

THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH.

(PSALM 119:105 KJV)

<https://christian.fmpsdschools.ca/>

February 2021

School Hours

8:00 - First Bell
9:30-9:45 - Recess
11:27-11:55 - Recess
11:55-12:15 - Lunch
2:40 - Dismissal

ECDP/Kindergarten

8:05 - 10:51

To ensure the safety of all, students should not arrive at school before 7:45 and should leave school grounds immediately after dismissal unless involved in an after-school activity.



Student Absences

Please notify the office if your child is going to be late, absent, or (specifically for online learning) if there is a technology issue causing your child to be unable to join their virtual class by calling or emailing with “absent”, “late”, or “tech issue” and your child’s name in the subject line.

780.743.1079 kayla.dalley@fmps.ab.ca or sorina.saayman@fmps.ab.ca



A reminder to parents/guardians: It is mandatory to wear a mask if you are entering the building for an appointment, or to visit the office.

Parents/guardians are also encouraged to wear masks when dropping off and picking up students



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A Royal Message From Administration

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love." 1 John 4:7-8

Dear parents and guardians,

Here we are in the month of February, half-way through the 20-21 school year, navigating a pandemic and trusting that God has all under control.

When we think of February, we most often think of love. Paul wrote, "Love - agape - is patient and kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it **does** not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth... Love never ends" (1 Cor. 13:4-8a).

The love of God is alive at Fort McMurray Christian School. The teachers and support staff genuinely love each child that comes through our doors. At the centre of everything we do is God's love - from welcoming students at the start of the day, reminding them of the importance of completing their assignments, or collaborating together during a PLF on instructional strategies.

During our PLF time we are digging deeper into God's Story and the curriculum and refining our instructional practice through Collaborative Response (C.R.); C.R. is a framework for meeting the needs of all students in an inclusive learning environment. We also have spent this time learning about healthy living through APPLE Schools, and engaging in grade or division-based collaboration.

Thank you for your patience and support as we navigate through uncharted waters during these uncertain times. Please continue to pray for us, and for each other.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the school at 780.743.1079.

Blessings,

Admin. Team -
Bobbi Compton, Principal
Dan Baseley, Vice Principal



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Pink Shirt Day, or Kindness/Anti-Bullying Day, will be celebrated on Thursday, February 19. It is a day when people come together by wearing pink shirts to school or work to show kindness and they are against bullying.

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (*Ephesians 4:32, ESV*)

(Luke 6:35 ESV)

But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

(1 Corinthians 13:4 ESV)

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant



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School Council



Please join us on February 9th at 7 pm via Google Meet for our upcoming School Council meeting.

We hope to have some information regarding potential scenarios for next year's Jr. High programming (of particular interest to grades 6-8), as well as hear from Bobbi about the Assurance Model introduced by the government to replace the Accountability Pillar process.

As always, if you have topics you would like to see discussed at School Council, please send me any suggestions for the upcoming agenda at Lmvpodor@gmail.com

If you are not yet connected on our School Council Facebook page, please request to join the FMCS School Council group. Minutes from our last meeting, as well as the agenda for the upcoming meeting, are always posted there.

We hope to see you online.

Lisa Podor

To attend this meet, please [click here](#)

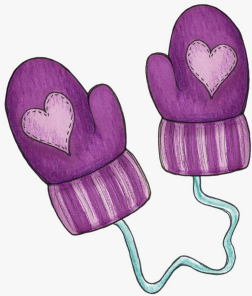
Fort McMurray Christian School Society

It's enrollment season! Registration for the 2021/2022 school year has recently opened and Society Executive is working alongside the teachers and Administration at the school to help spread the word about why people should join our community. We all have our reasons why we love our school - the Christ-centred education, the community of amazing staff, teachers and families, the commitment to academics, or our "small but mighty" athletics program. We have one small ask: don't be selfish...let everyone know why you choose Fort McMurray Christian School!

