



Upcoming Dates

Nov 8: Administration Day (no classes)
 Nov 11: Remembrance Day (no classes)
 Nov 15: First report card sent home
 Nov 21: Parent-Teacher Conf. (evening)
 2:30pm dismissal
 Nov 22: Parent-Teacher Conf. (no classes)
 Dec 23 - Jan 5: Christmas Break

Matheson Elementary School:

Nov 1: Operation Christmas Child
 Collection Begins
 Nov 20: Hot Lunch Day
 Nov 29: House Colour Day
 Dec 19: Christmas Concert (gr 3 and 4)

Middle School:

Oct 28 - Nov 1: Spirit Week
 Nov 27: Classroom Decorating
 Dec 12: Christmas Concert
 Dec 20 Floor Hockey Tournament

High School:

Oct 28 - Nov 1: Fearless Week
 Nov 20: Grade Wars
 Dec 11: House Potluck
 Dec 20: Leadership Events and YFC

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Faith Academy Fall Fun Fest

The 80s. This was the decade of television that brought such memorable shows to life as *Alf*, *Full House*, and *Knight Rider*. (Side note: in spite of not having a television in the home for most of my growing years, I somehow still managed to catch a few episodes now and then.) One such show was *The A-Team*. The character in this series who orchestrated the Team's zany adventures was known for using the phrase, "I love it when a plan comes together".



Fast forward to 2019. **No one** would mistake us for *The A-Team*, but your **Faith Academy Parent Council** nevertheless accepted the task of putting together an event to kick-off this school year.

It all began in the heart of our Superintendent, **Mr. Harnett**. He shared with the Parent Council a vision of the whole school coming together in one place, celebrating the community of people that God has been building over many years. It was to be an event held in September; it should be enjoyable for the whole range of students and family members; and it must be a time of revelry. Thus it became the **Fall Fun Fest**.

There was some uncertainty about what we would actually *do* at this Fall Fun Fest, but we prayerfully put our heads together and began to share ideas. What formed was what you hopefully experienced: **an outdoor street party** in the brisk autumn weather, with students of all ages and extended family members enjoying food, bouncy structures, games and a hotly contested 3-on-3 basketball tournament. It was a true thrill for Parent Council to look around and see several hundred people spilling out across the school property, the street and the playground. The sounds of people connecting with one another in conversation, competition and *comida* (Spanish for FOOD) filled the air.



Much more could be said, but perhaps it's best to just say **thanks**. Thanks to the staff who supported the idea and worked very hard to prepare the food, the venue and more. Thanks to the Parent Council members who planned and arranged for each enjoyable activity. Thanks to the students and families who came to the Fall Fun Fest with enthusiasm to strengthen the relationships that we are blessed to have through Faith Academy.

Thank You, **heavenly Father**, in whom we live and move and have our being.

I love it when a plan comes together.

Adam Stetski - Parent Council

Middle School Repairs

After a long and at times difficult journey, we are very near to being able to reopen the lower level of our middle school building. The updated space will include renovated bathrooms, fresh paint, new flooring, and a sound proofed piano room. The updated light fixtures help to make the classrooms warm and bright.

In addition to the work in the lower level of the building, significant changes have been made to the heat distribution through the building. The gym now has a large duct overhead and several other parts of the building have also had their heating changed from floor vents to overhead diffusers.



The flood that took place at 600 Jefferson Avenue back in March of 2019 was disastrous and the type of event that we hope and pray only happens once in the history of our school. Throughout the repair effort, it has been a blessing to watch God's hand in all that has taken place. We have been blessed by wise council and with individuals who genuinely care about our school.

I want to thank Mr. Ted Dick for all of the long hours and hard work he has put in over the past six months. Ted has served as the point person on the repair project and has often had to advocate for the interests of Faith Academy. I also want to thank all of the teachers at the middle school and especially those that have been displaced - your patient endurance has been admirable. Finally, I would like to thank the students and their parents for making the many adaptations that have been necessary.

James Harnett - Superintendent



NEWS FROM THE ELEMENTARY

2019-2020 Vol. I



Terry Fox Run

On Friday, October 1st, Faith Academy Elementary (Matheson and Pritchard locations) along with Faith Academy Middle School, joined together to participate in the Terry Fox Run. The rain held off, and the afternoon was filled with laughter and great memories as the students got together at Kildonan Park to raise awareness for cancer research. In total, \$145 was raised for the Terry Fox Foundation. A huge thank you to Mr. McNabb and Mr. Hiebert for organizing the event, the parent volunteers for encouraging our runners and walkers (and keeping them safe), as well as to the bus drivers for safely transporting approximately 400 students to the park! A great time was had by all!



