



Training covenant children for a life of thankful and obedient service to God and our neighbour

Dear Parents

Good day parents, and welcome to the first edition of the *Weekly* for the 2023/2024 school year. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our opening assembly on Tuesday. Thank you. Things are off to a great start. It was a little nip and tuck to open on Tuesday, but now that the sewer connection is completed, all should be smooth sailing. For new parents, the *Weekly* is published every Thursday (as a rule). Many receive it via email as well. If you would like to do so, please email the secretary at office@mcsfergus.ca. Our buses are very full, so transfers are limited, but in case of significant need, please email info@mcsfergus.ca with destination bus and stop information. Finally, the password on the school's website will change tomorrow (Friday). The username will remain: *member* but the password will become *eph61011a*. That's our theme text. Read on to find out what is happening in the various classrooms.

Kindergarten

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Memory Work: Song: Psalm 8:1; **Text:** Eph. 6:10-11a

Bible Study: M Creation Days 4-6 Tu/W Creation of Man Th Sabbath Rest

Math: Numbers 2 and 3, What is the same and what is different.

Language Arts: Sight word: the We will be practising the student's names.

Science: What is Alive?

Grade One A

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Memory Work: Song: Psalm 134:3(Sep11); **Text:** Eph. 6:10-11a

Bible Study: The fall into sin, Cain & Abel, the flood, tower of Babel

Phonics: counting the syllables in a word

Writing: the formation of the letters DEFGH

Math: Sorting items in various ways and finding and making patterns

Library: our library day is Thursday. Septembers author is Graeme Base

Social Studies: God is the King of the universe and since we are His children we are royalty!

Art: Pete the Cat and primary colours!

Music: learning lots of new songs related to our theme, assembly and SS.

PE: Learning to **S** (stay safe) **T** (try your best) **O** (only say nice things) **P** (practice) in phys.ed while learning new games together!

Show & Tell: M Claire T Connor W Emma T Georgia F Hudson

Grade One B

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Memory Work: Song: Psalm 134:3(Sep15); **Text:** Eph. 6:10,11a

Bible: Paradise, Man's fall, Cain & Abel

Church History: Church Life - We are the sheep of the Good Shepherd.

Math: Sorting & Patterns: we sort items by their attributes!

Phonics: We are reviewing letter names and working on phonemic awareness - hearing word parts, syllables, individual sounds and substituting consonant sounds to make silly words.

Sight Words: the, and, a, to

Writing: We are learning how to write complete sentences. We wrote about school in our journals this week.

French: bonjour, Je m'appelle, au voir, amis, Je suis

Show & Tell: M Rebecca T Dominic Th Zekiah F Mallary

Grade Two A

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Memory Work: Song: Hymn 62:1(Sep15), Psalm 96:8(Sep22); **Text:** Eph 6:10-11a (Sep15)

Bible Study: This week we reviewed important lessons from the OT before beginning our NT lessons next week. **T** The Angel Visits Zechariah **W** The Birth of Jesus Foretold **Th** The Birth of John the Baptist **F** Joseph's Call

Math: Drills: We have been working at reviewing skip counting (by 2s, 5s, and 10s). Students are most comfortable counting by 10s and some need support with counting by 2s and 5s. We will be working with patterns and looking at the patterns in numbers – (also the patterns we see when skip counting). We will also begin working with review of addition facts, and using subitizing to help learn some of the facts.

Language Arts: The first few weeks of school will be spent assessing where students are regarding Phonemic Awareness,

Phonics, and Reading, as well as filling in background knowledge necessary for understanding the first story in our Open Court reader.

PE: We have PE on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Students should be prepared with the proper clothing to participate in all activities (ie) proper footwear for outdoors (weather permitting) and for girls, either shorts or pants, or a not-too-tight-fitting skirt (so as to have freedom of movement) with shorts or leggings underneath.

(Monday): I'm looking forward to our first Monday together!

Church History: Church Life - meeting the Lord in the worship service

Math: We will begin learning about 3D solids - how to identify and sort them

Grammar: Capital letters

Writing: School is Fancactus! We will write list poems about all the different things we do in school and then make a fun bulletin board display for our classroom!

