MONTHLY NEWSLETTER





Rise Above. Inspire Greatness.

"

Dear families,

It's hard to believe how fast this Lenten season is going. It feels like just yesterday we had our wonderful Ash Wednesday Mass, and here we are already approaching Holy Week. Time seems to go faster this Lent than I ever remember. Perhaps it's the fact that 'March Madness' is upon us in more than just basketball! This lovely weather, and the culmination of many winter sporting activities like hockey, basketball and skating, makes it easy to fill our time making wonderful memories with our children.

Through it all, I hope that this Lenten season has allowed you the gift of time to join our school challenge of '40 Days To A Better You'. Did you see the mirror in the entrance of our school reminding us that who we are begins with us? We've certainly had excellent feedback regarding our theme from staff and students alike.

As we look towards Holy Week next week, take some time to reflect. In school we've focused on going within ourselves to find ways we can be more kind to each other, forgive each other, and this week, we are challenged to take time to pray and remember God is with us through it allas long as we stay true to our faith in Him.

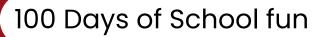
March 19th is the first day of spring. The season is a wonderful time to clean up, clean out, and set goals- similarly to Lent!

Elementary Student Led Conferences on March 21st are a wonderful way to see your child's learning in action, and set goals to finish the year strong. Similarly, in Junior and Senior Highwe are well into Semester 2 and it is time to check in on your child's learning and attendance in class. Did you know that even missing 10% of instructional time still means essential learning is lost. Please take time with your child to check in and reflect on their courses, and support them in getting to class prepared and ready to learn.

Let's all do our best to finish Lent strong, dive into this spring season with a refreshed mindset ready to set goals for the remainder of the school year, and still leave a little time to grow within ourselves!

In all that we do for the remainder of this month, I pray for a reflective ending to Lent, and a blessed Easter Season ahead.

May God continue to bless St. Michael's School.







Fry Bread Friday!











Skating Fun!







Science 7: What do plants need to survive? Will plants survive in any environment?





Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out teaching our students how to curl!



The Jr. High Art Option class has been enjoying pottery at the lebel mansion

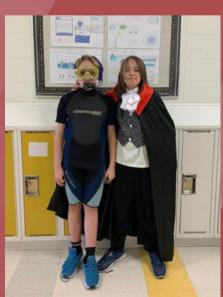








Rhyme without reason dress up day!!







Embracing Almsgiving in Lent: A Catholic Tradition

As we explored in last month's faith focus article, during Lent Catholics are called to deepen their faith through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. While prayer and fasting are well-known practices, the significance of almsgiving should not be underestimated.

Almsgiving, rooted in compassion and charity, is a tangible way to live out Christ's teachings of love and generosity. It's a reminder that our blessings are meant to be shared with those in need.

Beyond a seasonal obligation, almsgiving is a lifelong commitment to social justice and compassion. It challenges us to confront injustices and work towards a more equitable world.

In keeping with the commitment to social justice and compassion, Holy Spirit Catholic Schools have taken on partnering with Chalice International to help provide financial support for St. Odilia School in northern Zambia. St. Odilia

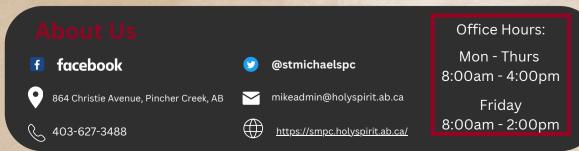
School is a school committed to teaching children who are visually impaired and children with albinism.

This lent we as a community have an opportunity to financially support the building of a new building that would provide clean classrooms with weather resistant roofs. Please take a few minutes to scan the QR codes to find out more information about St. Odilia School and consider donating to this great cause!

In Christ,

Mark Wynder
Associate Principal





Please consider donating to this great cause: Scan the QR code



St. Odilia School for the Visually Impaired











Dates to remember

Easter Break:

Friday March 29-Monday April 8th

Elementary student lead conferences

Thurs, March 19th & 21st

Flowers from Friends Spring Fundraiser deadline March 28th 2023

Please click the calendar to the left to view the full year school calendar!



Leaving Early?!

If your child needs to leave school early, please notify the office at 403-627-3488 as early as possible. Please also make sure you sign your child out in the office when they are leaving early!



Arriving Late?!

Please stop in the office to sign in if you arrive to school late! Elementary school students are considered late after 8:30am, and Junior/Senior High students are considered late after 8:40am.



School Communication

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.

If you would like to receive text messages for school closures please click here for instructions and more information!

