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| **St. Frances Cree Bilingual School**  **2141 McPherson Ave** [**gscs.ca**](http://www.scs.sk.ca/fra) **6 Bateman Crescent**  **306-659-7310 306-659-7940**  **Pre-K to Grade 5 Grades 6 to 9**  **Principal: Lori McAuley**  **Principal (Bateman): Mrs. Lori McAuley**  **Vice Principal: Mrs. Sara Miskolzie**  **Vice Principal: Barry Kimbley**  **Office Coordinator/Secretaries: Ms. Joan Marcotte, Mrs. Sherry McEachern, Mrs. Ngozi Nwokeji**  **School Board Trustees (Liaisons): B. Elliott November 8th, 2022** |

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| DATES TO REMEMBER:  November 11th Remembrance Day No school  November 14th PLD Day No school  November 24th 3-Way Conferences 3:30-7:30pm  November 25th 3-Way Conferences 9:00-1:00pm No school  November 28th CSCC meeting  November 29th Picture Day retakes  November 29th Report Cards distributed  December 9th PLD Day No school  December 22nd Last Day of School  December 23-January 8th Christmas break  January 9th School Resumes |
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**Principal’s Message**

On behalf of all the staff, we continue to welcome all new and returning students and families to St. Frances for the 2022-23 school year! It has been a busy few months.

We have decided to start up our House Team Leagues. Our first gathering will be on November 4th at the McPherson location. The students are excited with the leagues starting up again. Our House Teams Earth, Wind, Fire, Water.

Even though things continue to be different this year with safe school plans. We are encouraging a less stringent approach to school based COVID-19 mitigation. We no longer require masks within the school setting. However, we do continue to communicate updates and any recommendations for masking when indoors during periods of high community transmissions. We are in support of any students and staff who choose to continue to mask. We do recommend that those who are sick to stay home and isolate until symptoms improve.

Thank you for your support! As parents and guardians, you are the primary caregivers of your children. We encourage communication and value the relationship we have with you so that we can work together to create a positive learning experience for your child. Don’t hesitate at any time to reach out to us for any reason.

As a school that celebrates both the Gospel Virtues of the Catholic Faith, as well as the Tipi teachings of the First Nations Community…we are celebrating the Virtue and Tipi Teaching of ***Respect*** this month. We are planning for our first liturgy on November 10th in honour of Remembrance Day at the Church.

**School Picture Retakes**

School picture retakes will be on November 29th at both locations.

**Three Way Conferences**

**Term 1** 3-Way Conferences are being held on Thursday, November 24th in the evening from 3:30-5:00pm, 5:30-7:30pm and Friday, November 25th from 9:00am-1:00pm. We continue to be cautious however with everything opened we will have face to face conferences. We ask that you the parents/caregivers make an appointment using the Edsby platform or calling the office administrators for a meeting time.

**Using Edsby**

We are now using Edsby for submitting absences, booking three-way conferences and accessing your child’s progress report.

Parents/guardians can easily submit an absence for their child using their smartphone and the Edsby app.

If you did not receive your invitation to Edsby please call the school.

***Choir***

Choir will take place every Tuesday in the library at McPherson.

Grade 2-3 12:05-12:25pm

Grade 4-5 11:45-12:05pm

We just received confirmation from TCU Place, and they will proceed with the Noon Festival of Carols.

GSCS Schools will be performing on the following dates:

Tuesday, December 6

Thursday, December 8

Monday, December 12

Wednesday, December 14

**NOON LUNCH**

Students have the privilege of eating lunch at school when it is not possible to go home. This year we will continue to eat in our classrooms. All lunchroom expectations continue, including; remain in their classrooms during the eating portion of the lunch time, clean up after themselves, and be respectful. Supervision will be provided during the noon lunch hour. If you are dropping off lunch for your child(ren) please check in at the main office first and Joan or Sherry will call your child(ren) down to pick it up, or you can drop it off at their classroom.

**STUDENT ALLERGIES**

Please remember that we strive to be a nut free school. We have many students with nut allergies and want to ensure they are in a safe environment at school.

**LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS AT LUNCH**

For safety reasons, all students who stay for lunch are to remain on school property during the entire lunch hour. Students are not permitted to leave to go to a friend’s house or to the store during this time unless a parent/caregiver picks up their child from school to take them there. Thank you for your support and understanding. Keeping our students safe is our number one priority!

**SCHOOL ZONES/PARKING**

Please be reminded of the reduced speed to 30km/h in school zones on weekdays from 7:00am to 7:00 pm. The few extra seconds can save a child from serious injury. **As well, please avoid parking in the school bus or special needs (handicapped) loading zones.** Vehicles in these zones will be ticketed. There are 20 busses dropping off and picking up students and arrive at the school at 8:35am and 3:00pm Monday-Friday. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAYS**

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools use Professional Learning Days for elementary school staffs for staff meetings, planning and professional development. On these days there are no students at school. Our next Professional Learning Day is on November 14th.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Our next meeting is on **November 28th at 4:30pm.** We will be meeting in person at the McPherson location. This is a great opportunity to be involved in your child’s education, be involved in decision making at the school level and meet parents of other children from St. Frances. We meet once every 2 months for no more than an hour. All are welcome, even if you come for just some of the meetings. Please call the school if you want more information 306-659-7310.

