

Upcoming Dates

Mar 16: Early Registration Deadline
Mar 16: Teacher In-Service (no classes)
Mar 23: 2nd Report Card (K-8)
Mar 26-29: Spring Break (no classes)
Mar 30: Good Friday (no classes)

Matheson Elementary School:

March - Nutrition Month
Mar 12: Curling Activity
Mar 14: Wear Green
Mar 20: Spring Concert (Kindergarten to Gr 2)

Middle School:

Mar 15: Grade 7 and 8 Ski Trip

High School:

Mar 5-7: Grade 12 Camp Arnes Retreat



FAITH ACADEMY NEWS

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To El Salvador and Back

On February 11, 2018 the Faith Academy Missions team left the cold weather in Winnipeg for the sunny skies and warmth of El Salvador. It was a full day of travel that included an early start and some delays, but by 10 pm we arrived in San Salvador and met our OM (Operation Mobilisation) hosts. The next morning started with an orientation and a brief rundown of expectations for the team. We then loaded up enough food and gear for our entire trip into the vehicles and drove to Las Chinamas. At the church our team split into two groups, with one group staying at the church for the week while the other group continued on their journey into the mountains to the small community of El Citio.



Group 1: El Citio

On first arrival, our impression of the community was of nervous excitement. We did not know what to expect or how we would integrate into the church congregation but after meeting with the pastor and his family we knew that the week was going to be a great one. Our group highlights were building a wall (by moving boulders by hand up a steep hill), leading 2 church services, painting the church building and leading a variety of kids programs.



This community won a part of our hearts and we were incredibly sad to leave our new friends, both young and old. It was a privilege to be a part of God's blessing in this community.

Group 2: Las Chinamas



Soon after group 1 left we began serving. We were overwhelmed by our upcoming schedule of school visits and multiple church services, but we knew that if we relied on God for strength and endurance, anything would be possible. We hit the ground running with only having an hour to prepare for our first house church experience, and we worked hard to get ready. It was an intense way to begin, but it got us ready for the kinds of unexpected and spontaneous things we were asked to do for the rest of the week.

Each day was filled with a new adventure. Our team members overcame a lot of fear and realized that with the strength Christ provides, we could do anything asked of us. We visited four different schools, reaching over 1400 students, where we were blessed to present three to six programs a day consisting of skits, testimonies, music and an opportunity to share the gospel. A highlight of our experience was having the privilege to pray with eight students who wanted to accept Jesus as their Saviour. There were also church services throughout the week that allowed us to be a part of the church community.

Back together again... finally:

We reunited on Friday night and spent the time telling stories and catching up. We had such different experiences that it was nice to spend time together. Saturday consisted of having a rest at the beach and hosting a youth night while on Sunday, we were back to work leading some church services.

On Monday morning the team drove to San Lorenzo where we spent the final two days. We assisted the local pastor in building his church which consisted of digging large trenches for the foundation and lifting and carrying boulders from the nearby river. It was satisfying being able to tackle a hands on project together as a full team to end our El Salvador experience.

Our experience is one that we will not soon forget. We were able to appreciate God and His works throughout our trip and especially in the communities we visited. Thank you for all the time that was taken to support the Faith Academy Missions team financially, physically, and most important, spiritually.



- Sarah Ruiter and Abby Warkentin



Our high school students were privileged to welcome Mayor Brian Bowman for an hour long assembly on February 8th. The mayor has the ambitious goal of visiting every high school in Winnipeg, and we appreciated his time with us. Mayor Bowman talked about the work the city is doing and what his priorities are. He challenged students to consider public office as a way to serve others. After speaking for a few minutes, he spent the remainder of the hour taking and answering questions from the students.

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Winter Fun at the Middle School



Every year, Faith Academy Middle School (FAMS) participates in amazing winter activities. This year we had the opportunity to do different activities from what we've done in the past. One of these things was to go on a sleigh ride at Bird's Hill Park, where the view was very appealing. Though it was cold and did not smell the best, it was a good experience as many people bonded together while enjoying the calming ride. The horses were well trained, and the ride went smoothly. The sleigh did

not stop moving forward but did not go very fast. That gave people the enjoyable opportunity to jump off or push other people off (nicely, of course!). Thankfully no one got hurt.



