



Students at Sister Alphonse Academy perform for Family and Friends!



Students in grade 1 - 3 enjoy the Games Gang at lunch recess!



Students at SAA design, paint and build as they prepare for CHRISTMAS!



School News - Take a look at what's coming up next week! Dec. 17 - 21

Monday (17)	3rd Week of Advent Monday Reflection Christmas Spirit Week
Tuesday (18)	K-7 Christmas Movie (THE GRINCH) at Landmark Theatre - 9:15 am
Wednesday (19)	Red and Green Day 12 Days of Christmas Activity Stations - PM AM - Kindergarten and grade one Field Trip to the St. Albert Library
Thursday (20)	Christmas Pasta Lunch (prepared by Foods Options classes and staff) and Ugly/Tacky Sweater Day
Friday (21)	PJ Day and Christmas Sing-a-Long Locker Cleanout and dismissal for students on Dec. 21 at regular times School Closed Dec. 22/18 - January 6/19 for Christmas Vacation

Christmas Concert

It was very nice to see you all at the Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening. We hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we enjoyed preparing the students and assisting Mrs. Manderson in all the details and work surrounding a concert. We would like to take this opportunity to give a **"SHOUT OUT"** to the following people who assisted with the preparations and work to prepare a concert.

- Mrs. Manderson (basically everything revolving around the concert)
- ALL OUR STUDENTS - who inspire us every day!
- Gr. 7 students (lights, tickets, seating, concert runners, other jobs)
- Office Staff (tickets and sales)
- SAA Staff (support and help where needed)
- GSACRD Operations and Maintenance Crew (set up of Staging and Risers, moving of equipment)
- Parent Volunteers (set up and take down of the concert chairs, curtain, etc.)

Christmas Spirit Week/Month

It's hard for us to believe that we have one week remaining until the Christmas Holidays. The whole month and our last week before the Christmas Break has many activities for our students to think about helping and welcoming others and continue to build a culture where everyone knows one another (big and little) and that we share, laugh and come to know Christ through one another. It's been a great month! (actually it's been a great four months)

Throughout Month

STOCKING STUFFER - each student was asked to bring in a stocking to be hung in their class. We then encouraged each child to bring in a little stocking stuffer for the others in their class at one point before the Christmas holiday. The filled stocking will be sent home on the last day (Friday). This is the last week to have your child contribute.

ADVENT TAKE JOY - KITS - Families that returned Interest in Participating forms have been receiving the kits. The youngest in each family is sent home with a kit containing a small advent wreath to light, a book about the birth of Christ, a tin of cookies to share, reading/prayer for the day and a journal for families to reflect. The last week for the activity is this coming week.

WELCOME BASKETS - Students bring items from a suggested list of donations and we create welcome baskets for Catholic Social Services that would be distributed to refugee or immigrant families. This is part of our Global Read-Aloud Project. (baskets will be placed under the tree, donated items can be placed right in the baskets). Some of our students have been knitting scarves for these baskets. If you would like to contribute and have not been able to do so we would ask that you send your items by Thursday, December 20 as Catholic Social Services will be here to pick them up first thing on the 21st of December. [Welcome Basket LINK](#).

Advent Reflections and Monday Liturgies - All through December we have been praying together and preparing our hearts to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Decorating Gift Bags for the Homeless or Imprisoned - COMPLETED - Children decorated bags and depending on parent preference these were filled and then distributed to the homeless or imprisoned.

Monday, Dec. 17

-You've Been Elfed - Classroom Activity

Tuesday, Dec. 18

K-7 Field Trip - students will walk to Landmark Theatres to attend the movie "The Grinch". Permission forms were sent home with all children on Monday, December 3. Payment for the movie and to purchase snacks are found on School Cash. Students will leave the school at about 8:40 am. We estimate that we should arrive back at the school a few minutes after 11:00 am.

Wednesday, Dec. 19

Red and Green Dress - have your child pick out there favorite gear in red and green. In the afternoon students in grade 1 - 7 will be taking part or helping to run 12 Christmas Activity Stations.

Thursday, Dec. 20

Ugly/Tacky Christmas Sweater Day

Christmas Lunch - all students will be served a hot Pasta Lunch prepared by staff and the students in Mrs. McKinnon's Food option classes. There is no cost to students for this lunch as the costs for it will be covered by the Student Activity Fee at the beginning of the school year.

Friday, Dec. 21

PJ Day - have your kids wear their favorite PJ's

Christmas Sing-Along - we will gather and sing some favorite Christmas Songs.

Attendance Notification

If you are planning on being away prior to Christmas Break or extending your Christmas Break holiday after January 6, 2019 please notify our school secretaries this week so we can enter your child's attendance into our system prior to your leaving. Thanks for your cooperation.

Jr. Basketball Practice

We are inviting all students in grade 5 -7 to attend practice on Monday, Dec. 17 and Tuesday, Dec. 18 from 3:05 to 4:05 pm. These practices are very important as they will indicate the overall level of interest to determine if we have enough students that could form a junior basketball team for boys and/or girls at the grade 5 - 7 level.

