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NorthStar
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Any Time. Any Place.



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I Believe...

*"Now faith is being sure
of what we hope for and
certain of what we do
not see."*

Hebrews 11:1



Principal's Message

In some ways planning for the future can be a bit like trying to hit a moving target. This is certainly true in education as we have seen many trends and predictions fall by the wayside. However, it isn't wise to live like an ostrich as there are some changes that we need to prepare for. I have had the opportunity at several recent conferences to hear two related ideas which are worth thinking about: Moraveck's Paradox and "knowledge is a free commodity".

Moraveck's paradox says that computers are good at complex, multi-step process but bad at simple, holistic tasks. They can drive cars, do banking, sell you stuff at the hardware store but they can't do unstructured problem solving or anything creative. If you think of the life of a grade 1 student – computers can't do this. "Knowledge is a free commodity in the digital age" – this is an idea that recognizes the ease and speed at which information is available. For 150 years primary and secondary school has been largely about learned people imparting knowledge and skills to students so they could find a good job. Now that knowledge is on You Tube and many of those jobs are either moving offshore or being automated. The first time I heard this message I was skeptical. Today I see this trend as a reality that educators need to deal with. This was recently driven home by seeing self-serve kiosks at McDonald's in Drumheller this past weekend.

It's true that we don't know what the future holds but we can interpret what we see and reach some pretty reliable conclusions about what we need to do. We need to enhance our students' abilities to do the things that people alone are good at so that they won't have to compete with computers for jobs. Creative thinking, problem solving and interpersonal relationship skills are going to become more and more important in the days ahead. These are the things we need to build into our lessons, on top of the foundation of a Biblical worldview, so that kids are ready to do their part in building the Kingdom of God.

~Randy Wood



Bible Memory

December: "I Believe.."

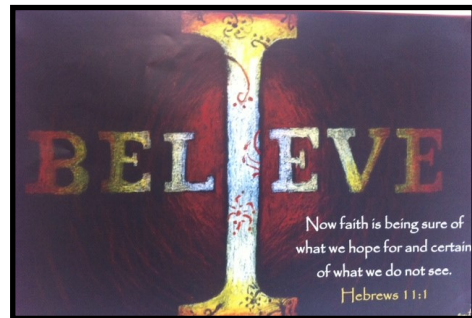
Matthew 1: 18-23

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to

a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").



This is open to all IL, online, and traditional program students. It is **optional**, and students and parents/supervisors can decide the extent of your involvement together. I know there are some students that want to do Bible Memory, but don't have a Bible Memory program in their curriculum, or love it so much that they want to do extra, so here is one you can use!

~Advent Ideas~

<http://www.countryliving.com/diy-crafts/tips/g2151/advent-calendars/>

<http://adrielbooker.com/family-advent-activities-christmas-countdown-fun/>

<http://www.my-adventcalendar.com/ideas-kids.html>

Activity Days Recap From Southern Alberta!

The month of November was Science month for NSA Activity Days. Students gathered from near and far to participate in Science activities. On November 4 students gathered in Three Hills to learn more about Remembrance Day and participate in Science activities. The students were building boats, rockets, and learning the population ecology of teddy grahams. They also learned more about why we celebrate Remembrance Day and created a water color poppy to represent their learning. On Nov 19, almost 270 people gathered at the Telus SPARK Center in Calgary to participate in classes and tour the exhibits. Many neat experiences were had at NSA's largest Activity Day ever! On Nov 26 families gathered at the Telus World of Science in Edmonton. It was a day filled with learning and adventures. We also got to experience the new Rubik's Cube exhibit. If you have a chance to see it,

we highly recommend it! This month has been exciting in terms of Activity Days and we feel so blessed by the Lord on High to be continuously growing and adventuring forth. Coming up in December are the Christmas parties in Edson and at Pioneer Lodge in Sundre on Dec 10. There is still room to attend the Edson Christmas Party on Dec 10. Email activityday@nsaschool.ca to join.



Activity Days

**** REGISTER BY EMAILING ****

activityday@nsaschool.ca or call the NSA office at 1 877 335 1171

Spaces fill up quickly!!!

December 10th Christmas Party—Pioneer Lodge, Sundre, AB

January 12, 2016 Snowshoeing and Planetarium-Kerry wood Nature Center, Red Deer, AB

**January 13 Workshop Wednesday, How to properly research a paper
NSA head office in Didsbury, AB**

Life after delivery!

In a mother's womb were two babies. One asked the other: "Do you believe in life after delivery?"

The other replies, "Why, of course! There has to be something after delivery. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later."

"Nonsense," says the other. "There is no life after delivery. What would that life be?"

"I don't know, but there might be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths."

The other says "This is absurd! Walking is impossible. And eat with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition. Life after delivery is a ridiculous notion. The umbilical cord is too short."

"I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here."

The other replies, "No one has ever come back from there. Delivery is the end of life"

"Well, I don't know," says the other, "but certainly we will see mother and she will take care of us."

"Mother??" You believe in mother? Where is she now? "

"She is all around us. It is in her that we live. Without her there would not be this world."

"I don't see her, so it's only logical that she doesn't exist."

To which the other replied, "Sometimes in the silence, you can hear her, you can perceive her." I believe there is a something after delivery and we are here to prepare ourselves for that something."

