



THE TORCH

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THE DRIVE FOR GENEROSITY BY BIANCA

For the past few weeks, students at North Toronto Christian school have been competing to collect the most non-perishable food items and baby products for their annual food drive. The food drive takes place each year and all donated items are distributed to families within the community that are in need of assistance.

Every year, students are encouraged to increase the amount they are able to give by 10-15%. However, this year, the faculty and members of the Service and Leadership Team (SaLT) challenged the students to in-

crease their donations by up to 25%. This year, students aimed to meet the goal of 30,000 points. Astonishingly, the total score of points that the elementary and junior/high school students reached was 44,760 points and a total of 1847kg, surpassing their expectations by 14,760 points!

When asked what he thought about this year's donations Mr. Brown, an organizer for SaLT, stated that he was proud of the success of the food drive. "One of my

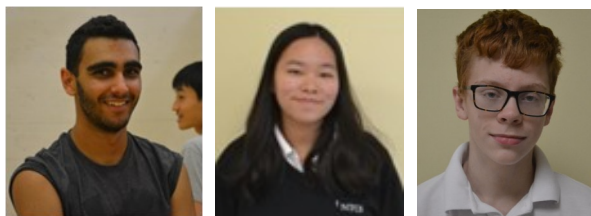


SaLT members storing the items and packing them to send them off.

passions is helping people in need," he said. The results of this year's food drive are evidence of his and

Continued on page 2....

NTCS ROOKIES BY ERIC



North Toronto Christian School welcomes new students with a healthy and supportive environment. The school provides a very strong education and good teachers. This year we have many new students from many backgrounds. They came for a variety of reasons. I chose three random students to profile and introduce them to the NTCS community.

The first question I asked to three new students was, "Why did you decide to come to NTCS?" In grade 12, Sepehr Jalali (Sep) said, "I was in another school but they did not have

enough courses for me." Jacob Fullerton in grade 9 said, "My previous school did not have a high school so I had to move schools. I had a lot of options to choose but NTCS had a lot of support for students and I liked the encouraging environment." On the other hand, Karka Law had different reasons for coming to NTCS. She came to Canada because of her grandparents who live in Canada and when they visited Hong Kong, they introduced Karka to Canada, which led her to NTCS.

The second question I asked was, "What's

your favorite thing about NTCS so far." To this Sep and Karka answered "the students and the teachers." Sep added that he is excited to see a swimming pool at NTCS because he enjoys swimming. Lastly, he loves the volleyball team and Coach Hoover. Jacob Fullerton likes that there are many students because previously there were only 100 students in his school (JK-Gr. 8).

The final question was, "What are you looking forward to this year?" Sep wants to win a championship in soccer, Karka wants to make more friends, and Jacob wants to try joining a sports team. In common they all want to get good marks.

We are really glad Sep, Karka, Jacob, and all new students are studying at NTCS this year and hope they can achieve their goals.

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NEXT EDITION:

Meet Mr. Pun,
Mrs. Stephen-Singh,
and Mrs. Babler

INTRODUCING MRS. JOZIF BY NIDHI AND CHARIS

As we all know, NTCS is blessed with two new teachers: Mrs. Jozif and Mr. Babler. Let's get to know Mrs. Jozif -6A's homeroom teacher.

Mrs. Jozif was born in Iowa, USA. She lived most of her childhood in India and Nepal. In 2016 she moved to Canada. Since her family were missionaries, she moved to Nepal at the age of four where she became a Christian. Her dad would tell her stories about the Israelites and how they disobeyed God, which made her sad. When she realized she had sinned, she prayed to Jesus to save her and she became a Christian. She came to Tennessee when she was twelve years old. She decided that she would help people when she grew up, like a nurse. But in the last minute, she thought if she helped kids, they could turn into awesome adults which would help the world even more. Mrs. Jozif went to King University in Tennessee (USA). Mrs. Jozif's major was interdisciplinary studies and her minor was elementary education.

Mrs. Jozif used to teach at Johnson Elementary in Tennessee, where she taught Grade 1 for two years. That school didn't have a uniform policy, and they only had one really long recess. During recess or spare time, Mrs. Jozif said that she

likes to read. When she is home, she enjoys baking. She also enjoys hiking and taking pictures of nature. She said that the Chandos hike was good, but it was a little too fast.

