



## **Bulletin #2 – Sept. 14/18**

**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow – ugggh - Two weeks completed! Great start to our Spirit Week activities.

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*September 17 – 21 Week at a Glance (see below)*

### **Sept. 17**

- Spirit Week Activities Continue
- Check your children's backpack for important consent documents – see below

### **Sept. 18**

- Spirit Week Activities Continue
- Evacuation Drill (weather permitting) AM

### **Sept. 19**

- Spirit Week Activities Continued
- Spirit Week FREE Hotdog Lunch**
- Evacuation Drill (weather permitting) PM

### **Sept. 20**

- SAA Formal/Spirit Wear – Have your child wear their SAA clothing or have them dress in blue or green.
- **Opening School Liturgy** – 11:00 am in school gymnasium. Parents and friends of SAA are welcome.

### **Sept. 21**

-**NO SCHOOL K – 7** – There is no school for all students on Friday, September 21 due to the Staff Meeting/PD Day. Our staff will be attending a workshop on the Words Their Way Program. This program provides teachers with interactive approaches to teaching phonics, spelling and vocabulary. It can be an alternative to the traditional spelling program or as an addition/compliment to phonics and word work. We are grateful that our parents support our PD/Staff Meeting model in our District.

**GSACRD Physical Activity Consent Form** – On Monday your child will be bringing home this important document. These forms include information for parents, medical information form and

Physical Activity consent form. The consent (appendix C) and medical information (appendix B) must be sent back to the school completed for each of your children next week. Thanks in advance for completing this important task.

**Family Emergency Cards** – On Monday your youngest child will also be bringing home a yellow family emergency contact card. Please complete the card and send it back to school. One per family.

### **Playground A and the Sports Field**

We had the inspection of the playground on Tuesday. Everything was good, but we require a top up of the wood chips to Playground A. Once we have that the city will give us permission to use the playground. They planned to do this Thursday, but Mother nature had other plans. The play field can be used, all we need is a little sunshine. We are hopeful that construction of Playground B will be completed by September 17.

### **School Entry in the Morning**

The target for completion of the second playground is Friday, September 17. We really appreciate your patience with the lack of access to the visitor parking lot. We would appreciate your support in dropping off and picking up your children at the main doors for the coming week. A reminder that all visitors and students should not enter the building until the entry bell sounds (8:20 am) and a reminder that all students and parents should remove outside footwear before entering the school. We appreciate your cooperation and support.

### **Two Thumbs Up**

We really appreciate how parents have been following the student drop off and pick up plans for our school. It will help to ensure the safety for all our students and all visitors. Way to go parents!!

### **Wednesday, September 19 – Free Student Hot Lunch**

Our staff will be providing all students K – 7 with a hotdog, juice box and chips on Wednesday, September 19 to celebrate a new school year. Parents may send their children with other food items to supplement this lunch.

### **School Terry Fox Run**

On the afternoon of Tuesday, September 25 our students will be given an opportunity to run to support the Terry Fox Foundation. Call the school if you can volunteer to help with this event. More details to come.

**Piano** – We are looking for a gently used piano that is good condition for our music program. If you know of somebody who might be willing to donate or give the school a great deal please let us know.

### **Emergency Procedure Drills**

Starting this coming week (weather permitting) we will conduct two evacuation drills. Our teachers will be talking to the children about this but it's good to remind your kids that they may be practicing an evacuation drill. We always notify students that we are conducting a drill prior to the drill. Schools are required to run six Emergency Evacuation drills, two Lock Down drills and one Shelter-In-Place drill throughout the school year.

### **Mark Your Calendar – Picture Day September 26**

Icon will be here on Wednesday, September 26 to do individual school photos. On the week of the 26<sup>th</sup> your child will bring home a form that will tell you how to order. Parents will be given a code to access their child's proof. Free Delivery for orders placed in the first seven days.

**Spirit Week** – Our students have all been divided up into eight different groups representing eight different colors. We have been learning some fun songs and working in our teams on different projects. The kids will eventually come up with a name for our school teams. All of our students have a buff headband in the color of their team.

**Super SAA Kids** – It's always nice to get compliments about our students. At the Rec Academy event on Wednesday the driver of the bus and the company at the Archery Range each spoke very highly about the kids and how well behaved they were. We have a great bunch of kids here at SAA!

### **Heating Issues**

This cold weather has allowed us to really give the new schools heating system a test. We have found some bugs and glitches that the contractor is working to rectify. Probably a good idea to have your child(ren) throw a sweater in their backpack. Better to find the bugs in September than in November.

### **Absence Reporting – SAFE ARRIVAL SYSTEM**

The SAFE ARRIVAL System has been having problems, our District is working very hard with School Messenger to rectify the problems. Once the issues are rectified this absence reporting system will allow the school to verify student attendance, and quickly notify parents and guardians of absences that were unexpected or unplanned.

#### **Report your child's absence in advance with 3 convenient methods:**

1. On a mobile device, install the District App (search "Greater St. Albert Schools" in the Apple App or Google Play stores). Select SafeArrival - Attendance - Report an Absence. (Please note, to sign up for the new School Messenger SafeArrival it is best to use a computer)
2. On the SAA website select REPORT ABSENCES or SafeArrival website, go.schoolmessenger.ca. Sign Up to create your account, then select Attendance followed by Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 1-844-502-5100 to report an absence using the toll-free system.

#### **What happens if I do not report my child(s) absence?**

If your student is marked absent and it is not explained in advance, the SafeArrival system will send notifications by automated phone call, text message, email, or mobile app push notification to get a reason for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up. Calls and contacts will continue until you choose an option to explain the absence.

#### **Begin using the system September 4, 2018**

### **Notification of Sister Alphonse Academy School Council Establishment Meeting**

Please be advised that as per Section 22 of the Alberta School Act, Alberta School Councils Regulation and Administrative Procedure 110 of GSACRD notice is being given of the Establishment Meeting which will occur in the Conference Room of Sister Alphonse Academy on Thursday, September 20 at 6:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and determine the following:

- school council membership

- size of the school council and executive positions
- term of office of each member of the school council
- model of governance to be followed and bylaws for the organization
- preferred decision-making model, including eligibility to vote
- frequency of school council meetings
- election of executive members of the school council

All parents who have children officially enrolled at Sister Alphonse Academy as of September 20, 2018 are eligible to attend. For more information please contact school administration.

**Deep Learning**

The goal of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning model is to provide children with greater opportunities to go deeper in their learning. Take a moment to ponder what Deep Learning means to you. What kinds of activities led to deep learning and how did you demonstrate this learning?

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Greg Lamer  
Principal

Lisa Kleparchuk  
Vice Principal

