

MHCS DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER



December 2017/January 2018

Teaching for Transformation FOCUS:

- December: IMAGE REFLECTING

- January: IDOLATRY DISCERNING



Principal's Pen

Merry Christmas for December and Happy New Year for January 2018!
Our newsletter is a double edition for December and January.

If you need to remember one school event for December, please don't forget our Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 20 @ 6:45 p.m. at the Cypress Centre. The title and theme is called "A Tree Lot Christmas" and it is going to be something for the whole family to enjoy. Please come! Not only is the Christmas Concert an important learning event for our children and students, it is also a time where the whole school community gathers together for an evening of praise, honor, and glory to Jesus Christ our Saviour. It will be wonderful!

The Christmas Concert also aligns with our December Throughline of Image Reflecting. When Jesus was born, grew up and began his ministry, performed miracles, walked, talked, and taught His disciples and followers, died and rose again - He was and is the Word made Flesh (John 1:14). Jesus was fully God (fully Divine) and fully human at the same time - what an amazing miracle and mystery! And to think we are created in God's Image. We bear God's image - everyone one of us, child, student, parent, grandparent, uncle, aunt, brother, and sister. This is an amazing concept to teach our students at MHCS. I'm looking forward to what this month will bring.

In January, our school will explore Idolatry-Discerning. What are things that get in the way of our relationship with Jesus Christ? What are the distractions, temptations, or sins that can damage our lives and our relationship with Him? Can we name them, repent, and reflect on how we are transformed by Jesus Christ - "If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation, old things are passed away; behold, all things are made new..." 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Praise the Lord!

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and see you in January!

Don't Forget....

- ⇒ Dec. 5 @ 9am Parent Society Mtg.
- ⇒ Dec. 5 @ 10am School Council Mtg.
- ⇒ Dec. 8 No School
- ⇒ Dec. 14 Pajama Dress Up Day
- ⇒ Dec. 20 2:30 Dismissal
- ⇒ Dec. 20 @ 6:45pm Christmas Concert
- ⇒ Dec. 22 11:52 Dismissal
- ⇒ Dec. 25-29 No School
- ⇒ Jan. 1-5 No School
- ⇒ Jan. 9 Parent Meetings

GOD MOMENTS:

Kindergarten & Grade 1: Over the last month, we have witnessed many instances where students have been living God's story by being servant workers: A kindergarten and a grade one student were voluntarily willing to stay outside after the bell to help the supervisor clean up the sleds and shovels. Also, we witnessed a student picking up rocks in the hallway because he was afraid of his friends slipping and falling on them. Way to go! Finally, thank you to the student who willingly holds the door for others every recess. Thank you for your selfless service, keep up the good work!

Thank you to our earth keeper of the month who went over and turned off the water that someone had left running. Awesome job!

Grade 2: Students in our classes had an opportunity to share their achievements and demonstrate their learning with their parents at the student-led conferences. It was heart-warming to see the interest, enthusiasm, and pride on the part of the parents and children. We thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our school families.

Grade 3 & 4: We are so proud of the Grade 3/4s! They have really taken the Beauty Creating throughline to heart. Whether it is adding extra effort and detail into their assignments, using descriptive words in their writing, or taking their time with our Art projects that Mrs. Panabaker has been teaching. They also made beautiful Postcards for Peace, sweet Valentines for Veteran's and have been pouring their all into learning the songs we are practicing for the Christmas Concert. We are Beauty Creators in Grade 3/4!

Grade 5: The grade 5 classroom has been a busy building center as students created Parade Floats for Social Studies. Many creative and exciting displays were on hand for student led conferences. Students envision a variety of boxes into stages that housed animals, flowers, flags and other provincial symbols. A special God moment was the excitement and exclamation of joy when a student realized he got to research a territory that had a history to his family.

Grade 6: This past month, our class has reflected each week on what they are grateful for. Our students have expressed gratitude for a range of topics, but the resounding theme is gratitude towards our God. We have been blessed with so much and this is evident in their work. I am so proud of their creations and the time they have taken to reflect. Well done, Grade Six!

