

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



As October has come and passed, we are moving into a busy November! With November comes important events such as Parent Teacher Conferences, Remembrance Day and the end of term 1. October was a month of expressing gratitude and we are thankful for our parent community ...

KUDOS - Gratitude

- **HALLOWEEN DANCE** Thank you to all of our parents who came out to volunteer at the dance. It was a successful event and a lot of fun was had by our students. Events like this could not have been possible without the many parent volunteers.
- **SCHOOL FEES** Thank you to all of the parents/guardians who have paid their school fees, **81% have submitted payment!** We greatly appreciate families paying fees early; this is assisting us with school budget planning.
- **STUDENT UPDATE FORMS** Thank you to all the families who have completed & submitted their Student Update Forms - **we are now at 76% completion!**
- **WORLD TEACHERS DAY** Thank you to all of the families who donated treats and food for staff on our October 6th Professional Development Day. Everything was yummy, we felt appreciated!

RETAKE PICTURE DAY REMINDER - Bring out your best smile!

Edge Imaging will be at the school tomorrow, **Wednesday, Nov. 1st**, to take individual pictures of students who were absent on picture day or require retakes.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES - Sign up now on our website: [LINK](#)

SIGN UP: You are invited to come and meet with your child's teacher on the evenings of November 7th or 8th. The sign up [link](#) is now live. Our hope with conducting effective parent-teacher conferences is to boost family involvement in our classrooms and help promote positive outcomes for students, teachers and our school.

A parent-teacher conference is a great opportunity for teachers to:

- share academic progress and growth based on classroom observations, testing data, assessments, portfolios, and assignments

- learn from parents or guardians so staff can be better informed about students' strengths, needs, behaviours, and learning styles
- discuss enrichment or intervention strategies to support students' learning
- discuss issues that may be interfering with students' learning and growth

MAKER MARKET: Our grade 9 students have been busy in their CLS classes making items that will be for sale during our conferences. Stay tuned for sneak peaks! **CASH ONLY**

WOLVES GEAR: We will be having Wolves Gear on display to check for sizes. All ordering will be done online through your Rycor account.

SCHOOLGY

Thank you for registering for your Schoology accounts and taking the time to check your child's progress. As Parent Teacher Conferences (Nov. 7 & 8) are right around the corner and the end of term 1 approaches (Nov. 23rd) please be sure to check progress in your child's various subjects prior to attending the conference with your child.

LIVING OUR FAITH IN ACTION - **thank you in advance for your support!**

GIVING TREE: St. Francis of Assisi School is proud to be partnering with Catholic Social Services' **Giving Tree** campaign again this year!

- **How it Works:** Families in need of support this Christmas can apply directly through Catholic Social Service or through your school's Family School Enhancement Counsellor. Again, this year gift cards (instead of gifts) will be collected.

Tags can be found on the Christmas tree in our gathering area starting at our upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences (Nov. 7 & 8) and will remain available throughout the school day until they are gone.

The TAGS are \$25 gift cards from Walmart (this location only please) Please return your gift card back to the school office by December 1, 2023. If you have any questions please contact Katherine

Seymour @ katherine.seymour@rdcrs.ca

FOOD BANK: Once again this year our student leadership teams will be supporting the Red Deer Food Bank by organizing school wide food drives throughout the school year. One week per month students will be asked to donate & collect food items for the Red Deer Food Bank. The last week of October our students collected PASTA items. Stay tuned to see which food item our community will be called to collect and donate to our local Food Bank in the month of November.

REMEMBRANCE DAY LITURGY - **November 8th**

On Wednesday, November 8 we celebrate our Remembrance Liturgy, in the gym, being led by 6-3 students and staff. This will happen from 10:30 - 11:30 am.

WAY OF THE WOLF (WOTF) STUDENT RECOGNITION- **Be Loving!**

St. Francis of Assisi Middle School is a Christ-centered learning environment whose members are called to Be Loving, Be Joyful, Be Humble and Be Forgiving. These four pillars are the foundation we build upon as our students transition throughout our school and guide them in years to come. We ask that students strive to...BE Loving, BE Joyful, BE Humble and BE Forgiving.

