

# Holy Family School

## DECEMBER - *Advent* - NEWSLETTER



We are now into the second week of Advent, we are reminded to take the time to remember the reason we celebrate Christmas. It is a time of waiting, anticipation and reflection as we prepare for the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We have many celebrations during this season that actively involve our students in developing their faith during the Advent Season:

- **Week 1:** **Pulse Faith Retreat** - Thursday, December 1st
- **Week 2:** **Advent Song Practice** - Tuesday, December 6th  
**Holiday Market** - Wednesday, December 7th  
**Advent Mass @ St. Mary's** led by 4P - Thursday, December 8th  
**Christmas Cookie Decorating & Crafts** - Friday, December 9th
- **Week 3:** **Advent Song Practice** - Tuesday, December 13th  
**Advent Liturgy @ school gymnasium** - Thursday, December 15th
- **Week 4:** **Yuletide Yippee** - Tuesday, December 20th  
**Christmas Movie** - Wednesday, December 21st

In addition to these school-wide activities, there are theme days & activities happening in all of the classrooms, Holy Family School is a busy place this Advent Season! It is a beautiful season that brings much joy, and laughter and builds community within the school. Thank you to all of the parents who have offered to volunteer and support the school during this time, we are humbled by your generosity of time, talents and treasures.

### Schoology - **Growth as a Learner**

While our Schoology learning goals are updated regularly, the *Growth as a Learner* comments are shared out three times a year, at the end of each reporting period. Term 1 has ended and teachers have entered growth as a learner comments. Please check Schoology for these comments and future updates on your child's learning progress.

If you still require support with Schoology, please contact the office.

Need help with notifications and/or navigating:

- **Notifications:** Classroom News and Weekly Academic Progress [LINK](#)
- **Navigating:** Your Child's Schoology [LINK](#)

## School Bus Delays & The Bus App - Stay Connected

While our school buses are almost always on time, the winter months and snowy road conditions can lead to delays for your child's school bus. To stay notified of your child's bus status, please see the following links for ways to check on bus times.

### Holy Family School Website

Bus status can be found on the main page of our website. It will display if a bus is *on-time*, *delayed*, or *cancelled*. There will often be a comment next to the delayed buses indicating how long the bus delay is. Click the title above to link to our website.

### Bus Status App by Box Clever

Alternatively, you can download the bus app for your Apple or Android phone. See the images below and click on them to go to your respective app store and download the app.



## Volunteering - Be Prepared / NEW for January 2023

The RCMP has recently implemented new legislation for volunteers that include volunteering in the school, classrooms and/or field trips. All Criminal & Vulnerable Sector Checks are good for 3 years, if you already have one on file you do not need to get another one until the current one expires. Please contact the school office if you are unsure if your current check on file has expired.

Recent changes to RCMP policy require us, as a School Division to be more compliant on whether or not the potential school volunteer requires a Criminal Record Check or a Vulnerable Sector Check.

Based on the role as a volunteer that you are being asked to support in our school community please consider the following:

**Criminal Record Checks are required for these types of volunteer roles:**

- Classroom volunteer
- Hot lunch/milk program volunteer
- Other school-based activities during school hours
- Field trip volunteer where no direct supervision is required / you are not in charge of a group and leading on your own / you are part of the large group

**Vulnerable Sector Checks are required for these types of volunteer roles:**

- Volunteer coach
- Field trip volunteer where direct supervision is required / you are taking a group of students and leading them away from the large group
- Overnight chaperone

After submission, you will receive a PDF letter on our school letterhead with the principal's signature in your email. Once you receive your official record please bring it into the office. If you would like to start obtaining the proper documentation please contact the office at 403-341-3777.

## Grade 5 Basketball - Starts in January

We are very excited to announce that the schedule for the RDCRS grade 5 girls' and boys' basketball league has been set! HFS will have two boys and one girl's team. Any interested grade 5 students can play! Permission forms will be sent home Friday, December 9th. The season starts the week of January 16. Starting next week the gym will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays for grade 5 students for drop-in basketball sessions at lunch recess.

## School Council - Family Fun Coming

The DJ is booked for the Family Winter Dance on January 26th. This event will take place in our school gymnasium.

## Upcoming Dates - School-Wide Events & Activities

**\* remember to check your child's classroom-specific communication in Schoology for upcoming activities**

Friday, December 9	Theme Day: Candy Cane Lane - dress in red & white
Sunday, December 11	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
Tuesday, December 13	Advent Song Practice
Thursday, December 15	Advent Liturgy @ HFS gymnasium led by 1S & 4W
Friday, December 16	Theme Day: Sweater Weather - Wear your favourite or ugly Christmas sweater
Friday, December 16	Hot Lunch: Original Joe's
Sunday, December 18	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>
Tuesday, December 20	Yuletide Yippee
Tuesday, December 20	Theme Day: Santa and his helpers - Dress like Santa, an elf, reindeer, or tree)
Wednesday, December 21	Christmas Movie
Friday, December 23	Hot Lunch: OPA!
Friday, December 23	Theme Day: Merry Merry Morning - PJ Day
Friday, December 23	<b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</b>
Monday, January 9	<b>FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL after Christmas Break</b>

Thank you for your support and we are so grateful to work together with you. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Rori-Lynn Daniel - Principal

Mrs. Stacey Martz - Vice Principal

*Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter, Nurture and Serve.*