**CELL PHONE USAGE**

Many students carry cell phones for safety reasons and to have communication with family while away from their care. It is school policy that all cell phones will be powered down during school hours so as not to distract from the learning atmosphere. Student will have the opportunity to use the classroom phone if needed and/or parents can leave messages for the student through the main office. If a student is not following policy, they will be asked to bring their phone to the office for the day and then pick it up before they go home. Please review this expectation with your child.

**TOYS AND PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

We encourage students to leave all toys and personal electronic devices at home. We want to create an environment free of distractions and we also know that when a child loses or belongings go missing, it creates unnecessary hardship for that child. The school does not replace items such as toys or electronic devices if they are lost or stolen. Please share this expectation with your child.

**NUTRITION POSITIVE SCHOOL/NUTRITION PROGRAM**

St. Frances prides itself in being a nutrition positive school. We provide breakfast, nutritious snacks, and offer a nutritional lunch to those students who need it (students are encouraged to bring a lunch, if possible, but lunch will always be available to those who need one). We are a pop and energy drink free school and discourage students from bringing any pop into the school. We appreciate your support in growing healthy children!

**COVID PROTOCOLS**

We are at Level 1: Full in-class learning. Pre-pandemic learning with some additional measures in place to ensure student and staff safety.

Students, staff, and visitors are asked to:

• Self-screen using the COVID-19 Health Screening Questionnaire prior to entering all GSCS facilities.

• Practice good hand hygiene.

• Stay home if you test positive for COVID-19 or are not feeling well.

Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) continues to recommend individuals self-isolate for five days following a positive test. If symptoms persist after five days, individuals should remain at home until symptoms have improved for 48 hours.

If a student becomes ill while at school, parents/caregivers will be called to pick up their child; a wellness space will be provided for the child until parents/caregivers arrive.

**BUS/TRANSPORTATION**

First Student will continue to drive students to and from school and transfer grades 5 to 9 students to St. Frances Bateman. Students provided with transportation will be expected to cooperate in a respectful and safe manner to and from school. Please call the school if you have questions regarding rules and regulations. **If you are picking up your child after school and they normally take the bus home, please have a written note to give to the teacher**. If you have a concern with bussing, please feel free to contact First Student directly at (306)343-2125 or late bus inquiry at 343-3300. There is also an app you can download to track your child’s bus. FirstView Bus Tacking, the code for St Frances on McPherson is M7DX, for Bateman it is BASY.

**St. Frances McPherson (Pre-K-Gr. 5) School Day Hours**

8:55 School Begins

10:15 Gr. 3-5 Recess

10:30 K-2 Recess

11:45 Lunch hour

11:45-12:05: K-Gr.3 students eating; Gr.3-5 students outside

12:05-12:25: K-Gr.3 students outside; Gr. 3-5 students eating

12:30 Classes resume

2:00 K-2 Recess

2:15 Gr. 3-5 Recess

3:25 Dismissal

**St. Frances Bateman (Gr. 6-9) School Day Hours**

9:05am School Begins

10:35am Recess Bell

10:45am Bell to Resume Class

11:30am Lunch

12:00pm Bell to Resume Class

1:30pm Recess

1:40pm Bell to Resume Class

3:10pm Dismissal (Students board transfer buses back to St. Frances McPherson and then home)

**Student Expectations**

Our school expectation for all students and staff is Miyo-Pimohtewin, meaning “walking in a good way”.

***Definition of bullying***: A student is bullied when he or she is *repeatedly* exposed to negative actions on the part of one or more students causing emotional, psychological, and/or physical harm. These negative actions are intentional and hurtful. Bullying can be verbal, physical, electronic/on-line, relational, and reactive. Bullying involves an *imbalance of power, creates fear,* and *is not gender specific*. As a school, we work with parents/caregivers to ensure each reported incident of bullying is addressed with appropriate consequences and accompanying teaching strategies to support the instigators of bullying.

***Definition of conflict:*** Conflict is a disagreement or a difference of opinion or interests *between equals*. The people involved in a conflict may disagree vehemently and emotions may run high. When conflict is badly managed, it may result in aggression. In a conflict, *both parties have power* to influence the situation. That is their goal.

Please report any incidences of conflict or bullying to the school if your child reports any such incidences to you at home. It is not always seen by adults in the building, your help and cooperation are greatly appreciated to ensure the safety of all students.

St. Frances…. Reaching Out . . . *to Transform the World!!*

VIRTUE AND TIPI TEACHING OF THE MONTH

RESPECT