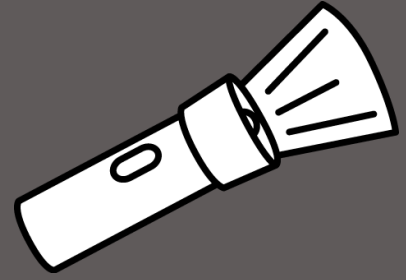


# The Torch



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 19, 2018

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## Operation Christmas Child at NTCS *by Alex*

This is the 24<sup>th</sup> year of NTCS supporting the Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child project. This year, we packed 392 Christmas boxes, surpassing last year's box count by a hundred! We were just eight boxes short from reaching four hundred.

All packed shoeboxes will be sent to children in need around the world. Imagine the joy of these children opening these boxes filled with toys, hygiene products, school supplies and thoughtful notes on Christmas day! Not only do

these children get amazing gifts from people they never met before, but they also get to hear the amazing story of Jesus' birth and His love for the world. What an incredible way to show God's love to those in need.

The SaLT team commented on what a great success the OCC project was this year. It is a good way to think about other people outside of our circles, and to remember the many children around the world who are benefiting from this. Thank you for helping children around the world. Merry Christmas!



*Tim Zhang and Matthew Ko pack boxes of shoeboxes into the truck. Photo by Kris Thomas*

## Three amazing concerts in four days! *by Stephanie and Mrs Crouse*



This year, the NTCS music department and elementary classes were very busy perfecting and then presenting their Christmas programs for our appreciative audiences. The primary division presented their delightful mix of recitations and songs to happy friends and family on Tuesday Dec. 11. From the cute JK drummers to the enthusiastic singing of the grade twos and threes, it was an excellent afternoon of sharing God's love.

The high school music concert came next and was presented on Thursday, December 13th. All the students were excited, especially the players because they had practiced a lot in the last few weeks. Nathan Kim, from grade ten, explained how "hard they worked playing their instruments not only in class,

but also at home. The players cooperated with each other again and again to be ready for the big night. With the help of their conductor Mr. Brown, they became more and more confident about the concert," said Nathan.

The evening featured a wide variety of musical styles to suit every taste. From the toe-tapping "Feliz Navidad" to the soft and serious "Mary, Did You Know," the concert featured many classic and contemporary Christmas songs. **A quote from Mr Brown here.....**

Senior student Heidi Chung played a complicated and beautiful cello solo which she is preparing for an audition to the music therapy program at Wilfred Laurier University in a couple of months. She loves playing the cello "because it is relaxing and makes each day better." Krista

*JK students play their drums and sing Little Drummer Boy. Photo by Mrs Crouse*

Continued on page 2

## Grades 5 and 6 Volleyball Tournament *by Samantha*

This year, the grades 5 and 6 volleyball team had lots of fun together -whether in training or playing at the tournament. They showed excellent sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the whole tournament, landing them a third place out of six teams.

The volleyball tournament took place on Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The team was very excited, yet nervous about playing against the other teams: Brampton, Oakville, Wesley, Pickering, and Richmond Hill. The tournament was hosted in Brampton, and it took about thirty minutes of nervously waiting in the bus to get there.

The team went up against Brampton first. Brampton played a

great game and sadly, we lost by a lot. We did not let that hold us back though. Next up, we faced Oakville, and with a lot of support from the bench and singing the theme song of Sponge-bob Square-pants, we won that game! We lost a really close game to Wesley, then lost to Pickering after that, but won against Richmond Hill.

When we versed Richmond Hill again, we won best out of three games. We had to verse Brampton again, and unfortunately lost by a lot again. Our hopes for first place deflated, but we knew that we could still win third place.

We versed Wesley for third, and it was a really close game. We played best out of three.

We won the first game, then Wesley won the second. We had to play the final game. It was really nerve-wracking, but in the end we won 16-14. We were pretty satisfied with getting third, and had lots of fun along the way.

In the end, it doesn't matter what place we got, whether we've won or lost. We had fun and screamed our lungs out, and that's all that mattered! A big thank you to our coach, Mr. Eberlin!



## Concerts cont....

Hinds plays flute and admitted that she liked "all of the songs played this year." Kristofer Thomas, a grade nine percussionist, likes playing the drums best so "Born is the King" was his favourite piece. The choir sang two nice songs close to the end of the program and Mr. Vant Erve was proud of his singers. "They all love singing and it showed," he said.

