

SERVE - ACHIEVE - ASPIRE

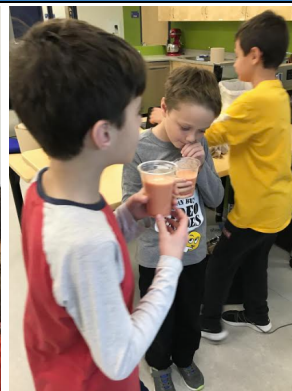
Bianca and Ava held a Popcorn Sale as part of a Service Project Challenge in Grade 7½ Leadership Option. They now hope to volunteer at the Humane Society and will be donating \$83 to the organization. The last part of the project involves a presentation to their class. They will reflect on what went well and what they might have done differently or better. They thank you for your support!



Kindergarten students are challenged with some maker space activities in the Learning Commons. They had to try and build something with the materials provided.



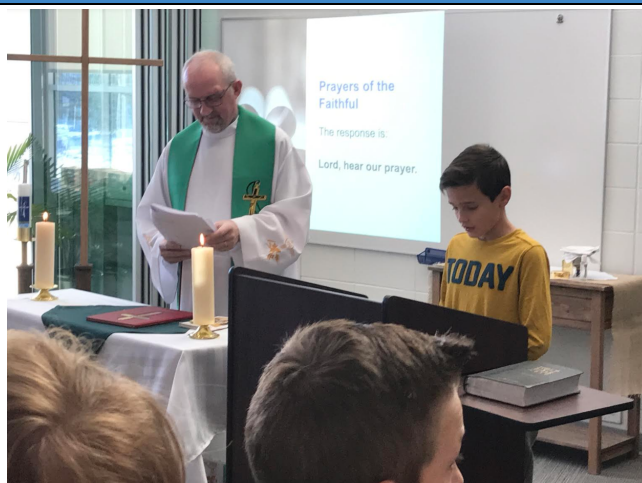
Term 1 Option classes will be coming to an end soon. Drama students are preparing for a play in the Christmas Concert. Enterprise and Innovation students listened to a presentation by Mrs. Hill a local entrepreneur and parent of SAA about running a small business, Fit for Life students create healthy smoothies and coding students are finishing up projects.



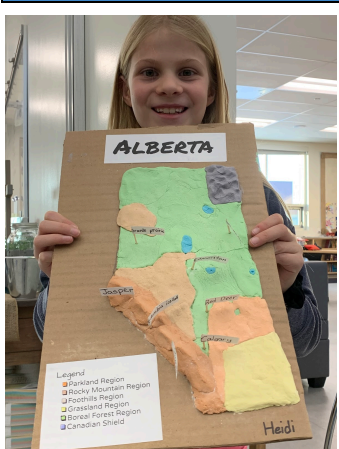
Bianca, Ava C. and staff have given of their time this week to create Advent "Take Joy" Kits once again this year! Look forward to them being sent home with one of your children during the month of December! The reason for the season will come to life in your home!!

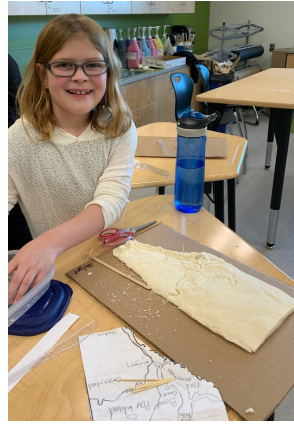


Father Ignacy and Mr. Darryl Tymchuk, Pastoral Assistant of St. Albert Parish were at our school on Wednesday to celebrate mass with Mr. Brass's grade 5 class. They brought us a gift of two candles for our school.

