



Newsletter

April 2011

Fort McMurray Christian School
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MISSION STATEMENT

† To provide students with an education based on scripture, the Christian perspective is integrated into every aspect of study.

† To acknowledge the Lordship of Christ and to develop the students' understanding of their own relationship to God as well as their relationship to others and creation.

† To provide an education which allows children to reach their potential academically, spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically.

† To direct students in development of Christ-like character.

† To prepare students to be of service in the community.

FMCS BOARD MEMBERS

Marek Kiejko
Clementine Osah
Reina VanGenderen
Emmy Hanemaayer
Jesse Parker
Carlos Rivera
Joe Champion (Advisor)



Hockey Night in Canada ***Tickets now on Sale***

Plans are well underway for our annual *Giggles and Gala* fundraising event. This year's theme is *Hockey Night in Canada*. We will be pulling out all the stops for this remarkable evening, having fun while fundraising.

Some excellent ways for your family/company to help is by donating an auction item/s or purchasing tickets.

Please invite all hockey and non-hockey fans alike.

All proceeds go to supporting school programs.

Saturday, May 28, 2011

The Sawridge Inn and Conference Center

Gourmet Buffet Dinner

Doors open Six p.m.

Live and Silent Auctions

Door Prizes

Entertainment by
Gery Schubert
as Don Cherry



Gery Schubert- man of a thousand voices, a hundred faces and at least 12 wigs. A man with unending ideas and possibilities. Gery Schubert is professional actor, comedian, teacher, speaker and performer. Gery's 15 years of performing and teaching, and a lifetime of creative ideas, is sure to entertain everyone. You have probably seen or heard of some of Gery's character events from Austin Powers/Dr. Evil Sixties Events to Captain Stubby and the Love Boat Banquets to Elvis, Richard Simmons, **hockey night with Don Cherry**, Dame Edna, a Mock Academy Awards night, Julia Chilled Cooking Show, Angus McAngus Golf Tournament, etc. etc.

PRINCIPAL'S PEN

God continues to bless our school community and with these blessings come challenges. As I write this month's piece for the Principal's Pen, we are facing many challenges as we move forward. Our main challenge is space, or the lack there of. As mentioned in last month's article probably the biggest challenge we encounter is that of offering a Christian based education to all those who want it. So far we have completed nine new family interviews, with the addition of students from present Society families increasing our enrolment by 22 students.

Many of these students are in our Early Childhood Development and our Kindergarten Programs. With these programs nearing capacity turning away parents that want Christian Education for their family is a challenge. Please continue to pray that space in our present structure will be made available so we may offer a Christian based program to ALL families.

Also, the Public School District information sessions are winding down at its various schools; these sessions have centered on informing the public of the restructuring of schools especially on the north side of the river. They have also given school communities the opportunity to voice their opinion on matters that relate to future educational issues. On Tuesday March 29 Fort McMurray Christian School's information session was held. In that session the public was informed that FMCS would remain with its present designation as a Kindergarten to Grade 8 School, with the option to explore, as numbers warrant, in the future offering a grade 9 program.

Being a small school also presents challenges in offering a diversity of CTS (Career and Technology Studies) courses commonly referred to as options to our junior high students. As we have done in past years we will be surveying our present grade 6 and 7 students giving them a choice in the area of these courses.

As a Christian school we continue to perfect how we deliver our lessons and units to students to ensure they are taught and are learning to see the world as God created it. Also, to discern how man has taken that creation and damaged what God had initially intended. We teach that this world is still under God's control and He still cares for His creation. We teach students to see this world as God's masterpiece, and to use the Bible as a guide, to use the world's resources and their individual gifts as service to others.

In closing, there are many challenges that our school community will face in the coming year as we have in the past, but through it all we serve one who tells us that He will walk with us all the way. As Proverbs 3:5-6 says:

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight.*

That promise was also reinforced to me this past Tuesday morning as I was driving to Vista Ridge to accompany the Grades 4 to 8 on a day of Skiing and Snowboarding. I was listening to the Charles Stanley daily program on KAOS radio entitled "Reflections on God's Faithfulness" and he made a statement that resonated with me, "**Obey Him and leave the consequences to God**" Throughout my twelve years here at FMCS I can see how His faithful people have obeyed God how He has worked out the details and directed the Christian school, His school, to where we are today and the challenges we are facing. Please pray for your school's leadership, that we would have the mind of God as we make decisions about the path forward for Fort McMurray Christian School.

