

Newsletter #6

January 26th, 2023

Principal Message

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish New Year's Blessings to all and I certainly hope you all enjoyed a very restful and joyous Christmas holiday. Looking back to our final weeks before the Christmas Break, I would like to sincerely thank all staff & students for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to making our Advent Liturgy, and many Christmas activities and events (including our Kootenai Brown Christmas) so special and memorable. Now, a couple weeks into the New Year, we can certainly consider and reflect on the many possibilities and goals we can set for 2023. As well, next week we are diving into Semester 2 for our High School students and Quarter 3 options for Junior High. I encourage everyone to set reasonable and achievable goals for themselves for this year. Remember, when you set your mind to something and mix in some real effort & courage, you will be successful.

Our school website (<https://smpc.holyspirit.ab.ca/>) has undergone some updates. Please take a moment to note on your calendar the important dates and events that appear on the January – March 2023 Calendar on our website in the bottom right hand corner of the website. It is time to sign up and also re-register your child for the 2023-2024 school year – and registering to our school has never been easier. For Pre-K Programs, new registrations, and to update your current registrations for next year, simply go to our website and click the link for 'registrations' on the bottom left hand corner. If you require assistance with your child's registration, please contact your St. Michael's School directly. (403-627-3488).

Let us all enter this New Year with renewed energy and resolve to set new goals for ourselves, and to always turn to Mother Mary to help us achieve those goals. "I plead with you - never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."

~ Pope Saint John Paul II

Once again, welcome back and best wishes for a year filled with many joys and successes.

Peace and Blessings,

♥ Ms. Schmidt

Past Month Photo Highlights



**Kootenai Brown
Christmas**



Advent Celebration

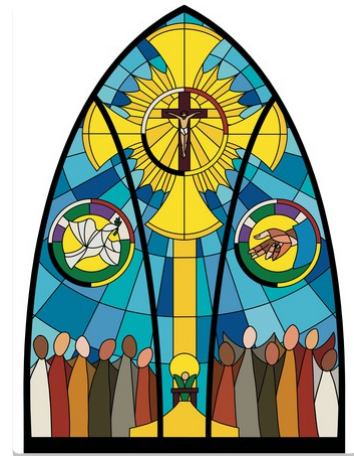


**Art 10 Nativity
Mural Painting**

Faith Focus

2023 - New Year's Challenge - Slow Down

Pope Francis this year challenges us to look carefully at the lessons taught to us by the shepherds in the nativity story. He tells us the shepherds did two very important things, they went and they saw Christ. These actions were simple, but not always easy. They easily could have got caught up with their work and their lifestyle which demands so much time. As we ask ourselves what is God calling us to do this year, perhaps these words of Pope Francis might provide us inspiration. The following reflection is taken from Pope Francis' January 1st homily.



"How many times, in our busy lives, do we fail to stop, even for a moment, to be close to the Lord and to hear his word, to say a prayer, to adore and praise him. We do the same thing with others: caught up in our own affairs or in getting ahead, we have no time to listen to our wife, our husband, to talk with our children, to ask them about *how they really are*, and not simply about their studies or their health. And how good it is for us to take time and listen to the elderly, to our grandfathers and grandmothers, in order to remember the deeper meaning of our lives and to recover our roots. Let us ask ourselves too, whether we are capable of seeing the people next door, the people who live in the same building, the people we meet each day on the street. Brothers and sisters, let us imitate the shepherds: let us learn to see! To understand by seeing with our hearts. Let us learn to see."

Mark Wynder

Associate Principal





About Us

 Facebook

 @stmichaelspc

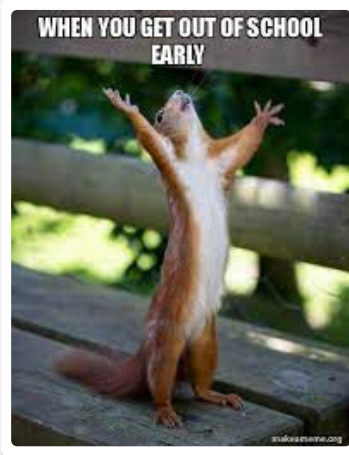
 864 Christie Avenue, Pincher Cr...

 mikeadmin@holyspirit.ab.ca

 403-627-3488

 smpc.holyspirit.ab.ca

Winter weather is here again! Please send your child to school with appropriate winter gear as we still go outside for recess!



Leaving Early??

If your child needs to leave school early, please notify the office at 403-627-3488 as early as possible. Please keep in mind that during recess it can be challenging to find students when they are outside.



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Friday's
8:00 am to 2:00 pm



Are you late??

