

### UPCOMING DATES:

Jan 9<sup>th</sup> – First day back after Christmas Break

Jan 13<sup>th</sup> – NO KINDERGARTEN

Jan 16<sup>th</sup> – After school Skating at Henderson

Jan 16<sup>th</sup> – Re-Registration Starts

Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – Fuzzy Day

Jan 24<sup>th</sup> – National Compliment Day

Jan 27<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL – PD Day

Jan 30<sup>th</sup> – After school Skating at Henderson

Jan 31<sup>st</sup> – Oodie & Hoodie Day.

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – New Student Registration Starts.



## Mme Bouchard Message 2023 January

Dear ESM Families,

Welcome back and welcome to 2023. A new year full of hope and promise. I hope your family had a lovely Christmas break.

December was amazing! There were Candy Grams, a Bake Sale, Family After School Skating, the Kindergarten Christmas concert, Advent Mass, and Advent celebrations. We continued with our Turkey Dinner tradition thanks to our amazing school community and School Council. Thank you to those that purchased a plate, and thank you very much to those that donated a plate. All students ate a lovely meal from Prime Catering. A good portion of the total bill was covered by families purchasing a plate through School Cash Online and School Council will cover the balance. Thank you to the many volunteers as well, we could not do it without you. We also had a wonderful Christmas Concert. The students sang beautifully, we came together as a community, and it was fantastic! Thanks for donations to Santa's Anonymous as well. On the last day of school before the break we hosted our school wide Bingo and PJ day. It was so much fun.

January is a great month in schools. It is a time when routines have already been established, learning and exploring are in full swing. It is a time to settle in, learn together, grow together. January looks nice. We have dress up days, After School Family Skating on January 16th and our final skating date on Jan 30th. Grade 6 basketball begins in January and we have Intramurals running.

Spaces, the digital reporting, has been up and running. Please do not forget to check your child's Spaces account. It is a great opportunity to see how your child is doing. It is even more special to see the learning journey. For the first couple of weeks back, there may not be as many posts. We have been having some technical difficulties and I have asked that teachers pause for a moment until these are remedied. Thanks for your continued support.

The first School Council Meeting is on Wednesday, January 11th, 2023. Please join us in the ESM library at 6:00 pm if you are able. This is a committed and wonderful group of parents advocating and supporting students. We hope to see you there.

Reflecting on December brings joy. Looking ahead brings hope. May God Bless you with joy, health and happiness this new year. Happy New Year! It is going to be a great year.

## **Mr. Harper's January Message 2023**

Welcome to 2023! We are thrilled to be welcoming everyone back to school! We hope and pray that you had a joyous holiday season.

December was a busy month! Our 4 / 5 GI class, 1 RE class, and staff helped the school remember what Advent is about by creating wonderful Thanksgiving celebrations each week. We also celebrated Mass with Father Kevin this month. The 4 NE class hosted our Mass, and it was great! Thank you to Father Kevin and 4 NE! We had many community members attend the Mass! Thank you for celebrating with the school. The whole school was involved in our first Christmas concert in many years at Southminster Church. There was a fantastic turnout from our community. It was great to see everyone there! We also had an amazing turkey dinner for the whole school. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help!

During Gospel time in January, we will be led by St. Ignatius of Loyola as we try to discern the leadings of the Holy Spirit and the voice of God in our hearts. We will focus on prayers of petition. These prayers are where we ask God for forgiveness and help. As a community, we pray for the sick, we pray for healing, and we pray for hope for our world. This month, we will continue our faith journey as we try to understand how we can Arise as Pilgrims of Hope. Our faith plan, Arise, Pilgrims of Hope, asks us to listen carefully for God's voice calling us to do what we can to help the world. A new year is a great time to think about what we can do. The 1DI class will share a liturgy celebrating the Baptism of the Lord that will take place in classrooms once students return to school.

May God bless you, keep you, and guide you throughout 2023. We pray that it is a great year!



