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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 Sept. 13, 2022** |

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| DATES TO REMEMBER:  September 27th CSCC Meeting 4:30pm  September 29th Orange Shirt Day Observed in Schools  September 30th No school  October 6th Pancake breakfast meet the parents  October 10th Thanksgiving Day- No School  October 19th Picture Day 8:30-11:30am Both locations Retakes November 3rd |
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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 hope that you had a safe, restful, and relaxing summer. I am very excited to be back at St. Frances Cree Bilingual School for another year. I also look forward to getting to know all the new students and parents of the St. Frances School community.

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.

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 will be 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 will be observing *Orange Shirt Day*. There will not be school for students on the official Orange Shirt Day of September 30th. This day was designed to acknowledge and remember the 150 000 school aged First Nations, Metis, and Inuit children who were forcibly removed from their families and land in order for them to attend residential schools from 1830-1990. Why *orange* shirts? One Elder, named Phyllis went to her residential school wearing a new orange shirt. She was proud of it because it was new. However, once at school she had to give it up and wear something else, because she was not allowed it. This made her feel sad, so we wear orange to remember her story. It is a symbol of unity, showing survivors that we are helping in the healing process because we are listening to their stories.

**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.

**Safe Attendance**

Staff will support students who need to be away from face-to-face classes, primarily through Edsby.

Follow any Public Health orders and/or guidelines that are in place.

**Safe Classrooms**

**Masks**

* Masks are optional for all students, staff, and visitors when indoors.
* MHOs will continue to monitor closely and will adjust guidance as needed.
* Disposable masks will be available.

**Hygiene**

* Promote appropriate hand hygiene.
* Hand sanitizer will be available throughout schools.

**Instruction**

• Full Saskatchewan curriculum will be taught by teachers.

**Safe Transportation**

* Buses can run at full capacity.
* Masks are optional for students riding buses.
* When weather permits, windows should be opened to increase ventilation.

**Facilities**

* Adequate soap and sanitizer must be available.
* School-wide plan for enhanced cleaning is in place focusing on high touch areas.
* Water fountains and water filling stations can be used.

**Ventilation**

* HVAC and air flow systems will maximize intake of fresh air in classrooms. Routine inspections and cleaning will be conducted to ensure air flow and efficiency.
* Open windows when possible to help increase the flow of fresh
* Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we work through these changes together.

**Safe Activities**

* Sports and Fitness Activities:
* Resume regular activities Dance, Drama, Band, Choir: Resume regular activities.
* Extracurricular Activities and Field Trips: Resume regular activities (destination's COVID-19 protocols must be followed).
* Assemblies, liturgies, and other events can be done virtually or in person.
* Three-way conferences may be done virtually or in-person.
* Parent volunteers are allowed in schools.
* In-school presentations from external groups/organizations maybe done virtually or in-person.
* CSCC meetings may be done virtually or in-person.
* Division and school professional learning can take place virtually or in-person.
* Community gatherings (such as welcome back breakfasts or BBQs) may resume.
* Hot lunches for students may resume.
* Congregated lunchrooms/areas may be used.
* Nutrition Programs: Students may not help prepare food.

**Other Items**

**Vaccinations**

• Staff, students, and families assume the shared responsibility of assisting one another in maintaining healthy and safe learning environments and workplaces.

• Public Health encourages staff, students, and families to avail themselves of all Ministry of Health recommended vaccinations.

• Staff, students, and families are encouraged to discuss the efficacy of recommended vaccinations with their personal health care providers.

**Rapid Testing**

At-home rapid antigen tests are available through your school and are recommended for regular monitoring

**Reporting and Self-isolation**

• Reporting of positive COVID-19 cases is not required.

• Please report all absences through Edsby.

• 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.

**BUS/TRANSPORTATION**

First Student will continue to drive students to and from school and transfer grades 6 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. 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 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 Using Edsby**

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 Staff 2022 2023

Principal: Lori McAuley

Vice Principal (McPherson): Barry Kimbley

Vice Principal (Bateman): Sara Miskolzie

Elder (McPherson): Shirley Arcand

Elder (Bateman): John Merasty

Office Coordinator: Joan Marcotte

Office Coordinator/Secretary: Sherry McEachern

Secretary: Ngozi Nwokeji

Dreambroker: Dao Duong

Nutrition Assistant: Rita Kobiela; TBA

Aboriginal Student Achievement Coordinator: TBA (McPherson); Curtis Peeteetuce (Bateman)