Junior High: Students in the Jr. High have really stepped up and helped in Library/Reading Buddies time. We have had students absent over the last month and students have been willing to work with 2-3 reading buddies at a time without complaint. They are showing great leadership to the younger students.

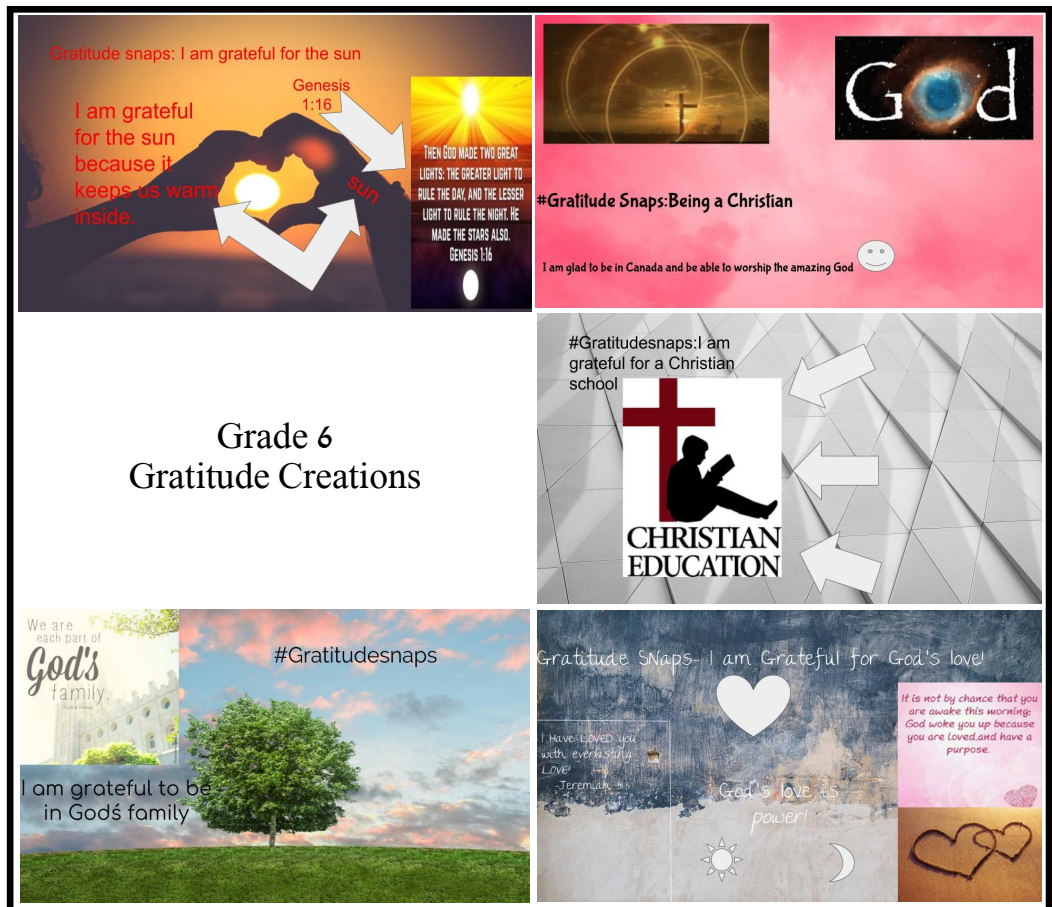
This month the junior high students in grade 9 had the opportunity to attend the PARTY program at the Medicine Hat hospital. The program is intended to teach students about making good choices in various life situations and possible consequences of the choices they make. It was a very good day for the grade nine students.



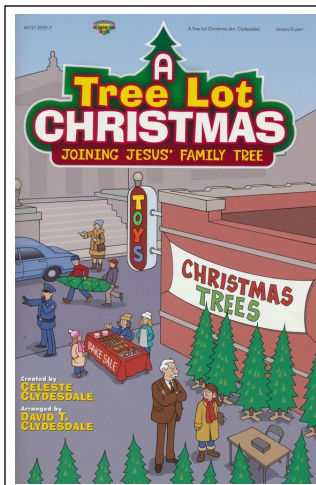
Grade 2



Grade 5



Grade 6
Gratitude Creations



MHCS Christmas Concert

Wednesday
December 20th

@
6:45 pm

Cypress Centre Auditorium

Chapel Groups
making
Valentines
for
Veterans



Student Council

Theme Days

Thursday, Dec. 14



Pajama Dress-up Day!

