November-December 2016

BCS@HOME

Newsletter

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

November-December Calendar

Nov. 10: Remembrance Day Service at BCS (MPF Gym); 11-11:35 am

Nov. 11: Remembrance Day; no F@B Friday classes

Nov. 14: BCS@Home Field Trip to Calgary Gymnastic Centre

Nov. 19: BCS Student Council "Escape Room Event"

Nov. 21: "Lost and Found" items on display in BCS front hallway

Nov. 23: Grade 9 Field Trip to Theatre Calgary – "A Christmas Carol"

Nov. 25: Last Fall F@B classes (2 p.m. Parent Support Group)

Nov. 26: BCS Family Fun Night - Calgary Hitmen Game

Dec. 2: BCS@Home Field Trip for the whole family to Rosebud Theatre

Dec. 5: BCS@Home Field Trip to Calgary Gymnastic Centre

Dec. 5 Servathon Kick-off for parents; BCS Mross Gym, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Dec. 6 – 8: BCS@Home Family Service Project

Dec. 9: BCS@Home Christmas Party

Dec. 19: BCS Christmas Break begins

Weekly Chapels

Elementary Chapel (K – Grade 6):
Tuesday mornings
8:40 to 9:20 a.m.

Encounter Chapel (Jr. and Sr. High):
Wednesday mornings
8:25 to 9:20 a.m.

BCS@Home students and parents are very welcome to attend weekly chapels.

OFF TO A GREAT START!

We're so pleased that our BCS@Home community is getting off to a great start this fall. It has been a delight for us as a staff to come alongside each of our families in their home schooling journey this year. And as we approach the Christmas season, we pray for a very blessed and joyful time for you all, as we celebrate the birth of our wonderful Saviour.

Parent Reminders

1. The BCS@Home Calendar has information and dates about many things happening at the school and around town. Check back often to see what is in store!
2. If you haven't already, please consider joining the BCS@Home Facebook page. This is a great place to communicate with other parents and share information.
3. Don't forget to check out the BCS Athletics Page on our BCS website. Come out and have fun as a family cheering on our Grizzlies sports teams, find out about Jr. and Sr. High team tryouts, and peruse our "Grizzlies Fan Shop"!

Reimbursements

Submission months for reimbursement are October, February and June. In order to qualify for reimbursements the following must take place:

1. Resource/material must support (and be listed!) on the Education Plan. You can always update your Ed. Plan throughout the year – please inform your facilitator of the changes.

2. Complete a reimbursement form.
3. **Original** receipts must be attached to the reimbursement form.

October 2016 reimbursement submissions are being processed, and will be mailed out to families by late November. For your information, here is a link to the "reimbursement standards" from Alberta Education: Standards for Home Education Reimbursement.pdf

Solaro

Have you tried Solaro? All you need is a (free) Calgary Public Library card to access course lessons, practice questions, quizzes and tests in grades 3 through 12, covering math, sciences and English language arts. All items are aligned to Alberta Education outcomes, from "The Key" Study Guides.

http://calgarylibrary.ca/faqs/how-to-i-access-solaro/

KICK-OFF LUNCH

Our BCS@Home September "Kick-Off" Lunch and Chili Contest was a wonderful "community-building" afternoon.

Congrats to the Duggan family for winning top prize for the best chili!

Fun@Bearspaw Fridays

Our Fun@Bearspaw Fridays "Fall Session" is now well underway, with plenty of fun, new friendships and great learning experiences. Students are enjoying classes in Dance, Drama, Makers Ed, Physical Education, Cooking and Geography…and we've also added a Parent Support Group on the last Friday of each month!

Winter Session of F@B
Jan. 27 to March 24. Fridays, 1:45 – 4:15 pm.
Please contact Clinton Weening to register, and get in on the fun!

Upcoming BCS@Home Field Trips

Building community and connections among our BCS@Home students and families!

Nov. 14 and Dec. 5

BCS@Home Field Trips to
Calgary Gymnastic Centre
#60 - 2638 Country Hills Blvd NE
11: 30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on both dates
Open to all BCS@Home students
$18 per student (paid to BCS)
Gymnastics lessons from experienced instructors – groups will be divided into age levels. (There is a great sitting and viewing area for parents and non-school aged siblings.)

Dec. 2

BCS@Home Field Trip for the whole family to **Rosebud Theatre** in the town of Rosebud. $10 per ticket (paid to BCS) 10 a.m. at the Studio Stage – Frank Dickens' *Christmas Carol*. Scrooge operates a trading post on the Alberta prairies and is as greedy as ever. Full of humour, this musical is a new twist on a beloved Christmas classic.

Express Your Interest

Complete this form to express your interest in the field trips: http://bit.ly/2dNYzk8

To Register

For the trips/events that have a fee associated, you will need to register and make payment on this site to hold your spot: https://goo.gl/QEurkb

Reimbursements

For reimbursement, print the detailed receipt. Ensure it is tied to and listed on your education plan. Questions? Contact: Clinton Weening cweening@bearspawschool.com

Out and About

Friday, Dec. 2 Fort Calgary Homeschool Day – Mountie CSI

9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Grades 4-6
Students will examine evidence to work towards solving a real life crime from 1903 – including dusting for fingerprints, examining evidence under a microscope, handwriting analysis, and more – with a "mock trial" and a chance to explore the Fort Calgary Museum.
Visit http://www.fortcalgary.com/programs/homeschool/ for more information or to register.