DRAGON ATHLETICS!









Go Dragons Go!



DRAGON ATHLETICS!



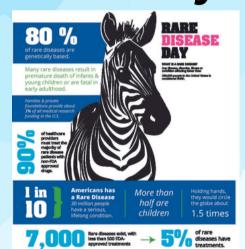
Dress Code:

- No spaghetti straps/halter tops/one shoulder shirts/tube tops.
- Tank top/muscle shirt straps must be at least 4 centimeters in width
- Bra straps must not show
- Underwear, that of both ladies and gentlemen must not show Midriffs must be covered.
- Shorts and skirts must be fingertip length (arms straight down at sides).
- No hoodies with the hood up, sunglasses, during instructional school hours, or during formal extra curricular activities such as the awards ceremonies
- T-shirts/shirts/hoodies must not have advertising which depicts controversial, obscene, rude, inappropriate and/or drugs and alcohol content on them.

Thursday February 29th was Rare Disease Day

















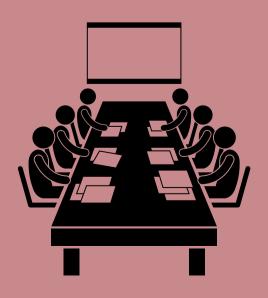


The Friends of St. Michaels AGM (Annual General Meeting)

Will be held on Wednesday, April 10 at 7:00pm in the school den.

Board elections will happen.

Everyone is welcome to attend.





Friends of St. Michael's "Flowers From Friends" Spring 2024 Fundraiser is happening now! Order forms available in the school office or online.

Friends of St. Michael's "Flowers From Friends" Spring 2024 Fundraiser

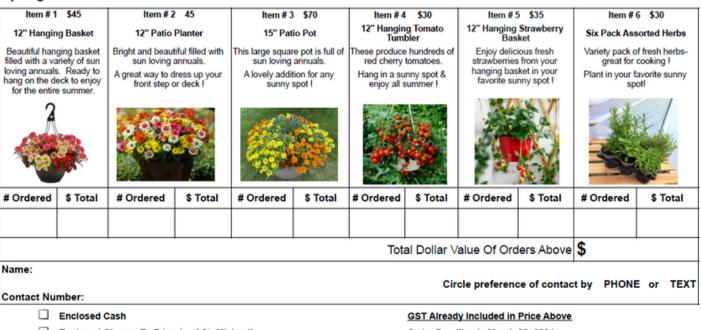








Follow us on Facebook Questions? Email: thebluemousegh@outlook.com



Enclosed Cheque To Friends of St. Michael's

■ E-Transfer to: friendsofstmichaels23@gmail.com PLEASE INCLUDE ORDER DETAILS ON ETRANSFER NOTES Order Deadline is March 28, 2024

Order Pickup: St. Michael's School Thursday, May 30th between 3:00pm and 6:00pm

Thanks For Your Support! Proceeds Fund Student Activities! **Images are a sample only, colors and style may vary**











202 SCA-FUSIAN

Lethbridge Regional Science Fair and Science Olympics



More information and registration at https://www.scifusion.ca/









Proudly organized by:



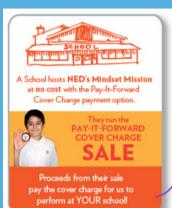
They come in 2 sizes - sm/med and lg/xlarge. Please contact Lori Jo Ettenhofer at the school to purchase them or send money with your child.

They would make fantastic Easter presents!!





Thank you to NED's Mindset Mission! Yo Yo sales will end March 27th.











Hey KIDS and families! NED's Mindset Mission Assembly is visiting our school! NED and our students take a journey to find their positive mindset. The show is filled with storytelling, humor, illusions and amazing yotop tricks where our kirds learn the hidden message in NED's name: Never give up — understand The Power of YET Encourage others — spark courage in other people Do your best® — always be learning and growing

Our school yo-top sale

Our school received this assembly at no-cost because another school paid-th-forward to us. We want to help pay-th-forward too, and you can help by purchasing a NED-mossaged yo-top.

Do you want to learn to yo? A yo-yo is both a mindset tool and a tangible reminder of NED's message. While learning to yo, children will make mistakes, try again and improve.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS: Bring cash to office.

Yo-top designs and colors may vary.

STUDENT ORDER FORM:

CLASSIC YOS

Learn the basics of yo-yoing with assorted fixed and yo-tops.



