



Information Package K-8 2024-25

A complete Parent Handbook and Forest Friday Handbook will be provided prior to the commencement of the school year.

Website: www.prairiecrossroads.ca

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PRAIRIE CROSSROADS SCHOOL MISSION

Our Mission

To provide students with an education of excellence in a Christ-infused environment with the purpose of fostering disciples of Christ who love God in every sphere of their lives.

2024-25 INFORMATION

This package is designed to provide parents interested in registering their child entering Kindergarten to grade 8 for the 2024-25 school year. A separate package will be provided for parents interested in registering their child entering grade 9 or 10.

Please note that some of the descriptions outlined in this package are reflective of the current school year and there may be some modifications. Any changes will be communicated to families who have been accepted.

The school emerged out of a desire to offer something that is best for children/adolescents addressing the “whole person” their spiritual, academic, social-emotional and physical well-being. We endeavor to do that with all those we accept while acknowledging our limitations. Please also note that space is limited but each application is carefully and prayerfully considered. This decision making process requires a great deal of discernment and several factors are considered in this process. These include: current class composition and size, balance of needs and gender.

Registration for Kindergarten to Grade 8 will be open from January 30 - February 29, 2024.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Welcome to Prairie Crossroads School! As we reflect on our first four years we are humbled by the many ways the Lord continues to open the doors to new relationships, provisions and opportunities. We have experienced over 300% growth in our student body, all the while staffing and classrooms increase each year! The plan to expand our grade offering continues this fall with the addition of grade 10! This next year, fundraising for our new building will be a significant endeavor as we look to accommodate future growth in the student body and programming.. As the school continues to expand, our mission and calling remains the same. Our foundation has been built upon offering a faith-based education with the purpose of nurturing educated disciples of Christ. Our prayer for each student is that in the midst of an ever changing world, the words of 1 Peter 1:25 would take root deep within their hearts and would be the foundation upon which they build their lives, “But the word of the Lord lasts forever”.

The board is comprised of six members: Travis Penner (chair), Kyle Peters, Chris Derksen, Yvonne Urichuk-Knight, Isaac Wiebe and Harold Espinosa. Together they provide operational and financial oversight, facility maintenance and development, policy development and ensure that the school continues to operate in accordance with the PCS Mission Statement.

Travis Penner
PCS Board Chairperson

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is exciting to anticipate moving into our fifth year of operations for the 2024-25 school year. We praise God for the countless ways he has provided for our needs to grow not only in numbers and size but also in our understanding of how to provide our students with a Christ-infused learning environment.

We will work diligently at providing a Christ-centered environment which strives to keep the love of learning ablaze and responds to the whole well-being of the child. This encompasses their intellectual, social-emotional, spiritual and physical development.

We covet your prayers for wisdom, strength and physical health throughout this year as we work with your child. In turn we as a staff, commit to pray for you as parents and families. May the peace of Christ which surpasses all understanding be granted to us all.

Blessings,
Cyndie Wiebe
Principal

2023-24 PCS STAFF

Mrs. Cyndie Wiebe	Principal, Resource, Forest Friday Coordinator
Mrs. Patricia Hiebert	Kindergarten Teacher
Mrs. Crystal Patzer	1-3 Teacher
Mrs. Julia deGroot	1-3 Teacher
Mr. Jonathan de Groot	4-8 Teacher, Forest Friday Co-Lead
Mr. Jordan Penner	4-9 Teacher
Mrs. Corinne Bueckert	4-6 Math & 7-9 Art Teacher
Mrs. Babby Penner	7-9 Math & 9 Spanish Teacher
Mrs. Laura Brodland	K-9 Phys. Ed. & 7-9 Outdoor Education Teacher
Mrs. Vanessa Klassen	K-9 Music & Drama Teacher
Mrs. Karin Banman	4-6 Literacy Support, Itinerant Teacher & EA
Mrs. Brenna Froese	4-6 Teacher, 9 Science Teacher, Resource
Mrs. Kourtnay Kelsey	Chapel Coordinator
Mrs. Almira Penner	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Jenn Klassen	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Val Klassen	EA
Mrs. Stephanie Funk	EA
Mrs. Amber Enns	EA
Mrs. Tanisha Hildebrand	EA
Mrs. Melissa Wiebe, Mrs. Katharina Giesbrecht, Mrs. Marissa Krahn	Janitors

SCHOOL SCHEDULE K-8

8:30 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.	Instructional Block A (100 min.)
10:10 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.	Nutrition/Outdoor Recess Break
10:40 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.	Instructional Block B (100 min.)
12:20 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.	Nutrition/Outdoor Recess Break
1:10 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	Instructional Block C (100 min.)