&

Thursday, Jan. 18



Crazy Hat & Hair Day

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A **BIG** thank you to everyone who participated in packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We had a lot of fun during the Chapel packing party. **Thirty five** shoe boxes were packed full of useful items and toys. As a whole, **MHCS** collected **99** shoe boxes this year which will bless needy children around the world. These boxes bring children hope, love, joy as well as the opportunity to hear about Jesus' love for them.

Matthew 25:40

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"



Running Club

Colder and snowier than usual weather has cut our fall session of Running Club short earlier than expected but it was a successful start nonetheless with twenty-one participants. Our parent volunteers and I participated in a training workshop sponsored by American Medical Association Youth Run Clubs which gave us lots of great ideas to keep the kids interested and fit. We are looking forward to Running Club starting again in the spring so watch for startup dates.





School Council

Next School Council Meetings will be held on Tuesday, December 5 & Tuesday, January 9 @ 0:00am in room 206 following the Parent Society Meeting.

All parents are welcome to join us!

Society Executive

Looking for a great Christmas gift for that hard to buy for someone?

How about a ticket to our Comedy Dinner Night with The Fidgets Improv Comedy Group?

MHCS Society Executive will be hosting this event at the Medicine Hat Lodge on the evening of Saturday, March 17, 2018.

Contact the school or check out the school website for more information.

Parent Society

Next Parent Society meetings will be held Tuesday, December 5 & Tuesday, January 9 at 9:00 am in room 206. All MHCS parents are welcome to join us!

Gift card fundraiser



Paper order forms are sent home with designated students each month. You can also choose to place your own order online. Direct shipping for online orders is available. Following is a link so that you can go and sign up as a supporter. There is also an option to have the online order taken right out of your bank account (eft). If this is something you are interested in please feel free to phone me at 403-548-7302 and I will make sure to get you the form to fill out.

Here is the link to get you started. http://www.fundscrip.com/launch-guide_STG_1

Invitation code: YP2DYQ.

Coop gift cards are also available to purchase from the office or you can write a note on your order form (they can not be ordered online).

Link to our December promotions will also be posted on our website.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you

Tracey

**Help Us Raise Funds
Without Spending Extra!**

FundScrip
powered by Fundstream Inc.

Click here to start...

Learning Commons

"The gift of READING lasts forever!"



May that be a subtle hint to you as you shop for Christmas gifts ☺. Be sure to check out our lovely bulletin board outside the Learning Commons that displays the books your children hope to find under the tree this year.

We've just finished up our Postcards for Peace, and will be sending these lovely messages of hope and peace to veterans living in long-term care facilities here in Alberta. We filled out over 200 postcards in the Learning Commons this year! Thank you to all who shared a postcard in person with a veteran you know.

Our Grades 5 and 6 students have worked hard on their NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) novels, and I've been running a month-long Writing Club to support their efforts. In January, I'll do a fun 4-week Writing Club for students in grades 3 and 4. This will be on Wednesdays at lunchtime in the Learning Commons, and more will be announced after we return from Christmas break.

Reading Buddies with grades 7/2 and grades 8/2 is full of energy, and the junior high students are maturing in their responsibilities as role models to the younger students.

Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good read!

Ms. Burke
MHCS Librarian

Youth Call 2 Prayer

Our numbers continue to increase, topping at fourteen which is absolutely wonderful to see. We have recently sent a card to the pastor and congregants of the church in Sutherland, Texas and will continue to minister to them in prayer and encouragement over the coming months. As well, we are beginning our Christmas encouragement to government and local leaders. I cannot begin to tell you how overwhelmed I get at this group of students' commitment of praying for others, and I am honoured to be able to work with them.



