

October Newsletter



A Note From Mrs. Vanden Pol

September has been a busy month as we settle into our new routines and dig into our first units of the year. It was a bit of a challenge to get through the long school days after our extended time at home but the students quickly built their stamina and we are well on our way in our learning journey. It has been so great to get to know this group of students and their wonderful personalities. They come into the classroom each day ready to learn, laugh, and have fun. I am so proud of their hard work and the way they support each other in their learning. This is a group of students who daily shows what it means to be Community Builders and Image Reflectors as they do their best to treat one another with kindness, respect, and understanding. I am very excited for the year ahead of us!



Spotlight on Christian Education

Looking for God in All the School Places

This is our classroom storyline and is our way of learning that God is in everything and we can find Him if we seek Him with our whole heart. Our storyline is built on two verses:

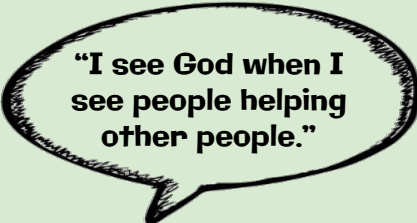
“The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;”

Psalm 24:1

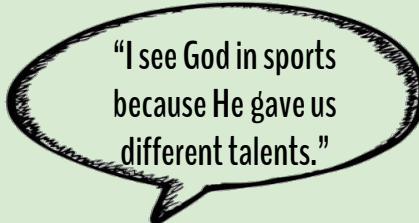
“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

Jeremiah

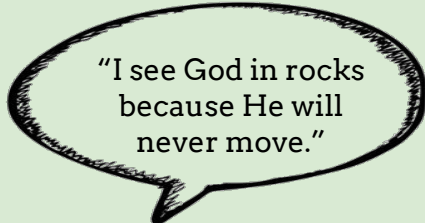
Student Quotes - Where have we seen God?



“I see God when I see people helping other people.”



“I see God in sports because He gave us different talents.”



“I see God in rocks because He will never move.”

Throughline of the Month

For the month of October our throughline focus is being a *Servant Worker* which calls us to take action to heal brokenness and bring joy to others. Being a servant worker means looking for ways to make a change and offer hope to people through our words and actions by putting others first.

Servant Worker Memory Verse - Due October 28th

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

1 John 3: 16-18

Bible Unit

In Bible this month we are continuing to look at the story of Abraham and the promises of God. Students will learn that God is faithful to His promises; however He answers them in His time, not ours.

Look at What We're Learning



Math

Students are finishing up their unit on place value and will be heading into a new unit on skip counting. Students have been learning what different digits mean when they are in the hundreds, tens, and ones place. As well they have been working on comparing and ordering numbers up to 1000. In our skip counting unit students will use money and other objects to practice skip counting by 5s, 10s, 25s, and 100s.

Language Arts

Students have been busy building their reading stamina (how long they can read in one sitting) and learning some of the important things readers do to make sure they are understanding what they are reading. We will continue learning a variety of reading strategies in October with a focus on being able to read and sound out the words.

To help with this, students have been practicing phonics skills and reviewing how the pieces of the English language work together to build different sounds and words.

In writing students have been exploring the difference between fiction (narrative) and non-fiction (expository) writing. We have also been discovering the characteristics of a good story such as an entertaining beginning, strong descriptions, and suspense. Next we will be learning how to write clear and detailed descriptions of people, places, and things.

Social Studies

Students have been learning about quality of life and what it means. We have been exploring the quality of life of people living in Peru, Tunisia, Ukraine, and India. Our next unit will look at public services in the four countries and how they affect quality of life.

Science

We have been exploring God's amazing creation by learning about Rocks and Minerals in our first unit. We are exploring the different types of rocks and minerals, the rock cycle, erosion, soil composition and ways geologists identify rocks and minerals.

Health

Our first unit is all about developing a growth mindset. Students are learning the power of the word YET! As kids there are a lot of things they can't do YET, but with practice and perseverance they can achieve any goal they set for themselves. Next we will be exploring the ZONES of Regulation and learning how to understand and manage our emotions.

Our Class Pledge

In our first week of class the students decided what kind of classroom they want to build together this year. Out of that discussion we developed our class pledge. We say these words together every morning to remind us about our focus and behaviour for the day.



