

Holy Spirit



Catholic Schools

**MARCH
2009**

Our Lady of the Assumption School

"Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, Living Our Faith"

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents:

March brings us warmer weather, longer days, the season of Lent, and soon, the culmination of our liturgical year with Easter in mid-April.

We have had a very exciting February with the excessive amount of snow, fun on the playground, and indoor recesses. The students have dealt well with our indoor recesses and they have been very well behaved. Thanks to the staff for their help in looking after the children during the time inside. With fresh snow, the ski trip was quite successful. Thank you to the staff who supervised and the parents who went along for the trip.

Staff had the opportunity to participate in a great number of valuable in-service sessions during convention week. In-service covered a wide range of topics including updates for the administrative assistants regarding our accounting system, in-service to support staff about various learning strategies, and teacher in-service on Smartboards, new science websites and new math curriculum.

We began the Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday service on February 25th and First Friday Lenten liturgy on February 27th. Please feel more than welcome to attend any of the Lenten liturgies which are scheduled to take place at 9:00 a.m. every Friday before the Easter break.

As days lengthen and the temperatures improve, we look forward to being outside with the children enjoying the warmth of the springtime sun.

Sincerely,
Dave O'Dwyer

*Be it known to
all who enter
here that
CHRIST
is the reason
for this school.
He is the
unseen but
ever present
teacher in its
classes. He is
the model of its
faculty and the
inspiration of
its students.*

**Our Lady of the
Assumption
Elementary
School**

2219 – 14 Ave. S.
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1K 0V6
Ph: 403-327-5028
Fax: 403-380-6748

Email:
[assumption@
holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:assumption@holyspirit.ab.ca)

Website:
[www.holyspirit.ab.
ca/assumption](http://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/assumption)



All
God's
Children

Excellence
in
Learning

Sacramentality

Our
Collaborative
Community

Ministry

Stewardship

STUDENT REGISTRATION

We are presently taking registrations for the fall for kindergarten and students new to our school. Parents whose children presently attend our Pre-kindergarten Program need to register their child for kindergarten as the students are not automatically rolled over for the fall. We are required to have a copy of each student's birth certificate on file, so please bring the birth certificate with you. Also, please bring your child's Personal Health Care number. Our office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

MARCH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The third meeting for the Learning Services Parent Information Session will be held on March 11th at the Holy Spirit School Division Office located at the St. Basil Education Centre, 620 – 12B Street North. All parents are encouraged to attend. Due to this session, the March School Parent Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12th.

Our sincere thanks go to the ladies of the CWL for preparing a wonderful Shrove Tuesday pancake lunch and the Hot Lunch Committee for setting up and serving!

Movie Night was a success! We will try to make it a yearly event. Thank you to Mr. Bose for setting up the movie.

Thank you also to all the students and parents that helped with the Canabears fundraising. The orders are expected to arrive the second week of March. Approximately 270 bears were sold!

IT'S A BLAST PROGRAM

If you are in need of early morning or after school child care, the It's a Blast Program is offered in our school. Supervision and activities are provided for children from 7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on days when there is no school. Please call the It's a Blast office at 403-320-3988 for more information.

If you have any messages for the It's A Blast Program, please do not call the school office. All messages for It's a Blast need to be given directly to the It's a Blast office by the parent or guardian.

COUNSELLING CORNER

Counseling support continues to be available at the school for our students and families. Our counselor, Mrs. Hunt, is available by contacting the school office or by emailing her at: michele.hunt@holyspirit.ab.ca.

MARCH EVENTS AT ALL SAINTS PARISH

First Communion Workshop #3:

Thursday, March 5

7:00 p.m. at Assumption Hall

Confirmation Session #3:

Wednesday, March 18

7:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church & Hall

St. Patrick's Day:

Tuesday, March 17

Mass will be at noon at St. Patrick's Church followed by lunch. There will be no evening Mass.

Stations of the Cross are held every Friday during Lent at 7:00 p.m. at all three churches.

Lenten Suppers: The Knights of Columbus Council #10547 invites all parishioners to a Lenten Supper every Friday in Lent in St. Patrick's Parish Hall. There is a choice of delicious homemade non-meat soups with buns, cheese, pickles, and coffee and juice. The soups will be served from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. There is no fixed charge (freewill offering). The Lenten Supper will be followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. in St. Patrick's Church.

MARCH EVENTS AT ST. MARTHA'S PARISH

Come as a family! St. Martha's Church is hosting four Lenten evenings – Sunday, March 29 to Wednesday, April 1 – from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Reconciliation follows the Tuesday evening session.) This is an opportunity to listen to stories and learn from inspiring talks on the meaning of Easter. For more information, contact St. Martha's Church office at 403-381-8891.

