



St. Patrick Fine Arts
Elementary School

SCHOOL NEWS

Issue 1 Volume 1 September 2009

Welcome to St. Patrick Fine Arts Elementary School!

Those first days of school are precious ones! There is so much excitement and anticipation in the air – for children, parents and, yes, for school staffs, too. As much as we all enjoy our summer time of relaxation, play and travel, we all look forward to the energy and challenge a new school year brings. Last week, all employees of Holy Spirit Schools (about 450 of us) gathered at St. Patrick Church for our yearly Opening Mass. It was celebrated by our Bishop Frederick Henry and con-celebrated with priests and deacons who serve the communities that form our school division: Lethbridge, Coaldale, Picture Butte, Taber and Pincher Creek. It is a wonderful, faith-filled celebration that always reconnects us as colleagues, renews our friendships, and reunites us as one school division, with the common goal of serving the 4300 students in our care. In his homily, Bishop Henry reminded us that there is much to be done, and that even through the many challenges and changes that education brings, God has called us to commit ourselves fully to our students.

We have experienced some changes here to our physical space with the arrival of two modular classrooms. These rooms are currently not ready for us but will become the 'homes' of the two grade four classes when they are ready. We expect to be moving into the classrooms within a few weeks, so the students in grade 4 will be looking forward to being the first children in these classrooms!

As a staff, we are committed to nourishing and strengthening our school community as it grows and changes. As you walk through the doors of the school, whether a parent, child or grandparent we want you to immediately feel welcome and at home here. Our 'partner' teachers are working together, planning activities that blend classrooms together. We also have many events already in the works – 2009 is the 50th Anniversary of this school and special events are being planned. Our School Council will continue to invite more parents to become involved with the school, especially on September 9, the annual Welcome Back Barbeque and first school council meeting. On September 15 at 7 pm, parents are all invited to attend a 'Meet the Teacher' evening here at the school, at which time you will be meeting other parents along with your child's teacher. These are only a few of the upcoming opportunities you, as parents, will have to become a part of your child's learning community of friends. It's no wonder we are looking forward to this new year with hope, enthusiasm, and anticipation.

God bless you in your first days of school!

Mrs. Baier

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No Child Without

St. Patrick Fine Arts
Elementary School
80 Rivergreen Rd. W.
Lethbridge, AB
T1K 7Y1
327-4386

*Uniting the Arts and
Gospel values*

Principal – Shelley Baier

Associate Principal –
Valeria Lazzaretto

All
God's
Children

Excellence
in
Learning

Sacramentality

Our
Collaborative
Community

Ministry

Stewardship

St. Pat's Staff

Mrs. S. Baier	Principal	Mrs. V. Lazzaretto	Associate Principal
Mrs. L. Bruce-Brown	Teacher Assistant	Mrs. M. Calder	Gr. 5 Teacher (after Xmas)
Mrs. G. Chenier	Gr. 2 Teacher	Mrs. T. Demory	FSL Teacher
Ms. C. Ferrari	Gr. 3 Teacher	Mr. D. Flaig	Gr. 4 Teacher
Mrs. G. Fletcher	Teacher Assistant	Mrs. B. Forrest	Kindergarten Teacher
Mrs. C. Hanna	Special Ed Teacher	Miss J. Kennedy	Intern Teacher (until Xmas)
Mrs. L. Knodel	Gr. 1 Teacher	Mrs. J. Lavkulich	Library Assistant
Mr. D. Lidstone	Gr. 6 Teacher	Mr. B. Miles	Caretaker
Mrs. C. Packham	Gr. 1 Teacher	Mr. M. Pariseau	Gr. 2 Teacher
Mrs. A. Ramias-Fix	Caretaker	Mrs. M. Rosner	Gr. 4 Teacher
Mrs. S. Rougeau	Teacher Assistant	Mrs. C. Scott	Office
Ms. C. Swark	Gr. 3 Teacher	Mrs. B. Thompson	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. K. Van Dellen	Gr. 5 Teacher (until Xmas)		

New Staff Introductions

Theresa Demory

I am happy to be returning to the St. Patricks Fine Arts School family. Born in Montreal, I have been teaching in Lethbridge for 23 years. I have a Master of Education from the University of Lethbridge. I belong to All Saints Parish. My husband Lorne is a firefighter for the City of Lethbridge. I am looking forward to working with the wonderful people here.