When Mrs. Jozif was 7 years old, she decided to do a surprise breakfast for her parents' anniversary. She and her little brother, who was four at that time, made a plan to wake up at 3:00 am and prepare a breakfast. She thought it would take four hours to make breakfast. She woke up at 3:00 am, but her brother didn't. So, she went down stairs by that time her brother woke up, and when he didn't find her, he woke up their parents. When they heard that Mrs. Jozif wasn't there, they thought she was just hanging out upstairs. When they didn't find her there, they got worried and went downstairs. When Mrs. Jozif heard them, she got scared and hid in the cupboard of the kitchen. When her parents didn't find her anywhere, they decided to call 911. Hearing this Mrs. Jozif got scared and jumped out. She immediately told them that she was safe and went back to bed. When her parents asked her why she was in the kitchen this early, she said it was a surprise and went back to bed again. Her younger brother was with

her parents realizing the mistake he has done. Mrs. Jozif asked if he could help but her parents said no since he was only 4 years old. Her parents went to back to bed and so did her little brother. Mrs. Jozif proceeded to make breakfast.

At 7:00 am her parents woke up as normal and went downstairs. For breakfast they got cold milk with soggy cereal, warm orange juice and a stalled toast! All of these foods were sitting out on the counter for three and half hours! What a splendid 7 years old serving breakfast experience. We are so grateful that she is our grade six teacher!



Mrs. Jozif welcomes her students on Sept 3. Photo by Mrs Crouse

FOOD DRIVE CONT....



Danielle Lee and Mrs. Yoo pack boxes.
Photo by Mrs. Crouse

the SaLT members' dedication and hard work.

Student members of SaLT had an equally fulfilling experience organizing the event. Danielle Newman in Grade 11, one of this year's new SaLT members, had the job of advertising and making posters in preparation for the food drive. Danielle stated that apart from helping others, being a part of SaLT made her more responsible, especially with her time, as signing up with SaLT was a large commitment and a big responsibility.

Students like Danielle gained vital skills for their future, such as organization and leadership skills, as they prepared for the drive. Most importantly, her membership in SaLT allowed her a chance to give into her passion of helping others. "I love serving others," she exclaimed as she reflects upon the success of this year's food drive. "We are hopeful that everyone at North Toronto Christian School will continue to keep pushing the limits for years to come!"

MRS. CHAMBERS: LIVING FOR CHRIST BY SOPHIA

*Mrs. Chambers in her classroom poses for a picture.
Photo by Sophia*



If you've been in our kindergarten hallways, you might have noticed a few new faces. One of them is Mrs. Chambers, who has joined our staff as the new SK teacher. Even though she

has only been with us for a few months, we can already see the impact she has on the students!

Mrs. Chambers has always had a heart for children. Growing up in Jamaica with a rough home situation and being the oldest in the family, Mrs. Chambers' siblings and cousins depended on her. She moved to Canada at age eight. Developing responsibility at a young age, she knew she would work with children in her career. She eventually settled on teaching.

Mrs. Chambers went to Seneca College, where she earned her Early Childhood Education diploma. She then worked with daycare and childcare facilities, and the TDSB for 4-5 months, which was not the best experience. As a teacher, she was not allowed to even mention God

or talk about Christianity. The children there generally didn't get along, and fought a lot. Since she started teaching at NTCS in September, Mrs. Chambers appreciates the children's obedience and manners. She also loves being able to teach her students about God.

Although she was raised in the church, Mrs. Chambers has not always followed God. She struggled with her faith, and fought the things of God for a long time. She said she "loved the things of the world, but things weren't going right". She surrendered her life to God six years ago, and has been living for Him ever since. Teaching at NTCS has been one of the highlights of her career as a teacher, and says that "NTCS has more of a 'family' feeling; it's more than just a job".

MS. ROEVELD: SHARING CHRIST AT NTCS BY LUXMY

Ms. Roeleveld was born and raised in Toronto. She came from a big family with seven sisters and two brothers! When Mrs. Roeleveld was born, one of her brothers was upset because he wanted a brother but he ended up with a sister. But that did not stop him from loving her. Mrs. Roeleveld said, "decided to become a teacher in my early twenties." To help her become a teacher she went to Seneca College and studied Early Childhood Education. Before NTCS, she taught at a Montessori school, where she worked with younger children in preschool. She also worked in a daycare where she used to take care of former NTCS student's, Kaitlyn and Chole Hung. OF our school, she said, "North Toronto Christian School has a family environment, it is like a community." Mrs. Roeleveld is the educational assistant for grade one and she sees a huge difference from working

with children under the age of four and the Grade One students. The grade ones "are way more independent" when they are told to finish a task, she said.

