

ST. MICHAEL'S
SCHOOL

9

May 24th 2024

“

Rise
Above.
Inspire
Greatness.

”

Principal Message:

Dear families,

As we begin the final week in the beautiful month of May, I want to take a moment to celebrate and honor all the mothers in our community. Your dedication, love, and support are the cornerstones of our students' success and well-being. May is also a special time to reflect on the virtues of Mary, who symbolizes compassion, kindness, and strength. We are so blessed to have the 'Our Lady of Fatima' statue visit our school for a week before it travels to other schools in the Holy Spirit School Division. Let us draw inspiration from Mary's example as we nurture and guide our children through their educational journey.

This is the season that we are bidding farewell to some staff and students soon, and welcoming in new faces! We are all excited to celebrate our Kindergarten and Grade 12 graduates soon! Thank you for blessing us with the gift of your children here at our school. In terms of staff, we are so excited to welcome Mr. Jason Andrusiak back to our staff as a full time teacher in JH/SH. We are sadly bidding farewell to two retirees: Mrs. Lynne DeCock, and Mrs. Ettenhofer. As well, Mrs. Jennifer Parker has chosen not to return to Holy Spirit in the fall to pursue other career paths. We wish them all a blessed future ahead and ask our heavenly Father to bless and keep them every day forward. We would like to invite you all to join us at our closing mass to celebrate their time with us. Our tentative date for the closing mass is June 7th @ 9 am- more information to come soon.

With only five weeks left in the school year, it is crucial for all students to maintain regular attendance. Every day counts as we aim to "make our mark" and finish the year strong. These final weeks are filled with opportunities to lock into our academics and create lasting memories. Let's encourage our students to stay focused, give their best effort, and participate fully in all school activities. Showing up and trying, even when we are tired, busy or not at our best, is still vital at this time of year.

Together, we can ensure a successful and memorable end to the school year.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

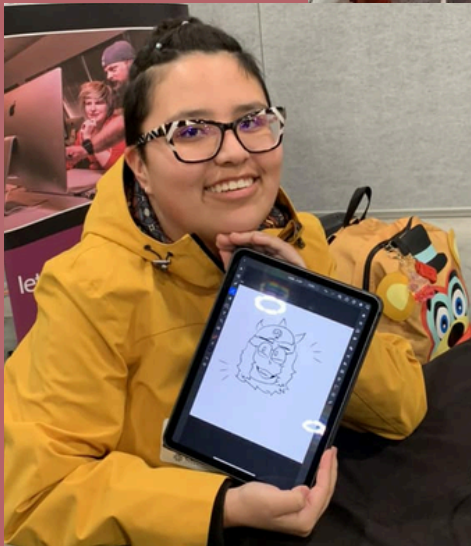
May God continue to bless St. Michael's School,

Karen Schmidt

GR ½ E Mary creations in their prayer corner:



Our Grade 10 students took part in Epic Day in Lethbridge!! We had a great time learning about so many possible careers. Thank you so much to the organizers of the is event and to all of the businesses who participated especially Southland International Trucks for the fabulous tour!!



Our staff had a fun time dressing up as students and our students did fantastic dressing up as staff!!



Sam Demma spoke to our Students, Staff and Parents on April 24th. He has an amazing message, Thank You to our School Council team for bringing Sam in.



INSPIRE
OTHERS

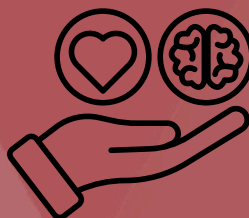




Our Jr. High Fitness class will be visiting SGBFitbodies over the next month!



Thank you so much to everyone who organized, sponsored and supported the Aisokinaki Clinic's Wellness Conference! Our students thoroughly enjoyed the conference while also being inspired by the phenomenal guest speakers! All of your time and effort putting on such an amazing day for the youth in our community is greatly appreciated!





Thank you to our Leadership Class for the fun,
"Rock, Paper, Scissors Challenge Day!"
It was a blast!