Jennifer Kennedy

My name is Jennifer Kennedy and I am in my third professional semester in the education program at the University of Lethbridge. I have my Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performance and I am currently in my last year of my Bachelor of Education. I am thrilled to be involved in a Fine Arts School and I cannot wait to have fun with the students. All the best for the 2009/2010 school year.



Bell Times for Grades 1-6 Monday – Thursday

AM
 8:40 – Warning Bell Grades 1-6
 8:44 – Classes Begin Grades 1-6
 10:25 - 10:39 – Recess
 11:46 – 12:30 – Lunch



PM
 12:30 – Warning Bell
 12:34 – Classes Begin
 2:16 – 2:29 – Recess
 3:35 – Classes Dismiss

Bell Times for Grades 1-6 Friday

AM
 8:40 – Warning Bell Grades 1-6
 8:44 – Classes Begin Grades 1-6
 10:52 – 11:30 – Lunch

PM
 11:30 – Warning Bell
 11:33 – Classes Begin
 1:15 – Classes Dismiss

Class Times for Kindergarten

AM – 8:45 – 11:25 M - F

PM – 12:15 – 3:35 M – Th

Please note: All classes (K-Gr 6) will dismiss at 2:35 on the first Monday of every month for staff meeting.

Mark Your Calendar!

Wednesday, September 9: School Council is hosting a Welcome Back Barbeque in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting. This will be held at St. Patrick Fine Arts School. At this time the annual report will be presented and elections for classroom representatives and council executive will be held.

Friday, September 11: School Opening Mass: 9:00 a.m. at St. Martha's Church.

Wednesday, September 16: School Picture Day.

School Fees

School fees are due the first week of school. Kindergarten fees will be **\$45: \$10** for your LAC and **\$35** for bussing for field trips. For Grades 1 to 6, the fee is **\$83.00**. In addition, there is a fee of **\$3.00** per family for your school council. The school fee includes textbook rental, the agenda and a technology fee which includes the consumption of supplies when using the computers such as toner for the printers. It also includes a fine arts transportation fee that we will use when the school as a whole needs to be transported to a fine arts activity.

Student Absences

Occasionally **children will not be at school** for one reason or another. If your child will not be attending school for any reason, for the morning or the afternoon, please call the school to let us know.

Also, there are times when parents need to take their child out of the school during the school day. We need you to **please sign your child out at the office**. This is a safety precaution and we appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

RELIGION

Our school begins with a wonderful tradition of celebrating the Eucharist. Please join the school community for this Opening Mass on Friday, September 11th, 9:00am at St. Martha's Church. Grade five students will be the main sponsors for this liturgy.

The student agendas have a Catholic component to them and you are encouraged to read through the information on sacraments, liturgical year, social justice, prayers, the Bible, and more. Each month focuses on a particular Virtue, with readings, prayers and thoughtful questions to encourage strong Catholic faith development. As well, you will find listings for Sunday Gospel readings and indicators for Saints' Feast days. This agenda certainly does a wealth of information for the entire family.

Sacrament Preparations are beginning shortly and you are reminded to register your child for these sessions at your local church. Father Fernando plans to visit the school several times this year, in order to connect more with children from St. Martha's Parish.

A special Blessing Ceremony will take place when the portable classrooms are completed.

FINE ARTS

A full slate of clubs will be provided again this year. Students may join their choices of CHOIR, DANCE, DRAMA and ART club. Many children commit to several of these extra opportunities offered by dedicated staff. Please look for the school club schedule soon.

