



St. Michael the Archangel
Our Angel of Protection

FEBRUARY

2022

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

"A community of Faith Devoted to Students"

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians

Hopefully, all are settled and re-energized after the Christmas break. We are anticipating a sound 3 weeks of education before Family Week. A reminder that Semester 2 commenced today, January 31.

Exams have concluded for our Grades 10, 11 and 12's and we are confident they have done well. Certainly, their work ethic has been tremendous. We applaud these fine young people for their efforts.

We have bid adieu to Mriona Sas, one of our Grade 11 exchange students from Spain as plans suddenly changed for her and she is off to New Brunswick for Semester 2. Uxue, our other exchange student, remains.

Basketball remains in full swing and we are anticipating a Curling team will be taking to the ice as well.

Some upcoming key dates include the release of Junior and Senior report cards on February 3. A further key date is Picture Day for our Grade 12 and Kindergarten graduates as well as our team and group photos being held on Thursday, February 17.

On March 1 we will be holding our grade 6/7 Orientation evening for parents from 6—8 pm. Programming, expectations, timetable, etc. will be presented and discussed. This will be followed by an orientation for our Grade 8 and 9 parents on March 29 from 6-8 pm. This too will involve programming but also will provide critical information on streaming, high school transcripts, credit allocation, Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Programming and Post-Secondary requirements which start to play a role in Grade 10.

Finally we will announce a showcase evening to be held down the road. What that looks like will depend upon restrictions, etc..

I remain Your Faithfully in Christ,

Chris Sumner

Report Cards

Report Cards for Grade 7-12 students will be sent home Thursday February 3. Semester 2 begins Monday, January 31. A copy of the Semester 2 timetable was emailed to all families. If you do not have one please contact the school.

Crush for a Crush

Student Council will be holding "Crush for a Crush" sales again this year. Students can purchase a can of Crush soda for a friend for \$1. Sales will take place during the lunch break on February 1 and February 3. Sodas will be delivered on February 14. Proceeds will go to HALO.

Group/Grad Pictures

Lifetouch will be at the school on February 17 to take our team and group pictures along with the Grade 12 and Kindergarten Cap & Gown pictures for the yearbook.

Hat Day

The next Hat Day is set for Thursday, February 3. Students will be allowed to wear a hat in school for \$1. Proceeds will be donated to HALO at the end of the year. Hat Day is scheduled for the 1st Thursday of each month.

AR Program

The AR Program has been running for 83 school days. We have 46 out of 75 students participating in the program. Students have passed 811 quizzes of the 833 taken. The school average is 88.1% Great job everyone.

Prayer

Dear Lord, I know you are for me and you have good things in store for my life. Help me to be patient during the trials as I wait on you for answers. Thank you for loving me so much.

Amen



2022/23 Registrations

Everyone should have received an email advising you that the 2022/23 Registration Update forms are now available for you to complete. Please complete your forms as soon as possible. It is a simple process and is required to maintain accurate information. Parents who are hoping to register siblings who are new to the school can also do this. If you have any questions please contact the school.

Hot Lunches

Peter's Pizza will be served on Thursday, February 3. If you ordered a pizza in January you will have your already placed for this pizza day. Thank you for supporting the Graduating Class of '22.

Taco in a Bag will be served February Thursday, February 10. Proceeds will be used for our Year End Awards.

Parent Council will be serving a FREE hot lunch on Tuesday, February 15. On the menu for this month is ham, perogies and red jello. Thank you to all those parents who help provide these delicious hot meals once a month.

Pita Pit day is set for Thursday, February 17. Winners of the 1 free item are: Levi Wudrich, Colin Matz, Loki Thacker and Emma Vandergaast. Proceeds help support our Athletics Programs.

March 1 will be Hot Dog Day. Proceeds go toward Chalice.

