



www.northstaracademycanada.org

October 2020

To say that the 2020 school year is looking to be an interesting one would be an understatement. Many students around the province are experiencing classrooms and hallways very differently with all the COVID-19 protocols. Many students are doing some of their work from home with a few variations of blended programs happening as teachers and students try out new systems. At NorthStar Academy we have been specializing in education from home for decades now so what is new for some school systems is routine for us.

The interest in education from home has certainly not been routine. The steady growth curve we have been experiencing over the last five years or so has turned sharply upwards. Our parent-directed, teacher-directed, and shared responsibility programs have increased in size by 250%. We have added 13 teachers, increased the work time for several of our part-time teachers, and hired on five administrative support staff to help us provide services to all of our students/families. God has blessed us with great people who understand the privilege it is to work in a Christian school. We are still getting to know one another, which is more challenging in a time of pandemic restrictions, but it is going well.

Our Activity Days and Learning Clusters are up and running. These opportunities for students, parents, and teachers to get together are not only fun but they help us all build important connections. The venues we work with have been busy figuring out how they can operate which impacts how we can set up our activities. It has been an interesting challenge to get organized and things are still changing as new rules come into place in different cities and towns but Amanda Sadler, our A Days coordinator, is on top of it all.

There are likely a few more twists and turns to come this year but I know we can navigate them together as our God is on his throne and has all things under control.

Have a great school year! ~Randy Wood



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"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1

Great tools to enhance your NorthStar experience

ACTIVITY DAYS

Here at NorthStar there is always something amazing going on and fantastic learning taking place. While we might not always be together to see the activities and effort being put in behind the computer, we know it is taking place and we believe it is important to take time to both recognize and celebrate it.

If you have not received our Activity Day Email, email our Activity Day Coordinator, Amanda Sadler, at activityday@nsaschool.ca

STUDENT CAFE

Another great way to connect with fellow students is to be a part of our Student Café. If you do not see Student Café under your list of courses contact Barb at barb.johnson@nsaschool.ca to get connected!

PARENT LOUNGE

Have you logged into your parent Moodle page to check out the Parent Lounge? All our families, Home Ed, PBR, and Online have access to this great resource. If you don't have your log in access yet, contact Barb at the office at barb.johnson@nsaschool.ca resources ordered so you don't fall behind! Contact Michelle at michelle@nsaschool.ca

STUDENT GMAILS

Student Gmails are a great way to communicate with your teachers. Please make sure that you are checking your emails everyday and initiating that very important conversation with your teachers!

Important dates to remember!

Oct 23 PD day, teachers are unavailable

Oct 30 Collaborative day, teachers are unavailable

Nov 11 Office Closed/Non-Instructional day—Remembrance Day

Nov 20 Non-Instructional day

OFFICE HOURS ARE 9 - 4pm, Monday to Friday

Congrats on getting married Emily!

The “Office Bridesmaids”



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Did you know?

MICROSOFT OFFICE

We offer a free Microsoft office which is needed for all assignments in our online program. Contact Barb at barb.johnson@nsaschool.ca

MYPASS

If you are a high school student wanting to access your transcripts, register at <https://public.education.alberta.ca/PASI/myPass/welcome>

MOODLE TIPS OF THE MONTH

- Moodle works best on Chrome and Firefox.
- The NorthStar Moodle site is not APP friendly on your phone.
- You can view your child's progress from their Moodle page.
- Supervision of your student is very important, make sure you have read our parent supervisor document for online learners which can be found on the home page of moodle.

Bible Memory

If you are interested in doing some scripture memory with your kids, here is a wonderful passage.

Jesus' coming shows God's grace to everyone!

John 1:12-18

12. But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name,

13. who were born, not of natural descent, or of the will of the flesh, or of the will of man, but of God.

14. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed His glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

15. John testified concerning Him and exclaimed, "This was the one of whom I said, 'The one coming after me ranks ahead of me, because He existed before me.'"

16. From the fullness of His grace, we have all received one blessing after another.

17. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

18. No one has ever seen God, but God, the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known.

Check Us Out



Did you know that NorthStar Academy posts updates about upcoming events, contests, homeschool tips, and more on our website and social media? Check out the links below for all of the updates:



www.NorthStarAcademyCanada.org



[Facebook.com/northstaracademycanada](https://www.facebook.com/northstaracademycanada)
Instagram: [@northstaracademycanada](https://www.instagram.com/northstaracademycanada)

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Tips and tricks

Homeschooling isn't always easy, and due to a pandemic and other life circumstances we find that more people decided to homeschool in 2020. Here are some tips and tricks to help keep your experience a sane one!



I am allowed to hit pause.

Sometimes in hard moments we forget that we don't have to keep doing something that isn't working. Whether it's math practice or nature walks, it's okay to stop when something is frustrating or upsetting.



I'm going to listen to my child right now.

There are times when your best-laid homeschool plans go awry because your plans and your child's don't match up in a moment. In those moments, try letting go of your agenda and listening to your child.

I'm expecting myself to be perfect, but I shouldn't.

Sometimes, the biggest challenges we face as homeschoolers come when we have to face our own insecurities. If you're feeling less-than, remind yourself that you're the only person expecting you to be perfect.

the new
normal