AFFIRMING GOD'S TRUTHS

As students prepare to begin a new year at STCCS, a few feelings of nervousness and anxiety might creep in amongst the excitement and anticipation. In moments of uncertainty and doubt, it is essential to remind our children of the foundational truths that define who they are in Christ. These truths serve as anchors for their identity, providing a firm foundation for their faith and character:

I am a Child of God. 1 John 3:1

I am Created in His Image. Genesis 1:27

I am Loved. Jeremiah 31:3

I am Made New by His Grace. 2 Corinthians 5:17

I am Known. Jeremiah 1:5

I am Wonderfully Made. Psalm 139:14

I am Chosen. 1 Peter 2:9

I am God's Masterpiece. Ephesians 2:10

I am Confident. Philippians 1:6
I am a Friend of God. John 15:15

I have a Secure Future. Jeremiah 29:11

I am Strong and Unafraid. 2 Timothy 1:7

I am Victorious. Romans 8:37 I Know the Truth. John 14:26 I have Peace, not Anxiety. Philippians 4:6-7

I am Never Alone. Deuteronomy 31:6

I am a Light. Matthew 5:14-16 I am Enough. Colossians 2:10

These affirmations are more than just words; they are declarations of the powerful promises found in God's Word. When children internalize these truths, they carry with them a sense of security, knowing they are loved, chosen, and equipped by God for every good work. As they face the joys and challenges of the school year ahead, these reminders will not only encourage them but also empower them to walk boldly in their God-given identity. We pray that you will partner with us as we commit to consistently affirming these truths, ensuring that our students are rooted in the unshakable love and truth of Christ.

In this final issue of reConnect, you will find information regarding upcoming events and important first day information.









UPCOMING EVENTS

Take a look at our first few community events of the year. Be sure to mark down these dates in your fall calendar!

Did you know that we have a Facebook Page dedicated to school events? Check out <u>@STCCS</u> to keep up to date with what's going on in our community.

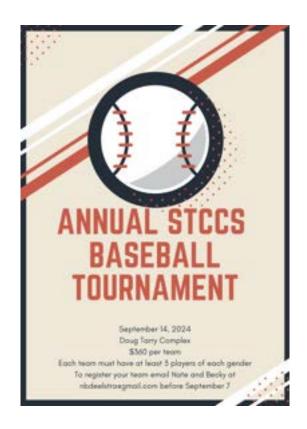


BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

We hope you will join us for our annual back to school bbq on **Friday, September 13th**. More details concerning location and time will be communicated during the first week of school. But please save this date to come out and fellowship with other parents, staff, and get to know our community better.

BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Our fundraising season of 2023-24 is kicking off with a community favourite. We hope you will join us on the field or in the stands on **Saturday, September 14th** for our co-ed baseball tournament. The cost per team will be \$360 and you will be guaranteed three round-robin games, with a playoff round to follow (depending on how many teams sign up). We will be using a "mush" ball again this year to minimize the risk of injury. Teams will be required to umpire for themselves. Please email your rosters to nbdeelstra@gmail.com before Saturday September 7th to give us enough time to put a schedule together. If you don't have a team but want to play, please let us know and we can add you to another team!



CHOCOLATE BARS

Chocolate bars are back! This is one of our most popular fundraising events that our elementary and middle school students love to participate in. We encourage you to help your children reach out to neighbours, friends, and family to sell as many chocolate bars as possible!

MINI PUTT TOURNAMENT

We hope you will join us for our annual mini putt tournament. This event is ideal for families as it's taking place on the first PD day of the year - **Friday, September 27th.** Keep an eye on the first newsletter in September for more details about this exciting event that will take place at the Putting Zoo here in St. Thomas! All ages welcome!

GRADUATING CLASSES OVERNIGHT TRIPS

Our students in our graduating classes - grades 8 and 12 - will each take part in an overnight trip at the beginning of the year to promote unity and teamwork as they begin their year together. Our grade 8 students will spend 2 nights at Camp Mini-Yo-We from **October 2nd-4th** and our grade 12 students will embark on an overnight trip from **September 12-13th.** More details will be sent home to specific classes in a few weeks, but please mark these dates on your calendar if your child is in grade 8 or 12.



FIRST DAY DROP OFF

On the first day of school, our **students in Grades 1-8** can enjoy some time together outside in the school yard until the bell rings at 8:30am. Please remember that supervised drop off begins at **8:10am**.

Our **Kindergarten students** will be met at the Kindergarten Drop Off Area by a school staff member and will be lead inside to their classroom.

Our **High School students** can be dropped off at the front doors of our South Campus and may come directly inside. Staff will be waiting for them in the Learning Commons to greet them.

KINDERGARTEN

ALL kindergarten students are invited to attend the first day of school.

This year our part time kindergarten students will attend school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Due to the first day of school falling on a Tuesday, our part time Kindergarten students will attend school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for their first week.

We recognize that this may be overwhelming for some students so we encourage parents to use their own discretion when determining if their child will attend all three days. If you would like to only send your child for two days next week, please call the office to let us know.

CHAPEL

Our back to school chapel will take place on Tuesday morning at **9:30am at our South Campus** only. All parents are warmly welcomed to join us for the first South Campus chapel service of the year. We recognize that the timing between drop off and chapel is not ideal for parents, however we are prioritizing our students and their transition back to the classroom.

If you cannot make it to Tuesday's chapel, you are welcome to join us for our regularly scheduled weekly chapels beginning on Monday, September 11th at 8:40am at both campuses.

DATE CORRECTION

Please note the following date correction:

Thursday, DECEMBER 5 - Parent Teacher Interviews, Evening Sessions

Friday, DECEMBER 6 - Parent Teacher Interviews, Morning Sessions

Friday, DECEMBER 6 - PD DAY

The Corrected Calendar is below:



	2024
SEPTEMBER	2 Monday Labour Day 3 Tuesday First Day of School 27 Friday PD Day
OCTOBER	14 Monday Thanksgiving (holiday) 23 Wednesday Grandparent's Day 24/25 Thurs/Fri PD Days
NOVEMBER	15 Friday PD Day
DECEMBER	5 Thursday Parent Teacher Interviews, Evening Sessions 6 Friday Parent Teacher Interviews, Morning Sessions 6 Friday PD Day 18 Wednesday Last Day before Christmas Break 19 Thursday Christmas Break Begins
	2025
JANUARY	6 Monday Classes Resume 23-28 Thurs-Tues Secondary Exams 29 Wednesday PD Day (High School Only) 31 Friday PD Day (K-8 Only)
FEBRUARY	14 Friday PD Day 17 Monday Family Day (holiday)
MARCH	 Wednesday Last Day before March Break Thursday March Break Begins Monday Classes Resume
APRIL	18 Friday Good Friday (holiday) 21 Monday Easter Monday (holiday) 25 Friday PD Day
MAY	19 Monday Victoria Day (holiday)
JUNE	2 Monday PD Day, K-8 ONLY 11-18 Wed-Wed Secondary Exams 18 Wednesday Last Day of School