



THE KING'S HERALD

...providing teenagers with a positive high school experience and positioning them for Godly leadership...

From the Principal's Desk...

As I perused the **Learning Reports** the past few evenings, I was encouraged by the quality of the performances displayed by our students and our teachers. The reports represent another semester of serious learning by the students and competent instruction by our faculty. The Reports will be distributed on Friday unless we have our first "snow day" of the school year!

I am impressed by the high marks achieved by so many of our students. Their marks are a testimony to their ability to develop a polished term paper and how to answer a difficult exam question with eloquence. Our students have demonstrated that they are able to absorb complex ideas woven through each course. They are not only learning the course content, but they are also learning how to learn. It is akin to teaching a man how to fish rather than giving a fish. Knowing how to learn is equivalent to feeding the mind for a lifetime rather than only for the present experience.

The class average for all Grade 12 courses for this semester is 79.7%. This is not mark inflation. The feedback from our graduates demonstrates that these marks reflect quality learning. Our graduates are reporting back to their King's teachers that they were well prepared for their university and college environments.



To me, it is pure joy to see our students doing what they are supposed to do – learning how to learn and internalizing deep knowledge in relation to course content. They are finding their way with God's Word as the foundation for every program and activity. All praise to God for what He is doing at King's.

Until next time, Mr. Vanderkooy



Pictures from the semester turn-around Mission Trip to Nicaragua — check out the full report on page 3.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- *Friday, Feb 1*
Learning Reports
Distributed
- *Saturday, Feb 9*
Open House
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- *Monday, Feb 18*
Family Day Holiday
- no school
- *Saturday, June 7*
King's Annual Golf
Tournament

ADMISSIONS NOTICE

If you or anyone you know is considering a King's education for their child, please alert them to the need to make an admissions appointment as soon as possible. One hundred and ten families have already inquired about September enrolment. To book an appointment, contact Mrs. Sharon Roebbelen, Director of Admissions, at 905-257-5464 ext 508.

PRAYER POLE

- ◆ Thank God for the safe return of our King's missionaries to Nicaragua (see page 3) and the Dominican Republic (watch for report in the next edition).
- ◆ Pray for the eighteen new students who have joined King's for Semester 2.

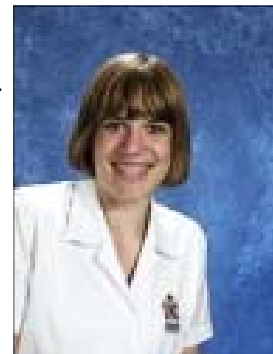
KING'S OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, February 9 10:00 am—2:00 pm

A great chance for friends and families to visit King's!

A KING'S STUDENT SPEAKS UP

Considerable controversy has arisen amongst Burlington parents at St. Gabriel Elementary school, where the Halton Catholic District School Board has been conducting a pilot project on school uniforms. A few parents are refusing to send their children to school in the mandatory uniform. King's student **Haley Pierce** (Grade 11) (pictured, right) weighs in on the subject, in a letter that was published in the Jan 23rd edition of the Burlington Post:



This is a letter to the parents at St. Gabriel School who are against the uniform policy. I think it's stupid how you're fighting the uniform policy --there are tons of perks.

I'm 16 years old and I've been in uniforms throughout most of my school years. In all the schools I've gone to, uniforms have never been a problem.

With uniforms, you don't need to buy as many other clothes -- you save a ton of money there. Also, uniforms help create friendships that might not have been made if we were all in plain clothes. Uniforms create a sense of unity -- there is one less thing we can judge each other on. Uniforms give us all an equal line -- we can't be better than one another if we all wear the same uniform.

I would also like to point out that St. Gabriel is just the test school. If you don't like it, there are other schools you can send your children to.

And, since they're going to a Catholic elementary school you're probably going to be sending your kid(s) to a Catholic high school such as Notre Dame which has uniforms anyway.

Wearing a uniform doesn't take away your 'individuality' or 'creative spirit'; it's just a uniform, nothing more.

Haley Pierce, Burlington

KING'S STUDENTS IN NICARAGUA

On Friday, January 18, ten Grade 12 students and two “chaperones” boarded a flight for Managua, Nicaragua as part of King’s Global Initiative Program. The program was set in place for King’s students to experience life outside of our culture and society. Once students (and teachers) are removed from our daily comforts and luxuries of western culture, they are able to see life from a different perspective.



The King’s students went in cooperation with an organization called World Wide Christian Schools, whose mission is to make Christian education accessible to all people despite socio-economic situations. Two representatives from WWCS met us at the airport and were our guides for the week.

Once we arrived, we found our accommodations and the general eating and lounging pavilion which would be our “home” for the next six days. The four ladies received a nice spacious room with washroom and showering facilities. All eight guys were put into one room, with one shower, one toilet, and not a lot of space. Despite our cramped quarters and need for personal space, we survived unscathed. The first two days were spent acclimatizing to our new environment. There were so many new sights, sounds, and smells to get used to. We toured the area, visited a volcano, shopped at a market, and relaxed on a beach. The next four days were spent working on various painting projects around the Nicaragua Christian Academy. Our team was a diligent bunch of workers. The days went by quickly as there was lots of work to do.

On the last work day, we went to a poor, rural town called Chichigalpa. While in Chichigalpa, we did more painting in the morning. Later in the afternoon, the vil-

lage children came out and we spent some time playing games and interacting with them. For most of us this was a powerful opportunity. The realization that children who live without the comforts of our North American culture could be so happy with so little was shocking, but also humbling. Our students took to these children in such a loving, accepting, and compassionate manner. Even though we were there only a couple of hours, there was a natural bond that occurred and the faces of these children will forever be ingrained on our hearts and minds.

Another crucial aspect of the trip was the devotional times among our group. Every morning we would spend 20 minutes in personal devotions. In the evening we had group devotions. These evening devotions were an excellent opportunity to debrief on the experiences of the trip and to share with one another some of the struggles we encounter in our lives. God was visible through these conversations and commitments. It became apparent to everyone that through serving others and being removed from the comforts of our homes, God is speaking loudly and waiting for us to connect with Him in a meaningful manner. The lessons learned in Nicaragua could never be taught in any classroom. The trip was an experience that we all will never forget. God spoke and we listened.



Aside from all the learning that occurred, the group had an amazing abdomen workout - there was none stop laughter from the moment we left Toronto to the moment we arrived. Who ever thought that ten teenagers (and two pseudo teenagers) could have that much fun?! We thank God for this amazing opportunity to serve and learn. And thank you to all parents and supporters who kept us in their prayers and thoughts through the week.