School Traffic

We are once again excited to announce that our Patrol program is up and running. This year, the grade 4 students have been extremely eager to get started. They have picked up on the patrolling skills very quickly, and have shown diligence as they attend to their post without any prompting. With that being said, we understand that pick-ups, drop offs, and parking around the school can be very difficult. Please keep in mind the following regulations in order to avoid being ticketed by the city:

- do not **stop**, stand or **park** a vehicle three metres of an intersection
- do not **stop**, stand or **park** a vehicle within 9 metres upon the approach to any **stop sign**
- parking is prohibited within 3 metres from any property line (try to avoid Carruthers)
- do not park in the back lane of the school as many staff members leave promptly at 3:35
- please do not conduct three point turns on the street at any time
- if you are using Matheson to drop off your child in the morning, please do so in a very quick manner (**stop, drop, go**). We need the space to offload our busses.

Please help us in making the streets around our school a safe place for our patrols, parents, and other students!

Greetings from Mrs. Dyck

Once again I am amazed at how smoothly the year has begun! The Lord has answered many prayers and has been faithful as we have welcomed 220 students at our Matheson location and 25 students at our Pritchard campus. This summer, the Matheson location underwent significant renovations. Both grade 4 classrooms as well as one grade 3 room received new flooring (thanks to Mr. Leclair and his crew, Nick and Caleb) Our foyer tile flooring was also extended further down the hallway. Major renovations, done last summer saw our Elementary bathrooms updated. We have been enjoying the new flooring in the Chapel that occurred the year before. We are extremely thankful for the positive physical changes that have occurred in recent years! We also welcomed a number of new staff. Mrs. Reimer has been filling in for a maternity leave in grade 3, Mrs. Gorospe has taken on the 2/3/4 teaching position at Pritchard, and Mrs. J Leclair took a position as an EA (Matheson), along with Miss Ruiter (Matheson) and Mrs. Reimer (Pritchard), as additional EA support. We are extremely grateful and appreciative for how easily these ladies have filled these significant roles. More importantly, I wanted to thank you - the parents and guardians, for playing such an important role in our school and the lives of our students. Each day, we encounter encouragement and support and we are extremely thankful for this! We want to encourage you to keep the lines of communication open if you have any concerns or questions. Together, we can work to help your child become the best they can be!

-Laurie Dyck

Teacher Profile - Mrs. Lynn Gorospe

Faith Academy Pritchard is excited to welcome Mrs. Lynn Gorospe to the Faith Academy Pritchard Campus. Mrs. Gorospe began working with Faith Academy last year, when she took on an EA position at Matheson. With God's prompting, she accepted the grade 2/3/4 position at Pritchard this year, and she hasn't looked back since!

Mrs. Gorospe was born in the Philippines. She inherited her passion for teaching from her grandmother who was also an educator. In 2016, Lynn and her family immigrated to Canada. She began working at Faith Academy Elementary as an EA in 2018. Lynn enjoys singing, ministering to children, spending time with her husband and daughter, and watching Netflix in her free time.

We are extremely grateful and appreciative to Mrs. Gorospe for all of the hard work and dedication that she has shown to Faith Academy. She is truly a blessing to our school and a tremendous asset to our staff!





Grade 8 Retreat Leads To a Paddlin' In More Ways Than One

~By Kirandeep Warha (8A)



The retreat was an amazing, one-of-a-kind experience I will never forget. Throughout the 3 days, we ate delicious meals alongside our friends. It made us feel more like a family. We were also placed into random groups for the four main activities: archery, arts & crafts, rock climbing, and canoeing. They were all fun however my favourite activity was ping pong. A

group of us played, along with Mr. McNabb & Mr. Kroeker, and we all had a ton of fun! We also played group games such as "mantracker", and "keys to the kingdom".

The highlight for me was being able to share something with everyone around the campfire. It definitely made us all feel closer as a community and as friends. I liked being able to sit together around the fire. I think we all feel closer and more connected now. During the chapels we sang songs and learned more about Jesus.

After attending the retreat, I want to continue growing spiritually, overcoming my fears, and growing closer to God. I would give the retreat 5 out of 5 stars, although I wish it could have been longer because we really enjoyed the trip and the three days seemed to go by very quickly.



Running Club Takes Act On The Road, Members Do a Little Off-Roading At Bird's Hill Provincial Park

~By Josh Nicholas (7B)

Every Wednesday and Thursday all the 5s and 6s would go out at 11:45 and would run until 12:25. Then the 7s and 8s would come at 12:15 and we would usually run one big route which is about 1.5 kilometers and two small routes which is about 0.5kms per small route so we would run about 2 kilometers. Some people from the 7s and 8s would actually do two big routes and run 3 kilometers. We would go out with Miss van Bruggen and she would also run with us and once James and I beat her so we both got some candy.



