



INFORMATION PACKAGE



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"A **WISE** MAN WILL HEAR, AND
WILL **INCREASE** LEARNING"
PROVERBS 1:5



PRINCIPAL'S STATEMENT

 Our children are given to us as gifts: a sacred trust from the Lord. Jesus Christ showed his love and concern for children in His tender admonition to the disciples, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." (Mark 10:14)

What does Christian education look like in the 21st century? Our school uses the benefits of good information technology and current, relevant curriculum. But good education needs more than that.

What makes John Knox Christian School unique? A Christian school commits to regular prayer, devotions and daily Bible study; equally important, however, is a teaching staff that commits to teaching all subjects from a Biblical perspective. God's word provides a solid, eternal foundation on which to build positive, enduring values.

Students learn about the wonder, glory, and awe of God and his creation. In Science, God is known as the Creator of all things. Mathematics, like science, would not be possible without the order God has ordained in the world. In History, we see God's hand in the unfolding of events. God's creativity inspires our creative skill in the arts. We understand language as a gift from God to man encouraging clear, meaningful communication.

We value the gifts for the mind, but we also know that our students need to grow socially and spiritually as they mature physically. By stressing development of the whole child, we encourage students to flourish, to build confidence and competence, to empathize, and to serve as good citizens. As they grow, they also learn about their individual responsibility to love, honour and obey God, and to serve and love others as shown through the example of God's Son, Jesus Christ.

This pamphlet will hopefully answer many of your questions about JKCS. If you have further questions, or would like to arrange a visit to the school, please do not hesitate to call the office at 845-3112. You can also reach me, Ymko Boersma, directly at 845-0646.

Sincerely,

**Ymko Boersma
Principal**

OUR HISTORY

John Knox Christian School opened its doors on September 1, 1958 at its original location on 4524 Confederation Line. Wyoming's Christian School began with two classrooms and about 60 students. Students travelled from Forest, Petrolia, Camlachie and Wyoming to experience a Christ-centred education. Despite the addition of a third room to the school in 1962, the school outgrew its location.

John Knox Christian School Society members purchased the old public school in Wyoming, in 1965. Students soon filled the four rooms of the building on the corner of Niagara and Toronto streets. This remained home to the school for thirteen years.

In 1978 John Knox Christian School moved to its current location at 4738 Confederation Line just outside of the village of Wyoming. Generous support from the school society members and from the community encouraged the building of a five room school with a gymnasium. Six years later a library, resource room and sixth classroom was added.

Through the years, the school's leaders met the ongoing challenges of a changing society. A computer room, an expanded resource room, improved staff and meeting room, washroom and change room facilities were added in 2000.

Our Christian school is about much more than buildings and changes. Growth has occurred on many fronts. Our curriculum has expanded and has embraced a wide range of enriching studies encouraging student growth and development. Students have also benefitted from an active sports program and participation in a host of musical presentations, clubs and special activities.

Despite the challenges and changes John Knox Christian School has faced over the years, God's blessings are much in evidence. The founding members expressed a desire to educate their children not only with a solid knowledge and understanding of the Bible but also with a clear vision that Christ is at the centre of creation and forms the basis for knowledge, wisdom, and service. This vision continues to guide the school community.





PURPOSE

John Knox Christian School exists in partnership with the home and the church to train each student to integrate the truth of God as presented in His Word into every area of life.

MISSION

The mission of John Knox Christian School is to work together as parents, staff, students, and community to provide a Christ-centred quality education for the academic, spiritual, physical, and social development of children.

VISION

The primary goal of John Knox Christian School is to equip and encourage students for maturity in Christ, so that all students may manifest Christlikeness in character, conduct, and knowledge to the world in which they live.