SUPER SPINNERS

Great for basic and intermediate tricks.
With a strong throw, these auto-votum yo-topo
'sleep' at the end of the string. & then come back
to you outseratically.



3

SPECIALTY SELECTION Assented professional long spin vo-tops

losanted professional long spin yo-tap or next level tricks!



REPLACEMENT STRING PACK

Ten assorted strings to change color or replace a worn out yo-yo string.



YO-YO HOLSTER

Keep track of your yo and have it ready to Attach it to your belt loop or backpack (yo-tap not teckuled).



C\$

Teacher:

For more yo-yo fun and to learn tricks, check out: **NEDkids.com**



Yo-yo designs and colors may vary.

ITEM	PRICE	QTY.	SUBTOTAL
String Pack	C\$5		
Holster	C\$8		
Classic Yo	C\$12		
Super Spinner	C\$14		
Specialty Yo	C\$18		
TOTAL DUE			

2024 Camp Columbus 2024



Waterton Lakes National Park

2024

All Camps Run for Five Days

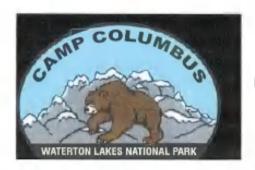
CAMP FEES ARE \$300 PER CAMPER PER WEEK

CAMP 1	July 7 -12	BOYS AGE:	8 to 10 years
CAMP 2	July 14 -19	BOYS AGE:	9 to 11 years
CAMP 3	July 21 - 26	BOYS AGE:	12 to 14 years

CAMP 4	July 28 - Aug 2	GIRLS AGE:	8 to 10 years
CAMP 5	Aug 4 – 9	GIRLS AGE:	9 to 11 years
CAMP 6	Aug 11 - 16	GIRLS AGE:	10 to 12 years
CAMP 7	Aug 18 - 23	GIRLS AGE:	12 to 14 years



WWW.CAMPCOLUMBUS.COM info@campcolumbus.com



CAMP COLUMBUS

Waterton Lakes National Park Alberta, Canada



Summer Jobs

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

- Directors
- Assistant Directors
- Counselors
- Cooks

WE ARE LOOKING FOR: Applicants who are enthusiastic and have a strong interest in camping, but above all, possess the love, understanding and patience that is essential when interacting with children. They should be mature individuals who are capable, caring, and efficient in directing children in a gentle but firm way; to ensure a safe and fun filled camping experience. Applicants should be willing and prepared to contribute in a positive and effective manner at pre-camp meetings and training sessions.

Age Requirements: Director must be 18 years old minimum.

Counsellors must be 16 years old minimum.

TO APPLY CONTACT:

Lee Hochstein 403-627-8108

E-mail: president@campcolumbus.com

For general information contact info@campcolumbus.com www.campcolumbus.com http://www.facebook.com/campcolumbuskofc

APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT must be received by April 30th.





Holy Spirit Catholic School Division Presents:

Mental Health Learning Sessions

Location Please RSVP at

(online & in-person)

Every session will take place inperson at the Sandman Signature in Lethbridge (320 Scenic Drive S, Lethbridge).

Online sessions will be available on Google Meet.

Time

Doors open at 5:00pm with dinner served at 5:30. Presentation will start at 6pm and go to 7:30pm. First 50 registrations get a free dinner! https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7R9L8CC



or email willistone@holyspirit.ab.ca to confirm registration.

Resiliency and Self-Care

Ft. Lethbridge Family Services

^{Jan} **16**

2024

Eeb 15 2024

Healthy Relationships

Ft. Lethbridge Family Services

ADHD - Understanding the Diagnosis and Treatment Strategies

Ft. Aleigha from True Balance Counselling

202024

18 2024

Emotional Regulation - How to help our kids when they have big feelings

Ft. Allie and Bailey from True Balance Counselling

Digital Detox

Ft. Lethbridge Family Services

May 14

2024

(I)SWAG Presents:

ADHD UNDERSTANDING THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT STRATEGIES

Ft. Aleigha from True Balance Counselling

5:30pm to 8pm March 20th, 2024

Join us as Registered
Psychologists Aleigha and
Ashley from True Balance
Counselling presents on
ADHD while we enjoy a
complimentary dinner and
the chance to win some door
prizes at a fun night of
learning.

Please RSVP @



https://www.surveymonkev.com/r/7R9L8CC

Location:

THE ESSIE'S BALLROOM

Sandman Signature, 320 Scenic Drive S, Lethbridge AB



Emily Williston



Billy Woitte



ALEIGHA ARKSEY

True Balance Counselling

Aleigha is a Registered Psychologist who specializes in working with youth, anxiety, and grief and loss, but does work with individuals of all ages.