SAVE THE DATE

Grad 2022 is set for June 24th

February 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|---|--|---|--|--|-----|
| | | 1 Crush for a Crush Sales—Noon | 2 | 3 Hat Day Peter's Pizza Day Crush for a Crush sales—Noon Jr/Sr Report Card | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Taco In A Bag Day | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 HAPPY VALENTINES' DAY Crush for a Crush Delivered today | 15 PAC FREE Hot Lunch Day Parent Council Meeting 6:30 | 16 School Division Board Meeting 6:30 | 17 Grad/Group/Team Photo Day Pita Pit Day | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 Family Day No School | 22 No School | 23 No School | 24 No School Teachers' Convention | 25 No School Teachers' Convention | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | March 1 Hot Dog Day Gr. 6/7 Orientation | | | | |

OFF-CAMPUS NEWS



Careers Virtual Showcase

Check out careers in Forestry on
February 16 at 6pm

Register at:

<https://www.careersnextgen.ca/event/virtual-showcase-forestry/>



Student for a Day Week

Medicine Hat College is hosting Student for a Day from February 14-18. Students will attend classes they are interested in, speak with instructors and classmates, eat lunch in the cafeteria and take a tour of the college.

Sign up by emailing Alison at: aclark@mhc.ab.ca



January Hours

All RAP and Work Experience students please remember to hand in or send your January time sheets or pay stubs to
Mr. Boschee or Mrs. Gurr.



Online Career Exploration Sessions

Check out a career as a
Wind Turbine Technician on February 16 at
5pm Register at:

<https://www.careersteps.ca/exploration-sessions/>

Check out other Career Sessions on the
same website



Green Certificate Testing

The next testing dates have been changed
to March 22 and 23, with virtual testing on
the 24th.

Contact Mr. Boschee to register

Dual Credit Program

There is still time to register for a Dual Credit course for the Winter semester with our post-secondary partner, Olds College. Students can choose from any of the courses below that will earn them five 30-level high school credits and three credits from the post-secondary institution. Registration deadline is February 5th, 2022.

Course Offerings Winter Semester 2022 (February - May)

- **Applied Ecology** - online, asynchronous
- **Global and Sustainable Tourism** - online, asynchronous
- **Intro to Sports Management** - online, asynchronous
- **Producing Horticulture Crops** - online, asynchronous
- **Solving Technology Problems (Agriculture Based)** - online, asynchronous
- **Veterinary Practice: The Team Connection** - online, asynchronous

For more information about the Dual Credit program, please contact Mrs. McAdam at mcadamw@holyspirit.ab.ca



Your Off-Campus Team



Mark Boschee - Off-Campus Coordinator Cell: 587-220-4258 or Email: boscheem@holyspirit.ab.ca

Wendy Gurr - Career Practitioner - 403-327-4596 Ext 312 or Email: gurrw@holyspirit.ab.ca

Wendy McAdam - Dual Credit Liaison— 403-327-4596 Ext 313 or Email: mcadamw@holyspirit.ab.ca

Communication

School-based messages come from many different sources. Please review the following information to ensure you are receiving information in the most efficient and timely manner.

District Level Communications

Possible Subjects:

- COVID mandates from Alberta Ed
- Other messages from the Superintendent
- Thought Exchange surveys
- School closures
- Bus cancellations* etc.



Available through:

- **Default - email.** If you do nothing to specifically request a means of communication, messages will be sent to the email provided on student registration.
- **School messenger App.** Allows you to set preferences by email, text or or calls. Please see attached insert to set up or check on your settings. It is possible that you may have blocked or unsubscribed to these types of communications (intentionally during the COVID rush or accidentally) so it is good to double-check these settings on your own account to be sure you have all the up to date info.
- **Websites** - www.holyspirit.ab.ca or www.holyspirit.ab.ca/smbi
- *Prairie Rose handles bussing routes and cancellations so they will generate an **automated phone notification** the morning of an emergency closure.
- *If you think you may not be receiving important information please call the school and we can investigate further with \head office.*

School Level Communication

Possible Subjects:

- Anything impacting K-12 students in general
- Newsletters
- Hot Lunch, School pictures, Student council theme days etc
- Welcome/Registration packages**
- Student absences***



