



ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH

Principal's Message – November 2025 Newsletter

St. Francis Junior High School

Dear St. Francis Families,

Thank you to our staff for ensuring a very smooth transition back to school following the recent labour action. We are extremely fortunate at St. Francis to have such dedicated and hardworking teachers who partner with families to support all students' success.

Thank you as well to the many parents who have reached out with emails, cards, and letters of support. Your care and connection are a reflection of the strong community we have built together.

Important Upcoming Dates

- **Parent-Teacher Interviews:** Wednesday, November 12, 5:00pm – 8:00pm
- **School Council Meeting:** Monday, November 24, 5:30pm (prior to Academic Awards)
- **Academic Awards Ceremony:** Monday, November 24, 7:00pm

All parents are welcome to attend. Please visit our school website for monthly office hours if you wish to meet with your child's teacher.

Athletics

The volleyball season is wrapping up this week—best of luck to our Wildcats as they finish their final games. Congratulations and good luck to our Junior Cougar football athletes competing in the finals this weekend.

Fine Arts

Communication regarding our school musical production of *Cinderella* will be sent out next week with further details for students and families.

Trades Program Partnership

St. Francis is seeking community partnerships to support our Metal Shop Program. Our students continue to develop practical skills through hands-on learning in trades education. To maintain a safe and well-equipped learning environment, we are looking to acquire the following tools and materials:

bringing to light the best we can become

Address: 333 18 Street S. Lethbridge, AB T1J 3E5

Web: www.sfjh.holyspirit.ab.ca

Associate Principal: Mr. Darren Miller

Tel: 403-327-3402 Fax: 403-320-1877

Principal: Mrs. Jackie Kraemer

Associate Principal: Mrs. Cassie Skauge

Tools and Equipment Needed

- 2 Hobart Multi-Handler 200M/P Welders
- 1 14" Metal Devil Circular Saw
- 6 Pairs of Watson Heavy Metal Thrasher Gloves (S, M, L)
- 4 Bohler Guardian 62 Welding Helmets
- 2 Stronghand Portable Fab Tables
- 6 Miller Cloth Classic Jackets (S, M, L)
- 2 Miller Half-Mask Respirators with Filters (S/M, M/L)
- 2 Fibre Metal Face Shields
- 3 Curtain Frames (6x8')
- 3 Welding Curtains (6x8')

If you or your business are interested in supporting this initiative, please contact the school office for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Francis Junior High School.

Sincerely,

Jackie Kraemer

Principal, St. Francis Junior High School

bringing to light the best we can become

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Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

...where students are cherished and achieve their potential

October 31, 2025

SUBJECT: Updates to January Diploma and PAT Exams

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Alberta Government announced changes to upcoming provincial and diploma exams on Friday, October 31, 2025. We would like to share what this means for students and families in our Division.

November 2025 Diploma Exams

November diploma exams will continue to be optional. Students may choose to write them, and schools within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division will accommodate these requests.

Students who choose not to write the exams will still complete their courses and graduate on time, with final grades based on school-awarded marks. This decision will not affect post-secondary eligibility.

Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests and January 2026 Diploma Exams

The January Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests and the January 2026 Diploma Exams have been **cancelled**.

According to Alberta Education, Grade 12 students will receive their school-awarded mark as their final grade once their courses are completed this school year. A notation will be added to student transcripts confirming that no diploma exam was written. This ensures there is no impact on graduation or entry into post-secondary programs.

Future Exam Sessions

At this time, **no changes** have been announced for:

- April Diploma Exams
- June Provincial Achievement Tests or Diploma Exams

Families can find official updates and details about provincial and diploma exams on the [Alberta Education website](https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-education-website).

We appreciate your continued patience and understanding as we work to ensure students and families have the most accurate and up-to-date information. Further communications regarding calendar changes or other impacts on student learning will be shared in the coming days.

Sincerely,

Ms. Chantel Axani, Superintendent of Schools
Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.
Do not fear or be dismayed.” (Deuteronomy 31:8)

The Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate School Division

St. Basil Catholic Education Centre, 620 12B Street North, Lethbridge, AB T1H 2L7
Phone: 403-327-9555 • Fax: 403-327-9595 • www.holyspirit.ab.ca

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 2025-2026 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.)



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](#)

NO SCHOOL - Nov 10th & Nov 11th

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Nov 7 | - Lifetouch Picture RETAKE Day |
| Nov 12 | - Parent Teacher Interviews, 5pm - 8pm |
| Nov 20 | - Grade 9 Immunizations |
| Nov 24 | - School Council AGM, 5:30pm in Canteen |
| Nov 24 | - Academic Award Night, 7pm SF Gymnasium |
| Nov 27 | - School Dance, 5:00pm |

Registration & Transportation Information

**If you still require busing information or require bus passes,
please contact the school office - Phone 403-327-3402**

Please inform the office of any address changes - Thank you!

Get your St. Francis Clothing. Store closes on November 15th
<https://pci.jotform.com/form/240415577340251>

SF
ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH
WILDCATS



**SUPPORT YOUR
WILDCATS!
GET YOUR SWAG ON!**



It's time for the **25th ANNUAL OPERATION:**

SOCK IT TO 'EM

From November 1 to December 3, 2025

Nord-Bridge Seniors Centre, and 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, drop new socks off at Nord-Bridge, or 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 Division



In-Person DBT Skills Group for Adolescents and Parents

A six-week group for adolescents and their parents aged 13 through 17 who struggle managing emotions and behaviors. Participants must register in advance:

You will learn...

- How to become more mindful and self-aware
- Better manage feelings of anxiety and depression
- Reduce impulsive behavior & learn new coping skills
- Have healthy relationships and better communication

This six-week curriculum follows a set agenda in which new information is taught & practiced weekly, followed up with homework tasks. Skill sets include Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, Emotional Regulation, Interpersonal Effectiveness, and Walking the Middle Path.

Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m., October 21th to December 2nd, 2025.

Recovery Alberta Child, Youth and Family Addiction and Mental Health Clinic, Melcor Centre (Suite 120A 200 - 4 Ave. S.).

**To register, call Access Addiction & Mental Health
1-888-594-0211**