ROCK

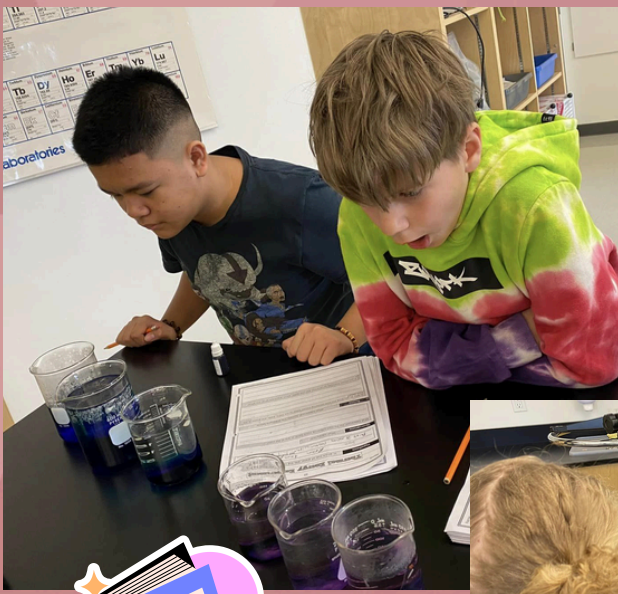
PAPER

SCISSORS

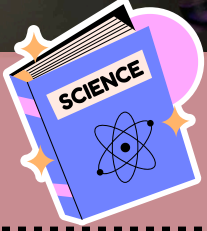


Thank you so much to our wonderful trustee, Blake Dolan, who created these beautiful benches from the wood of our old wooden bleachers.





Grade 7 Science class in the middle of a Thermal Energy Experiment
In which cup of water will the food colouring move the fastest, cold, room temperature or hot?



Hats ON for Mental Health was May 8th
We wear hats to raise awareness of the importance of good mental health.





FAITH FOCUS

May Build! Pilgrims of Hope



"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers."

- Psalm 24:1-2

St. John Bosco 1815-1888 (Feast Day: January 31)

John Bosco, more commonly known as Don Bosco, was an Italian priest, educator and writer in the 1800s. He was born into a poor farming family, and his father died when he was two, leaving his mother to raise him and his brothers. During his youth, he was drawn to the church, and often found himself policing fights between his classmates. He left school at the age of 12, working as a shepherd and farm worker before entering the seminary at the age of 20. Once ordained a priest, he moved to Turin, a large city with slums, prisons, and many orphaned and abandoned youth. Instead of expecting these children, particularly boys, to come to him at the church, he went to them in the shops, marketplaces, and squares of the town. He found homes and shelters for them, helped them to find jobs or to become apprentices, and instructed them with love and compassion. This was in contrast to the typical methods of school discipline used at the time. He and his companions founded the Society of St. Francis de Sales in 1859 to support this work.

His work and life were hard in this time, and he faced much opposition—even assassination attempts! However, year after year, his efforts continued to bear fruit and to grow. At the time of his death in 1888, the original group of Salesians that was founded with 22 members had grown to over 1,000, and quickly expanded to include many types of schools, seminaries, recreational centres, and youth clubs. At the time of his death, over 130,000 children were being supported. It is no wonder then that Pope John Paul II gave him the title "Father, Teacher, and Friend of the Youth."

"Building" In Our Schools

Catholic Education Week is celebrated in May. This year, we will be highlighting the creativity and arts being "built" in our schools. Leading up to Catholic Education Week, Holy Spirit Catholic School Division provided a two evening experience of live performances and student work installations in a come-and-go-festival type setting at the new Lethbridge and District Exhibition.



Catholic Education Week — May 6-10, 2024 —

We take a short pause from our look at the Corporal Works of Mercy this month to celebrate Catholic Education in the province of Alberta.

Each year, Catholic Education week is held in May - this year, **May 8-10**. This year, we will be distributing short videos each day that highlight the various aspects of our schools, as well as information to our partners in Catholic Education. You will be invited to wear blue for Catholic Education on Thursday, **May 9**, as well as joining in common prayer throughout the week.



Courage to Lead



"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged; for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go!"
- Joshua 1:9

WEAR BLUE TO SUPPORT CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Pope's Prayer Intentions - For the Formation of Men and Women Religious, and Seminarians

Let us pray that men and women religious, and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

"Without confidence and love, there can be no true education. If you want to be loved... you must love yourselves, and make your children feel that you love them."

[Home Page](#)

(St. John Bosco)

Catholic Social Teaching — Stewardship of Creation —

Through the course of this year, we will look each month at one of the Catholic Social Teachings. The aim of **Catholic Social Teaching** is to shine the light of the Gospel on our contemporary world, allowing us as disciples of Christ to look at the world around us with new eyes, and to take action.

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

Pope Francis, in his recent encyclical *Laudato Si'* On Care for Our Common Home, stated:

"Once we start to think about the kind of world we are leaving to future generations, we look at things differently; we realize that the world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others."

