



ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH

Welcome Back to St. Francis Junior High

Aug. 28, 2026

Welcome to the start of another exciting school year at **St. Francis Junior High School!**

We are so excited to welcome back our returning students and families and extend a very warm welcome to all of the new students and families joining our school community.

At St. Francis, we are committed to **bringing to light the best we can become**. As we begin a new year, we look forward to building strong relationships, creating meaningful learning experiences, and continuing to ensure that every student feels a sense of belonging, support, and connection within our school community.

A Reminder to Bring a Device

To support student learning and the use of digital resources throughout the school year, we encourage all students to **bring a Chromebook or another robust personal device**, if possible. Students will have regular opportunities to use technology to support learning, organization, research, collaboration, and classroom activities.

Piloting Alberta's New Mathematics and Social Studies Curriculum

This year, St. Francis is excited to be piloting Alberta Education's new **Mathematics and Social Studies curriculum** in **Grades 7, 8, and 9**.

Our teachers have been working to prepare for this important opportunity and are looking forward to exploring the new curriculum alongside our students. Throughout the year, we will continue to learn, reflect, and refine our practice as we implement the new programs of study.

We are excited about the opportunity to help shape the implementation of Alberta's new curriculum while continuing to provide engaging, meaningful, and high-quality learning experiences for our students.

Welcome to Our New Staff!

We are also thrilled to welcome several new staff members to the St. Francis community this year.

Please join us in welcoming **Kyra Rowe, Brigitte Paquette-Smith, Tyson Cote, Jared Sandham, and Aimee Baron!** We also have three Intern teachers from the University of Lethbridge: **Emily James, Brooklyn Kowalchuk and Emily Shand**

We are excited to have each of them join our team and know they will bring tremendous energy, experience, and passion to our school community.

As we begin this new school year, we are grateful for the continued partnership between our students, families, staff, parish, and community. We are looking forward to an incredible year filled with learning, growth, faith, connection, and plenty of opportunities to **bring to light the best we can become**.

We can't wait to get started...Welcome back, St. Francis!

Jackie Kraemer - Principal

Please review the important information below...

- **First Day back for all students is Tuesday, September 1, 2026...**

We will welcome our Grade 7 students in the morning, and our Grade 8/9 students in the afternoon. ❖ Grade 7s will come between 8:00am – 11:35am

❖ Grade 8/9s will come between 12:15pm – 3:00pm. **Please Note: There will be buses in the morning & after school, but NO MID-DAY BUSES.**

- This year's full-year (2026-2027) school calendar can be found here: <https://sfjh.holyspirit.ab.ca/calendar>.
- Important Dates: <https://sfjh.holyspirit.ab.ca/important-dates-2026-2027>
- For athletic events, please visit the [SF Athletic Calendar](#)
- St. Francis bell times for the 2026-2027 school year which can be found here: <https://sfjh.holyspirit.ab.ca/bell-times->
- St. Francis uses PowerSchool as its student information system. Students will be able to access their timetables for the 2026-2027 school year through PowerSchool (go to "Dashboard" and use the "Class Overview" to select full year or by quarter).
- Parents/ guardians who have NOT completed the re-registration form through SchoolEngage, this process MUST be completed before your child(ren) is provided with a timetable. Please go here to complete your child's re-registration form <https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/schools/registration>
- **Picture Day:** School pictures will be on September 18, 2026. This year's photographer will be [Mountain West Studios](#).
- **SafeArrival:** an absence management system using [SchoolMessenger](#) to improve student safety and makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absence. Please check the [website](#) to learn more about this effective way to report your child's attendance.



- **Transportation Info:** To access information about Transportation for students within Holy Spirit Catholic School Division please visit the link below:
<https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/schools/transportation>. For the **MyBusStop** app, you will need to use the **SF BUS CODE HSRQK0A166**.
Visit [Southland Transportation](#) to view up to date route information.
- **School supplies:** <https://sfjh.holyspirit.ab.ca/supply-list-BYOD>
- **CELL PHONE POLICY:** St. Francis will continue to be a **PHONE-FREE SCHOOL**, and students are NOT permitted to use their devices at any time during school day. Devices (mobile phones, smartwatches and wireless earbuds) must be stored in their lockers from 7:00am - 3:00pm, and they are not allowed to access them at any point during the day. Devices must be kept out of the classroom, & use is not permitted at any time during the school day. If any device is seen or heard in class, students will be required to take their items to the office, including devices tucked in clothing, bags, or binders. Devices taken to the office will be stored securely in lock boxes and returned to students at the end of the day for the first and second offenses. On the third offense, a parent or guardian will be contacted to collect the device from the school.
Parents and guardians should contact their children during the designated times and may always reach out to the office directly as needed. Staff members are encouraged to use their professional judgment in applying this policy. If a teacher deems it necessary for students to use devices during class time for a learning activity, this is permitted, but the usage will be closely monitored. This policy aligns with provincial guidelines and offers us an opportunity to consistently enforce it across our school.