*Grade seven students play "Mary, Did You Know?" Fun puppets make an entrance and help tell the Christmas story. Photos by Mrs. Crouse*



The week of celebration ended with a program on Friday afternoon featuring the grade 4-6 classes. All three classes presented entertaining and uplifting Christmas music and recitations. Memorable highlights included "The Twelve Days of Christmas" with fun signs and actions and a hilarious puppets singing Christian lyrics to the popular Bohemian Rhapsody tune. Friends and family and the students themselves were pleased with their performances and were glad for the opportunity to share their love of Christmas with everyone.



*Drummers drumming—the grade six students sing "The Twelve Days of Christmas" beautifully! Girls on saxophones—Sarah Zhou, Danielle Newman, and Emma Hsu give it their all! Photos by Mrs. Crouse*



## Grade Six Chandos *by Samantha*

Each year students from grades three to ten go to Chandos, an outdoor education centre near Apsley. This year, the sixth grade students went on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

At Chandos, the sixth grade students played a lot of games, such as Capture the Flag and Survival. They also went canoeing and swimming, having fun despite the cold weather and chilly waters. Each cabin also showcased a Bible skit and presented a devotion to the class.

The food at Chandos is also amazing. They had a lot

of good food, such as pasta, chicken wings, jello, hot dogs, and a lot more. Joyce Lau's favourite meal was the grilled cheese sandwiches and the chicken noodle soup.

The ride back home, as always, is a sad and happy thing at the same time. It's sad because Chandos was fun and the students don't want to leave. It's also a happy thing because you'll get to see your family, sleep on your own bed, and play on your electronics.

Sixth grade Fall Chandos was extremely fun, and the sixth grade class can't wait for next year, when they get to go again in the winter.

## Christmas Devo *by Tiana*

It's that time of the year when the Christmas spirit is everywhere; we hear carols on the radio, see decorated trees, smell gingerbread cookies, hang up festive lights, and reunite with family and friends. Christmas is a time of happiness and traditions but we should remember why we are celebrating this holiday. It is so easy to get caught up in the commercial aspects of the Christmas season.

But don't get me wrong, a big part of Christmas is the traditions that we know and love. However, we should be reminding ourselves of the holiday's true meaning. Christmas is rooted in God's gift of Jesus' birth. It all began with a teenage girl in Nazareth who was engaged for marriage with a Jewish carpenter named Joseph. Then one day, the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her that through the power of the Holy Spirit she would give birth to a son who would be named Jesus.

Now imagine that....a glorious angel right in front of you sent from the heavens with a message for you! That is how Mary felt—completely overwhelmed, startled, but honored. However, Mary was scared because she did

not know how to tell her fiancé about her pregnancy and when she did, Joseph did not believe her. So the angel Gabriel appeared to Joseph and explained to him that Mary would give birth to a child through God and that that child will save all from their sins. Obviously Joseph obeyed the Lord and went along with it.

Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem on a donkey for several days because they were required to take part in the Roman census. Well that is not pleasant at all; being in the hot sun, 8 months pregnant, and on a donkey for several days. But Mary and Joseph persevered through it and arrived in Bethlehem. However, once they arrived, the couple went to as many Inns as they could find but they were all full. They could only find a stable to rest in. Mary was due at any moment to bring Jesus into the world so they settled into the barn where Jesus was born.

At the time of Jesus' birth, an angel appeared to the shepherds near Bethlehem where they were told of the Saviour's birth. Immediately the shepherds went to find baby Jesus and witness his glory.

A few months later Jesus



was also visited by three wise men that followed a large shimmering star which was located above their house. However, the shepherds and magis weren't the only one's looking for Jesus, King Herod made it his mission to kill baby Jesus since he viewed the baby—called King of the Jews— as a threat. In order to find the baby, Herod asked the wisemen to tell him where Jesus was upon their return. But the wise men knew King Herod's intentions so they returned home a different way to avoid the wicked King

So Jesus' introduction into the world was filled with obstacles, struggles, and Herod's evil intentions, but his life of struggles was there to represent all the evil and sin in the world and how important it was for Jesus to sacrifice himself to save all of God's children from the sins of earth so that we can enjoy heaven.

# The Junior Soccer Tournament *by Alex*

The junior soccer team was composed of students from grades three to six. They were all very energetic and hard-working students. The team was coached and trained by Mr. Eberlin. They worked hard, practicing every Wednesday lunch and Thursday afternoons.

