



Newsletter



Oct. 5-16

Dear SMG Families,

As we enter October and prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the many blessings that enrich our school community each day. We give thanks for our students, whose enthusiasm and growth inspire us; for our families, whose partnership and support strengthen our school; and for our staff, who nurture learning, faith, and well-being in countless ways. Thanksgiving invites us to pause, reflect on God's goodness, and recognize the gift of belonging to a caring community of learners. As we gather for the weeks ahead, may we continue to live out our theme of Rooted in Joy, sharing gratitude, kindness, and hope with one another.

We have several exciting field trips ahead beginning next week. Our Grade 5 students will be attending Aviation School for the week, where they will have the opportunity to participate in unique, hands-on learning experiences. Our Kindergarten students are also looking forward to their visit to Prairie Gardens, where they will enjoy exploring the outdoors while connecting their classroom learning to the world around them. We wish all of our students and staff safe travels and wonderful learning experiences.

As a faith-filled community, we invite families to join us for our Thanksgiving Mass at St. John Bosco Parish on Thursday, October 8, at 10:00 a.m. Thanksgiving provides us with a special opportunity to pause and reflect on the many blessings we have received. We are grateful for our students, families, staff, parish community, and the strong partnerships that help make our school such a wonderful place to learn and grow.

We are pleased to partner with Miskamasowin to offer a Bannock Fundraiser in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation. This initiative provides an opportunity to celebrate and support Indigenous culture while raising funds that will benefit all students through school-wide experiences such as field trips, travel opportunities, guest presenters, and special events. Families can purchase two delicious flavours, Original and Strawberry, by visiting [Order Bannock Here](#). The deadline to place orders is October 16. We thank you for your support of this meaningful fundraiser and the enhanced learning opportunities it will help provide for our students.

A reminder that our next School Council Meeting will be held on Monday, October 5, at 6:00 p.m.

(continued on next page)

As Thanksgiving approaches, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of our families for your ongoing partnership, support, and trust. May this season bring you time to gather with loved ones, reflect on your blessings, and enjoy moments of peace and gratitude together.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of our school community, for our students, families, staff, and friends. We are grateful for the opportunities to learn, grow, and serve one another each day. Bless our homes with love, joy, and peace this Thanksgiving season. Help us to recognize Your goodness in our lives and to share our many blessings with those around us. May we continue to be rooted in faith, hope, and gratitude as we follow Your example.

Amen.

Please note that our next newsletter will be shared on or before October 20, as there will be no classes on October 19.

Rooted in Joy,

D. Sadownyk
Principal



Illustration of a child wearing a brown knit hat with a white pom-pom and a light-colored sweater, jumping joyfully in a large pile of autumn leaves. The child has their arms outstretched and a happy expression. In the bottom left corner, a small hedgehog is nestled among the leaves. The background is a warm orange-brown color with scattered falling leaves.

Hello
October

Important information:

- **Registration Verification Forms:** Thank you to all families who have completed their registration verification forms. We greatly appreciate your prompt attention to this important process. If you have not yet completed your verification, we kindly ask that you do so as soon as possible. Should you have any questions or require assistance, please contact Mrs. Fabiano in the school office. Thank you for your cooperation and support.
- **Bussing Families Reminder:** If your child normally takes the bus home but will be picked up instead, please notify the school office as soon as possible. This helps ensure accurate attendance and transportation records and prevents buses from being held unnecessarily at dismissal. Thank you for helping us support an efficient and safe departure process for all students.
- To help ensure the safety of all students, we want to remind families to make arrangements for their children to be picked up promptly at dismissal time. Our school day ends at 3:15 p.m. (and 12:10 p.m. on Thursdays). Please note that the school does not provide after-school supervision or out-of-school care services. Students who are not participating in a school-sponsored activity are expected to leave school grounds at dismissal. We appreciate your support in ensuring students are picked up on time and have a safe transition home each day.
- Please take a moment to read our FSLW's newsletter also attached to this email.
- Need an idea for family night? Please see the [Homesteader Community League](#) "Movie Under the Stars" happening tonight at 7pm.
- Special thank you to our friends at Cobs Bread in Namao for their donation in support of our snack program. We appreciate their generosity and flavourful bread!

Previous Reminders:

- Are you unsure on how to report an absence? Information can be found on our [Information Page](#) below.
- Please be advised that morning supervision begins at 8:20 a.m. Student dismissal is at 3:15 p.m. on regular school days and 12:10 p.m. on Thursdays. Please note that there is no student supervision before or after these designated times. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure appropriate care and supervision for their child outside of school supervision hours.
- See our 2-week at a glance [calendar](#) below for more upcoming events!