During her free time, Mrs. Roeleveld bikes most places because she doesn't drive! She loves being outside and connecting to God through nature. Being born into a Christian family, she understood at a young age who Jesus is, but never really reflected on Him until she started to attend girl's clubs. She attended Pioneer Club where she was taught more about her faith and that's when she really reflected on the Lord's love for her. Reading the stories of the Bible to young children helps strengthen her faith. Teaching young children about Jesus has brought her closer to the Lord. NTCS is glad to have Mrs. Roeleveld part of our community

and we can't wait to see how she positively influences our young students.



*Ms. Roeleveld takes a moment to pose for a picture.
Photo by Luxmy*

STRATEGY CLUB NEWS BY ALEX

Are you interested in playing some board and card games that make you really think? Whether you are very competitive or just want to have some fun, try out Strategy Club.

Strategy Club is hosted by Mr. Hoover and offers a wide variety of competitive, strategy related games that each has a unique objective. They both test and improve your thinking skills.

Strategy related games are different from normal

games. Instead of randomly moving your pieces for no real reason or slapping down any card, you have a better chance if you think about what you are going to play and try to predict your opponent's moves. A lot are like a game of chess. The best players think before they act.

The club meets every Thursday in C3. Jacob from 9A said that "it is really fun." There is no sign up required. Just drop by. See you there.



? And Alex Zhang play a game of ? Photo by Wenney Szeto

GRADE FOUR CHANDOS BY EMILY



The grade four students take a look at a caterpillar on Mr. Brinkman's hand during their hike. Photo by Mrs. Seenaraine

On September 25th to September 27th, Mrs. Seenaraine's class, the grade fours, went to Chandos. The bus ride took them around 2 hours and 30 minutes.

All the food was delicious! Everyone loved the garlic bread and the chicken noodle soup. The grade fours were surprised to see Mrs. Cooke's daughter, Julia Cooke, working with the kitchen staff.

One thing that everyone liked was all the fun in the cabins. Some cabin activities included hide and seek, card games and dance parties. One of Kai Zou's favourite cabin games were the pillow fights. At free time, lots of the kids looked forward to going to their cabins to play.

Even though it was a little wet when the grade fours were at Chandos, they still had a lot of fun. Mercia Hui said, "My favourite activity was Capture the Flag!" One of the

teams fell back when most of their fastest runners got caught. Even some of the fastest runners had a hard time getting past all the people that were guarding the border.

The Grade four class also had a lot of time to do art. Hermione Szeto said, "My favourite art activity was making bookmarks." On the hike, the grade fours collected leaves and flowers to make a picture with them. Some people did fish, butterflies, bunnies, and cabins.

More fun activities were held in the barn. The grade four boys played basketball, and the girls played red light, green light. The grade fours also played a game that was called, "Never Have I Ever." Joelle Leung said, "My favourite barn game was Captain's Order."

This year, Chandos was a blast! Everyone LOVED the food, the activities, the crafts, and the cabin fun!

GRADE FIVE CHANDOS HIGHLIGHTS BY LEE

The grade five class went to Chandos from October 2nd to October 4th. They did some fun activities like Capture the Flag, hiking, and making a terrarium. In the evening they had a campfire and made s'mores. Talking to a couple of students, they had this to say about their favorite activities:

"My favourite activity was playing hide and seek tag. We even played till 8 o'clock at night," said Gabriella.

Peter said, "I really like playing Capture the Flag."

"The food at Chandos is really good," Peter said, "My favourite meal was the delicious chicken noodle soup."

For some entertainment, they played games and had fun in the great outdoors. Mr. Brinkman also took them on a hike to show them all the wonders of the forest. I think they enjoyed

nighttime the best, though. Here's some proof:

"We played in the cabins and had a giant GLOWSTICK PARTY!" says Gabriella.

Arriving back to the school on Friday there were some tired but happy kids...

"I love Chandos and I enjoy going every year," said Gabriella.

"It's amazing!" said Peter.