Pope Benedict, in *Caritas in Veritate*, wrote:

"The environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole. . . . Our duties towards the environment are linked to our duties towards the human person, considered in himself and in relation to others. It would be wrong to uphold one set of duties while trampling on the other."

Learn more [here](#) (Care for God's Creation YouTube)



About Us



facebook



@stmichaelspc



864 Christie Avenue, Pincher Creek, AB



mikeadmin@holyspirit.ab.ca



403-627-3488



<https://smcpc.holyspirit.ab.ca/>

Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs
8:00am - 4:00pm

Friday
8:00am - 2:00pm



Dates to remember

No School

May 27th – PD Day

Last day of school

June 27th

2024 Graduation!

Mass – May 31st

Grad – June 1st



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



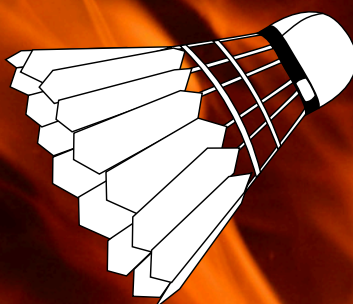
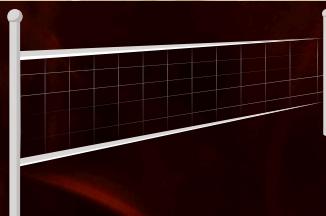
Holy Spirit Catholic School Division uses SchoolMessenger to improve our schools' communication with parents and guardians. This service does not replace other school communication methods. It is simply intended to extend beyond what we've traditionally used to ensure timely communications and reduce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



Way to go, Dragons!!!
Nora and Kian won bronze at zones,
Hollie and Addison finished fourth!
Two of our best results at zones in years!!!



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.

Did you know you can order St. Michael's School Swag anytime at:

<https://stmichaelsschool.entripyshops.com/>

The Friends of St. Michael's are selling elite socks with our Dragon logo on it!! They are ONLY \$10.00!

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.



Bussing Changes to Include More Students

Posted on Feb 16, 2024



In April 2023 Alberta Education announced that it would change school transportation funding to include more students. In December 2023 the province moved the mandatory implementation date to the 2025-2026 school year. We are excited to announce that beginning in the 2024-2025 school year — one year ahead of schedule — Livingstone Range School Division will offer bussing according to the new eligibility.

Currently, students are eligible for transportation when they reside 2.4 km or greater from their designated school. **Beginning in September 2024,**

these distances have been reduced to 1 km for Kindergarten to Grade 6 students and 2 km for students in Grades 7 to 12. We will continue to operate with no bussing fees for families.

Depending on bus driver availability, our goal is to offer this in all communities. This decision will be made and communicated in early June 2024. We are currently hiring bus drivers. Visit lrsd.ca/busdrivers for employment opportunities and applications.

As a parent, what should I do now?

Ensure your physical address **AND** parent email address is correct with your child's school. Our Transportation Department is working on determining eligibility and bus route assignments. If both of these addresses are correct with your school, there is nothing else you need to do.

How is the bussing qualification distance determined?

The student address on file is used in our mapping software. We use industry-standard routing software approved by Alberta Education that calculates the driving distance from the student address on file to the designated school of attendance. We cannot accept calculations from online maps, which may differ. It is vitally important that your address is current and updated with your school.

Will all of my children qualify for bussing?

Alberta Education legislates that students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 who live 1 km or more from their designated school qualify for bussing, and that students in Grades 7-12 who live 2 km or more from designated school qualify for bussing. Therefore, the calculated distance from your address to your child's school may differ within your family.

How will I know the bus route, stop location, and schedule?

For newly qualified bus students, you will receive notification of this mid-July. More specific route information will be sent out mid-August from our Transportation Department. For existing bussing students, your bus driver will contact you.

Did you know?

Our dedicated and professional bus drivers safely transport more than 1600 students across our division. With the new distance changes, we anticipate an additional 500 students will be bussed to and from school each day.

For more information, please visit www.lrsd.ca/transportation. If you have specific questions about your child's bussing eligibility, email bussing@lrsd.ab.ca.



The **Catholic Bishops**
of **Alberta** and the
Northwest Territories

Les **évêques catholiques**
de l'**Alberta** et des
Territoires du Nord-Ouest

8421 - 101 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6A 0L1 | T 780.469.1010 F 780.465.3003

Catholic Education Week 2024

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In this month of May, we celebrate Catholic Education Week in Alberta, the Yukon, and Northwest Territories. As the Catholic Education liaison on behalf of my brother Bishops, I want to offer a heartfelt thank-you to the educators and all who serve in our Catholic schools.

