



Sister Mary Phillips School

Dear SMP Families,

Happy March! It's hard to believe that we are more than half way through the school year. Time flies when you're having fun☺

Lent has started. It is a time of reflection for 40 days. Many people "give up" something during Lent. Have a conversation, as a family, on how everyone can fast and practice self-denial during Lent. One thing I am going to encourage my own sons to "give up" during Lent is to not fight with each other as much ☺. Perhaps, this will continue past the 40 days! I can only hope.

We will be doing some fundraisers for Development and Peace, our Catholic organization that we support. This will be during the Season of Lent.

Our Sacred Teaching for the month is Honesty. This virtue is perfect as we embark on our Lenten journey.

Parent Teacher Interviews are this month. Please come and support your children in their Education. Free babysitting for your other children as you do Student Led Conferences.

Wishing you a reflective and lovely March.

God bless...

Lou Ann Demers-Noble
Principal

February Bucket Winners

EEP – Layla Hussey/Blair Alexander-Kootenay
EEP/K – Hailey Bissonnette/Isabella Mitchell
K – Brynn Stemmann/Owen Bartlett
1B – Tristan Biette
1E – Ethan Keats
1P – Grace Higgins
2B – Amelia Dubeck
2F – Bella Masear
2H – Tristan Grandjambe
3B – Chloe Jones
3C – Hunter Stemmann
3H – Allison Mills-Tourangeau
4F – Lindsay Freake
4R – Samantha King
5B – Eric Herriot
5J – Sydney Barry
6M – Anya Germain
6V – Bradey White
PE – Stephanie Sztraube
Platinum Bucket Class Winner – 2F
Most Tokens – 4F - 137
(Our virtue in February was LOVE)

Attention parents!

The SMP staff parking lot is for staff parking only. Our students are put at risk when parents drive into the staff parking lot to drop off or pick up their children. There is parking available in the church parking lot across the street, in the bus loop stalls and on Dickins Drive.

SMP Parent Group, in affiliation with our Support 4 Moms Society, will be hosting a monthly parent group starting in January and going until June. Where: SMP → Classroom 127 (by atrium) When: Monthly → Next meeting will be Monday, March 20, 2017 from 8:15 to 9:15am Why: Why not?! Please join us for coffee and snacks and an opportunity to get together with other parents of children with special needs to talk about daily struggles. This is an informal get together, all are welcome, including your little ones!

Parent Council News

We hope that everyone enjoyed their free class photo and smencil that was given to each child in the school for Valentine's Day!

Our Vesey Seeds fundraiser will be happening between March 13 & 27.

If you haven't signed up for the REMIND app and would like to be added, please send an email to smpparentcouncil@gmail.com with your name and cell number.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the parent volunteers who make our special events and fundraisers possible; we couldn't do it without you!

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday March 15th 6PM.
As always, FREE BABYSITTING! Please join us!

SMP Parent Teacher Interviews (Student Led format)

March 27th 5-8PM

March 29th 3:30-6:30PM

** Free babysitting!

PLEASE bring a box (or more) of cereal for our Breakfast Program!

Choose **Most Often Cereals:** Kellogg's Mini Wheats (original & brown sugar), Cheerios (multigrain & plain), Golden Grahams, Alpha-Bits, Honey Comb, Shreddies, Life Cereal.

World Down Syndrome Day, March 21st, is the day that was selected by the United Nations to be celebrated around the world in recognition of those with Trisomy 21 (Down Syndrome). Down Syndrome is the most common chromosomal condition. It occurs when a person has 3 copies of the 21 chromosome. The United Nations chose March 21st as a day to recognize this syndrome as it is the 21st day of the 3rd month of the year (21/3). One way we celebrate World Down Syndrome Day is by encouraging everyone to wear mismatched and/or crazy socks. Like socks, we are all the SAME, but we are also DIFFERENT in our own UNIQUE ways. All students and staff at SMP are encouraged to wear their mismatched/crazy socks on March 21st (\$1.00 donation) in honor of those with an extra chromosome. Happy World Down Syndrome Day to all and we can't wait to see those SOCKS!

Breakfast Program

Our breakfast program is available for everyone who needs it. We want to make sure our students get off to a good start! As well, a very big thank you to all our parents who have been helping get the cereal and breakfast items ready every day! We couldn't do it without you!

The Bucket Filling presentation was great! We enjoyed the show!



Congratulations to Exzander Lacorde, one of the Junior Achiever winners at RARA (Regional Aboriginal Recognition Award).



The Valentine's Day Liturgy was hosted by our 2H and 3C classes.



Our lucky students enjoying their Pizza with the Principal!

Our Indigenous storyteller shared wonderful stories with our younger students.