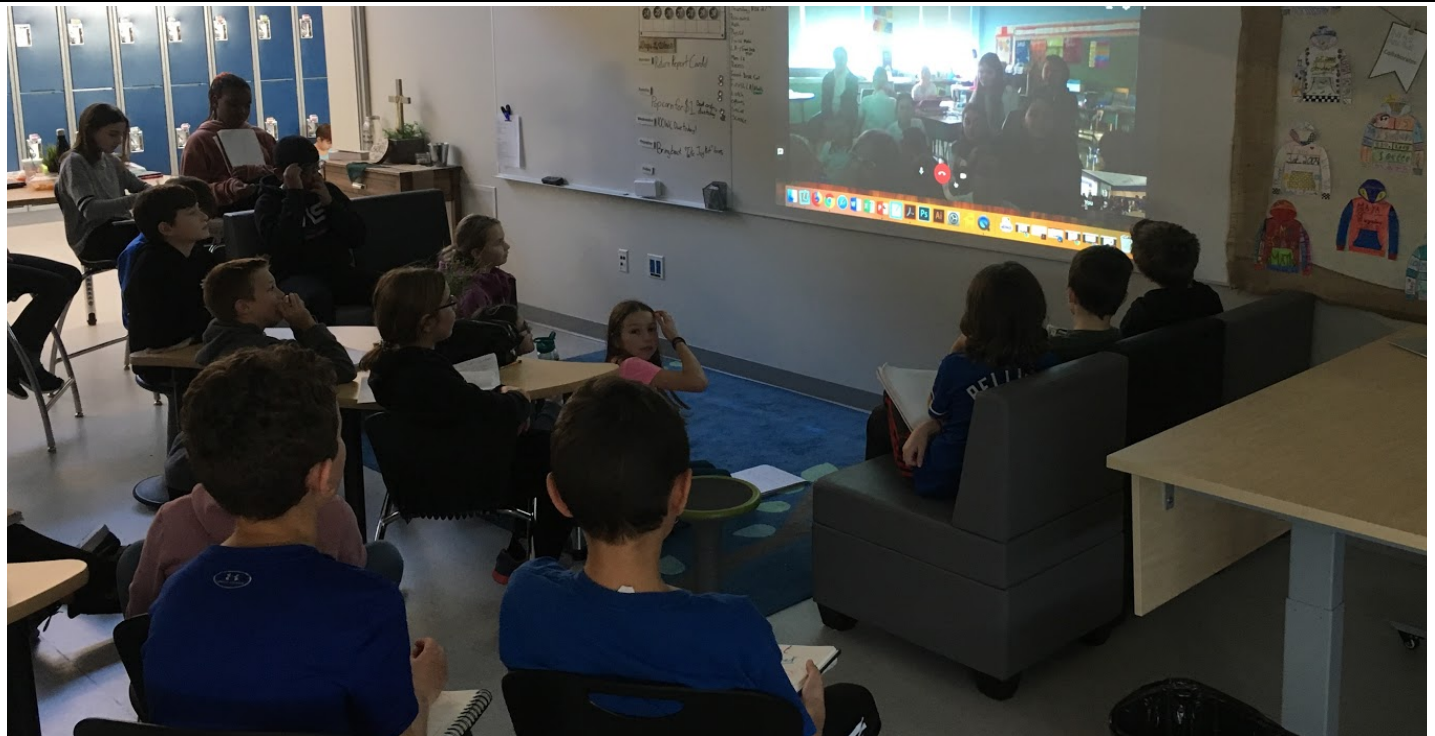


Grades 4 and 5 created region dough maps with landforms, bodies of water and legends! What a great way to culminate learning about mapping and kickstart learning about regions of Alberta and Canada.





Grade 5 students connect with a grade 5 class from Montreal to discuss our Global Read Aloud "Front Desk". We had a great conversation about the book and similarities & differences in our education and daily lives.



Students are hard at work knitting scarves for our "Gifts from the Heart" Advent project. We have students finger knitting and using Looms to create beautiful scarves. If your child has a Loom he/she is welcome to bring it to school and join the club!



Monday (2)	<i>First Monday of Advent Liturgy - 8:35 am - 8:50 am</i> Advent Take Joy Home Kits Begin <i>Leadership Group Bake Sale - In support of the Stollery Hospital</i>
Tuesday (3)	Enterprise and Innovation Christmas Market 2-2:45 pm Science Olympics - gr. 1-3 (pick up 4:15pm)
Wednesday (4)	Gr. 3/4 Swimming Lessons E3 Summit for Junior High students that submitted Interest Paragraphs Silly String Draw Science Olympics - gr. 4-6 (pick up 4:15pm)
Thursday (5)	Please have your child wear SAA Spirit Wear and/or blue and green on this day E3 Summit for Junior High students that submitted Interest Paragraphs
Friday (6)	Santa Pictures - PJ Day

Our School Goals

We have two primary school goals at SAA:

Our Learning Goal - TO PROVIDE MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO DEEP LEARNING

- Fostering authentic relationships and connections with students and parents
- Differentiating instructional practices
- Learning Attribute Planning
- Leveraging Technology

Our Faith Goal - TO BUILD A CULTURE OF FAITH AND SERVICE WHERE EVERY CHILD AND FAMILY FEEL WELCOMED

- Continue to build and expand connections with parish, CSS and D&P
- School Chaplain will continue to work to build capacity with staff to know, model and witness Jesus Christ
- Continue to ensure that our faith is prominent within our school
- Develop further awareness of connections between our faith and spiritual beliefs/practices of Indigenous brothers and sisters