Mr. J. Champion, Principal FMCS

SPRING SOCIETY MEETING

A society meeting has been scheduled for

Tuesday, May 3, at 7:00 at the school

All FMCS Society members are requested to attend.

Childcare will be available.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Litterless Lunches: Congratulations to grades 4/5 who won the challenge! Way to go to all families that participated too - every bit counts! Thanks to Alison Peyton and Cherylyn Sheehan for organizing the initiative this year.

Grade 1-10.28 g/student

2/3-11.34g/student

4/5-5.00g/student

6- 8.51g/student

7/8-6.17g/student

Literacy Event: Thursday, May 12 6:30-8:00pm at the school. Want to encourage your children's reading through the summer months? Join us in the gym for an evening of games, prizes, ideas, book fair, fellowship and fun!

School Calendar: A good discussion was held at our March meeting regarding the FMPSD proposal to move to a 4 day school week (as the norm). The Board of Trustees have postponed their decision until April 11, and feedback from parents is still being requested. Please see the FMPSD website for more information.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 26 at 7pm. All parents/guardians are invited. Come check it out to decide if you could be a classroom rep for next year's council!

Heather Carlson

School Council Chair

RECYCLING

All recyclable containers are accepted at the school at anytime. We can also pick them up, please call for arrangements. **We are planning a RECYCLING DAY for Saturday April 9th ; please plan to come to help sort the collected containers. Starts at 9:00 am at Mr. Champion's house 175 Peterson Lane. Please let the office know if you are planning to come.** As we enter the month of April we have recycled over 40 000 units for a total of just over \$3800.

If you would like to check out our progress so far

Go to: <http://everyemptycounts.com/news.html>

EXAM BANK

www.exambank.com is a website that provides students with access to past PAT (Provincial Achievement Tests) assessment questions. With grade 3 and grade 6 PATs just around the corner, this site will help familiarize your child with the types of questions they will see on exam day. Exambank is easy to use and covers a wide variety of subjects, including Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science.

This site is password protected but can be visited as often as needed.

Username: **FMCS** Password: **1079**

SAFeway GROCERY CERTIFICATES

We have lots of grocery cards available. Stop by the school office before you shop at **Safeway**. This card from Safeway works wonderfully well. You buy the \$100 card from the school and give the card to the cashier to pay for your groceries. The cashier will indicate the balance you have on your card once the cost of your groceries has been deleted. It functions like a gift card allowing you to buy groceries provided there is a positive balance remaining on your card. When the school purchases the cards, we receive an 8% profit from Safeway.

CANADIAN TIRE MONEY

The school is collecting Canadian Tire Money. Please send into the school office any that you have saved, or please start saving for us. This is an ongoing project, so feel free at anytime to send it in.

VOLUNTEERS AT FMCS

We really appreciate the work that our volunteers do in the school for our students. Volunteers are a valuable part of the school community and can enhance the educational opportunities for children. This year, Fort McMurray Public School District also requires all volunteers interacting with children to have a completed criminal record check. While there is normally a charge for this, the school can supply you with a letter that will exempt you from the fee.

FMCS EASTER CONCERT

Thursday April 7 @ 7:00 p.m.

Christian Family Center

160 Dickins Drive



Please invite all friends and family as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

FMCS Literacy Night

Thursday May 12 6:30- 8 pm

Book Fair

Games

Prizes

Fun

and much more



Get your pictures in the FMCS yearbook!

The Yearbook Staff invites students and parents of FMCS to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have.

Here is how you can submit photos online:

- Go to: <https://images.jostens.com/login>
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username:400110832 and password:yearbook1
- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload.
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Click "Save Details".

It's that easy! Submit your photos today! The last day to submit photos is 7/7/2011.

Thank you, and enjoy the rest of the school year!

Sincerely,

Yearbook Adviser and the 2011 Yearbook Staff.

