

Upcoming Dates

April 30: Teacher in-service (no classes)
May 21: Victoria Day (no classes)
June 29: Administration day (no classes)

Matheson Elementary School:

May 16: Gr 1 and 2 Farm Field Trip
May 17: Gr 4 Track and Field
May 18: Grandparents Day
May 29: Hot Lunch Day
June 14: Kindergarten Graduation
June 15: Kindergarten Day Off
June 18-22: VBS

Middle School:

May 16: Gr 6 and 8 immunizations
May 23: 7/8 Track and Field
June 27: Grade 8 graduation (1pm)
June 27: Awards Night at Matheson (7pm)

High School:

May 23: Chapel Talent Show
May 24-June 1: Gr 11 Trip to Ottawa
May 28-31: Gr 12 Prov ELA Standards Test
June 26: Gr 12 Graduation



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Earth Day!

"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." Colossians 1:16-17

For many of us (myself included), Earth Day (April 22nd) passed by unnoticed and forgotten (somehow it is easier to remember when it falls on a weekday since we often engage in classroom activities with our students to commemorate the day).

For me, Earth Day is not just a single day where I try to be as "earth conscious" as possible, but rather, serves as a reminder to me of the beauty in all that God has created. It reminds me to be a more responsible steward of the earth – every day of the year, and encourages me to find new, easy ways that my family can consistently become more aware of the environment and take care of God's miraculous creations.

Faith Academy Elementary participated in its own Earth Day activity by participating in a Neighbourhood Clean Up around the school on Friday, April 27th. Students were equipped with gloves and supervised while picking up plastic and paper on our playground and surrounding area.

Here are a few simple ways that you and your family can continue to be great stewards of God's creation:

Take a Hike! If you are going a short manageable distance, consider walking or riding your bike instead of driving. Make it a habit to go on walks with your family. Take the time to enjoy God's creation, and get some fresh air and exercise!

Recycle, Recycle, Recycle! Most of us have a "blue bin" at home. Take the time to consider whether or not the item that you are throwing away is recyclable or not. Many items are!

Reduce Waste! Have you ever considered doing away with the plastic sandwich bags in your child's lunch and replacing them with containers? What about replacing juice boxes and plastic water bottles with reusable bottles instead?

Reduce Water Usage! Try turning off the water while brushing your teeth instead of leaving it running. Fix those drippy faucets!

Turn off the Lights! When you exit a room, try making it a habit to turn off the lights! Not only will you conserve energy, but it save you money on your utility bill as well!

- Mrs. Dyck

Middle School Soccer

This month, all of the students of FAMS have been going to the garden City Soccer Complex once per week to play soccer and have fun as a grade. Our grade goes from 2:00 to 3:00 each Tuesday. When we get there we are split into teams, and have been split into different teams each time to give students an opportunity to play with different people each week. This has given us a chance to make new friends and learn to play with everyone. We have already been three times and will be going two more times.



Playing soccer is a good form of exercise and also gives us a break from our work. Each time we go we play about 3-4 short games, not including class vs. class and boys vs. girls (which we do at the end). On the days that we go, we miss social studies (which we are very happy about).

The way things are run, everyone gets to play against everyone at least once so this is very fair. The exchanges between teams is fast and easy. When people are not playing they are sitting on the benches. In between games people are allowed to get a drink of water.

Soccer is a fun break from school that everyone enjoys. The games are usually very close – often only a 1-goal difference – and sometimes there are ties. I believe the entire school is enjoying going to play soccer.

- Navdeep and Sunmann – 6A



High school students add to the victory banner put together during spiritual emphasis week. During the week, students took part in special activities and were encouraged to celebrate the victories they have experienced this year in their walk with God.

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Renaissance Man Heads Faith Academy

If he were to describe himself in one word these days, he would choose “fortunate”. Mr. Harnett, our new Superintendent, is a husband, father, scholar and quite the Renaissance man. He even plays guitar and travelled extensively (i.e. in Asia and in North America) and some of this was by motorcycle.



