



From the Desk of Mr. Muldoon



St. Francis School News

Issue 1 September 2009

I would like to welcome back all members of the St. Francis community. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful summer, and are looking forward to the new school year.

While you were having a well deserved rest, many people have been very busy preparing the school for the new year. The caretaking staff has been hard at work cleaning the building, waxing the floors and, as usual, they have done a great job. There has also been a number of improvements to the school. A new roof has been laid above the north wing and it has stood up to the all the rain that fell this summer. New lights, which have a life span of ten years, have also been put into the school. New floor covering has been laid on the east wing on both levels. Finally, the last of the smart boards and white boards have mounted in the classrooms. This will leave the school well placed to help students prepare for the needs of the new millennium. Plans are in the works to have the bleachers in the gym replaced by Christmas.

There also have been a few of staff changes. Sarah Harmon is our new band and religion teacher. She has a very strong background in both subjects as she played in military bands for three years and is part of the choir at St. Patrick's Church in Lethbridge. We would like to welcome back Ms. Jones-Husch who has returned from maternity leave and Ms. Troskot and Ms. Carmichael-Young who have returned from sabbaticals at the University of Lethbridge and the board office respectively. Ms. Randall will be on sabbatical this year in the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin. Her position will be taken by Ms. Atagan.

Joel Jackson is our PSIII student this year and will be mentored by Mr. Viney. I would like, on behalf of the St. Francis community, to welcome him to the school and wish him all the best.

As I said at this time last year, we begin the new school year, full of anticipation and a little apprehension. However I believe that the St. Francis staff, parents and students will work closely together in a spirit of open communication, so that we continue to grow as a Christ-centered learning community.

Father,
We thank you for a chance
to begin the 2009-10 school year,
and we ask that you bless
the staff, the students and their families.
We pray that you will guide us in all ways,
and that we will seek your will
in everything that we do.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

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Mrs. L. Schmidt— Associate Principal
Mr. D. Monaghan—Associate Principal
www.holyspirit.ab.ca/st.francis/



All
God's
Children

Excellence
in
Learning

Sacramentality

Our
Collaborative
Community

Ministry

Stewardship

SCHOOL FEES

FEES ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

Textbooks and instructional Supplies	\$ 51.00
School and Student Activity Fees	\$ 17.00
Complementary Course Fees	\$ 35.00
Parent School Council	\$ 7.00
SUBTOTAL	\$110.00
Other (optional)	
Yearbook	\$ 30.00
TOTAL	\$140.00



**FOR YOUR
CONVENIENCE, WE
NOW HAVE AN IN-
TERAC
MACHINE LOCATED
IN THE OFFICE AT
THE SCHOOL**

AGENDA The agenda is to assist the students with a proven method of effective and productive time management, improve academic performance through the power of goal setting, facilitate a team approach to learning through improved teacher/parent/student communications and teach responsibility and ownership of resources. Students **MUST** have agenda books to sign in/out of classrooms.

EARLY DISMISSAL FOR STUDENTS

Please note that there are staff meetings on the first Monday of every month.

St. Francis school will dismiss the students at **1:55 p.m.** and they will be bussed home at that time.

First Early Dismissal is September 14, 2009



SCHOOL PICTURES

An outside agency, Jostens, will be taking pictures of the students on **Tuesday, September 8, 2008.**

ALL STUDENTS will have their pictures taken for student cards at no cost..

The cost of other purchases is detailed on the handout that students receive on the first day of school. This amount is payable to Jostens when the pictures are taken. **PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO JOSTENS, NOT THE SCHOOL.**

SCHOOL INFORMATION



School Lockers and locks

Each student will be assigned a locker. To keep the students' belongings and textbooks secure, it is required that a lock be purchased as soon as possible.

The school office has combination locks available at \$6.00. If you purchase a lock please ensure that it is a heavy duty lock as the cheaper ones are easily broken into.

ST. FRANCIS MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic Faith community dedicated to educating and fostering the growth of responsible citizens who are life long learners encouraged to live and celebrate their faith.