The Yearbook Staff will review all photos and determine final yearbook content. We cannot guarantee that all submissions can be used in the book.

OPEN HOUSE AT FMCS

FMCS will be hosting open house offering two opportunities for families to experience Christian Education. (The Kindergarten program is full, we are compiling a waiting list)
OPEN HOUSE DATES

Thursday May 5th
Information Evening – 6-8 pm
Friday May 6th
Classroom Open House 9-12

HOW GOOD ARE YOUR ESTIMATING SKILLS?

Near our playground our Grade 6 to 8 physical education class piled 5 mounds of snow in preparation to build a Quincy (snow hut). Your task is to estimate without going over when all the snow from these 5 structures will be completely melted. Each member of our school community is welcomed to guess once. All estimates are to be in Mr. Champion's possession by the close of school on Friday April 8th.

Prize:
Family Dinner for the winning entry, to be presented at this year's closing assembly

CHOCOLATES IN HIDING UPDATE

Since the last newsletter Mr. Champion has hid 5 coins of various amounts, students are asked to search the playground between the school building and the playground and fence for the coins. Upon finding a coin please return to Mr. Champion with the area the coin was found in to verify if you have the correct coin. Prizes also given for the student or students that solve the puzzles given once all coins have been located. Happy searching!!!
 No further information is available to students!!!

PRIVILEGE WEEK

During Privilege Week we held our annual fundraiser for Christian Resources. I would like to thank, publicly, as parents for your contribution to this endeavor. This year overall we raised \$1395.00 from students and staff (staff contributions were made as a result of having a casual dress day on Fridays this year). Because of your endeavors your students were able to "Stick it to Their Principal" and end up taping Mr. Champion to the gym wall for 23 seconds before he peeled off. Schools across the Prairie Association of Christian Schools (PACS) complete similar fundraisers for this venture and our school has led the way for the past 6 years. This year with an average of \$13.95 per child you have placed our school in a great position to win for a sixth consecutive year again. Again thank you for helping provide Christian Perspective resources to the PACS school community.

ART AND CULTURE NIGHT A BIG SUCCESS

On Thursday March 24, we held our annual Art and Culture night to raise funds for Christian School's in the Dominica Republic. This is our third year to make a contribution. The evening consisted of an Art Show featuring the work of our students We also enjoyed food from around the world with our families bringing dishes from different culture and purchasing tickets for samples of these yummy items. The evening resulted in \$660.00 being raised for World Wide Christian Schools. Thank You to so many of our school families and the staff that made this wonderful evening such a success. We are truly blessed at FMCS to have such a wonderful and caring membership. Glory be to our Lord!!

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS

April is the month for collection of Food Bank items by our entire district. This is the time of year when shelves at the Food Bank become bare – so our support is needed and greatly appreciated.

Dried Food	Canned Food
Hamburger Helper	Soup
Jam / Peanut Butter	Salmon
Pudding	Tuna
Instant Potatoes	Canned Ham
Canned or fresh Potatoes	Canned Chicken
Sugar	Chili / Stew
Flour	Canned Tomatoes
Granola Bars	Alphagetti / Ravioli
Jello	Vegetables
Powdered milk	Canned Mushrooms
Pancake Mix	Chunky Soup
Syrup	Pasta Sauce
Cookies	Canned Fruit
Crackers	Evaporated Milk
Rice	
Sidekicks / Noodles	

Please check the expiry dates on all donations, thank you.

**Fort McMurray Public Districts' Networks
 Committee
 PRESENTS
 Cyber-Bullying & SOCIAL MEDIA Session
 Open for Adults ONLY!
 April 27th 7 p.m. – 9p.m.
 at Fort McMurray Public District Office**

*PLEASE RSVP BY E-MAIL TO THIS ADDRESS:
ParentInformationSession@fmcsd.ab.ca TO RESERVE
 YOUR SPOT!*

Study Topics for April 2011

ECDP(CUBS)/Kindergarten: Mrs. Jillian Jackman

BIBLE: Easter: Jesus' trial, death and resurrection. Romans 14:9 "Christ Died and Rose again."

MATH: K Number sense: numbers to 20.

