

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2

October 2024



**"Rise Above.
Inspire Greatness."**

Principal Message:

Proclaiming the Joy of the Season at St. Michael's!

As we enter this beautiful season of Thanksgiving, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to YOU for entrusting us with your wonderful children and for helping us kickoff this school year with such a fantastic start! Your continued involvement, whether through reading our newsletter or staying engaged with your child's learning, has been key to the thriving community we are building here at St. Michael's School.

We are truly blessed! Coming off a Thanksgiving weekend filled with gorgeous weather, delicious meals, and the warmth of family and friends, I'm reminded of how much we have to be grateful for. Amid the challenges life brings, this season encourages us to pause and reflect on the many blessings around us. When we focus on gratitude, it transforms our outlook, allowing us to approach each new day with optimism and joy.

This is a time to turn our hearts to our gracious Lord and give thanks for His boundless generosity. We are blessed with the food we eat, the homes we live in, and the loved ones who surround us—blessings we must never take for granted, knowing so many go without. Let us also offer prayers for those who are hungry, lonely, suffering, or facing unimaginable hardships. This season invites us to open our hearts to God's love, to be thankful for His gifts, and to trust that His divine plan continues to provide for all our needs.

As we reach the midpoint of October, it's also a perfect time to reconnect with your child's teacher(s) and strengthen the relationships that will support your child's success. Whether discussing their academic progress, attendance, or simply building a partnership, now is the ideal moment to ensure those connections are strong for the rest of the school year.

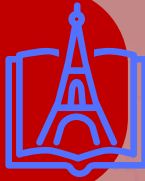
I hope you find joy as you explore this newsletter, celebrating the many activities and achievements we've shared so far. Take a moment to reflect on the blessings October brings into your own lives!

May God continue to shower His blessings upon St. Michael's School, and may this season of gratitude fill your hearts with joy and peace.

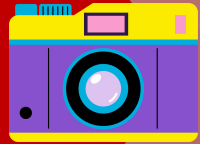
With great thanks and joy,
♥ Karen Schmidt, Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 22
FRENCH IMMERSION
PARENT MEETING



OCTOBER 23
PICTURE DAY



NOVEMBER 1
PD DAY - NO SCHOOL FOR
STUDENTS



NOVEMBER 4
CHINESE FOOD HOT LUNCH
DEADLINE



NOVEMBER 5
SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING

NOVEMBER 6
REMEMBRANCE DAY
CELEBRATION @ 11am



NOVEMBER 7
ACADEMIC AWARDS NIGHT

NOVEMBER 11
REMEMBRANCE DAY
REGIONAL HOLIDAY



November 21-23
VOLLEYBALL
PROVINCIALS



2023

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



ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL
PINCHER CREEK
Est. 1904

864 Christie Ave, Pincher Creek, AB

@stmichaelspc



PRESENTS

1A VOLLEYBALL PROVINCIALS 2024



NOV.
21-23

ARE YOU READY FOR THE BIGGEST SPORTING EVENT IN TOWN?!

DONATE

VOLUNTEER



<https://shorturl.at/tPsZc>



<https://shorturl.at/i4UmB>



Select donation amount. Then select..

Fund Destination:

Type..

mikeadmin@holyspirit.ab.ca

Call office for more info: 403-627-3488 3

Help us make the 2024-25 Volleyball Provincials a success!

Principal - Karen Schmidt

Associate Principal- Mark Wynder

Dear Sir/Madam

I hope this letter finds you well. As a proud member of our community, we are excited to share with you an upcoming event that holds great significance for our school and our students.

On November 21-23, 2024, St. Michael's School will have the privilege of hosting the 1A Boys Volleyball Provincials. This prestigious event not only showcases the talent and dedication of our student athletes but also provides an opportunity for our school to demonstrate its commitment to excellence in both academics and athletics.

In order to ensure the success of this event, we are reaching out to community members and businesses like yours for support. We kindly request a donation to help offset the costs associated with hosting the provincials. Your contribution will directly impact the overall experience of the participating teams and spectators, leaving a lasting impression on everyone involved. We believe that partnerships with businesses like yours are essential in achieving our goals and enriching the educational experiences of our students. Your support will not only benefit our school but will also demonstrate your commitment to investing in the future of our community.

As a token of our appreciation for your generosity, we would be honored to recognize your contribution in our event program and display your business name prominently throughout the tournament. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated and can be made by cheque payable to St. Michael's School - please indicate your donation is for provincials volleyball.

