



THE ROYAL HERALD

Fort McMurray Christian School

THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH
PSALM 119:105 (KJV)



October 2022

BELL TIMES

First Bell - 8:00
School Starts - 8:05
Lunch 11:55
School Ends - 2:40

KINDERGARTEN	ECDP
8:05 - 10:51	11:54- 2:40

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



October 2022

We have completed our first month of school and I am encouraged by the incredible energy of the school staff and our students. Getting back into routines can be tough with the introduction of new teachers, classmates, and activities, but so far we are off to a great start. There are so many highlights from September with the Welcome Back BBQ, Worship Wednesdays, Terry Fox Walk and Run, the Junior High Trip to Maqua Lake for landbased learning, introduction of home groups, parent council election, outdoor survival education, and much more. God is good as we are able to provide opportunities for our students to be in an environment where not only academics are addressed, but also the ability to point them towards Christ in all we do. To keep up to date on the work that is happening at the school you are encouraged to check out our website news page at <https://christian.fmpsdschools.ca/home/news>

Since the beginning of the year we were able to welcome back Chantel Lehman as an EA in our KG/ECDP classrooms. Ms. Lehman has been with us in the past and we are excited to have her rejoin us at FMCS! Additionally, with the help and support of our Society, we were able to hire Mr. Francis Achus-Got to teach Math and Science in our Junior High. This was a big undertaking that took significant effort and resources. We give much thanks to our Society for their work and discernment in the process. Please join me in welcoming our newest staff members!

Next is a huge 'thank you' to everyone who helped to make our Terry Fox Run/Walk such a success, as we surpassed our goal of \$1000 and ended up raising \$2100 for the Terry Fox Foundation!

We are also welcoming parent volunteers into the building again. Many have shown interest in helping out in so many ways! We have had volunteers helping all over the school. We could use some parent volunteers who could help out at lunch with general supervision. If this is something you could help out with then please come see us in the office for more details!

October is sure to be another busy month. We ask that you pray with us on a daily basis to have Christ be the centre of all that we do. On a personal note, I would like to extend my thanks to our stakeholders for welcoming me into the role of principal. It truly is an honour and a privilege to be a part of the work and ministry of FMCS.

In Him,

Mr. Geoffrey Bishop
Principal

Attendance

Please call the school office or email
fmcs.absences@fmps.ab.ca

780-743-1079

107 Brett Drive, Fort McMurray
<https://christian.fmpsdschools.ca>

Follow Us

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What's Happening at FMCS?

OCTOBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27 All Grades - Terry Fox Walk	28 Home groups - No Assembly	29 Orange Shirt Day	30 No School - National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	1
2	3	4	5	6	7 No School - Day In Lieu	8
9	10 No School - Thanksgiving Day	11	12 Grades K-3 Fire Prevention Presentation	13	14 Student Council Speeches and Election School Spirit Day	15
16	17	18	19	20 APEGA Science Evening 6:30-8:30	21 No School - PLF	22
23	24	25	26 Grade 6 & 9 immunizations	27	28 No School - ATA Day	29
30	31	1	2 Parent Teacher Interviews	3 Parent Teacher Interviews	4	5



Ongoing Events:
Volleyball - 2:45-4:15
 every Monday for grades 5&6, and every Wednesday and in-school Friday for grades 7-9

Upcoming Events:
 PTIs - Nov 2 and 3
 Photo retake day - Nov 15



2022 - 2023 School Staff

In The Office:

Principal: Geoffrey Bishop
Head Secretary: Kitty Roberts
Secretary/Librarian: Kayla Dalley
Day Custodian: TBA

In Our Classrooms:

ECDP & Kindergarten: Heather-Joy Freake
Grade One: Stephanie O'Keefe
Grade Two: Jillian Jackman
Grade Three: Erica Vanden Pol
Grade Four: Rebekah Hiltz
Grade Five: Katie Lemon
Grade Six: Ronald Vanden Pol
Junior High: Kim Huygen, Francis Achus-Got, Ellen Polegato, Geoffrey Bishop
Physical Education: Ellen Polegato
LAC: Stephanie Merrick
Counselor: Samantha Patey
Teaching for Transformation: Ronald Vanden Pol
Educational Assistants: Chantel Lehman, Tara Atalifo, Melissa Russell
PEAK Coach: Keegan Kuhr



OCTOBER 14
School Spirit Day!

Be sure to wear any school clothing you may have. And if you don't have any yet, just wear something blue, gray, or white!

