

Newsletter

October 2010

Fort McMurray Christian School
190 Tamarack Way
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T9K 1A1

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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.

For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the Head of the body, the church; He is the Beginning and the Firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have supremacy. (Colossians 1:15-18)

This week the above scripture was part of my devotions and it caused me to reflect on responses from parents on why they have chosen our school to partner with them to help educate the children God has to their care. Many of the new families interviewed this year, were referred by returning families, and spoke of how they wanted an education that supported the truth they were trying to instill at home.

Should education have anything to do with truth? The obvious answer appears to be yes. Nobody deliberately seeks a school for their children where the methods used and the contents of the curriculum are based on falsehood or misconception. The reality is that people disagree on what the truth is. The foundation of each person's understanding of truth will be some notion of how all things hold together.

A good summary for a Christian foundation of truth is found in the Bible passage above. What is interesting is that nothing in the entire universe is excluded from God's creative hand or His continued care. In the above scripture, Paul goes out of his way to include the heavens, invisible things, governments, and the relationships that exist between members of His church. All things mean ALL things.

Schools try to do a good job at teaching about all things. We are blessed at Fort McMurray Christian School to have a school which teaches about "all things" while it is equipped with the knowledge of the one who made it all and holds it all together.

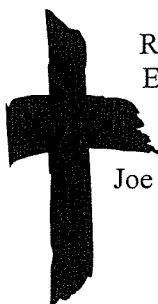
You the parents of Fort McMurray Christian School are the most influential advocate of your school. As I write this article for the newsletter God has blessed with us with 115 students and the possibility for more, as families continue to inquire about our program. This year our school's growth can be greatly attributed to families sharing with others the blessings of a school community which knows Him who holds all things together, and a school that seeks to see that, in everything He might have supremacy.

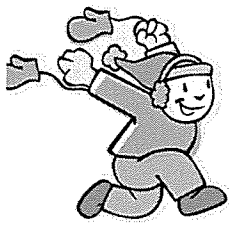
In His service,

Mr. J. Champion - Principal

FMCS BOARD MEMBERS

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





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 October we have recycled over **4000 units** for a total of just over **\$1500**. If you would like to check out our progress so far

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

AWARD PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY

On, Friday Oct. 8 11:00-12:00

ABCRC will be presenting the school with the winning cheque for \$2500.00. This is the fourth year in a row that FMCS has won this recycling award in our category. Please plan of joining the Mayor, staff, students, special guests and the representatives from ABCRC in the school gym.

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.

HOT LUNCH

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

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.

LIFETOUCH PICTURE DAY

Wednesday Oct. 6

The forms have gone home, please send in the form with payment or a note indicating, no pictures if that is what you want before Monday Oct. 4.

CHOCOLATES

Sales this year are doing very well, thanks to all our families working together, if you have not already done so, we ask that you return to the school \$75.00 after selling each box for \$3.00

We are also holding a contest for the most boxes sold and numerous other draws.

- Most Chocolates sold in a family with all monies returned before Friday, Oct. 29, 2010 12:00 PM, the family will win a 2GB iPod Shuffle. Announcement to be made Monday, Nov. 1, 2010 at 9 AM.
- We will draw names from the families that have returned their money each Friday for 6 weeks for a one pound bar of chocolate starting Friday, Oct. 24.
 - 1st Week winner – Zhang Family
 - 2nd Week winner – Epple Family

Please partner with us in supporting the school to help us reach our budget requirements. We do not ask the children to go door to door but to sell these to families, friends or co-workers.

MAGAZINE SALES

We hope you have already had an opportunity to browse the magazine subscription booklets that went home. We do not expect children to go door to door, but we do request that you ask friends and family to support this fundraiser. Many of you already have magazine subscriptions. This is a time to renew them through us and the renewal can be made regardless of when the renewal is due. Possibly you can think of a magazine that may enrich your life or that of your child. Magazines also make an on-going gift. Please send in your order before Oct. 19.

We have lots of booklets available at the school if you need more for friends and family, give Sheila a call (780-743-1079) and I will send them home with your child.

Please also 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**. We also have a prize for the most in magazine sales, a great big panda stuffie to go home after the CEA convention.

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.

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.