Skating

Time to pull out the skates and helmets to make sure they fit!



Students in kindergarten to grade six will be skating between January 16 and February 14. Your child's teacher will be sending a letter home with skating dates and times.

MHCS Parents...

We need your help again this year!



We are in need of pictures from field trips, sports teams, school events, etc. for our yearbook.

Any pictures you would like to submit can be emailed to fay.stewart@sd76.ab.ca.

Thank you!



Junior High



Pastor Appreciation Chapel will be held Thursday, January 25.

Parents and students please invite your Pastor and their spouse to join us!

2018-2019



Registration
Information

Watch our website to see when registrations for the 2018-2019 school year will be accepted. If you have a child entering kindergarten in September please let the office know so we can get a registration package to you once they are available.

If your child is currently enrolled at MHCS re-registration forms will be sent home with students following our Open House.



**MHCS Open House &
Kindergarten Registration
Day**

Coming soon!

Keep checking our website
for the dates and times!



CHADS Behavioural Services
Medicine Hat: 403-502-8257
Brooks: 403-793-6664

Child & Parent Group Services Information: **Winter 2018**



Kids in Control:

This is a 6-session program for children who could benefit from anger management, self-control, & emotional expression training. Anger can be a confusing & overwhelming emotion to feel & respond to. Physical symptoms which accompany anger may include trembling, increased perspiration & heightened blood pressure & heart rate. This is one reason why children often associate anger with loss of control. But anger is a useful emotion which can be managed & directed, given the right skills & coping strategies. Through art, games & activities, children in the group will learn self-calming methods & other constructive ways to express their feelings without using aggression. Children will have the opportunity to enhance their social skills, feelings of competency, & personal effectiveness in the area of anger control while reducing self-defeating behaviors. There is a corresponding Parent Group; attendance of at least one parent or guardian per child is required. Pre-registration is necessary; call one of the phone numbers above.

START DATES FOR UPCOMING GROUPS (Medicine Hat):

KIC for 3-4 Year Olds: Jan. 17, Apr. 11

KIC for 4-5 Year Olds: Jan. 22, Feb. 5, Mar. 5, Apr. 23

KIC for 6-7 Year Olds: Jan. 22, March 19

Kids in Between:

This is a 6-session program for children aged 6 & 7 years, who are experiencing parental separation or divorce. Children who have been affected by parental separation & divorce are often struggling with a variety of unfamiliar & uncomfortable feelings. They will sometimes feel that they are the only ones experiencing these feelings & that no one will be able to understand them. Through art, games & activities, children have the opportunity to express their feelings & have them validated. They will also learn positive coping strategies to assist them in grieving the loss of their nuclear family & in dealing with divided loyalties. There is a corresponding Parent Group; attendance of at least one parent or guardian per child is required. Pre-registration is necessary; call one of the phone numbers above.



START DATES FOR UPCOMING GROUPS (Medicine Hat): Jan. 8, Apr. 9

Bravehearts - Stimulating Independence, Building Confidence & Developing Coping Skills:

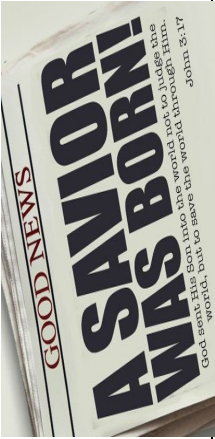
This is a 6-session skill building group for children ages 3-5 years. Through art, games & stories, children have opportunities to examine how they express their feelings & to develop coping skills which will aid in expressing feelings. This group also focuses on stimulating independence in children & increasing their confidence. Parents learn how to support their children's growing independence & support the use of coping strategies they learn during group sessions. There is a corresponding Parent Group; attendance of at least one parent or guardian per child is required. Pre-registration is necessary; call one of the phone numbers above.