Pre-Kindergarten: Adrienne Gaudet

Pre-Kindergarten: Nicole Gursky

Kindergarten (Full Time): Wanda Nipshank

Michelle Lachance

Shannon McNabb

Grade 1-2-3 (English): Ally Belanger

Grade 1 (Cree): Yvonne Michael (Intern- Kori Wuttunee)

Grade 1 (Cree): Melissa Ledoux

Grade 1 (Cree): Lee-Ann Bonaise

Grade 2 (Cree): Dwayne Swiftwolfe

Grade 2 (Cree): Amanda Jobb (Intern- Sydney Welcher)

Grade 2 (Cree): Tara Aisaican

Grade 3 (Cree): Jaylene Dumont

Grade 3 (Cree): Delores Smallchild

Grade 3/4 (Cree): Rhonda Thomas

Grade 4 (Cree): Danielle Belanger (Intern- Catherine Olver)

Grade 4 (Cree): Tanis Sundown

Grade 4/5 (English): Leah Sampson

Grade 5 (Cree): Clinton Swiftwolf

Grade 5 (Cree): Natalie Sutherland

Grade 6 (Cree): Stacey Chief

Grade 6 (Cree): Peter Turner

Grade 7 (Cree): Cindy Roberts

Grade 7/8 (Cree): Carmen Martell

Grade 6/7 (English): Matthew Kjargaard (Intern – Klaudia Laliberte)

Grade 8 (Cree): Lorna Regan

Grade 7/8 (English): Mitchell Morin (Intern – Dexter Cameron)

Grade 8 Eco-Justice Program Mel Sysing, Nicole Turner

Grade 9: Delvin Opissinow,

Release Teacher: Janelle Paproski

Release Teacher: TBD

Release Teacher: Debbie Kennedy

Cree teacher: Lilah Morin

Learning Assistance Teacher: Nicole Desjardins

Learning Assistance Teacher: Bryn Novak

LAT/Literacy Support/RISE Intervention: Erin Tu’Inukuafe

Learning Assistance Teacher: Jinny Fredrick

Learning Assistance Teacher: Gretta Hedlin

RISE Intervention: Debbie Kennedy

Literacy Support Teacher/RISE Intervention: Chris Makahonuk

Teacher Librarian: Janelle Paproski

Band Teacher: Nicole Trembly

School Counsellor: Colette Berg

Speech Language Pathologist (SLP):Lana Prescott

Speech Language Pathologist Assistant: Becky Schlamp

Occupational Therapist (OT): Crystal Itterman

Head Caretaker: Elmer Pakingan

Temp Head Caretaker-Sean Deptuck

(Bateman) Head Caretaker: Gino Hanns

Evening Caretaker: Marlon Desepeda

EA: Audrey Biletski

EA: Chelsea Bird

EA: Jaclyn Butzelaar

EA: Kevin Cabural

EA: Rosanna Cabural

EA: Samantha Cardinal

EA: Brenda Herman

EA; Katie Kim

EA: Jayme Kowalchuk

EA: Shirley LaChance

EA: Katie Meier

EA: Edit Mourre

EA: Amanda Ness

EA: Rita Nwosu

EA: Portia Ojo

EA: Mona Opikokew

EA: Claudia Russell

EA: Iryna Skirchuk

**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)

**Dream Broker Program**

Welcome back St. Frances Families!

Just a little update from the Dream Broker Program.  There will be no Dream Broker after school activities until further notice.  The Dream Brokers can still assist with registrations, equipment, and transportation for out of school activities. If you are interested in working together to get your kids involved in out of school activities, please contact me! Please be aware that there are new forms & waivers that are COVID specific that we will need to get filled out. I look forward to working with you and seeing all the students.

Please call or text me at any time during school hours, if after hours, I will get back to you the next day.

If email works better, please feel free to email me!

Thank you!

Duo Duong

[dreambrokers@gscs.ca](mailto:dreambrokers@gscs.ca)

**Thank You**

A big Thank you to the SaskTel pioneers and St. Martin’s Church for the very generous donations of school supplies. They are very much needed and appreciated!

**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, Sherry, or Ngozi 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 new reduced speed zones, 30km/h in school and park zones every day 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 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 October 7th.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Our first meeting is on **Monday, October 3rd**. 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!

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

VIRTUE AND TIPI TEACHING OF THE MONTH

RESPECT