



MCS Meadowlark Christian School

September

Principal's Message

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Principal

Mr. Scott Markine

Assistant Principal

Mr. Darrell Regehr

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Darrel Robertson

Board Chair

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Ward C Trustee

Mr. Orville Chubb

What a fantastic first week. I got to share with you that I was more than a little excited about the prospect of starting my first September here at MCS, and Day 1, did not disappoint. It was great to see students, parents and staff reconnect with each other after the summer break.

I first shared this scripture when I arrived last February at the Open House.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

What a blessing it is to be able to call Meadowlark Christian School home, knowing and trusting that God will work for the good of MCS and that we have been called according to his purpose.

To all the parents who took time out of their morning on September 5th (Day 1) to bring their children to school, I want to say thank you. You came, you gave warm welcomes, some of you had coffee and a snack in the Library and you then left to allow us to get on with the business of making sure your child learns. To me, the smoothness of how the first morning went shows the level of trust and faith you have in Meadowlark Christian School. Thank you.

Thank you families for a great first week of welcome! Now that your child has had a chance to settle in to his or her class, the following procedure will be implemented to ensure a smooth, safe start to each morning:

- 8:30am - Doors are opened
- Students can come in and hang up their coats and backpack on their hooks or in their locker.
- Junior high students will proceed to their period 1 class.
- Since Elementary student supervision will only be outside, (unless inclement weather requires an indoor start).
- Elementary students are asked to go back outside and enjoy outdoor activity and socializing
- 8:40am - 5 minute warning bell
- Students, just like last year, are asked to line up on the tarmac, just outside the doors in grade group lines
- Supervisors will assist each grade into the hallway, so that it does not get over crowded.
- 8:45am - Start of classes & Announcements

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



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bright futures
begin here

Principal's Message (continued)

Parents, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have comments or concerns about this, (phone (780) 483-6476 or by email at Scott.Markine@epsb.ca.)

I need to take a moment to tell you a bit about the hard work that the teachers of MCS have engaged in since the school doors opened for the 2017-2018 School Year. Your child's teachers have formed collaborative teams with the intention of learning more about how to teach kids how to read, how to write and to make sure that they develop the skills and attitudes in numeracy that will help them be successful in school and beyond.

All of the Language Arts teachers are working to ensure there is equity across grade levels, K-9, by aligning how they teach writing. The goal is to make sure that, when your child receives writing instruction, the teachers will use common language and strategies that build upon each other year by year.

In addition to writing, teachers are also going to learn more about how your child learns how to read. They will start collecting information about reading in the next couple weeks and track that information 2 more times this year to make sure your child is learning the skills they need to be successful readers.

The Junior High classes will be heading off to the Fall Youth Retreat and Camp Nakamun from September 18-20. I am excited to personally experience what has been described to me by staff and students as one of the defining experiences that make junior High at MCS.

Let's have a great learning year!

Scott Markine
Principal

Student Safety

In our ongoing efforts to keep all of our students safe, we remind parents and students that **there is no supervision provided before 8:30 am or after 3:37 pm**. Students who are not picked up after school will need to wait in the main office area until they are signed out by their parents.

SchoolZone

SchoolZone is the delivery method of choice for providing school information to parents and students. Access to Transportation route changes monthly newsletters, Provincial Achievement test results, HLAT results, IPP's, Interim reports, Progress reports, school news, and homework are some of the many things available for viewing through SchoolZone.

Online payment is now available through SchoolZone for field trip and bus pass fees.

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

Field Trip Fees

Bill 1 does not effect how a school charges for field trips. At the office level we use 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 or participate in the activity, 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.

Elementary - Based on trips that have traditionally occurred, we calculated that a field trip fee of \$100/per student will cover the costs of field trips for this year for the students in grades 1-6. Please make out your cheques to **Meadowlark Christian School**. These cheques will be due by Thursday, October 30. These fees may now be paid through SchoolZone

Junior High - Due to the nature and variety of field trips that Division 3 students participate in, Junior High students will pay for field trips on a per trip basis. The amount for each individual field trip will be indicated on the field trip consent form.

Cookie Dough Fundraiser

The Cookie Dough fundraiser has begun. Extra order forms are available in the office. Our goal this year is to raise \$20,000. Orders must be submitted by September 25.

Pull-Tab Project for Children with Diabetes

The Pull-Tab project is sponsored by the Lion's Club who convert the tabs collected into dollars which are managed by the Pediatric Diabetes Education Centre at the Stollery Children's Health Centre. By pulling the tabs, you can help a parent buy life-sustaining diabetes equipment and supplies for their child. Daily blood sugar testing and insulin injections will cost at least \$3400 every year for life. Yet if children have the tools they need to manage their diabetes and to stay healthy, they can avoid the terrible side effects of diabetes. Also, by pulling the tabs, you can help send a child to diabetes camp. Many children with diabetes feel alone. Many feel that no one understands what it's like to live with diabetes. Can you imagine poking your finger to check your blood at least four times every single day forever? Can you imagine having to take at least two insulin injections every day? Can you imagine always having to eat only the right kind of food, only the right amount of food, and only at the same times every day? Can you imagine being the only one in your family, school, neighborhood or community who has to live like this? Would you like to help a child with diabetes spend just a few days every summer feeling "just like a regular kid"? At camp, all the kids are doing finger pokes and insulin injections and following a meal plan. At camp, the child with diabetes is not alone and someone does understand completely.

Meadowlark Christian School has collections bins for these tabs. So keep those pop can tabs coming! These tabs, though insignificant in small amounts, become a lifeline to a child when collected in large amounts. The tabs help those families that are not able to cope with the costs that Type 1 Diabetic care has, enabling a child to have the tools necessary to survive this disease.

Thank you for your contributions, Corrine Timmer

PARKING AND TRAFFIC

Streets around our school are often very congested during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. To help keep our students safe, we need you to do your part by slowing down and following traffic safety laws.

30 km/h school zones

A lower speed limit in school zones is in effect in Edmonton. You must slow down to 30km/h around schools between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on school days where signs are present.

Speed limits will be strictly enforced by both the

Edmonton Police Service and the City of Edmonton's Office of Traffic Safety during posted hours.

General safety reminders

- Remain courteous and patient
- Drive slowly and watch for students crossing the road
- Abide all traffic signs and laws
- Use designated crosswalks
- Respect school staff and volunteers assisting with drop-off and pick-up
- Park further away from the school and walk the rest of the way

Use Edmonton Transit or other ways to get to school (walk, ride a bike or roll!)

For information about getting to school, visit epsb.ca/schools/gettoschool.

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Photo Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Fall Youth Retreat (FYR)					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendars

- October 2-6 - Read In Week
- October 9 - Thanksgiving Day
- October 20 - PD Day
- November 2 - Picture retake day