This year, the one-day tournament was held on October 10<sup>th</sup> at The Ultra-Sports Indoor Sports Center. There were many other teams competing in the tournament. As a result, the place was crowded with parents, coaches, and participants. The

Ultra-Sports Center was very busy all day.

Our team played fiercely through all the games and took third place. They managed to score one point in the last two seconds and blocked numerous amounts of shots taken. Overall, they did very well. We should thank the parents for helping and supporting our team members. Also thanks to Mr. Eberlin for training the team and all the team members for their effort. Congratulations on a great soccer season!



*NTCS Flames play hard at their soccer tournament. Photo by Sarah Zhou*

# Race to Read *by Bethany Wong and Grace Wan*

How many chapter books do you normally read in a month? Well, during the month of November, the Grade Fives held a Read-a-Thon to help raise money for Mighty Oaks Global Initiatives, who in turn will help girls in Thailand find a home.

Mighty Oaks Global Initiatives, or MOGI, is an organization that helps build homes for children whose guardians don't treat them properly. The Grade fives helped this organization by reading books. It might seem a little weird, but for each book they read, they got a certain amount of money from a sponsor. After the Read-a-Thon ended, the Grade Fives collected all the money from all their sponsors and handed the money to Ms. Yeung, who gave all the money to MOGI.

Altogether, the Grade 5's read about 180 books in the month of November. Ms. Yeung says that she is very impressed with the Grade 5's because of the amount of books that they read and the enthusiasm that was put into this serve project. Yutong Zou was also quite impressed with herself because normally, she would read one chapter book per month, but this month, she read 16 books! What a difference!

When asked if he enjoyed the read-a-thon, Aidan Untalasco said, "I enjoyed the read-a-thon because I got to read books."

Mrs. Brouwer told the Grade 5's that if they raised \$1000, they would get a treat. If they raised \$1200, Mrs. Brouwer would *double* the amount of treats! This was a great motivation- it earned lots of gasps!

The Grade 5's are very proud of themselves as they think about how much money they have raised and how all that money is being donated to people in need around the world. They might be changing lives! Hoping to reach their goal of \$1000, the Grade 5's scramble to collect their money from their sponsors. Let's thank God for helping the Grade 5's read so many books and raising a lot of money!



# Blab with Berzi: Christmas Activities in T.O. by Sam

Living in Toronto in the winter can be a hassle because there is usually a lot of traffic and sometimes the roads are blocked with snow. Sometimes in the holidays you're stuck at home with nothing to do. You and your friends want to do something but do not know what to do or where to go. In today's *Blab with Berzi*, I will be talking about some possible activities for you to do in Toronto during the Christmas holidays.

Toronto is geographically big so in order to transport yourself across the city, you need to drive. But since not everyone drives, the city of Toronto has the affordable TTC which is a public transport agency operating with buses, subways, and streetcars.

So one of the first things you can do is go to the mall—if you like malls. There are many malls in Toronto such as: Fairview, Yorkdale, The Eaton Center, Scarborough Town Center, and Sherway Gardens. You can get all of your Christmas shopping done!

Another thing you can do, if you like museums, is go to the ROM (Royal Ontario Museum), the Art Gallery of Ontario, or the Gardiner Museum. The Royal Ontario Museum is 106 years old which makes it the oldest museum in Ontario. It has many amazing exhibits for history buffs!

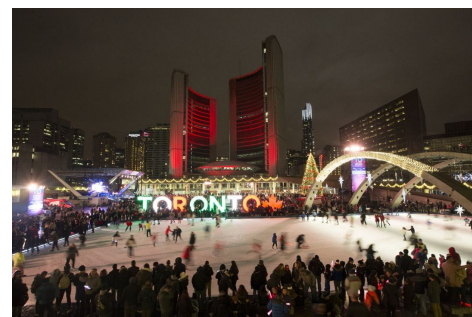
Another great activity, especially in the winter, is to go skating. Skating is an act of motion by the wearer of ice skates to propel him/herself across a thick sheet of ice. This is a great form of exercise and can be done at many outdoor rinks in Toronto. The most famous spot is at Nathan Philips Square located at Queen St West and Bay St. You can go with your friends and family!

Another exciting outing is the Toronto Zoo. The Toronto Zoo has been open since 1966. You can take children of any age to go and see all types and sorts of animals.

Finally, if you live in To-

ronto you need to cheer for our sports teams and to do this, you need to go to the Scotiabank Arena and watch the Toronto teams play. You can watch the Toronto Raptors or the Maple Leafs, if you are a big sportsfan. Tickets for some games can get a little pricey but it will be an event that will never be forgotten.

