

SAA Bulletin # 7 Friday, Oct. 19 Take a look at some of the learning that took place in our school this week!



Students at Sister Alphonse Academy SERVE in the snack shack and by collecting food for the food bank!



Students at Sister Alphonse Academy are CREATIVE when designing an animal in their dynamic option Design class! Also, our option FIT class created a Smoothie Challenge where they were judged by our Grade 7's and some teachers. The criteria for our judges included nutrition, taste, colour, service and a guess at the mystery veggie hidden inside!













# Students at Sister Alphonse Academy use TECHNOLOGY AS A TOOL when learning!



# School News - Take a look at what's coming up next week! October 22 - 26

Monday (22)	
Tuesday (23)	School Grand Opening@1:45 pm. Please be seated in the Gym at 1:40 pm. Please have your child wear SAA Spirit Wear and/or blue and green on this day
Wednesday (24)	
Thursday (25)	
Friday (26)	<b>Picture Retake Day</b> - Please email( <u>sdespins@gsacrd.ab.ca</u> ) or call our school secretary Mrs. Despins if you plan on having your child do a retake.

#### Whole School Planning and Learning for a 21st Century Education - From Mr. Brass

Teachers at Sister Alphonse work together collaboratively. We love the opportunity it provides for cross curricular connections. To start the school year all students at Sister Alphonse have been focused on a "Living Things" theme in science. Specific outcomes vary by grade level. Grade 4's are focused on plant growth, Grade 5's are learning about wetland ecosystems, in Grade 6 students are exploring trees & forests. The students currently enrolled in our 4-6 Design Option extended their learning by researching an ecosystem that they were interested in. They used Digital Resources to find information about their chosen ecosystem. They continued their research by focusing on adaptations of plants and animals in the ecosystem. Prior to their research students were given a guiding question "Can you design a brand new and unique animal that would survive in a specific ecosystem?" With this question guiding the research process students reflected on what adaptations their unique animal would need to survive and thrive in their habitat. After synthesizing all this information and compiling ideas, students began to bring their animal to life! Students created 3D renderings using Tinkercad (web based 3D printing software). Students are developing tools to 3D print very soon! We were all very excited and did complete a few test prints. It was a great learning experience. To conclude this learning experience, students will also reflect and share what they are most proud of and what they found most challenging through the design process.

#### Sister Alphonse Academy Grand Opening

All parents are invited to the **Grand Opening Ceremony of Sister Alphonse Academy on Tuesday, Oct. 23 at 1:45 pm**. Archbishop Smith, Honourable David Eggen Minister of Education, Trevor Horne MLA Spruce Grove - St. Albert and a number of other dignitaries will join us. Click here to access the <u>Program Link</u>. **Please have your child dress in their SAA Spirit Wear and/or blue and green!** 

Archbishop Smith will lead us in a short Liturgy of the Word followed by a number of speeches by dignitaries. A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will take place at the end of the program. Zachary Samchuk will represent our students during the ribbon cutting. Zach was the first student to be registered at Sister Alphonse Academy. Refreshments will be served to guests after the ceremony and Archbishop Smith and Father Ignacy will bless the school. We would ask all parents who plan on attending to arrive and be seated in the gym by 1:40 pm. Hope to see you there.

#### Great Job Knights!

Mrs. Lobel and her grade % class are happy to report on a job well done by so many students bringing in donations to help people in our community! Way to go, KNIGHTS! We are small in numbers, but huge in HEART! A special congratulations goes out to our K-1 team for their Food Bank Challenge efforts! They are our grand winners with a total of 1172 points!!! Our total weight collected was close to 700 lbs. That means, each KNIGHT's average donation was about 7 lbs each. Our K-1 team will be enjoying some very yummy donuts next week. See a couple of the above pictures.

## Snack Shack is Open

Reminder - The Snack Shack is now open and will be open from 12:08 to 12:30 daily. We had a very good first week and the students seem to enjoy the menu. Items available range from .50 cents to \$2. Items such as jello cups, veggie and dip, pepperoni and cheese sticks, cookies, etc. **This is not a substitution for a student bringing lunch** and cannot be depended on to provide lunch for a student. Items are limited and may not be available on a daily basis. This is only a supplement to a students lunch and snack. Cash only or parents may choose to purchase a Snack Shack Cash Card on School Cash Online. The milk program will also start on Monday. Students can purchase milk for .80 cents or parents can purchase milk tickets online on School Cash. A big thanks to Mrs. Kleparchuk and our grade seven students for their hard work in getting the Snack Shack up and running. **Please be advised that the Snack Shack will not be open on Hot Lunch days.** 

## PowerSchool Login Information for Parents of Students in Grade 7

All parents that have children registered in grade seven should now have information on how to set up an account in Powerschool. It was sent home with all grade seven students last Monday. Our home page has a link to the Powerschool Login Portal or you can click on the <u>Powerschool Login Link</u>. If you require help setting up your account or have some questions please call our office.

