



**Junior High Entrance and Attendance:**

Junior high doors open at 7:45, and students are allowed to enter at that time. Should students arrive after 8:00 they are to enter through the main entrance and proceed to the office as attendance is taken at 8:05.

**Missing Class Time**

Please be reminded that students are responsible for their own learning, and this also applies to cases where they cannot attend school. Google Classroom is the main vehicle by which students can keep track of what their classes are studying, dates when assessments are scheduled, etc

**Junior High Courses**

**Bible 7-9 ([Mrs. Emberley](#))**

After the Easter break, we will begin a study of prayer. Using the Lord's Prayer as our foundation, we will explore the importance of prayer, the history of prayer in the Old and New Testaments as well as some theological practices of prayer.

**Physical Education 7 - 9, ([Ms. Polegato \(Ms. Elly\)](#))**

We are wrapping up a dance unit. Students are doing a wonderful job of choreographing and performing selected dance steps to music. Concurrently, we also started a basketball unit, and will continue to work on ball handling skills and then move to shooting. At the tail end of April, we will try to squeeze in skipping skills to work on coordination, agility and fitness.

**Course Topics - Grade 7**

**Language Arts 7 ([Mrs. Emberley](#))**

Grade 7 students have begun researching an influential Albertan as part of the [Alberta Champions](#) writing contest. Using guided research skills, as well as technical writing with leads, topic sentences and effective conclusions, students will work to produce a completed informational essay as part of this competition.

**Science 7 ([Mrs. Gillies](#))**

The students are currently learning about the parts and functions of plants. They are in the process of growing plants, which they will transplant into pots. Once we are finished learning about plants, we will move on to our unit on Structures and Forces.

**Math 7 ([Mrs. Gillies](#))**

The students have completed their unit on Circles and Area. We will move on to operations with fractions. This is an important concept that will continue into the rest of junior high and high school math, so daily practice is essential!

**Social Studies 7 [Ms. Polegato \(Ms. Elly\)](#)**

Most groups have finished working on their major project for Unit 2 (Towards Confederation) and will be presenting their work this month. We will continue learning about events and key figures, given it is a dense unit. Your child should be able to tell you some of the key events within 150 years that led up to Confederation.

**Health 7 [Ms. Polegato \(Ms. Elly\)](#)**

Students just finished their "Love of God" opt art project - they did a wonderful job of connecting spiritual and mental health. We are still working on aspects of physical health; next up is understanding substances and eating well.



## Course Topics - Grade 8

### **Science 8** ([Mrs. Gillies](#))

Students have completed their Caring for our Watersheds projects and have moved on to Light and Optical Systems. We are studying principles of light, including reflection and refraction, as well as human vision and the electromagnetic spectrum. Later in the spring, we will revisit environmental sciences as we do some water testing with the Grade 9 class.

### **Math 8** ([Mrs. Gillies](#))

We have just completed our unit on area and volume. Students will focus on Linear Equations and Graphing next. As always, practice is essential in learning math and needs to be a daily habit.

### **Social Studies 8** ([Mr. Baseley](#))

In recent weeks, we have delved further into the aftermath of Spain's conquest of Meso-America. While examining the horrors of the *Encomienda* system of land ownership, instituted by Spanish colonial authorities in what became New Spain, we highlighted Fr. Bartolome de Las Casas as a man centuries ahead of his time. A former conquistador and landowner, Fr. Casas later became a Dominican priest who fearlessly denounced the atrocities being committed against the region's indigenous people. He exposed the landowners as hypocrites for professing to be Christians, while supporting an oppressive system that exploited slave labour. Fr. Casas' story exemplifies the power of repentance, God's forgiveness, and what it truly means to uphold the Gospel of Christ.

## Course Topics - Grade 8/9 Combined

### **Language Arts 8/9** ([Mrs. Emberley](#))

Having successfully completed research proposals in partnership with Science, students began the month of April with a quick study of business and cover letters as well as email etiquette. After the Easter break, we will examine the different aspects of opinion writing and use these skills in debating topics in class. Students should continue reading at home on a daily basis and have a [Literature Review](#) due on April 30.

### **Health 8/9** ([Mrs. Norman](#))

In April we will be completing the human sexuality unit. Knowing that this unit can bring up many questions for our families, we wanted to share our approach with this unit. At Fort McMurray Christian School we are a school that honors God and His Word. We teach Biblical truths in all areas. As a staff, we have chosen the resource called **The Talk**, written by Luke & Trisha Gilkerson. These resources are grounded in God's Word and offer the Truth about our biology, our development, and our relationships. Students will receive the knowledge and understanding about themselves and learn to use God's promises to guide the decisions that they make.



## **Course Topics - Grade 9**

### **Science 9 ([Mrs. Gillies](#))**

We have completed our project on Caring for our Watersheds, and several students are currently preparing for the final competition, in which winners will be ranked and awarded prizes for their projects. During class time, we are continuing our unit on Environmental Chemistry and discussing human impacts on ecosystems. We will soon begin our unit on Electricity and focus on voltage, current, and resistance, as well as parallel and series circuits.

### **Math 9 ([Mrs. Gillies](#))**

The class is currently learning about Similarity and Transformations of 2-dimensional objects. We will discuss similarity and scale factor, as well as symmetry, translations, rotations, and reflections of images on the Cartesian plane.

### **Social Studies 9 ([Mr. Baseley](#))**

In recent weeks, we have continued our examination of Canada's economic system - comparing it to that of our southern neighbour. In the process, we examined related concepts such as Adam Smith's invisible hand principle. In relation to this, we also looked at the role of market forces (the law of supply and demand, competition) and government intervention in free market economics. Ultimately, this prompted questions such as whether or not humans are characterized by unceasing desires - and if The Almighty wishes us to continually consume, in order to act on these desires.

## **Important April Dates:**

Friday April 16	Junior High Worship with Pastor Lucas (Fort City)
Friday April 16	Spirit Day (Nature Day)
Friday April 23	PLF NO SCHOOL
Tuesday April 27	Whole School Worship (hosted by ECDP)
Friday April 30	Junior High Worship Crazy Hair Day

This month Fort McMurray Christian School will be showcased at the District Trustee meeting. We will be presenting a video that features our junior high program. Stay tuned for this video to be shared with our community.