At the end of the day, most of the things I have listed are free but some of the things are pricey but it's worth the good time with all of your family and friends.



Skating at Nathan Philips Square will put you in a holiday mood

## A NTCS Wordsearch

By Rachel

B F U N F A I R B Y W R I T I N G Z  
E T B I P L D R A M A S G Y M V X F  
P R A I S E A N D W O R S H I P M L  
R E B T E Y L P E S C I E N C E A A  
E C R O S S C O U N T R Y U A L T M  
A T P D P U N I P J M U S I C T H E  
D C A R D C L U B T C H A N D O S S  
I T O R C H C H E S S C L U B L R C  
N R Q S P O R T S J E S O C C E R N  
G A R F I E L D T R I P S G K T U R  
U W Z S O C I A L S T U D I E S W K  
M S W I M M I N G C F R E N C H G W

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘.

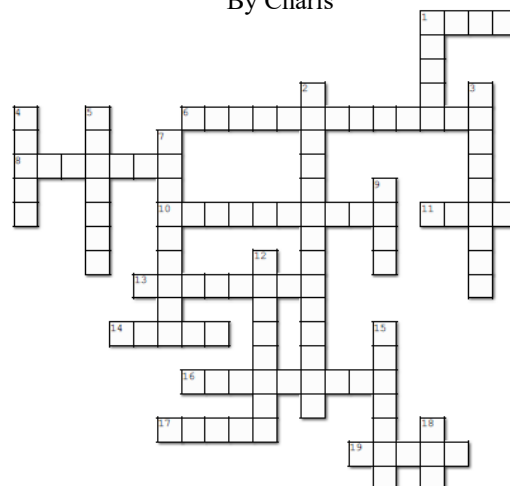
FUN FAIR  
SCIENCE  
CHESS CLUB  
CROSS COUNTRY  
DRAMA  
FIELD TRIPS  
FLAMES  
FRENCH

FUNFAIR  
GYM  
MATH  
MUSIC  
PRAISE AND WORSHIP  
READING  
SWIMMING  
SOCCER

SOCIAL STUDIES  
SPORTS  
CARD CLUB  
TORCH  
CHANDOS

## Christmas Crossword

By Charis



### Horizontal

1. white, fluffy, and lands on the ground
6. hot drink
8. reindeer with a red nose
10. a red Christmas flower
11. you sit on it and slide down the hill
13. found under the Christmas tree
14. born in a manger, in Bethlehem
16. hung on Christmas trees
17. messenger of God
19. makes a jingle sound

### Vertical

1. wears black boots, and a red and white coat
2. tall, pointy and green
3. where Jesus was born
4. The King of the Jews at the time of Jesus' birth
5. goes really well with a glass of milk
7. tends the flock of sheep
9. mother of Jesus
12. made from balls of snow
15. came from the East following the star
18. helps Santa make toys

Created using TheTeachersCorner.net Crossword Puzzle Maker



## Sports News *by Sairam*

The high school boys volleyball team completed a successful 2018 season with a well-deserved second place. At Toronto Waldorf School, the boys were undefeated the whole tournament before a tough 2-1 loss in the finals to Whitfield. No matter though, they achieved a lot and grew in their faith in the Lord in the tough times. All that matters is that they tried their hardest and played for God's glory. They'll get 'em next time!

Tryouts for the NTCS high school boys basketball have started and there seems to be a lot of buzz and interest surrounding this year's

season. The team will be coached again by Mr. Hoover, who has coached the team for the last 6 years and he is confident the boys will go deep into the playoffs!

The Miami Dolphins somehow managed to sneak a win against the New England Patriots at home in an epic game last week. With only 7 seconds left and at their own 30 yard line, Ryan Tannehill threw to Kenny Stills, who lateralled the ball back to DeVante Parker, who then lateralled the ball yet again to Kenyan Drake



who juiced and dodged all the way to the touchdown zone. This was completely unexpected as Kenny Stills should have been tackled all the way back at the 50 yard line, but due to good communication and positioning, the Dolphins were able to put the 9-3 Patriots, to 9-4, and managed to up their record to 7-6. This was definitely an early Christmas miracle. Check out the video!

## Arts Update: Our Gingerbread House Contest *by Yilia*

"And I had but one penny in the world, thou should'st have it to buy gingerbread."