Thank you for considering our request. Your support will make a meaningful difference in the success of the 1A Boys Volleyball Provincials and the overall experience of our students. We look forward to the opportunity to partner with you and celebrate the spirit of competition and sportsmanship at the upcoming provincials.

If you have any questions or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact our lead teacher Manon Thauvette at [+1 403 627-7933].

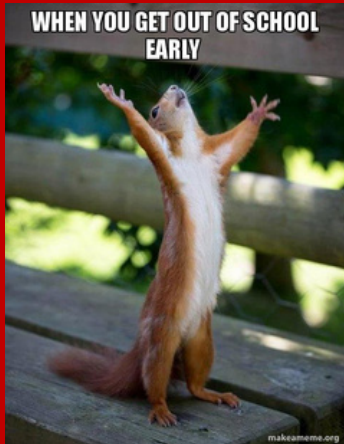
Thank you in advance,

St. Michael's School and the Leadership Team

For more information, call us at 403 6277933,
or email mikeadmin@holyspirit.ab.ca

**IF you would like a receipt, please make cheques payable to "Holy Spirit School Division" and on the memo "St. Michael's School Pincher Creek"*

REMINDERS & INFORMATION



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!

About Us



facebook

864 Christie Avenue,
Pincher Creek, AB

403-627-3488



@stmichaelspc



mikeadmin@holyspirit.ab.ca



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

Office Hours:

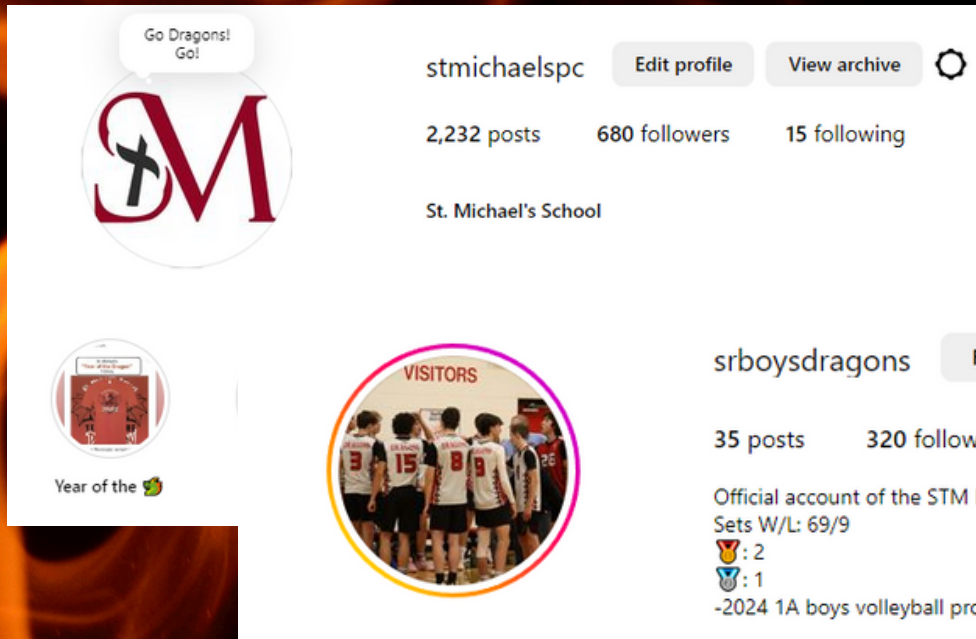
**Mon - Thurs
8:00am - 4:00pm**

**Friday
8:00am - 2:00pm**

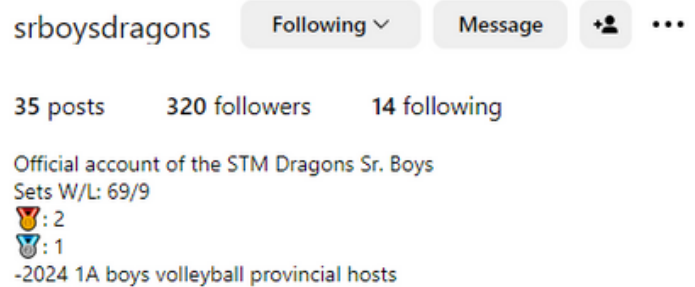
DRAGON ATHLETICS!

Follow our socials to stay updated!