Want to see more of what took place in September? Check out our blog posts [HERE!](#)



ELEMENTARY SCIENCE NIGHT

Thursday, Oct. 20
 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Timberlea/Christian School Gym
 107 Brett Drive, Fort McMurray

Join us for a fun evening of hands-on science and engineering activities and demonstrations.

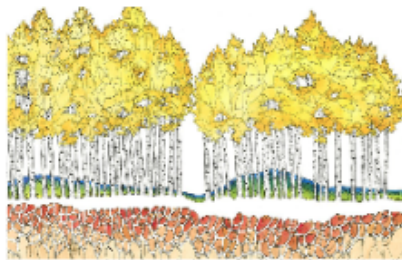
No cost to participate—just show up!



Rooted in Christ

In September we had plenty of opportunities to meet together as a school [discuss](#) our School Storyline: *Rooted In Christ* as a community.

We started the year off by introducing it at our first assembly and then moved on by giving students an example of some people from the Bible who were Rooted In Christ by watching a video about Sadrak, Mesak, and Abednego. Even though King Nebuchadnezzar threatened to throw them in the first for staying faithful to God, they stayed rooted in their faith.



We also met in homegroups (multi-grade groups that connect older students with the younger ones) and discussed Pando, a huge forest of interconnected aspen trees in Utah. By staying connected to one another they are able to fight disease, [draught](#), and work together to continue to grow, just like us and Christ.

This theme of interconnectedness also relates to our Throughline for September and October, **Community Building**. By working together we are able to build each other up and help each other grow strong roots.

I want to give a big thank you to all of our pastors that signed up to help come to our assemblies and share a message on one of our upcoming Throughlines about people from the Bible that they have seen showing those attributes!

If you have any questions about our Storyline for the year or want to learn more about Throughlines, please get in touch with me anytime.

Mr. Vanden Pol
Christian Education Coordinator

FMCS School Council

September saw us kick off the year with our first in-person School Council meeting in 2 years. It was wonderful to gather together and begin the conversation for the year ahead. We started the year with a devotional on "blooming" and letting God work through us and our willingness to serve. We know God has a plan for Fort McMurray Christian School and we, as parents and community members, are here to support our students, staff, and community in whatever way God calls us. There are lots of opportunities, both big and small, to volunteer throughout the school year and we encourage parents to talk to the office and get signed up to help out if they can.

The highlight of our first meeting was electing a new School Council Executive. A big thank you to Tunde Oladipo, Elizabeth Benner, and Riva Walters for their willingness to serve on the executive. Thank you to Christine Gogolinski for her roles as the Fundraising Coordinator and Social Media Manager as well. The School Council is in excellent hands!

Many hands make light work and there are still roles to be filled. Please consider coming out to School Council meetings and joining the conversation about what is happening at Fort McMurray Christian School. Stay tuned for details about the next meeting posted to the Community Facebook page.

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them"
Ephesians 2:10

Blessings,
Erica Vanden Pol

FMCS Society Fundraising

We are so excited to kick off our fundraising year and are looking forward to what can be accomplished **TOGETHER!** Funds collected will be put towards “Student Experience” with the intent of using this money for things such as:

Inline Skating Lessons & Family Skate Night for our school in 2023

o FUNDS FULLY RAISED!

Assisting with the costs of field trips for all grades

Developing a Jr. High Lounge / Hangout area

Helping to meet various needs within the school to better serve our children

Near the end of last year, we held two bottle drives and over the summer received our totals as to how much was raised. Between the two drives, we raised close to \$1,000 - THANK YOU for your donations and support!

This month we have two fundraisers taking place. For both, please watch your inbox and our social media for details as to how to order and be involved:

Evergreen Wreaths & Wood Christmas Signs

We are bringing our popular fresh evergreen wreaths back, as well as the wooden Christmas signs to help with your interior and exterior Christmas décor! Wreaths will be \$36/ea and come with artificial berries, pinecones and a bow to decorate if you wish. Signs are \$35/ea and are 13” x 13” in size. **Order deadline is November 4**



Dielman’s

What a great way to get a head start on your Christmas shopping, wrapping and décor with this fundraiser! Your child will be receiving a paper catalogue to take home, or share with co-workers, as well as there are more options to view online. Our fundraiser will be running from **October 11 – November 17, 2022.**

In this month of thanksgiving, we are especially thankful for you and your participation that directly blesses our children and enriches their experience at our school.

Thank you!

