



Upcoming Dates

May 7: P. D. Day (no classes)
 May 24: Victoria Day (no classes)
 June 21-24: High School Exams

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COVID-19 — One Year In

For more than one year, Faith Academy has experienced a way of carrying out our educational programming that most of us never imagined would be necessary. There have been changes to how students enter and exit the building; changes to how we separate our students into classes; and changes to where and how gym classes take place—just to name a few. All of the newness, the challenges, and the uncertainty has resulted in a level of stress and fatigue unlike ever before.

Yet, God has remained faithful—giving us all that we need to take on each new day. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the teachers, EAs, support staff, students, and families for your ongoing commitment to doing your best in the midst of an incredibly difficult set of circumstances and expectations. We are not done with the pandemic yet, but there does seem to be some light at the end of this dark tunnel. We will continue to work hard to keep students and staff safe here at Faith Academy, and we will continue to ask God for His protection and peace.

Please join with us in praying that God will make a way for the 2021/22 school year to begin in a way that is much closer to normal. While we are grateful for all that He has done to preserve Faith Academy over the past year, we are very much looking forward to returning to the things that we have missed so much like chapels, sports, and hot lunch!

²⁰ Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. ²¹ Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3: 20-21

James Harnett - Superintendent

High School Activities

The last couple of weeks were full of activity in the high school. During the last week of April, the Mission 2 team led the high school in activities for Spiritual Emphasis Week. The overall theme was Sacred Service, and each day focused on friends, family, and class community. There were opportunities to take part in activities during at-school days, and remote students were given things to try at home. There were even challenges to do something at home with family (movie night anyone?).

This past week, students are enjoying the annual Grade Wars competition that pits grade against grade in a series of competitions. In a normal year, these events take place in the gym with all high school students in attendance. It gets loud, crowded, and intense and is always a highlight. This year, with physical distancing an ever important consideration, different events were chosen, and grades met separately to take on challenges in isolation from each other. The results from each competition are being recorded and compared with the results from the other grades. Competition is still fierce even though the competitors are performing at different times and don't get to look their opposition in the eye.

We are thankful to Mr. Kroeker and the Mission Teams for working hard on our behalf to stir up some fun and some school spirit. While we long for the regular and the normal, we appreciate the creativity and the effort of our student leaders.





Australia Day

Covid restrictions did not stop the grade 3B class from spending the day Down Under on May 5th! Students were greeted first thing in the morning with a boarding pass and flew 29 long hours to arrive in Darwin, Australia.

They first visited Uluru-one of the largest rocks in the world, located in the Simpson Desert. Afterwards, they travelled 25 kms to nearby Kata Tjuta, a group of 36 large dome shaped rocks. Next on the agenda, was Beerwah, Queensland where they visited a local famous zoo to see native Australian animals such as kangaroos, wallabys and kookaburras. They even had time to visit Levi (the local origami expert), who taught his fellow classmates how to make an authentic origami kangaroo! The last stop was the Great Barrier Reef. The grade 3's spotted rays, dolphins, sea turtles and clownfish during their visit.

The grade 3's were exhausted after a long day of sightseeing and experiencing Australian culture and foods. Thank you so much Mrs. Boschman for planning a wonderful and memorable 'field trip' experience!



The Year Through a Students' Eyes

Being in grade 4 is fun. I had been waiting for it for years! I was looking forward to field trips, presentations, big projects, making new friends (and playing with old ones), meeting teachers, and finally...Genius Hour.

But then Covid came. The Covid cases in Winnipeg got higher, and I switched to remote learning. I was learning remotely from late November until early March. It was fun though! In that time, we did Christmas projects like making a yummy candy house, and learning about the birth of Christ Jesus!



We have moved back into class now, and settled into the gym. It's so cool to be in such a big classroom! I like how the teachers put so much work into helping us students have fun! Yes, there are no field trips and we have to wear masks and social distance, but what we have to realize is that this is preparing us for bigger challenges in life. So be happy! God won't give us anything we can't handle. HE is in control!

- written by Imogen Miller (4A)

A huge thank you to all of the parents and guardians who made the 'Teacher Appreciation' gifts a success! Our teachers felt very blessed and loved by our wonderful families. Thank you also for your continuous support throughout this year. Your prayers are felt and truly appreciated by the entire staff.

Introducing Mr. Alexander

Faith Academy has been blessed to have Mr. Evroy Alexander join the Middle School staff as the P.E./Health Teacher since the beginning of this school year.

Mr. Alexander is a pastor's son, one of four siblings, and is a father to his son, Nathan. He was born and raised in Jamaica and came to Canada in December 2016 for a better life and more opportunities.

An intimate relationship with God is very important to Mr. Alexander, and he values Psalm 100 as his favourite scripture which he often recited when he was younger. At church, he serves as a musician, playing almost all the instruments you could think of! He also serves on many committees such as the church planning committee, maintenance committee, and as program organizer/scheduler just to name a few.



Teaching was something that Mr. Alexander had always liked. He was inspired by his grade 5 teacher who was also someone that discovered his gift as a musician. He has been teaching for over 15 years and had his first teaching experience as a P.E. teacher back in Jamaica. Since then, he has been a classroom teacher, a music teacher, a band instructor, and a choir director at the university level throughout his teaching career thus far.

Mr. Alexander has also experienced teaching music production and was one of the top music teachers in terms of accomplishments in Jamaica.

During his free time, Mr. Alexander loves watching comedies, playing basketball or soccer with family and friends, enjoying the game of pool, and getting creative with his video editing. Since he is very musical, he also likes to play the keyboard in his own time and play other instruments with a band.

It's been great to get to know you more, Mr. Alexander! May God continually be with you in your teaching, always.

~ by K. Panaligan

It's Actually Quite Easy Being Green

Back in the fall the school administration was contemplating adding a new tee shirt into the lineup at the middle school. For the past several years the elementary have had a colour that is exclusively theirs (red) and the high school has as well (purple) but the middle school has not had one of their own. Thus it was determined that this would be the year to set that right. The problem was that by the time we were just beginning to gain some momentum with the discussion, remote learning came into the picture and approximately 40% of our students exercised the option to learn from home which made it more difficult to include them in the selection process (to choose a new colour combination).

However, once everyone was back in the building at the beginning of March, we resumed the discussion and eventually conducted an initial vote to solicit the students' two favourites from amongst four options: forest green, burgundy, harvest gold, and burnt orange. The results of that first vote were overwhelmingly clear - the two finalists would be the green and the burgundy.

So a second vote was conducted to choose a winner and the results were not actually that close; a significant majority of the student body opted to vote for forest green (who said "it's not easy being green"... it's actually quite easy, as it turns out).

Finally, it was necessary to select an accent colour for the printing and (new) logo: either yellow/gold, or white. Mr. Harnett - being the big Riders fan that he is (why anyone would descend to that level is beyond me but that's a story for another day) - suggested it be white... you know... to go along with the green, just like his beloved Riders' colours. I nearly had to take a personal day just to process that thought (or avoid processing it, preferably) but when the students were consulted, for the final time, their clear choice (and once again - it wasn't even really close) was indeed white. Truthfully, I think it was the right call. They look really sharp. Good choice FAMS (and also "you win" Mr. Harnett!)

Photo: here, modelling the new forest green tee shirt with the new logo and printing in white, is Ejay Bannerman from 5B.



~ by B. Mensforth