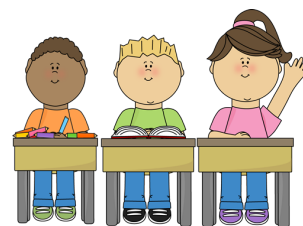
Available through:

- **Email.** If you have not received a digital copy of this month's newsletter please be sure to investigate further by calling the school. An email address may be typed incorrectly to the master list or you may have unintentionally blocked the sender, in which case we can easily reverse this. Please call the school.
- ****Postal service.** In September, the first Welcome newsletter of the year is mailed out to each family. In February, registration packages are mailed out as well.
- *****Student absences** are automatically generated when a teacher enters an absence code in our attendance system. An **automatically-generated phone call** is sent around 9am if we haven't heard from parents by then explaining the absence. The school will try to call parents before the auto-message is sent, which will then cancel it.
- **Possibly Social Media.** Our school social media accounts (Facebook [St. Michael's School, BI](#) and Twitter [@SMBISchool](#) were created to primarily celebrate successes. We recognize they are widely used and seen by many but we do not rely solely on this for urgent or important information.

Classroom Level Communication

Possible subjects:

- Anything impacting a smaller section of the school population
- Field trips
- Seasonal classroom activities such as pumpkin carving or Christmas exchanges
- Academic expectations (quizzes, tests, spelling lists)



Available through and depending on your child's teacher:

- Agendas (for students Gr. 3-6)
- Paper newsletters where appropriate
- Class Dojo or Google Classroom



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

Improving Our Schools' Communication with Home!

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division has contracted with SchoolMessenger to improve our schools' communication with parents and guardians.

This service does not replace other school communication methods. It is simply intended to extend beyond what we've traditionally used to ensure timely communications and reduce the amount of papers being sent home. Principals and teachers will still be available for face to face meetings and some paper notices may still be sent home occasionally.

In the meantime, we're excited to announce that two new methods of communicating with our students' families using SchoolMessenger have been launched!

Text (SMS) Messaging

1) *Did you receive a text from us?*

When a new mobile number is entered by the school, within 24 hours, a text should be sent to that number asking if you would like to subscribe.

Simply respond with your preference:

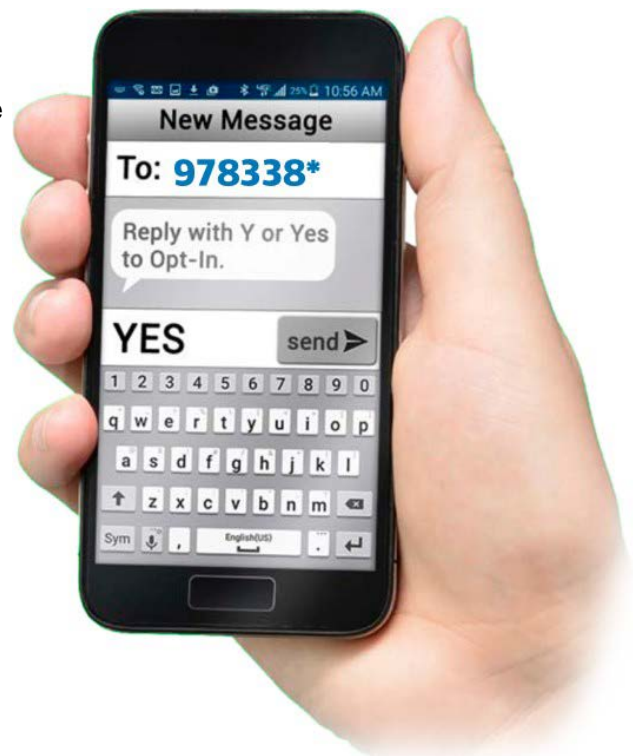
- Type "Y" or "Yes" to receive messages by text.
- Type "N" or "Stop" if you'd prefer not to receive messages by text. You can do this to unsubscribe at any time.

2) *You haven't received a text and you'd like to?*

You can always subscribe to receive texts from the school by sending a "Y" to **978338**. You will receive a notification that your opt-in is complete if successful.