KINDERGARTEN & MONTESSORI

This past year, Kindergarten was offered Tuesday to Fridays 8:30-11:50. This format has allowed students to learn the most optimal continuous way without hindrance from over fatigue mentally and/or emotionally.

Although we are not officially a registered "Montessori School", we have adopted many of the pedagogical and philosophical approaches described by Maria Montessori. In Kindergarten to Grade 3, we are developing a Montessori program through training of staff and curating materials to foster independence, concentration, self-determination, confidence, and development of the full potential of the child. There are 5 main areas in the program which complements the Manitoba curriculum. They are: practical life, sensorial, math, language, cultural, grace and courtesy. We have been developing a Montessori approach in Math for grades 4-6 with supplemental exploration in our grade 7 math curriculum.

FOREST NATURE PROGRAM (FNP)

Learning outdoors in God's most amazing classroom has been an important characteristic of Prairie Crossroads School. Most FNP excursions are held at a forest and nature site located along the Dead Horse Creek on 2.5 miles north of Highway 3 on Road 26 W. The intent of these days is to provide children with extended time in nature throughout the seasons to foster rich play and learning experiences, ecological literacy, and healthy living. Students explore and discover local forests, creeks, meadows, prairie grasses, with experienced and skilled educators who understand the power of play and child-directed learning and how this can contribute to a more sustainable world. Many of the subject areas covered during this time include: Art, Science, Social Studies, Math, Phys.Ed and Health.

A key verse which we relate in our experience at the site and which represents our desire for our students is Jeremiah 17:8, *"They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they go right on producing delicious fruit."*

ADMISSION POLICY

1. Steps for Admission

- a. Contact administration for a tour, if desired. Read through this information, which includes our Statement of Faith.
- b. Submit an application for admission with a \$100 application fee.
- c. An interview with both parents, the student and the principal and/or teacher will be conducted.
- d. Administration will notify the family once a decision has been made, and if accepted, a tuition deposit of \$500 will be required.

2. Tuition

- a. For first year students, a \$500 deposit needs to be made at time of acceptance to guarantee enrollment. The remainder of the tuition amount can either be paid in full on or before August 2, 2024, or split into 2 equal payments; the first one due on August 2, and the second one due on or before January 10, 2025. If an alternate payment plan is needed, contact administration.
- b. Payments can be made by cheque or e-transfer. Returned cheques will be subject to a \$35.00 charge.
- c. Tuition fees are determined on an annual basis by the School Board. The upcoming year's fee schedule will be available by January 29. Listed below.
- d. New registrations will be accepted beginning January 30 for enrollment in September. For mid-year enrollment, applications are accepted at any time.
- e. Returning students: Re-registration for students currently enrolled takes place in February. Re-registration reserves the student's place in the school for the following academic year. A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required.
- f. For students commencing after September 30th, or withdrawing before June 30th, tuition will be calculated based on the number of months enrolled plus one additional month. The \$500 deposit is non-refundable and will not be used to calculate the monthly tuition.
- g. Tuition does not include field trips, hot lunch and school photos.
- h. Donation receipts are issued for a percentage of tuition paid during the calendar year. The percentage varies year to year and is calculated using a formula provided by the Canada Revenue Agency. Receipts are issued to the individuals paying the tuition, not necessarily the family whose student is enrolled.

2024-25 Tuition Fees for K-8

1st Child	\$3,550
2nd Child	\$3,050
3rd Child	\$2,550
4th Child	\$2,050
Kindergarten is 60% of a full time student	

SPIRITUAL INTEGRATION

The heart of Christian education at Prairie Crossroads School is to infuse Biblical principles into all we do, giving a spiritual emphasis to the daily routine of school. The Board has selected a team of people to serve on a Spiritual Formation Committee.

1. Daily Opening

- a. Each school day is opened with Scripture reading and/or prayer.
- b. The order of opening is as follows: 'O Canada', staff prayer, Bible story, announcements, Birthday Box, memory verses, and The Lord's Prayer.
- c. Students who can read take turns reading Scripture, and leading in the Lord's Prayer daily.