You have probably already seen that people on social media are starting to ask questions about what schools they should be sending their children to; or maybe your friends and family are already asking you. When you come across these situations, please consider engaging in the conversations. Let your love for F.M.Christian School shine through, and don't forget to tag our school to help get the right

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people connected:

Twitter - @ChristianFMPD
Instagram - @fm_chistian_school
Facebook - @FMChristianRoyals

F.A.Q. (and answers):

- Is bussing available? (Yes! Bussing is available for students who live in Thickwood and Timberlea and is delivered through the Fort McMurray Public School District)
- Is there before and after-school care? (Yes! Bethel Daycare operates out of our building for the convenience of parents)
- A Christian school - what does that mean? (We believe that Jesus Christ is at the centre of all things and that his example and teachings ought to be taught in all classes - not just in "Bible" or "Religion" class)

Please join us in our efforts to let the families of Fort McMurray know about the amazing opportunity that awaits them in our school!

Thank you - Society Executive



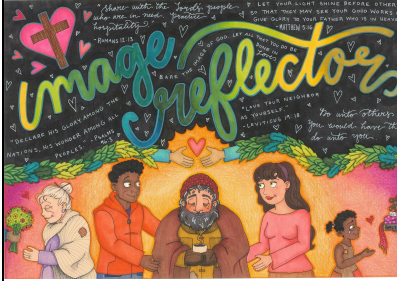
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A Message from our TfT Program Coordinator



Teaching For Transformation



I am not sure about each of you, but January certainly seemed to fly! Welcome to February and to our Image-Reflecting month. This month our Together Tuesday times, our hymn of the month and many Bible memory verses are centered around how we can be Image Reflectors in our words, actions and even thoughts.

What is an Image Reflector? Being an image bearer isn't something we do; it is deeper than that. Image bearers are what we are. In John 15 we read about bearing fruit. This fruit is the reflection of Christ in our words and actions.

Questions to ask at the dinner table this month include:

- What have you learned about being an Image Reflector at school?
- Why are we called to be image reflectors?
- How can I be an image reflector in the coming week?

Stay tuned to our social media accounts to catch highlights of how we are taking the Throughlines to the next step as we learn our roles in God's Story.

Lois Ann Emberley
TfT Coordinator



Apple School Memo



A Bite of Health



As an APPLE School, we strive to build a healthy school community, focusing on improving students' healthy eating, physical activity, and mental health habits.

Show Your Heart Some Love

This month, students are learning how to keep their heart healthy through a monthly campaign called Show Your Heart Some Love. Here is a summary of the learnings.

What is heart disease?

It's a general term meaning the heart is not working properly. Some forms of heart disease are present at birth, and others develop as we age. Many forms of heart disease can be prevented by living an active, healthy lifestyle¹.

How can I prevent heart disease?

The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada has 9 recommendations for reducing your risk of developing heart disease. This campaign will address 3 of them:

- Physical activity
- Eating a healthy diet
- Reducing stress

As an APPLE school, we strive to build healthy habits around these recommendations in our day-to-day life.



A good place to start is to **GET STRESS FIT!**

Give yourself a break
Eat a healthy diet
Talk it out with someone

Spend time with loved ones
Take time for yourself
Relax with a book or music
Exercise: walk, swim, bike
Set priorities
Schedule your time

Find new hobbies
Increase stress awareness
Take action

References

¹<http://www.heartandstroke.ca>



For more information about APPLE Schools, visit
www.appleschools.ca





Prayer Corner

Parents, friends, churches and community partners, please remember us in prayer.

- Stronger connections with our church communities
- Continued safety for everyone amid a global pandemic
- Calming of anxieties for our students and clear their minds so they can focus and learn
- Increased enrolment/growth for our school

From Our FMCS Prayer Group!

Let's pray together to discern God's will for our school, and the needs of our school community.

We meet virtually every other Tuesday. All are welcome. Come to pray, or send us your prayer requests!

"FMCS Prayer Group" on Facebook

Or prayer.fmcs@gmail.com

Or reach out to Laura Blake or Lacey Miller for more info.