**In our class we will be
respectful, faithful, and helpful.
We will show kindness by sharing ideas,
including others, and being understanding.
We know it is okay to make mistakes
because that is how we learn.
We are here to have fun, learn,
and support one another.
We promise to look for God in all the school places and
do our best to be Community Builders.**



Scholastic Orders

Did you know you can still order Scholastic books this year? To help limit contact orders will now ship directly to your home and you can order whenever you want by visiting [scholastic.ca/clubshop](https://www.scholastic.ca/clubshop).

Scholastic works on a reward system where orders placed earn Reward Bucks for us to use in the classroom. These rewards can be used to purchase new books and supplies for the classroom and are a great way for you to support our classroom from home.

When you checkout, please enter my **class code: RC178960**

This code will give our class 20% of the value of your order in rewards. Orders of \$35 or more ship for smaller orders have a shipping fee of \$3.50.

If you have any questions please let me know. Happy reading!!



Retrieval Practice



This year we will be using a strategy called retrieval practice in Grade 3. This means we are going to practice remembering or “pulling” information out of our long term memory. In school we sometimes focus so much on trying to put information into our heads we forget the importance of practicing how to remember the information. We have been using retrieval practice everyday in our subjects and students have been doing great with it so far.

If you hear your child talking about mini-quizzes, brain explosions, or “two-things” practice these are all strategies we use in class to help us pull out information and figure out what we do and do not know. These activities are not recorded for marks, they are a way for students to learn. So how can you help your child with this?

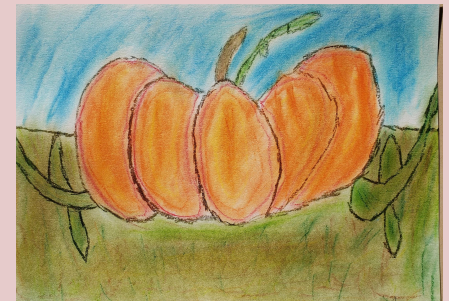
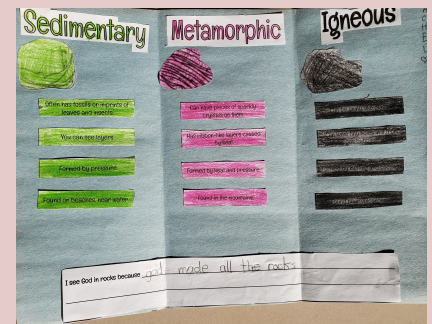
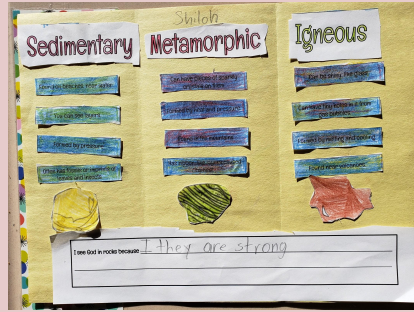
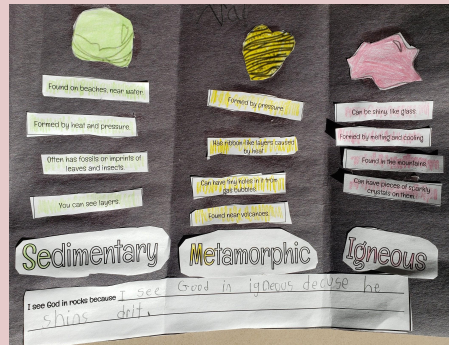
Retrieval Practice At Home

I will try to periodically (once a week or so) provide you with concepts and questions (along with the answers) to practice this with your child at home as well. Before giving the answer ask them how confident they are about having the answer correct. By thinking about it in this way students are not only trying to remember the concepts they are also becoming more aware of what they do and do not know.



WOW Work!




[Click here to get a closer look!](#)



Important Dates



Reminders

- ★ **Remind**
My primary form of communication will be using the Remind App. If you haven't already done so, you can join by [clicking this link](#) or by following these [instructions](#).
 - ★ **Daily COVID Checks**
Please remember to do a daily assessment of your child's health before sending them to school.
 - ★ **School Website**
Please remember to check the [school website](#) and our social media pages to stay up do date on important information.
-  @FMChristianRoyals
  @ChristianFMPSD
  @fm_christian_school
- ★ **Nut Aware School**
We are a nut aware school which means students should avoid bringing any type of nut product for snacks and lunch.
 - ★ **Utensils**
Please remember to send spoons and forks in student lunches as the school is unable to provide them this year.