

Principal's Message

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Principal

Mr. Darren Sweeney

Assistant Principal

Mr. Darrell Regehr

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Edgar Schmidt

Board Chair

Ms. Sarah Hoffman

Ward C Trustee

Mr. Christopher Spencer

Dear Parents,

As I recently sat watching a hockey game, I was once again reminded of the importance of hard work and determination. The players who stand out are the ones who keep skating and don't quit. Even when they make mistakes, they simply keep going. In fact, to the contrary, when these standout players do make an error, they play even harder in order to make up for it. As the game nears the end and pressure mounts, the stand out players are the ones who dig deep and find, within themselves, that little bit more.

There is much to be said for simply doing your best. Doing your best will not *always* ensure that you win, nor will it *always* mean that you will get the result that you desired. Doing your best means that you have used all of your God given gifts in order to prepare for success. With spring around the corner, this time of year can be an exciting time, but it can also be an overwhelming time. The pressure can mount as new activities begin, test preparation is a regular occurrence and it seems like there is more to accomplish than there is time or energy to do so. Students need to be reminded and encouraged to understand that they can push beyond what they believe they think they can do. This is the time when they will need to persevere and dig a little deeper to ensure that they are doing all they can to prepare themselves for the success that will eventually come.

ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST!

When you think it doesn't matter if you fail or pass the test.
Keep in mind this simple reason you should always be your best.
While the whole world may not notice if you try to give your all,
There is a special person to whom it matters if you fall.
A little voice within you - which directs your thoughts each day -
Will make the final judgment if you won or lost today.

Never can you fail yourself if you give it all you've got.
The world extends a hand to you when you give life your best shot.
For all that really matters when you're finished with the test
Is not the final score at all - but did you do your best.

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Mr. D. Sweeney

Principal

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

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 Panago on April 11, 2013



Beginning in September 2013, we are in need of a new Hot Lunch Coordinator. If you would be interested in filling this position, please contact the school office.

Indoor Track & Field News

We have had an incredible Indoor Track and Field Season! Our athletes worked hard and attained many personal bests over the last couple of months. They competed in meets against schools from all over Edmonton and in meets against clubs from all over Alberta. Way to go team! It has been a pleasure to coach this group of athletes. The Outdoor Track and Field Season will begin on April 9 and will be for grades 1-9. Practices will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. A registration and information meeting will be on April 9.

Highlights:

AB Indoor Games, February 9th

Elementary Relay Teams – received two Gold Medals and three 4th places
Shayna G. won the Gold Medal in Long Jump, jumping 4.79m and competing against athletes from all over Alberta

AB Provincial Track and Field Championships, March 2nd

Rebecca K. – 4th place in Standing Long Jump, 6th place in Shot Put
Megan D. – 5th place in Shot Put

Edmonton Journal Indoor Games, March 16

Our Junior High Relay team ran an incredible race and placed 5th overall!
Congratulations to Shayna, Jared, Leah, Kerby, Cassidy, Andrea, Liam and Simon (alternates - Vinee, Caleb, Anna). In the Elementary Running Long Jump, Luke set a personal best of 434 cm and won the Gold! Way to go Luke!

See you in the Outdoor Season!

Corrine Timmer
Track Coach

Grade 9 Grad 2013

We need 3 photos from each grade 9 student for display on the Grad Baby Board and the Slide Show. On or before April 19, 2013, please submit a baby photo, an elementary age photo and a current photo of your student doing activities that they enjoy or that show their personality. Please submit digital photos directly to jjorvina@shaw.ca. Printed photos can be brought in to the school to be scanned. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Marcy Neufeld at marcy.neufeld@epsb.ca.

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.

★ **NEW!** – a directory of staff email addresses can be found under the Resources tab

If you experience problems logging on to SchoolZone, please contact Susan in the school office, for assistance.



The total amount raised by Meadowlark Christian School for Compassion Canada was \$1228.76

Division 1 raised \$289.19

Division 2 raised \$771.97

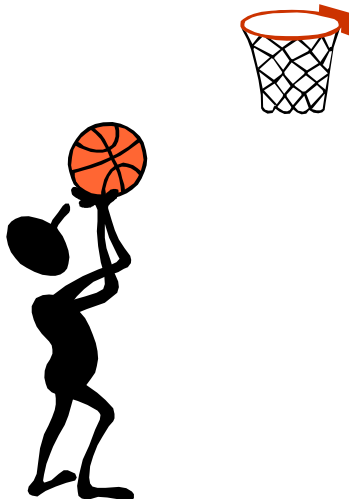
Division 3 raised \$175.75

Hoop Camp

The fourteenth annual edition of Hoop Camp will be taking place at West Edmonton Christian Assembly on **July 8-12**. 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', or by e-mailing Kent Krikke at kent.krikke@epsb.ca.

Register soon!!




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.canadahomestaynetwork.ca

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

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLSThe Canada Homestay Network
Setting Canada from Coast to Coast

Spotlight on Literacy

WHAT IS VOCABULARY KNOWLEDGE?

