



www.northstaracademycanada.org

January 2021

2021 is upon us! This past year has certainly been an unusual one, parts of which many of us will be glad to have behind us. Other aspects of life have just continued to roll on – this has been the experience for our students here at NorthStar. Brick and mortar schools have seen disruptions to their learning from classes being quarantined and in-person instruction being shut down while for us it has been classes, assignments, Google Meets, and all the regular school stuff. It may sound a bit dull compared to all the action other schools have experienced but, in this case, the usual routines are a good thing.

One change that has impacted our grade 12 students is Alberta Education's making diploma exams voluntary. This removes the requirement for students to gather to write these high stakes exams at a time when COVID would have made for some significant challenges to safely administer them. We are grateful for Alberta Education's leadership in this regard. This change is in place for the upcoming January diploma exam sittings as well as for the June administrations.

A couple of staff members will be leaving us shortly. Barb Johnson, our receptionist and Moodle coordinator (plus many other tasks), is moving from the area and will be working in downtown Calgary. Shaylene Dykema, junior high Math and senior high PBR Science teacher (plus other courses), is heading out on maternity leave. We will miss both of these ladies and their contributions to the NorthStar family. We wish them the very best and pray that God will bless them in the days ahead.

As we continue to adapt to challenges and restrictions, I am reminded of how important it is to have a firm foundation under us. We can bend a flex a long way when we are well grounded. Praise God for Jesus, the Rock upon which we stand.

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 / LEARNING CLUSTERS

Here at NorthStar there is always something amazing going on and fantastic learning taking place.

We recognize that at this time we have had to cancel or postpone some activities and clusters, we look forward to getting them started again.

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

STUDENT CAFE

A great location for students to connect with fellow peers!

Contact Cindy at cindy.lee@nsaschool.ca to get connected

PARENT LOUNGE & LEARNING COMMONS

Have you logged into your parent Moodle page to check out the Parent Lounge and Learning Commons? 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 Cindy at the office at cindy.lee@nsaschool.ca

STUDENT GMAILS

Check your Gmail DAILY.

It is up to you to initiate contact with your teacher.

Important dates to remember!

!!!! January 14 High School Sem 1 student course cut-off !!!!!

Check out the slamming policy below

January 18-22 Flex week

January 25th Semester 2 starts

SLAMMING POLICY

WHAT IS IT?

NorthStar Academy has a 'Slamming' policy. This is to say that any student, whether in the online or print-based resource programs, should try their best to get their school work handed into the appropriate teacher on a regular basis. We understand that sometimes things happen and you fall behind. If this is the case, please make sure to communicate this to your teachers and work out a plan to get caught up. Please make certain to communicate with your teachers well in advance of the deadline. **If no such plan is in place: Students will be limited to handing in a maximum of 2 lessons of work per week during the last 2 weeks of a course.**



Did you know?

MICROSOFT OFFICE

We offer a free Microsoft office which is needed for all assignments in our online program.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Go to office.ca

Sign in with your school Gmail, and password.

If you have issues, contact Randy at randy.wood@nsaschool.ca

MOODLE TIP OF THE MONTH

There is a progress bar on the right side of your students course that shows you how far they are in the course, click on a green square to view their assignment and teacher comments.

SUPERVISOR GUIDE

Attached to the Newsletter email is a Supervisor Guide. This is a must read. If you would like the Supervisor Guide emailed to you please contact Cindy at cindy.lee@nsaschool.ca

Bible Memory

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



Psalm 99

A Hymn, Celebrating the Lord as Great and Holy!

The Lord reigns! Let the peoples tremble.

He is enthroned between the cherubim. Let the earth quake.

The Lord is great in Zion; He is exalted above all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awe-inspiring name.

He is holy.

The mighty King loves justice.

You have established fairness; you have administered justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God; bow in worship at his footstool.

He is holy.

Moses and Aaron were among his priests; Samuel also was among those calling on His name.

They called to the Lord and he answered them. He spoke to them in a pillar of cloud; they kept His decrees and the statutes He gave them.

Lord our God, You answered them.

You were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their sinful actions.

Exalt the Lord our God; bow in worship at His holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy.

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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Encouragement

I like a story one of our teachers shared with us today:

God is good. He is with us..

I heard a lady speaking on the radio last week. She told of a time when she was driving her car on the freeway with her 18-month-old in the back seat. He started freaking out and yelling "Out, out, out!" She tried to console him as she drove, she tried music, she tried whatever she could think of, but he wouldn't stop yelling "out, out!". Finally, she pulled over on the side of the road and got into the back seat beside him. He still sobbed and yelled "out", but there was too much traffic around and she had to tell him, "No, I can't take you out of the car seat, but I can sit here with you until this passes."

That reminded her of how God deals with us sometimes. He doesn't take us out of things when we ask Him to, but He stays with us, beside us, through it.

~ Sheila McIlwain

I'm sure you've felt at times in your life, God, I want out! I'm done! This is too much! But thankfully we have a gracious God who stays with us, and walks with us and in times of weariness carries us. Trust in God to get you through. He is faithful and promises never to leave you nor forsake you.

~Barb Johnson



Barb Johnson, our receptionist and Moodle Coordinator will be leaving her NorthStar position to pursue a new career in Calgary.

Please note the changes for who to contact effective immediately

Randy Wood—Principal. Email: randy.wood@nsaschool.ca

Emily Neufeld—Registrar, course changes, student files. Email: office@nsaschool.ca

Michelle Best—Finance, PBR and Home Education Resources.

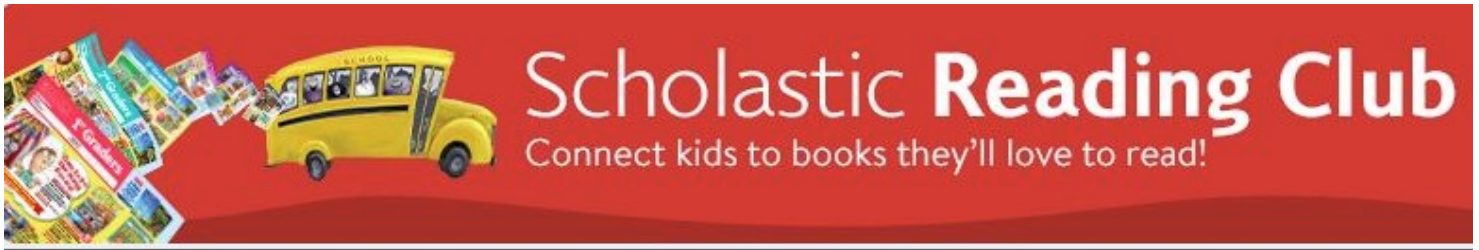
Email: michelle.best@nsaschool.ca

Cindy Lee -Moodle Coordinator . Email: cindy.lee@nsaschool.ca * **NEW MOODLE CONTACT***

Glenna Rothfus—Powerschool parent portal. Email : glenna.rothfus@nsaschool.ca

Janae Johnson—Online textbooks/shipping. Email: janae.goodbrand@nsaschool.ca

Amanda Sadler—Activity Day Coordinator. Email: activityday@nsaschool.ca



Scholastic Reading Club

Connect kids to books they'll love to read!

NorthStar is happy to announce that you can shop Scholastic online and have it shipped right to your door!

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one at a time, and click 'Apply'.

RC000000 ←

TEACHERS & PARENTS:

You **MUST** apply Class Code during your last stage of checkout for **EACH** order you place to earn classroom rewards and free shipping.

VERY IMPORTANT

NorthStar's Class code is

RC168518