



## Upcoming Dates

May 23: Victoria Day (no classes)  
 May 26 to June 3: Ottawa Trip  
 June 20 to 24: Elementary VBS  
 June 21 to 24: High School Exams  
 June 29: High School Graduation

## School Contact Information:

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## COVID-19 Update

Two years after the COVID-19 pandemic began, Faith Academy is almost back to pre-pandemic programming. Classrooms are full of students, sports teams are practicing and competing, hot lunches are being served, field trips are taking place, and students are gathering together to worship our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in Chapels. Thank you Lord! While we continue to hear of cases of COVID-19 within the Faith Academy community, we are grateful that there have been no recent reports of serious illness and the overall impact on attendance has greatly diminished over recent weeks. We will continue to be careful and cautious as we slowly return to normal, but it is such a blessing to have fewer COVID-19 related concerns.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you again for all of the ways that you have worked with and supported Faith Academy during the pandemic. Please join with me in thanking God for sustaining and protecting us through the many challenges that we have faced. To God be the glory!

*<sup>20</sup> His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.*

2 Peter 1:3

James Harnett - Superintendent

## PISA Party

On Thursday, April 28, 2022, all of our grade 10 students who were born in 2006 took part in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). PISA is an international assessment that measures the skills and knowledge of 15 year old students in math, science, and reading. The assessment takes place every three years and has been in place since 2000. Approximately 86 countries participate. According to their documentation, 30,000 students are randomly selected across Canada from over 1000 schools. Faith Academy has been selected in the past, but it has been a number of years since our last involvement.. The assessment provides information about how well students in Manitoba are doing.

The assessment took the majority of the morning and was divided into two parts. Each part was computer based, and students used Chromebooks for 2 hour segments to complete them. Early in the afternoon, students took another 45 minutes to complete a survey and a few financial based questions. We will not find out the results for individual students or even for Faith Academy. Our results will be combined with the other schools from Manitoba and from Canada. Later in the year, the organization will release a report with these results.

Thanks to all of the students who took part. Your efforts will help represent our Province and provide valuable information to the officials who make decisions about education in our Province.

Trevor Warkentin, High School Principal

## Soccer Season Begins

High School soccer is back after a two year hiatus. Students have eagerly awaited getting back onto the pitch, but unfortunately the weather has not made it easy to fit in a season that usually begins by late April. Thankfully, Zone 12 was able to put together an abbreviated season that makes use of the turf fields at the Ralph Contafio Soccer Complex on Waverly Street. Both of our teams play one game this week, and then take part in a day long event on May 12 that will have them play the remaining season games.

The coaches this year are Mr. Hoogerdijk (boys) and Mr. Leitao (girls). Most of the practices thus far have been in the gym, and teams are working hard to develop their skills and team play.





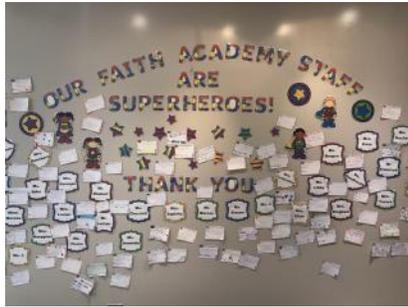
## Why Faith Academy Teachers are Awesome!

One of the reasons Faith Academy teachers are awesome is that they have taught a ton of kids for quite a few years. It is a huge accomplishment because none of them have cracked under the pressure (at least if they did, they didn't show it)!

They can calm their students down without saying a word. Teachers are real life savers!

Nobody works as hard, or does as good of a job as they do! These teachers are the best of the best! God gave them the gift of teaching. They make us so happy and their smiles light up the room. They make school fun by playing games and making jokes.

They are so incredible and make teaching look so easy, even though it sounds like a hard job sometimes. Faith Academy teachers give us the strength to inspire others and smile!