ST. FRANCIS VISION STATEMENT

St. Francis Junior High School is a Christ-centered learning community where all achieve their potential.



SCHOOL BUSES



Bus routes will be posted in the front foyer of the school. Students who live 2.4 kilometers or more from school are entitled to bus transportation. Copies of the bus routes are available in the school office.

AUTOMATED ATTENDANCE SYSTEM



Please note that we have an automated attendance system. The system will phone you if your child is absent. Please call the school before 9:00 a.m. to let us know if your child will be late or will be absent. You may also leave a message on the answering machine if you call before school hours.

Electronic Devices

In our learning community at St. Francis School we are all striving to provide the best educational environment for our students. Electronic devices cause major distractions in the school and the policy regarding electronic devices is as follows: Upon entering St. Francis Junior High, all students' personal electronics are to be turned off. Students are not permitted to use these devices until after 3:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday and until 12:45 p.m. Friday while in the building or during class time (which includes commuting between SFJH and CCHS). We thank you for your support.



ST.FRANCIS SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Please wear:

- Clothes that are clean, free of holes and properly trimmed.
- Shirts that are long enough to come over the waistband of pants, skirts, or shorts, or be tucked in. All items designated as underwear **MUST** be kept under cover and not seen (including straps).
- Shorts or skirts that are reasonable in length (mid-thigh). The fingertip test with arms at your sides, shoulders relaxed is usually a reliable measure.
- Pants that fit you properly. Boxer shorts (or other bottoms) should not be visible. When you are seated, no part of your backside should be visible.
- Shirts and top with a higher cut neckline

Please DO NOT wear:

- Clothing with negative language, symbols or inappropriate content such as alcohol, marijuana leaves, inappropriate cartoon characters, innuendos or obscene gestures.
- Revealing clothing, including halter tops, spaghetti strap tops and/or strapless clothing (top of shoulders, chest, and back to be covered)..
- Have undergarments visible (including straps).
- Any head gear, including bandanas.
- Outdoor jackets in class.
- Shirts with a low cut neckline

Those students found not dressed appropriately will be asked to change immediately or told to phone home for the appropriate clothing.



SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR FUNDRAISER

Each year our school sponsors many activities and sports for the students. These activities cost a great deal of money and provide virtually no revenue to the school.

To fund our activities, the school annually sponsors a chocolate fundraiser. Each student will receive a case of chocolates with each box selling for \$3.00.

This blitz will begin late September and continues for approximately two weeks. We urge your support of the students selling this product.

More information will be in the
Announcements.

SCHOOL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. I have the RIGHT to a Christian Education. It is my RESPONSIBILITY to act in a Christian manner at all times.**
- 2. I have a RIGHT to learn in this classroom. It is my RESPONSIBILITY to listen to instruction, to work quietly at my desk when expected to do so and to raise my hand if I have a question, concern or need to leave.**
- 3. I have a RIGHT to hear and be heard. It is my RESPONSIBILITY not to interrupt when others are speaking.**
- 4. I have a RIGHT to be respected in this classroom. It is my RESPONSIBILITY not to tease or bug other people, or hurt their feelings.**
- 5. I have a RIGHT to be safe in this school. It is my RESPONSIBILITY not to threaten or physically harm anyone else.**
- 6. I have a RIGHT to privacy and to my own personal space. It is my RESPONSIBILITY to treat the school and the personal property of others with dignity, care, and respect.**
- 7. I have the RIGHT to be respected by other individuals in this school. It is my RESPONSIBILITY to respect the other students and the authority of the adult staff in the school.**

Dear Parents,

We wish to take this opportunity to inform you of Holy spirit Catholic School's Administrative Procedure regarding our response to high-risk behaviours. In order to enhance a sense of safety and security for all students and staff in our schools, Holy Spirit Catholic Schools has adopted a practice of zero tolerance for not responding to high-risk behaviours. High-risk behaviours include, but are not limited to, possession of weapons, bomb threats and threats to kill or injure others. Should any student engage in behaviour which threatens or appears to threaten the safety of others, our protocol for dealing with high-risk behaviours will be activated.