Working with an open heart and open mind, Aleigha draws from a variety of approaches including Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy, Mindfulness, Play Therapy, Person-centered Therapy, Strength-based, and Solution focused.

This is a **FREE** event
Intended auidence: parents, guardians,
caregivers, aunts, uncles, grandparents,
childcare providers, all school staff, bus
drivers, parishoner's

Please RSVP@

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7R9L8CC

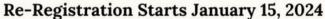




Take the next step with...

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

2024/2025 REGISTRATION



Families with students currently enrolled in our system should expect an email during the week of January 15-19, 2024 asking that the online "Registration Update Form" be completed for each child attending one of our schools in the 2024/2025 school year.

2024/2025 Registration Update

Parents/guardians who are hoping to register younger siblings new to the division will also have the opportunity to do this at the same time that they re-register older students.

New Student Registration Starts February 1, 2024

All Early Learning to Grade 12 students who are new to the division and wish to enroll for the 2024/2025 school year are invited to register online starting on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

- Through play, our **Early Learning Program** is designed to stimulate the growing curiosity of children 3 and 4 years of age.
- Kindergarten is designed for children 5 years of age on, or before,
 December 31, 2024.
- Grade 1 registrants must be 6 years of age on, or before, December 31, 2024.
- French Immersion is also available. Enrollment starts:
 - in Kindergarten/Grade 1 at École St. Mary in Lethbridge.
 - o in Grade 1 at St. Michael's School in Pincher Creek.

For More Information

Contact our Early Learning Supervisor to discuss Early Learning or your child's specialized programming requirements by phone (403-381-8495) or email (earlylearning@holyspirit.ab.ca).

To inquire about Kindergarten, you can contact your local school.

Contact our French Language Consultant to discuss French Immersion programming by phone (403-331-4458) or email (urquhartw@holyspirit.ab.ca).

Contact your child's school, or visit the division's website (holyspirit.ab.ca), if you need assistance with the online registration process or have any questions.





Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

...where children are cherished and achieve their potential.



Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

Annual Education Assurance Report Summary 2022/2023

Fiscal Stewardship

Our finances must always reflect our values. To support excellence in learning and ensure that all students receive the opportunities to become the persons God created them to be, financial allocations must support a maximum allotment of dollars to the classroom and equity in the distribution of these

The 2022/2023 actual operating expenditures for the school division were \$65,412,762. Of this total, nearly 77% was focused on ECS to Grade 12

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$65,412,762
Transportation	\$2,639,194
Board & System Administration	\$2,455,496
Operations & Maintenance	\$10,055,664
Grades 1-12 Instruction	\$47,218,941
ECS	\$3,043,467

Fall 2023 Supplemental Measures Summary

	Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Sep		Alberta			Measure Evaluation			
Measure	Current Result	Prev. Year Result	Prev. 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev. Year Result	Prev. 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)	17.8	n/a	60.4	3.5	n/a	56.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Drop Out Rate	1.5	1.2	1.4	2.5	2.3	2.5		Maintained	
In-Service Jurisdiction Needs	82.3	85.8	85.4	82.2	83.7	84.3	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
Lifelong Learning	85.7	82.8	80.1	80.4	81.0	76.8		Improved Significantly	Excellent
Program of Studies	87.6	84.3	85.5	82.9	82.9	82.6			
Program of Studies - At Risk Students	83.7	81.8	84.6	81.2	81.9	83.4	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate	86.5	86.8	82.1	71.9	70.2	68.3			
Safe and Caring	91.2	90.8	91.4	87.5	88.8	89.1	Very High	Maintained	
Satisfaction with Program Access	77.6	75.9	77.2	72.9	72.6	73.9	High	Maintained	Good
School Improvement	80.6	78.0	82.1	75.2	74.2	77.9	Very High	Declined	Good
Transition Rate (6 Year)	70.8	73.7	73.2	59.7	60.3	60.2	High	Maintained	Good
Work Preparation	87.7	85.2	85.4	83.1	84.9	84.5	Very High	Maintained	Excellent

Division Profile

- 16 schools and 1 outreach centre
- · 5,076 students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 225 children in Early Learning
- Programs
- · 498.33 FTE staff members
- · Proudly serving the communities of Bow Island, Coaldale, Lethbridge, Picture Butte, Pincher Creek, Taber and surrounding areas

For More Information

St. Basil Catholic Education Centre 620 12 B Street North, Lethbridge, AB T1H 2L7 Phone: 403-327-9555

Division Reports, Plan and Financial Information can be found the division's website at: www.holyspirit.ab.ca









Priorities and Successes

Priority 1: Staff and students will grow in their faith and experience the richness of Catholic Education. In 2022/2023, the division began a new Three Year Faith Plan, "Arise! Pilgrims of Hope."

sults we are most proud of: 98.5% of staff felt the Faith Plan theme inspired and helped.