Christine

Christine Gogolinski

Fundraising Coordinator

fundraising@fmcssociety.com



Paying Fees

The following fees can be paid through Parent Portal:

Bus fees, ECDP Fees, Field Trip Fees
Hot Lunch Program (not running yet),
and other yearly fees as they arise

The Society **School Fee** can be paid through our Society Admin, Carolina Boyer. Carolina is in the building from 8-11 and 1:30-2:40 each school day. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 780-743-1079 .

Volunteer Information

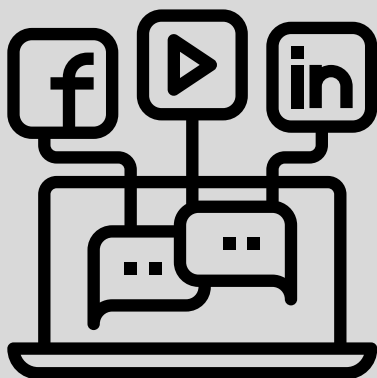
Volunteers are an important part of school. We are excited to be working with our School Council to recruit and provide volunteering opportunities.

In preparation, we have prepared volunteer packages that are available in the office or can be sent home with your child. Included in the package is information about volunteering, the purpose and responsibilities of volunteers, a volunteer registration form and a Criminal Record Check form. Also included is a sample RCMP letter and information to get a Criminal Record Check at no cost to you.

Please contact the office if you would like a volunteer package sent home or if you have any questions.

We look forward to you joining us and volunteering,

FMCS Staff



Stay Informed

There are many ways to communicate with each other and schools are no exception. We thought it might be a good idea to share all of the ways you can stay informed about things that are happening at the school in case you weren't following us already.

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

Our Website is a great place to find out when major school events are and important links.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/FMChristianRoyals/>

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/fm_christian_school/

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/ChristianFMPSD>

Our Social Media Pages are regularly updated with pictures and upcoming events.

2022-2023 DIVISION CALENDAR

August 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

KEY	
■	Important Day-Students
■	PLF Staff Only
■	Important Day - Staff
■	School Break All
■	PD Day - Staff Only
■	Stat Holiday - All

December 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOTES	

April 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Semester 1	
Operational Days - 98	
Instructional Days - 86	
Semester 2	
Operational Days -98	
Instructional Days - 88	
Total Operational: 196	
Total Instructional: 174	

- August**
- 1 Heritage Day
 - 17 Schools open for registration
 - 18 First day for School Administrators
 - 23 First day for ATA
 - 25 First day for remaining CUPE
 - 29 First day for students

- September**
- 2 PLF #1 (Staff Only)
 - 5 Labour Day (No School)
 - 16 PLF #2 (Staff Only)
 - 30 National Day of Truth & Reconciliation - (No School)

- October**
- 7 Day in Lieu (No School)
 - 10 Thanksgiving (No School)
 - 21 PLF #3 (Staff Only)
 - 28 ATA Institute Day (ATA staff Only)

- November**
- 11 Remembrance Day (No School)
 - 18 PLF #4 (Staff Only)

- December**
- 2 PLF # 5 (Staff Only)
 - 16 PLF #6 (Staff Only)
 - 23 Non-Operational
 - 25-27 Stat Holiday Day in Lieu (No School)
 - 27-30 Christmas Break (No School)

- January**
- 2 Day in Lieu Stat Holiday (No School)
 - 3-4 Christmas Break (No School)
 - 9 School Resumes
 - 27 PLF #7 (Staff Only)
 - 30 Semester 2 Begins

- February**
- 3 Division PD Day (Staff Only)
 - 17 PLF #8 (Staff Only)
 - 20 Family Day (No School)
 - 27 Convention Break (No School)
 - 28 Convention Break (No School)

- March**
- 1 Convention Break (No School)
 - 2 Teacher's Convention (ATA Staff Only)
 - 3 Teacher's Convention (ATA Staff Only)
 - 10 PLF #9 (Staff Only)
 - 24 PLF #10 (Staff Only)

- April**
- 7 Good Friday (No School)
 - 10 Day in Lieu (No School)
 - 11-14 Spring Break (No School)
 - 21 PLF #11 (Staff Only)

- May**
- 5 PLF #12 (Staff Only)
 - 19 Day in Lieu (No School)
 - 22 Victoria Day (No School)

- June**
- 2 PLF #13 (Staff Only)
 - 29 Last Day Students
 - 30 Last Day Staff

- July**
- 3 Day in Lieu



It's not too late to enroll students!

**Fort McMurray
Public Schools**

2022-2023
**NEW TO FMPSD
REGISTRATION**
Now Open

Register now at:
www.fmpsdschools.ca/registration