CUBS: Measurement and printing numbers

JOLLY PHONICS: K We will continue to choral read sight word books and read and write sight words and sentences.

(spelling tests)

CUBS: We will identify the following letter names, sounds and identify if things start with a particular letter: vowels (a,e,i,o,u and y, f, b, j, z, w)

MUSIC: We are making a music book of notes and we are learning to chant rhythm and rhymes

GRADE 1 Miss Crista Warren

BIBLE: 10 Commandments

MATH: Counting to 100 and Addition up to 20

LANGUAGE ARTS: Writing, parts of a story

SCIENCE: Building things

SOCIAL STUDIES: My Community

PHYSICAL ED: Badminton

ART: Drawing with Charcoal, Finger Painting

MUSIC (Mrs. Steiestol): The Music Alphabet, The Staff, Singing up and down the Scale (do, re, mi...)

FRENCH (Mrs. Steiestol): Shapes

GRADES 2-3: Ms. Lindsay Ingersoll

BIBLE – Noah

L.A. Reading and Comprehension

MATH: Measurement

SCIENCE Buoyancy

HEALTH - Nutrition

SOCIAL STUDIES - Tunisia and India

PHYSICAL ED: Badminton

ART: (Mrs. Steiestol) Drawing with Charcoal, Finger Painting

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol) Practice for Easter Concert Song: Do-Re-Mi **FRENCH:** Unit, "Le Corps" (The Body, continued)

GRADES 4-5: Mrs. Donna-Marie Hamilton

BIBLE: Easter Story and Taking Care of Our Bodies (continues to the end of May)

MATH: Measurement

LANGUAGE ART: Homonyms, Antonyms, Synonyms, Spelling, Novel Study,

SOCIAL STUDIES: History of the People of Alberta (First Nations, First Settlers), Elections

SCIENCE: Simple Machines (Building devices and vehicles that move)

HEALTH: Taking Care of Our Minds

ART 4-5: (Ms. Ingersoll) Shapes

PHYSICAL ED.: (Miss Warren): Badminton

FRENCH: Les Vetements – "prints" on clothing (Polka Dots, Strips) Clothing Labels, Tuypes of Fabric (cotton, wool

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol) Instrument: Clarinet, Trumpet, Famous Jazz Legend "Louis' Armstrong" Music Theory

GRADES 6 Ms. Dwana Fifield

BIBLE: Joseph

MATH: Fractions, Ratios and Percents

LANGUAGE ARTS: Functional Writing

SCIENCE: Flight

SOCIAL STUDIES: Local Government

ART: (Ms. Ingersoll): Realistic Art

PHYSICAL ED: (Mr. Champion) Skiing, Basketball, Track and Field

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol): The Grand Staff (Middle C and Naming Notes on the Grand Staff)

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol): Verbs: The verb Être

GRADES 7-8: Mr. Champion & Mrs. Krismer

BIBLE: (Mrs. Hamilton) Words of Wisdom from the book of Proverbs

MATH:(Mr. Champion) Equations & Linear Equations & Graphing

SOCIAL STUDIES: (Mr. Champion) Wars and Rumors of wars and how they affected the development of Canada !!!

PHYSICAL ED.: (Mr. Champion) Skiing, Basketball, Track and Field

LANGUAGE ARTS: (Mrs. Krismer) – Descriptive Writing, grammar **ART:** (Mrs. Ingersoll) Realistic Art

MUSIC: Mrs. Krismer – Easter Program, Recorder Composition

SCIENCE: (Ms. Fifield) Forces and Structures

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol): Food Unit

April 2011

Fort McMurray Christian School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 NO SCHOOL	2
3	4	5 Pizza	6 Gr. 4-8 Skiing Vista Hot Dogs	7 Chicken Vegetable Soup Easter Program	8	9 Recycling at Mr. Champion's 9-11am
10	11	12 Pizza	13 Hot Dogs	14 Mary Browns Grilled Chicken on W.W.	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Easter Break April 18-25						
24	25 NO SCHOOL Easter Monday	26 Pizza	27 Hot Dogs	28 Homemade Lasagna	29	30
Christian Education Week 						