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.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

The nominations are officially in!
Nominees running in for the Fort McMurray Public School District include:

Angela Adams
Glenn Cooper
Linda Mywaart (A former parent at FMCS ;)
Stephanie Blackler
Glenn Doonanco
Jeff Thompson (A former parent at FMCS ;)

Advance voting takes place on Oct. 6, 8, 9 and 13.
Election Day across the region is on Oct.18.

What do school trustees do?

Alberta school boards help shape the future of local communities by governing the education of young people. The provincial government, through the minister of education, grants school boards the independent authority to make decisions regarding the direction and quality of local public education. Accountability to the public is entrenched through the election of local school board trustees every three years. The school board election for FMPSD is October 18, 2010.

SCHOOL COUNCIL BEGINS!

"The purpose of School Council is to foster the School's Mission Statement, maximize student learning with a specific focus on school improvement."

The first school council meeting for the year gathered on September 29. The group of eight included a student, parents, and staff with someone connected to all but one classroom (it'd be great to have a parent from the 4/5 class too!) Mr. Champion led us in an opening devotional reminding us of the various gifts and vulnerabilities we share as members of the body of Christ; our school council is a great way we can work together to support our children's Christian education.

Our main tasks for the evening included electing an executive and brainstorming our main points of interest to focus on this year. The FMCS school council executive is:

Heather Carlson - **Chair**
Alison Peyton- **Vice Chair**
Reina VanGenderen – **Secretary**
Foluke Aina - **Treasurer**

Lots of great ideas circulated for topics the school council could address; the most interest was expressed to work in literacy, and secondly on ecology/environmental issues. We will move ahead in these areas at our next meeting.

The next gathering for the school council is Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00pm. We invite all parents/grandparents and interested community members to attend. If you have any questions or agenda items to propose, please be in touch with me at hc@anrev.com or 780.748.2499. The agenda deadline is October 19.

The grace and peace of Christ attend you,
Heather Carlson

2010 – FESTIVAL of TREES (proud to be a partner with Fort McMurray Public School District)

For over 10 years now, the Northern Lights Health Foundation and the Fort McMurray Public School Board have partnered to bring joy and happiness to children throughout the Wood Buffalo region during the Festival of Trees. Staff, students and family members have all played a role in welcoming the smiles of children into the Santa's Workshop at this event.

With a new location this year- the Suncor Community Leisure Center- the Festival of Trees presented by Syncrude Canada Ltd. will be sure to provide hours of entertainment for children and their families. From spending time with Santa and Mrs. Claus to participating in the craft tables, there is something for everyone.

We are asking for your help. Please visit <http://www.nlhf.ca/en/fmpsdsignup> to sign up to play your role in the success of Fort McMurray's premiere Christmas event.

Study Topics for October 2010

ECDP(CUBS)/Kindergarten: Mrs. Jillian Jackman

BIBLE: The Creation story/Adam and Eve Disobey

MATH: K: Identifying, describing, reproducing and extending patterns. We will also look to nature to see how God has purposefully decorated our world with patterns .MATH CUBS: recognizing at a glance familiar arrangements of numbers 1-5, comparing quantities and using more than, less than and the same. Counting forwards and backwards. (10)

JOLLY PHONICS: K - We will continue to learn letter sounds and blend them into words. Please remember to practice the letter sounds and words in your "Ask Me" booklet and to put in back in the binder daily to we can add sounds and words.

JOLLY P. CUBS: Language Arts: We will be working on identifying rhyming words, sorting letters in my name, finger paint letters in my name, tracing letters in my name, identifying the letter name and sounds of the following letters: P, B, and -t

PHYSICAL ED: Group stretching, Gross motor locomotion, Target toss, variety of tag games.

THEME: K: Apple/ ECDP: Pumpkins: Reminder Kindergarten parents: look out for a field trip note, we are going to walk to a grocery store to purchase apples and make apple sauce. MUSIC: Singing songs and rhymes, the names of notes.

