



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,

April is an important month for us here at Meadowlark Christian School. Students and teachers are busy gearing up for the home stretch in their school year.

At the administrative level we are very focused on planning for next years school organization. This includes looking at how students will be grouped, scheduling, staffing etc. This process has been underway for quite some time and student enrollment passports were distributed to students during the second week of March. Once they are returned to us (by April 16th) we will have a clearer picture of actual numbers for the fall and will be in a better position to make some critical decisions.

This year is rapidly winding down, but planning for next year is in high gear. As we plan for an organizational structure, our first priority is to utilize our allocated resources in ways that will place the learning needs of our students first. Decisions regarding student groupings and teaching assignments will all be made with the intent of "cranking it up a notch". By that phrase I am referring to the fact that Meadowlark Christian School students currently receive excellent instruction, but we are always striving to be better and to be more responsive to student needs.

Mr. D. Sweeney
Principal

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 Subway on April 26.



Hoop Camp

The thirteenth annual edition of Hoop Camp will be taking place at West Edmonton Christian Assembly on **July 9-13**. This camp is for girls and boys ages 8-13 years who enjoy basketball and want to improve their skills in a fun and encouraging environment. It is going to be another fantastic camp... you won't want to miss it! Registration forms are available across from the main office, on SchoolZone under 'School News', at www.weca.com or by e-mailing Kent Krikke at kent.krikke@epsb.ca.
Register soon!!

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.

Spotlight on Literacy Overview

The District's Literacy Steering Committee has collaborated with Communications to create a series of one page information documents entitled Spotlight on Literacy. These monthly documents will provide parents and the community with information about the District's focus on literacy for the 21st century learner. Topics for the Spotlight on Literacy series are based on key ideas in the [K-12 Literacy for 21st Century Learners Guiding Document](#). A new topic will be introduced during the first week of each month in the following order:

- April – Critical Thinking
- May – Digital Literacy
- June – Creativity

The first Spotlight on Literacy document can be [accessed here](#).

MCS Registration forms
with registration fee
and
EPSB Pre-Enrolment Passports
are due back on
Monday, April 16.

Spotlight on Literacy

AUTHENTIC LEARNING TASKS

Authentic learning tasks are meaningful, engaging, and they cross over and connect subject areas. An authentic task has at its heart, a complex problem that requires students and teachers to do some in-depth thinking and to work together to create solutions. Authentic tasks are about **investigation** and **creation**; they encourage students to put their learning into action. Curiosity, wonder, and persistence are great qualities that are nurtured and developed through authentic task work and support life-long learning.

Teachers craft lessons for students in order to support students to become successful, interested and confident learners. Some authentic tasks lead to extended investigation, some are less complex.

Our work in the classroom

Authentic tasks help students to:

- connect ideas across subject areas or to the world outside the classroom
- think creatively
- apply skills and knowledge in meaningful ways
- work in groups
- make choices and reflect on the choices made
- develop as life-long learners and citizens
- explore topics they are interested in
- solve problems that could have many solutions

Helping at home

Encourage your children to:

- become involved in community projects
- develop varied interests
- explore new places and activities
- visit sites in and around the city using this link: <http://bit.ly/hA9KmK>
- read to discover new things and then talk about them
- ask questions and seek answers

"A sense of curiosity is nature's original school of education."

– Smiley Blanton

Authentic learning in action

Look at what can happen when curiosity and wonder shape our students' learning experience!

- High School students help Haitians
<http://bit.ly/zjN9J1>
- High School students raise fish for food
<http://bit.ly/wj3Jhx>
- Elementary Students explore the nutrition in chocolate milk
<http://bit.ly/paCfRu>

Education Travel Opportunities

survey

Education First Tours offer a full range of high quality educational tours around the world. In order to help me identify the best-suited travel opportunities for our school community, please take a moment to respond to the following questions and return by **May 25, 2012**:

1. The travel location(s) of most interest to our family would include:
 - Ontario/Quebec
 - Maritime provinces
 - Europe (specify: _____)
 - Japan
 - China
 - South America (circle: Ecuador or Peru or Costa Rica)

2. The best time(s) for our family to travel would include:
 - December (Christmas Break)
 - March (Spring Break)
 - July
 - August

3. The most suitable amount of time for our family to travel (overseas) would most likely be:
 - Seven days
 - Ten days
 - Fourteen days
 - Twenty-one days

4. The most suitable price range for our family would be:
 - \$2000-3000/person
 - \$3000-4000/person
 - \$4000+/person

5. Family members who would like to travel would include:
 - Student only
 - Accompanying parent
 - Multiple family members

6. I would want to start planning for a sizable trip ...
 - A year in advance
 - Two years in advance

- ✓ **I would like to receive information regarding any future education travel opportunities offered to the MCS community.**

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you for your feedback, and I look forward to offering great travel opportunities for the MCS community! In the meantime, browse the possibilities on www.eftours.ca.

Send your questions – and your survey – to kent.krikke@epsb.ca, or drop paper copy in my main office mailbox.

Kent Krikke
Junior High Teacher

MCS Meadowlark Christian School

9825-158 Street, Edmonton, AB T5P 2X4 www.k-9christian.com • Tel: (780) 483-6476 Fax: (780) 487-8992

Dear Parent,

Over the course of the school year your child has been involved in many field trips for the purpose of enhancing the curriculum. In the past most of these field trips were paid for by fundraising initiatives. These fundraising initiatives have not occurred in the last number of years and those funds have now been depleted. In some cases you have paid for field trips as they occurred, which resulted in many small payments throughout the school year.

Edmonton Public School Board policy stipulates that "schools may charge students or their parents fees to cover costs such as field trip transportation, admissions, subsistence, and use of facilities."

We have initiated a new system which will be more functional and efficient with regards to collecting field trip fees. Edmonton School Board Policy also states that, "funds collected to pay for field trips shall be itemized and accounted for separately from other fees." At the office level we have began using a District software program called FMS (Fee Management System). This program tracks the fees for each student to ensure that the fees collected from a student are utilized for *that* student. If a student does not attend a trip the fee will not be taken out of their field trip fee account. A reconciliation of each child's field trip fee account will be provided to parents at the end of each school year and any outstanding balances will be returned to the parent.

Based on trips that have already occurred, we calculated that a field trip fee of \$100/per student will cover the costs of the them. Please make out your cheques to **Meadowlark Christian School**. These cheques will be due by May 31st.

Thank You,

Mr. D. Sweeney
Principal
Meadowlark Christian School

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



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bright futures
begin here

April

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Classes resume	3	4	5 Commissioning Service for Missions Trip - 2:30 pm	6 Good Friday No school	7 Mission trip
8 Easter Sunday	9 Easter Monday No school	10	11 JH Chapel (12:24)	12	13	14
Mission Trip						
15	16	17 Gr 3,4 7 – Geology presentation	18	19	20	21
Mission Trip						
22	23	24	25 JH Chapel (12:24) Elementray Chapel (2:02)	26 HLAT Writing- 9-9:45 am Hot Lunch- Subway	27	28
29	30					

Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar

April 7-21 - Grade 9 Missions Trip
 May 3 - HLAT Reading - 9 am
 May 10 - Volunteer Appreciation Open House
 May 14 - PAT Gr 9 LA Part A 9-11:30 am
 May 15 - PAT Gr 3 LA Part A 9-10:40 am
 May 16 - PAT Gr 6 LA Part A 9-11:30 am

May 18 - Teacher Day-In-Lieu - no school
 May 21 - Victoria Day - no school
 May 24 - MCS Shines
 May 29 - Gr 5 & 9 Immunizations
 May 31 - Spring Photos