 [@stmichaelspc](https://www.instagram.com/stmichaelspc)



 [@srboysdragons](https://www.instagram.com/srboysdragons)



 [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelspc)



Friends of St. Michael's School Foundation

CO-OP GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER



- This is Friends of St. Michael's Foundation's largest fundraiser of the year. Pincher Creek CO-OP generously donates 10% of proceeds off every card bought directly from the Friends Foundation
- Need fuel, groceries, or hardware? Great for stocking stuffers. Cards can be used at any CO-OP location
- Easy to sign-up. Request forms are available at the school office or contact Diana Shortt @ 403.627.7740
- This helps the Foundation support student activities and athletics at St. Michael's School, Pincher Creek
- Thanks to CO-OP and to you for supporting this fundraiser!

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfStMichaels>

friendsofstmichaels23@gmail.com

**Friends Of
St. Michael's
School
Foundation**

Supporting
Academic Spiritual
Athletic Cultural
Programs & Activities

For St. Michael's School In Pincher Creek

Email: friendsofstmichaels23@gmail.com

Find Us On Facebook: @FriendsOfStMichaels

COOP GIFT CARD REQUEST FORM

NAME: _____

CONTACT NUMBER: _____

COOP GIFT CARD AMOUNT: _____

DENOMINATION OF CARDS: _____

FREQUENCY OF CARDS: _____ (ONE TIME ONLY, MONTHLY,
QUARTERLY, ETC)

METHOD OF PAYMENT: ETRANSFER, CASH, CHEQUE (PLEASE CIRCLE)

Friendsofstmichaels23@gmail.com

PICKUP AT ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL OFFICE, SEND HOME WITH MY CHILD

(NAME OF CHILD AND GRADE)or CONTACT DIANA SHORTT 403-627-7740 FOR PICKUP

"THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FRIENDS OF ST. MICHAELS FOUNDATION"



Understanding Assessment & Reporting

Grades 1-6

It is important for parents/guardians to understand how their children are doing in school. Research shows that students are most successful with active parent/guardian involvement in their learning.

Assessment happens every day, in every classroom, throughout the school year. Assessing a student's progress is one of the most important ways teachers support the continued learning of our students. Throughout the school day, students engage in learning tasks, activities, and discussions that have been designed by a teacher. Each learning opportunity is connected to the learning outcomes from [Alberta Programs of Studies/Curriculum](#). Teachers regularly use a variety of assessment methods to collect and interpret information about what students know and can do in relation to the intended learning outcomes. The primary purpose of assessment is to **improve student learning**.

Assessment:

- ➡ Guides the development of learning tasks
- ➡ Promotes learner engagement and adaptive learning strategies
- ➡ Leads to adjustments in instruction
- ➡ Is shaped by the nature of the learning outcomes

During a unit of study, students have multiple and varied opportunities to develop, demonstrate, check, and refine their understanding of learning outcomes. Throughout this process, teachers and students engage in formative assessment; a way of checking learning to decide what to do next. Teachers provide timely and descriptive feedback and plan for next steps in learning based on the needs of their students. Students participate in developing criteria for learning tasks, monitor their own progress, provide feedback to their peers, and identify goals and strategies to support their own growth and progress.

What is your child learning in school?

Alberta Education has a resource for parents/guardians who want to know what students are learning at each grade level. Visit [New LearnAlberta](#) to see what your child is learning!

How is my child doing in school?

It's important to know how your child is doing in school. Knowing more about your child's interests, strengths and areas for growth are critical to help you support their learning. Conversations with your child's teachers and the school administration team are great places to ask questions and discuss specific concerns. Beyond these conversations and the ones you have at home with your child, there are a number of ways you can learn more about your child's learning, progress, and achievement.

Where can I find information about how and what my child is doing at school?

Regular communication between you, your child, and their teacher builds an understanding of student achievement over the course of the year. Communication can happen in a variety of ways throughout the year.

- Ongoing reporting through our digital portfolio platform, SpacesEDU, helps you understand how your child is progressing and learning toward grade-level outcomes.
- Informal communication occurs on an ongoing basis and serves to build shared understandings of what students know and can do in day-to-day learning experiences.
- Individual Student Plan (ISP) meetings, office hours, student learning conferences, and/or parent/teacher conferences

- General programming information shared throughout the year (via SpacesEDU or other methods) helps you understand what your child is learning and demonstrates some of their learning experiences, but does not provide details about individual student progress and achievement (e.g., field trips, celebrations of learning, student performances, agendas, etc.)

