

ST. DAMIEN SCHOOL

Celebrating Diversity and Inspiring Creativity

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Administrator's message: February 2019

Well this year continues to whistle along! We have passed the mid-way point in the school year and there has been so much to celebrate and enjoy. Division 1 students are celebrating the 100th Day of School with many activities this week.

We will have our third eucharistic Adoration on February 8. We are so thankful to Father Minh who prioritizes St. Damien School and comes to share his knowledge with us. Sister Madeleine's regular visits also ground us in our faith theme (Search and you will find).

The Grade 3s will enjoy their "It's a Crime Not To Read' Pizza Party on February 6. It is a time that students and their families join together to enjoy time at the library and celebrate the success of the program.

Pizza by the Slice will take place on February 11 and Fun Lunch will be February 22. Thank you to Susan McCaghren for her tireless work on the planning, organizing, money counting, class list organizing and distribution of the lunches. She single-handedly ensures a couple of hundred students are fed at each of these lunches. You are amazing!

Teachers' Convention will take place on February 14 and 15. With the holiday Monday, it will be an extra long weekend for students. Enjoy.

Our next School Council meeting takes place on February 20 at 6:30 p.m. All parents/guardians are welcome to join us.

Grade 5 students will go on a field trip to Atco Blue Flame kitchen at the end of the month. Watch for further details as we get closer to the days.

All students will enjoy Evergreen Theatre at the end of the month.

As you heard in a letter that went home on February 4, we had a fire alarm go off unexpectedly. The students went outside quickly as they are trained to do. Unfortunately, it was bitterly cold, and students and staff were outside with no coats. With permission from the fire fighters, we entered the building to stay warm as they checked to see the cause of the alarm. As it turns out, there was a faulty wire in the boys changeroom, but it was fixed by the end of the day. The children showed great courage, resilience and kindness to one another during this unexpected event.

Please ensure your child is prepared to go outside during cold weather with a coat, snow pants, toque, mitts, scarf, etc. as we go outside unless it is colder than -20 degrees. Many children are not prepared to be outside and that is concerning to us.

Stay warm as it has been so cold lately!

Yours in Christ,

Shannon Griffin, Principal
Assistant Principal

Jim Moroney,

Information for parents:

As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we are equipping students for success.

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators. Data on these indicators consists of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of education quality, student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates, and provincial assessments of student learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey.

In January, parents of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 will receive a survey from Alberta Education.

In February, students in grades 4, 7 and 10 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with your school. In addition to English and French, the parent survey is available in Chinese, Punjabi, Arabic, Blackfoot, Dene, Cree, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog and Urdu.

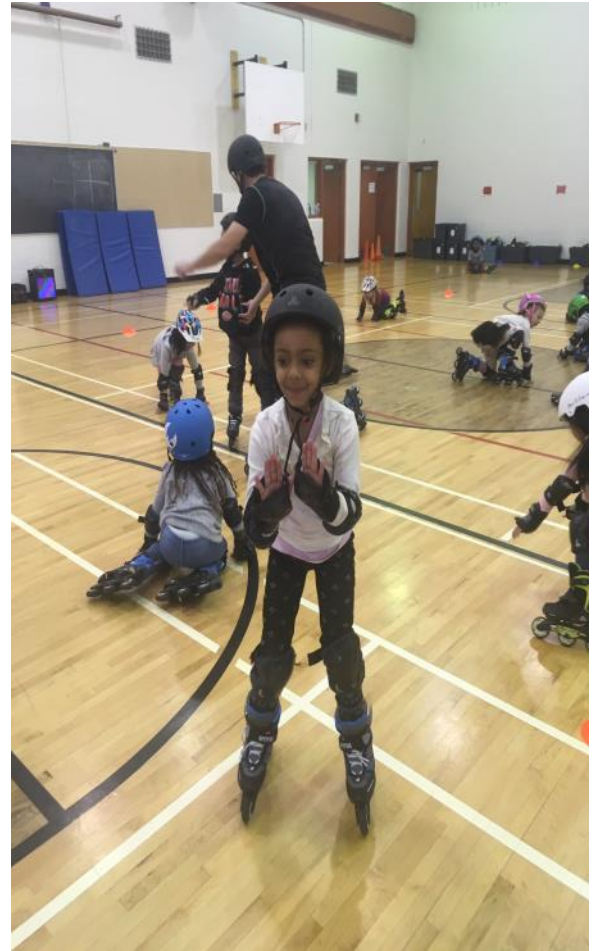
Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to return your survey promptly.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

<https://public.education.alberta.ca/apos/>



In Line Skating !!!



PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

September 2019-2020

For children whose first language is not English

- For young English language learners born between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015
- Publicly funded program (FREE, no fees)
- Registrations begin February 1, 2019.
Register NOW for Fall 2019

The Program

- Developmentally appropriate
- Focus on language learning and literacy through play, projects and the arts
- Strong parental component, parents required to participate
- Multi-cultural with first-language and culture components
- Family field trips and special family events
- Parents are responsible for transportation

Holy Cross Preschool
3719 26 Avenue SE
Call to register at (403) 500-2033





FEBRUARY 2019

Connections



CALGARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT MONTHLY NEWS

District Day with the Calgary Hitmen

Join the Calgary Catholic community for their annual District Day with the Calgary Hitmen. All students, staff, family and friends are invited to cheer on the Hitmen as they face off against the Medicine Hat Tigers on Friday, Feb. 15, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Saddledome. Tickets are only \$12 and \$2 from every ticket, as well as a 50/50 sales, goes back to CCSD schools through the [Calgary Catholic Education Foundation](#). Visit bit.ly/DistrictDay2019 to buy tickets. Use the code LUNAR when prompted.

Kindergarten Registration

Calgary Catholic offers full-day kindergarten at 10 schools. Students must live within the school's boundaries to be eligible to enrol. The remainder of our elementary schools offer half-day kindergarten. To register, children must turn four years old on or before March 1, 2019. Your child's birth certificate is also required at the time of registration. For more information, contact your local Calgary Catholic school or visit the website at cssd.ab.ca/Parents/Registration.

Open Houses & Program Information Nights

Over the coming months several Calgary Catholic schools will be hosting Open Houses and Program Information Nights. These events offer students and their families an opportunity to visit and get to know their local Calgary Catholic School. They are also a great way to learn more about each school's unique program offerings. For a full list of upcoming events, visit our website at cssd.ab.ca/News.

Family Day & Teachers' Convention

There will be no classes on Thursday, Feb. 14 and Friday, Feb. 15 for Teachers' Convention, as well as Monday, Feb. 18 for Family Day. We hope everyone can enjoy quality time with family.

FEBRUARY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Pizza by the slice	12	13	14 Teachers Conven- tion No School	15 Teachers Conven- tion No School	16
17	18 Family Day No School	19 Sister Madeleine 8:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	20 School Council 6:30 p.m.	21 Vaccination Catch Up	22 Fun Lunch	23
24	25	26 Atco Blue Flame Kitchen Grade 5 (Swacha)	27 Atco Blue Flame Kitchen Grade 5 (Krammer) Evergreen Theatre 1:30 p.m.	28		

