



## Upcoming Dates

Dec 22: Last day before the break  
 Dec 23 - Jan 7: Christmas Break  
 Jan 8: In-service Day (No School)  
 Jan 9: First day of classes after the break  
 Jan 30 to Feb 1: High School Exams

## School Contact Information:

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## 40th Anniversary Apparel

The red hoodies and grey crewnecks are in and looking great! If you ordered one, please make your payment as soon as possible so that you can take yours home!



## The Best Gift

We often spend a lot of time thinking about gifts at Christmas. We think about what we should get for others and what others might get for us. Gifts are an opportunity for us show other people how much we love them.

God showed us all how much He loves us by giving us the best gift on the very first Christmas. God gave us his son Jesus - born as a baby to live a human life on earth and eventually die as a perfect sacrifice for our sin. God showed his great power by raising Jesus from the dead - conquering the power of sin and death. What a truly amazing gift!

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life” John 3:16.



## Fundraising

Thank you so much to everyone who has been a part of our recent fundraisers. The Peak of the Market vegetable fundraiser was a big success again this year as we raised over \$5000 with a portion going towards asphalt work around the school and a portion going towards the Ottawa trip.

We are also very grateful for the donations that have been coming in towards the high school staff room. Since putting out the request for financial support, we have realized that the project will actually be much more expensive than we had first thought which will make the donations that we receive that much more precious. Thank you!



## The Story of Amazing Love

The high school community attended its first Christmas production in many years last night when Faith Academy’s newly assembled drama team, Faith in Action, presented “The Story of Amazing Love,” a short five-act play interspersed with songs about the purpose of Christ’s birth. Many attended to witness the story of a teenage boy who learned to rely on God’s promises as he began to cope with the death of his mother. While the play upheld a more somber tone than a typical Christmas production, the true message of Christmas resonated through the characters’ dialogue as well the short devotional at the end of the performance. A big thank you to Mrs. Allen for leading the group and well done students!



The banners are in! Congratulations again to the boys and girls cross country teams for winning the Zone 12 Cross Country team event.



The grade 10 Geography classes did some amazing work on their projects for their Biomes unit. Students learned a lot and the results were outstanding.



## Christmas Cookies!

It is the evening of Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. I have just driven home from the most beautiful and uplifting concert I have been to in a long time. It was Faith Academy's Christmas Concert entitled Christmas Cookies, featuring students in K-2 from the Matheson campus, and K-1 from the Pritchard campus. The production was written, compiled and directed by Miss Ruth-Lynne Libby including favourite Christmas songs and carols, as well as songs that may have been unfamiliar, but which nonetheless carried the message of hope that comes from the Gospels. Included along with the songs, were poems describing each of the different kinds of cookies and how they connected to the Christmas narrative. From Mrs. Dyck's encouraging Devotional, right through the entire presentation, I was blessed. Truly, each part of this concert was put together with the sole purpose of pointing to Jesus as the central message of Christmas. Here was the promised Messiah, first spoken of in Genesis, and proclaimed throughout the Old

Testament writings up until His appearance as referenced in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. I'm sure after the last child was put to bed with a kiss and a hug, and the words, "You did a beautiful job tonight", the final bars of Joy To The World would continue to bring a smile to the faces of everyone who had the privilege of attending tonight's performance. The smile is with me even now as I sign off. This indeed was a great night! Glory to God!

- Janet Pledger



## Ending the Calendar Year with Christmas Cheer!

It was an extremely busy month of December in the Elementary. Classrooms were bustling with excitement and hallways were filled with merriment as students participated in a number of fun activities such as red and green, Christmas hat, and Christmas sweater day. Students were also treated to hot chocolate, a Christmas cookie, and a marshmallow snowman throughout the month.

Thank you to all of the Elementary families who generously donated non-perishable food items, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and gloves and mittens to those in need.



## Christmas Blessings

On behalf of our Elementary Staff, we would like to wish you God's richest blessings throughout the Christmas Season. May your holidays be filled with wonder, love and peace!

## Term I Recap

The first term of Faith Academy Middle School was undoubtedly the best starting point for the beginning of the school year. The first term was full of fun activities for new and returning students, such as the Manitoba Moose game. The game was a perfect way to introduce classes to the various exciting field trips we would have throughout the year. For me, the way we had the responsibility to walk around and pay for lunch and snacks by ourselves, gave a lot of middle schoolers a sense of maturity, which we all need later in life.

Having a book fair is always a great idea and F.A.M.S is full of great ideas so we had one. A big thanks to Ms Regalado, Miss Maggie and others who helped set up and organize the books. The books there were wonderful for grades 5-8, with some about wildlife to books about escaping a lava monster.

The 12 days of Christmas were just as enjoyable as the other celebrations. Dressing up makes a normal school day feel like a fancy party. The snacks that were prepared tasted good but also matched the theme of the day. Cute decorations cover the halls, building a jolly and happy mood in our hearts, just like every day in this school.

*Leana Miller (Grade 5)*



## Mr. Pickel gets Kidnapped!?

Did anyone else have fun at the final house group activity? I know I did!

On November 29th, Mr. Pickel got kidnapped! To find the culprit, the Faith Academy Middle School needed to solve clues around the scene; The FAMS campus. Each house group had to analyze each room in the school to do trivia and solve clues to break down the answers to one bible verse. For each question you get right in the trivia, you have the choice to give yourself bonus house points or remove house points from other house groups. "Get Green, get Green!" Everyone cheered. Of course, every house group went against the Green House group to take away their points instead of having the points for themselves...

Overall, it was an amazing House Group activity to end off our first term! Martin from the Orange House group added, "I liked everything about the house group activity, but the one thing that I favored more was the Guess the Character Trivia. It was just fun!" Once the house groups were called down to meet up at the gym, the student council leaked top secret footage recorded by our principal's kidnapper! The crowd gasped and whispered to each other once they saw the masked suspect and their principal tied up to an office chair. The cruel individual took off their mask, and revealed themselves as... Grace Nicholas, the student council president, and a member of the Green House group! This reveal left the whole audience open-mouthed, leaving them with questions and grudges against Green... And the kidnapper even dropped her mic after leaving the scene with a vengeful confession.

Finally, let's end our Term One House Group activity with a - CLIFFHANGER!?! Right as the winners were about to be announced, of course the bell had to ring... The first wave of buses were called, so the announcement for the winner of Term One was postponed until the day the points were finally calculated. Could you guess who won? Drum roll please... Let's give it up for the Red House group for winning first place in Faith Academy Middle School's Term One House Group Activity! Phew. And a special thanks to each and every one who participated and contributed their help to make this unforgettable event possible.

*Pia Eugenio (Grade 7)*