After the ride we had a chance to just hang out and chat with friends. Once we got back to the school we all drank a warm and cozy cup of hot chocolate that had been prepared for us. Everyone had a blast and really enjoyed this memorable sleigh ride. I am looking forward to our next exciting field trip. Hopefully it will be just as great as this one was!

- Sophia Start (gr. 6A)

Grade 4s Visit Festival du Voyageur

On Thursday, February 22nd, the Grade 4's went to the biggest winter festival in Canada: The Festival du Voyageur. The students learned about the French culture, the fur trade and the importance of the Indigenous peoples of Canada. We also learned about a few modes of transportation that the Voyageurs used. When we went on a sleigh ride pulled by 2



horses, we were dropped off in a field, where we played a capture the flag game with a fur trade theme. We tasted some maple taffy - it was delicious - and learned how maple syrup was discovered and how it is made. It was very interesting! The students enjoyed the free activities like face painting, making friendship bracelets and post cards. Everyone had a great time! It's a place everyone should go at least once!

On Friday, February 23rd, the rest of the school had a Festival afternoon. The children were divided into their house groups and enjoyed 6 stations where they could experience some of what the life of the Voyageur was like. Three stations were outside: the canoe race, the snowshoes race and the fur trade tag game. The weather was beautiful! The other stations were inside. Students tasted pea soup and bannock while they listened to Voyageur songs, ate ice cream and maple syrup, and made a bilboquet (French/metis toy called in English a cup-and-ball). Thank You, Lord for an awesome day and a big thank you to the teachers and volunteers who helped make the afternoon a great success!

- Mme. Moreau

Grade 8 Curling Field Trip



The smooth, clear ice felt like a ball softly rolling on the floor. Having the opportunity to try curling for the first time was a very neat experience. Since we were all beginners, I wasn't afraid to mess up. The curling club was a gigantic building. Once you walked in the door, there was a room filled with chairs, couches and windows to view the six curling sheets. There was an upper floor with a lounge, washrooms, and a bunch of clear, glass windows to see the sheets of ice. Each

lane had eight rocks of yellow and eight rocks of red. Usually to play curling, you would have four members on a team so that's exactly what we did. Unfortunately for my team members, we didn't have a team to play against, so we split into partners. I was with Tirza G, and Alison W was with Hannah L. In each lane there were two houses opposite to each other, so when you finished one game you would start on the other side. Playing curling was a ton of fun except for when I slipped on the rock solid ice. It felt like a hot piece of water had just splashed on my finger while boiling. I banged my elbow on the ice, and my knee hit rock bottom. After taking a few minutes

off the ice, I felt a little better, and I decided to get back out there. Falling on the ice made me think about how much courage the Olympic team members must have to compete in front of crowds with the chance of getting hurt. Tirza and I started



with the first rock. Getting the rock to go straight was one of the hardest parts other than getting it to go at a good pace. Personally, my favourite part about curling was sliding on the ice because it was really fun and you wouldn't wobble over as if you were on skates. For the amount of time we had, we didn't get to play against anyone else which was fine because I was having such a good time. Curling is a great sport to play because it's fun and interesting, so I recommend it to all ages.

- Jaiden Krahn (gr. 8)

The Elementary Loves to Read!

February was a busy month in the Elementary. The students "went for the gold" during I Love To Read Month by participating in special activities and of course - reading, reading, reading! The month was filled with guest readers, dress-up days such as "read a shirt day," "dress in a flag day," and our personal favourite, "dress in work out clothes day." Students created their own Olympic profile and promoted their favourite books on bulletin boards. A big "thank you" to SkyZone who offered 30 free minutes of trampoline time to students who read on a daily basis! We also want to give a huge thank you to Ms. Evans and Mrs. Giesbrecht for planning these fun events and Mrs. Traver for creating the wonderful Olympic decorations in our front lobby. We had a wonderful I Love To Read Month!

- Mrs. Dyck