SANTA Pictures and PJ Day

We are happy to announce that Santa will be able to make a stop at Sister Alphonse Academy on Friday, December 6. With the volunteer help of Mr. Tom Undergasser Santa will be taking a picture with all students and we will endeavour to get a sibling photo with Santa as well. For a fee of \$5 families can receive a 5x7 print of each child's picture. Pictures should be ready by the middle of the following week. **Parents must go on School Cash this week to order.** Please be sure that your child wears their PJ's to school on this day. **IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO HAVE A PICTURE WITH SANTA YOU MUST CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY THURSDAY, DEC. 5 OR email Mr. Lamer at glamer@gsacrd.ab.ca.**

Christmas Concert Ticket Information

Nov. 29 is the last day for each family to reserve 4 tickets to the Christmas Concert. Beginning Thursday, Dec. 5 tickets that are left after the Nov. 29 date will be made available at the office. **Reserved tickets will be sent home in children's backpacks on Monday, Dec. 9.**

"Give from the Heart" ADVENT Project

On Thursday, a letter was sent home that explains this project. Our **"Give from the Heart"** project will provide hope and prayer for new Candaian families. We challenge each student to think about what warms their heart at Christmas, and spread joy by bringing in a gift from the heart to add to a gift crate in their class. These crates will be presented to new immigrant families at the "First Christmas in Canada" event. Guests will gather around a table for a festive meal, take part in ornament making and a carol sing-along will also take place. Each family in attendance will leave with a family gift and this is where our SAA family comes in to help!

Here is a list of items that could be brought in. We hope that each student will bring in an item or two to contribute to their class' crate. .

- board games
- books
- colouring books
- art supplies
- craft kit
- picture frames
- toys
- tea, coffee, hot chocolate
- sweet treats- cookies, chocolates, candy
- movie passes
- Tim Horton gift cards

We will start this project on **Monday, December 2nd** and the deadline for bringing in items is **Tuesday, Dec.10th**.

Monday Advent Liturgy Gatherings

Beginning Monday, December 2 and then Monday, December 9 and 16 we will be gathering first thing in the morning as a school community to prepare our hearts for Christmas during the Advent season. Parents are welcome to join us during these short liturgies which will last about 10-15 minutes first thing every Monday morning. On all other days during December classes will have short Advent reflections and prayer to begin their day.

Advent Take Joy Kits- Home Activity

A letter was sent home last week detailing our Advent "Take Joy" initiative that happens throughout the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas. Each kit contains items to give your family a chance to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. If your family has returned the slip indicating you'd like to participate, your youngest or only child will begin to bring these home starting on Monday and throughout December. We hope you will enjoy this activity as a family and ask you to promptly return the package the next day so another family can enjoy!

Looking for Junior Basketball Coaches at SAA

The Basketball season is right around the corner. We are confident that we would have enough students in grades 6-8 to form Junior Basketball teams at SAA. The Junior Basketball season starts in January and is usually completed by the first week in March. It would involve one or two practices a week as well as a short schedule of games after school and one or two tournaments. Volunteer coaches would be supported by a staff member. All coaches would need to provide a recent Criminal and Child Welfare check. If you are interested please email Mr. Lamer at glamer@gsacrd.ab.ca.

2018/19 SAA School Results and 2019/20 Education Plan

We were very proud to present our School Results and go over our Education Plan with Senior Administration on Friday, Nov. 29. You are welcome to review our achievement and satisfaction survey results by clicking on the following links. [SAA 18/19 School Results](#), [SAA 18/19 Alberta Accountability Pillar Results](#) and [SAA 19/20 Education Plan](#).

SAA Spirit Wear Clothing Store is Now Open

We have reopened the SAA Clothing Store. It will remain open until **Monday, December 16** with an expected delivery date of late January or early February, 2020. Click on the [SAA Clothing Store Link](#) to order.

Leadership Option Service Projects

As we enter the last part of Term 1 Options you will hear about small service projects that students in the Leadership 7/8 Option are taking on. Some activities will involve raising funds and some will involve some volunteer work in the school. We thank you for your support of these students.

Monday - Bake Sale for Stollery Hospital(75 cents - 1\$)

Wednesday - Silly String Draw(tickets 1\$)

Enterprise & Innovation Christmas Market

On **Tuesday December 3rd**, the Gr. 7/8 Enterprise & Innovation option class will run a **Christmas Market** for the school from 1:45-2:45 to complete their entrepreneurial learning. There are a variety of "Market Booths" will be set up in the front entrance of the school for students and staff to purchase items.

