



Upcoming Dates

July 26 - Aug. 13 : Offices Closed
 September 7: First Day of School
 September 20: In-service (no school)

School Contact Information:

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Looking Forward to 2021-22

It has been a long year. At school and at home, we have faced many difficult challenges. We are very grateful for God's mercies and grace - He carried us through it all. We continue to hope and pray that next year will be much closer to a regular school year. We will be sure to provide you with information and plans for next year, as September nears. In looking forward to 2021-22, we have some exciting announcements!

Playground Improvements

The City of Winnipeg contacted us in early spring to inform us that they would be making changes to the playground area across from our Matheson campus. They offered us the opportunity to contribute to the project and we were excited to do so. We have been blessed to make use of the playground space on a daily basis for the past many years, and are very happy to be a part of improvements that will benefit our students and the community surrounding the school.

The wading pool area will be decommissioned, and the new play structure will be built in that area of the park. The area where the current existing play structure and swings are will be turned into a mini soccer field complete with new sod and proper drainage. Please pray that the changes would be able to take place in a timely manner so that most of the work is completed before the start of next school year.

Easter Monday Holiday

This year we applied for and were granted permission to take Easter Monday as a religious holiday. We are excited to give our students and their families along with our teachers and staff the opportunity to take Easter Monday off after what can often be a very busy weekend remembering our Saviour's life, death, and resurrection. We trust this will be a blessing for you as you plan your Easter weekend in 2022.

Ephesians 3:20-21

James Harnett - Superintendent

Graduation 2021

Congratulations to our Grade 12 Grads of 2021. We enjoyed a Drive-In Graduation and were thankful for Providence Reformed Church for offering their facilities to us for June 29th. Families watched the ceremony from their vehicles while speeches were given and diplomas were received. Thanks to Mr. Hoogerdijk who addressed the grad class and to McCauley Armishaw who gave a fantastic valedictorian address. Congratulations to the many award and scholarship winners. It was a challenging year, but every one of our grade 12s persevered and graduated with their peers! Some of the big award winners are pictured below. Tirzah Kleinsasser (Christian Character); Jaden Esquejo (Christian Character); Anna McLeod (Governor General Medal, Gary McLeod Math Scholarship, Bill Cavey Christian Stewardship Award); Adrianna Mempin (Heart of a Servant); Micah Elias (High School Athletic Career Award)





VBS

Every year, elementary students look forward to our VBS program which takes place in June. Although we ended off the year a bit differently, once again we did not disappoint and we finished the 2020-2021 school year on a positive note when we invited the students to participate in this year's VBS: SonSurf Beach Bash LIVE!

Every morning from 9:30-11:45, approximately 150-200 students met virtually with us. Students had a great time singing, playing online games (led by Mrs. Leclair, listening to Bible stories (told by Mrs. Pledger), doing crafts, eating snacks and learning more about ocean animals.

Most importantly, we dived deeper into God's Word and were reminded about who Jesus is, why we need to trust Jesus, why we need Jesus in our lives, how Jesus can help us when we mess up, and how Jesus wants us to live our lives for Him.



A huge thank you to Mrs. Pledger and Mrs. Leclair, for all of your hard work, dedication and long hours of preparation in making this year's VBS a huge success. The students learned so much and had a blast!

~ by L. Dyck

Kindergarten Grads of 2020-2021

Every year, Faith Academy takes the time to acknowledge our Kindergarten Graduates. Unfortunately, due to restrictions we were not able to hold our traditional Graduation Ceremony in June, however we were able to recognize our Kindergartens in other special ways.

Each Kindergarten student received a Bible and diploma. We also took 'graduation' pictures in the park (thank you, Ms. A), which parents will be receiving digitally.

This has been a very different year for our youngest group of students, but many of us on staff have learned as much from our youngest group of student (such as the importance of flexibility, perseverance and trusting God with a childlike faith), as they have learned from us.

Congratulations Kindergartens on a tremendous year!