OUR ACTION PLAN

These are some ways we are putting our Mission Statement into action:

ACADEMIC

- Classroom learning
- Student support program
- Reading programs
- Field trips
- Fine Arts Festival
- Canadian Test of Basic Skills
- Geography challenge
- Academic challenge
- Science and History fairs
- Problem-based learning projects

SOCIAL

- Oofy Olympics
- Fall Fair participation
- MS Readathon
- Visits to seniors
- Community cleanup events
- Remembrance Day participation
- Special assemblies
- Whole school lunches

SPIRITUAL

- Christian staff
- Christian curriculum
- Morning devotions
- Chapels
- Supporting Third World Schools
- Bible study and discussion
- School musicals
- Code of conduct
- Prayer

PHYSICAL

- Fitness stressed in gym class
- Active playground activities
- Whole school skating
- Health and Safety procedures
- Terry Fox Run / Walk
- Sports Teams:
 - Cross Country / Track and Field
 - Soccer
 - Volleyball
 - Hockey
 - Basketball
 - Two Pitch Softball



AVERY AND ISAAC
AGE: 6 GRADE: 1

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

John Knox Christian School offers a full academic program from Junior KinderStart through Grade Eight. We meet and exceed the basic standards set by the Ontario Ministry of Education in all key subject areas. Here is a brief summary.

JUNIOR / SENIOR KINDERSTART

- Focus on building basic language skills; age appropriate reading / writing activities.
- Listening to and learning key Bible stories.
- Focus on teaching key fundamental math skills
- Learning school routines and developing good social skills

PRIMARY

Grades One through Three

- Stress on language arts skills (reading, writing, spelling/vocabulary, phonics, grammar)
- Stress on fundamental math skills and concepts
- Introduction to Bible stories and study through *The Story of God and His People*
- Creation Studies incorporates science and social studies in connection to Ministry of Education guidelines
- Classes of music, art, French, physical education.

JUNIOR

Grades Four through Six

- Builds on the knowledge established in the primary program
- Language arts expand to include more writing, more detailed grammar, and more in-depth reading
- Math builds on skills to include geometry, patterning, pre-algebra, basic business math, and more
- Science studies include ecosystems, energy conservation, flight and sound, electricity, structures, and others
- Social studies incorporate Canadian provinces, people of the past, and other countries
- Bible study continues with *The Story of God and His People*
- Programs in French (AIM / 'Gestures'), art, music, and physical education

INTERMEDIATE

Grades Seven and Eight

- Knowledge builds to understanding and application with a longer term goal of wisdom.
- Language studies offer a greater stress on written and oral communication.
- Science challenges students in biology (cells), chemistry (solutions), and physics (forces).
- Geography surveys the world through the six major biomes.
- History explores Canada's past (1759 - 1885) and our heritage (Rome, Medieval Times, Reformation, and Renaissance).
- Bible studies continue with increased emphasis on application.
- French, art (art appreciation), music (tone chimes, appreciation), and physical education help round out a student's education.

CURRICULUM RESOURCES

John Knox Christian School uses a wide range of resources. Many are provided by reputable Christian curriculum producers. Other resources are carefully assessed and purchased from various educational publishers. Teachers also have the freedom to enhance curriculum with additional resources. Web-based materials are used more frequently, but they are also assessed with care and used with discretion.

Sample List of Resources:

1. Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools
2. Christian Schools International
3. Handwriting Without Tears
4. Math to the Max; Nelson Math; Math Power; IXL Math55
5. Literature: Wide range of reading materials.

COMPUTER USE

John Knox Christian School has an up-to-date Macintosh lab fully networked to all classrooms. Computer use is carefully

integrated into all subjects. Addition of iPads has enhanced effective IT use.

STUDENT SUPPORT

We offer resource and remedial help to students who struggle with learning. In addition we use the Barton Reading, Writing,

and Spelling program to help students who are challenged by the complexities of language.

WHAT MAKES OUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DISTINCTIVE?

The foundation of Christian belief invigorates what we teach and how we teach it. Our teaching and learning connects to a view of the world that places Christ at the heart of our

purpose. Our subjects are taught from a Christian perspective. Staff places a high value on sound academic learning integrated with all areas of student growth.

