



## Upcoming Dates

Mar 19: In-service Day  
 Mar 29 - Apr 2: March Break  
 Apr 2: Good Friday  
 Apr 4: Easter  
 Apr 15: Parent/Teacher (evening)  
 Apr 16: Parent/Teacher (morning)  
 May 7: In-service Day  
 May 24: Victoria Day

## School Contact Information:

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## Application Season Well Underway

Faith Academy began accepting applications for the 2021/22 school year on January 11, 2021. This year, we are combining the \$30 application fee with the other registration fees collected during the summer, so there is no need to include any payment when turning in your application. In addition, we are asking that you consider turning in your application electronically so that that we can minimize the visitors that we have in our school offices — a scanned PDF of the application with signatures is perfect. You can access this year's application form [here](#).

The early application deadline is set for March 19, 2021. Returning students/families have until March 19th to get their application in and reserve their spot for the upcoming school year. As always, we have had several applications from new students/families eager to join the Faith Academy community, so it is important for our returning students to apply early and secure their spot. If you have not already submitted your application for 2021/22, please do so as soon as possible.

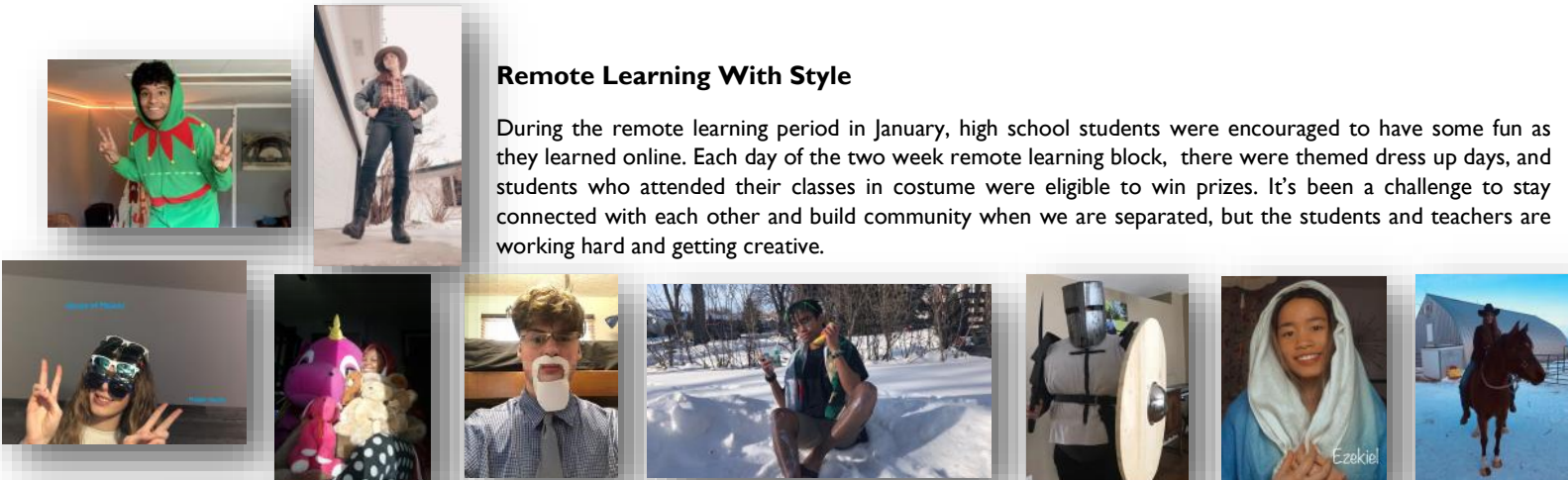
## Welcoming Our K-8 Remote Learners Back

As of March 1, 2021, all students in K-8 will be returning to in-school learning. We are so excited to have all of our students back at school! We will continue to follow the guidance from Public Health and Manitoba Education with respect to COVID-19 safety protocols. We have spread students out into the Matheson and Jefferson gymnasiums as well as the Matheson chapel and Jefferson multipurpose room — establishing two metres of physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. We have also purchased some air purifiers to be used in the classrooms, and we will continue to be focused on hand hygiene. If your child is showing any of the symptoms related to COVID-19, please keep them home from school and have them tested for COVID-19 as soon as possible. We want to work together to keep our students, staff, and their families safe for the rest of the 2020/21 school year.



## Remote Learning With Style

During the remote learning period in January, high school students were encouraged to have some fun as they learned online. Each day of the two week remote learning block, there were themed dress up days, and students who attended their classes in costume were eligible to win prizes. It's been a challenge to stay connected with each other and build community when we are separated, but the students and teachers are working hard and getting creative.