Month	Hymn of the Month
September	Shout to the Lord! Link
October (Thanksgiving)	Take my Life and Let it Be
November	One Step at a Time
December (Christmas)	He is Here
January	Majesty
February (Valentine's)	The love of God Praise Him Praise him all Ye Little Children
March	Christ Arose
April (Easter)	For the Beauty of the Earth All Creatures of our God and King
May	Shine Jesus Shine
June	What a Friend We Have In Jesus

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Fort McMurray Christian School Families and Friends,

Let us love one another, because love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him. Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:7-10, CSB)

WHY SHOULD WE LOVE ONE ANOTHER?

I am the type of person who must know the reason behind certain tasks, ideas, or instructions. At the workplace, I want to know why we are carrying out a certain task in a certain way, especially if there is a better and more efficient way to execute it.

In my high-school algebra class, I had to know why an equation worked a certain way in order to understand how to execute the equation, which often led to more confusion than success. I am a curious person who likes to know the “why” of everything that I do and am told to do. To put it another way, I like to know the reason or reasons behind things.

Consequently, when I read Jesus' command to love one another in John 13:2, I naturally ask myself, “Why?”, or, to put it another way once more, “What are the reasons behind loving one another?” Luckily for us, God provides an answer to this question in 1 John 4:7-10. Not only does God answer the “why” of love, but He also gives us three reasons why we should love others.

LOVE BECAUSE LOVE IS FROM GOD

The first reason we must love one another is that love is from God Himself. You will notice that John begins with a general exhortation to his audience to love others in verse seven.

Love in the Church is a common theme in 1 John, which likely indicates that there was a crisis of love in the Churches that John was writing to. So how does John address this crisis? By encouraging them to love one another because love is from God and is the mark of a genuine believer, which is the reason John says, “because love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God” (1 John 4:7).

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That is, God is the ultimate source of love and those who are His children, those who have been born again through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, will naturally love those around them. We must love because love is from God and we are His children.

LOVE BECAUSE GOD IS LOVE

The next reason we must love is that God Himself is love.

Here John further drives home the idea that those who are born of God will love those around them by stating it in the negative. How could we not love those around us if we truly know God and have experienced His love?

Knowing God Who is Himself love ought to produce love in those who know Him. Love expressed is the natural consequence of knowing God, because God is love.

Before we move on to the next reason, I think it is important to understand exactly what “God is love” means, as this attribute of God is commonly abused in Christian culture.

Love is an attribute of God and is an essential feature of His character. However, this does not mean that love is God’s dominating attribute. It does not mean that God is simply a big loving teddy bear in the sky who desires to hug everyone and ignore their sins.

God’s love is perfect and holy. His love will never step out of line with His other attributes. For example, His love will never do something that is unholy. God’s love will never compromise His justice and righteousness, which means He will not excuse or ignore your sin. That is why He sent His Son to die for your sins and mine. Because He is perfectly loving, holy, good, and just. His holiness and justice require sin to be paid for and punished while His love and mercy bring Him to pay the price for sin Himself on the cross.

Friends, the cross is not just a loving act, it is an expression of His whole character! This is our God who is Himself love, and the more you know His character and nature the more you will be stirred to love those around you!

LOVE BECAUSE GOD LOVES YOU IMMEASURABLY

Finally, we must love one another because God has displayed His love for us through His Son. We see this specifically in verses nine and ten, as John writes that God’s love was revealed in the sending of His Son and that love consists in God sending His Son to be a sacrifice for our sins. What amazing and immeasurable love this is!

In verse nine John declares that God’s love was revealed or displayed in the sending of His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. It is because of this that salvation is made

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possible for those who believe in Jesus Christ, and according to John this act of love is how God's love has been displayed for all to see.