EXPECTED ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Students leaving grade eight receive a diploma certifying successful completion of their elementary schooling. This prepares them to enter high school and enroll in programs to match their ability levels. Our school programs foster an

appreciation of learning and support means for lifelong learning. Although career choices lie in the future, students are encouraged to consider their Christian faith, their interests, and their strengths in making positive use of their abilities.

OUR KIDS LOVE IT

OUR TWINS WERE GETTING OLDER, IT WAS TIME FOR US TO TALK ABOUT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

Okay, our kids were only two, but it was already on our minds, "Where are we going to send them?". As the weeks passed and there were only three years left to decide, we had to start solving this dilemma.

I grew up going to Christian schools, Matt went to public schools. Should we send them to public school? They will have friends there. Should we send them to John Knox Christian School? They will have friends there too. What about home schooling, should we do that? So many options, but not one stood out clearly for us.

We spent hours, days, weeks it seemed, researching and deliberating. But what really mattered, what did we desire for our children and who could deliver that best? We're a Christian family, so Christ centred curriculum and staff were of utmost importance. We believe in Christian morals and principles, who would have policies and safe guards that best matched that?

We were welcomed by John Knox to review curriculum and speak directly to teachers and Mr. Boersma, John Knox's principal. We felt right at home and found our wishes for a school were fully met by John Knox.

Our kids absolutely love it there. From their caring teacher they had in SK to everything they love best, like; recess (surprise), computer lab time, class trips and making new friends. We have had an amazing experience and the kids are excited to return and move on up in grades.

MATTHEW & AMY KELLY
WYOMING

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

SPORTS

John Knox Christian School supports a full range of sports activities. All students may take part in:

- Cross Country Running
- Track and Field events

Students in Grades Five through Eight may participate in team sports and represent the school at Christian school tournaments and in events with other local schools. these sports include:

- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Hockey
- Two-Pitch Softball

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

John Knox Christian School offers a number of activities encouraging student gifts:

- Special Days such as “Book Character Day”, “Hundreds Day”, or “Geography Day”
- Special Weeks such as “International Week” or “Theme Application Week”
- History Fair: Held every other year and features student projects in Canadian history
- Science Fair: Held every other year and encourages students to explore science

PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES

- School musical: Every other spring all students take part in a musical performed for the local community.
- Talent Evening: Every other year students have opportunity to share their special talent.
- Public Speaking: Students give speeches (grades five to eight) and recitations (grades one to four) at a special assembly.
- Chapels and Assemblies: Students participate through leading and performing.

CLUBS

The school supports clubs in art, writing, music, and drama in various years. Clubs share their work with the school.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Our students take part in Remembrance Day activities with the local Legion Branch.
- We also participate in the Plympton-Wyoming Fall Fair parade.
- Our senior students help with a spring cleanup of the Wyoming Cemetery as well as a section of Confederation Line.
- Musical performances are presented at area Nursing Homes.
- Students regularly support and visit area food banks.

SCHOOL AS A **SAFE PLACE**

It is important to the staff and parents that students are safe at school. Our “safe arrival” procedure makes sure that students are safely at home (due to illness or family matters) if they are not at school without notice.

A Health and Safety Policy outlines procedures to maintain a clean and safe facility.

Our discipline policy encourages respect for others by setting clear guidelines. A student Code of Conduct is posted in each classroom. The thrust of our discipline policy is “restorative”, that is, problems are resolved with a purpose of restoring students to their purposeful place in the school community. To that end, bullying is taken seriously. We address any issues that arise and will not tolerate bullying, verbal or physical aggression. We encourage students and parents to let us know immediately if an issue arises. We address issues with all students, and their parents, in a very timely fashion until fully resolved.

WHAT ABOUT **BUSING**?

John Knox Christian School owns and operates three buses. Our busing covers a wide area which includes Forest in the north, Waterworks Road (outskirts of Bright’s Grove) in the west, Courtright Line in the south, and Forest Town Line in the east. This incorporates Wyoming, Petrolia, as well as a number of rural roads.

