



Principal's Message

HOW TO CONTACT US

Office: 780-483-6476
Fax: 780-487-8992

Email
meadowlarkchristian@epsb.ca

Mail
9825 - 158 Street,
Edmonton, AB
T5P 2X4

School Website
<http://www.k-9christian.com>

Principal
Mr. Darren Sweeney

Assistant Principal
Mr. Darrell Regehr

Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Edgar Schmidt

Board Chair
Mr. David Colburn

Ward C Trustee
Mr. Christopher Spencer

Dear Parents,

A New Year is always exciting regardless of how the past year was. Some people are thrilled to be leaving the past year because it was full of adversity and trials, while others are sad to see another year drift away. Despite these different perspectives most people enthusiastically start a New Year.

As Edith Lovejoy Pierce once said, "We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." Opportunity is all around us, but in order to take advantage of it we have to carefully watch for when it presents itself. Teachers are masters at this. They often pounce on opportunities and make them powerful teachable moments.

I am hoping that our entire school community will also become masters at identifying opportunity when they speak with other parents about our school. There is no doubt in my mind that the best way for people to find out about the special educational opportunities that exist at Meadowlark Christian School is by our current families talking to other families who are interested in a strong Christian education.

We are already giving information and tours to perspective families and we know that many of these people are coming to us because our current families have been speaking to them about Meadowlark Christian School. Thank you for spreading the word about the good things that are happening at our school. As our school continues to grow we will be able to enhance an already strong academic Christian program.

On behalf of the staff at Meadowlark Christian School I would like to wish you and your family a safe and prosperous New Year.

"Let your hook always be cast; in the pool where you least expect it, there will be a fish." ~ Ovid

Mr. D. Sweeney

LEARNING through academics **LIVING** in Christ **LEADING** by serving others **LOVING** with strength of character

Campus Crusade For Christ (Breakthrough Prayer Ministry)

We are a group of parents at Meadowlark Christian School who are members of Campus Crusade For Christ (Breakthrough Prayer Ministry), which is dedicated to encouraging and supporting schools through prayer. Anyone is welcome to join us for prayer Tuesday mornings at 9:00 , upstairs in the staff room, to pray for the students and staff.

If you are interested in finding out more or have any prayer requests please give Carol Milner a call at 780-470-3659 or email at milners@airsurfer.ca

Get to know your Ward C Trustee, Christopher Spencer:

<http://www.epsb.ca/trustees/ctrustee.shtml>

Hot Lunch

The next 'hot' lunch is Booster Juice on January 19.



Congratulations

Bethany submitted a poem for the Edmonton Poetry Festival. Her poem, entitled "One Chance", was selected to be posted on the Edmonton Poetry Festival and Edmonton Transit websites and to be displayed on ETS transit vehicles for the first four months of 2012. She will receive a gift certificate and a copy of the poster once it is removed from the transit vehicles. Well done Bethany!



Indoor Track & Field

Practices for the indoor Track & Field season have begun. All students in grade 4-9 are invited to join the indoor track team if they are interested in fitness, running, jumping and/or throwing. The season runs from January to March with practices being held on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning on January 12. Contact the office or Corrine Timmer for more information.

MCS Foundation Tax Receipts

The 2011 Income Tax receipts for Alternative Program Fees and all other donations will be issued by February 28, 2012. To insure that there is no delay in receiving your receipt, if you have changed your mailing address within the last 6 months, please confirm your address with the school office. If you have any questions regarding tax receipts please contact Sandra Di Cesare at the school. (780) 483-6476 or Sandra.Dicesare@epsb.ca

Cheques Payable To:

Please check correspondence information any time fees are required, to ensure that cheques are made out to the correct payee. Failure to do so will result in the cheque being returned for correction before it can be processed. When you are paying fees for Registration, Alternative Program or Mexico Mission, cheques must be made payable to **MCS Foundation Ltd**, not Meadowlark Christian School or MCS. Most other cheques for field trips, bus fees, and fundraising are made payable to **Meadowlark Christian School**, not MCS. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

SchoolZone

SchoolZone has become the delivery method of choice for providing school information to parents and students. Access to monthly newsletters, Provincial Achievement test results, HLAT results, IPP's, Progress Reports, school news, and homework are some of the many things available for viewing through SchoolZone. Log in to SchoolZone regularly to check for new items. And remember, your parent login provides greater access to SchoolZone items than the students login does.

Need To Leave a Message For Your Child?

Although we do our best to get messages to students or staff, please know that we do not interrupt classes. If you phone after 2:30 PM with a message for your child or a staff member, they **may not** receive your message by the end of the day. If at all possible, before your child leaves for school, make arrangements regarding ride schedules and/or appointments. Thank you for your cooperation.