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2024, “Courage to Lead”, reminds us of the call and the responsibility to live and uphold the teachings of our Catholic faith, even amidst the challenges of the world around us.

The call to be courageous is deeply rooted in Scriptures. In the Book of Joshua, the Lord counsels us: “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

In a time and place where conflicting ideologies are challenging the enduring truths of our faith, it takes tremendous courage to remain steadfast in our commitment to Christ's teachings.

This courage begins in the home, with parents entrusted by God with the vital responsibility of imparting the values and principles of our faith within the hearts and minds of their children. When parents make the courageous decision to entrust their children to the care of our Catholic schools, those schools become a supporting partner to parents in the education and spiritual formation of their children.

Catholic schools have the distinctive mission to integrate faith and reason, providing students with an education that not only challenges them academically but also nurtures faith formation. Within this educational environment, the teachings of the Catholic faith are permeated into the fabric of daily life.

Although we are blessed with a constitutionally protected, publicly funded Catholic school system, nevertheless we cannot take this for granted. It is our collective responsibility as Christian faithful to be courageous in ensuring that we are forming confident disciples of Jesus Christ and his teachings. It is incumbent upon the entire school community – administrators, teachers, staff, clergy, parents and parishioners – to honour this commitment.

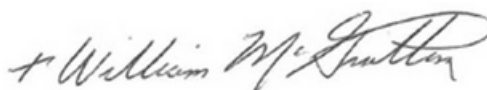
May God grant us the wisdom, courage, and strength to fulfill our sacred duty with courage and love, knowing that He walks alongside us every step of the way.

Yours in Christ,

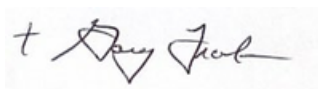
Catholic Bishops of Alberta and NWT



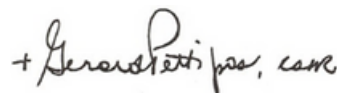
Most Reverend Richard W. Smith
Alberta Liaison Bishop for Catholic Education
Archbishop of Edmonton



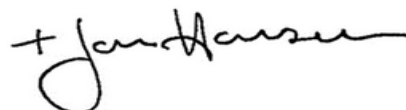
Most Reverend William McGrattan
Bishop of Calgary



Most Reverend Gary Franken Archbishop
Bishop of St. Paul Archbishop of Grouard-McLennan



Most Reverend David Motiuk Most Reverend Jon Hansen, CSsR
Eparchy of Edmonton Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith





"Share the Mission" Award Call for Nominations!

Nominations are now welcome for Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's "Share the Mission Award."

This prestigious award recognizes community members, parents, students, and school staff who have:

- Offered outstanding or long term service for the benefit of our students;
- Accepted demanding challenges and set new standards for the rest of us to follow;
- Contributed, through action and deed, to the Catholic atmosphere of our schools;
- Demonstrated involvement and leadership in community / parish organizations;
- Reflected the Mission Statement of the Holy Spirit School Division in all actions:

*We are a Catholic faith community, dedicated to providing
each student entrusted in our care with an education rooted in the
Good News of Jesus Christ*

*Guided by the Holy Spirit, in partnership with home, parish and society,
our schools foster the growth of responsible citizens who will
live, celebrate, and proclaim their faith.*

Our Catholic faith is the foundations of all that we do.

If you know of an individual or group deserving of the "Share the Mission Award," please forward their name to Rhonda Kawa at kawarh@holyspirit.ab.ca by June 7, 2024.

Nomination information is accessible on the division's website or by clicking on this link:

[Share the Mission Award Nomination Form](#)





Become a HOMESTAY FAMILY

The BEST thing about memories...
is making them!

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO

Joy A. Warren
Homestay Coordinator
Holy Spirit Catholic School Division
620 12B St. N.
Lethbridge, AB, T1H 2L7
Phone: (403) 330-7382
homestay@holyspirit.ab.ca

HOST FAMILIES PROVIDE...

- Private bedroom
- 3 wholesome meals/day +snacks
- Quiet, bright study space
- Access to common areas
- Laundry
- Emotional/Academic support
- Interaction with family members
- Participation in family activities
- Internet connection

HOST FAMILY BENEFITS...