Science: Our first unit is Solids & Liquids. This week we will do some hands-on exploration of a variety of solids.

Grade Two B

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Memory Work: Song: Hymn 62:1(Sep15); **Text:** Eph 6:10,11a(Sep15)

Bible Study: M The Angel Visits Zechariah W The Birth of Jesus Foretold Th The Birth of John the Baptist

Church History: Our first unit is called "Church Life." We will be focusing on the worship service itself this week and how it truly is a special meeting between God and his people.

Math Drills: We work on our math facts every day using a 'karate' program. All of the students have already earned their white belts for plus/minus zero math facts! We will be moving onto plus/minus one math facts sometime this week.

M/W/Th Math: Sorting, Venn Diagrams, Making Patterns

T/F Math: We have started Unit 6: 3D Shapes.

Language Arts: Grammar: Capitalization. Writing: Trait #1- Organization.

Science: Our first unit is on solids and liquids. We will be focusing on the properties of liquids and seeing which liquids flow more quickly than others.

PE: We have started Unit 7: Cooperative Games

Grade Three

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A large Ziplock freezer bag was provided on the first day of school to keep agendas, forms and any paperwork dry as water bottles leak soon or later. A small, stapled math booklet will be sent home later this week and next. They are "confidence builders." There will not be a test on any of the material in this mini math unit. The exercises help to build numeracy skills rapidly, (lots of counting on). On September 15 or 18 we'll begin using the JUMP Math consumable books. They will be sent home most Friday's so you can see how your child progressed during the week. Seatwork is usually spot-checked on a daily basis while students are working. A cursive "C" means the initial answer was wrong, but the student was able to self-correct with minimal intervention. We learned the preliminary steps to organizing creative writing(visual organizer). In connection with our Structures unit, a trip to the Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology is being planned for September 27 with a departure time of 8:50 A.M. and return at about 2 PM. Consider if you would like to chaperone. I will need 2 chaperones; each chaperone is in charge of 7 students. Sept. 11-15, 2023 Lord willing...

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God." Ephesians 6,10,11a

Memory Work: Song: Psalm 8:4,5(Sep15); **Text:** Eph. 6:10-11a(Sep15)
Bible Study: M Gen. 4:1-16 T Gen. 4:17-5:32 W Gen. 6, 7, 8:1-4 Th Gen. 8:5-9:17 F Gen. 9:18-29
Grammar: synonyms
Science: Structures
PE: Overhand throw

Grade Four *hvansydenborgh@mcsfergus.ca*

As a way to communicate with the many parents of our 25 grade 4 students, I hope to send out a monthly newsletter with pictures and descriptions of the special things we do in the classroom! I'll send it out to parents' emails at the end of each month.

Memory Work: Song: Psalm 66:1(Sep 5); **Text:** Eph. 6:10-11a(Sep15)

Bible Study: Stories on the calling of Samuel as we start our unit on the first king of Israel: Saul.

Math: In math we are beginning with a unit on Whole Numbers. We're learning some new words: standard and expanded form as well as learning how to round, and adding and subtracting 3 and 4-digit numbers.

Math Drills: We have a fun way to practice our math facts: karate math! This will begin within the next couple weeks. A letter will be sent out prior. Students will be starting on their white belts and moving up in the belt colours as they pass the level!

Spelling: Lesson 1: Pretest is on Monday, Post test is on Friday. Words: fade, wade, cape, races, dare, he's, she's, being, meet, seemed, mile, pile, dive, size, alike, hire

Reading: The class is working through a short unit in our readers called Exploits. The theme of brave or noble deeds is found in all the various stories we will be reading in the coming weeks.

Writing: We'll begin our writing unit with some sentence and paragraph building review as well as generating ideas to write in various writing forms over the course of the school year.

Science: Science starts in the world our God created! We will explore all His wonderful animals and the habitats they live in!

Grade Five *jkapteyn@mcsfergus.ca*

Memory Work: Song: Psalm 16:1(Sep15); **Text:** Eph. 6:10-11a(Sep15)

Bible Study: We hope to spend our year studying the gospels. We first looked at the time between the testaments and saw how God used kingdoms and rulers to set the stage for the coming of Christ. The next week will be looking at the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus.

