

November 29, 2024



GR. 4/5 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

This year, our grade 4 and 5 girls teams excelled in developing some important volleyball skills in a very short space of time! Not only did they get better at serving the ball and volleying it over the net, but they showed great sportsmanship along the way. After weeks of rigorous training sessions, our grade 5s enjoyed a practice tournament in St Joseph the Worker school where they won four out of five matches. The tournament was extremely competitive and gave each of our students an opportunity to play the sport in a match setting and in front of an audience (which isn't always easy!).

Our grade 5's then did a fantastic job competing in a year

5 Volleyball tournament against St Jude's, Our Lady of Mercy School and St Andrew's elementary schools. We were delighted to win one match and lost narrowly in our other two matches!

To end an enjoyable term, and to give our grade 4s a chance to compete in a match setting, the grade 4 girls played a fun challenge match against the boys! This was great fun and allowed both teams to showcase their new volleyball skills.

We would like to thank each of our students for their commitment, perseverance and hard work this term! You have been a pleasure to coach and continue to be supportive, kind and understanding teammates to one another. Keep practicing and who knows how far we can go next year!

Ms. McAlinden and Mrs. Lam.

GR. 4/5 BOYS VOLLEYBALL

The Grade 4/5 boys volleyball team had a great season developing new skills and improving existing ones. Their commitment to practices and dedication to improving are truly commendable. Even though they didn't make it to the playoffs this year, there is no doubt they will make it far next year. There were many wins and some losses but most of all, the boys had exciting games with many points won by bumping, setting, and spiking. Well done, boys!



GR. 6 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The Grade 6 Girls' volleyball team had a great season! They demonstrated dedication and great teamwork, bringing hard work and positive attitudes to each practice and game. Their effort paid off as they won their zone tournament and fought hard during their playoff game. Well done, Grade 6 Girls!



GR. 6 BOYS VOLLEYBALL

The Grade 6 Volleyball Team made great progress this season. They improved a great deal over the course of the year and had a great showing at the Grade 6 Boys CISVA qualifying tournament at Holy Cross last week! They pushed the top team Holy Cross to 3 sets narrowly losing in the final set.

-Coach Planta



GR. 7 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The Grade 7 girls volleyball team had an incredible season filled with determination, teamwork, and growth. Their hard work and dedication paid off as they achieved an impressive second-place finish in their zone, showcasing their skills and resilience on the court. This accomplishment earned them a well-deserved spot in the playoffs, where they continued to demonstrate their passion for the game and their commitment to supporting one another. Their coaches, Ms. Bond and Ms. Cagnoni, are proud of the girls for their successful season and for representing their school with pride and sportsmanship!



GR. 7 BOYS VOLLEYBALL

The coaches, Mr. Reilly and Ms. D'Alessandro, are very proud of what the Grade 7 Boys Volleyball Team have accomplished! They trained hard at practices to become a strong team that became a force to be reckoned with! At the beginning of the season, they showed their potential in their first matches which were in an exhibition tournament at St. Joseph the Worker School.

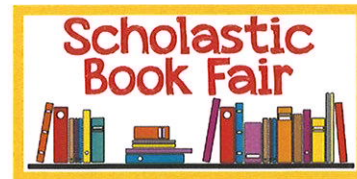
Although they lost against the first two teams, they displayed resilience to win against the tournament's undefeated team in three sets! In their next exhibition game against St. Anthony of Padua School, our determined boys began to regularly bump, set and spike their way to another match win in three sets. The team faced St. Anthony of Padua School again in an away game; however, the boys did not have a winning result. Undeterred, the Grade 7 Boys Volleyball Team trained with even more intent to get ready for the Qualifying Zone Tournament at St. Patrick's Elementary. On that day, the team was focussed and ready. Their first match against the host school, they won decisively in straight sets. Their second match which was against St. Mary's School, was a very close contest. Their first set was a narrow loss of 25-23. They battled back from behind to win the second set 27-25! The third set, although they were the more skillful team, our grade 7's lost 15-13! With no time to rest, the team had to play a solid team from St. Francis of Assisi School. Once again, they lost the first set in a back-and-forth battle! And again, our team dug deep and won a thrilling second set that had parents and other teams cheering in appreciation of their effort and skill! By the third set, the team was tired, and they did their best and did not give up; unfortunately, victory was not theirs. Finally, the team could rest for one hour before their last match against St. Francis Xavier School. In another marathon of a match, our Gr.7 boys played incredibly well but lost 32-30! Impressively, the boys did not let this deter them - they marched on to win the second and third sets decisively!

What a season! Each member of this Grade 7 Boys Volleyball Team had a chance to shine - whether it was in their serves, net play, digs and sets, leadership or sportsmanship. Mr. Reilly and Ms. D'Alessandro are very proud of how much they have developed in their volleyball skills as well as their resilience. Well done, team!



BOOK FAIR UPDATE

Special thanks to Ms. Plachta and Ms. Rossi for coordinating the Book Fair this year. We would also like to thank Jeannie Weng, Joyce Chen and all those parents who volunteer their time to help in making the book fair such a big success. With everyone's efforts we were able to exceed our sales goal and generate \$ 11, 028.24 in sales. Partial proceeds will go towards the school library and classroom libraries.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT PERFORMANCES

There will be an important dress rehearsal on Friday, December 13. Students are asked to come to school dressed in their costumes.

Photos and video recording will take place during this rehearsal and it is only for staff and students.