# ADHD Parent Sessions

This is a program designed for caregivers of children who have been newly diagnosed or suspected of ADHD that want to learn more about ADHD. This is a 4 consecutive week closed group.

Being hosted by: AHS Children's Mental Health and Addiction

Sessions will include: What is ADHD? ADHD and medication. How to talk to children about their ADHD and understanding self-regulation. Tools for effective parenting of children with ADHD. ADHD and navigating the school system. ADHD and nutrition, sleep and exercise.

Location: Children of St. Martha's School (library)

Dates: Tuesdays, January 17<sup>th</sup> – Feb 7<sup>th</sup>

Time: 6-7:30pm

Childcare provided if needed.

If you are interested in attending please contact:

Tanya Koopmans

Family First Facilitator

403-634-2712 or [Koopmanst@holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:Koopmanst@holyspirit.ab.ca)



On January 4, we proudly wear our ribbon skirts to represent our own personal reclamation as FNMI people of Treaty 7 Territory. Ribbon skirts are a symbol of history, Identity, resilience, strength, bravery, and female empowerment. It represents values and traditions as a unique culture, as well as maturity into womanhood, and independence. Wearing a ribbon skirt gives meaning which is very significant for each individual who decides to adorn one. It represents reclaiming identity, and wearing that identity proudly.

## **DO NOT BLOCK THE BUS LANE.**

We can't say it enough. For the safety of the students please do not block the bus lane. The buses drop off students from 3 schools and it is a busy place in the morning. Even as the snow falls and the days get colder parking is still not allowed in the bus lane. Busses need all the space and ask for your help in leaving the bus lane clear.



## **NO PARKING IN PARKING LOT**

### **Parking lot is for STAFF ONLY.**

You may park on the east side of the street. In the morning the sidewalk between the flag pole and the parking lot is a drop off zone. Hug and Go. Please do not park there for long periods of time.

**Kindergarten & ELP** – There are school buses here at 11am for the high school shuttle. Please don't block the bus lane. Park on the East side of the street and encourage your children to use good habits by using the cross walk to cross the street.

### **STUDENT DROP OFF/ PICK UP**

Students can be dropped off at 7:45am. There will be no supervision before 7:45am if you choose to leave your child unattended at the school this is your parent responsibility.

### **SAMARITAN STARS**

As the students do good deeds and display exemplary actions/attitudes, their fellow classmates can nominate them and put their name in the "Samaritan Stars" jar. From here we draw names to win a cheque for \$25.00 which is graciously donated by Ward Bros. Construction. Thank you, Ward Bros., for your continued generosity to our school!

**For the month of January our winners were: Anna 6MI and Jackson 4CI**

### **HOUSE TEAMS**

The students are assigned a house team (colour team) so be a part of for the year. This encourages the kids to interact with kids in other grades. Our leadership team comes up with special days and activities for students to earn points to go towards their house team.

For the Month of December the winning house team is: Red Robins.

OUR SOUTHLAND RIDERS CAN USE...


# MyBusStop

REAL-TIME SCHOOL BUS TRACKING FOR:

- ROUTE STOPS
- ROUTE SCHEDULES
- TRAFFIC
- BUS LOCATION
- BUS PROGRESS
- POSSIBLE DELAYS

ECOLE ST. MARY'S CODE:  
ZAPY258LTA

For more information, visit: [www.holyspirit.ab.ca/transportation/mybusstopapp](http://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/transportation/mybusstopapp)



### **SCHOOL BUS**

Our Code is: ZAPY258LTA

Please download the app for the most up to date route changes and delays.

There has been changes and additions to routes this month. Also remind your kids to check the sign on the bus as they may not be in the same line up at the end of the day.

