



## Principals' Report

Monday, November 16, 2020

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart*

### KUDOS

- Thank you to all the parents who participated in our recent Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- Thank you to the School Council for allocating funds - Parents Appreciating Caring Teachers (PACT); this is allowing us to do Soup for the Soul each month for all staff and supper both nights of our recent Parent Teacher Conferences for the teachers. This is very much appreciated!
- Thank you for parents' continued diligence with completing the daily checklist with their child before going on the bus or coming to school.

### COVID-19

Alberta Health Services has confirmed 2 positive cases to date. These cases were identified within 14 days of one another resulting on November 12th our school being declared an outbreak. We are thankful the second individual was not in the school during their infectious period and did not require further students or staff to receive isolation notice. Our staff continue to be diligent with all safety measures including mask wearing, hand hygiene and other practices.

### STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOCUS for November/December:

#### *Responding to our Student Needs*

- Dig Deeper into our Data; what is it telling us; how can we best support our students. Using all data to inform instruction in the class to support student success and further respond to the data by allocating student supports and interventions
- Instructional Support Plans, Individual Program Plans, Pyramid of Intervention, English Language Learner Benchmarks
- EDSBY: Grade 1-5- Growth as a learner indicators include Social/Collaborative Skills and Work and Study Habits to better reflect a student's strengths and areas for growth.
- Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment: Early Learning - live digital portfolio & documentation of your child's growth and development in their learning journey in an ongoing and meaningful way.

#### *Safe and Caring / Healthy Minds Healthy Children*

- Focus on staff and student wellness
- Trauma Informed School: Trauma Informed Care Training (level 1 and 2) for all staff over the course of the year
  - Day 2: **Identify** signs and symptoms of trauma
- The Four Agreements: Being impeccable with your word

#### *Faith*

- 8 Characteristics of Catholic Identity: Hospitality-we welcome all people and help them feel they belong

#### *Hour Zero and Occupational Health and Safety Training*

- Emergency Protocols

## SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

### ***The Giving Tree***

Our school has once again partnered with Catholic Social Services to provide Christmas gifts for children in the Red Deer area. This program is called **The Giving Tree**. We are excited to work together with our community to share our school's generous spirit. This year, we are asking donors to purchase gift cards in the amount of \$25. We are currently in need of 48, \$25 of Walmart gift cards and 2, \$25 Superstore gift cards. [The Giving Tree](#)

### ***Advent at Holy Family: STARS & Celebrations***

Staff and students will spend a full afternoon learning about Advent! 3 activities will be facilitated by homeroom teachers in the safety of their own classrooms to provide a unified approach for our school community to celebrate the upcoming birth of Jesus. We will have 2 celebrations/liturgies: Grades 1S and 4W will do one together and Grades 1W and 5H will do another during the Advent season.

### ***Virtual Christmas Craft Night***

Grade teams are working together to build a craft package for each of their students to take home to do with their family. Each student will go home with 1 craft. Staff are creating a video of the craft that will be shared with families. Families will have access to all the videos if they choose to do other grade team crafts. The December date will be confirmed at the end of the month and shared with families.

### ***Grade 4 Bible Celebration***

Celebrations will occur on Nov. 18th in each grade 4 classroom. Mrs. Daniel and Mrs. Martz will lead the celebration which will include teacher and student participation. Every Gr. 4 child will receive their very own Holy Bible. A picture documenting this celebration will be sent home to the family of every Gr. 4 child.

### ***Mindful Mondays***

Mindful Mondays touch on respect, kindness and our growth mindset in different ways. In the month of November we have focused on the following with our students:

- Nov. 23rd - Focusing on the seven sacred teaching of the Buffalo: Respect (aligning with the Virtue/Asset monthly Focus)
- Nov. 16th - We learned about St. Martin de Porres, his feast day is November 3rd, and is the patron saint of mixed-race people and the struggles he went through during his life. His nickname was *Brother Broom* as no chore was too small for him
- Nov. 9th - Remembrance Day: "I am proud to be Canadian where at least I know I'm free, And I won't forget the men & women who died, who gave that right to me." ` Anonymous
- Nov. 2nd - Bully Awareness Week: reviewed the 4 types of bullying, what can we do and say that are helpful to show kindness.

### ***Believe in God (BIG Lessons)***

Our students receive faith based lessons that support our division faith theme and the 8 Characteristics of Catholic Identity that are organized and prepared by our Faith Coach. All students Kindergarten to Grade 5 have now had the following 3 lessons:

- BIG Lesson #1: Trust in God
  - Reinforce the meaning of our new division theme, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart" with all students in the school.
- BIG Lesson #2: Prayer
  - Students learned about personal prayer. Prayer will be connected to the senses of sight, sound and feel. Students will be taught the 5-finger prayer as one method of personal prayer.
- BIG Lesson #3: Hospitality
  - Students celebrate and appreciate cultural diversity; our classrooms are inclusive where we welcome all people and commit to live in solidarity with all

### ***November Division Focus from our Family School Enhancement Counsellor***

- **RESPECT** and the Catholic education characteristic of hospitality

- **Scripture:** “Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor” 1 Peter 2:17
- **Mental Health Strategy:** Acts of Service: Actions speak louder than words, Honor someone by helping them in some way.
- **40 Developmental Asset**
  - #9 Service to Others
  - #11 Family Boundaries
  - #26 Caring
  - #39 Sense of Purpose

### ***December Division Focus from our Family School Enhancement Counsellor***

- **PATIENCE** and the Catholic education characteristic of spirituality
- **Scripture:** “You are being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you might patiently endure everything with joy” Colossians 1:11
- **Mental Health Strategy:** Breathing Strategies. Try a five finger breathing strategies
- **40 Developmental Assets Focus**
  - #2 Positive Communication
  - #9 Service to Others
  - #19 Religious Communities

### ***Administrative Procedures Review***

Below are the administrative procedures to be reviewed by the division administration this month. Please provide Rori-Lynn with any feedback you may have by December 10th via email and she can bring forward on your behalf to the meeting.