2. Chapel

On Thursdays, the school gathers in the Multi-purpose room for Chapel. We are using *New City Curriculum* by Timothy Keller to guide our weekly questions. Students gather in multi-age micro groups which aim each week to dig into the Word and develop a stronger sense of community. The board has selected a Spiritual Formation Committee to provide guidance in Chapel, Daily Bible class, Memory verse selection and Biblical integration.

3. Daily Bible Class

All students enrolled at PCS will have Bible class daily. Each class has a specific curriculum relevant to students at that age. Students will be challenged to grow in their faith as they find out more about God and who they are in Christ. This past year our school used the Deep Roots curriculum. For more information see : <https://www.deeprootsbible.com/>

4. Bible Memory

Whole school monthly Bible memory passages are assigned. Several versions may be used for memory work. Students are required to bring a Bible to school in a version of choice. All students are encouraged to bring their own Bible.

5. Character Building

We desire to develop godly character in each student according to the word of God. We want to ensure that the fruit of the Spirit –love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control –is exhibited in every student. Biblical standards are used to guide behaviours.

6. Ministry/Missions

Throughout the year, students will participate in a variety of ministry opportunities. Classes will collect money and gifts for various organizations.

7. Biblical Integration

Biblical truth is infused into all classes, and all subject matter at every grade level. When teachers plan their lessons and units, taken from the Manitoba Curriculum, they purposely plan how they can integrate God's Word in a relevant way into their course material.

8. Role Modeling

Students spend a large portion of their day in school. One of the most important elements PCS can offer are excellent role models for your children. While no one is perfect, each staff member your child encounters at school has a Christian testimony and is committed to their local church. Staff use "teachable moments" to share what God is doing in their own life, to encourage or to correct students.

DRESS CODE

“Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God’s sight.” 1 Peter 3:3-4

PCS staff, students and parents work together to see that students exhibit respect for their own self-image and learn the importance of being a good witness for the Lord in this area, wherever they go. The purpose of the dress code is to give staff, parents and students guidelines for appropriate school clothing and appearance. Parents have the responsibility of determining what their children wear to school.

Clothing and accessories should not disrupt the teaching and learning process or encourage attention to be drawn to a particular student, promotion of pop culture or statements. PCS leadership recommends godly wisdom and discernment when preparing for school.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents are expected to be very active in our school community, supporting learning and enriching school events and activities. If possible, parents volunteer a minimum of two hours per month. On site volunteer supervisors offer a critical component for the function of our school.

Other ways parents can volunteer:

- i. Become a member of the Parent Advisory Council.
- ii. Assist on *Forest Friday* and excursions.
- iii. Participate in helping with fundraising for events.
- iv. Offer assistance for capital projects, grounds and building maintenance.
- v. Laundry
- vi. Set up and take down classrooms for church use.
- vii. Compost and recycling pick up.

MEDIA POLICY

Prairie Crossroads School is very mindful of the impact that social media can have on our students. This is why we implement a stringent policy in this regard to protect students from photos being shared on social media to the greatest extent possible. There are times for promotional or communication purposes such as newsletters emailed to families where photos are used. These are chosen with discernment.

PRAIRIE CROSSROADS SCHOOL STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in . . .

God

There is one God, the creator of all things, who is infinitely perfect and eternally existent in three persons; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Father: God the Father is the source of all life. In Him we live and move and have our being. The Father seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth and hears the prayers of all who call on Him. In the fullness of time, the Father sent the Son for the salvation of the world. Through Jesus Christ, the Father adopts all who respond in faith to the gospel, forgiving those who repent of their sin and entering into a new covenant with them. God gives the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, to all His children. God's creative and redemptive love sustains this world until the end of the age.

The Son: We believe in the divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. We believe that He was truly God and perfectly Human.

The Spirit: The Holy Spirit, the Counsellor, is the power, presence, and wisdom of God. The Spirit convicts people of sin, gives them new life, and guides them into all truth. By the Spirit, believers are baptized into one body. The indwelling Spirit testifies that they are God's children, distributes gifts for ministry, empowers for witness, and produces the fruit of righteousness. As Comforter, the Holy Spirit helps God's children in their weakness, intercedes for them according to God's will, and assures them of eternal life.

Bible

The Bible (Old and New Testament) is the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God. We believe that the entire Bible was inspired by God through the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit guides the community of faith in the interpretation of Scripture. The person, teaching, and life of Jesus Christ bring continuity and clarity to both the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament bears witness to Christ, and Christ is the One whom the New Testament proclaims. The Bible is the authoritative guide for faith and practice in daily living.