Staff are encouraged to nominate students who have demonstrated being **Loving!** in the month of October. Nominated students will come down to the atrium on Monday, November 6th to try their chances on the spinning wheel.

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. - John 15:12

Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter, Nurture and Serve.

COMMUNICATION - Teachers & School administration

If you have questions please reach out to your child's teachers. Teachers look forward to meeting parents/guardians in person at our November Parent-Teacher Conferences. Over the coming months our school administration team will be connecting with parents/guardians via telephone. This provides school administration an opportunity to check in with parents and seek feedback.

SCHOOL COUNCIL - Ready, Set, Go!

- Thank you to the parents who attended our October 2nd meeting.
- School administration shared their Principals Report [LINK](#) and asked for feedback from parents in regards to garnering more parental involvement in the school. Attending the meetings provides an opportunity for parents to provide feedback in areas that school administration is seeking.
- Our next meeting will be Monday, November 20 @ 7:00 PM

GENERAL INFORMATION - Division Calendar

School Division calendars for the 2023 - 2024 school year, please click [here](#).

PARENT QUICK LINKS -

- [PowerSchool/School Engage](#) - [LINK](#)
- [Schoolology](#) - [LINK](#)
- [Rycor - school fees](#) [LINK](#)

SCHOOL INFORMATION - School Hours / Student Entry

- Office Hours - open 8:00 - 4:00 pm on school days
- Bell Schedule -
 - First block starts @ 8:50 AM
 - Lunch 12:07 - 1:07 PM
 - Last block ends @ 3:25 PM
- Student Entry/Exit- As in previous years, we will continue the practice of having students enter and exit from their respective grade doors. We found that this practice made for safe and smooth transitions for our students in the mornings and afternoons.
 - [Grade Level Entry/Exit Doors Link](#)
 - Student Doors - Open at 8:30 a.m.

RYCOR - School Fees DUE

St. Francis of Assisi Middle Mandatory School Fees are now due.

- **CTS/Options Fee - \$15** This fee supports the delivery of Option Classes for all grade levels
- **PAC (Parent Council) Fee - \$25** This fee supports year end field trips, etc. for all grade levels
- **Grade 9 Farewell Fee - \$10** (Grade 9 students only) This fee supports the celebration of our graduating Grade 9 students

How do I use RYCOR Online Payments?

1. Visit our school's website
2. Click on the "Quick Links" tab to access PowerSchool.

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3. Sign in using your PowerSchool Username and Password. If you have forgotten either/or, click the link "Forgot username password?" and follow the instructions or contact the school office for assistance.
4. Click on link, 'School Fees and Forms', located on the left-hand side.
5. Please follow the instructions provided on screen when you are taken to RYCOR.

If you have questions, please contact the school financial secretary.

*RYCOR can only be accessed via PC/Tablet, the program does not work using the PowerSchool App

POWERSCHOOL - **Student Update Forms** PAST DUE

- Thank you to those parents who have completed and submitted their Student Update Forms.
- Student Update Forms are a requirement from Alberta Education and are mandatory to submit, even if you have no changes. Forms are now accessible in PowerSchool.
 - **These forms were DUE SEPTEMBER 30th.**
 - Please log in to your account to update your records. Even if you have NO CHANGES a form must be submitted.
- Once you have set up your account, remember to save your username and password.
- Don't hesitate to contact the school if you have difficulty accessing the parent portal.
- The PowerSchool site is accessed at: <https://powerschool.rdcrs.ca/public/home.html>

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES - **Mark your calendars**

- November 1 All Saint's Day
- November 1 Picture Retakes
- November 2 All Soul's Day
- November 5 Daylight Savings
- November 5 Catholic Education Sunday - staff will be leading ministries @ 11AM St. Mary's
- November 7 Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 8 Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 9 NO SCHOOL - Lieu Day
- November 10 NO SCHOOL - Remembrance Day
- November 11 Remembrance Day
- November 13-17 Alberta Bullying Awareness Week
- November 15 Rock Your Mocs Day
- November 20 School Council Meeting
- November 24 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development

We thank you for your support and are so grateful to work together with you. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions on how to enhance our school community.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Rori-Lynn Daniel - Principal

Mr. Kelly Jacobson - Vice Principal

Mrs. Kathleen Robinson - Vice Principal

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