What does my child's SpacesEDU portfolio tell me?

The SpacesEDU portfolio is an ongoing communication tool about your child's learning. Both teachers and students are encouraged to create posts that share details about the learning but also communicates achievement over time. Most of the posts on your child's SpacesEDU portfolio will include the following components:

- Evidence of the student's work/learning (this may be a photo, video, audio recording or link to a file the student created)
- Curriculum Outcome(s) addressed by the project/learning activity
- Proficiency Scale with an achievement indicator to let you know where your child is at that time in relation to achieving the intended learning outcome
- Feedback/comments from the teacher to indicate areas for growth and suggestions on how to improve

Some SpacesEDU posts may include:

- A rubric that identifies the success criteria of a given learning task/assessment
- A student reflection on their learning
- An opportunity for parents/guardians to respond to the post

What is the Proficiency Scale?

The Proficiency Scale contains the achievement indicators used to describe to what extent a student has demonstrated achievement of Alberta Curricula outcomes. When a teacher attaches an achievement indicator to a post in your child's SpacesEDU portfolio, it serves as an indication of where the student is at a given point in time. The same outcome(s) may be revisited and reassessed throughout the year. Often the achievement indicators will be accompanied by teacher comments, specific to your child's growth, in the SpacesEDU portfolios.

Not Yet	Basic	Proficiency	Excellent
<p>The student has yet to demonstrate an acceptable level of performance in relation to the learner outcome(s). Evidence may be vague or undeveloped. Targeted adjustments to planning and instruction will be necessary for further learning in this area.</p>	<p>The student demonstrates the required level of performance in relation to the learner outcome(s). The student may not demonstrate the required level of performance consistently or may require support. Evidence may be adequate and/or concrete. Adjustments to planning and instruction may be necessary for further learning in this area.</p>	<p>The student demonstrates a good level of performance in relation to the learner outcome(s). The student consistently demonstrates this level of performance. Evidence may be clear and/or well-reasoned. Students achieving this level can be confident in being prepared for further learning in this area.</p>	<p>The student demonstrates an outstanding level of performance in relation to the learner outcome(s). The student consistently demonstrates this level of performance. Students achieving this level have excellent demonstration of grade level outcomes and can be confident in being prepared for further learning in this area.</p>

First Nations Metis and Inuit (FNMI)

Oki and Hello to all of our returning and new families joining us this year at St Michael's School here on Treaty 7 land. Our FNMI team is excited to be working with and supporting our Indigenous and Métis students as they begin another wonderful year. We are so blessed to have Tracy Wolfe (Piitaaki) returning as the First Nations Métis and Inuit Facilitator for our students and families. Sheena Adamson will be working alongside Tracy as the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Graduation Coach.

We would also like to showcase our new classroom space right in the heart of our school. Families, please do not hesitate to contact our team if you have any questions or concerns or need any support for your children's success.

Sheena Adamson (adamsons@holyspirit.ab.ca; 403-627-3488)

Tracy Wolfe (wolfet@holyspirit.ab.ca; 403-632-7316)



Thanks to a grant from the Department of Canadian Heritage's Indigenous Languages and Cultures program, our Niitsitapi Facilitator team is hosting a series of language events for families in the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division. We welcome our families to join our team and our Elders throughout the year at various schools.

Please contact **Kendrick Fox** foxk@holyspirit.ab.ca or **Shelley Kirkvold** at [403 327-9555](tel:4033279555) kirkvolds@holyspirit.ab.ca for more information.

Good news! Billy Woitte, our Indigenous Student Wellness Access Guide (ISWAG) may be able to offer transportation if funding allows.

Dates / Schools for our upcoming Blackfoot Family Nights are as follows:

Thursday, November 14, 2024 CSM

Children of St. Martha 206
McMaster Blvd., Lethbridge



GOLDEN GARBAGE PROGRAM

I would like to thank all clubs and businesses that helped support the program through their generous donations!

- Friends of St. Michaels
- Knights of Columbus
- Cowley Lions Club
- McDonald's Pincher Creek
- The Bright Pearl Restaurant
- COOP Grocery Store
- COOP Gas Bar
- Antonio's Pizza
- Ascent Dental
- Little Tee's Hair Salon

Thank You

With Respect,
TREVOR CLINTON
SCHOOL CARETAKER



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.