Salvation

We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful humanity, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God and are in need of salvation. Those that do not accept God's gift of salvation face eternal separation from God.

Creation

We believe that God literally created the universe from nothing, and made human beings, male and female, in His image, to be in relationship with Him, to reflect His nature and to give Him glory.

Church

The Church consists of all those who have received Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. The Church is one body of believers from every nation, race and class. The head of the body is Christ.

Resurrection and Return of Christ

We believe that Christ will return triumphantly and that there will be a bodily resurrection of the just and of the unjust. Those found in the Book of Life will spend eternity in Heaven, while those whose names are not found in the Book of Life will spend eternity apart from God.

Our Statement of Faith is not exhaustive of all of our beliefs. The Bible, as the inspired and infallible Word of God, speaks with absolute authority regarding the proper conduct for all, and is the unchanging foundation for all belief and behaviour. The PCS Board of Directors holds final interpretive authority on biblical meaning and application with regard to faith, doctrine, policy, practice, and discipline.

Our Values**Value of Children**

We believe that children are a heritage from God and a blessing from His hand. We are therefore accountable to Him for raising, shaping and preparing them for a life of service to His Kingdom.

Marriage

Prairie Crossroads School affirms that the institution of marriage, between a man and a woman, is a sacred covenant designed by God to model the love of Christ for His church, and to serve both the public and private good as the basic building block of human civilization.

The Sanctity of Human Life

Prairie Crossroads School affirms that human beings are created by God in His image. Therefore every person, from conception to natural death, possesses inherent dignity and immeasurable worth – including preborn children, elderly individuals, those with special needs, and others marginalized by society.

Gender & Sexuality

We believe that God created humans in His image, intentionally and immutably male and female, each bringing unique and complementary qualities to sexuality and relationships. Sexuality is a glorious gift from God to be offered back to Him either in marriage between a man & a woman for procreation, union and mutual delight, or in celibacy for undivided devotion to Christ.

Guiding Principles for Education

Purpose of Life

We believe that the ultimate purpose of life is to know and glorify God and to attain eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Vocational Calling for all of Humanity

Prairie Crossroads School affirms the human vocation to which God has called us to: to be stewards of His creation, doers of good toward all people, and agents of the Kingdom of God and His reconciliation. Genesis 2:15, Genesis 9:12, Col 1:19-20, Matthew 6:10, Romans 8:19-23, Hebrews 12:14.

Discipleship - The Great Commission as Central to our Mission

We seek to accomplish the Great Commission in our school through evangelism and discipleship. Staff, students, and administrators are all invited and encouraged to deepen their understanding of what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ, to practice such discipleship, and to sustain and help others to be and become disciples. They strive to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 4:12, John 3:16, Romans 5:8, I John 3:16, and Micah 6:8.

Integrative Faith & Academic Excellence

Prairie Crossroads School promotes not only academic and intellectual excellence, but integrates these with high standards of personal, moral, and spiritual integrity. Prairie Crossroads School is first and foremost an academic institution that seeks to equip, challenge, and inspire our students to love learning, think critically, and to apply their knowledge and wisdom to affect their world for Christ. The rigour in all classes prepares our students to compete in every academic arena in order to develop community and world leaders that will stand for biblical standards in a fallen world. Proverbs 1:7a, Matthew 6:33, Proverbs 2, Genesis 1:1, Colossians 1:15-17, Philippians 2:1-16 and Psalm 119:99.

Partnership with Parents

Students are a gift to their parents. Prairie Crossroads School desires to come alongside parents to help raise their students in a manner that honours and glorifies the Lord. Prairie Crossroads School desires to partner closely with parents, actively encouraging parental involvement in our school. Psalm 127:3, and Deuteronomy 6:5-9.

Seeking God's Design for each Life:

Ephesians tells us that God has a plan for everyone's life. Each person is uniquely created by God and is specifically designed to accomplish His plan. Recognizing that each child is unique and gifted differently, Prairie Crossroads School desires to provide a loving atmosphere which will allow each student to identify and develop his or her gifts and talents. Every individual has worth to God; therefore, we should demonstrate His love by providing an atmosphere of love, respect and acceptance to every student. Ephesians 2:10, Jeremiah 29:11 and I Corinthians 12:4-6.