



Newsletter

January 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)

PRINCIPAL'S PEN

In keeping with the theme of my December submission for the "Principal's Pen", traditions, I will borrow that theme, as in this issue I will again highlight blessings that we have seen at Fort McMurray Christian School in 2010, a tradition I began in January of 2009. As you read below reflect on God's continued blessings on our school community. As it says in His Word, in II Chronicles 7:14;

If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face ..., then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Students

- † Overall increase of 25% in students from September of last year bringing our student population to 119.
- † Both ECDP and Kindergarten classes over 95% full.
- † Over 90% of eligible students returned in the fall of this year
- † 35% increase in enrollment at the ECS level since September 2009
- † 72% increase in student population since June 2009 mainly in Division 1
- † 4% increase in enrollment since September of this year
- † Surpassed provincial acceptable level on Provincial Achievement Tests Grade 3 and 6 in Language Arts
- † Surpassed provincial Standard of Excellence on Provincial Achievement Tests Grade 6 in Language Arts
- † Track and Field team made a strong showing for the second year in a row at the annual city wide Track and Field event this past spring

Staff

- † Staff continued with development of curriculum units from a Christian Perspective during PLC time
- † Various Professional Development opportunities available to staff
- † Successful partnership with district school to deliver First Steps training to our staff
- † Various staff providing leadership in Professional Development areas within the district

Continued →

Society

- † Welcomed 29 new families to our school society
- † Another year when we operated with a balanced budget.
- † Students and staff contributed 75 shoe boxes to local Operation Christmas Child fundraiser this past December
- † Christmas School program Bake Sale and Candy Cane store raised \$1017 for "Gifts for Nations" fundraiser
- † School community participated in a fundraiser that raised over \$15,000 for a local family
- † Bussing option being used by 59% of society families
- † Formation of a functioning school council in September
- † Last spring the funds raised for Christian Textbook Day placed our school first among the Prairie Association of Christian Schools for the sixth year in a row.
- † Fourth year in a row we placed first in our category (1-200 students) for recycling in Alberta
- † Completion of planned renovations to computer room to house library this past summer
- † Completion of planned renovations to intercom and bell system this past summer
- † Acquired from the YMCA and renovated space for Grade 4-5 classroom this past December

These are just a few highlights that come to mind; you probably can add blessings that the school has provided. Our God has been truly faithful again this past year. I look forward to seeing how He will bless us again in 2011. As we look towards 2011, there are some unique challenges that are on the horizon as God continues to grow His school, I would ask each of us to continue to be faithful in doing our part ensuring that God's plan for Fort McMurray Christian School will continue.

In closing I would like to express appreciation for all the gifts and kind words received over the Christmas season. My wife, Diane and I are truly blessed by the generosity of the school community. Thank you.

In His service,
Mr. J. Champion

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

With the onset of cooler weather we find that some students are underdressed for time outside at recess. Perhaps your children come to school with only a light sweater which is fine for running from the house to the warm car but when they spend time outside they are becoming chilled. All students have more fun when they are properly dressed with hats, mitts and proper outerwear, if during recess they are too warm pieces can be removed to suit the weather.



RECYCLING

All recyclable containers are accepted at the school at anytime. We can also pick them up, please call for arrangements. As we enter the month of January we have recycled over **40000 units** for a total of just over **\$4200.00**.



If you would like to check out our progress so far

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

MOTHER'S WHO CARE

This weekly prayer time takes place every Wednesday from 6:00-7:00 pm at 175 Peterson Lane. Please join the other ladies in lifting up our school in prayer.

NUT AWARE SCHOOL

Please be reminded that we are a nut-aware school (this includes all nuts and peanuts). Thank you for excluding peanut/nut-related foods in your child's lunch or snack. This year we have students in two classrooms with allergies to nuts.

MAGAZINE SALES

Please encourage friends and family to visit the CCRP website and they can use a credit card (you can also) to order magazines and the school will get the credit. Please use the code **AB745**. This is valid all year, the credits just keep coming into the school.

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.

ATTENDANCE - PLEASE HELP!

Communicate - Safety is Important. If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please contact the school as soon as possible so that the absence can be properly noted for our records. This will assist us greatly in accounting for all absent students. By contacting us promptly regarding absences, the time required to complete our Child Check process will be reduced.

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.

HOT LUNCH

Please see the calendar at the end of this newsletter for dates and menu selections for the month of January. Please return your monthly form to the school with payment. This can also be found on the website at www.fortmcmurraychristianschool.ca.

GIFTS FOR THE NATIONS

Our two combined fundraisers "Candy Cane Store and the Concert Bake Sale netted a total of **\$1017.00**. The students have now picked what they would like to send overseas. Each class has picked and as a school we will send;

- School Supplies for 15 students
- 4-Soccer Balls
- Antibiotics/Vaccinations
- 2 sets of 2 Hens and Roosters
- Fruit Trees
- Teach a Family to Fish
- Literacy Packages for 3 children
- Calf
- Nutrition Kits
- Clean Water

Way to go FMCS community, thank you to all the volunteers that have helps in these events to make this contribution from FMCS possible.



FAITH

Abram believed the Lord,
And He credited to him as righteousness

Faith:
Believing,
Or trusting
In a moment of time
But continuing,
Not 'being uncertain'
Nor wistful thinking;
Not 'into the dark leaping',
Evidence defying
Or reasoning denying;
Nor just to propositions
Assenting.

Christian faith is believing
'In', 'On', or 'Upon'
The name of the Son:
All that He stands for,
Who He is,
And what He has done.
So faith, is an attitude
With emotion and reasoning
Own efforts abandoning,
Repenting and turning,
Committing and relying
Accepting,
That Christ died for my sins
A sacrifice atoning,
Reconciling, redeeming,
Justifying and forgiving.
Believing
That the Father loving,
Initiating,
Sending His Son
Incarnating
Living and dying and rising.