Vocabulary knowledge involves understanding the meaning of words. Building vocabulary begins at home and continues throughout school and beyond. Children differ greatly in the size of their vocabularies when they begin school and on average, they begin Kindergarten with approximately 5,000 words and learn about 3,000 words or more each year. A large vocabulary helps students in understanding conversations or instructions, conveying ideas clearly and supports comprehension.

Our work in the classroom

Teachers use many strategies to teach vocabulary across all grades and in all subject areas, so that students develop a deep understanding and ownership of words. Examples may include:

- talking about words and the slight differences in the meaning (e.g., *angry* is not the same as *furious*; *big* is not the same as *enormous*);
- talking about idioms (e.g., "Let's hit the road"); and metaphors (e.g., "feeling blue");
- reading aloud a variety of literature, so that students can hear rich vocabulary across subject areas;
- instilling a sense of curiosity about words by highlighting them, giving student friendly explanations and relating words to students' lives. For students who are learning English, vocabulary can be connected to the students' first language;
- revisiting or reviewing vocabulary by finding the words in other contexts and talking about words through activities, such as writing and games and collecting new words for future use (e.g., personal journals);
- exploring how adding prefixes and suffixes to a word can change its meaning;
- identifying other words that are opposite and similar in meaning; and
- making words visible in the classroom by posting them on the walls, labeling items or creating vocabulary lists.

Helping at home

Words are learned and remembered when applied in meaningful ways, in different contexts and experiences. Having rich conversations with your child will help build their vocabulary. Some ideas you could try at home include:

- using language that invites your family to discuss and expand vocabularies (e.g., using the term *coaxial audio cable* rather than *cord*);
- using your first language (if another language is spoken in your home) to make meaning of new words;
- being descriptive about what you see when you're out with your child or when you talk about current events;
- encouraging daily reading – many words occur more frequently in written text than in spoken language;
- discussing the meanings of words as you read or listen to audiobooks or podcasts together; and
- taking advantage of media and technology to develop vocabulary (e.g., watch a video on National Geographic, a TedTalk or explore a website together).

Literacy links

To support your child's vocabulary development, check out these helpful links:

- www.vocabulary.com – definitions, crosswords, synonym and antonym practice
- freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1486 – free online vocabulary game. For each correct answer, the UN World Food Program donates 10 grains of rice to countries in need
- On SchoolZone.epsb.ca – Visual Thesaurus

"Effective vocabulary instruction is a complex process. Environments need to be created where words are discussed, used and connected to students' lives."

– Dr. Joyce Purdy, District Literacy Consultant

Meadowlark Christian School Parent Questionnaire

The staff at Meadowlark Christian School have begun the exciting process of planning for the 2013-2014 school year. We value your input and welcome your perspective about what is happening in our school.

Please take time to consider the following questions and return the comments to us by Thursday, April 11th, 2013. The District Priorities for 2011-2014 are found on the reverse side of this sheet. During our planning process, we will review your comments and ideas, and give them consideration. Thank you for your assistance and support.

1. What, in your opinion, sets Meadowlark Christian School apart from the other schools?
What is it that you see we do very well?

2. Is there something (e.g. - activity, celebration, teaching practice, etc.) you would recommend:

a) adding: _____

b) deleting: _____

3. To improve student achievement and to improve educational services to students what suggestions do you have?

4. Please list four or five items that you would like to see purchased for the school that you feel would enhance student achievement. (Even if there is only one or two items, please write them down...thank you)

Thank you for your interest, time and input into our school plans.

Parent Signature (optional)

Phone Number (optional)

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Easter Monday no school	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Hot Lunch - Panago Pizza Commissioning Service for Missions Team 1:15-2:00 pm	12 PD Day #3 - no school for students	13 Grade 9 Missions Trip
14	15 School council meeting at 7 pm	16	17	18	19	20
Grade 9 Missions Trip						
21	22	23	24	25 HLAT Writing (Gr. 1-8) 9:00 am (45 min.)	26	27
Grade 9 Missions Trip						
28	29	30 HLAT Writing Gr. 9 at 9:00 am(45 min.)				

Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendars

May 1 - HLAT Reading at 9:00 a.m.
 May 7 - Pan-Canadian Assessment for Gr. 8's (p.m.)
 May 9 - Volunteer Tea (8:30-2:00)
 May 13 - PAT Gr. 9 L.A. Part A (9-11:00)
 May 13- School Council at 7:00 p.m.
 May 14 - PAT Gr. 3 L.A. Part A (9-10:10)
 May 15 - PAT Gr. 6 L.A. Part A (9-11:00)
 May 16 - Hot Lunch Day-Subway

May 17 - Teacher Day In Lieu - no school for
 students
 May 20 - Victoria Day - no school
 May 23 - MCS Shines
 May 28 - Gr. 5 & 9 Imm. Round 1 (p.m.)