GETCA PRESENTS: TWO GREAT SESSIONS



Dispatches from the Front Lines of the New Girlie-Girl Culture with presenter Peggy Orenstein

Are you the parent of or do you know a young girl obsessed with princess culture? A girl who, despite your best efforts to raise her to be strong and independent, suddenly insists on growing up to be SnowWhite? Join Peggy as she explores the challenge of parenting in a commercialized culture determined to exploit and market to girls from a very young age. What are girls learning, and what can we do about it? Check out www.peggyorenstein.com for more information about Peggy.

OR

BOY SMARTS



Effective Strategies for Parenting Boys with presenter Barry MacDonald

Get beyond the headlines and hype. What are the varied needs of boys? How can we help boys navigate cultural realities like video games and Facebook? How can we mentor boys to talk about their thoughts and feelings? How can we guide our boys to achieve their potential at school? Learn what it takes for parents, caregivers and professionals to mentor boys to become courageous and caring men. Check out www.mentoringboys.com for more information about Barry.

Wednesday, February 29, 2012 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Shaw Conference Centre, 9797 Jasper Avenue

Parking lot on Grierson Hill and in adjacent parkades or plan to come via public transit

THIS EVENT IS FREE BUT PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/GETCA2012> or call 780.429.8040 to register.

Please note that these sessions are for adults only

Note: Photographs may be taken at this event, which may be used on the sponsors' websites and in other publications.

Peggy's and Barry's books will be available for purchase at the event.

Co-sponsored by:



Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention Association



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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"Choose Safety Over Convenience"

Anyone who has gone through a winter season at Meadowlark Christian School knows all too well how difficult it is to drop off and pick up students. Contrary to what people may believe, there is plenty of room to drop off students safely as long as drivers are courteous, take their time and follow some basic driving rules/laws.

Some important safety considerations to keep in mind:

- don't double park
- only park/stop in zones that are legally safe to park/stop in (i.e.- don't park in "Bus", "No Parking" or "Handicapped" zones)
- pull over to the curb to drop students off
- do not perform U-turns anywhere near the school
- Do not park or stop in the staff parking lot

It is very convenient to park in the front of the school to drop your child(ren) off, but please consider other, less congested and safer areas to drop them off. The east side (157 street) of the school is a good drop off zone. It is not as busy, there is a gate that children can enter the field and you are able to watch your child(ren) all the way to the playground. The north side (99 Avenue) of the building is also a good alternative to the front of the building.

Please keep in mind that bylaw officers make regular rounds of schools. When one visits our school, many tickets would be issued on a daily basis. Most of these tickets would be for parking in the areas that have been mentioned above.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOMESTAY FAMILIES WANTED

Edmonton Public Schools' International Student Program is partnered with Canada Homestay International (CHI) to provide supportive Homestay services to International Students studying in our schools.

Can you provide a safe, welcoming and caring home environment for an international student between the ages of 15 and 18? Can you care for the student as a part of your family? If your answer is "yes", please submit your application!

Homestay families are compensated, receiving \$700 per month for providing accommodations and three daily meals.

For more information and to complete a host family application, please visit the CHI website at:

www.canadahomestayinternational.com

For questions, please call George at (780) 328-6479 ext. 2032, Diamond at (780) 328-6479 ext. 2037 or e-mail eps@canadahomestayinternational.com.



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The Canada Homestay Network
Serving Canada from Coast to Coast

Young Authors!

in Grades 4, 5 & 6

March 1 & 2, 2012

Teachers' Convention -

Satisfy your desire to write with 3 authors and an illustrator at this 2-day day camp.

March 26 & 27, 2012

Spring Break - Pursue

your passion for writing with 3 authors and an illustrator at this 2-day day camp.

*Bright futures
begin here*

Junior High Students

March 28 & 29, 2012

Spring Break - Expand your writing skills with the help of 4 local authors at this 2-day day camp.

For information or to register

The Bennett Centre

Phone 780-468-1439 or 1-800-664-6630

www.bennettcentre.epsb.ca - see camps for printable registration form.



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Christmas Break						
8	9 Classes resume	10	11	12 Track & Field Practice	13	14
15	16 School council meeting 7 pm	17 Track & Field Practice	18 JH chapel (12:24) Elem chapel (2:02) MCS Foundation AGM @6:30	19 Booster Juice lunch Track & Field Practice	20	21
22	23	24 Track & Field Practice	25	26 Track & Field Practice	27 Family Literacy Day Elem Harrier's relay	28
29	30	31 Track & Field Practice				

Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendars

February 13 - School Council meeting at 7 pm
 February 20 - Family Day - no school
 March 1 & 2 - Teacher's Convention - no school for students
 March 9 - Progress report #2 posted to SchoolZone
 March 16 - Professional Development Day - no school for students
 March 24 - April 1 - Spring Break
 April 6 - Good Friday - no school
 April 9 - Easter Monday - no school