

Upcoming Dates:

March and April 2015

- March 13—Admin Day—No School
- March 27—Report Cards (K-8)
- March 30 - April 3—Spring Break
- April 23, 24—Parent Teacher Interviews
- April 29—Photo Retakes (Gr 12, 8 & K)

Pritchard:

- March 19—Kindergarten Show and Tell
- March 25—Chapel at Matheson
- April 8—Leadership Team
- April 22—Chapel at Matheson

Matheson Elementary School:

- March 26—Spring Concert (Gr 2-4)
- April 7—Kindergarten Grad Photos

Middle School:

- March 12—Grade 7 & 8 Ski Trip
- April 15—Grade 8 Grad Photos

High School:

- March 9—11 Grade 12 Arnes Retreat
- March 19—Grade 12 Grad Photos
- March 23—Ignite
- March 24—Grade 9 Needles
- March 29 to April 3 - Missions 1 Team in Fairford, MB
- April 17—Report Cards
- April 27—Ignite
- April 27-May 1 - Spiritual Emphasis Week

Missions 2 team went in Panama. More in the next newsletter.



Additional Resources on Online Safety:

www.focusonthefamily.ca/parenting/online-safety
<https://homeword.com/articles/social-media-101/#.VOHJFV90zZ4>

www.common sense media.org

Growing Up Social: Raising Social Kids in a Screen Driven World, by Gary Chapman and Arlene Pellicane

School Contact information:

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Last month we mentioned emerging issues from the use of personal devices. This month we continue this discussion with information more specific to Faith Academy students and provide parents with some ideas to help. In January 2014, Faith Academy high school students participated in a survey of 100 questions on a wide variety of topics.

Here are some of the data from questions on internet/personal device use.

93% of students own some type of personal electronic device

20% of students estimated over 31 hrs of weekly internet usage - average use of 17.6 hrs

10% of students estimated over 21 hrs of weekly video game usage - average use of 5.4 hrs

55% of internet use was estimated to be on social media

15% of students estimated sending over 31 text messages /day, on average students send 14.7

3% of students estimated they experienced electronic bullying weekly

20% of students estimated they had sent or received sexually explicit text messages or emails

30% of students stated they struggle with pornography

Students estimated they spend an average of 5.5 hours watching tv a week, 4.6 hours watching movies a week and 4.9 hours of reading per week.

Specific issues that have arisen include:

-disagreements starting before school or continuing after school through texting

-texting in the middle of the night

-easy access to inappropriate pictures, video or music, including pornography

-playing video games that have inappropriate images or violence

-discussions through texting and chat groups can become inappropriate and can include sharing inappropriate pictures or web-links

Here are some tips to help you and your children use these devices in a healthy way.

1. Discuss time limits with your child and adjust them to fit your child's age and device use.
2. Ensure that devices are not interrupting sleep. Turn devices or wi-fi signals off during the night or have the device stored outside of their bedrooms while they sleep.
3. Check your younger child's internet history and group chats. Talk with them frequently about what is good and appropriate. Being open with their device history and group chats could be a condition of the privilege to use a device. As children get older, work toward a system of checks and balances together.
4. Play your child's games. Spend time with them learning about what they like to play and how they are using their device. Get them to teach you something or use it while enjoying time together.
5. Help your children understand how to talk about issues. Sometimes inappropriate pop-ups occur even while using appropriate sites. This can cause guilt or confusion in children. Help them learn how to talk about it, and check in with them regularly.
6. Children living in multiple homes may have stricter rules in one home than the other, talk with your child's other parent about these issues. Having non-confrontational discussions may help with creating consistent rules between homes.

'CyberParenting' may seem like a challenging addition to the job of parenting, but continue to use the same principles with technology as you do with other things, keep open communication with your child, spend time with them and get to know their friends, touch base with them to understand how they are growing or struggling spiritually, and provide them with assistance to learn and grow to a mature, healthy adult who knows how to use technology in a healthy way.

Reminder:

Registrations for returning students deadline is March 23, 2015. please print the application online and bring it into the office with a copy of your birth certificate.



Grade 12 Retreat at Camp Arnes.

Guests from Burundi, Africa shared their testimonies and about the work of Haven of Hope during the high school chapel.



On February 22, Grades 1 to 4 went to the Festival du Voyageur. They enjoyed outdoor activities, traditional French-Canadian music and maple taffy.

Above: Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8 enjoyed some outdoor adventure activities at Adrenaline Adventures, Fort Whyte and Harbourview in February and March. **Right:** Students 'Jump Rope for Heart' at Pritchard.



We would like to welcome Nancy Jacobson to the Grade 3A class (Matheson). Nancy is no stranger to Faith Academy as she has previously worked at the Matheson and Stonewall campus, which included a year in Stonewall with Carol Belieau, whom she is now replacing. Although she was born in Athens, she grew up in Thunder Bay, Ontario until her first job at Faith Academy brought her to Winnipeg. In addition to working at Faith Academy, she has worked at a variety of different schools in Winnipeg and spent 10 years as a radio host at the Christian radio station, CHVN (95.1).

Since her son Brady was born, she took some time off and eventually moved back to Thunder Bay to spend time with family. Having an opportunity to teach again at Faith Academy has brought her back to Winnipeg this year and we are glad that Brady could join her, by attending here as well.

In addition to asking about interests and teaching experiences, I took the opportunity to ask her about some of her favorite memories working at CHVN. These included interviewing Toby Mac (previously of DC Talk), hosting an upcoming singer contest at the VIBE Awards in Toronto and Winnipeg and being asked to be the voice-over for the Voice of the Martyrs, which was a meaningful experience.

She is happy to be back teaching in a Christian school where she can share her faith and loves how her students are so eager to learn about the Bible. She is also glad to be back among familiar faces in the staff, as she has appreciated the individuals that she worked with in the past and is glad to be back in the Faith Academy community.