William Shakespeare, *Love's Labour's Lost*, V.i.68-69



This Christmas, the NTCS art class is participating in a gingerbread house contest. Art students from grades nine to twelve got into groups of three to four and are busy making aesthetically pleasing and also delicious gingerbread houses. The construction of the gingerbread house is required to be creative but also edible. Mrs. Joo provided basic structures and a few other decorative materials for use. For more detailed and intricate houses, students are allowed to bring more materials as they wish.

Aside from the construction of the house, students are pretending that their homes are on the real estate market. A written component is required to persuade judges by indicating the price, location, why the audience should live there, and any other pieces of information related to the house.

Mrs. Joo revealed that there will be "about four judges, but [she] will not disclose their names." The judges will assess the entries by the overall appearance, creativity and originality, technique and skill, construction, and the quality of the written component.

"Houses will be judged on Wednesday and Thursday, and the winner is going to be announced on Friday. There are different prizes, one is extra credit for first place and something else for second and third," said Mrs. Joo.

The construction of the gingerbread houses began last week. Different themes and ideas popped up as students brainstormed.

Grade eleven student Tiana plans to do the house from the movie *UP*. Zoe Dean's group plans to make "a gingerbread village for gingerbread men". They also brought "many mini houses and a pre-built

house. It is unique because it has many houses instead of just one."

Eric Kim from grade ten made very realistic branches "with icing, and used food colouring to colour it over" to decorate their mansion.

After the process of baking, carving, assembling, and decorating, all of the gingerbread houses are now finished and are displayed in the art room.

"The true purpose of making the gingerbread house was not winning the competition, but also getting together with friends to celebrate Christmas and everything that life offers by making delicious artwork," grade 11 student Stephanie said.

Please come and see the architectural ingenuity showcase and perhaps you can give the judges some helpful hints! (wink, wink)

# SUDOKU

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## Who is Santa? *By Tiana*

When you think about Christmas, one of the topics that comes to mind is Santa! Throughout time, many people have associated Christmas with Santa Claus but do you wonder how the legend originated? Anthony Kamal says that Santa is an, "old, fat man in red that breaks into people's house and eats their cookies." Martin Ohanessian says that Santa's, "a person my parents told me about that gives presents on Christmas."

Well technically, neither of these guys are wrong but they're not fully right. According to

whychristmas.com, Santa Claus originated as a man named St. Nicholas. Good Ol St. Nick was a Bishop who lived in what is now Turkey. He was very rich because after the death of his parents he received a large will. St. Nick had a reputation for helping the poor and giving secret gifts to those in need. It all makes sense why the idea of Santa Claus was based on this man.

**Correction**— We spelled Mrs. Malcomson's name wrong in the last edition of The Torch and we apologize for that. We were not able to get Samantha and Alex's articles into the 8.1 edition so have included them in this one. Thanks for reading!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS DEAR READERS!

## Christmas Jokes

*compiled by Stephanie*

1. Why does Scrooge love reindeer so much?
2. What do you get when you cross a duck with Santa?
3. How do you know when Santa's around?
4. Where does Santa keep all his money?
5. Why don't crabs celebrate Christmas?
6. What's every parent's favorite Christmas Carol?
7. What do you call Santa when he takes a break?
8. What do elves learn in school?
9. Why couldn't the skeleton go to the Christmas party?
10. What do you call a cat on the beach on Christmas Day?

### ANSWERS

1. Because every single buck is dear to him!
2. A Christmas quacker
3. You can always sense his presents.
4. At the local snow bank.
5. Because they're shell-fish.
6. Silent Night
7. Santa Pause
8. The elfa-bet.
9. He had no body to go with.
10. Sandyclaws.



A merry CHRISTMAS



## Writers: high school journalists



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## Contact Us:

Since our newspaper is written for our school readers, we want you to get involved! Do you have any questions about God for our Devotions column? Do you want to comment on any articles? Send us an email at:

[newspaper@ntcs.on.ca](mailto:newspaper@ntcs.on.ca)

We will answer your questions in an upcoming edition of *The Torch*.

Also, the journalists are working on the NTCS 2018/19 yearbook! Throughout the year, send your high-quality photos (jpeg files) to:

[yearbook@ntcs.on.ca](mailto:yearbook@ntcs.on.ca)

[acrouse@ntcs.on.ca](mailto:acrouse@ntcs.on.ca)

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Special thanks to our yearbook photographers for sharing their great pictures for this edition of THE TORCH: Kris Thomas, Sarah Zhou, and Mrs. Crouse

