



THE INSIDER
CAMPUSWIDE NEWSLETTER

KELOWNA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

A CHRIST-LIKE COMMUNITY PASSIONATELY TRANSFORMING THE WORLD.

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UPDATE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

April 2nd, 2020

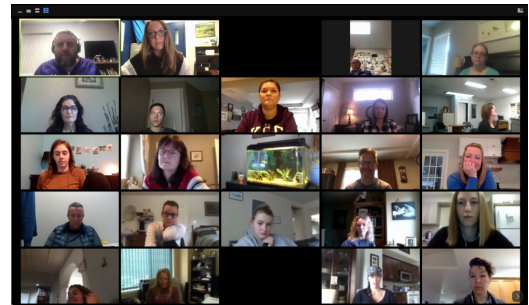
Matthew 22:36-40 English Standard Version (ESV)

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Our 101 Kelowna Christian School Staff and several members of our school board opened the week with a 3-hour Zoom meeting on Monday. We shared, we prayed, we reflected, and we processed. Throughout the past couple of weeks, it has been on my heart to ensure that we remain committed to the mission and vision of

Kelowna Christian School. On my many evening family hikes, I am prayerfully processing, "how can we grow in discipleship from afar in these next two months"?

I have been immensely encouraged with all of the conversations that I have been a part of with staff this week. I have been able to connect into each divisional meeting, with our student support staff, with our leadership team, and with several teachers, one on one. Across the board, our staff desire to work hard to build community and family connections and further our ability to be a discipleship school. Our staff want to continue mentoring and loving every individual. Nobody on our team wants to limit their instruction to 45 minutes of paper-based worksheets a day. Every staff member seeks to go above and beyond and to draw our entire community closer to "Him."



I asked our staff if they wanted to be on our opening chapel planning team, and I immediately had dozens of volunteers. For the staff at Kelowna Christian School, this is more than a job; it is our calling. Our staff want to knock this out of the park. God has gifted Kelowna Christian School with the people to knock it out of the park while ensuring the Glory goes to Him.

Collaboration has been a fun part of this week. Teachers are brainstorming what faith-formation can look like outside of the classroom. To be a discipleship school, we partner with you to grow disciples who go out and make disciples. When our staff brainstorms how to do this offsite, fantastic field-work opportunities emerge. Often, these opportunities centre around loving our neighbours.

To become a disciple is to develop an irresistible desire to follow Jesus for life. Loving your neighbour is found eight times in the Bible. Jesus is clear in Matthew that loving your neighbour as yourself is deeply connected to loving the Lord with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. It is my prayer that our Kelowna Christian School students grow in their faith by finding new ways to connect with our neighbours from afar.

For example, in place of a grade 3 writing and submitting an assignment to their teacher, they could write words of encouragement to those in seniors' homes. Art students could colour rocks and bless families hiking local trails. Some service organizations have been crippled due to Covid-19. Tim Martens is seeking ways for our high school leadership students to continue their support and care for those a part of Hands in Service. There are countless ways that we can love our neighbours and demonstrate our love for Christ and Christ's love for us at a time when our neighbours, including those next door, may feel anxious or lost.

During these extraordinary times, Kelowna Christian School has the opportunity to discover unique ways to bless and encourage and care for people in our lives and our community. We are all finding endless amounts of hidden joy buried all over this new world, and we are called at such a time as this to discover them. God is good, God has a plan, and God is faithful.

Kelowna Christian School is more than an academic institution. We seek to support home and church and build family and community connections. Our staff want our students to wake up inquisitive as we learn and live out the gospel message together.

Our campuses have been hard at work preparing for our soft-start next week, heading into the Easter weekend. Tomorrow morning, each campus leader will email divisional details, timetables, and expectations. For our grades that still have traditional homerooms, you will hear from your child's homeroom teacher later in the day. They are eager to reconnect with their children.

We will kick off with an opening chapel and time of prayer at 9:00 am on Monday. We are putting the finishing touches on what this will look like today and tomorrow, and more information will come. All students and parents are invited to join us as we center what we do, in Him, to begin our new learning adventure.

Thank you for all of your messages, affirmations, and prayers. We are feeling your prayers this week, and we ask that you continue to pray for us as we seek to give God the Glory in these unprecedented times. I know our staff are praying for our students as well. We all miss them.

Blessings,



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