- Learn another culture's traditions and customs
- Share Canadian culture with your student
- Create lasting memories and experiences
- Spend more family time together
- Develop a new friendship with your student
- Receive \$900 monthly to cover the expenses of hosting your student
- Build an interest in culture, language and future travel opportunities for your family

Girls Slow Pitch!!

Grades 3 - 6

No experience needed!

Where: Juan Teran Park

When: Wednesdays from 6-7pm

Only \$5 - Drop in fee

May 15th - June 12th

Running shoes & a ball glove is all that's required





SPORTS CAMPS



Pincher Creek
SOCCER
CAMP
JULY 8th - 11th, 2024

**Space is limited
so sign up early!**

Ages 7 - 9:
9am - 12pm

Ages 10 - 12:
1pm - 4pm

\$125

To register contact:
southcastle
sportscamps@gmail.com



*KidSport
Funding
Available



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
CAMP 2 July 14 -19
CAMP 3 July 21 - 26

BOYS AGE: 8 to 10 years
BOYS AGE: 9 to 11 years
BOYS AGE: 12 to 14 years

CAMP 4 July 28 – Aug 2
CAMP 5 Aug 4 – 9
CAMP 6 Aug 11 - 16
CAMP 7 Aug 18 - 23

GIRLS AGE: 8 to 10 years
GIRLS AGE: 9 to 11 years
GIRLS AGE: 10 to 12 years
GIRLS AGE: 12 to 14 years



WWW.CAMPCOLUMBUS.COM
info@campcolumbus.com



Take the next step with...

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

2024/2025 REGISTRATION

Re-Registration Starts January 15, 2024

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.
 - 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.

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.



YOUTH

SUMMER RUGBY

AGES 5-17

Wednesday Nights
July 3-Aug 14
Pincher Creek
MHHS field

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!
Learn Passing
Catching
Teamwork

SUMMER RUGBY

JULY 3-AUG 14 (WEDNESDAYS)



JUNIORS: AGES 5-10

- 30 MIN SESSIONS
- 6:30 P.M.-7P.M.
- ALL FLAG STYLE
- \$60

SENIORS: AGES 11-17

- 60 MIN SESSIONS
- 6:30 P.M. -7:30 P.M.
- COMBINATION FLAG AND CONTACT
- \$100

A 17+ FLAG LEAGUE

- FOLLOWING YOUTH PRACTICES: 7:30-8:30 P.M.
- GET BACK INTO IT IF YOU USED TO PLAY IN HS OR UNI OR IN THE MILITARY/RCMP!
- COME LEARN THE GAME IF YOU'VE NEVER PLAYED BUT WANT A CHANCE TO JUST HAVE FUN WITH OTHERS.
- \$100

Extra details:

- No equipment required, unless they want to use cleats (same as soccer cleats) and a mouthguard for the seniors who wants to do contact).
- Coaching provided by a trained/certified Rugby coach with 20 years experience and who also works as a firefighter and has EMT training and various World Rugby Certifications in youth development and safety.
- Others with rugby experience are always welcome to join our Board of Directors or to volunteer with us as an instructor's aid.
- High School Players who volunteer as instructional aids will receive Volunteer hours submitted and a college letter of recommendation if so desired (and likely some free food at an end of season party) and play for free.
- Parents who volunteer, will also receive free registration for themselves or their child.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
MAY 31, 2024

CONTACT: YVETTE @403-563-5714

EMAIL:

SouthernAlbertaBullsRugby@gmail.com



5TH
ANNUAL



Limited Spots!

max \$2/camp

*Possible additional fee
high camp depending
on demand

CENTER COURT VOLLEYBALL CAMPS

CARDSTON HIGH SCHOOL

JULY 2 - 5, 2024

BOYS & GIRLS

GRADES 7 - 9

TUES, WED, THURS, FRI

9AM - 12PM

\$150

GRADES 10 - 12

TUES, WED, THURS, FRI

6 - 9PM

\$150



OR

REGISTER HERE



centercourtvolleyballcamps@gmail.com



Camp Director & Head Coach
Ryan Marsden

- Former Team Canada Men's Head Coach (U21)
- Former Team Canada Men's HC/AC (NextGen)
- Current Olds College Men's Head Coach
- Current 2025 Canada Games Head Coach
- Former Olds College Women's Head Coach
- NCCP Level III fully certified



Portion
of camp proceeds
donated back to
support local
volleyball

Assisted at the camp by current or past college players

**PRICE
INCLUDES
T-SHIRT &
PRIZES**

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 pinchercreek@kidsport.ab.ca

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

