



2020-2021 BCS@Home April Newsletter

“ And the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen! Just as He said he would. - Matthew 28:5-6 ”



IMPORTANT DATES

April 5-9

- *Online Summit: God-Centred Homeschool*

April 9, 1:30pm

- *Parent Support Group*

April 16-May 25

- *Tuesdays & Fridays, Outdoor Adventures*

April 23-May 14

- *F@B Fridays, 2-4:30*

April 28, 7pm

- *Prayer meeting*

June 13, 1pm-4pm

- *Family fun run/walk*

PREVIEW:

Highlighting our Homeschoolers:

- The Kramer Family: Instilling a love for literature and learning through interest-oriented education

Information For All BCS@Home Programs:

- Re-registering with BCS@Home
- Parent Support Groups & Prayer Meetings
 - Parent Support Group, April 9, 1:30pm
 - Prayer Meeting: April 28, 7pm
- BCS@Home Sports & Events
 - Community Fun Run/Walk Event
 - Outdoor Adventures: Spring Sessions!
 - Cheerleading
- Educational Enrichment
 - F@B Fridays are Back!
 - BCS@Home Clubs
- Homeschool Conferences & Methods
 - The God-Centred Homeschool Summit
 - Classical Conversations
- Career Openings with BCS@Home
- Community Connections
- Reimbursements



"A Trip Around the World"

Instilling a love for literature and learning through interest-oriented education



The Kramers are a family dedicated to creating enriching educational opportunities for their children, both during and after school hours. They first began homeschooling in 2016, when they decided they wanted to work on building character in their children at home.

"The desire to start homeschooling was something that God put on my heart," Tamara explains. "partly because it's harder to work on character when your kid is away at school all day. I love having the girls home with me right now."

Her oldest son, Josh, is now graduated and studying Biological Sciences at the University of Calgary, while 14-year-old Benjamin is in Grade 9 at BCS's campus location. Tamara homeschools her two daughters, 12-year-old Kate and 10-year-old Zoe, and she hopes to use their home education environment to instill a love for literature in the girls.

"I've always thought that if a kid loves to read, then they will be a lifelong learner," Tamara explains. "So when our kids show interest in different things, we try to facilitate that. We make sure there are books around that address that topic, so we can feed their natural curiosity."

One way they encourage their daughters' curiosity is through a year-long social studies project that Tamara designed, centred around their family's love for travelling. In September, both girls were tasked with planning a hypothetical trip around the world on a budget of \$150,000 Canadian dollars each. The girls must touch down on every continent, visit at least 15 countries, and plan an activity related to the geography and culture of each location.

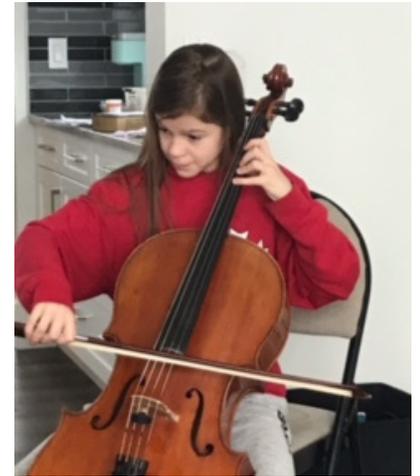
"The idea was to let them spend some time looking into things that they're really interested in with each country, and to encourage them to consider the people and scenery and activities that are unique to each place," Tamara says. "Beyond that, we've found this project really opens their eyes to what God has created and to all of the amazing things His world holds."

Kate has used the project to do an in-depth study on Mount Everest, and is currently "travelling" through Botswana, with plans to go on to Lithuania and South America next. Zoe is currently in Germany, and will be heading to Australia once she's done.

Highlighting our Homeschoolers: The Kramers

"The project incorporates math, social studies, critical thinking and literature, as they budget, research and write about their destinations," Tamara says. "It's just a really creative and fun way to learn geography and study the people of the world."

In alignment with this love for intercultural studies, the Kramer family is also heavily involved in Operation Christmas Child. Tamara has been involved with the organization for over 25 years, and is currently a year-round Connect Volunteer and Area Coordinator for Northwest Calgary. She recently got the opportunity to travel to El Salvador herself for shoebox distribution.



"It was really amazing to be able to hand out the boxes to the kids in need," Tamara says. "I'd never physically handed out a shoebox before, so that was the most amazing experience for me."

Operation Christmas Child is now a family affair for the Kramers, and every year they have their own family packing party where they shop for items and pack shoe boxes together.

"It's such a great way for them to serve other kids in another part of the world," Tamara says, "and they're really building God's Kingdom by doing that. It's honestly one of my favourite things that we do together as a family."



