NORTHSTAR ACADEMY #103,1001-20 AVE Box 2220 Didsbury, AB T0M0W0 1-877-335-1171

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www.northstaracademycanada.org\_November 2014

#### **A Servant's Heart**

"Wisdom's instruction is to hear the Lord, and humility comes before honor."

Proverbs 15:33



# **Principal's Message**

Maybe I'm just getting old and cranky but Halloween sure seems to be getting to be a big deal these days. The stores are pushing costumes and displays like crazy, TV and radio programs are talking it up, and people are decorating their houses with abandon. Even the weather forecast has been dominated with Halloween predictions. How should we as followers of Christ respond to this trend? We want our neighbors to see the Light of the World through us but does turning off our lights or posting signs to discourage trick or treaters really accomplish this. In reality this night's challenge is little different from the push of the media towards a sensual lifestyle or the materialistic siren's song of retirement planning commercials that we deal with all year long. The humanistic world view says we can find satisfaction in our selves, apart from God. Halloween is a part of that world view and its rejection of God. We are called to be in this world but separate from it on all fronts as we live out our Biblical worldview. I don't have a complete answer to how to avoid being tainted by sensualism, materialism, or ghost and gobblinism, but I have found that engaging people is a better strategy than protest or cranky messages when it comes to sharing the Good News with the world. May God bless you as you wrestle with the challenge of "in but not of".

With Mrs. Fluney's departure for her maternity leave we are pleased to welcome Mrs. Roberta Onyschtschuk to the NorthStar family. Mrs. Onyschtschuk comes to us with a background in Christian education in both a traditional school setting and having worked as a support teacher in an online school program. She has also been involved in educating her own children at home, with us at NSA for the last few years, so she clearly knows what we are about. Mrs. Onyschtschuk will be contacting all of her students and parents shortly as she hits the ground running. Please keep her in your prayers and Mrs. Fluney as well, as she has a busy household so a new baby will bring some challenges as well as blessings.

~Randy Wood

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#### Calgary Zoo Activity Day

We could not have had a more beautiful day at the Calgary Zoo. The Lord blessed us with the warm sunshine to tour the zoo with. The day started with some students attending classes run by the zoo and some students touring the zoo on their own.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 were able to attend the Penguin Palooza class. From the sounds of it they learned all sort of neat things about penguins, including that Penguins eat squid, but it isn't their favorite food. It is kind of like celery for us.

Students in Grades 4-6, attended an African Safari and got to tour the African Safari section of the zoo, learning about many animals and their specific features that allow them to survive their habitats. They got to learn how God created animals with a specific design.

Students in Grades 7-12 went on a Eurasian tour and learned about how animals survive and adapt in the Eurasian climate and geography. They learned about different kinds of animals and feel types (whether they walk on their toes, their whole foot or a nail/hoof).

After lunch families were invited to tour the zoo with several pages from a zoo guide. When we met again at the end of the day, students shared what they learnt about the animals they had found.

The day was a huge success! The Lord definitely had His hand in it. Thank you to all the families who participated.



**Student artwork at Medieval** 

Day



\*\* REGISTER BY EMAILING OR CALLING THE NORTHSTAR OFFICE \*\*\*\*

Spaces fill up quickly!!!

### November 27: Nakiska Ski Day

December 18: Christmas Party Sledding and Skating at Pioneer Lodge in Sundre.

December 18: Christmas Party Baking and Crafts at Red Brick School House in Edson.

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# Activity Days

## **Sport Ball Activity Day**

Football, soccer, volleyball and baseball...balls were flying everywhere. We had beautiful weather for our day and so we spent it outside, undeterred by the wind. Someone may have even gotten a sunburn! Our activities with Sportball made for an excellent day! Bradon and his staff came out to share the day with 22 students in Red Deer. They taught the groups some valuable skills to help them play these sports better and safer.

The day started with a warm up jog around the park and a
game that involved getting all the plastic balls into you
bucket. If the students were caught, however, they had to
do burpies. Oh and I almost forgot to mention that there
was the added 'bonus' of the teachers running around with
soft rubber balls trying to catch students.

Students then were split up into age groups to learn skillsfor each different sport. Football involved throwing

practice, running drills as the receiver, defense and the quarter back and learning some of the important rules. In soccer they learned passing, dribbling, juggling and throwins. Volleyball involved bumping, setting, serving and a practice game. At the end of the day, everyone came together to play a game of baseball. We saw some home runs and some excellent slides.



## **Medieval Activity Day**

On October 29 students gathered in Three Hills to participate in Medieval Themed class. The student's art skills were put to the test by Ms. Bouchard. The Grade 7-12 students reimagining a medieval fresco by Fra Angelico. The younger students got to use their best ripping skills to make ripped construction paper castles. In Social Studies, Mrs. Leismeister challenged the students and helped them develop their critical thinking skills.

We also used the time to see old friends and make new ones, as well as play some games. Some students showed up in their best medieval garb. We even had the presence of a Hobbit in our

midst. We had many beautiful princesses, brave warriors and even a couple of ninjas.

The Lord has been so good to this school to allow us to

have these opportunities to come together. Praise Him!





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# Take Time To Remember...

Why do we wear poppies in November? Why do we celebrate a very special holiday on November 11? This holiday is called Remembrance Day. It is a day on which we stop to remember and to honour the men and women who have served and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict, and peace. We remember more than 1,500,000 Canadians who have served in the Canadian Armed Forces throughout our nation's history. We also remember and honour the more than 118,000 who made the ultimate sacrifice to die while fighting to defend the cause of freedom.

Canada is blessed with many freedoms. We are free to choose what we want to be when we grow up. We are free to choose where to live, and to make many decisions that affect our daily lives. Most importantly, we are free to attend church and to worship God. Remembrance Day is a day to honour these brave men and women who gave their lives to pay the price for the freedoms that we enjoy each day.

We enjoy freedom in Canada. But the greatest freedom we have is in Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches that, "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23. The penalty for sin is death, but 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." God will forgive us and we can be set free. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life".

We are free because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins, by dying on the cross. Instead of death, we have been given eternal life. This freedom wasn't free. Jesus paid the price. Take time to pray and thank Jesus for dying on the cross. Ask Him to save you and to forgive your sins and cleanse your heart. Thank Him for loving you.

This Remembrance Day, take time to stop and pray. Thank God for those brave men and women who paid the price for our freedom in Canada. Let us also remember to thank God for Jesus, who paid the price for our sins by dying on the cross. Take time to remember...