



November 8, 2024

Dear St. Francis Families,

As we approach Remembrance Day, our classes today will take time to honor and reflect on the sacrifices made by so many for our freedom. It's a meaningful opportunity for students to understand the importance of service and remembrance.

Saint of the Month: St. Albert the Great

This month, we are inspired by St. Albert the Great, whose legacy as a scholar and teacher reminds us to pursue knowledge with humility and gratitude. His dedication to learning and faith serves as a powerful example for us all.

Division-Wide Collaborative Day

On Tuesday, November 12th, our staff will participate in the Division Collaborative Day. This valuable opportunity allows our team to connect with colleagues across the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, share best practices, and enhance the learning experiences we bring to our students.

Upcoming School Council Meeting

A reminder that our next School Council meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13th, at 6:00 p.m. in the library. We encourage all parents to join us and engage in meaningful discussions supporting our school community.

End of Quarter 1 and New Opportunities

As Quarter 1 wraps up, we're celebrating some incredible student projects—cardboard boat races, Dragons' Den pitches, cake decorating, and more! Check our social media for highlights from these creative option classes that encourage students to explore new passions.

Newsies Rehearsals and Basketball Season

Rehearsals for *Newsies* are well underway, and the students' dedication is impressive. Basketball open gyms also began this week, with enthusiastic participation from many talented athletes.

Finally, thank you to everyone who came out for parent-teacher interviews. If you were unable to attend, remember you can still book an appointment during teachers' office hours.

Jackie Kraemer, Principal, St. Francis Junior High School



St. Francis Junior High uses [PowerSchool](#) as its student information system. It provides parent and student portals which gives users access to real-time information including attendance, grades and assignment descriptions and report cards.

Be sure to log in to your Parent PowerSchool portal often to monitor your student's academic progress. If you are unsure of how to access PowerSchool please contact the school at 403-327-3402.

Student Demographic and Contact Information

If your or your student's address or phone numbers have changed from what was entered on the student's registration form, please contact the office to have the information updated. Please also check the information of any contacts that are listed to make sure it is current. If we have to contact a parent or a listed contact for sickness or emergency purposes, it is very helpful to have up to date information. It is also helpful to have more than one contact listed, in case we can't reach the listed contact.

Transportation

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division partners with Lethbridge School Division and Southland Transportation Ltd. to provide school bus transportation services for students traveling to our Lethbridge schools. For the 2024/2025 school year, the school division will not be charging transportation fees for government-funded eligible riders.

Only registered riders will be permitted to ride the school bus. All eligible riders were required to register last June in order to access transportation for the upcoming school year. If your student requires and is not registered for transportation, contact the St. Francis office.

Bus route information for the upcoming school year may be found on Southland's Lethbridge webpage [here](#). Bus passes will be distributed to eligible, registered riders within the first two weeks of September. We suggest bus passes be attached securely to a backpack as students will require a valid pass to board buses after mid-September.

Southland Transportation uses a GPS tracking service app called "My Bus Stop" which delivers real-time information about a subscriber's bus location, route, schedule and possible delays. More information is available [here](#). The updated code for St. Francis is HSR0P15Q55.

More information about eligibility, registration and fees is attached later in the Newsletter.

Canteen

The canteen offers regular menu items including hamburgers, chicken burgers & wraps, pizza subs, hot dogs, nachos, muffins, cookies, chips and various beverages. There are also exciting daily specials such as cheezy garlic fingers on Monday, mini pizza on Tuesday, etc. The daily special menus are posted on the daily announcements.

Payment can be by cash, debit tap, or through buying prepaid canteen cards on [School Cash Online](#). Canteen cards can be purchased in increments of \$20.00. Your student can then purchase items at the canteen by just telling the canteen staff their name and that they have canteen funds. The staff will keep track of your student's spending and will let them know when funds are getting low.

CANTEEN
news

Canteen Specials



Monday: Cheesy Garlic Fingers - \$5.25

Tuesday: Mini pepperoni pizza - \$5.75

Wednesday: weekly special

Thursday: Alternating each week, Beef and cheese tacos - \$5.25, and Chicken Burgers - \$5.50

Upcoming Weekly Specials

November 13: Taco in a Bag \$6.00

November 20: Grilled Cheese \$3.00 and Tomato Soup \$2.00

November 27: French Toast and Hash Brown \$5.00

December 4: Chicken Nuggets \$5.00

School Fees

School Cash Online

Holy Spirit School Division uses [School Cash Online](#) for the payment of all school items such as fees, canteen cards, club/athletic fees and spirit wear.

Fees for required items: Semester one developmental options, Quarter one investigative options and co-curricular volleyball are being added to student's SchoolCash Online. Cross country fees will be added shortly. Please check SchoolCash Online to pay your student's fees. Additional fees for upcoming option classes and co-curricular activities will be added as they are applicable.