This letter complies with procedure 2 of Administrative Procedure 322: Violence Threat/Risk assessment (V-TRA) Protocol, which states that parents/guardians will be provided with "fair notice" that each threat will be taken seriously. should you wish to further review this Administrative Procedure, please visit our website at www.holyspirit.ab.ca

If you require further information, please contact Dr. Debbie Deak, Associate Superintendent (Student Services), at the address and phone number below. We appreciate your support in ensuring our schools are safe environments for our students, staff and community partners.

Sincerely,
Christopher Smeaton
Superintendent of Schools

620 12 Street B North 403-327-9555

World Skills Day

September 2

Calgary, Alberta

**All grade 9 students in the Holy Spirit Schools
are attending.**

**Buses will leave St. Francis at approximately 7
a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m.**

**Permission forms are due into the office
ASAP.**

PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Please note that the general meeting will be held in conjunction with Meet the Teacher Night on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. On that night, elections will occur.

We would like to meet you and have you participate in the School council. We are in need of parents who will serve as classroom representatives. If you are able to serve on Council, please complete the form below and return it to the school as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

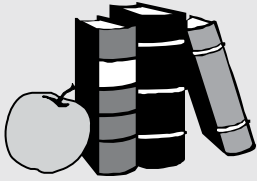
Parent's Name _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____
Name of Student _____
Grade & Homeroom _____

DANCE CHAPERONE

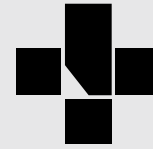
Parent's Name _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____
Indicate Specific Month _____

TENTATIVE DANCE SCHEDULE		Chaperone	
Welcome Back Dance	Friday, September 18	yes	no
Halloween Dance	October	yes	no
Christmas Dance	December	yes	no

Review the dance rules with your son or daughter on page 14 in the agenda.



Healthy Schools Healthy Futures



Alberta Health Services

Welcome back to another school year

Hi! I am the **Public Health Nurse** assigned to your school. My focus is on promoting the health of students, staff, and families in the school community. I work in partnership with Population Health which includes Dental Health, Injury Prevention and Healthy Weights

Deb Stephen 403-388-6655 ext 3412

Hello from your local **Healthy Weights Team!** Our job is to promote healthy body weights in school-aged children. Here are a few ways we can help your school:

- Help identify priority health issues
- Support programs and policies that promote healthy weights
- Assist with physical activity programming

We look forward to working with your school.

To contact **Healthy Weights call 403-388-6666**

For general health information contact:

HEALTH LINK at 1-866-408-5465.

Students with chronic medical conditions

Students with chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma and severe allergies can and do lead a normal childhood.

Some tips parents can follow to help keep their child safe and healthy are:

- Inform the school of their child's condition
- Provide a MedicAlert® bracelet for their child
- Provide the school with current medical instructions from their physician
- Provide the school with up-to-date auto-injectors and keep them current
- Provide information to school and teachers as requested
- Participate in the development of an emergency response plan for their child

For more information contact your school's public health nurse or discuss with the school principal.

No microwave, no problem

Preparing kids' lunches is considered a dreaded chore by many parents. Not having a microwave in the school can be an added challenge, but there is still hope!

- Plan a weekly menu with your children to make your week easier and your child's lunch healthier.
- Make a sandwich more interesting by using whole wheat wraps, pita bread, subs, english muffins or bagels.

Food Safety is important! Pack your child's lunch in an insulated bag and keep cold foods cold with a frozen juice box or ice pack and hot foods hot in a thermos.

Try these lunch ideas!

- Baked tortillas, salsa, cheese, bean dip and raw veggies
- Bread sticks, nuts, fruit and a cheese stick
- Hardboiled egg, yogurt, 100% fruit juice and a carrot muffin

For more information visit: <http://www.healthyalberta.com/HealthyPlaces/622.htm>

Terry Fox National School Run Day

In 1980, Terry Fox was a young Canadian with a dream of finding a cure for cancer. He started his Marathon of Hope and invited Canadians to share in his vision. When Terry recognized that he would not be able to complete his Marathon, he instead bequeathed his mission to those very Canadians who kept him going day in and day out. He knew before his death that there would be an annual Terry Fox Run in cities, towns, hamlets and villages across the country. Almost 30 years later, Canadians adopted Terry's mission of finding a cure for all cancers with an enthusiasm and passion that has done him proud.

