



New Year Update

From the Principal's Desk

It is hard to believe that it is January 2021 already! Did Semester 1 go by really quickly for you as well? The fall term brought a lot of upheaval for many students – but for Hope Christian it was “classes as usual” as Covid isolation and quarantines didn’t affect any students or classes. It really feels nice to know we can carry on without disruption for the remainder of the school year.

The Canvas integration is progressing smoothly as all the teachers work to write courses and format lessons in our new LMS (learning management system). New options are being offered every couple of weeks as they are being written – so please watch Canvas notifications to see which ones are active. Some of the new courses over the past couple of months include: Personal Psychology, General Psychology, Sociology, Food Basics, Life of Christ, World Religions, Spreadsheets, and Calm.

The choir class and Mrs. Zepick have experienced several set backs this year with Covid. The fall concert went ahead outdoors and the Christmas concert was all planned before new health restrictions closed the door. Mr. and Mrs. Zepick and the choir instead created a video of “How Can I Keep from Singing” for everyone’s enjoyment. It can be viewed with this link: <https://vimeo.com/490509935> Our school is blessed to have a choir and choir leader with so much talent. Let’s hope that the drama club can go ahead with no restrictions in the spring!

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Please uphold the Balisky family in all your prayers. On January 1, Wade and Aubrey and their two youngest girls (Fluer and Joules) died tragically in a helicopter crash near Spirit River, AB. Left to mourn are Chevy (Gr 11), Remington (Gr 8) and Indya (Gr 7) - all students enrolled with Hope Christian School. Close family friends, Janaya and Julie Derksen, who also attend our school, are also mourning the loss of their friends. Please pray that God’s love surrounds and envelopes the family during the unimaginable time of deep and tragic loss.



End of Term Reports

There will be no “formal” report cards at the end of January. As a student finishes their course, a PDF report of the subject including all assignments and tests will be sent to the parent email and student email on record.

For some students, there may be several reports emailed out – we know this may be cumbersome for some parents – but until Canvas talks to the division reporting software – this is the best we can do at the present moment.

All parents are encouraged to log in to Canvas as an observer with their student’s account to monitor all progress.

Diploma Exams

Just a reminder regarding the diploma exams for the 2020-2021 school year. ALL diploma exams are considered “optional” for all students. This means that students and parents can decide if they want to write the exams and register at a local school offering the exam writing.

You will receive an EXEMPTION if you decide NOT to write the exam—provided you have a class mark submitted, and that mark will then become your final mark. This will in no way affect your acceptance at any college or university.

This exemption will be in place for the April and June writings. At the present moment, August writings are still being considered mandatory.

Semester 2—February

Semester 2 will officially begin on February 1, 2021. A new timetable for all synchronous classes will be in effect at this time (it will be sent out by the middle of January).

All students are encouraged to attend the scheduled synch classes in order to maximize their learning potential – they are more beneficial than just listening to class recordings.

FEBRUARY BREAK will be from Feb 15 – to Feb 19. There are NO classes scheduled during this week for all grades. Classes will resume on Feb 22.

SPRING BREAK/EASTER BREAK will be from April 2 to 9 will classes resuming on April 12.

Semester 2 ENDS on June 25.

GRAD 2021 will hopefully be June 25 in Red Deer.

Korean War Anniversary

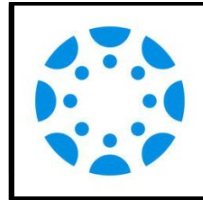
2020 – 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the start and end of the Korean War – the war labelled the “forgotten war” due to the fact that very few people know and understand the circumstances surrounding the war. By the way, the war has not ended – no formal peace treaty has ever been signed.

Mrs. Dart has been asked to sit on the task force to oversee curriculum pilot project integration in schools over the next two years. Due to the nature of the meetings spanning several time zones – some classes may have to rescheduled on short notice. Please turn on notifications and read emails prior to class so you are aware of these meetings. Right now, the meetings are only once a month.

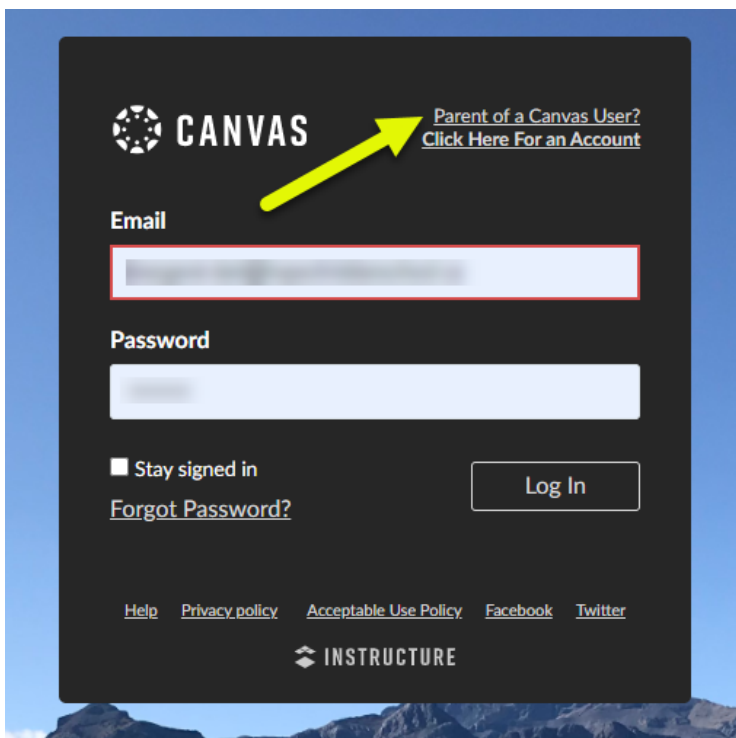
Canada’s involvement in the Korean War is monumental and needs to be part of our Social Studies curriculum!

Parent Canvas Login

It is important for parents to monitor their student's success and achievement in school by logging into the parent app on your mobile phone – OR – signing in on a laptop or desktop computer. If you do not want to use the app – please go to <http://hopechristian.instructure.com> and click on "Parent of a Canvas user? Click here for an account"



On the next screen you will setup your personal account – and enter your student's "pairing code" which they can do from their account. (or just email Margaret.dart@hopechristianschool.ca and a pairing code will be sent to you.



Time Management for Teens

Is your child/young adult having issues with managing their time effectively? Do you wish they could learn more strategies to help them become successful?

There is a great course available at::

<https://www.udemy.com/course/ultimate-time-management-for-teens-and-high-school-students/>

At least one family has completed the course and reported that it is great!