As Superintendent, he values working with other Christians in a ministry. His duties suit his personality well by incorporating working with numbers, various types of people, and requiring his strong interpersonal skills. Filling the role was very intimidating but a good opportunity to rely on God despite all the uncertainties that come with new roles. However, watching how God leads is wonderful. Mr. Harnett’s aim for our school is “to honour God, and even more so as the years pass”.

Mr. Harnett has been a Christian since the age of 8, was baptized at 16, and now attends McDermot Avenue Church. To him, God is the creator that holds eternity together, yet is a very personal presence with whom he has a very intimate relationship. Mr. Harnett stays strong in his faith by frequently reading his bible.

In his early life, he had a variety of work experiences, like working at a theatre, cutting grass, and various types of manual labor. With Wycliffe Bible Translators (ironically at a school named Faith Academy in the Philippines), he was a teacher and dorm parent (along with his wife), caring for children of missionaries.

At the University of Winnipeg, he completed Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education degrees. He then taught full time for six years, enjoying his interactions with the students very much. He was keen on becoming an administrator, and has always been inclined to leadership roles. At present, he is developing his administrative skills by working on his post baccalaureate degree in Education.

In free time he feels happiest watching sports (i.e. the Jets, Toronto Blue Jays, and Saskatchewan Rough Riders), playing with his kids, spending time with his wife, and playing video games.

Mr. Harnett was born in Saskatchewan and comes from a blended family with two brothers and three sisters, and has a childhood filled with an abundance of outdoor memories, including forestry and snowmobiling. If you were ever stranded in the wilderness with this Renaissance man, don’t panic.

- The Grade 12 Transactional Focus ELA Class

Reflections on Our Grade 8 Badminton Season

Our badminton season ran through the month of April. Games were held each Thursday and we enjoyed one tournament at the Sport for Life Centre. Here are our thoughts on the season:

It was fun to see the students improve throughout the season, as they grew in skill and confidence. ~Miss Barkman

This season, I had many losses, but what’s most important is that I gained a few friends. ~Alyssa

This season I had a lot of fun, laughed a lot, and made new friends that I thought would never like me. ~Moneesha

My favourite part of badminton was meeting new people and making new friends from other schools. ~Mayumi

This season we not only grew in skill but also in sportsmanship. ~Noreen

My favourite part of badminton was spending time with my friends and being able to improve my skill. ~Juli

Although we lost games and got anxious at the sight of skilled teams, it was a fun experience to get closer with my partner and the people around me. ~Tirza

My favourite part of badminton was building on my skill and strengthening my friendships even further. ~Cheska

This badminton season I was able to grow in my friendships even more. The tournament allowed us to improve our skill, while also meeting people from different schools. ~Audrey

My favourite part of badminton was playing my old school and old friends. ~Fateh

My favourite part of badminton was coming together and supporting each other, even if we lost big time. ~Jaiden K.



Mission Trip to Fairford

This spring, the Faith Academy Missions 1 team spent their spring break up in Fairford, Manitoba. Through Pathway Ministries, the team was able to prepare and lead a day camp for the children on the reserve. The camp offered many different activities for the kids, including cup stacking, crafts, gym games, sports and much more. Each day, the team held chapel for the children, where the kids were able to learn more about God through songs, stories, and skits. Both chapel and discussion groups were a fundamental part of each day because of how the children were able to grow spiritually in their relationship with God. They were able to discover the power, forgiveness, and love of God by listening to different bible stories and asking important questions. The team’s primary goal was to shower each child with an abundant amount of love and affection, and to be a partial representation of the love and affection God has for each and every one of them. Although there were some difficulties and challenges that arose along the way with some of the children, the team continued to demonstrate God’s grace and compassion through their words and actions. Each Missions 1 member was impacted in some way throughout the trip. From the benevolent and hospitable community to the exuberant and endearing children, Fairford captured the hearts of this team. Not only did they form meaningful relationships with the kids, but they were also able to grow closer as a team. Although it was difficult to say goodbye to Fairford, the memories that were formed there will never fade.



- Kameron and Danielle