New Alberta Curriculum at St. Francis

We are excited to share that **St. Francis Junior High will be implementing Alberta's new Mathematics and Social Studies curricula during the 2026–27 school year.**

These updated curricula provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding, develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills, and make meaningful connections between their learning and the world around them.

Our teachers will be working collaboratively throughout the year as we transition to these new curricula and develop engaging learning experiences for our students.

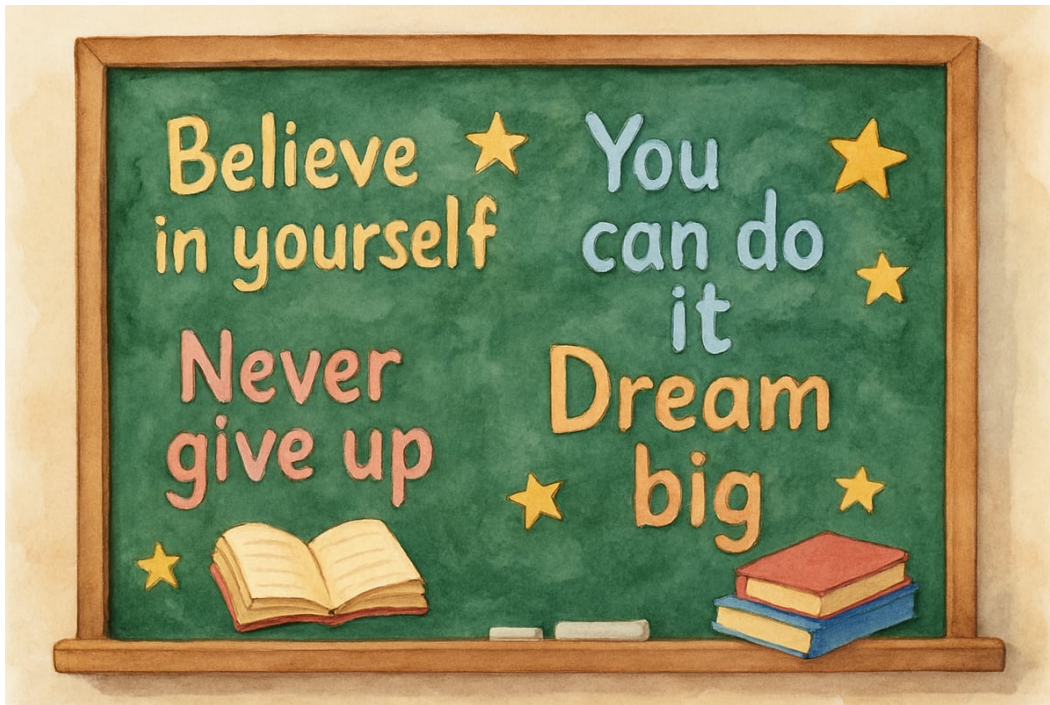
For more information, please visit the **Alberta Education Curriculum website**.

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

Regular canteen menu items will be available to purchase starting Sept 8th
Please check our Daily Announcements Weekly Specials!



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 Tryouts: SR Boys (Grade 9s) **Sept 1, 3:00pm & Sept 2, 6:00pm & Sept 3, 3:00pm**
SR Girls (Grade 9s) **Sept 1, 5:00pm & Sept 2, 7:30pm & Sept 3, 7:30pm**
JR Boys (Grade 8s) **Sept 2, 4:30pm & Sept 3, 4:30pm**
JR Girls (Grade 8s) **Sept 2, 3:00pm & Sept 3, 6:00pm**
DV Boys (Grade 7s) **Sept 8, 4:30pm & Sept 9, 3:00pm**
DV Girls (Grade 7s) **Sept 8, 3:00pm & Sept 9, 4:30pm**

Cross Country Practices - commence on Wednesday, Sept 2nd
Mon - Thurs @ 3:00 - 4:00 until Oct. 8th

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.

