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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



NorthStar
ACADEMY
Any Time. Any Place.



www.northstaracademycanada.org

JANUARY 2016



Principal's Message

If you are suffering from the post-Christmas blues: too many gifts, too much turkey, too many late nights playing Settlers of Catan, too much Star Wars, let me encourage you with a few thoughts.

1. Our school division is led by a senior administration team and a board that is both caring and thoughtful. They are consulting with parents, students and staff regarding international travel rather than cancelling everything in a reactive move.
2. We have Godly men and women we work with in the Association of Christian Schools International who are assisting us in developing policy and making plans for how to approach the issues around gender identity. A meeting of school administrators is set for January 12th where we will seek God's guidance as we as school communities determine how to love those who are struggling while being absolutely true to His Word.
3. We have great families and kids we work with. The last time I had to discipline a student was because he asked me to. He was afraid that he was being too argumentative in a discussion in the Student Café and asked me to review his posts. I thought he was not being sensitive to the views of others and coached him accordingly. Great kids.
4. We have the freedom to continue to proclaim the love of Christ through our classes, when we meet with families, during our activity days, and in fact in all the work we do.
5. We are grateful for all these blessings from our Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace.

Yours in Christ,

~Randy Wood

Bible Memory

January: "I Believe.."

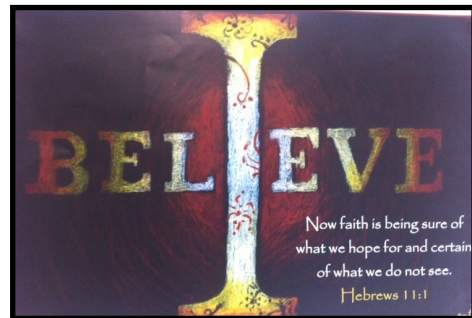
2 Timothy 3:14-17

14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1 Peter 1:20-21

20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last

times for your sake. 21 Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.



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!

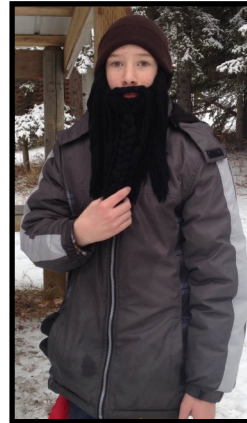
~New Years Resolutions~

<http://www.healthyfoodstyle.com>

<https://www.zentangle.com>

<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/list-of-hobbies-interests.html>

For our Christmas Celebration in South Central AB, we gathered at Pioneer Lodge to participate in the making of gingerbread houses, games and sledging. We were also very fortunate that Mr. Wood came out and shared a devotion about candy canes. We had a wonderful time in fellowship. We are so blessed and encouraged after this adventure. The NSA staff are looking forward to a New Year of even more exciting activity days! Thank you to all the families who came out and participated in the day!



Activity Days

**** REGISTER BY EMAILING ****

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

Spaces fill up quickly!!!

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**

January 27 Ski Trip- Nakiska

January 28 Fitness and Swimming- High River Rec Center, High River, AB

Activity Days Recap From Northern Alberta!

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December 10th, 2015 was the date for the NSA Christmas party at the Red Brick School House Museum in Edson, AB. There were over 20 students who attended and participated in the theme of giving. Mrs. Luymes began the festivities with a short devotion/skit about receiving God's ultimate gift. Mrs. Ferguson was a willing participant in the short drama and the main point of the skit was driven home for the students. The first activity that took place was the making of the "give-away jars." Each child filled a mason jar with Bean and Lentil soup ingredients and a second one with the ingredients for Cranberry, Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Cookies. After lunch, cards were made to include with the gifts they had made earlier that morning. The students were encouraged to give their jars to someone as a Christmas gift and to not keep them for themselves.

At the end of the card making, everyone went to

the Kinsmen Park and ended the party by sledding and playing in the snow. It was an enjoyable day and great preparation for the Christmas season.



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January 27 Geography Fair– Bethel Pentecostal Church, Edson AB

“Limitless” High School Youth

January 16th some of the Limitless Youth that live in the Edmonton area are going to meet for a fun evening at Escape City. If you are a NSA student in grades 10-12 and are interested in joining, please email Roberta for more information at Roberta.onyschtschuk@myghsd.ca by Friday January 18th.

We will be planning more activities in the Airdrie and Red Deer area in the next few months, so stay tuned!

NorthStar Photo Gallery



Why is it so hard for people to change their habits and attain success in their resolutions? Because change is difficult!

Jesus Christ explained “.for wide is the gate, and broad [easy] is the way, that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait [difficult] is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matt. 7:13-14). Again, change is difficult. That is why so many people avoid trying to change their behavior.

At some point, everyone has had to address a bad habit. Most understand how difficult it can be to overcome such habits. Often, the individual will not even recognize the habit until someone brings it to his attention—and removing these subtleties from one’s everyday routine is a struggle.

Similarly, New Year’s resolutions are desires to immediately overcome certain habits that have perhaps taken years to establish. This is very hard to accomplish. In fact, overcoming is a lifelong struggle, and, because change is uncomfortable and sometimes even painful, most people avoid it. For those who do try to change, an accidental slip-up is sometimes viewed as total failure, instead of an opportunity to learn, grow and to strive harder to succeed. This attitude, unconsciously, is an excuse for the person to return to familiarity—his bad habit.

Why do people make “changes” at just one time of the year? Why do people soon go back to their old habits, deciding to try again next year? Why do people follow each other’s lead in failure—not questioning their true motives and beliefs, or the traditions they follow? The answer to these questions is the same: because it is an easy alternative!

People will almost always choose to do what comes naturally. Realize that you have spent your entire life doing as you please, yielding to your human nature and establishing behavior patterns—whether good or bad. A habit is defined as “a recurrent, often unconscious pattern of behavior that is acquired through frequent repetition.” Just like anything else that you do for a long time, you are probably very good at doing this!

Habits are often so ingrained that they seem impossible to overcome. Though overcoming is difficult and will not happen overnight, it is far from impossible! Christ explained, “.with God all things are possible” (Matt. 19:26).

Taken from an article on the website realtruth.org. “New Year’s Resolutions”