



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)



December 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

December 2022

Dear Students, Families, Caregivers, and Friends of Fort McMurray Christian School:

"Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of Peace, and Father of future ages; and his reign will be without end." (Isaiah 9:5 and Luke 1:33).

As Christians, we celebrate together the birth of Christ and how his birth radically changed the world. I am reminded of what the lyricist Joseph Mohr so elegantly wrote in his Christmas classic, Silent Night: '...with dawn of redeeming grace'.

With the birth of Christ we are in an age of 'redeeming grace'. Celebrating the Nativity of the Lord Jesus gives us the opportunity to once again return to the true spirit and joy of this season and be reminded that as we are saved by grace, we too can extend grace to those around us - even when it is uncomfortable.

At FMCS we strive to meet our students and families where they are at - regardless of ethnicity, race, gender, social class, etc. Together, as a body of Christ, we recognize that we "all have fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), but because of the birth of Jesus we have a true reason to celebrate this Christmas season as he is our redeemer!

As you gather with your family and friends this season, consider the lights of the Christmas tree and those outside your home as an acknowledgement of the "Light of the World". Allow the light of Christ to be your model in rediscovering your faith, renewing your commitment to Him, and being the salt and light to those in Fort McMurray and beyond. In this age of 'redeeming grace', may I encourage you to reach out to the marginalized, to those in need, and to all those whom our Christ came to bear witness to the truth.

May peace, love, and grace be abundant for you and yours this Christmas season and into 2023.

In Him,

Mr. Geoffrey Bishop
Principal

Attendance

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

780-743-1079

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

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.



Follow Us

- @FMChristianRoyals
- fm_christian_school
- @ChristianFMPSD

What's Happening at FMCS?

December 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1 Elementary Reports Available in Parent Portal	2 No School - PLF	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Christmas Sweater Day Christmas Light Tour 7:30 at Fort City	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 No School - PLF	17
18	19	20 Christmas Concert at FCC at 6pm	21	22	23 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	24 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break
25 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	26 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	27 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	28 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	29 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	30 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	31 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break



Upcoming Events:

Dec 1 - Elementary Report Cards uploaded to Parent Portal
*If you require a paper copy please ask the office.

**JH report cards will be available late January

Dec 1 - Angel Tree Tags & gifts due back in office

Dec 9 - Christmas Light Tour at 7:30 at Fort City Church
*Tickets REQUIRED to attend this event

Dec 20th - Christmas Concert at Family Christian Center (160 Dickens Drive) at 6pm

Dec 23-Jan 6 - Christmas break

Ongoing Events:

Multi-sports every school day morning 7:15-8:00 *MUST have a permission form filled out to attend

JH Boys Basketball- Monday, Wednesday, Friday after school
*First tournament is December 16-17



2022 - 2023 School Staff

In The Office:

Principal: Geoffrey Bishop

Head Secretary: Kitty Roberts

Secretary/Librarian: Kayla Dalley

Day Custodian: Helena MacDonald

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, Oksana Bodnarchuk

PEAK Coach: Keegan Kuhr

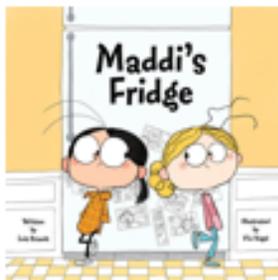
Want to see more of what took place in November? Check out our blog posts HERE!

November - Justice Seeking

In November we continued sharing with the kids what it means to be “**Rooted in Christ**”, by looking through the lens of being Justice Seekers, our Throughline for the months of November/December.

We started off November by sharing what it means to be a Justice Seeker and how students, no matter how young or small they may feel sometimes, can truly make BIG differences in the world.

Pastor Holly visited the school during one of our worship assemblies and shared the incredible message of Corrie Ten Boom and her story of seeing the misery occurring all around her and stepping up to do something about it.



Mrs. Jackman and Miss Lemon also helped organize a fun activity for our homegroups this month by asking everyone to | bring in a cereal box. As groups, we listened to the book Maddie's Fridge and learned how not everyone has access to good food and what kids can do about it. They then made a fun domino run with the boxes before donating all 228 boxes to the Food Bank!

In December we will continue looking for ways to help the less fortunate and seek justice for those in need.

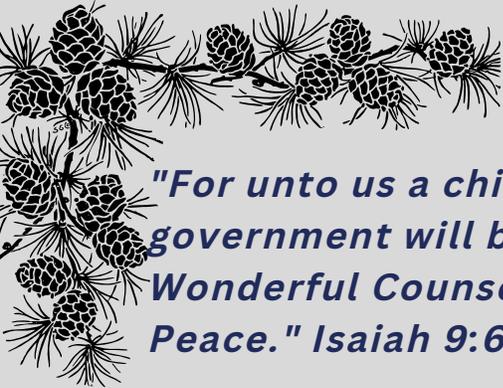
If you have any questions about our Storyline for the year or want to learn more about Throughlines of the month, please get in touch with me anytime.