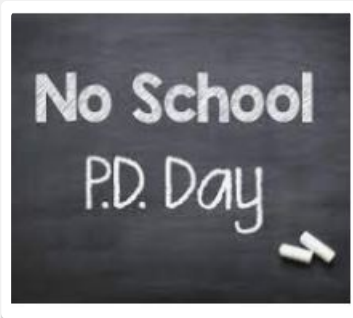
Remember to stop in the office to sign in if you arrive late... otherwise the dialer will be calling you! Elementary students are considered late after 8:30 and junior/senior high students are considered late after 8:40.

Thank you!

Click the picture to view our school year calendar



Dates to Remember



School PD Day

Monday, January 30th, 2023
NO School for students.
Staff is engaging in Professional Development on our FNMI Priority with a guided tour of Piikani Reserve and sessions filled on topics of Indigenous games, drumming, and storytelling.



Start of High School Semester 2

Tuesday, January 31st, 2023
Please ensure your child is registered in classes. Mr. Wynder is our Program Coordinator. Please feel free to contact him with any questions regarding your child's classes and graduation plan.



Graduation Cap & Gown Photos

Wednesday & Thursday, February 1st & 2nd, 2023
Professional Graduation Photo Session appointments available. Photos will be taken through Jessica Maunsell Photography. Please connect with our Graduation Coordinator, Mrs. Diana Smith for more information.

Dragon Athletic Highlights!



Dragon Busses are making miles!

Photo of **Junior B Boys** team heading to an away game. Did you know our school busses are 100% funded for fuel and repairs through our **Friends of St. Michael's Foundation?**



Boys win GOLD!

Congratulations to Senior Boys Basketball Team who won the Championship at the Taber Tournament last weekend. Go Dragons Go!



Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest!

We had so much fun with the annual Knights Free Throw Competition! Congratulations to our finalists- Sienna Poulson & Kenai Warkentin.



January 2023 has sure flown by here in the Library!

We are excited for Friday January 27th to reveal the title of our **1Book5Schools** read along project!

1Book5Schools is a multi-school "book club", with families from St. Michael's School, Canyon School, Livingstone School (Lundbreck), Horace Allen (Crowsnest Pass), Isabelle Sellon (Crowsnest Pass).

About 800 families in our area will all be reading the same book at home to their children all at the same time. We have selected a book that can be followed, understood and enjoyed by younger students, but will still captivate and stimulate older children. **The title of the book will be revealed at the kick-off assembly at St. Michael's Friday, January 27!**

Copies of the novel will be sent home with students who are the youngest K-6 student in a family.

A reading schedule will be included in the book as a bookmark, and you are asked to read it at home January 27-February 13. No reading is scheduled for weekends, in case you need to catch up. Daily readings are about 15 minutes long. **Parents are asked to read aloud at home to their children. This is valuable modelling and prepares your child to be an effective reader.** This is also a fun, worthwhile family activity. More information can be found at www.readtothem.org. **You are invited to email a photo of your family reading the novel at home, and send it to your child's teacher. Collected**

photos will be put into a slideshow that will be shared at the end of the event. The slide show is for school use only, and will not be shared beyond the school.

"When a whole school reads a book, there's a lot to talk about." **With your help, we will build a Community of Readers at our school and in our communities.** We know you will enjoy our 2023 1Book,5Schools event! Have fun!

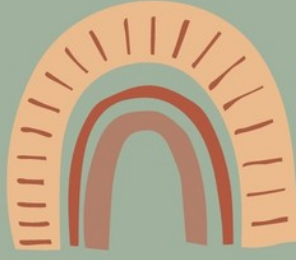
**Would you like to receive text messages for school closures?
Click the box below for more info**



School Communic...

www.holyspirit.ab.ca

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division uses SchoolMessenger to improve our schools' communication with parents and guardians. This service does not replace other school communication methods. It is simply intended to extend beyond what we've traditionally used to ensure timely communications and reduce the amount of papers being sent home.



St. Micheal's School Counsellor Newsletter



FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

Starting February 2023 there will be 4 Friendship Groups held during school hours, each month. There will be 2 groups for the grades 1-3 and 2 for grade 4-6.

We will be discussing what makes a good friend and talk about any situations that may come up and the feelings around those situations. There will also be team building activities.

Please feel free to reach out for any further questions or suggestions!

INTRODUCTION

Hello Families!
My name is Shaylen, the children call me Miss Shay. I am your Family School Liaison Counsellor.

I am so thankful to meet all of your children's smiling faces, here at St. Mikes School.

CONTACT INFO

hildebrands@holyspirit.ab.ca

call/text 403-634-2151

SENSORY BACKPACKS LENDING PROGRAM

3 Backpacks available to borrow for 1 week at a time for some extra learning fun with your child!

Please Call or Text me to reserve a backpack