The grade five girls enjoy some down time in their cabin. Photo by Ms. Yeung

GRADE 6 CHANDOS BY GRACE

This year's grade six Fall Chandos was super fun! Mr. Babler and Mrs. Jozif had an awesome first trip, and the new students loved it too! The grade sixes' trip was from Monday, September 31st to Wednesday, October 2nd.

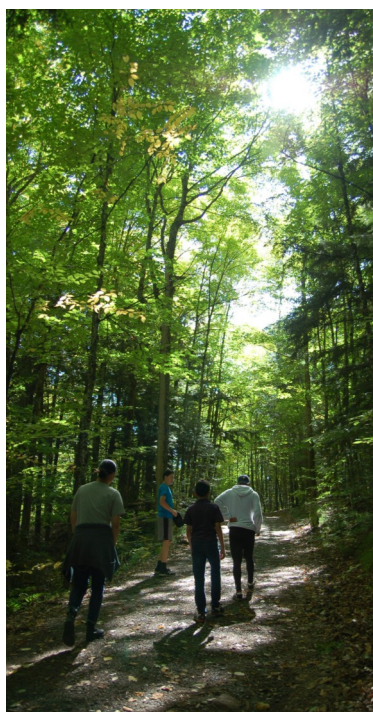
The food at Chandos was delicious, as always. Isaac Wu's favourite meal was the grilled cheese and soup. Ella Wang, a new student this year, says, "My favourite meal is the pasta with meatballs."

Two new things that the sixes did this year were canoeing and swimming. Rachel Delic, another new student, especially liked canoeing.

One Chandos favourite every year is the campfire. Around it, campers sing songs, act out skits, eat yummy s'mores, and much more. Mr. Babler made a Skit Club (which was earlier named the Dumb, Stupid Group, but he wanted *something nicer*), which performed skits around the fire. Mr. Babler said that they did a great job!

This year, there were six cabins, because it would be very chaotic if the teachers divided 44 students among 4 cabins, the usual number of cabins in elementary. Inside each cabin, it was like a separate world! For example, Makaila Shenouda enjoyed singing a song with her friends, while Samuel Baradas-Villegas played quiet games in his cabin.

Overall, everyone had a great time, despite minor mosquito bites, late nights, and snoring Campers!



Hiking in a shady forest, a monarch butterfly, and mist on Lake Chandos. All pictures by Denise Chan

WELCOME TO NTCS!

BY BETHANY AND GABRIELLA

At NTCS, there is a new grade six teacher named Mr. Babler. We asked him a few questions and he gave us these responses.

Mr. Babler grew up near the woods in a town called Stouffville. Being near the woods gave him opportunities to do things like building forts and tobogganing in the winter. Now, Mr. Babler enjoys gardening and rock climbing as two of his hobbies. He says that he likes gardening because it's calming and it brings him back to his "roots." Rock climbing is fun for him because it's very exhilarating. Mr. Babler also mentioned that he likes making bad jokes to tell other people.

Mr. Babler went to Queen's University in Kingston to study chemistry. He had been very sure that he wanted to be an engineer up until the last two days before he could apply for a teaching course. He asked his friends for their opinions, and

they told him that he was good with kids. Mr. Babler finally decided to take the teaching course.

Most of his experience before teaching at NTCS was from volunteering at a camp. He also said that all his previous experiences with kids had been with high school students, but that he liked teaching grade six students better. Students in a proper school are different than kids at camp.

The last question that we asked Mr. Babler was, 'How did you become a Christian?' He was first exposed to Christians in high school, which inspired him to go to a Christian camp where he met more "different" people and began to want to be the same.

In conclusion, Mr. Babler is having a great year so far with the grade sixes. He loves the environment of NTCS and loves teaching here. Students are also excited to have him as their teacher. Welcome to NTCS, Mr. Babler!



Mr Babler is at the board teaching math to his students.
Photo by Hannah Deng

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A LOVE OF TEACHING AND A FLAIR FOR CHALLENGES BY HANNAH

Many children dream of their future job, but rarely do they stick to one single decision while growing up. Mrs. Rath was not one of them. Ever since elementary, she knew she was heading for a teaching career.

"I think it was because I have three younger brothers, and I would constantly be helping them," she said.

