

August 24, 2020

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians, and Homestay Parents:

Welcome Back! We are looking forward to having students and staff back in the building daily beginning September 8.

As we learned starting on March 11, things can change quickly. However, we also were reminded of the goodness of our changeless God. I will admit freely, that like Paul who begged God to take away the thorn in his flesh, I have wished this pandemic be gone. God's response is clear, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." As Paul did, we must rely on God because when we are weak then we are strong. (2 Corinthians 12:1-10).

The Project 20/20 construction continues. Later this fall, we will access the expansion which should further enhance our students' learning for service in the light of God's Word! As promised, we will endeavour to enfold each student into our community, engage them through projects, presentations and conversations, and empower them through connections and interactions. Masks, cohorts, and protocols may prove challenging. However, coupling the experience of our staff with teenagers who have innovative, thoughtful, and, sometimes, crazy ideas, we will forge forward in faith.

Due to the pandemic, Back-in-the-Groove-Again is changed. Read the email or Edsby message to be sent on Wed., Aug. 26 to learn how to sign up to come on Thursday, September 3 to pick up a Back-to-School Package (which will include insurance information, homeroom info, a student photo day sheet, and TDChristian username and password), see the school, and find out more about Tues., Sept. 8. Grade 10 to 12 students can access their schedules in Edsby on September 3.

Regarding school supplies, students should have pens, pencils, and paper/notebooks/binders. For other items, such as calculators, dictionaries, and art supplies, await the direction of teachers. Students may bring computers or tablets though they are not required. Internet access at home is important for the courses that use electronic textbooks.

Besides this letter, find the Transportation sheet which provides bus information and times along with a School Culture letter – we need your energy, and ideas to make 2020-21 memorable. Grade 9 students will find a DRAFT schedule for the first two days of school. Finally, for some families, we have inserted the Commitment Form that needs to be signed by parent(s)/guardian(s), and the student. After signing it, scan or photograph it and email it to [marg@tdchristian.ca](mailto:marg@tdchristian.ca).

All the other documents for the start of 2020-21 can be found on the Splash! Page. Besides the ones in this mailing, it includes the Return to School Plan and information on Grade 11 Mentorship, Athletics, Music, Drama, Video, Trips, Membership, and Volunteering (for Parents and Guardians). Sadly, there will be no Grade Trips until further notice.

Edsby, TDChristian's information system, allows for access to student information. By Sept. 3, all parents or guardians of families who have a student new to TDChristian this year will be sent an invitation to the email addresses we have on file. This invitation will explain the Edsby sign up process. Parents/guardians who don't see an email in their inboxes, should check their junk mail folder. If no email is found, they can email [passwords@tdchristian.ca](mailto:passwords@tdchristian.ca) for assistance.

On Thurs., Sept. 17, we will host a New Parents Night for new families, a Future Directions Night for families of senior students to share ways to explore post-secondary options, and a Resource Department session for families to learn about how it supports students. By Sept. 12, we will decide if these will be done via Zoom or at the school.

We look forward to partnering with you. Please contact the school with suggestions, encouragements, and concerns. Together in faith and prayer, with God's grace and leading, we embark confidently into a new year of learning.

On behalf of TDChristian,

William Groot, Principal

Learning for Service in the Light of God's Word

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