

BACK TO SCHOOL SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

2025 Edition



We rise to meet Christ's challenge.

NEW BELL TIMES

► Monday-Thursday Grades 1-9

8:20am= School Doors Open
8:31am= Warning bell
8:33am= Classes begin
10:10am-10:25am= Recess/Break
11:55am-12:35pm= Lunch/Recess
1:51pm-2:06pm= Recess/Break
3:26pm= Student Dismissal

► Friday Grades 1-9

8:20am= School Doors Open
8:31am= Warning bell
8:33am= Classes begin
10:10am= Gospel
10:30pm-10:45pm= Recess
12:15pm= Student Dismissal

TIME	KINDERGARTEN
8:31AM	WARNING BELL
8:33AM	CLASS STARTS
10:20AM	SNACK TIME
11:45AM	DISMISSAL

TIME	EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM
8:31AM	WARNING BELL
8:35AM	CLASS STARTS
10:15AM	SNACK TIME
11:35AM	DISMISSAL



NEW

CELLPHONE POLICY

2025-2026



St. Catherine School is implementing a **phone-free policy** for all students during the school day. Students have to keep phones and other personal electronic devices OFF and in their lockers **from the first bell at 8:33am to the dismissal bell at 3:26pm**. They are not permitted to access these devices at any point during the school day.

What's Included?

Cellphones, Smart watches, wireless earbuds, all bluetooth headphones and fitness trackers.



AWAY FOR THE DAY

"CONCENTRATION, GRADES, AND RESPECT GO UP WHEN PHONES GO AWAY. IT'S NOT EASY...BUT IT'S WORTH IT." CHECK THE FACTS: AWAYFORTHEDAY.ORG

To contact your student during the school day please call or email Miss Sarah in the office at

403-732-4359

scpboffice@holyspirit.ab.ca

GETTING READY IN THE OFFICE



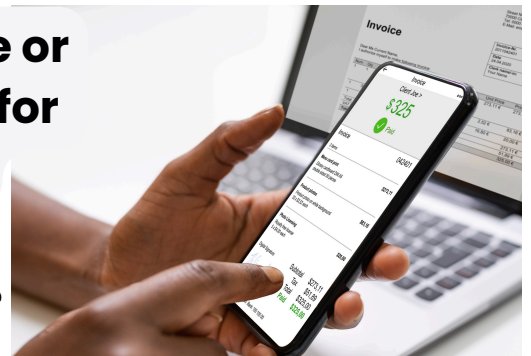
SchoolCashOnline

How to update Credit card information on **School Cash**.

1. Log onto SchoolCash online
2. Click Payment History Tab
3. Select "Change payment method"
4. Enter the new credit card information.

School fees may be paid by cash, cheque or through your School Cash account online for automatic payments and reminders.

Janis Myndio is our new Administrative Assistant who will be able to assist you in any problems. *Please come and introduce yourself next time you're in the office.*



CONTACT AND COMMUNICATION

With our new Cellphone Policy in effect we know that you will need to utilize contacting your child through the office more. You may do so through the phone by calling 403-732-4359 or by emailing scpboffice@holyspirit.ab.ca
Please always include you and your child's name when relaying information.



▶ WHEN WE NEED YOU TO CONTACT THE OFFICE

- When your child wont be attending the school day for any reason.
- If your child is expected to be late (anytime after 8:33am)
- If your child is getting picked up early (who is picking them up, when do they need to be ready to leave)
- If your child usually takes the bus and is not today (Please notify the school ASAP with this information)



BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

▶ **SEPTEMBER 10TH 5PM**

- Say "Hello" to some new families and catch up with those you already know; while enjoying delicious food together.
- Meet our new teachers, and check out your child's classroom.
- During the BBQ if your child is interested in being a member of our St Catherine Saints Volleyball teams or Cross Country, please join us in room 111 for our parents meeting.
- Following the BBQ there will be the Grade 9 parents meeting to discuss the Waterton Retreat Sept 17-19th. Permission click form due Sept 16.



**Forms and
Permission click**



**Grade 9
Waterton Trip**

▶ JR HIGH

Open Campus form

- Students are allowed to receive parental permission to leave school campus during lunch breaks to go into town and buy food and snacks etc.

Chrome book lending agreement

- Students are able to bring Chromebooks from home to use in classes, or "Borrow" a chrome book from the school. A refundable caution fee of 50\$ is given back at the end of the year when the Chromebook and attributed charger are returned.

Jr High options list choices

- Option lists were sent home. Students are to number their desires options 1-3 which will help us in assigning, Grade 9 will have priority. Forms are due back no later than Wednesday September 10.

New Student Handbook

- Students will be able to access a newly compiled "Student Handbook" covering various aspects and school information.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

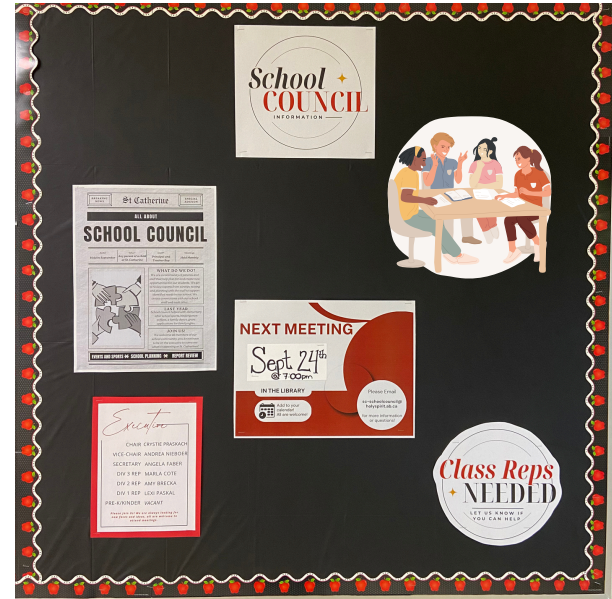
► BULLETIN BOARD

School Council has their own Bulletin Board this year.