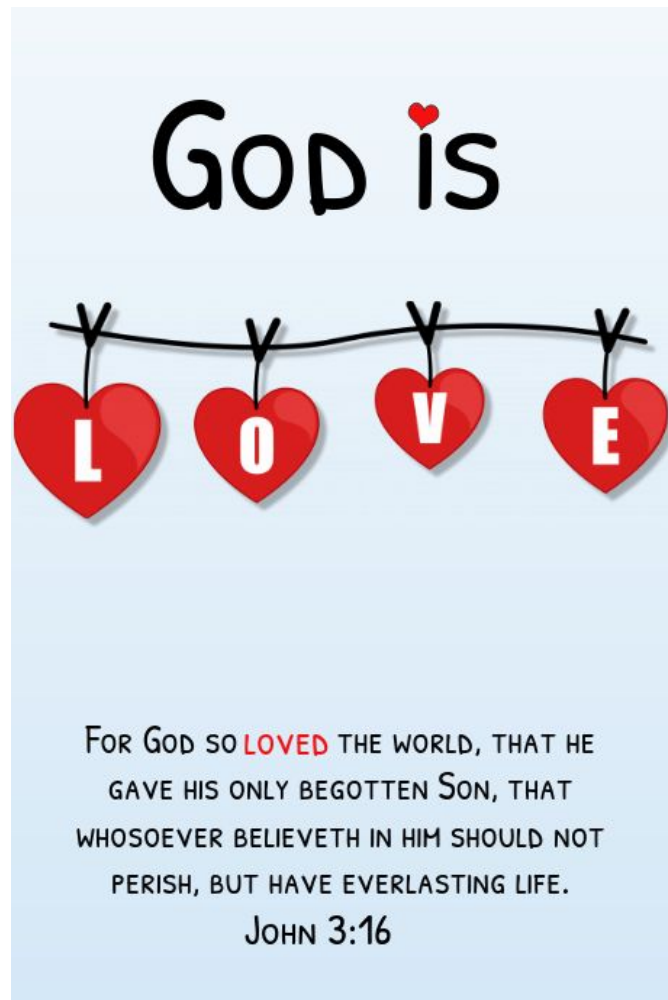
The cross is the fullest expression of God's love, and further, is the fullest expression of God's character.

In verse ten John makes a statement about what love consists of. John states that love is not that we loved God, but that He loves us and gave His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

The word atoning here means to remove guilt or blame. Christ died to atone for, or to remove the guilt, shame, and blame of sin for those who believe in Him. This is the purest and fullest expression of love. It is selfless and sacrificial. It is beautiful and bloody, majestic and humble.

Therefore, we must love others, because God has loved us abundantly and immeasurably. Here lies the final reason we must love those around us, God's love for us. **We love, because love is from God, because God is love, and because God has loved us beyond measure!**

Written by CORBIN HENDERSON
<https://devotableapp.com/>



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Bus Late?

Check out the schedule myschoolbusmonitor.ca



What's Happening at FMCS?

February

- 1 - Start of 2nd semester
- 5- Bible Character Day
- 12 - PLF, no school for students
- 15- Family day, no school
- 19 - Pink Shirt Day
- 22-26 - Teacher's Convention, no school for students

[Updated Division Re-entry Plan](#)

Updated COVID Information

New Daily Healthy Checklist for Children Under 18

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COVID-19 INFORMATION

HOW LONG TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL

The amount of time a student needs to stay home from school depends on the type of symptoms. For more details: [isolation requirements](#)

If a student has these symptoms

What to do

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Loss of sense of smell or taste

- Isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.
- COVID-19 testing is recommended.
- Can return to school before 10 days only if a COVID-19 test is negative, symptoms are gone, and the student was not a close contact of someone with COVID-19.
- Do not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until symptoms have resolved.
- If test results are positive, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from Alberta Health Services.

One of the following symptoms:

- Chills
- Sore throat/painful swallowing
- Runny nose/congestion
- Headache
- Muscle or joint aches
- Feeling unwell/fatigued
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Unexplained loss of appetite
- Muscle/joint aches
- Headache
- Pink eye (conjunctivitis)

- Stay home from school and monitor for 24 hours. If after 24 hours your symptoms improve, you may return to school when you are feeling better.
 - A COVID-19 test is not required but is available.
 - Do not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until symptoms have resolved.
- If a child has any two of these symptoms, or after 24 hours, their condition gets worse or they develop a second symptom:
- COVID-19 test recommended.
 - May return to school after symptoms are gone, even without a COVID-19 test or results.
 - Do not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until symptoms have resolved.
 - If test results are positive, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from Alberta Health Services.

For more details: alberta.ca/returntoschool

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