These procedures can be found on the division website <https://www.rdcrcs.ca/board/admin-procedures>

- [AP 221 - Off-Campus Education](#)
- [AP 242 - International Services Progra](#)

## **SCHOOL WIDE PRESENTATIONS**

**FacetoFace Ministries** is a Catholic ministry that reaches out to youth about loving God! The School Retreat theme for this year is “**Great Things**” with a focus on the great things that God has done, the great things He’s continuing to do, and the great things that we can do through Him in our lives. Here are further details:

- December 10th full day
- All classes will participate in live streamed opening and closing assemblies from the safety of their own classrooms.
  - Pre-K to Gr. 3 classes will have access to pre-recorded video sessions including fun stories, talks, teaching moments, games, songs with actions, and prayer.
  - Groups of Gr. 4 and Gr. 5 classes will participate in in person sessions in the gym that will follow all AHS safety guidelines.

## **ALBERTA EDUCATION SURVEY**

The results of the Alberta Education survey that parents completed in January/February 2020 have been shared with schools. The results of these surveys are used to help guide programs in the school, address school needs and celebrate the great things we do here at Holy Family School.

Holy Family is an excellent school community where families and staff care deeply about student learning in all areas and work together to achieve this. Staff have high expectations and work hard to meet individual students where they are at to best meet their needs in all areas of development.

**We have an excellent report card; results reflect that Holy Family is well above the provincial average in all areas.**

The table below highlights results in each of the areas of the survey. Our results of the survey show that we have grown in all areas. Of these areas the most notable is ‘continuous improvement’ we have a significant increase of 8% which is a direct correlation of the work our staff and community have done. Many schools in our division are adopting our practices and strategies in our work around Career Day, Formative Assessment and Response to Intervention in a fluid and flexible model to meet the current needs of our students through robust Mindful Monday, Soft Starts, Trauma Informed Care and allocation of resources being reviewed 3 times per year.

At this time last year we discussed the importance of developing a document highlighting the awesome work our staff and students continue to do in the four major areas of the survey. This was done and shared with our grade 4 parents to assist with completing the survey.

**Seeking Feedback:** Please share feedback to assist us as a school community as we strive to ensure that we continue to grow and offer excellent programming.



**Accountability Pillar Overall Summary**  
**3-Year Plan - May 2020**  
**School: 4481 Holy Family School**

Measure Category	Measure	Holy Family School			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring Schools	<a href="#">Safe and Caring</a>	97.6	96.0	96.5	89.4	89.0	89.2	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Student Learning Opportunities	<a href="#">Program of Studies</a>	93.2	91.3	91.7	82.4	82.2	82.0	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
	<a href="#">Education Quality</a>	96.6	96.0	96.6	90.3	90.2	90.1	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
	<a href="#">Drop Out Rate</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.7	2.6	2.7	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<a href="#">High School Completion Rate (3 yr)</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	79.7	79.1	78.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	<a href="#">PAT: Acceptable</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	73.8	73.6	73.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<a href="#">PAT: Excellence</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	20.6	19.9	19.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning Achievement (Grades 10-12)	<a href="#">Diploma: Acceptable</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	83.6	83.7	83.1	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<a href="#">Diploma: Excellence</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	24.0	24.2	22.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<a href="#">Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	56.4	56.3	55.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<a href="#">Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	66.6	64.8	63.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	<a href="#">Transition Rate (6 yr)</a>	n/a	n/a	n/a	60.1	59.0	58.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<a href="#">Work Preparation</a>	88.1	87.7	86.8	84.1	83.0	82.7	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Parental Involvement	<a href="#">Citizenship</a>	97.5	93.4	94.3	83.3	82.9	83.2	Very High	Improved	Excellent
	<a href="#">Parental Involvement</a>	86.6	84.3	86.4	81.8	81.3	81.2	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Continuous Improvement	<a href="#">School Improvement</a>	93.5	85.5	90.9	81.5	81.0	80.9	Very High	Maintained	Excellent

## ADVISORY QUESTION

Over the past 10 weeks, HFS teachers and students have worked diligently to create mask-wearing routines that feel natural and commonplace. Teachers are providing consistent and on-going reminders for students to wear masks when turning around or when getting out of their desks. Do you have any ideas on how we can encourage parents to reinforce the importance of this concept to their Gr. 4 and 5 school-aged children?

## PARENT COMMUNICATION

We will be continuing with our week at a glance which is posted on social media and Edsby as well as emailed to parents. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns with the classroom teacher or school administration. Teachers welcome parents to contact them directly by calling the school or sending them a message on Edsby. Please note that if they are teaching, on supervision or unable to take your call we ask that you leave a message and they will get back to you by the next work day.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council is a means for parents and community to work together to support and enhance student learning. School Council provides a venue for parents to reflect their wishes of the broader community of education of its students and to actively participate in giving advice and support to the principal.

Roles that are not to be taken on by a School council include:

- School governance
- Employment issues
- School management
- Listening to complaints.

Thank you to our parents for continuing to work in a team to meet the goals of School Council