## The Pandemic Winter Games

In February, High School students took part in a series of winter activities planned and delivered by Mr. Kroeker and Mr. Bagay. After being postponed a week as we enjoyed our polar vortex, the games were planned with physical distancing in mind, and God provided a couple of days of beautiful weather. The events included tug-of-war, board ball, smooch skiing, snowball target practice, and sled bowling and relays. It was great to be outside together doing something active and enjoyable.





## For the Love and Joy of Reading!

February was a very exciting and fun-filled month in the Elementary. We celebrated our love of reading as a school community by “dropping everything and reading”, participating in book trivia and a school-wide game of book Kahoot!, and listening to guest readers over Zoom (thank you to Mrs. Enns for reading the *Word Collector*, Mme. Moreau for reading us a book in French and Ellie, for reading us her Braille book).



Students and teachers alike looked forward to Tropical Day, Dress up as your Favourite Book Character Day, and Tootsie Roll Day. We also took time to acknowledge kindness on Random Acts of Kindness Day, and to recognize the things we are grateful for in our lives on Gratefulness Day.

Thanks to all the teachers and students who made “I Love to Read” month such a tremendous success this year!



## I Love to Read Month: Fun & Creative

Every year, during the month of February, schools celebrate their love of books! At our school we would often “stop, drop, and read” and we also had several guest readers read to us throughout the month over Google Meet like our mayor, Brian Bowman, and Mike Thom from the Christian radio station CHVN (95.1 FM). Another thing that we also did this past month was to guess the identity of some “MYSTERY READERS”! Someone who we all know would read to us out loud over the PA system and we would have a chance to guess who it is and win a prize.

Lots of people love to read for different reasons, and many of these reasons just make reading so enjoyable! One of those reasons is learning about the characters. It’s pretty fun because once you’ve read about them and understand their story, you feel like you’re in the story too!

Another reason why reading is so awesome is because it’s entertaining!! It’s entertaining because if you think about it like this: if you’re bored and

you start reading, you aren’t so bored anymore! Reading can also be addicting, but in a good way. When I say that, I mean once you start you don’t want to stop! That’s what makes it addicting.



Some people have not found their love of reading yet. That’s because they do not have a good-fit book. A good-fit book makes you enjoy reading even more! To find your love of

reading, keep on reading about things you love! Reading has so many things to admire about it, but these reasons that were just listed are some that helped us to celebrate “I Love to Read” Month!

Happy Reading!

~ by Harshdeep Nanrey (gr. 5) & Taranveer Nanrey (gr. 5)

## Welcome Mrs. Boschman!

Faith Academy is very excited to welcome Mrs. Boschman to our Elementary team. Mrs. Boschman joins our school with a vast experience in education, and has taught grades 1-4 throughout the last 30 years. She has also dedicated much time to her church, taking on the responsibilities of Children’s Ministry Coordinator, Sunday School teacher and volunteering her time and talents during VBS. In her free time, our 3A teacher enjoys spending time with her husband and three sons. Mrs. Boschman loves hiking, going for walks, and pretty much anything else that has to do with being outside, surrounded by God’s nature. She loves reading, drawing, and you can catch her listening to praise and worship music whenever she has the opportunity!

Mrs. Petkau and Mrs. Boschman



## EA of the Year

We are very proud to announce that Mrs. Petkau was one of four finalists in the province of Manitoba for the *Yes, I Can!* award in recognition of her tremendous efforts in supporting exceptional students in our school. Although the award was given to another well-deserving EA, we are so blessed and fortunate to have Mrs. Petkau on our Faith Academy team. Thank you Mrs. Petkau, for all of your hard work and dedication each and every day!

## Reunited (and It Feels So Good)

On Monday, March 01, the students of FAMS were reunited as a whole once again, having been divided between those who continued learning in-person and those who transitioned to learning remotely over these past three months.

It was on Tuesday, November 24 - Day 57 of the school year - that remote learning went into effect; an option that was utilized by the families of more than a third of our students. Now, 59 school days later - on Day 116 - the students are all together once again and it feels so positive to see them all in their classrooms, reconnecting with those they haven’t seen in-person in quite some time including teachers, aides, and of course their classmates.



This school year has seen so many changes so it’s nice to see the tide finally turning as we begin to reverse the flow of some of these changes and revisit previous conditions reflective of a time when the pandemic was, relatively speaking, not as challenging. As in many other parts of society it was out of an abundance of caution that remote learning was offered to those wishing to move in this direction at a time when things were worsening with regard to case numbers and test positivity rates. But now that these things have improved significantly we are thankful to be able to call an end to remote learning and resume in-person learning for all. We will always be thankful that it proved helpful for so many but at the same time we recognize that it’s ultimately best to have everyone in school physically.

We therefore say a hearty “welcome back” to those returning and look forward now, with confidence, to completing the year... *together*.

~ by B. Mensforth