3) *Do you have a new or different device you'd like to receive texts to?*

First, make sure your child's school has this new number in their system! You should receive a message in 24 hours asking you to respond with a "Y." If you don't, send a "Y" directly to **978338**. You will receive a notification that your opt-in is complete if successful.



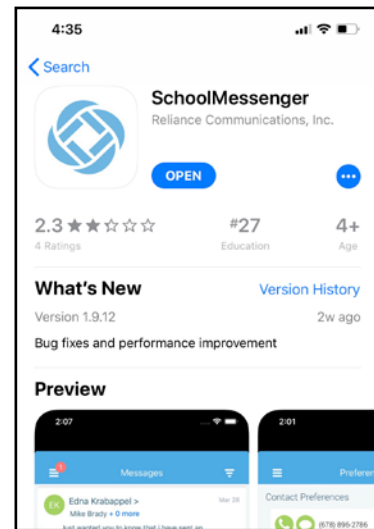
**While this service is free, standard message and data rates may apply. Please check with your device's data provider if you have any questions related to charges.*



SchoolMessenger App

The School Messenger App allows parents to:

- Access important school notifications 24/7/365
- Set your communications preferences for calls, emails, texts, and more
- Receive all kinds of school messages in one single app (classroom and group updates, activity alerts, school and division notifications)
- Review your messages on any device (smartphone, laptop, etc...)



1) Download the School Messenger App:

Go to the GooglePlay or Apple Stores to download "SchoolMessenger" (the version with the blue logo).


You can also download the app, or set up your account, from <http://go.schoolmessenger.com>.

2) Sign up for an account:

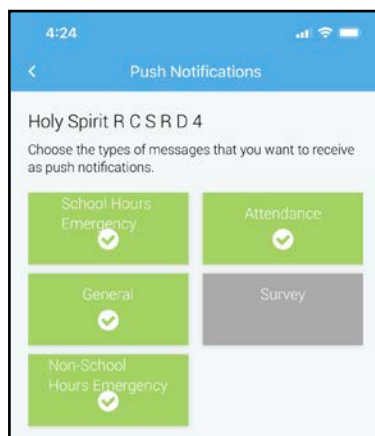
Make sure you enter the email address that the school has on file for you. This will allow the app to find all of the students associated with you. Also, make sure you select "Canada" as your location.



3) Set your preferences:


When you first log in, click on the  icon in the upper left corner of your screen and select "Preferences." For each category, you can select how you would like to be notified:

- *School Hours Emergency* –For urgent messaging during school hours
- *Non-School Hours Emergency* - For urgent messaging before and after school hours
- *Attendance* – For calls regarding your child's attendance.
- *General* – Day to day information from the school.



4) Enable push notifications:

Even if you turn off most types of notifications (phone, text, email), you can still receive those messages through push notifications on your phone.

To set your push notifications, click on the  icon in the upper left corner of your screen. Select "Settings," then "Push Notifications."

Click on all of those boxes for which you would like to receive push notifications on your device.

February

Together on the Journey



St. Michael

Schools: St. Michael's Pincher Creek and St. Michael's Bow Island



ST. MICHAEL

This month brings us to a different kind of saint as we turn our attention to the holy archangels. St. Michael is the leader of all angels and of the army of God. This is what the title "Archangel" means, that he is above all the others in rank. St. Michael has four main responsibilities or offices, as we know from scripture and Christian tradition: 1) to fight against Satan, 2) to rescue the souls of the faithful from the Devil, especially at the hour of death, 3) to attend the dying and accompany them to judgment, and 4) to be the champion of God's people; the Israelites under the Old Law, and now the Catholic Church.