Then one day Miss Esselink took me along with some grade 6s to Bird's Hill Park to compete against students from some other schools. First we all walked through the course so we would know where to go. The grade 5 girls went first, then the grade 5 boys, the grade 6 girls, etc.



We all had a great time there. We were supposed to go again the next week but that's when there was a snowstorm and it was super cold outside so unfortunately we couldn't go.

All in all I had a great time being part of the running club and recommend it to anyone who is interested in possibly joining it next year.

Grade Eight Students and Teachers Enjoy Creation, Experience Creator at Red Rock Bible Camp

~By Sophia Start (8B)

I've been looking forward to the *Grade 8 Retreat* ever since my sister first went. I remember when she went on about how much she enjoyed it, so when it was my turn, I was overwhelmed with excitement along with anxiousness. When the count-down to the retreat had come to an end, it felt unreal. The retreat was an enjoyable experience doing outdoor activities in the dark, singing to the top of our lungs during chapel, getting to know people who you wouldn't normally spend time with, and most importantly, gaining a deeper understanding and knowledge of God. The experience was a well-spent time, relaxing and escaping from some of life's usual stresses, all within the refreshing comfort of nature.

Overall, I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to experience this retreat with friends, as well as for the opportunity of getting closer with God.





Grade 12 Retreat at Roseau River

Our Roseau River retreat is definitely up there as one of the most memorable high school experiences. It was surprising to see how much people can grow closer to God and one another in just a matter of three days. I had expected the first day to be a lot lazier and more laid back based on how tired most people seemed upon getting off the bus at camp. It turned out to be quite the opposite. The free time that followed our quiet lunch was a blend of people walking around exploring the camp, throwing a football around over incredible distances, relaxing on the swings and play structure, and a surprisingly intense game of volleyball. The highlight for most was definitely bubble soccer. It was more a stampede of teenagers colliding violently yet painlessly with each other. It was the perfect way to start off the retreat. The other days were, unfortunately, less outdoorsy because of the seemingly endless downpour. We played indoor games and even went outside for the sake of piercing some targets in archery. Other than our draining, fun activities, a lot of the best moments were found during our worship times. Seeing everyone pour their hearts out into the songs was truly beautiful. Getting to share and connect on such a deep God level with each other was nothing short of a blessing.



Our sharing circles gave us the chance to vulnerable before one another which I believe really allowed us to connect as a grade. In the same way, we were able to connect with our teachers as they connected with us. Though some tears may have been shed, I think the overall result was definitely positive. It was great to see how supportive, encouraging, and united we all were. I think that this retreat was an opportunity to build strong and lasting relationships with each other and with God. It was incredible to see each and every one of us take advantage of it and make the most of those three days. Looking back, it's obvious that God was working in all of our hearts. Being able to go on this retreat was truly a blessing and I'm extremely excited to see what God has in store for our grade this year.



- Kwesi (grade 12)

Grade 10s Go to Gimli for the Day

The first thing that comes to mind from the Grade 10 Gimli Retreat 2019 is fun. What is fun? Fun is strolling along the boardwalk and skipping stones along the beach. Fun is eating great food, especially the burgers. Fun is going swimming. And most of all fun is hanging out with good company. But it wasn't only fun, we also learned more about ourselves and we bonded together as a grade. We were challenged to write a letter to ourselves which we'll open in grade 12. It was interesting to put our goals down on paper and see who our present self wants our future self to be. Our together times helped us to get to know each other better, even the bus ride helped with that. Charades was a blast and we let our guards down and had a lot of fun together. Of course we had a time of devotions and we discussed our yearly theme of fear. It challenged us to come out of our comfort zone and overcome fear so we can serve God better. But mostly it was fun.

- Martina (grade 10)



Student Vote 2019

On Tuesday, October 15, 2019, the grade 9A Social Studies and grade 11 History of Canada classes hosted a student vote in conjunction with the federal election that took place on October 21st. The student vote program is put together by Elections Canada, and it encourages students to learn about our democratic system and gives an opportunity for them to see how the electoral process works. The classes put together voter lists, researched candidates, made displays and power points, and set up our lunch room as our on-site polling station. Elections Canada supplied ballot boxes and ballots for the Kildonan-St. Paul riding for us to use. Students from both classes acted as polling clerks, Deputy Returning officers and scrutineers. Throughout the afternoon, classes took turns visiting the polling station and casting their votes. While the votes that were cast did not count toward the federal election, results from the student vote were put together from across the country, and the classes were instructed to keep the results secret until the actual election was held on October 21, 2019.

Our students agreed with the residence of the Kildonan-St. Paul riding and voted Raquel Dancho of the Conservative Party of Canada as their first choice. For the complete results of the student vote from across Canada, please visit <https://studentvote.ca/canada/student-vote-canada-2019-the-results/>. Thanks to Mr. McGraw and Mr. Ingels who did a great job of organizing and leading us through the process.