GREAT WEBSITE: www.starfall.com

GRADE 1 Mrs. Colleen Swain

BIBLE: Building Christian Character

MATH Gr. 1: Numbers 1 -10 & Patterning

SCIENCE: Creating Color

PHYSICAL ED: Sending & Receiving

MUSIC (Mrs. Steiestol): Singing Songs and Rhymes, the names of notes

FRENCH (Mrs. Steiestol): Colors, Numbers, Alphabet, Verbs

HEALTH: Steps to Healthy Living

LANGUAGE ARTS: Building reading strategies & sight word knowledge

SOCIAL STUDIES: Learning about Me and my Community

ART: Thanksgiving, Turkey's, Tissue Paper Pumpkins

GRADES 2-3: Mrs. Jennifer Dunham

BIBLE: Fruit of the Spirit

LANGUAGE ARTS: Vowels, Retells and Narratives

SCIENCE: Rocks and Minerals

ART: (Mrs. Steiestol): Thanksgiving horn of Plenty, Tissue Paper Pumpkins

PHYSICAL ED. (Mrs. Swain): Sending, Receiving & Floor Hockey

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol): Whole Notes, Rests, Time, Half Notes, Veggie Tale Sunday Songs

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol) Alphabet, Seasons, Unit: The Body (arms, legs, etc....)

MATH: Patterns

SOCIAL STUDIES: Peru

HEALTH: Bullying

GRADES 4-5: Mrs. Donna-Marie Hamilton

BIBLE: Stories of the bible in the Pentateuch (the first 5 books of the bible).

MATH: Patterns and Equations

SOCIAL STUDIES: Provinces/Territories capital cities and national capital. Moving on to the Appalachian region.

LANGUAGE ARTS: Writing for an audience and opinionated writing with supporting arguments.

HEALTH: Healthy lifestyle

ART 4-6: (Mrs. Dunham) Elements of Design

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol) Rhythmic Reading, Pitch, Staff & Line Notes, Christian Songs

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol): School supplies, start our unit on clothing

PHYSICAL ED. (Mrs. Swain): Sending, Receiving & Floor Hockey

GRADES 6 Ms. Dwana Fifield

BIBLE: Every Bit of Who We Are—Where is God? - A comparison of today and Biblical times (Habakkuk)

MATH : Patterns and Equations/ Whole Numbers

SCIENCE: Trees and Forests

ART: (Mrs. Dunham) Elements of Design

PHYSICAL ED: (Mr. Champion)

MUSIC: (Mrs. Steiestol): Rhythmic Reading, Pitch, Staff & Line Notes, Christian Songs – Toby Mac

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol): Review days of the week, months, Song: O' Canada, Numbers, (adding, subtracting) telephone, house number and street.

LANGUAGE ARTS: Perspective

SOCIAL STUDIES: Democracy in Action

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

BIBLE: (Mrs. Hamilton) The life of Joseph

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

PHYSICAL ED.: (Mr. Champion) Track and Field, Volleyball, Flag Football and Indoor Games

LANGUAGE ARTS: (Mrs. Krismer) - Anecdotes/Rambling Autobiography

ART: (Mrs. Dunham) Elements of Design

SCIENCE: (Ms. Fifield) The Planet Earth—Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Mountains.

FRENCH: (Mrs. Steiestol) Writing Sentences in the affirmative and negative, Battle of the Plains of Abraham

MUSIC: (Mrs. Krismer): My Life in Song

WANT YOUR DESIGN TO BE
SEEN BY MILLIONS?



**The Fort McMurray
Public School District is
seeking the help of students
across the district to redesign
its billboard on Highway 63.**

Submit your completed design or concept to Paula.Ogonoski@fmprsd.ab.ca by **Friday October 15.**

All designs must include a space for the district logo, your name and grade.

Only entries from students currently enrolled in the Fort McMurray Public School District will be accepted.

The winning submission is subject to change and must be the designer's original concept.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Paula at 780-788-8009.

Fort Mc Murray Christian School

October 2010

FOOD BANK COLLECTION ALL MONTH

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5 Pizza	6 Hot Dogs Picture Day	7 Friendship Lunch	8 Progress Reports ABCRC Assembly, 11am-12:00	9
10	11 Thanksgiving NO SCHOOL	12 Pizza P/T Interviews	13 Hot Dogs P/T Interviews	14 Chicken Noodle Soup	15	16
17	18	19 Pizza	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Pizza School Council Mtg. 7 pm	27 NO SCHOOL Teacher's Institute Day	28 Pita Pit: Chicken on W.W. Pita	29	30
31						

Christian Teachers Convention – **NO SCHOOL**