She was born in Thornbury, Ontario, to a God-fearing family. As she grew up, her decision to become a teacher became more definitive. Eventually, this led her to begin working with children. She'd help out with her church's children's program, take a couple camp jobs, and do some tutoring on the side.

Camp was actually a special experience for Mrs. Rath. Although she was born and raised in a Christian family, she didn't fully experience God for herself until she stayed at a Christian camp. There, she was able to observe her older peers who had all independently chosen to follow God.

"I was able to see that faith was something I could do for myself, not something I should do just because my parents did," she elaborated. It provided the impetus behind her decision to become a Christian.

She went to Queen's University, where she majored in chemistry – a decision borne out of a longstanding curiosity for the subject and all its applications. "I wanted to understand the reason behind its reactions," she explained. "It's fascinating what you can do with chemistry."

She taught in Mexico for two years. During her time there, she observed that the students were privileged and wealthy, but also "scared of challenges." Despite their apprehension, they had great personalities, and she enjoyed her time working with them.

In her spare time, Mrs. Rath prefers to play board games and card games, such as Dominion, Bridge, and Settlers of Catan. She likes the strategic, competitive, and challenging aspects of these games, and they are a wonderful way to bond with others, too.

Her favourite thing about teaching is what all teachers ultimately strive for: the exact moment a student grasps a concept. There's no doubt that she will continue to facilitate more of these moments here at NTCS.

"The students here are humble and willing to be challenged," she said. "I like that they appreciate their ability to come to school to learn."



Mrs. Rath smiles for the camera. Photo by Hannah

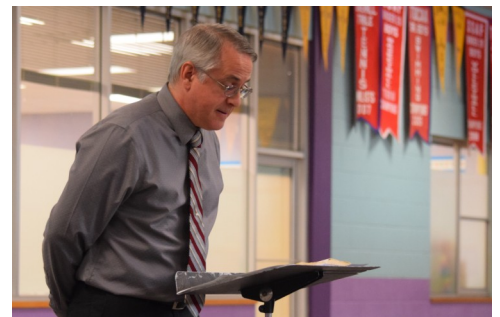
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Grade one students play soccer in phys ed class; Grade ten drama students practice a skit; grade eight girls sign their yearbooks, and Mr. Collins speaks in chapel. Photos by Mrs. Crouse

OUR JOURNALISTS:



Mrs. Crouse
Advisor, editor,
photographer



Bianca Campbell
(gr 11) Writer



Hannah Deng
(gr 11) Writer,
photographer



Eric Kim
(gr 11) Writer



Luxmy Mahendrarajah
(gr 11) Writer,
photographer



Sophia Martin
(gr 11) Writer,
photographer



Wenney Szeto
(gr 11) Writer,
photographer



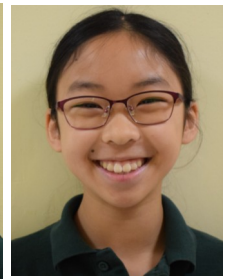
Alex Zhang
(gr 7) Writer



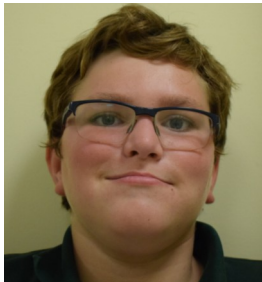
Ms. Yeung
Advisor, editor,
photographer



Grace Wan
(gr 6) Writer



Bethany Wong
(gr 6) Writer



Lee Jasper
(gr 6) Writer



Nidhi Bajoria
(gr 6) Writer



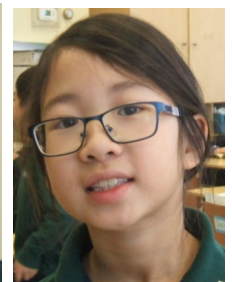
Alessia Kaounis
(gr 5) Writer



Charis Kwok
(gr 5) Writer



Gabriella Paz-Giralico
(gr 5) Writer



Emily Wan
(gr 4) Writer

THE TORCH is published by:



**NORTH
TORONTO
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

255 Yorkland Boulevard
North York, Ontario
M2J 1S3

CONTACT US:

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Send us an email at:

newspaper@ntcs.on.ca

We will answer your questions in an upcoming edition of *The Torch*. Also, the journalists are working on the NTCS 2019-20 yearbook! Throughout the year, send your high-quality photos (jpeg files) to:

yearbook@ntcs.on.ca
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