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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: Mrs. 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 Oct 13,2022**  |

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| DATES TO REMEMBER: October 19th Picture Day 8:30-11:30am Both locations Retakes November 3rd October 20th Donut sale at BatemanOctober 28th House Leagues Team Assembly Practice – Site Specific October 31st Bake Sale – McPherson  Halloween Dance – Bateman  Halloween Fun – McPherson November 10th Remembrance Day LiturgyNovember 11th Remembrance Day No SchoolNovember 14th PLD Day No SchoolNovember 24 3-Way Conference 3:30-7:30pmNovember 25th 3-Way Conference 9:00-1:00pmNovember 29th Report Cards Distributed |
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**Principal’s Message**

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to welcome all new and returning students and families to St. Frances for the 2022-23 school year! We continue to see families return to St. Frances; we are happy to see you.

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. Please do not hesitate at any time to reach out to our staff or our administration.

We do recommend that those who are sick to stay home and isolate until symptoms improve.

Again, we have a change with our admin team at St. Frances this year. Lori McAuley is the new principal for both locations, Barry Kimbley, is the Vice Principal at the McPherson location and Sara Miskolzie is the Vice Principal at the Bateman location.

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.

**ORANGE SHIRT DAY**

On September 29th we observed Orange Shirt Day and had the students research and share what they found out about orange shirt day. They shared their findings through art, stories, and writings. It was a good day of reflection for our staff and students.

**School Activities**

Ms. Regan’s grade 8’s will be having their Chief and Council elections on Friday, October 14th, 2022. The students will be preparing and making their speeches for the Chief and council elections during the week. They will be going into the classrooms to present to their platforms.

The Student Tribal Council (STC) attended the Student Leadership Conference on September 22nd and 23rd at Bethlehem Catholic High School. Six Students attended the conference and took part in the workshops, team building experiences exercises, and listening to motivational speakers, they also took part in the gym blast. Overall, they had an amazing and enlightening experience.

Our annual **Pancake Breakfast** was a great success. Thank you to all who came out! Also, congratulations to the winners of the door prizes. Kalvin $100 Walmart gift card, Pam $50 Dollarama gift card, and Simon $50 Co op gift card.

**MICROWAVES**

Please do not send microwaveable food with your child for lunch. Due to significant safety issues and concerns, are not available. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact 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

**Fundraisers**

Grade 5/6 Mr. Kjargaard will be having a donut sale on October 20th.

Kindergarten Ms. Lachance will be having a bake sale on October 31st, she will have all kinds of goodies for sale.

***Classrooms***

The teachers are requesting that you do not send your children with their ***toys from home***, this is causing some difficulty in the classroom.

**COVID PROTOCOLS**

We are at Level 1: Full in-class learning. Per-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.

**BUS/TRANSPORTATION**

First Student will continue to drive students to and from school and transfer grades 6 to 8 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. We would also like to thank parents and students for their patience as we have been trying to “fine tune” our new schedule and routes with all of our new students and the split campus school. **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.

**REPORTING A STUDENT ABSENCE through SafeArrival**

We are now using Edsby for submitting absences, booking three-way/SPT 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.

**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.

**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 8:00am to 5:00 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 22 busses dropping off and picking up students and arrive at the school at 8:45am and 3:00pm Monday-Friday. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**ST. FRANCES LEARNING IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The staff at St. Frances will be working diligently to complete the writing of our Learning Improvement Plan goals for the 2022-2023 school year. We will continue to make literacy, math, early learning success, Cree language acquisition, and land-based learning our priorities during this academic year. We thank you in advance for your support in helping your children achieve these important lifelong goals!

**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 first Professional Learning Day is November 14th.

**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!

**Ideas to assist parents reading with their child**

**Get ready to read!**

* Be sure to find a quiet place to read without distractions.
* Set up a time every day to read with your child.
* Have your child pick out his/her favorite books. Make sure that your child selects books that aren’t too difficult. Don’t worry if the books your child chooses are a little easier than the ones he or she reads at school.
* Take turns reading.

**Before reading:**

* Do a **“book walk”** – look at the cover, title, pictures in the book.
* **Predict** what the book may be about.
* Look for difficult **vocabulary** and pre-teach.
* **Relate** what the book may be about to the child.
* Encourage your child to ask questions and to comment on the story and pictures in a book – before, during, and after reading it.

**During reading:**

* Give your child time to figure out tricky words, and show your child how he or she can learn from mistakes.
* **Strategies for your child to try if he or she gets stuck on a word:**
* Think about what word would make sense in the story or sentence.
* Sound the word out.
* Think of a word that looks and sounds similar
* Think about word families and patterns.
* Look for parts of the word that are familiar.
* Think about what word would sound right in the sentence.
* Check the pictures and the punctuation marks for clues.
* Go back and read again.
* Ask for help with the word.
* **Strategies for your child to increase comprehension/understanding:**
* Stop every little bit and ask the child what is happening to check on comprehension.
* Relate events to the child.
* Ask child to predict what may happen next.
* Encourage your child to think critically about the story. Does he or she agree or disagree with the author? Why?
* Think out loud about the story as you read, and encourage your child to do the same. For example, ask, “Does this make sense? Why or why not?”
* Show your child how to summarize a story in a few sentences.
* Discuss new words and difficult vocabulary meanings.

**After reading:**

* Talk about a story after your child has read it, to make sure that he or she understands it.
* Give your child time to think about the story, and then ask him or her about it again a few days later.

And last but not least… **HAVE FUN AND ENJOY THE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE READING WITH YOUR CHILD!**

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

VIRTUE AND TIPI TEACHING OF THE MONTH

RESPECT