Math: Our first math unit looks at patterns and how we can use these patterns to solve problems.

Language Arts: *The House of Sixty Fathers* is our first novel of the year and we will be following the adventures of Tien Pao in China during the second Sino-Japanese war.

Spelling: Lesson 1: grace, graze, whale, brake, operate, mistake, escape, grapes, safely, crazy, break, greatest, fare, bare, rare, scare, square, compare, preparing, scarce

Science: We have begun our study of the human body by looking at the big picture, how the systems work together and how we are fearfully and wonderfully made. We will be looking specifically at the Skeletal system this week.

PE: Class will be on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday - don't forget your PE clothes!

Grade Six A *pbouwman@mcsfergus.ca*

Memory Work: Song: Psalm 33:2(Sep15) Psalm 104:1 (Sep22); **Text:** Eph.6:10-11a(Sep15)

Bible Study: We have started the year with the beginning. We are looking at the account of Adam and focusing on God's mercy to man throughout the ages.

Math: We are busy learning different problem solving strategies and practicing each of them. We will start our first unit on whole numbers this coming week.

Novel Study: We have started our historical novel, *Underground to Canada*. We are so thankful

Calendar of Events

Ed Com Meeting	Sept 11
Board Meeting	Sept 18
Picture Day(AM)	Sept 21
Terry Fox Walk	Sept 22
Soccer Tournament	Sept 30
Cross Country 7&8	Oct 6

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His might. Put on the whole armor of God," Ephesians 6:10,11a

for the freedom we have.

Creative Writing: We are going to use the writing process to create a personal narrative.

Spelling: Lesson 1 - spade, salesperson, pavement, behave, locate, grateful, debate, rating, estate, haste, bathe, ache, headache, calendar, vanish, sandwich, anxious, champion, establish, disaster (capsule, dramatically, gravity, fragrance, frantic) - test on Sept 15.

Science: We are studying the diversity among all living things! It is so amazing how many creatures there are and how they can be classified.

PE: Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Don't forget those PE clothes!

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Grade Six B *ksikkema@mcsfergus.ca*

Memory Work: Song: Psalm 33:2(Sep15, Psalm 104:1(Sep22); **Text:** Eph 6: 10,11a(Sep15)

M/W/F Bible: we began at the beginning, with Creation and the account of Adam. Next week: the fall into sin, Cain and Abel, and the Flood.

Church History: we are in the 5th Century, looking at Patrick. That's a good Scottish connection to start with!

Science: we are studying the diversity of living things, focussing on the classification of animal life.

Math: how big is a million? How can we visualize it? And what do we do with all those really big numbers? On Tuesdays and Thursdays, we study Geometry.

Language Arts: having discovered the Underground Railroad, we are studying the novel *Underground to Canada*. We have started our Short Stories with a few lessons that connect to the Armenian genocide.

Grammar and Writing: There are good connections between these two subject area, and we will make ample use of that.

Computers: We will be using the Typing club program, but also use our Typing slot for applications in other subjects.

Spelling List: spade, salesperson, pavement, behave, locate, grateful, debate, rating, estate, haste, bathe, ache, headache, calendar, vanish, sandwich, anxious, champion, establish, disaster, *capsule, dramatically, gravity, fragrance, frantic*. Spelling tests on Fridays.

Social Studies: We are starting our study of Communities, Past and Present, and look at local communities first. (Dutch and Reformed, Scottish...)

PE: on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Grade Seven *avansydenborgh@mcsfergus.ca*

Welcome to a new school year!

Tuesday Devotions: Christian
Bring PE clothes

Wednesday Devotions: Maya
Spelling Dictation: Lesson 1

Thursday Devotions: Jordynn
Bring PE clothes

Friday Devotions: Sawyer
Bring PE clothes
Memory Work: Psalm 3:1

Grade Eight *wbartels@mcsfergus.ca*

The busyness begins! Please note that both soccer teams have two practices this week.

Monday We will use the microscopes in Science
Boys soccer

Tuesday Girls soccer

Wednesday Spelling lesson 1
Boys soccer

Thursday Girls soccer

Friday Psalm 14:2
Theme text