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 2026-2027 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 card, cash or cheque, you can always do so by coming into the office.



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. **Use District Code: RHZW**
If you are unsure of how to access PowerSchool please contact the school at 403-327-3402.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHECK OUT THE [SF SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)

September 1	- First Day of School
September 7	- Labour Day (No School)
September 11	- Teamwork Triathlon
September 18	- School Photos
September 21	- Parent Council Meeting, 5:15pm
September 21	- Welcome Back BBQ
September 30	- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Registration & Transportation Information

Please complete your registration forms for the 2026/2027 school year.

More information can be accessed through the [school website](#)

& registration can be done through School Engage.

For more information please contact the school office, 403-327-3402

Please inform the office of any address changes as soon as possible!



NOTICE TO PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF RELIGIOUS PERMEATION

Section 58.1 of the *Education Act* requires a school board to give notice to a parent or guardian when courses of study, education programs, institutional materials, instruction or exercises include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion. All of the schools in this division are Catholic Separate Schools, the essential purpose of which is to fully permeate Catholic theology, philosophy, practices and beliefs, the principles of the Gospel and teachings of the Catholic Church, in all aspects of school life, including in the curriculum of every subject taught, both in and outside of formal religion classes, celebrations and exercises. Every course of study and educational program, all institutional materials, instruction and exercises will at all times include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion.



FAIR NOTICE LETTER

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals use progressive discipline to help a student take responsibility for their actions, change their behavior and learn from their mistakes.

When students' behaviors pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm, the Southwest Alberta Regional Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Protocol assists administrators in taking the necessary steps to protect the well-being of students and staff. This protocol ensures that schools can respond promptly to worrisome behaviors or threatening incidents, such as possession of a weapon or replica, bomb threats or plans, verbal, written, or electronic (internet, text) threats to harm oneself or others, as well as other acts of violence, including fire-setting.

The protocol requires trained division staff and community partners to work together as a team to complete an Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO) whenever a student threatens to harm others. The ARTO process leverages the team's knowledge, skills, and experience to assess the level of concern and identify appropriate interventions to protect individuals from harm and ensure a safe environment in both the school and the community. A multi-disciplinary approach is used to address these concerns. Please be advised that the school team will take positive and proactive measures to address all known threats or high-risk behaviors. If you are invited to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your child, please be assured that our protocol is being followed and that our primary goal is ensuring safety.

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school should respond immediately to threatening behavior. Principals may first assemble a School Threat Assessment Team, ideally comprising the principal or associate principal, a school-based counselor or jurisdictional lead, and local police. If the situation is serious, the principal may also consult the Superintendent of Schools and involve members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This team may include representatives from local police, children's mental health organizations, or Child and Family Services, among other community agencies that collaborate with us to enhance school safety. Parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible during the Stage I - VTRA Process. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, but a safety concern persists, the threat assessment may proceed. Personal information shared during this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure everyone's safety.

This letter complies with procedure 2 of *Administrative Procedure 322: Violence Threat / Risk Assessment (V-TRA) Protocol*, which states that parents/ guardians will be provided with "fair notice" that each threat will be taken seriously. Should you wish to further review this Administrative Procedure, please visit our website at www.holyspirit.ab.ca.

If you have any questions regarding the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's use of the Southwest Alberta Regional V-TRA Protocol, please contact the Director of Support Services at the St. Basil Catholic Education Centre. We appreciate your support in ensuring our schools are safe environments for our students, staff and community partners.

Sincerely,

Chantel Axani, Superintendent of Schools

St. Francis Supply List



Acceptable Devices

Although many students have iPhones, and Android phones, they may not meet the necessary requirements as an accepted learning device. St. Francis is also implementing a PHONE-FREE policy. Chromebooks are an ideal solution as they can be inexpensive and meet all the requirements of acceptable devices. You may want to provide a different device rather than a Chromebook. Other acceptable devices include:

- Tablet with 9.7" screen (minimum). *Ex: Apple iPad, Samsung Galaxy, Lenovo Tab, Microsoft, etc...*
- Laptop with Apple OS or Windows OS. *Ex: Apple, Samsung, Acer, Sony, Windows, Lenovo etc...*