This faith needs practicing
Believers need discipling,
In praying, and learning,
In worship, and praising,
Discerning, and behaving.
Faith works in action and serving,
Being a witness and sharing,
Showing love by caring.
Faith needs exercising
Has optimism, is life affirming,
The mediocre eschewing,
Holds on in suffering,
Full redemption anticipating.

By Brian Wakeman

Taken from: <http://www.transformingteachers.org>

Study Topics for January 2011

ECDP(CUBS)/Kindergarten: Mrs. Jillian Jackman

THEME K: I am fearfully and wonderfully made by God. **THEME CUBS:** Nursery Rhymes

BIBLE: The life of God's servant *Moses*. Verse: "Do not be afraid for I am the Lord your God." *Isaiah 41:10*

MATH: K Represent and describe numbers concretely and pictorially. Measurement with non standard units.

MATH CUBS: Patterns: identifying/reproducing the components of a two element sequence. (Create own patterns with: tag board, fruit loops, dyed noodles). We will also discuss why God created patterns in our world.

JOLLY PHONICS: K: Letters and sounds of the following letter(s): ch, sh, the, qu, ou, io, ue, er, ar.

LANGUAGE ARTS:CUBS: We will studying the following letters and sounds H, N, B, M, SH, O.

Next month: we will begin to have simple spelling tests of our Jolly Words we have been learning.

MUSIC: Chants, Songs, Names of Notes

GRADE 1 Mrs. Colleen Swain

BIBLE: Building Christian Characteristics

MATH: Addition and Subtraction to 12

LANGUAGE ARTS: Guided reading and Parts of a story

SCIENCE: Seasonal Changes

SOCIAL STUDIES: Me and My Community

ART: Primary Colors, Sketching birds, Valentine's Day Pockets

PHYSICAL ED: Basketball

MUSIC (Mrs. Steiestol): Review Quarter Note and Quarter Rest. Brass Instruments

FRENCH (Mrs. Steiestol): Winter weather, clothing and activities

GRADES 2-3: Ms. Lindsay Ingersoll

BIBLE - Fruits of the Spirit- Self Control

MATH - Addition

L.A. - Descriptive Writing, Spelling, Grammar

SCIENCE Sound

HEALTH - Nutrition and Exercise

S.S. - Tunisia

ART: (Mrs. Steiestol) Kinds of Lines , 3 dimensional bookmarks, sketching, Valentine's Day Pockets.

PHYSICAL ED: Basketball **MUSIC:** (Mrs. Steiestol) Review Quarter Note and Quarter Rest. Brass Instruments

FRENCH: The Body (parts, articles, Importance of The Body of Christ)

GRADES 4-5: Mrs. Donna-Marie Hamilton

BIBLE: Joshua vs Gideon

MATH: Whole numbers

LANGUAGE ARTS: Spelling & Grammar, Reading comprehension Paragraph writing, Literature circles,

SOCIAL STUDIES: Histories, stories and ways of life in Canada

SCIENCE: Light and Shadow

HEALTH: Healthy lifestyle & Character building

ART 4-5: (Ms. Ingersoll) Elements of Design

PHYSICAL ED.: (Mrs. Swain) Basketball

FRENCH: Clothing unit continued

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol) Review (pitch, staff, line & space notes, stem direction) Rhythmic Dictation, Brass Instruments, Celine Dion

GRADES 6 Ms. Dwana Fifield

BIBLE: What is our Purpose

MATH: Decimals—Multiplication and Division

LANGUAGE ARTS: Number the Stars

SCIENCE: Air and Aerodynamics

SOCIAL STUDIES: Democracy in Ancient Athens

ART: (Ms. Ingersoll) What is Abstract Art

PHYSICAL ED: (Mr. Champion) Basketball, Volleyball, downhill skiing and indoor games

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol): Review (pitch, staff, line & space notes, stem direction) Rhythmic Dictation, Brass Instruments, Celine Dion

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol): Body Parts, Possessive adjectives (my, your, his, her, our, yours, theirs) Phrase: Voila

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

BIBLE: (Mrs. Hamilton) Gods plan for redemption: Life of Joseph then the Life of Esther

MATH: (Mr. Champion) Finding areas of geometric shapes

SOCIAL STUDIES: (Mr. Champion) How does the European interaction with the natives of the New World reflect Christianity?

PHYSICAL ED.: (Mr. Champion) Basketball, Volleyball, cross country/downhill skiing and indoor games

LANGUAGE ARTS: (Mrs. Krismer) – Novel Study

ART: (Mrs. Ingersoll) What is Abstract Art

COOKING (Mrs. Ingersoll)- Measurements and learning to make basic meals.

MUSIC: Mrs. Krismer – Recorders big and small

SCIENCE: (Ms. Fifield) Forces and Structures

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol) Unit: Pizza (names of vegetables, articles. Etc...) likes, dislikes, ordering pizza on the phone, etc....

January 2011

Fort McMurray Christian School

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
						1
2	3	4 Cheese Pizza	5 Hot Dogs	6 Sweet & Sour Chicken w/rice	7	8
9	10	11 Cheese Pizza	12 Hot Dogs	13 Subway: Roast Beef	14	15
16	17	18 Cheese Pizza	19 Hot Dogs	20 Macaroni & Cheese	21	22
23	24	25 Cheese Pizza Science Night at FMCS 7-8:30 PM	26 Hot Dogs	27 Chicken Vegetable Soup	28 NO SCHOOL District PD	29
30	31					