

CLAN FARQUHARSON



My name is Bhreagh Farquharson. I am in Grade 7 and I attend Barriere Elementary School. I did my Heritage Fair project as part of a school assignment.

My heritage project was called "Clan Farquharson - 16th Century to Modern Times". I started it in Grade 5 and continued it in Grade 6. It was about my clan history, what the first Farquharsons were like and how they lived. I wanted to know how the lives of my ancestors have changed as the centuries went by. I wanted to learn more about the history of the Clan Farquharson Chiefs and their lifestyles as the centuries passed. I also wanted to find out more on Captain Farquharson (the 16th Chief of Clan Farquharson) and how the role of Chief has changed throughout the years.

At the beginning of the second year I wanted to do a family tree on the Farquharsons. I contacted members of my family (some that I didn't even know) and tried to get information but there just wasn't enough for a whole project.

I chose to continue to research Clan Farquharson this past year because the year before it was so much fun contacting the Chief of the Clan Farquharson (Alwyne Farquharson) and other people that had information on the clan. I also chose this topic because I wanted to do something original, something that no one else had ever done. In Grade Five I did a Highland Dance (The Sword) as part of my presentation and in Grade Six I pretended to be Capt. Alwyne Farquharson, the present Chief, and presented the history of the Clan. I even spoke with a British accent (he was born in England, not Scotland).

The internet was a huge help in my hours of research. You would be amazed at what you can find there! I also made a lot of contacts, including the membership director of the Clan Farquharson in Canada, the president of the Clan Farquharson in the U.K. and in the United States.

I discovered that there are a lot of Farquharson families in North America alone! Nine hundred thirty-six to be exact. That was a big surprise to me because I thought that Farquharson was an uncommon name.

I didn't know that in Scotland the Farquharson Clan owns two very big castles, Braemar Castle and Invercauld Castle. Braemar and Invercauld castles look at each other on opposite sides of the River Dee about a mile apart.

Chief Farquharson and I exchange letters five to six times a year and next year I may be visiting him in Scotland. Writing to him and getting his letters back has been one of the best parts of this project!