Devices must meet 9-7" screen requirement, have good battery life and the ability to run Google Suite for education. *As always some school owned devices will be available for students to use while at school on a limited basis. We provide students with the necessary technology for their education needs. However, some students may find it easier to have access via personal Chromebooks to do their work.*

2026-2027

- ☐ Accommodation where applicable: Parents of St. Francis students may consider the purchase of an **acceptable device** for their student for the 2026-2027 school year.
- ☐ Multi-line scientific calculator (preferred: Texas Instrument Ti-30XS MultiView, Ti-34 MultiView)
- ☐ 2 Boxes of Kleenex
- ☐ 3-ring binders (2 is recommended) Zip closures work best
- ☐ Paper (2 pkgs of lined, unlined, graph)
- ☐ 2 - 6 duo-tangs (1 per subject is recommended)
- ☐ 10 dividers
- ☐ 10 pens (blue or black)
- ☐ HB pencils - at least 24, but 48 would be preferred
- ☐ 2 erasers
- ☐ 2 red pens
- ☐ White out (optional)
- ☐ Pencil crayons/coloured markers/white board markers
- ☐ Glue stick
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Ruler
- ☐ Geometry set
- ☐ Dictionary/Thesaurus (optional but nice to have)
- ☐ Gym strip (T-shirt/sweatshirt, shorts or sweatpants, socks, non marking running shoes, deodorant, a bag to store articles in)
- ☐ Day planner/Agenda
- ☐ **French Immersion:** French Dictionary, Bescherelle (verb book), French/English dictionary, 2-4 duo-tangs, 2 black whiteboard markers
- ☐ Headphones (Not Ear Buds)



ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH

2026-2027 IMPORTANT DATES

(Dates may be subject to change)

Aug 25: First Day for Staff
Aug 28th: Opening Day Mass
September 1: First Day for Students - Grade 7 (AM); Grade 8 & 9 (PM)
September 7: Labour Day (No School)
September 11: Teamwork Triathlon
September 18: School Photos
September 21: Welcome Back BBQ Evening - 6:00 PM
September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - No School
October 5: School Opening Mass - 8:30 AM
October 12: Thanksgiving Holiday - No School
October 13: School PD Day
October 14: School PD Day
October 15: Parent Teacher Interviews, 5pm - 8pm
October 16: Picture Retake Day
October 19: Annual Academic Awards Night, 7:00 PM
November 11: Remembrance Day Holiday - No School
November 12: Divisional PD Day
November 13: School PD Day
December 15: Advent Mass - 12:30 PM
December 15: Christmas Fine Arts Concert - 6:00 PM
December 19 - January 3: Christmas Break
January 25: School PD Day
Jan 26-29: Exam
February 1: Semester Two Begins
February 10: Ash Wednesday Mass - 12:30 PM
February 15: Family Day Holiday
February 16 & 17: No School For Students
February 18 & 19: Teacher Convention - No school for students March 1:
SF Showcase
March 2-6: Musical
March 22: Parent/Teacher Interviews
March 26: Good Friday
March 27 - April 4: Easter Break
April 13: Student Retreat
April 26: School PD Day
May 5: Marian Mass - 12:30 PM
May 24: Victoria Day Holiday
May 25: Spiritual Development Day
June 10: Grade 9 Farewell - 6:00 PM
June 17: Closing Mass
June 18 - 24: Exam Week
June 21: National Indigenous People's Day
June 24: Last day for students
June 25: Last day for teachers



MONDAY TO THURSDAY

Period	Time
Warning Bell	7:58
HR	8:00 to 8:10
1	8:13 to 8:51
2	8:54 to 9:32
3	9:35 to 10:13
4	10:16 to 10:54
5	10:57 to 11:35
Lunch	11:35 to 12:15
Warning Bell	12:15
6	12:18 to 12:56
7	12:59 to 1:37
8	1:40 to 2:18
9	2:21 to 3:00



FRIDAY

Period	Time
Warning Bell	8:00
HR	8:02 to 8:12
1	8:15 to 8:55
2	8:58 to 9:38
3	9:41 to 10:21
4	10:24 to 11:04
5	11:07 to 11:47
6	11:50 to 12:30

Quarter Breaks 2026-27

	Start	End	Marks Due
Q1	September 1	November 6	November 10
Q2	November 9	January 29	February 3
Q3	Feb 1	April 16	April 21
Q4	April 19	June 24	June 25

SchoolCash Online

Pay for school fees online fast, free & easy!