The Kramers highly value extracurricular activities that enrich their lives as a family. They often ski together in the winters, and both daughters are taking riding lessons for physical education and sciences. Kate is a talented cellist who's been playing since she was four years old, and Zoe is a competitive gymnast who thrives on the time and energy it takes to excel in the sport.

"Homeschooling allows our kids to do the activities that they're passionate about, without their academics ever suffering," Tamara says. "Zoe trains during the day, and Kate is often practising cello, so homeschooling decreases the stress and pressure that they feel and makes it so that they can do both things at an excellent level. That is one of the biggest things that I'm thankful for, because they can excel at all of their pursuits."

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Written by Micah Jansen

Highlighting our Homeschoolers is BCS@Home's feature story segment, designed to celebrate the unique experiences that some of our homeschooling families have had over their years of home education. We aim to highlight how homeschooling creates an environment for families to grow closer to one another as they take on academic, athletic and creative pursuits. [Click here](#) to read more stories from our families at BCS@Home.

Information for All Home Education



Registering with BCS@Home!



Returning Students



We are so excited to see re-registrations rolling in for the 2021/22 school year at BCS@Home! We look forward to having you back! We do encourage early registration as space may be limited depending on capacity. If you know that you will not be returning to BCS@Home, please email micah.jansen@bears paw school.com and, if possible, provide a reason, as this is always helpful for us in developing our programs.



Your registration is accepted when you receive your official welcome letter. If you have not received a letter yet and it has been more than two weeks since applying, you can contact micah.jansen@bears paw school.com to check in.



How to Register:



When you first access the site, you will need to create an account that can be used any time moving forward. Once logged in, you will choose the program you are registering your child for (Home Education, Print Based, Online or Shared Responsibility). You will need to complete a separate registration for each child.



[Click Here to Register!](#)



New Students



Registration is now open to the public! If you know people who are interested in homeschooling with BCS@Home, please send them our way. We look forward to seeing our BCS@Home community strengthen and grow in the coming school year!



Families new to BCS@Home can register by setting up a consultation through the "How To Apply" page on our new website linked below.



[Click Here to Book a Consultation!](#)



Information for All Home Education

Parent Support Groups & Prayer Meetings

Parent Support Group: A Flourishing Finish, April 9, 1:30pm

 Stephanie Morales-Beaulieu is a BCS@Home mom with a love for the word of God and a passion for sharing that love with others. She has authored three Bible study guides, including *A Roadmap to Trials*, *Walk in Love*, and *The Flourishing Life*. Join us on April 9 to hear her give an encouraging word about ending the school year strong with a flourishing finish.



Meeting ID: 763 9041 4215

Passcode: BCS@Home

Meeting Link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76390414215?pwd=RzBSMGtUeGloZTdVZ25oOENjdDRyZz09>

Previous Parent Support Group Recordings

 If you missed the March Parent Support Group Meeting on curriculum choices, click on the following youtube links to hear about: [Teaching Textbooks](#), [The Good and the Beautiful](#), [Gather Round](#), [Bob Jones Math](#), [Institute for Excellence in Writing](#), [Horizons Math and Language Arts](#), [Junior Think Tank Social Studies](#), [Mammoth Math](#), [Master Books Math and LA](#), [Science in the Beginning](#), and [The Story of the World](#),

Prayer Meeting: Wednesday, April 28, 7pm

 We are now onto our third month of our monthly prayer meetings! The third meeting is on April 28th at 7pm for parents who want to join together and pray for one another as a body of believers. To submit a prayer request, [fill in this form](#). All prayer requests submitted online can remain anonymous.



Meeting Link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71528880899?pwd=Y214d0Uyb1E3WUK1NDdVclA3L05YZz09>

Meeting ID: 715 2888 0899

Passcode: Pray

Information for All Home Education

BCS@Home Sports & Events

Airdrie Community Workout: Friends and Family Fun Run/Walk



Run along a portion of the Little Red Deer River at the Friends and Family Fun Run/Walk organized by one our of own BCS parents. Choose between a 3km, 6km or 9km walk/run. All ages and abilities are welcome, and there will be prizes, face painting for kids, and more. [Follow this link to register for the free event!](#)

Date and Time: Sunday, June 13th, 1-4 PM

Location: Anderson Ridge, 4533 Township Road 302 Cremona, AB T0M 0R0

Outdoor Adventures: Spring Sessions!