March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3
		NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL
6	7	8	9	10
Ski Day (Gr.4-6)		PJ Day for Cerebral Palsy (\$1)	HL- Subway	Monday Schedule HL- Opa!
13	14	15	16	17
Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week!		6PM-School Council meeting 2H-Field Trip (am) PM-SMP Arctic Wintergames	HL- Meals & Things Catering Green Day \$1 – Development & Peace	NO SCHOOL PLF
20	21	22	23	24
ALIEN In-Line Gr.3 Tubing Day 8:15-9:15-SMP Parent Group	ALIEN In-Line Crazy Sock Day (\$1 for Down Syndrome)	ALIEN In-Line Family Alien Night 6-8PM (please bring cereal for Cereal drive)	HL- Booster Juice ALIEN In-Line Science Fair at SMP (Gr.4-6) 7-9PM Triple P Parenting Session	NO SCHOOL PLF
27	28	29	30	31
ALIEN In-Line 5-8PM – PTIs (please bring cereal for our Cereal Drive)	ALIEN In-Line Science In Motion	ALIEN In-Line 3:30-6:30PM– PTIs (please bring cereal for our Cereal Drive) Hat Day (\$1) Development & Peace Science In Motion	ALIEN In-Line HL-Jomma's District Sci Fair at Merc No EEP/K Classes (PTIs)	NO SCHOOL
Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5	Apr 6	Apr 7
ALIEN In-Line		6-7PM Family Science Night (pls bring cereal for Bfast program)	Dress as a Saint Day (\$1 to Development & Peace)	10:30-Assembly (dress as your favourite Animal)

Interested in SMP School Clothing?
<http://sistermaryphillips.entripyshops.com/>

Triple P (Positive Parenting Programs) “After the Fire”

The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program is a "light touch" intervention providing brief one-time assistance to parents who are generally coping well but have one or two concerns with their child's behavior or development following a natural disaster, more specifically the Fort McMurray wildfire.

During this 1.5 – 2 hour seminar you will hear about common social and emotional reactions of children following a natural disaster, the natural course of children's responses, why some children are affected more than others, common parent traps, managing children's emotions following the disaster, how to answer children's questions, and what are my next steps. Take-home tip sheets are available for all those who attend.

There is no fee for the Triple P seminar. Parents are welcome to drop into any session.

This Triple P seminar is one of the most effective evidence-based parenting programs in the world, backed up by more than 30 years of ongoing research. Triple P gives parents simple tips to help manage the big and small problems of family life.

If you feel this seminar may help you put into perspective what you and your family have experienced and continue to recover from, please drop by one of our seminar locations listed below.

February 21, 7:00 - 9:00 pm @ St. Gabriel School
February 22, 9:00 - 11:00 am @ St. Gabriel School
February 23, 12:30 - 2:30 @ St. Anne School

March 14, 6:00- 7:30 @ Father Turcotte School
March 16, 12:30 - 2:30 @ St. Paul School
March 23, 7:00 - 9:00 @ Sister Mary Phillips School

April 18, 9:00 - 11:00 @ St. Martha School
April 20, 7:00- 9:00 @ Holy Trinity School

Wanda Chaulk
Behavior Consultant, Triple P presenter
Fort McMurray Catholic School District

wanda.chaulk@fmcsd.ab.ca

FIRE SEASON STARTS MARCH 1



Do your part in preventing wildfires by following the necessary precautions:

- Never leave fires unattended. Completely extinguish fires and remember to **SOAK IT, STIR IT** and **SOAK IT AGAIN**.
- Keep a fire extinguisher, hose or source of water nearby when using your fire pit.
- Keep off-highway vehicles (OHV) clean and stop frequently to extinguish hot spots.
- Always fully extinguish cigarette butts.
- Ensure that wildfire hazards are low and that a fire ban has not been issued prior to using a fire pit or OHV www.albertafirebans.ca

Residents living in the Urban Service Area (Fort McMurray) are reminded that backyard fire pits require a permit. If you have recently installed a fire pit or are a new homeowner, you are required to submit an application to the Fire Prevention Branch, located at Fire Hall 5 (200 Saprae Creek Trail, T9H 4P1).

Fire pit permit applications can be obtained by visiting www.rmwb.ca/fireprevention. There is a \$35 permit fee, and all approved permits are valid as long as the applicant resides at the address listed on the permit.

Residents living outside of the Urban Service Area can obtain a free fire permits from March 1 to October 31 through the local Alberta Agriculture and Forestry office by contacting 780-743-7125.

For more information please visit:
www.wildfire.alberta.ca

TO REPORT A WILDFIRE CALL 310-FIRE (3473).

Alberta

www.rmwb.ca



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OF WOOD BUFFALO