## School Entry and Exit

Thanks for your support in reminding students of our entry and exit plan to the school now that all construction around the building has been completed.

#### K,1 and 7 - Main Door

2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 - East Door(next to Playground B and the visitor parking lot)

Thanks for your cooperation.

## **Picture Retakes**

A reminder that picture retakes will occur on Friday, October 26 starting at about 9:00 am. If you would like your child to have a picture retake please email or call our school secretary Mrs. Despins, (sdespins@gsacrd.ab.ca) indicating the name of your child or children by 3:15 pm on Thursday, Oct. 25.

## We Are Still Looking for a Lead on a Graphic Designer

Do we have any parents who are Graphic Designers? We would like to take some of the students that submitted ideas for our Knights Logo work with a Graphic Designer to design our Knights logo. If you work in the Graphic Design field or know somebody who would be willing to volunteer to work with a few students through a design process please have them call our school.

## School Yearbook?

We would love to have a yearbook produced for Sister Alphonse Academy in our first year. We have a parent volunteer who has experience and is ready to step forward to provide assistance to students and staff to produce a yearbook. At this time we have been a given a tentative price from ICON Photography of \$24 - \$28 for a soft cover yearbook that has about 16 pages. At this price point it requires a minimum order of 30 books. Currently we have just over 60 families. Would you be willing to purchase one yearbook for your family? If you would be willing to purchase a yearbook send an email to glamer@gsacrd.ab.ca in the subject field say "Yes to Yearbook" If we feel there is enough interest we will move forward. More information will be coming.

#### **GSACRD School Administration Retreat**

On Thursday, Oct. 25 and Friday, October 26 Mrs. Kleparchuk and Mr. Lamer will be joining senior administration and our admin colleagues from around the District our annual Faith Retreat that is being held at the Pigeon Lake Conference Centre. We will be away from the school most of Thursday and all day on Friday.

#### **SAA School Education Plan**

At our meeting today our staff reviewed and put the final touches on our School Education Plan that must be submitted to District Office by Wednesday, Oct. 24. We will be sharing our Education Plan on our school website in the near future and will be presenting our Education Plan to our School Council at the November meeting. Once our School Council has had a chance to review our Education Plan, they will begin to formulate the Three Year Ed. Plan for the SAA School Council. Their plan will be developed with the goal of supporting the schools Education Plan.

#### Parent/Teacher Interviews are Right Around the Corner

The school year is moving along quickly. Teachers from grade 1-7 will begin to prepare Report Cards for students in a couple of weeks. Please be advised that students in kindergarten in GSACRD do not receive Report Cards in Term 1. They will receive Report cards in Term 2 and 3. Parents will be invited to attend student-led conferences in kindergarten.

Children in grade one to six in GSACRD will receive Report Cards but there will be no written comments on the Report Card in Term 1. Our **Parent Teacher Interview Nights will be on Nov. 20 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm and Nov. 21 from 3:30 - 6:30 pm**. Parents will book interview and student-led conference times online. Information regarding access to book interview times will be given out early in November. For parents of students in junior high, you will have the opportunity to book interviews with all of your child's teachers but because of PowerSchool access you are able to monitor your child's achievement on a daily basis. As always, parents are encouraged to contact your child's teacher at any time if you have questions or concerns. Don't wait for interviews in mid-November to speak with your child's teacher.

## November Hot Lunch Dates and Order Deadlines

Mr. Sub Hot Lunch was very successful yesterday and the students enjoyed their sub sandwiches and cookie. Hot Lunch dates in November are Thursday, November 8 and Thursday, November 22. The order form is now posted in School Cash Online.

November 8 - EDO JAPAN - Order deadline is Wednesday, October 31. November 22 - BOOSTER JUICE - Order deadline is Wednesday, November 14.

#### What Do Our Students Think?

We had a teacher share some thoughts by a couple of students about our school during an activity they were doing in class. They also gave us permission to share with you.



When I walked into my new school I was shocked. The school was so nice that it reminded me of a time when my friends and I watched a movie with a nice, clean and modern school. We always thought that a school like that was never real, but I guess it was. My new school has nice, blue and shiny lockers that don't have scratches and chips like my old school. My new school also has classrooms that have moving walls that you can close and open. My new school is so magnificent. I'm so lucky to be there.

#### A.M.

B. G.

## **Book Fair**

We appreciate and would like to thank all of our families who supported the Book Fair. Also, a big thanks to those parents who helped with set up and volunteered to do sales during the week, it is much appreciated! The Despins family won the family draw.

## School Council News

The next meeting of School Council is on Wednesday, November 12 @6:30 pm.

#### **SAP Parish News**

Click on the <u>Parish Link</u> to access the weekly bulletin for St. Albert Catholic Parish. St. Albert Parish is looking forward to celebrating mass with our GSACRD families on November 3 or 4th. The bulletin contains all kinds of information about events in the Parish for adults and our youth. Check it out!