The Terry Fox National School Run Day allows millions of students across Canada to join together in an inspirational nation-wide day of fundraising for cancer research. This year, The Terry Fox National School Run Day is **Friday September 25, 2009**. Schools, families and children are invited to fund-raise and share in this inspirational event.

www.terryfox.org/SchoolRun

Newsletter Sign Up

As we strive to become a “greener” community, our school newsletters are only available online. Each month the newsletter will be emailed to you and posted on our school website. To receive the newsletter you must sign up on our homepage:

www.holyspirit.ab.ca/st.francis/

The newsletter sign up is located on the right side of the page above our school calendar.

We strive to update our calendar regularly and will post any urgent information on the website as well.

Please help us become greener by signing up for your newsletter today.



MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Please plan to attend the introduction of teachers, and School Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m. We are looking forward to having you here.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Scheduled interviews are held shortly after the issuing of the first, second and third progress reports, or by appointment at any other time in the year that parents or teachers feel necessary.

We encourage parents to take these opportunities to visit the school and discuss their child's progress.

School Council Annual
General Meeting
To follow Meet the Teacher
Night
Please plan to attend

CANTEEN

The canteen is an excellent facility that offers a hot lunch menu and snacks to our students. Students may wish to purchase items from the canteen for their lunch or supplement a bag lunch brought from home. There are also microwaves available for the students' use.



ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY SCHEDULE 2009/2010

Monday to Thursday

Warning Bell	8:00 a.m.
Begin Period 1	8:05 a.m.
End Period 1	8:30 a.m.
Begin Period 2	8:32 a.m.
End Period 2	9:11 a.m.
Begin Period 3	9:14 a.m.
End Period 3	9:53 a.m.
Begin Period 4	9:56 a.m.
End Period 4	10:35 a.m.
Begin Period 5	10:38 p.m.
End Period 5	11:17 a.m.
NOON HOUR	11:17 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.
Warning Bell	12:00 p.m.
Begin Period 6	12:05 p.m.
End Period 6	12:45 p.m.
Begin Period 7	12:48 p.m.
End Period 7	1:28 p.m.
Begin Period 8	1:31 p.m.
End Period 8	2:11 p.m.
Begin Period 9	2:14 p.m.
End Period 9	2:53 p.m.

STAFF MEETING MONDAYS

Warning Bell	11:55 p.m.
Begin Period 6	12:00 p.m.
End Period 6	12:30 p.m.
Begin Period 7	12:30 p.m.
End Period 7	1:00 p.m.
Begin Period 8	1:00 p.m.
End Period 8	1:30 p.m.
Begin Period 9	1:30 p.m.
End Period 9	1:55 p.m.

Friday

Warning Bell	8:00 a.m.
Begin Period 2	8:05
End Period 2	8:35
Begin Period 3	8:38
End Period 3	9:08
Begin Period 4	9:11
End Period 4	9:41
Begin Period 5	9:44
End Period 5	10:14
Begin Period 6	10:17
End Period 6	10:47
Warning Bell	10:55
Break	10:47 – 10:57
Begin Period 7	10:57
End Period 7	11:27
Begin Period 8	11:30
End Period 8	12:00
Begin Period 9	12:03
End Period 9	12:33





September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	31 First day of classes Gr. 7 a.m. only Gr. 8 and 9 p.m. only	1	2 World Skills Day for Grade 9	3 New Year Liturgy	4	5
6	7 No School	8 Picture Day	9	10	11 Cross Country Run Gym Riot/ Truck Pull	12
13	14 Early Dismissal 1:55	15 Meet the Teacher night 7 pm School Council AGM to follow	16	17	18 Welcome Back Dance	19
20	21	22	23 Cross Country City Meet	24 Theatre Calgary "Jack and the Kid"	25	26
27	28	29	30 School Fees Due			