Mr. Vanden Pol

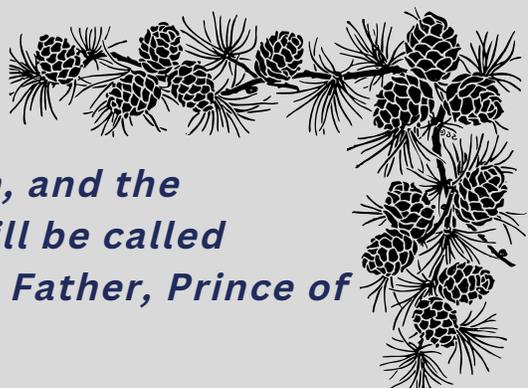
Christian Education Coordinator



FMCS collected 228 boxes of cereal to donate to the foodbank. Thanks to all who contributed to this important fundraiser.



FMCS Society



"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

Thank you all who attended the Society AGM, your engagement and attention is helping our school grow!

We've taken the time to meet as a Society Executive team and formalize our roles as we enter 2023:

Executive Chairperson Dave Oger

Executive Vice Chair and Treasurer Tony Williams

Fundraising and Parent Council Liason Christine Gogolinski

Public Relations Kelly Ralph

Stakeholder Relations Clementina Okoro

Secretary and Stakeholder Relations Eric Benner

Director at Large Dennis Vroom

Please reach out to us directly or to Carolina Bolivar in the society office with your ideas and initiatives that will help our school grow. As you can see we have a few folks sharing portfolios and so would love to add more people to the team at the next opportunity.



May your heart be lifted in praise this Christmas for the wonderful gift of Jesus and the joy He brings to our lives. Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.



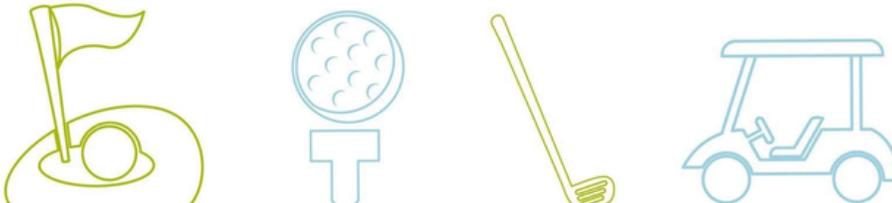


**2023 SEASON PLAYERS
CARD ONLY \$100.00
OVER \$350 VALUE!**

**ALL DISCOUNTS ARE VALID FOR
2023 SEASON**

COUPONS INCLUDE:

- FREE ROUND OF GOLF IN JULY OR AUGUST (\$109 VALUE * VALID ON ALL WEEKDAY TIMES AND WEEKENDS AFTER 1PM)
- \$50 GREEN FEE (\$109 VALUE)
- \$50 GREEN FEE (\$109 VALUE)
- 25% OFF DINNER AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR UP TO 4 PEOPLE
- 25% OFF BREAKFAST & LUNCH AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR UP TO 4 PEOPLE
- 25% BREAKFAST & LUNCH AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR UP TO 4 PEOPLE
- 1 LARGE BUCKET OF BALLS (\$20 VALUE)
- 1 LARGE BUCKET OF BALLS (\$20 VALUE)



Golf Pass Fundraiser!

We are excited to be partnering once again with the Fort McMurray Golf Club to help you with your Christmas shopping!! \$50 from each card sold goes directly to our school! Passes can be purchased through emt, cash or credit.

If you would like to purchase, please email

fundraising@fmcssociety.com or stop by the Society office at the school.

This offer is open to anyone, so please take a moment and share this with your friends and family.

Thank you!



Paying Fees

The following fees can be paid through Parent Portal:

Bus fees, ECDP Fees, Field Trip Fees
Hot Lunch Program,
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

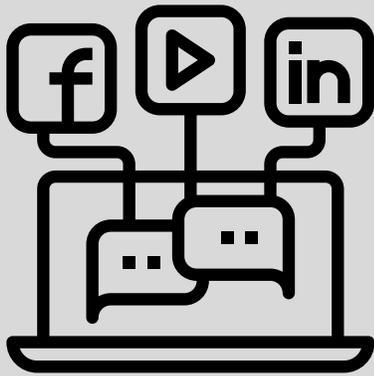
Volunteers are an important part of school. We are excited to be working with our School Council to recruit and provide volunteering opportunities.

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

- September**
- 2 PLF #1 (Staff Only)
 - 5 Labour Day (No School)
 - 16 PLF #2 (Staff Only)
 - 30 National Day of Truth & Reconciliation - (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
- May**
- 5 PLF #12 (Staff Only)
 - 19 Day in Lieu (No School)
 - 22 Victoria Day (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)
- 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)
- June**
- 2 PLF #13 (Staff Only)
 - 29 Last Day Students
 - 30 Last Day Staff

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