Explanation and Hierarchy of the 9 Choirs of Angels

1ST TRIAD - CONTEMPLATE AND ADORE GOD DIRECTLY

SERAPHIM (meaning "the burning ones"). They are attendants at the throne of God. They praise God singing, "Holy Holy Holy is the Lord of Hosts!" - ISAIAH 6:1-7



CHERUBIM (meaning "the fullness of wisdom"). They contemplate God's providence, and are assigned to protect special places. - EXODUS 25:18-21; EZEKIEL 10:14; REVELATIONS 4-6

THRONES represent the steadfastness of the love of God. They contemplate God's love and judgment, and they appear as the most unlike the others when revealed. - EZEKIEL 10:17; COLOSSIANS 1:16; DANIEL 7:9



2ND TRIAD - FULFILL GOD'S PLAN IN THE UNIVERSE

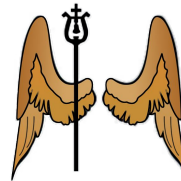


DOMINIONS are lord over the lower choirs and humanity. They take illumination from the higher hierarchies and govern the universe. - EPHESIANS 1:21; COLOSSIANS 1:16

VIRTUES run the operation of movement in the universe. They are often associated with planets, elements, seasons, and nature. - EPHESIANS 1:21



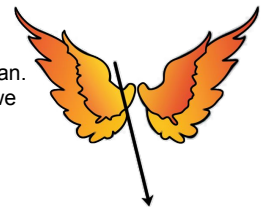
POWERS assist in governing the natural order. They are warrior angels tasked with fighting the war against the demonic choirs. - EPHESIANS 3:10; 6:12



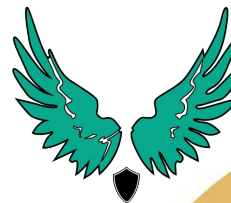
3RD TRIAD - INTERACT AND SERVE HUMANITY CLOSELY

PRINCIPALITIES are of the lowest triad, assigned to care and guard communities, kingdoms, states, and parishes. They are associated with transitions in power. - EPHESIANS 1:21; 3:10

ARCHANGELS are leader angels assigned to communicate and carry out God's important plans for man. Michael, Gabriel, and Rafael are the only three names we know. - JUDE 9; 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16; TOB



ANGELS are closest to the material world and humanity. The lowest choir is where we get the majority of our personal guardian angels. - MATTHEW 18:10; LUKE 22:43; HEBREWS 13:2



"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

- Psalm 91:11

February

Together on the Journey



St. Michael

Schools: St. Michael's Pincher Creek
and St. Michael's Bow Island

Feast Days and Celebrations February 2022

- 8 International Day of Prayer and Awareness
Against Human Trafficking
- 11 World Day of Prayer for the Sick
- 14 Valentine's Day



As you journey with St. Michael this month...

WEEK ONE

It's easy to find ourselves afraid of demons, but there is great comfort in knowing that there are twice as many holy angels as there are demons. Take a moment to pray this prayer to St. Michael. (The [St. Michael Prayer](#) was instituted by Pope Leo XIII after a vision.)

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the
heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

WEEK TWO

In Revelation 12:7-9, Lucifer's pride is contrasted with St. Michael's humility, resulting in Lucifer being cast down to the earth. Pray the [Litany of Humility](#), a contemporary version of the prayer by Servant of God Raphael Cardinal Merry del Val, secretary of state to Pope St. Pius X. What does it mean to be humble?

God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. – James 4:6b

WEEK FOUR

When we sing in church, we are singing in union with the angels, giving to God the praise that is His due. Do you have a favourite hymn or spiritual song that you like to sing, and why is it your favourite?

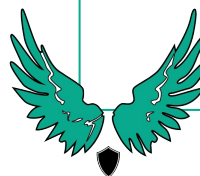
Source: *Daily Lessons from the Saints* by Fr. Brice Higginbotham

WEEK THREE

God loves you so much that He employs these powerful spiritual beings to care for, protect, and guide you. Say this prayer today, giving glory to the Holy Trinity for sending us such great helpers:

*"Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen."*

Use the space below to write or draw a picture of what it means to you to feel protected by God's holy angels.



Sunday Gospel Readings

Feb. 6th/5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 5:1-11

Feb. 13th/6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 6:17, 20-26

Feb. 20th/7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 6: 27-38

Feb. 27th/8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 6:39-45