Friday, Dec. 2 Heritage Park Homeschool Day - Gasoline Alley

Gasoline Alley Museum – Kindergarten to grade 6 +
Lots of fun and hands-on opportunities to learn about our history!
Half day or full day – email schools@heritagepark.ca
to register, or phone 403-268-8574 for more information. www.HeritagePark.ca

Friday, Dec. 2 Patterson Springs Farm Christmas Crafts

10 a.m to 12 noon. Ages 6 and up; parents not required to stay but welcome. A cozy morning in the yurt to work on homemade Christmas ornaments and other crafts using natural and recycled materials. http://www.pattersonspringsfarm.com/Homeschool-Days.html

Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass

Ski and snowboard at each area 3 times for only $29.95
Attention, students in grades 4 and 5! Want to ski and snowboard this winter? The Canadian Ski Council's SnowPass lets you ski and snowboard three times at EACH participating ski area for $29.95. That's a lot of skiing and snowboarding - at Canada Olympic Park, Castle Mountain, Mt. Norquay, Nakiska, Sunshine, Lake Louise and more locations! Visit https://www.skicanada.org/grade-4-5-snowpass/ for more information and how to get your pass!

Nov. 16, 17 and 22 Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Education Series Concerts

PETER AND THE WOLF (Two performances on each date, starting at 10 a.m. and 11:20 a.m.)
Joined by Quest Theatre, the CPO presents this classic tale by Sergei Prokofiev. Each character, from the cat to the wolf, is brought to life by a different instrument. Tickets only $12 each. Performances are at the Bella Concert Hall on the Mount Royal University Campus. Visit http://calgaryphil.com/education/education-concerts/ or phone 403-571-0275 for more information or tickets.

Bowness Arena – Free Family Skating

Wednesdays: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Thursdays: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Sundays: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
7904 – 43 Ave. NW
Phone 403-288-8300 for more information

Great Article

Great article with some very useful information and links: "Six Tips for Teaching Kids to Code", by software developer Al Sweigart.

http://red.ht/2efGIC0

Stem Learning Lab in Calgary

Introduction to Coding Class for Homeschoolers (one 2 hour session; broken into age groups from Kindergarten to grade 6)

Winter Session starts Jan. 2017

Coding Intensive (6 sessions; 2 hours each; for students aged 8 – 15 years old). For more information or to register, visit http://bit.ly/2e4ahLt or call 403-400-1884

	MORE COOL IDEAS	O'LEARY ACADEMY
	More cool ideas and products to help you get started in teaching your kids to code: http://huff.to/1bxKSDX	O'Leary Academy is an online community where you can take courses such as HTML 101, Young Programmers Classes and Memory Master…and also connect with other homeschool families in programs such as Chess Club and Young Programmers Projects. www.olearyacademy.com

BCS Connections

"Living Books" Book Fair

At BCS on Nov. 16 (4 p.m. to 8 p.m.) and Nov. 17 (4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.)
Here's a wonderful chance to get some Christmas shopping done, all in one place. Check out the displays of inspirational Christian books, Bibles, giftware, Christian CDs and DVDs.
A portion of all sales will go towards purchasing new books for our BCS Library!

Family Fun Night

Calgary Hitman Teddy Bear Toss

Join BCS in cheering on the Calgary Hitman as they face the Lethbridge Hurricanes on Saturday, November 26, at 2 pm at the ScotiaBank Saddledome. Tickets are only $15 each! Reserve tickets at the BCS Office starting Nov. 12. Payment can be made by cash, debit or cheque (made out to BCS). Tickets will be available for pick up on Nov. 21.
*Don't forget to bring a Teddy bear!

BCS Servathon

In the upcoming weeks you will be receiving information about the **BCS Servathon**. This is a focused, short-term, fundraising opportunity for our school that centers on raising financial support required for BCS to further its primary Vision and Mission. As a secondary benefit, in celebration of God's provision for our needs, our students have the opportunity to impact Calgary and area by serving others as disciples of Jesus Christ, during a designated "Week of Serving" in early **December (Dec. 6 – 8).**

As BCS@Home families, we will have the opportunity to not only fundraise in support of BCS but also to participate in service projects around the city. We are currently working on creating that list of potential projects.

Please join us for the BCS Servathon kick off event on **Nov. 5 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm** in the Mross Gym, for an evening of vision-sharing. More information about the campaign will be given at this event and childcare is also provided.

RSVP at www.bearspawschool.com/servathon. (Free childcare is available for RSVP'd families only.)

Nov. 19 Escape Room *(for Secondary Students)*

Gatsby Escape Room, Saturday, November 19th, 6 to 10 p.m.
Join us for an evening of clues, puzzles, and pizza! In teams of five, you will have an opportunity to work through potentially six escape rooms and find your way through Gatsby's mansion.
Top Prize $100 (for the team with the fastest completion time)
Second Prize $50. Entry fee of $5 per person. Pizza, snacks and drinks will be provided. Sign up forms will be available soon!

Nov. 23 Grade 9 Field Trip

See the Charles Dicken's classic "A Christmas Carol" at Theatre Calgary.

Contact Clinton Weening if interested in either of these events.

At BCS@Home, we support home education across our province. Our prayers are with those families affected by the current events surrounding Trinity Christian School Association and Wisdom Homeschooling. For your information, we are available to be of service to any families that have questions or need assistance, and we are open to (and have begun) registration of some displaced Wisdom families.

STAY TUNED!

More information coming soon about:
Dec. 6 – 8: BCS@Home Family Service Project
Dec. 9: BCS@Home Christmas Party

CONTACT US

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 6: Bowness Park Skating – BCS@Home Field Trip, 1:30-3:30 pm
Jan. 23: Grade 3 and 4 BCS Vivo Activity Day
Jan. 27: Flying Squirrel Trampoline Park – BCS@Home Field Trip, 10 am to 12:30 pm
Jan. 27 to March 24: Winter Session of F@B Fridays, 1:45 – 4:15 pm
April 21 to June 9: Spring Session of F@B Fridays