

FAITH ACADEMY NEWS

2020-2021 Vol. I



Upcoming Dates

Nov 6: Administration Day (no classes) Nov 11: Remembrance Day (no classes)

Nov 19: Parent-Teacher Conf. (evening)
2:30pm dismissal

Nov 20: Parent-Teacher Conf. (no classes)

Dec 21 - Jan 3: Christmas Break

Jan 4: First Day of Classes after the Break

Greetings from the Superintendent

For the last seven months, Faith Academy has experienced many new and significant challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. These challenges have been faced by our students, families, teachers, and staff. We have needed to teach and learn differently, do recess and gym classes differently, and make considerable adjustments to transportation, drop off, and pick up. Collectively, we have done an amazing job of being flexible and persevering through these difficult times. Thank you for all that you have done to support Christ-centered education at Faith Academy! Please join me in thanking God for the protection and peace that He has blessed us with through this season.



As we move forward in the 2020–2021 school year, there are many things that remain uncertain. We will continue to send out regular communication regarding any new or adjusted expectations. Please feel free to reach out to the school offices if you have questions - our desire is for our families to feel connected to and supported by Faith Academy.

As COVID-19 pandemic continues, I am grateful that each day we can turn to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for His strength and support.

⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4: 6-7

James Harnett - Superintendent

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Morning Retreat in the Neighbourhood

Our Grade 10 outing this year was a half day of activities at a nearby park! The activities included kick ball, a photo rally within our small groups, a chapel, and to end it off we had the chance to write ourselves a



letter that we will open in grade 12. The chapel that Mr. Kroeker gave was quite insightful and really highlighted grade 10 as a year. It was really fun to see how creative people got with their photos/videos in the photo rally and it was so



funny seeing the end results! My favourite part of the day had to be the letter writing. One of the things that I learned that day is that we don't need a trip to be able to spend time together and have fun. It's important to be able to see the joy in the little things.

Uday Singh (grade 10)



Grade 12 Day Retreat

Despite unpredictability running rampant, the Grade 12s had a lively time at an otherwise peaceful park! Split into groups, they rotated through three main activities.

Chapel occurred underneath a lakeside shelter. The students opened their Grade 10 letters, wrote to their grade 12 selves, and discussed various Gospel reactions. It was a time of reflection and reminiscing.

Canoeing was the second activity. Although the lake was chilly, it was no match for the sunny smiles of those aboard the canoes! (Thankfully, no canoes tipped over- or so I'm told...)

Hiking was the final activity (plus the perfect time to rack up gym hours). Jokes aside, the paths allowed us to bask in the beauty of a myriad of golden leaves.

Overall, the trip acted as the perfect change of pace from our regular (yet slightly skewed) schedule.



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Welcome to Faith Academy!

Faith Academy is very excited to announce that Ms. Kimberly Panaligan will be joining the Elementary staff on November 9th until Christmas Break. Ms. Panaligan will be taking over the Grade 3B position as Mrs. Siemens begins her maternity leave.

Ms. Panaligan grew up in a home with strong family and Christian values, and remembers attending weekly Church Services from a young age. She began serving in the dance ministry at her Church at the age of 6 or 7 and has continued to serve in other ministries ever since; especially in music, media, ushering and children's ministry.

Academics have always been important to Ms. Panaligan. In High School, she began attending Faith Academy where she took part in both the Missions 1 and Missions 2 Teams. She credits the Faith Academy High School teachers as being a big inspiration for her to become a teacher. After graduation, Ms. Panaligan was accepted into the University of Winnipeg's integrated Education and Science Program where she pursued a degree in Senior Years Education, with a major in Mathematics and a minor in Sociology.



In her free time, Ms. Panaligan enjoys singing and playing piano, acoustic guitar and electric bass. She makes spending time with her family (especially her younger cousins) a priority and can understand and speak Tagalog fluently. Pre-COVID, you could often find her out with friends for coffee or lunch/dinner outings.

Welcome Ms. Panaligan! We are looking forward to getting to know you better and to see you grow as a teacher!

Elementary Moves to Orange

If you were to walk through the hallway of the Elementary these days, the Elementary would look very different from what you might have seen in September.

In one weekend (and with the help of many people), we were able to change the physical layout of the Elementary in order to distance each student by 2 metres.

The Kindergartens are excited to be learning together in the Chapel and the Grade 4's are enjoying their orange level experience together in the Gymnasium. Grades 1-3 have been divided into two groups and teachers are doing an amazing job at splitting their time equally between two physical spaces and broadcasting their lessons to all of their students.

We were also able to hire two additional staff members to help with supervision and instruction; Mr. Jayden Leclair and Mrs. Margaret Bakker will remain on staff while we are in the orange level.



There have already been many changes throughout the 2020-2021 school year, but I am reminded daily of God's blessings: open doors, happy students and dedicated teachers.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support! Mrs. L. Dyck

Gr. 8 Retreat Hits the Target

On October 19, 2020 my grade 8 class was given the opportunity to attend Camp Manitou. Due to the Covid situation we were only able to attend the camp for 2 days and 6 hours each day. Although it wasn't exactly what I had in mind I had the best time there!

On day one I got to participate in archery and zip lining. For most people, like myself, this was the first time we ever considered either activities but with the help of the staff and leaders of the camp we were practically experts. My favourite event was zip lining. It was a challenge to even look down but once I got the hang of it I was cutting right through the cold air. It was exhilarating from start to finish. We were taught how to go upside down, spinning in a spiral, and even both at the same time. I'll never forget the rush of it all.



For archery we weren't sure how it would go. There were a lot of risks and rules but our cooperation was strong. We challenged ourselves to the limit and many people surprised even themselves. We did our best and just enjoyed the whole moment.

We were provided whole meals as well that I, myself, enjoyed thoroughly. We were also given time to explore and have free time. We played basketball, walked around campgrounds, and went about with friends. We also got to hear from a special speaker named Pastor Olojan. He presented to us his life story and experience with God. It definitely touched our hearts. He spoke with confidence in his Lord God. We were able to ask questions about our faith and we were given advice that will help us along the path God has set for us. But alas each day comes to an end. We had our fun and it was time to head home. Although our time was short we knew that we would have something to look back on; new memories to be, and happiness to last.

Messages Have a Deep Impact

On the days of October 8th & 9th, the two grade 8 classes went on a retreat to Camp Manitou. Over the course of the two days, we had engaged in four different activities, zip-lining, archery, rock climbing and orienteering.

On day two of our retreat, like the day before, we had headed into the dining hall and got settled in for another day. Pastor Wendell Olojan gave great speeches that left me with chills up and down my body. He shared powerful analogies and thoughts that really opened my eyes.

Afterwards we dispersed into our given groups and on that day my group had rock climbing and orienteering as our activities. We hurriedly walked to the spot where the rock climbing wall was. There were six walls with multi-coloured 'rocks' all over them. I tried a couple of the walls, but there were a few spots where I didn't know where to go next, so I wasn't able to reach the top. Despite that, I still really enjoyed trying it out for the first time.

Following that was orienteering. Everybody took a compass and were led on a journey that required us to find the correct way to go using the given readings from the compasses. It was a new experience for most of us, but a fun one.

Afterwards, Pastor Wendell spoke to us all for one last time, and after that it was time to go back to school. I left this retreat with a new perspective on my relationship with God. After everything, I was thankful that in spite of this pandemic, we were still able to go on our 8th grade retreat.

~ by Emily Mann (8B)