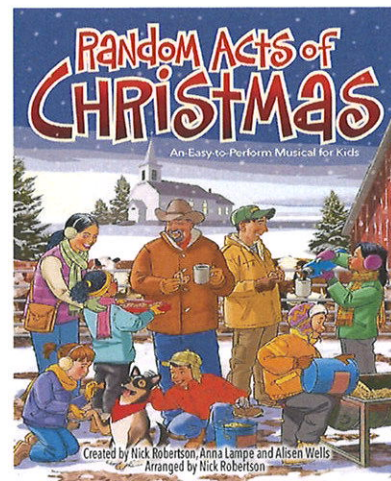
Tuesday, December 17, and Wednesday, December 18 - There will be Matinee performances @ 1:45 – 2:45.

Students are asked to come to school dressed in their costumes.

On Wednesday, December 18 - There will be an evening performance at 7:00pm. Students are expected to be in attendance.

Students are asked to arrive at school by 6:45pm dressed in their costumes and wait under the covered area. Staff will bring students in from the covered area.

Admission is by donation to help raise money for Catholic Charities.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT COSTUMES

Please see attached Christmas concert costume list

EVENING CONCERT AUDIENCE PROTOCOL

In keeping in line with safety protocols, each family will receive **two tickets only** for the evening performance. They will be sent to you the week of December 9th. Younger siblings (four years old and under) must sit on adult laps as chairs are reserved for adults.

Please inform extended family members about seating restrictions and invite them to attend the matinee performances. Only those with tickets will be allowed admittance to the Gymnasium for the evening performance.

After grade performances, students will wait for parents in their classrooms and will be supervised by school staff. Once picked up students cannot be taken into the gymnasium.

ABOUT ADVENT

Advent is a time of observing the coming Christmas holiday, Jesus' Birth, and is celebrated by Catholics and Orthodox Christians throughout the world. The observance of Advent has its roots in ancient times. Advent means "coming," referring to the coming of Christ. The season of Advent is four weeks before Christmas. Advent calendars are commonly used as a "countdown" to Christmas. Small toys or candies are placed inside little doors or windows, and one door is opened each day to count the days till Christmas. The advent wreath counts down the weeks left until Christmas, starting with the 4th Sunday before Christmas.

An advent wreath contains 4 candles, 3 purple, and 1 pink. Purple signifies penitence and fasting in preparation for the coming of a King. The pink candle is for the 3rd Sunday (also known as the Sunday of Joy). A candle is lit on the advent wreath during the Sunday evening meal. This candle will be lit every evening during the evening meal in many cases. Each week an additional candle is lit, until the last Sunday before Christmas, when all four candles burn. A portion of the Christmas story may be told each week and a devotional completed as part of the observance.

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath

Blessing of the Wreath

God of love, may this wreath and its light remind us that Jesus came to save us from our sin. Bless this wreath and all who gather around it as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Christmas. Come, Lord Jesus, bring hope, faith, and life to our world. Amen.

Week 1, Hope

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.

Week 2, Peace

Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.

Week 3, Joy

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

Week 4, Love

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.

Advent Prayer for Families

Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen.

Blessing the Advent Wreath with Children

Dear Jesus, as we light the candle(s) on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.



APPROPRIATE OUTDOOR WINTER CLOTHING

For colder weather, especially during snowfalls and rain, please make sure your children are dressed suitably (winter coats, hats, mitts, boots) for outside recess times.



WEATHER MEMO...

Please review following procedures should the school close due to weather conditions.

1. Check your email
2. Visit the school website— <https://www.cchristi.ca/> (6:30 AM) approx.
3. Follow our school Instagram page **@corpuschristielementary**.
4. Listen to CKNW (980 AM) or watch Global News.

It is the parent(s) responsibility to verify if the school will be open due to the weather based on the information sources noted above.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The school will be closed for Christmas break from **Monday, December 23, 2024, to Friday, January 3, 2025**. The school will reopen on **Monday, January 6, 2025**.

RC CHALLENGE

This year Roman Catholic Challenge Team had the largest number of members yet - 27 students! That's 27 students who grew in knowledge of their Catholic faith. This dedicated RC Team met twice a week from September to November to learn and practice answering trivia questions about Catholicism quickly. The 3 junior teams and 3 senior teams represented Corpus Christi School well in the 2 tournaments which were held at Our Lady of Assumption School and at St. Anthony of Padua School. In each tournament, several of our teams made it far. The grade 7 team, "The Doctors of the Church", placed third in both tournaments! Mrs. Lam and Ms. D'Alessandro are so proud of all the members of the Roman Catholic Challenge Team for having the self-discipline to study the questions on their own time, working together with their team at practices, and most of all, for wanting to know more about our beautiful and rich Roman Catholic religion!



AFTERSCHOOL REMINDERS

The students and younger siblings cannot play on the playground until 3:15 PM when supervision is over and must be supervised by their parents. After 3:15 PM the school washrooms are not accessible due to cleaning staff schedule.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Parents, please label all uniform items (shirts, pants, kilts, shorts, etc.) with a permanent black marker. If your child's name has faded, please re-write the name.

Please check uniform labels (your child may be wearing someone's golf shirt, sweater, shirt, pants, kilt, gym shirt, or gym shorts) If you notice another student's name, please return the item to your child's classroom teacher.

Please ensure that uniform items are neat in appearance. You may need to hem pants or kilts and patch any tears in clothing items. Also, if your child has outgrown uniform items, they will need to be replaced with a bigger size so that they are comfortable at school.

The length of your child's kilt must not be shorter than an inch above the knee.

IN NEED OF CARDBOARD

Thank you to all those families who dropped off cardboard pieces. We continue to need cardboard sheets or flattened cardboard boxes for gardening purposes. If you have any large sheets of cardboard or cardboard boxes (flattened), please and drop them off at the school office any time this month. Thank you for your assistance.