Knights Logo - World of Work Authentic Learning

All the students who submitted a Knights Logo drawing for our school had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Brian Holdsworth of Holdsworth Designs. His company will be doing the final development of our Knights Logo with input from our young designers and artists at SAA. Mr. Holdsworth talked to the students about the design process and the importance of collaboration and teamwork when working together. Mr. Holdsworth stressed five important traits that all logos should have, they are : simple, unique, attractive, appropriate and memorable. The students generated ideas based upon these five important traits and now have been challenged to submit another drawing. We will meet again to look at each students new submissions and then Mr. Holdsworth will help the group narrow down the best ideas/concepts and use them to move forward. We hope to have a Knights Logo early in the new year and then we will look at giving parents the opportunity to purchase additional Spirit Wear with our Knights Logo. Looking forward to seeing what our eight students can come up with.



Term 1 Extra Fee Payments - REMINDER

If your child was on a Field Trip in the first term or had some extra fees associated with some Dynamic Options you received a letter indicating the charges with your child's Report card. A reminder that these fees are due December 15, 2018. We hope that you will use School Cash Online but we will accept cash/cheque at the school office. If you have any questions or require clarification regarding these fees please contact Mrs. Despina in our school office.

Reminder - No Peanuts or Nuts

We often have students baking and bringing in treats during the Christmas season. Please be respectful of those students in our school that can have severe anaphylactic reactions to peanuts or nuts. Currently we have a few students in our school where this is the case. This would mean no peanut butter sandwiches or treats that have peanuts or nuts. A reminder that severe allergic reactions can strike a child or adult at any time in their life.

GSACRD Education Foundation Fundraiser

The GSACRD Education Foundation will be hosting a **Sweetheart Soiree** at Holy Family Parish on Feb 9th, 2019, which includes a dinner, silent auction, and the amazing entertainment of Martin Kerr for \$50 per ticket. Tickets can be purchased at our school office. Cheques should be made payable to the **Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools Education Foundation**. **The Foundation raises funds to provide scholarships and enhance student learning opportunities throughout the District.**

Milk Sales

We will have **limited milk for sale Dec. 17 - 21** due to the Christmas Break. Once we run out we will notify the children. There will be no milk available until Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

St. Albert Parish News

Parish Calendars are Coming

The New Year will be here before you know it and you may be looking for a 2019 Calendar... Look no further! A Parish Calendar titled: "Mary and our Grotto" will be for sale in December. This is a project organized by SAPY and features parish photos of all things Mary! Calendars will be sold for \$10 each. Stay up to date with the events and activities of our parish and snag one of these lovely calendars while they are for sale! They will make great stocking-stuffers!

Grocery Card Christmas Gift

Consider the purchase of a grocery card or two as a special Christmas gift while, at the same time, supporting the efforts of the Knights of Columbus. These coupons are always available. Call 780-459-7384 if you wish to order one or more cards. Thanks again from your Knights of Columbus!

St. Albert Community Carol Sing

Once again St. Albert Parish will be taking part in the St. Albert Community Carol Sing at the Arden Theatre. This year's concert will be held on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 3:00pm. Refreshments of cider and cookies to follow - all are welcome!

Advent Mass at Holy Cross

Have you lost a loved one this year? Join us for our annual Advent Mass with Archbishop Smith at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 15, at Holy Cross Cemetery and Mausoleum, 14611 Mark Messier Trail. Featuring the music ministry of Annunciation Parish choir. Light refreshments to follow, courtesy of Park Memorial. All are welcome.

Movie Night

The next movie night will be presented at the Star Of The North at 6:15pm, Saturday, December 15th. Born into a Portuguese noble family in 1195, Anthony defied his father's wishes to become a knight and, instead, followed the call of God to become a monk, eventually joining the Franciscans as a follower of St. Francis of Assisi. Anthony became renowned for his powerful preaching and his miracles that won countless souls to Christ. The film follows his travels through Italy, his mission to Morocco and his meeting with St. Francis. It beautifully portrays the power of his preaching, the holiness of his life, his love for the poor and oppressed, and the wonders of his miracles. Actor Daniele Liotti gives a truly memorable inspiring and performance.

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00 pm (featuring the Children's Pageant), 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, Midnight

If your child is interested in participating in the Christmas pageant which will take place at the 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer of the church or contact Darryl.Tymchuk@caedm.ca. The practices will take place on December 9 after the 11:00 am Mass.

Christmas Day Masses

9:00 am, 11:00 am

Click on the [SAP Parish Link](#) to access the weekly bulletin for St. Albert Catholic Parish.

Holy Family Parish News

Children's Christmas Party

The 1st Annual Children's Christmas Party will be held on December 16 after both the 9am and the 11 am Masses. Its especially for the children, but everyone is welcome. There'll be snacks, crafts, activities, games, caroling and a surprise visitor! Please bring a donation for the St. Albert Food Bank or Santa's Anonymous. The party committee is requesting volunteers to attend activity stations. If you are able to help out during the party please contact Arnold Ferri by email at aferri@shaw.ca or by phone at 780-884-8372.

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm, Midnight

Christmas Day Masses

9:00 am, 11:00 am

Click on the [HF Parish Link](#) to access the weekly bulletin for Holy Family Parish