START DATES FOR UPCOMING GROUPS (Medicine Hat): Feb. 27

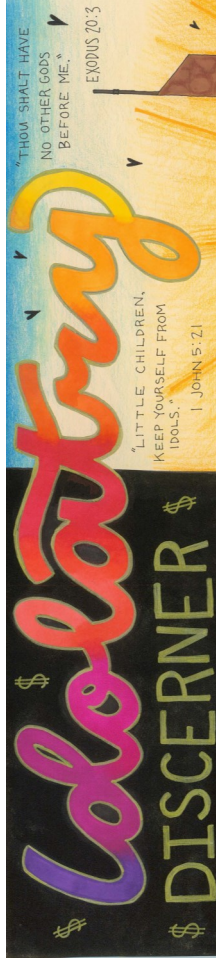


December 2017



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 1:30 Parents Prayer Group - All parents welcome! 2:30 pm Dismissal	2
3  Church	4 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice 6-7:30pm Girls BB Practice	5 PARENT MEETINGS: All parents welcome! 9 am Parent Society Meeting 10 am School Council Meeting 5:30pm Boys BB @ MHCS	6 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice 6-7:30pm Boys BB Practice	7 9 am K-9 Chapel - Students meeting in grade groups Hot Lunch - Hot Dogs & Booster Juice 5:30pm Boys BB @ MHCS	8 No School (PD/Staff Meeting)	9 Boys BB Tournament - Seven Persons
10  Church	11 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice 6-7:30pm Girls BB Practice 7 pm Society Executive Meeting	12 3:00pm Boys BB @ NDA 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice	13 Gr. 5 & 9 Immunizations 4pm Girls BB @ Seven Persons 6-7:30pm Boys BB Practice	14 9 am K-9 Chapel - Students meeting in Chapel groups Pajama Dress Up Day Hot Lunch - Mucho Burrito 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice	15 Kindergarten in session 1:30 Parents Prayer Group - All parents welcome! 2:30 pm Dismissal	16
17  Church	18 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice 6-7:30pm Girls BB Practice	19 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice	20 Kindergarten in session 9-11:45am Christmas Concert Rehearsal at Cypress Centre 2:30 pm Dismissal 6:45 pm Christmas Concert	21 9 am K-9 Chapel - Christmas Carol Sing - Parents Welcome! Hot Lunch - Pizza	22 11:52 am Dismissal	23
24  Church	25	26	27	28	29	30
Christmas Holidays - No School						
31  Church						

January 2018



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Christmas Holidays – No School					
7	8 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice 6-7:30pm Girls BB Practice	9 PARENT MEETINGS: 9am Parent Society Mtg. 10am School Council Mtg. All parents welcome! 4:15pm Boys BB @ MHCS	10 Gr.5-9 Winter Day Trip	11 9am Chapel Groups Hot Lunch - Panago Pizza 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice 5:30pm Boys BB @ AMS	12 1:30pm Parent Prayer Group 2:30pm Dismissal	13 Girls BB Tournament - St. Mary's
14	15 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice 6-7:30pm Girls BB Practice	16 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice 4:45pm Boys BB @ RWLC	17 3pm Girls BB @ NDA 6-7:30pm Boys BB Practice	18 Crazy Hat & Hair Day 9am K-6 Chapel - Guest Speaker Cindy DaRosa 9am Gr.7-9 Chapel - Mr. Stacey Parents welcome to attend! Hot Lunch - DQ Burgers 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice	19 1:30pm Parent Prayer Group 2:30pm Dismissal	20 Boys & Girls BB Tournament - Taber Christian
21	22 5:30pm Girls BB @ MHCS	23 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice 4:15pm Boys BB @ Parkside	24 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice 6-7:30pm Boys BB Practice	25 9am Chapel - Pastor Appreciation Parents welcome to attend! Hot Lunch - BP Penne 3:30pm Boys BB @ RWLC 3:30-5 Girls BB Practice	26 Kindergarten in session 1:30pm Parent Prayer Group 2:30pm Dismissal	27 Girls BB Tournament - Senator Gershaw
28	29 3:30-5pm Boys BB Practice 3:30pm Girls BB @ RWLC	30 3:30-5pm Girls BB Practice	31 3:30pm Girls BB @ RWLC 6-7:30pm Boys BB Practice			Boys BB Tournament - CHHS