Join us for our next session of Outdoor Adventures starting April 16! **Spots fill up fast** and are limited to 9 students, so sign up quickly to secure a space! Students can explore knife carving, torch making, fat lamps, emergency first aid, primitive tools, navigation in the wilderness, fire making, solar ovens, pit toilets and hygiene in the woods, shelters, water purification and edible/medicinal plants. [Follow this link to see the full write-up](#), and [click here to register!](#)



Instructor: Melissa Pearce, Rediscover Play Nature Programs

Location: Bearspaw Christian School, 15001 69 St NW, Calgary, AB T3R 1C5

Dates: April 16th, 20th, 23rd, 27th, 30th, May 4th, 7th, 11th, 14th, 18th, 21st, 25th

Times: 9:00am-11:00am | 11:30am-1:30pm | 2:00pm-4:00pm

Cost: \$20.00/person per session (register for all 12 sessions = \$240.00)

Information for All Home Education

BCS@Home Sports & Events

Free Cheerleading Super Series Virtual Training



Instructor: Offered by Alberta Cheerleading Association

Ages/Grades: Sessions are broken into three categories: (1) Grades 4 to 6, (2) Grades 7 to 9, (3) High School / College

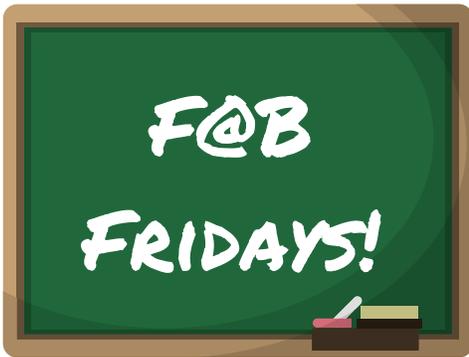
Dates & Times: Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27

Training Medium: Virtual 1-hour training sessions once a week via Zoom. Can sign up for one or all sessions.

[Follow this link to register through ACA!](#)

Educational Enrichment

F@B Fridays are back and in-person!



Dates: April 23, 30, May 7, 14

Time: 2:00 - 4:30

Location: Bearspaw Christian School 15001 – 69 Street N.W Calgary, AB T3R 1C5

Cost: \$125 per person (Can be deducted from available family funding or invoiced through email)

Limited Spaces Available: 9 students/class

Classes range from K-12 and cover subjects such as spring arts and crafts projects, underwater exploration, animals, music and instruments, ukulele lessons and social studies essay writing. **[Click here for full details and class descriptions.](#)** As we continue to abide by the Alberta Health Regulations, our class sizes are capped at nine students per class. Any additional students will be placed on a waiting list. We will continue to watch the AHS updates, and increase our class sizes, when possible.

[Click Here to Register!](#)

Information for All Home Education

BCS@Home Clubs

Our Free BCS@Home Chess and Craft Clubs are off to a great start! Students Grades 5+ are welcome to join the Social Craft Club on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30pm with Cyndee Sawatzky, and students of all grades can join the Chess Club by contacting Coach Kaz for further details! [Click here for more information on registering!](#)



Homeschool Conferences and Methods

The God-Centred Homeschool Online Summit, April 5-9



The God-Centred Homeschool Online Summit aims to help homeschooling families prioritize and reorient their everyday homeschooling efforts around God. The online conference is scheduled for April 5-9, and boasts over 20 top keynote speakers and authors. There is **no cost** to attend this conference, so if you're looking for ways to reorient your homeschooling around Christ, [follow this link for more information and to register for free!](#)

Classical Conversations – Information Meetings

Classical Conversations is the leader in Classical Christian homeschooling methods, and is currently running several information sessions on the programs it offers. These Information Meetings cover the whole program, while Window into Challenge (WIC) meetings cover Junior and Senior high levels. Go to canada-cc.ca for more information on Classical Conversations.



Information for All Home Education

Career Openings with BCS@Home

Teaching at BCS@Home

Career openings are now available with BCS@Home. Feel free to share with people who may be interested! We're accepting resumes for facilitators and distance education teachers. Follow the links for full details on the postings!

[Facilitators](#) | [Print-Based Teachers](#) | [Online Teachers](#)

Community Connections

Online Connections



For current events, see the [calendar](#) available on our new website! To connect over social media, visit BCS@Home's [Instagram](#), [Facebook page](#), or [Facebook community group](#), or add your family to the BCS@Home [voluntary directory](#). You can also join the google group to stay updated on local social activities, prayer requests, and curriculum buy-and-sells by emailing Julia Graham at juliadgraham@yahoo.ca.

Reimbursements

Reimbursements – 4 week turnaround

Reimbursements usually take four weeks to be processed, approved, sent to finance for cheques, and mailed out. If you have not received your cheque from your March Reimbursement Request, it will be with our finance department. If you are waiting on a reimbursement from before March, contact micah.jansen@bearspawschool.com. Please note, there may be a one week delay due to Spring Break at the end of March.