

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

office@nsaschool.ca



NorthStar
ACADEMY
Any Time. Any Place.



www.northstaracademycanada.org

FEBRUARY 2017

Stand Firm

Stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you.

2 Chronicles 20:17

February is an interesting month for the staff at NorthStar Academy. When you look at the calendar and how many days teachers are not available to work with students, you might think we are holiday happy. We do get to enjoy the Family day weekend with an extra day tossed in, but the rest of the week we are actually working doing professional development.

Professional development is a priority for teachers these days as keeping up to the changes in education is a challenge. Here are a few of the ways we are developing as professionals.

NSA teachers are a part of a cohort of online and home education specialists in the Golden Hills School Division. We are working together to refine our craft, with a current focus on instructional design, so that we may see improvements in our students' learning outcomes.

We have also been working as a school on critical thinking. With the assistance of resource people from the Critical Thinking Consortium, we have been digging into the broad concepts of this topic and integrating them into our lessons.

NorthStar staff will be attending various teachers' conventions this month, many on the 23rd and 24th, where they will be listening to keynote speakers and selecting sessions to personalize their learning.

With all this effort going into public side of our education as teachers, we are grateful for our ability to focus on the Christian side as well. At NSA our staff members include a personal faith goal as a part of the professional growth plans. We attend a Christian educator's conference where we worship, fellowship, and study how to lead our students into a deeper walk with Christ. We spend time at our staff meetings praying and studying God's Word. All of this helps us to not lose our focus on educating students for eternity.

We thank the Lord for the continued blessings of these growth opportunities and for the freedom we have here in Alberta to keep Christ at the center of all we do. We are also grateful for the opportunity to work with so many great families here at NorthStar. Thanks for letting us be a part of your educational adventure!

Randy Wood, Principal



Bible Memory

“Stand Firm...”

2017 Bible Memory!

February: Stand Firm because God’s word stands firm Psalm 93:1-5



1 The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty;
the Lord is robed in majesty and armed
with strength;
indeed, the world is established, firm and
secure.

2 Your throne was established long ago;
you are from all eternity.

3 The seas have lifted up, Lord,
the seas have lifted up their voice;
the seas have lifted up their pounding
waves.

4 Mightier than the thunder of the great
waters,

mightier than the breakers of the sea—
the Lord on high is mighty.

5 Your statutes, Lord, stand firm;
holiness adorns your house
for endless days.

This is open to all TD, 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!

~Ideas for Valentines!!~

<http://www.parenting.com/gallery/valentines-crafts-kids>

<http://allrecipes.com/recipes/199/holidays-and-events/valentines-day/>

Activity Days Recap!

January was NSA's active month! We spent the month at various sport's centers around the province playing sport's, skating, learning gymnastics, swimming, and climbing on aquatic obstacle courses. Thanks to all the families who joined our fit month. Don't forget to add these days to your PE logs. We hope to see you at one of our many activities that we still have this year.

Please be aware that the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra day has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.



Activity Days

**** REGISTER BY EMAILING ****

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

Spaces fill up quickly!!!

March 2—Rosebud Theatre, Rosebud AB

March 8—Write a lab report, Didsbury AB

March 10—Glenbow Museum, Calgary AB

March 16—Alberta Sport's Hall of Fame, Red Deer AB

March 23—Reynolds Alberta Museum, Wetaskiwin AB

March 30—Galloway Museum, Edson AB

NorthStar Picture Gallery





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

We have several more special events for our Limitless Grade 10-12 students planned for this year. It's not too late to get in on the fun!!

February 4, 2017 Tubing at Canyon Ski Resort, Red Deer

April 7, 2017 Bowling, Airdrie

TBA Hiking Day, Banff

Email roberta.onyschtschuk@myghsd.ca to sign up for activities now.



Creating Community at NorthStar Academy

Trade Show Season!

If we are in your area please come out and support us!

February 24-25 Edmonton Missionfest

March 2-5 Calgary Home & Garden Show

March 3-5 Medicine Hat Home & Garden Sunshine Show

March 10-12 Mom, Pop & Tot show in Edmonton

March 24-26 Central Alberta Family Show—Red Deer

April 28-29 Okotoks Trade Show

April 28-30 Airdrie Home & Garden Show

Creating Community at NorthStar Academy

THE LEGEND OF ST. VALENTINE

The history of Valentine’s Day—and the story of its patron saint—is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine’s Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. But who was Saint Valentine, and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

Did You Know?

Approximately 150 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday after Christmas.

The Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine’s actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an Imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first “valentine” greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl—possibly his jailor’s daughter—who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed “From your Valentine,” an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and—most importantly—romantic figure. By the Middle Ages, perhaps thanks to this reputation, Valentine would become one of the most popular saints in England and France.