If you have already registered for School Cash Online at another school in the Holy Spirit School Division, you will see the 2024-2025 St. Francis school fees in September. If you are new to Holy Spirit, you will need your student's ASN to register which can be found in PowerSchool.

If you prefer to pay by cash or cheque you can always do so by coming into the office. (Credit and debit cards are no longer accepted.)

Wildcat Athletics News

All practices and games are on the [St. Francis Athletic Calendar](#) (clickable link). Refer to it often for up to date changes.

- **VOLLEYBALL:** Our season is coming to a close, well done to our incredible athletes and coaches!
- **BASKETBALL:** Tryouts will begin in Mid-November, keep an eye on the St. Francis Athletic Calendar
- **WRESTLING:** Wrestling practice will be beginning in the week of November 11, 2024.



November 8: School Division Wellness Day - No School

November 11: Remembrance Day Holiday - No School

November 12: School Division Collaborative Day - No School

December 2: St. Francis Student Retreat

December 10: Advent Mass - 8:30am

December 23 - January 3: Christmas Break

UPCOMING
EVENTS

WHATS NEW AT OUR POOL? JUNIOR LIFEGUARD CLUB



NEW PROGRAM

ACTION PACKED FUN

The Junior Lifeguard Club offers action-packed fun for kids who love the water and want more than just swimming lessons. It's perfect for quick learners and those who thrive in an energetic learning environment.

FRIENDS CAN JOIN TOGETHER

The Junior Lifeguard Club is designed for members of all abilities. Friends (and siblings) can join the club together even if they are of different ages and abilities. The Club welcomes members between 8 and 15 years of age.

PERSONAL CHALLENGES FOR PERSONAL BEST

The Junior Lifeguard Club (JLC) focuses on enhancing aquatic skills and having fun while promoting personal best achievement. Members build upon their existing skills to improve swimming and other aquatic abilities, with a strong emphasis on swim and lifesaving knowledge, leadership, teamwork, community education, competition, and personal fitness.



WHEN CAN I START?

REGISTRATION

Registration opens on December 3rd at 9:00 am!

PROGRAM DATES

The club will run from January 13th until March 23rd every Friday from 3:30 pm until 4:30 pm.



AGE GROUPS & COST

RecEx Rangers (8 years – 11 years)
\$180.00

RecEx Rays (12 years – 15 years)
\$210.00

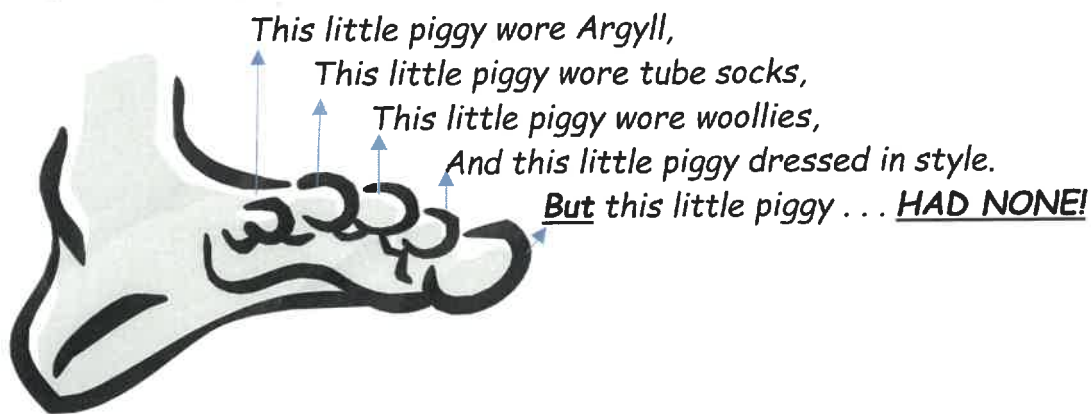
HOW DO I REGISTER?

Registration can be done:

- In-person at Stan Siwik Pool or Nicholas Sheran Pool
- Over the phone
- Online at aquatics.lethbridge.ca (use course ID)

Course ID:

- #19839: RecEx Rangers
- #19840: RecEx Rays



It's time for 24th ANNUAL OPERATION:

SOCK IT TO 'EM

From November 1 to December 11, 2024

**Nord-Bridge Seniors Centre, the Caretakers,
Maintenance & Support staff in Lethbridge & Area
schools are collecting *NEW SOCKS* to be
donated to local charities and those less
Fortunate for Christmas.**

***Please join them and make Someone's Christmas
a little bit warmer!***

**To donate, contact any Custodial staff at
your local school.**

QUESTIONS?

Call Gail Petrie (403) 327-6520

Charlene Kocken (403) 329-3222

-Nord-Bridge Seniors Centre

-Lethbridge School Division

-Holy Spirit School

-Palliser Regional School