CLUBS

Division I Choir will begin lunch time rehearsals on Wednesday, September 16th. Choir membership forms will be given to all students in grades 1, 2 and 3. Parent volunteers make such a positive difference to these weekly rehearsals and you are invited to consider assisting with this type of support.

A very special thank you to parents and members of both choirs for the beautiful year end gifts for Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Forrest, and Mrs. Lazzaretto. The silver eternity bracelets, engraved with the Prayer of St. Patrick, are treasured by each of them!

Meet the Teacher Night

There will be presentations for the purpose of meeting your child's teachers on the evening of Tuesday, September 15 at 7:00. Presentations will begin in the gym and then move on to classrooms. We look forward to seeing you there.

Agendas

Each student (Grades 1-6) will receive, and use, a **School Agenda** again this year. The school agenda helps the students to manage their time and organize their day. Inside your child's agenda you will find our **School Handbook**. Please take time to read this, as it will give you a great deal of information about the school and important dates for your calendar. Please note that the calendar in the agenda is tentative and dates may change depending on the needs of our program.

H1N1 Update

Holy Spirit Catholic Schools continues to work with Alberta Health and Wellness and Alberta Education to provide information and resources to staff, students and parents regarding H1N1. Please find a link containing information for school administrators, as well as public information products for distribution to schools, students and parents at <http://www.education.alberta.ca/admin/resources/hethandsafety/h1n1.aspx>. This information may be downloaded, copied, and printed. Please note, the Public Health Agency of Canada is not recommending the closure of schools at this time, even if a confirmed case of H1N1 Influenza Virus is identified in a school. Alberta Education and Alberta Health and Wellness will continue to work closely to provide timely and accurate information to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff.

Coaldale Rec Hockey

Season begins on Monday, September 21 – for boys and girls ages 7 – 17. There will be a mass registration on Wednesday, September 9 from 7 – 9 pm at the Coaldale Curling Rink. For more information, call Cheryl @ 403-894-5663.

Opening Mass

Our opening mass will be held on Friday, September 11 at St. Martha's Church at 9:00 am. The school busses will take the regular bus students to the church rather than to school this morning and we will be using busses to transport the students back to school after mass. If you drop off your child at school or if your child walks to school, please arrange to transport them to the church for mass at 9:00 am. Please do not take your child to church before 8:45 am as supervision will commence at this time. Kindergarten students will not be attending mass. They will have a regular school day. Morning Kindergarten students who normally ride the bus will need to be delivered to the school by parents for this day only.

No Child Without

No Child Without is a community-based charitable program that offers all elementary school aged children with medical conditions or allergies, free MedicAlert protection. It has been created in response to the increased incidences of childhood asthma, diabetes, allergies and other medical conditions. No Child Without is for school aged children ages 4 to 14. There is no cost to the parent, school or Board of Education when a child participates in the program. Parents register their child by calling MedicAlert using the number on the back of the brochure or by going online at www.nochildwithout.ca. Brochures are also available at the school office.

Canteen

Our school canteen will be up and running on Tuesday, Sept. 8th. Items for sale include;

MILK – CHOCOLATE/WHITE – 225 ml	\$0.90
JUICE-APPLE – SunRype Pure	\$0.50
PIZZA POP	\$1.00
MINI PIZZA	\$1.00
CORN DOG	\$0.75
HOT RODS	\$0.25
BEEF JERKY	\$1.75
ICE CREAM SANDWICH	\$0.75
POPSICLE	\$0.50
RICE KRISPIE (SMALL)	\$0.50

Milk cards are available at the office and offer the convenience of not having to have cash every day for milk. Prices are \$9.00 for 10 milks, or \$22.50 for 25 milks.

Please note that all items are not always available. We do the best we can to keep a constant supply of milk and main course items, but delivery is only once per week.

