



December 1st

2011 - 10



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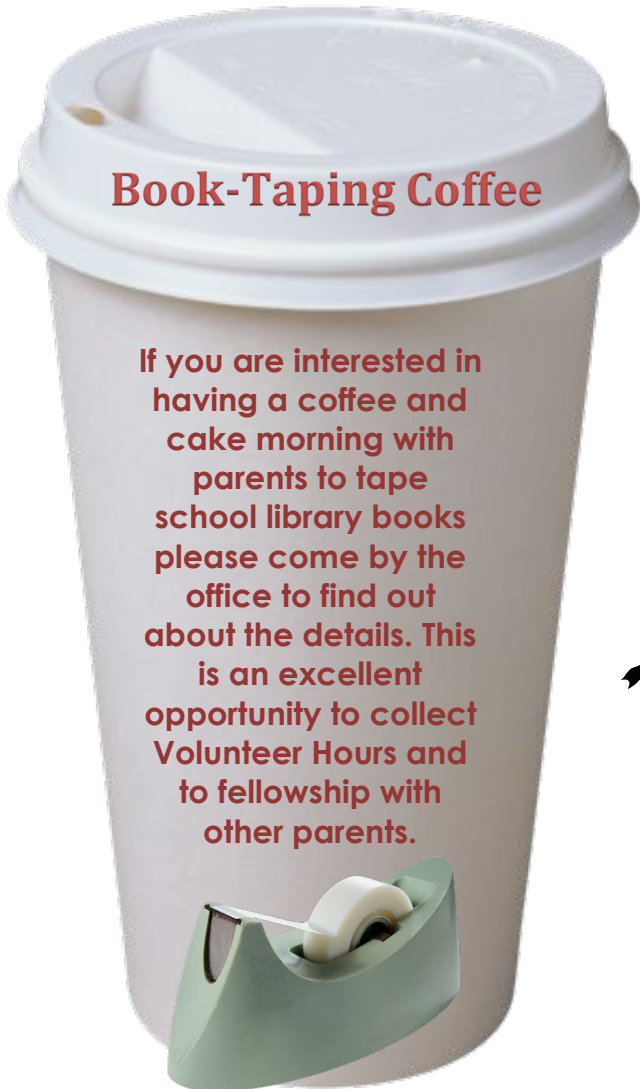
December Overview

Each school morning in December leading up to Christmas and the last day of school we celebrate the coming of Christ through the Jesse Tree.

The Jesse Tree represents the family tree, or genealogy of Jesus Christ. It tells the story of God's salvation plan, beginning with creation and continuing through the Old Testament, to the coming of the Messiah. The name comes from Isaiah 11:1, "Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit."

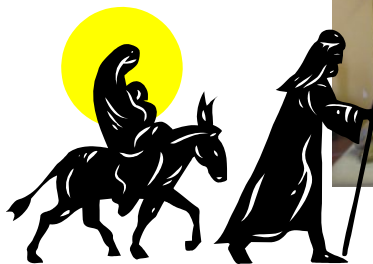
Each day of Advent a homemade ornament is added to the Jesse Tree.





Book-Taping Coffee

If you are interested in having a coffee and cake morning with parents to tape school library books please come by the office to find out about the details. This is an excellent opportunity to collect Volunteer Hours and to fellowship with other parents.



Who? -> Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus
What for? -> Absence in Westside Christian's Nativity Scene

We have received a generous gift of a nativity scene, however, we are still in need of the major characters. Please report to the office if you have any spare characters to lend for our scene.



Groceries and Gift Cards

Wealthy School Revolution

Final order cut-off for this year for grocery purchases will be December 7th. Pickup of groceries from school on December 15th. To see this week's sale items such as Peanut Butter, Juice, Tuna and Annie's Mac&Cheese, please visit: <http://www.wealthyschools.ca>

For more information, please read the past weeks' newsletters.

Gift Cards

Get your gift cards early this Christmas. Progressive order forms will be sent home this week to be returned with payment to WCS by December 6th.

Popular gift cards:

Starbucks, Chapter, Old Spaghetti Factory (Bonus \$10 with every \$25), Sammy J. Peppers (Bonus \$5 with every \$25), Subway, Shoppers and White Spot.

Also available are grocery store gift cards such as Superstore, Stongs, Safeway and IGA and departmental store gift cards such as HBC (The Bay, Zellers, Home Outfitters), Sears and London Drugs.

School Fundraising

Dear Parents,

Last week I was made aware of a project the school has been involved in over the past few years. The school collected items for a Christmas Hamper. The recipient was identified by the Vancouver Crisis Pregnancy Centre. I have reviewed the process for the collection of the items and it was a little hit and miss and the children did not really identify with the event. I also determined that the organizing families often had to contribute a significant amount of items to complete the hamper.

This year I want to involve the children and I am requesting the support of parents and friends of the school families. **The children will be asked to raise a small amount of money by doing special tasks for Mom, Dad, Grandparents and friends.** I want the children to own the process.

The goal for the children will be as shown below. These are only recommendations and not fixed figures. **The children will be given the opportunity to bring their earned contribution to the Christmas Concert and present it in an unidentified envelope.**

We will give thanks and then give the proceeds to a selected group that provides meals to people in need. We have chosen to buy Food Gift Certificates for at least four small families identified by the Vancouver

Crisis Pregnancy Centre.

I am setting a school goal of collecting 100 times \$3.30. **Why \$3.30? This is equivalent to the cost of providing one meal at some ministries. Our Intermediate and Senior Class visited the Union Gospel Mission last school year. They were able to see the effort, organization and blessings that come through providing meals.**

To realize the goal, I am suggesting:

Grades	Suggested Earning	Equivalent Meals
K, 1	\$ 3.30	1
2, 3, 4	\$ 6.60	2
5, 6, 7, 8, 9	\$ 9.90	3

PLEASE NOTE: these are goals and all final contributions will be presented by the children in unidentified envelopes. On our research with some parents as to this idea of involving the children they did say the goals are just that and some children may even wish to earn more.

I have asked the teachers to brainstorm with the children on some tasks they can perform.

Warmly,
Hugh Mawby.

Lateness

There have been an increasing number of children who arrive late for school. We acknowledge that it is tough some mornings. We ask for your support as the first few minutes in the classroom often determine the climate and behaviors for the day.



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Upcoming Events

28 Gym	29 Gr. 3-5 Field Trip	30	01	02 8:20 Gym Hot Lunch
05	06	07 Christmas Rehearsal (open)	08	09 Hot Lunch Report Cards go Home

Open Christmas Rehearsal: As the students will be rehearsing for our Christmas Program on December 15th, the parents are welcome to sit in. This invitation to our rehearsal starting shortly after 1pm is particularly aimed at parents and families who cannot attend the Christmas Program on December 15th.

WESTSIDE
Christian School

Faith brings us together.
Uniqueness sets us apart.