From the Pastor's Office

I think everyone who was able to participate would agree that Olivet marching in the Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade last Saturday was a wonderfully fun time!

The weather could not have been better for us to don our red, white and green coloured attire. Children and parents distributed candy canes with our Olivet label on them. Lots of waving and greetings took place on the 4 km stretch, and no one twisted an ankle in the trolley tracks.

A favourite feature of some was being close to the Grey Cup on the Argonauts float. Several of the students were able to get their picture taken with Argo Matt Black holding it.

At the end of the parade, Lynn Starkey opened her home to the marchers where we gathered over hot cider and snacks to come up with new ideas for what we'll do next year.

Thanks to everyone, especially members of the Olivet Parent Council, who helped get Olivet organized for this fun event!

Rev. Michael Cowley, B.Th., MAPC
For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, God, the Mighty One,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(Isaiah 9:6)

Principal's Message

Water Testing

We are pleased to report that Olivet passed the ministry-required water testing! We tested only the taps that are used for drinking water and these are labelled "Lead Tested", indicating that the water was tested and is safe to drink. Taps that are not tested are labelled "Hand Washing Only", which indicates that the water may be used for purposes other than drinking; they may be safe, but they have not been tested. If you have any questions, please speak to me.

School Arts Fund

With a generous grant provided by the Bryn Athyn Church School Arts Fund, students in our upper grades will be attending a ballet performance of the Nutcracker next week at the Living Arts Centre. We are very grateful for this opportunity.

School Christmas Party

This year, instead of having a "Secret Santa" gift exchange at our party on Thursday, December 21st, we will be focusing on doing something kind for our Earth. Stay tuned for details.

Santa Claus Parade

Thanks to all who turned out for the Santa Claus Parade on Saturday! It was a magnificent day in every way! Many special thanks to our Olivet Board Chair, Lynn Starkey, who had us over to her house after the parade for hot drinks and delicious refreshments! A good time was had by all!

General Announcements

Christmas Holidays
The holiday break will begin with an early dismissal at 1:00 pm on Thursday, December 21st. Please be advised that there will be no after-school care on that day.

Broader Horizons

This extra-curricular program continues until December 20th. The cost to join the remaining three (3) classes is $48.

Broader Horizons invites you to get ready for Christmas by making home-made Christmas cookies, a Christmas collage and a decorated candle holder.

Wednesday Afternoon Classes:
November 22 to December 20, 2017
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Cost includes weekly home-baked snacks. There is no extra charge if you are already part of the after-school program.

School Christmas Concert

The Olivet Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 13th at 6:15 pm. Please stay tuned for more details.

A Sweet & Savoury bake sale is being organized by the Olivet Parent Council on the same evening. Please see their enclosed poster for further details.

Children's Choir Performance

As a reminder to school parents, this is the second of three mandatory choir performances for students in Grades 1 to 6. Everyone is invited to bring family and friends!
Thank you to everyone who came to our party this week! Both Mrs. Reid and I enjoyed seeing the children’s creativity and enthusiasm. We created beautiful Christmas plaques, angels for the Sunday School board, decorated cookies and had lots of yummy snacks. Keep an eye out next week for all of our angels.

Katherine Jutras

HELP NEEDED: Calling all culinary artists for their sweet or savoury bites!

Please email the Council at olivetparentcouncil@gmail.com if you would like to donate any sweet or savoury creations for the Bake Sale.

We will be delighted to accept your tasty treats the morning of the Concert (Dec. 13th) so we can package them for the bake sale that will run before (5:45 pm) and after the concert.
Library Teacher's Announcement

Reading Challenge: December

The theme for this month's reading challenge is Christmas! Our library is full of books that have something to do with this holiday, so please encourage your child to read. I will be happy to consider other books on this theme - just check with me.

JK-Grade 1: have a picture book read to them
Grade 2: read a book on their own
Grade 3-4: read a 50+ page book
Grade 5-6: read a 100+ page book

Note: To receive a prize for December, each student must tell me a little about the book that they've read by Wednesday, December 20th.

Also: Students who have read fairy tales in November need to tell me about the book they've read by the end of this week to get a prize!

From the Classrooms

Tots' Time
Our noses will have an opportunity to smell some of the signs of Christmas. Cinnamon tree decorations are just some things to entice our noses.

Preview of the following week: It looks like Christmas...the lights, the trees, the wrapped presents and a small baby lying in a manger. We’ll enjoy stories, songs and activities celebrating this time of the year.

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**Playschool**

- **Word Wednesday** - Bring in a picture or an item that shows the letter "Oo". Also, bring in an ornament and tell us why it is special to you.

- Playschool’s performance in the Olivet Christmas Concert is on **Wednesday, December 13th**. The classroom door will open at 6:00 pm. Children are to wear their red Olivet t-shirt and dark pants or a skirt.

- Tuesday we are finishing our Creation books
- Introducing the events and people leading up to the birth of baby Jesus
- Starting our gifts for the special people in our lives
- Homes and habitat of animals - introduction of hibernation continues if there's interest from the group.

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**Kindergarten**

Our trip to the creek was very insightful. We fed four sweet ducks with wild bird seed, which they happily ate. Later, a new couple arrived and BAM - a major fight ensued! We saw bullying, fighting, pushing, shoving, and pecking. The children yelled for the ducks to stop and did not like what they were seeing. There is nothing more profound than a life lesson played out in nature!

We will be setting up the creche today and possibly putting up our classroom Christmas tree as well.

**Bible Story Time** - Setting up Christmas Creche; Christmas Prophecies; Angel to Mary

**Scripture Verse** - "For unto us a Child is born..." (Isaiah 9:6)

**Letter of the Week** - Delightful and daring "Dd"

**Nursery Rhyme or Fairy Tale** - Jack and Jill went up the hill...Jack fell down

**Themes** - Fitness; Patterning; Christmas

**Show and Tell** - Something to do with Christmas

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**Primary Room (Grade 1 & 2)**

It was wonderful to see you all at the Lakeshore Santa Clause Parade on Saturday. Thank you for your time and effort. I had a wonderfully "Christmasy" time! What an excellent way to begin the season. This week we complete our study of the 10 Commandments and begin reading from the Word about the Lord's birth. In art class, we will be working on some Christmas crafts and will be doing some baking as well. In mathematics we continue learning about data management. For show and tell, please bring a game you enjoy playing.

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**Junior Room (Grade 3 & 4)**
Next Monday, December 11th, we will enjoy a ballet performance of the *Nutcracker* at the Living Arts Centre; the cost of this trip has been generously covered by the Bryn Athyn Church Schools Arts Fund.

Last week while studying coral reef landforms, the children were particularly moved by the consequences of pollution and over-fishing on the underwater habitat. They expressed passionate interest in creating awareness of the importance in saving marine life, so we will dedicate our social studies classes this week to their student-led projects. This may require some at-home support in researching - I can't wait to see what the kidlets come up with! We will begin a mini unit on strong and stable structures next week.

**Senior Room (Grade 5 & 6)**

Thank you to all who joined the Santa Claus Parade last Saturday morning. What a nice and spirited way to start the Christmas season! Next Monday, December 11th, we are going to the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga to see a ballet performance of the *Nutcracker*.

Next Thursday, December 14th, we will make ancient-style paper and write Egyptian hieroglyphics on it for our history and art project. Children need to save scrap and recyclable papers: construction or tissue paper, newsprint, etc. (not glossy magazine paper or thick paper). Also, if they want to dry some leaves or grasses we could put them in too.

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**Calendar**

*(click on the calendar to enlarge)*

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