Homesteader

COMMUNITY LEAGUE

MOVIE

Under the Stars



**FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 2, 2026**



**DOORS OPEN 6PM
MOVIE TO START
AROUND 7PM**



SNACKS
AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE



**COMMUNITY
MEMBERSHIPS**
FOR SALE



**GIFT BASKET
DRAW**
FOR ALL COMMUNITY
LEAGUE MEMBERS

*Bring your chairs, blankets and
enjoy a great community night!*



Optimal Learning Update: In our previous newsletter, we introduced Optimal Learning and shared an overview of what it means for our students and school community. In this edition, we are highlighting the Learning Conditions that support Optimal Learning and help create the environments and experiences where every student can thrive, grow, and achieve success. These Learning Conditions guide our work as educators and help ensure meaningful learning opportunities for all students

What are Learning Conditions?

Learning Conditions are the intentionally designed supports, strategies, and environments that make Optimal Learning possible. They reflect the shared responsibility of all teachers, leaders, and school staff to foster inclusive, caring, and intellectually rich spaces where students feel safe, seen, and inspired. Guided by Alberta's Teaching and Leadership Quality Standards, the Learning Conditions are not a checklist, they are a culture. They are how we bring our professional responsibilities to life with compassion, curiosity, and courage.

Over the next three years, our division will focus on nine Learning Conditions designed to support student growth, well-being, engagement, and achievement. The Learning Conditions highlighted below will guide our professional learning, collaboration, and school improvement efforts as we work together to create optimal learning experiences for all students

<u>Catholic Faith Permeating</u>	<u>Well-Being & Catholic Spiritual Formation</u>	<u>Applied and Collaborative Learning</u>
<u>Joy and Rigour</u>	<u>Creativity and Risk Taking</u>	<u>Real-World Connections</u>
<u>Ownership of Learning</u>	<u>Assessment and Feedback</u>	<u>Lifelong Learning</u>

Learning Focus for 2026-2027: This year, our primary learning conditions will be Catholic Faith Permeating, Joy and Rigour, and Ownership of Learning. Throughout the school year, staff will engage in ongoing professional learning, collaboration, and reflection to deepen our understanding of these focus areas and strengthen our practice. Together, we will work to create meaningful learning experiences that support student growth, engagement, and success while nurturing a vibrant Catholic learning community.

October

2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
4	5 Aviation School Gr.5 Oct.5-9 Prairie Gardens - K SAC - 6pm	6	7	8 Thanksgiving Mass @ St. John Bosco Parish - 10am	9	10
11	12 Thanksgiving No School!	13 Bringing Bison Back to Banff - Gr. 5 & 6 Presentation	14 DQ Hot Lunch Forms due	15	16 Bannock Fundraiser Deadline	17

Keep informed with additional upcoming dates by visiting our school website [calendar!](#)



Information Page

4 Ways to Report Your Child's Absence:

When creating your account, please ensure to use the same email address and phone number that is used in PowerSchool.

1. On your Mobile device, download and install the [School Messenger app](#) from the apple store or Google play store.
 - When you open the app for the first time, select “Sign Up” to create your account, select attendance, followed by report an absence.
2. Using your PowerSchool Parent portal, go to the left hand menu bar and choose School Messenger at the very bottom. Select attendance then report an absence.
3. You can also report by telephone : 1-833-525-9071 and press 1.
4. You are also still welcome to contact the school directly. (780)-475-0158 press 1.



POWERSCHOOL - Parent Portal

Please log into your [POWERSCHOOL](#) parent portal to pay for

School Fees Kinder \$30 & Gr. 1-6 \$45 **Fieldtrips / Extra Curricular Activities Recorders** (If required) Gr. 4-6 \$10 **Headphones** (If required) Gr. 1-6 \$3.50

We ask that parents refrain from sending cash and kindly use our convenient PowerSchool Parent Portal. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated! If you require assistance, contact Mrs. Fabiano @780-475-0158 as she would be happy to help!

SCHOOL HOURS

First bell: 8:36am

Lunch: 12:00-12:34pm

Dismissal: 3:15pm

Thursday Dismissal: 12:10pm

Please ensure to check into the front office if your child is arriving late. If your child will be absent, kindly contact the office to let Mrs. Fabiano know. Thank you for your support!