Families who are outside the bus routes will need to transport their children directly to school or to a predetermined point on the bus route. New families on existing bus routes will automatically be picked up. Families requesting bus service must approach the J.K.C.S. Board. The Transportation Committee will propose to the Board their recommendation. The recommendation will be based on consultation assessing costs and feasibility. The Board will decide whether or not the service will be provided and if the costs will be incurred by the family or the Society.



THE JKCS GRADUATE

AT JOHN KNOX CHRISTIAN SCHOOL THE STAFF, THE PARENTS AND THE CHURCH WORK TOGETHER TO TRAIN OUR CHILDREN SO THAT WHEN THEY GRADUATE THEY MAY HAVE:

- An education to serve God as a citizen of their country and God's Kingdom.
- The knowledge that they are children of God and they can express their faith with confidence.
- Joy in understanding God's sovereignty in the apparent disorder that they see in the world around them.
- An expanding devotional life rich in prayer and the reading of God's word so they may have a growing relationship with Christ and know that God directs and rules their lives.
- The ability to gather, retain and use knowledge.
- The ability to be able to think critically and exercise skills to discern between right and wrong through the spectacles of Scripture.
- Good work habits such as managing time and persevering at a task, compassion for others.
- Respect for life created by God.
- The understanding to honour the human body as God's temple.



TUITION

INVEST IN YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE WITH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Tuition cost per family: \$

- This rate applies to families with one or more full time students in attendance.
- Tuition can be paid in 10 or 12 post dated cheques or by special arrangement.

Tuition cost for Sr. KinderStart: \$

- This rate is half of the full time tuition rate.
- KinderStart tuition applies to those families with no other older children in the school.

Tuition cost for Jr. KinderStart: \$

- This programme runs two days per week
- This tuition applies only to families with no other children at JKCS.

Tax Information

A tax receipt will be issued in the Spring for the tuition amount less the Revenue Canada calculated cost per student. 2014 Revenue Canada cost allowance per student was approximately \$2,200 /year.

ie. \$11,200 - \$2,200 for a single student would result in a tax receipt of \$9,000.



THE FACES OF JOHN KNOX



Ymko Boersma
Principal, Gr. 5 & 6



Mans Eisen
Grades 7 & 8



Julie Tetreault
Grades 5 & 6



Christeena Nienhuis
Grade 4



Joy Bouma
Grade 3



Louise Noorloos
Grades 3



Charlene Sluys
Grades 1 & 2



Barbara Robinson
Grades JK & SK



Elizabeth VandenAssem
Barton Programme



Julie MacRobbie
Educational Asst.



Grace Hoogland
Resource



Jacqueline Jackson
Administrative Asst.

NEXT STEPS

Hopefully we have answered all your questions about John Knox Christian School. If we haven't, please contact the school office at any time to setup a call with Ymko Boersma, our Principal. 519.845.3112. If you are ready to move ahead, the next steps are:

1 Meeting with the principal and tour of the school

2 Admissions application

3 Admissions package

4 Admissions interview

ADMISSION APPLICATION

Return to school in person or fax to 519.845.1404.

STUDENT & FAMILY INFORMATION

Date _____

Student's Name _____

Student Date of Birth _____

Citizenship _____

Parent / Guardian _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Email _____

Work Phone (optional) _____

Church Affiliation (optional) _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Present School _____

Current Grade _____

Grade Applied for _____

Special Considerations (academic, health, personal) _____

PROCESS INFORMATION

- 1. Do you agree to transfer student files to this school? YES NO
- 2. Date at which you wish to enroll student (YY/MM/DD)
- 3. Have you received adequate information about the Christian nature of instructions? YES NO
- 4. Have you disclosed fully all information that will assist the school in understanding the student's background and supporting his/her needs? YES NO

Signed _____ Date _____





STAY IN TOUCH

4738 Confederation Line
Wyoming, ON. N0N 1T0

Ph. 519.845.3112
Fax. 519.845.1404

info@WyomingJKCS.com
www.WyomingJKCS.com

WHATEVER IS...

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Phillipians 4:8