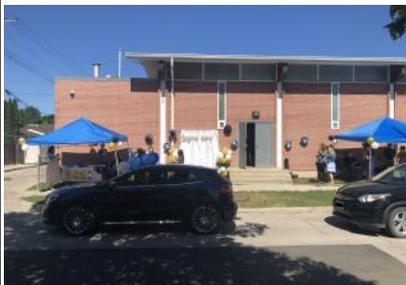
For the second year in a row, we were able to say one final 'good-bye' to our students and families as they drove by the school on the morning of June 30th.

From the Elementary staff at Faith Academy, we want to thank our families for their tremendous support and prayers during a challenging year. And to our students—thank you for your positivity, and your excitement and passion toward learning.



Gr. 8 Graduation

One of the greatest highlights that occurs near the end of each school year is the gr. 8 graduation held in June, marking the culmination of four years of middle school life and growth on the part of our gr. 8 students. This is a big moment not only in their own lives but also in the lives of their families who support them along the way and who often experience many of the same twists and turns that their children do throughout these four years of living and growing.



This year - although things were impacted (again) by the pandemic - we were able to hold a wonderful outdoor drive-through graduation event for the students and their families thanks to the significant efforts and abundance of time, energy, thoughtfulness, and creativity directed toward and invested in it by the teachers and support staff. It was a truly lovely event.

The graduation took place on Monday, June 28, from 11:00-12:30 just outside the gymnasium doors on the east side of the building. It was perfect for capturing the morning sun and oh, what a beautiful sunny day it was! As the students and their families arrived they were ushered to the outdoor "photo booth" (see below) as others continually drove in behind to wait their turn in their vehicles. The arrival times were coordinated according to the alphabetical order of the students' surnames so each family had been given a window during which to arrive. Things worked perfectly in this regard and the all families got through the process very efficiently.



As our graduates move on now to the next, and final, chapter of their grade-school education we wish them all the best as they continue to make their way in the world. We enjoyed the time we had with them but now it's time for them to take the next big step forward, spread their wings, and fly! God bless, graduating class of 2021!

~ by B. Mensforth

Introducing Mrs. Alvarado

Michelle Alvarado (formerly Bernas) was a new addition to the FAMS family this past year (sort of). She originally attended Faith Academy from K-12, graduating in 2003. Her parents, Mike & Kathy Bernas, along with younger sister, Melissa, are all part of FA and in addition to this she is also the niece of the school's current longest serving staff member and resident legend, Chris Franczyk. So as you can see Michelle most definitely has her roots firmly planted in the Faith Academy Family Tree.

After graduation, Michelle attended Capernwray Quebec Bible Centre, just north of Montreal, for one year after which she returned to FA to work as an EA for one year. Following that she attended York University in Toronto, studying kinesiology, but ultimately decided that that wasn't the right choice for her. So she moved back to Winnipeg and enrolled at the University of Winnipeg where she eventually graduated with a degree in International Development. From that point on she worked as a senior manager at a non-profit organization call Epic Opportunities, working with people living with intellectual disabilities. But Michelle missed working in a Christian environment and felt that she needed a change. Thus when her dad told her that an EA position had opened up at FA, she jumped at the opportunity to apply.



Working at FA, Michelle finds it refreshing and familiar. She finds comfort in a place she once called home. She knows that there are highs and lows while working in a school and struggled a bit trying to help motivate kids to engage in their schoolwork and do their best because, as she observed, "kids are very different now from when I was younger". But she has enjoyed getting to know them and seeing their different personalities come out. "I've also really enjoyed getting to work with the teachers and other EAs and staff who are really amazing people."

Michelle, who was married in 2012, loves to travel and play soccer - both things that she hopes to be able to resume doing soon. One day she would also like to start a family of her own and be able to spend more time with them and with friends.

Welcome (back) Michelle Alvarado! It's great to have you at FAMS!

~ by C. Alecio