KID'S RUNNING CLUB

Assumption School is very excited to offer the opportunity for our students to sign up for the Assumption Running Club which starts March 23. Information, training times, and permission forms will be sent out. Please note that you do not have to participate in the Runner's Soul Marathon to join our club. All levels – from walkers to runners – are welcome! Your support in encouraging our students to live a healthy lifestyle is always appreciated.

HEALTHY CHOICES DAY

On March 20, we are excited to offer a fun, activity-filled morning that stresses healthy lifestyles. Students in grades 1 to 6 will be split into their school teams and travel around the school to twelve different stations. Each station will provide the students with an opportunity to learn more about healthy living. To help this morning run smoothly, we are looking for a few parent volunteers. If you are able to help from 8:50 a.m. to approximately 12:00 noon, please send a note to the office or to Mrs. Mikuliak by March 10. Thank you for your support.

CITIZEN OF TOMORROW AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners of The Citizens of Tomorrow Awards for the month of January:

Shylo Mabin
Keely Cernetic
Lindsay Amatto
Abigail Schaaf-Scott
Isabella Purvis

Our thanks are extended to our valued sponsors for their generous support of the Citizens of Tomorrow Awards Program:

Airtech Heating and Air Conditioning Ltd.
Galko Homes Ltd.
Humpty's Family Restaurant

SCIENCE FAIR

A reminder to all Grade 4, 5, and 6 students that the Our Lady of the Assumption School Science Fair will take place on March 19 and 20. Please see Mrs. Graf to confirm your participation.

CANTEEN PRICES

Fudge Bars	\$1.00 each
Ice Cream Sandwiches	\$1.00 each
Rolo Ice Cream Bar	\$1.50 each
Strawberry/Kiwi Fruit Bar	\$1.50 each
Milk (chocolate or white)	\$1.00 each
Juice	\$1.00 each

Milk cards are available from the office for \$10.00, which will allow your child to make 12 milk (or juice) purchases.



SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

We are quickly approaching the heart of IPP review meetings this month and individual meetings will be set up in short order. The IPP's of newly coded children will also be launched in the near future. There are some of our students who have been referred in the first term to Student Services for an assessment for learning by our divisional psychologist. The priority has been on first identifying children in Grades 3 and 6 who will need some programming adjustments. Children in other grades should be assessed very soon.

A number of staff members at Assumption have been participating in videoconferencing with other schools around the province with respect to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). The website to access information is: <http://www.fasd-cmc.alberta.ca/home/572.cfm>. Both the PowerPoint handouts and the video presentations are available online. These are EXCELLENT presentations and we encourage as many of you as possible to view them. The Alberta Education website has a myriad of other electronic resources relative to typically developing children as well as students with special needs.

HANDICAPPED PARKING

There is one parking space in front of the school which is designated "Handicapped Parking". Please help us and those who require this assistance by not parking in that space unless you have current handicapped parking authorization.

A CALL TO LOVE

Jesus empowers us to do his work during our lives. In his letter to the Ephesians (Eph.4:2-7) St. Paul explains how to live out this call. It is "to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace: one Body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

The call in our lives is to love God and to love others as God loves us. It is clear, then, that living our Baptismal Call is to do for others whatever it is they would need to be cared for, to grow as persons, and in unity with others as baptized Christians, each with the same calling to love one another. This call is especially true regarding our care for the poor and the disadvantaged in our midst.

Let us pray that the Spirit grant us the grace of courage, generosity, and love, that we might each fulfill our calling.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS' APPRECIATION WEEK

March 9th to March 13th is Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Week. We have many excellent and experienced substitute teachers who help us out at school when teachers have to attend meetings, professional development sessions, or are absent due to illness. We would like to thank each and every one of the people who have acted in this capacity for their excellent service to our school. You are truly appreciated!

LOST AND FOUND

All students are reminded to please check the Lost and Found box and the boot room for items that belong to them. Parents, please feel free to also look there for any items that your child may have misplaced. Check at the office for lost keys and other valuable items such as eye glasses and cell phones.



SCHOOL FEES 2008/2009

A reminder that school fees are due and may be paid in the school office during business hours – 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are sending payment with your child, please complete, detach, and enclose the form below with your payment. **Make cheques and money orders payable to Our Lady of the Assumption School.** If you have any questions regarding payment, please contact Mrs. Homan at the school office.



**OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION SCHOOL
FEES PAYMENT FORM**

FEES Kindergarten: \$50.00 Grades 1 to 6: \$58.00

Student's Name: _____ Homeroom: _____

Name of person making payment: _____

Amount enclosed: _____ Cash Cheque Money order

Date: _____