WHY SIGN UP?

- ✓ 24/7 online payment access, anytime and anywhere
- ✓ Email alerts when new fees or activities are posted
- ✓ No more sending cash or cheques to school
- ✓ View and print payment receipts at any time

Sign up for
SchoolCash Online

<https://holyspirit.schoolcashonline.com/>

✓ Free to join!



Scan to create
an account

2026-2027 INDOOR SOCCER REGISTRATION LYS LEAGUE

www.lethbridgesoccer.com // 403-320-5425 (KICK)



ONLINE ONLY:

August 1 - September 12, 2026

INDOOR SOCCER SEASON STARTS: October 2026 - March 2027 ALL SESSIONS HELD AT THE SERVUS SPORTS CENTRE **INDOOR LEAGUE IS BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER OF SESSIONS FOR THE SEASON**

Register your player in their BIRTH YEAR (all age groups are from birth dates January 1 - December 31 of specified year)

Players will remain playing in their age groups no movement up or down an age group

Player Request Fee \$40.00 - 2 PLAYERS ONLY!

If there are not enough registrants per gender in U12 age group - Will be combined CoEd

Age Group	Birthyear	Fee	# of games	Days Playing	**ESTIMATED START TIMES**
U5 CoEd	2022	\$285.00	17 (40 min. sessions)	Monday	5:00pm
U6 CoEd	2021	\$285.00	17 (40 min. sessions)	Wednesday	5:00pm
U8 Boys	2019 & 2020	\$285.00	17 (50 min. sessions)	Mondays and Saturdays	Mon 5:00pm and Sat 9:00am
U8 Girls	2019 & 2020	\$285.00	17 (50 min. sessions)	Wednesdays	Wed 6:00pm
U10 Boys	2017 & 2018	\$340.00	21 (55 min. sessions)	Mondays and Saturdays	Mon 6:00pm* - Sat 11:00pm*
U10 Girls	2017 & 2018	\$340.00	21 (55 min. sessions)	Wednesdays	Wed 6:00pm
U12 Boys	2015 & 2016	\$420.00	27 (55 min. sessions)	Mondays and Saturdays and a few select Fridays	Mon 6:00pm* - Sat 2:00pm*
U12 Girls	2015 & 2016	\$420.00	27 (55 min. sessions)	Mondays and Saturdays and a few select Fridays	Mon 6:00pm* - Sat 2:00pm*
U14 CoEd	2013 & 2014	\$420.00	27 (55 min. sessions)	Mondays and Saturdays	Mon 8:00pm* - Sat 3:00pm*
U16 CoEd	2011 & 2012	\$420.00	27 (55 min. sessions)	Mondays and Saturdays and a few select Fridays	Mon 9:00pm* - Sat 6:00pm*
U18 CoEd	2009 & 2010	\$420.00	27 (55 min. sessions)	Mondays and Saturdays	Mon 9:00pm* - Sat 7:00pm*

****Start times are subject to change due to registration numbers and are provided as a guideline only****

PLAYER EQUIPMENT:

U5 & U6, Timbits Jersey, shorts & socks will be provided for each player to keep.
U8 - U18, Full Kit Jersey, Shorts & Socks will be provided for each player to keep.

Soccer Shoes or Soccer Cleats are acceptable, Shin Guards are MANDATORY - Not included in player fees

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:



U5 & U6 TIMBITS: This is our introductory level, where all sessions are run by our CSA Certified Coaches who will help your child build a love for the ball.

U8 - U12 FUNDAMENTAL: At this stage, individual player development is paramount. Developing soccer creativity skills in a fun environment.

U14 & U16 LEARN TO TRAIN: Golden Age of Learning, technical skills are introduced to the beginning of the tactical environment.

U18 LEARN THE GAME: Combining previously developed technical and tactical skills, into a more mature game setting.



**REGISTRATION IS UNDERWAY FOR
2026/2027!**

Spots fill quickly so don't delay!

**See our website for more
information!**

**Interested in hockey but don't want the significant time or
financial commitment that often comes with this great sport?**

**We offer an organized non-checking recreational hockey league
for all genders aged 5-17. All skill levels are welcome.**

One hour, once a week. Season runs from October to March.

www.lethbridgerechockey.com