**WANTED:
WORKING CAMERAS!!**



Mr. Smith is looking for old (working) cameras for his Photography options class this year. Please drop off any donations at the school office. Thank you!

St Michael's School

Cell Phone & Personal Electronic Device Policy

(Implemented Jan. 07, 2019/Updated May 2024)

Rationale

Cellphones **are not** considered acceptable devices for educational learning purposes. Although many students have iPhones, and Android phones, iPods, and smart watches, they do not meet the necessary requirements as an accepted learning device. St. Michael's School has Chromebooks, Laptops and iPads available for student use throughout the day.

During Class Time:

Elementary- No cell phones or PED's including smart watches.

Junior High School- Cell phones/PED's can be used on Phone Friday during nutrition break. (Gr 9 allowed their phones during lunch time in the Den)

High School - Cell phones can be used during breaks and spares.

Cell phones and Personal Electronic Devices (PED's) which are brought to school are expected to be placed into the classroom bin at the beginning of every class. Students also have the option to keep their phone 'out of sight' and silenced in their pocket/locker. If the device is visible during class time at all disciplinary action will be taken. This also includes use of smart watches- notifications must be turned off to be worn during instructional time.

Failure to adhere to school protocol surrounding responsible use will result in the following discipline:

1st offence – ➤ cell phone taken away and placed in the office. The device will be returned to the student at the end of the school day.

2nd offence ➤ cell phone taken away and placed in the office. Student will meet with administration prior to having their cell phone returned.

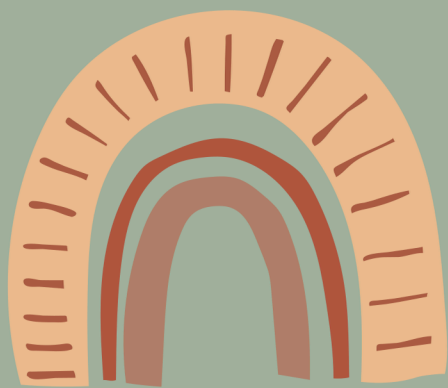
3rd offence ➤ cell phone taken away, placed in the office and returned to parent/ guardian.

Administration will meet and contact parent / guardian to discuss acceptable use and to return the device.

Images/Audio:

Devices capable of capturing, transmitting, or storing images or recording and storing audio **may NOT** be operated in restrooms, dressing rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Phones must be secured prior to entering the change room.

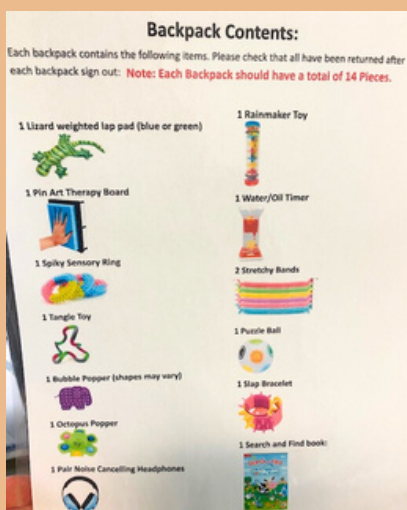
Under NO circumstances shall any video, picture capturing or audio recording device be used in any classroom without the express consent of the teacher and school administration. Special consideration shall be given to protect the privacy of students in the classroom if such permission is granted. Operation of any electronic device is prohibited in testing situations or where testing materials are present.



Family School Liaison Counsellor News

St. Michael's School

SENSORY BACKPACKS



These teaching/learning tools are in a convenient backpack and are ready to borrow!

Please call/text to borrow one! Shay
403-634-2151

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS FOR ALL AGES

<https://www.facebook.com/napifriendshipassociation>

<https://www.pcfamilycentre.ca/calendar>

<https://www.brighterfuturesproject.com/parent-workshops>

<https://www.pincherlearn.ca/>

EXTRA RESOURCES

<https://instituteofchildpsychology.com/resources/>

<https://instituteofchildpsychology.com/freeweinars/>

<https://healthymindslearning.ca/>



KIDSPORT PINCHER CREEK

2024 INCOME CUT-OFFS INFORMATION

Let's get kids active in sport! 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	\$57,005
3 Persons	\$70,081
4 Persons	\$85,086
5 Persons	\$96,504
6 Persons	\$108,839
7 or more Persons	\$121,177

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 Pincher Creek 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>

**Even if families do not meet the requirements,
ALL applications will be considered!!**

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