Indicator (OurSchool Survey)	Elem	(4-6)	Jr./Sr. High		
indicator (Ourschool Survey)	21/22	22/23	21/22	22/23	
Their school is a Catholic community that helps them understand the Catholic Faith	94%	95%	88%	89%	
They are encouraged & given the opportunity to live their faith in the school & community.	95%	95%	87%	87%	

Priority 2: First Nations, Métis and Inuit education for all.

Our Graduation Coaches, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Facilitators, administrators and staff, continue to support and build strong relationships with our Indigenous studen In 2022-2023, we continued to engage in reconciliation practices within our schools and the community by renewing and fostering relationships with Indigenous Elders, parents, families and students, both on- and off-reserve to support this priority.

Measure	Holy Spirit	Province
3-Year High School Completion	73.6%	57.0%
6-Year Transition Rate to Post- Secondary	41.9%	35.5%
Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility	68.9%	43.9%

Priority 2: High quality instruction rooted in sound research and effective assessment practices to support growth for all learners.

Our staff continues to recognize the importance of foundational skills by providing multiple opportunities for real life learning. Our results show the success we've had through deep dives into the curriculum and engaging our students in relevant learning experiences.

Measure	Holy Spirit	Province
Education Quality	90.7%	88.1%
Welcoming, Caring, Respectful & Safe Learning Environment	89.3%	84.7%
Students engaged in their learning	86.9%	84.4%
Access to Supports & Services	82.3%	80.6%
3-Year High School Completion	90.4%	80.7%

Priority 4: Foster a culture of wellness that is foundational



support students' spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, and academic health, we work academic health, we work closely with a variety of provincial and local partners to devise targeted initiatives that build student capacity in this

Indicator (OurSchool Survey)		entary	Jr./Sr. High		
		22/23	21/22	22/2	
Students with a positive sense of belonging	74%	71%	63%	65%	
Students with positive relationships	81%	83%	79%	81%	
Students that value school outcomes	91%	91%	65%	69%	

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...



ELEMENTARY **STUDENTS**

read well by the end of third grade



MIDDLE **SCHOOLERS**

pass important courses



HIGH SCHOOLERS

stay on track for graduation



COLLEGE **STUDENTS** earn their degrees



WORKERS succeed in their jobs

Too many absences—excused or unexcused—can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year—that's 18 missed days or 2 days a month—can knock students off track.



KIDSPORT PINCHER CREEK 2023 INCOME CUT-OFFS INFORMATION

Let's get kids back to sport this fall! If your family income is at or less than the following Income Cut-Offs, we welcome your application for funding of up to \$350 per child, per year towards your child's sport registration fee(s). Applicants to live within the Town or M.D. of Pincher Creek and registered in an ongoing sport or activity that is led by a qualified coach or instructor.

Household Size (Includes Kids)	Income Cut-off
2 Persons	\$54,864
3 Persons	\$67,449
4 Persons	\$81,891
5 Persons	\$92,880
6 Persons	\$104,752
7 or more Persons	\$116,627

TO APPLY:

Complete a KidSport Application Form and attach a copy of **one of the following** to verify your income eligibility.

- Notice of Assessment for EACH adult in the home for the most recent tax year
- Child Health Benefit Letter
- Subsidized Housing
- Canada Child Benefit Notice
- Income Support
- · Three Consecutive Pay Stubs



OR:

 Complete a KidSport Application Form and have it signed by an Endorser i.e. school principal, social worker, member of clergy, doctor etc. that can verify your family situation or need.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Pincher Creek KidSport c/o of the Recreation Office 895 Main Street, Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0 Phone 403-627-4322 or email <u>pinchercreek@kidsport.ab.ca</u> Application forms can also be accessed at https://kidsportcanada.ca

St. Michael's School

Prayer

Father, we give You our school, May it be a place where we love to learn and learn to love; a place where everyone is respected, and all are cherished. St. Michael, give us the courage to stand up for others as you did. Unite our school family in love, truth and compassion. Walk with us, guide us, and protect us, as we become who you want us to be.

Amen