov. 16, Grades 7 and 8 students are invited to spend a school day at TDChristian to learn more about the school at our *Grades 7 & 8 Day*. To find out how to earn volunteer hours by telling families about TDChristian High School, contact Mrs. Patty Schuurman at [schuurman@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schuurman@tdchristian.ca).