- by Sena Harnett and Nova Guitap (gr. 4)

## Welcome Back!

Once again, Faith Academy would like to welcome Mrs. Julie Siemens to the Elementary. Mrs. Siemens is returning to 3A after welcoming her second child, Ira in November of 2020.

We would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to Ms. Julie Gollub who has taught in 3A since September.

Thank you Ms. Gollub for the compassion and care that you have shown to your students, and for making the year so far a very memorable one for the students!



Ms. Julie Gollub and her horse Knight



Mrs. Julie Siemens

**A huge thank you to all of the parents and guardians who made our staff appreciation week such a huge success! From food to cards to small presents and encouraging words, we have truly felt blessed this week! Thank you parents for your tremendous support!**

## "Pie Day" Moves from Mar. 14 to 25

As we shared back in the February edition of the school newsletter, the month-long campaign to read 1000 books for I Love to Read month was one that had promised students (and staff too, I suppose) an opportunity to witness their principal and their superintendent get pies in their faces as a fun-filled reward for having read so many books and thus having achieved their goal. Well, the students and staff had to wait almost another whole month before it happened but on Friday Mar. 25, the last day of school before the spring break... it finally happened. Usually it's Mar. 14 that is billed as "Pi Day" but this year at the middle school - "Pie Day" was delayed until the 25th.

In all there were four students who won the honour of throwing pies, made of whipped cream, in the faces of either Mr. Mensforth or Mr. Harnett - two each. In fact in the case of at least one of the pies that found its way onto Mr. Mensforth's face there were chocolate sprinkles too! Those who had the honour of smushing pies in the face of Mr. Mensforth were Samreen Wander (5B) and Chloe Monsanto (5B) while those who had the honour of smushing pies in Mr. Harnett's face were Jayden Jonker (5B) and Mikyla Sirdar (6B). Each of them had won these honours on account of the numbers of books they had each read throughout the previous month.



While there can be no doubt that these four students had a lot of fun being able to take part in this event, I think it's safe to say that the entire school enjoyed the moment. Perhaps, though, there were none who enjoyed it any more than Mr. Mensforth and Mr. Harnett, themselves, as each had great fun participating and allowing the students to have a little fun in this manner.

Well done, students! It was a well-deserved reward that was fun and memorable for all!

~ by B. Mensforth

## Back Where We Belong

It's been a very long time since chapels in the gym occurred on a regular, weekly, basis. Before the onset of the pandemic it was a staple feature of our weekly schedule; something that perhaps we all took for granted because there had never been anything like a worldwide pandemic before to throw a wrench into things such as it has. Both for reasons stemming from the need to physically distance ourselves from others, along with the need to remain within certain cohorts and not intermingle across cohort lines, things like chapels - actually, large assemblies of any kind - came to a halt in March of 2020 (or at least in the way that we previously knew them).

For the past two years chapels have either been done over Zoom or have involved speakers visiting classrooms, multiple times, in order to share a message that could not be delivered en masse within our usual, larger, setting. But now - finally - after more than two years since life seemed to turn on a dime, we are able to get back to having assemblies and chapels with one another as we used to. It is such a blessing and an opportunity that I think most of us have learned not to take for granted anymore.



At the start of April, we held our first chapel in the gym in over two years, hosting the high school missions team who came over to the middle school to play some games with our students, put on some skits, provide an opportunity to lift up our voices in song, and bring a message that challenged our students to consider their "foundations" - ie. what their lives are being built upon. It was an excellent time together, uniting the high school and middle school campuses, and also reminding us of what we've been missing for so long and how special it is to have it back again. To that end, our school has not lacked for excellent messages, or worship music, etc., over the past two years; our chapel speakers have done an excellent job of adapting to the necessary changes and restrictions and seeing to it that chapels would still go ahead in an alternate format. However what we have been missing is this larger-scale sense of community that was just not possible to engage in for so long - at least not in person.

How good it was, indeed, to experience this once again. How good it is, indeed, to be back where we belong.

~ by B. Mensforth