<https://www.southland.ca/lethbridge/>

## ATTENDANCE

Children thrive and succeed when they attend school regularly. We understand things come up, appointments made during school hours, emergencies, sickness etc. Please call the office to let us know if your child(ren) will not be at school on any given day. You can call 403-327-3098 (leave a voicemail or email [esmoffice@holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:esmoffice@holyspirit.ab.ca))

## BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM

We are blessed to have a Nutrition grant this year to provide breakfast for those who need it. We also welcome back Mindful Munchies from the Lethbridge food bank who provide us with lunches for our students who forget or would otherwise go without. When the bell goes at 8am, students make their way to their classrooms. The kids pass by our Canteen when they come in in the morning and those who need a bit more to eat, or missed breakfast can “grab and go” a snack.

## SICK KIDS

If your child(ren) is sick – KEEP THEM HOME.

During the winter months there is an increase in sickness and we all need to do our part to take care of ourselves and others. Staying home while you are sick is the best way to not share germs with classmates and teachers.

## REGISTRATION 2023-2024

Re-registration will open up for currently enrolled students on January 16<sup>th</sup>. **Please ensure this is complete as soon as possible.** This allows us to have our numbers in before the new student enrollment opens.

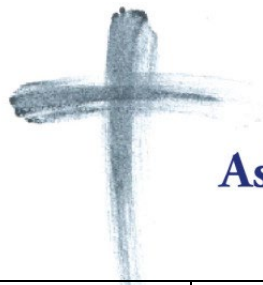
New Student Registration opens on February 1<sup>st</sup>. This is for students/families who are new to the division. Please see the notice below as to the age a child must be to attend each program.

# January 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<div>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS Dec 24<sup>th</sup> – Jan 8<sup>th</sup></div>						
8	9 First Day back after Christmas Break	10	11 6pm School Council Meting	12	13 NO Kindergarten	14
15	16 Henderson Skating 3:15- 4:15pm	17	18	19 Fuzzy Day	20	21
22	23	24 National Compliment Day	25 Div. Board Meeting	26	27 NO SCHOOL PD Day	28
29	30 Henderson Skating 3:15- 4:15pm	31 Oodie & Hoodie Day				

February 2023



Ash Wednesday  
— Lent Begins

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 NO KINDERGARTEN	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentines Day	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Ash Wednesday	23	24	25
Reading Week – NO SCHOOL						
26	27	28				

Looking forward to a new year with ...

# Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

## 2023/2024 REGISTRATION



### Re-Registration Starts January 16, 2023

Families with students currently enrolled in our system should expect an email during the week of January 16-20, 2023 asking that the online "Registration Update Form" be completed for each child attending one of our schools in the 2023/2024 school year.

This update allows us to make sure the information on file is accurate and that any legal declarations, preferences, and consents are renewed. It also allows our schools to plan for the upcoming school year.

Parents/guardians who are hoping to register younger siblings new to the division will also have the opportunity to do this at the same time that they re-register older students.



### New Student Registration Starts February 1, 2023

All Early Learning to Grade 12 students who are new to the division and wish to enroll for the 2023/2024 school year are invited to register online starting on Wednesday, February 1, 2023.

- Our **Early Learning Program** is designed to stimulate the growing curiosity of children 3 and 4 years of age.
- **Kindergarten** is designed for children 5 years of age on, or before, December 31, 2023.
- **Grade 1** registrants must be 6 years of age on, or before, December 31, 2023.
- **French Immersion** is also available. Enrollment starts:
  - in Kindergarten/Grade 1 at École St. Mary School in Lethbridge.
  - in Grade 1 at St. Michael's School in Pincher Creek.



### For More Information

Contact our Coordinator of Early Learning Coordinator to discuss Early Learning, Kindergarten, or your child's specialized programming requirements by phone (403-381-8495) or email ([earlylearning@holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:earlylearning@holyspirit.ab.ca)).

Contact our French Language Consultant to discuss French Immersion programming by phone (403-331-4458) or email ([urquhartw@holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:urquhartw@holyspirit.ab.ca)).

Contact your child's school, or visit the division's website ([holyspirit.ab.ca](http://holyspirit.ab.ca)), if you need assistance with the online registration process or have any questions.



**Holy Spirit Catholic School Division**  
...where students are cherished and achieve their potential.