- Keep up to date on ways to get involved
- Learn topics that will be discussed at meetings.
- Help make our School thrive through your ideas, and support.

► FIRST MEETING

September 24th at 7pm in the School Library.



HOME AND SCHOOL

► FIRST MEETING

September 9th at 7pm in the School Library!

► BULLETIN BOARD

Home and School have their own bulletin board for this year!

This Bulletin Board will be used by Home and School to update you on what's happening, how to get involved and inform you of their committee members!



SAINTS SPORTS

► VOLLEYBALL SEASON

1st Volleyball Practice's

- 3:30pm Sept 2 = Open Practice for all interested
- 3:30pm Sept 3 = Grades 6, 7, 8 Girls and Boys Practice
- 3:30pm Sept 4 = Grades 8,9 Girls and Boys Practice

Practices after this first week will begin at 4:00pm to account for running club.

JV Girls Coach: Jo Dixon

SV Girls Coach: Jo Dixon

JV Boys Coach: Brian Dawydiuk, Danielle Moroszczuk

SV Boys Coach: Brian Dawydiuk, Danielle Moroszczuk

**If you are
interested in
coaching or
volunteering
please
reach out**

There will be a parent meeting for all volleyball parents on Wednesday, September 10 at 5:00pm (*during the back to school BBQ*) in room 111 (*Mr. Dawydiuk's room*). This meeting will go over the athletic handbook and explain our programs philosophy, playing time, expectations, schedules, fees, commitments and will address any questions parents may have.

► WHATS NEW? RUNNING CLUB

1st Run Club is September 9th at 3:30pm

Open for Grades 1-9

Held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30pm-4:00pm

- This Drop in program will be an opportunity for beginners and those more experienced to hone their skills and improve form, while building endurance.
- Unlike team sports and many others, running is an affordable sport focusing on personal bests and improving yourself.
- We hope that this program will inspire more students to seek and take opportunities within Cross Country.





St. Catherine School

Picture Butte

2025-2026 School Fees

Please Note: The listed fees denote the maximum amount that can be charged.
Most fees are open and payable all year but we ask that you pay them at your earliest convenience or contact the office if financial assistance is needed.

ELEMENTARY FEES (Kindergarten-Gr. 6)

Online Technology Subscriptions (Gr. 1-6)	\$ 15.00
Kindergarten Celebrations/Supplies & Field Trips	\$ 50.00

JUNIOR HIGH FEES (Grade 7-9)

Construction Tech Option - Per Term	\$ 30.00
Food Studies Option - Per Term	\$ 30.00
Fashion Studies Option – Per Term	\$ 30.00
Exploratory Option	\$ 30.00
Online Technology Subscriptions	\$ 15.00
Chromebook Caution Fee (Refundable)	\$ 50.00

JUNIOR HIGH EXTRA CURRICULAR FEES *(applied only to those who participate)*

Volleyball (includes a \$10.00 Uniform Fee)	\$ 175.00
Basketball (includes a \$10.00 Uniform Fee)	\$ 200.00
Badminton	\$ 25.00
Zone Sports Competition	\$ 40.00
Drama Production (License, Paint, Printing)	\$ 30.00

FIELD TRIP FEES

Grade 1 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 2 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 3 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 4 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 5 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 6 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 7 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 8 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Grade 9 Field Trip Fee	\$ 60.00
Swimming Lessons	\$ 25.00
Year End Pool Trip (Gr. 1-9)	\$ 5.00
Grade 9 Camping	\$ 175.00
Ski Trip #1	\$ 120.00
Ski Trip #2	\$ 120.00
First Aid Fee	\$ 2.00
School Religion Retreat	\$ 10.00



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



BUSSING REMINDERS



Behaviour on busses

1. The Driver is in charge of the bus at all times. You must listen and follow instructions.
2. Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion.
3. Students must not extend any part of their body out of the window.
4. Aisles must be kept clear.
5. The use of foul language or tobacco products is not allowed on the bus.
6. Alcohol and drugs are strictly prohibited.
7. No littering. Additionally some bus drivers have a "no eating" on the bus policy.



Bus zones and parking

- The area between the "Bus Zone" signs is what is considered our bus zone.
- Between 8:20am - 8:35am: bus kids will be getting dropped off.
- From 3:00pm to 3:30pm: buses will be picking up our students.
- Do not park in the bus zone during those times.
- Make sure to avoid walking between, in front of, or behind buses when they are parked.



SCHOOL INFORMATION



Calendar



Office Hours: 8:20am-4:00pm



Email: scpboffice@holyspirit.ab.ca



Phone Number: 403-732-4359



Website:
www.scpb.holyspirit.ab.ca



Address: St Catherine School
300- 7 Street North Picture Butte
AB, T0K 1V0