

# **FAITH ACADEMY NEWS**

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2024-2025 Vol. II

### **Upcoming Dates**

Dec 20: Last day before the break
Dec 21 - Jan 5 Christmas Break
Jan 6: In-service Day (No School)
Jan 7: First day of classes after the break
Jan 27 to 30: High School Exams

### **School Contact Information:**

Pritchard: Ph:204.589.6885

### **High School and Elementary:**

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### Middle School

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### **Merry Christmas**

Faith Academy wishes you a very Merry Christmas filled with the love, peace, and joy that only Christ can bring. It is our prayer that we will all be reminded of the precious gift that was given that very first Christmas when God sent His one and only son, Jesus, to be born to a virgin in a cattle stall. That vulnerable little baby would go on to live a life dedicated to his heavenly father which ended with his crucifixion - a perfect



sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. He was then raised to life through the power of God -conquering sin and death. While our focus will be on Jesus' birth this Christmas, may we also be reminded that his birth was just the beginning of an incredible story of redemptive love.

James Harnett - Superintendent

### **Fundraising**

We are very grateful to all those who participated in the various fundraising efforts throughout the fall. Our Little Caesars Pizza fundraiser raised approximately \$1300 towards the purchase of instruments in the elementary school and the Meat and Cheese fundraiser brought in approximately \$2000 to help with the new boiler expenses. In addition, the gift card fundraiser in the high school helped several grade II students get a good start on raising money towards the fees required for the Ottawa trip coming up in May.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we are anticipating a final cost of well over \$100,000 to replace the elementary boiler. If you are able to send a year-end gift to Faith Academy to help us with this expense, it would be a huge blessing. All gifts over \$20 will be eligible for a donation receipt. Please continue to pray that the new boiler would be available soon and that the installation process would go smoothly. Thank you!

### A Full and Successful Season

During this season our team had been through a lot. We won a total of 23 games, lost 13 and tied I (while winning over 50 sets this year)! We laughed, we persevered, we cried, but at the end of the day we grew as a team. We definitely went through many struggles but we still fought hard. We worked on and off the court, we bonded and have created a lot of memories. Losing in our zone semi-final game was tough and could have ended our season, but we got the chance to play a wild card game, which we were all so excited for. The day of the game, we had many supporters cheering us on,. We truly felt so much love from all the staff and students who came to encourage us. Losing the first 2 sets we thought it could be over, but we fought hard in the next set to end the game in a reverse-sweep, taking the win and allowing us to go to Provincial tournament.

Going to Provincials was an amazing experience, and even though we had some challenging games playing in our pool, we still had an unforgettable time. Aside from the banquet, the road trip to Virden (3+ hours away), the team party and being together for 3 days, the highlight was beating Westgate in the first round of the knockout round to get top 8 in the province! This season has taught the junior varsity girls many things, and it was an incredible experience being on this team. Let us remember that we wouldn't be anywhere without our coach. Thank you Coach Kray for being so patient, supportive and loving to our team. You have taught us many things and our team is forever grateful that you were our leader through all of the hills and valleys that this past season had in store for us.



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### What Child Is This?

Once again it has been a privilege for me to work with the Grade 3 and 4 teachers in presenting this year's Christmas Concert entitled, *What Child Is This?* All students participated in singing several songs and presented two instrumentals which featured Buckets, Recorders, hand-held Percussion instruments, and for the first time ever, our newly acquired Barred Instruments

for which we are thanking God. Mrs. Hogeveen's class sang, Breath of Heaven and Mrs. Farebrother worked with all the Grade 3 students to present a timeline of Biblical Characters. Mrs. Siemens worked with all the Grade 3 students to present the Scripture passages using beautifully detailed Art and Miss Bergen's class did a Reflection on how students can see Advent in their lives. After the final instrumental, Ode to Joy, the students joined together to sing a Faith Academy rendition of Joyful Joyful, to finish off the concert as follows:

"We are here to celebrate the joyous news that Christ is born, With our families by our sides, we praise The Lord for Christmas morn'; As we play our music together, seeking to glorify His name, May His Spirit lead within us, God's Salvation to proclaim!"

Thank you to our wonderful families for supporting our students who did an amazing job of glorifying God. We wish you all a blessed Christmas, and warm hearts as you contemplate the precious gift of the child in the manger, Jesus the Christ, our promised Saviour and Messiah! - 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 joy as students participated in a number of fun activities such as pajama and slipper day, Christmas hat and socks day, and Christmas sweater day. Students were also treated to a candy cane, hot chocolate, and a BBQ lunch. Thank you to all of the Elementary families who generously donated non-perishable food items. Thanks to you, we will be able to bless two Faith Academy families this Christmas Season!



## 12 Days of Christmas

We've had a fun month of surprises and fun activities for our 12 Days of Christmas this year. Some of the activities and events that went on during this time were events like: Making Christmas cards for a seniors home, Tree topper day, holiday destination day and our annual pancake breakfast for all students and staff. It was a good opportunity for everyone to get into the Christmas spirit and enjoy the start of the Christmas season. Thank you to those who helped bring in items and supplies to help make this event run so smoothly.



# **Candlelight Christmas**

After weeks of planning, practicing and rehearsals, our second annual Candlelight Christmas went off without a hitch. This year we had a number of songs from our choir, a song by students playing the recorder, and a Christmas play. The Christmas message was very evident throughout the evening and the students did an amazing job with their roles and parts. Big thanks to Samreen Wander (Christmas play), Mme. Kochan (Choir and recorders) and Mrs. Beaudin (Overseeing it all). Thank you to those who