Here are the list of the booths created and ran by the students:

- **Colonel Kernel's Popcorn** (Prices from \$1.50-\$2.00)
- **Games & Grub** (games 25 cents each & candy 50 cents each)
- **Christmas Mystery Bags** (\$1.50-\$2.75)
- **The Hole in One Donut Shop**
- **Candy CANE LANE!** (Homemade candy cane treats \$1-\$2)
- **Poppin Popcorn** (Prices from \$1-\$1.50, plus toppings & candy 25-50 cents)
- **Santa's Raffle** (treats 25 cents - \$1, if you buy a treat you receive tickets for prizes)
- **Snack Hack** (snacks from \$1.50-\$3)
- **Al's Ice Cream** (Scoops from \$1-\$3.50 includes toppings)
- **SCRUNCHILY** (homemade hair scrunchies Buy 1 \$3 and 2 for \$5)
- **QUALITEA** (bubble tea drinks \$1)
- **Joyful Raffle**

We thank you in advance for supporting our students enterprises!

Mark Your Calendars - Important Dates Coming Soon!

Dec. 4 - Last Grade 3/4 Swimming; E3 Summit for junior high

Dec. 5 - Subway Hot Lunch; E3 Summit for junior high

Dec. 6 - Santa Pictures Day - PJ Day

Dec. 9 - Tickets for Christmas Concert are sent home in students' backpacks(youngest or only child in each family)

Dec. 12 - Last Day of Term 1 Options

Dec. 13 - Early Dismissal@11:45 am

Dec. 13 - No Kindergarten Classes

Dec. 16 - SAA Christmas Concert@6:30 pm - Doors Open at 6:00 pm

Dec. 16 - SAA Spirit Wear Clothing Store Closes

Dec. 16 - 20 - **Christmas Activity Week**

- **Dec. 18 (Red & Green Day)**
- **Dec. 19 (Tacky Christmas Sweater Day)**

- **Dec. 19 - School Wide Pasta Christmas Lunch For All Students - No Charge paid by Student Activity Fee**
- **Dec. 20 - School Wide Sing-a-Long(Each class leads the school in a favorite Christmas Karaoke Song**

Dec. 17 - Term 2 Options Begin

December 21/19 to Jan. 5/20 - Christmas Vacation - School Closed No Classes K to 8

Jan. 6/20 - Classes begin K-8

Jan. 17 - No Kindergarten Classes

Jan 20-24 - Zoo School - Gr. 1-2-3

Jan. 30 - School Ski Trip

Jan. 31 - No K-8 Classes - PD/Staff Meeting Day

February 6 -7 - Teachers Convention - School Closed K to 8

To check dates well in advance click on our [SAA School Web Calendar](#).

Sponsorship Opportunities

One of our goals at Sister Alphonse Academy is to provide authentic learning opportunities for our students which we believe can lead to Deep Learning and Conceptual Understanding. Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 734 believes that the formation of educational partnerships or sponsorships from individuals, businesses, or community partners provides an opportunity for educators to work collaboratively with the community in an effort to support learning and growth opportunities for students in the District. Thus principals may work with partners or sponsors with the intention of assisting students with ongoing activities and/or events while ensuring that the primary goal for the partner or sponsor is to provide valuable resources.

Our school is looking for individuals, businesses, or community partners that would be willing to assist/sponsor some of the costs associated with providing our students with these incredible learning opportunities. Our staff has already applied and been accepted for some activities in the new year but they are costly. These costs could include transportation and/or registration costs. Our District Administrative Procedures allow for some public recognition of sponsors via newsletters, banners, etc. If we have individuals, businesses or community partners that would like to discuss this opportunity please call Mr. Lamer at SAA at your earliest convenience.

Thanks to the Current Sponsors of our SAA Field Trip Fund



School Council

At our November meeting this past week our Trustee Liaison Mr. Joe Becigneul updated us on the Faith in Our Future proposal. He summarized some of the reasons that prompted the proposal as well as feedback received this far. He also reported on the challenges that our District is facing because of the funding changes announced recently. Mr. Becigneul outlined areas where there will be a reduction and how this could affect parents and schools depending on decisions that will be made shortly. We should hear more about these two important items in the next few days. School administration reviewed Accountability Pillar, Satisfaction Survey and Achievement Results. Our results show high satisfaction amongst our stakeholders and student achievement! Mr. Lamer and Mrs. Kleparchuk indicated that they believe our high results were achieved partly by commitment of staff and students as well as tremendous support by our parent community. At the next meeting we will briefly examine the schools Education Plan and then with this information we will be able to review our School Council 3 Year Ed. Plan. We learned that the SAA Fundraising Society is now an official entity! We were fortunate to have had three volunteers step up to be on the executive. We will hear more about this at our next meeting. A reminder that there is NO School Council Meeting in December. The next meeting of School Council will take place on Wednesday, January 15/20. On behalf of your School Council executive we would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a blessed, healthy New Year.

Click on the link to read a great article that discusses [Working With Your Child's Teacher](#).

Provide Your Opinion - Choice in Education

A new online survey is asking Albertans to identify opportunities to protect, improve and enhance education choice in Alberta including: public and separate schools, Francophone schools, charter schools, private schools, early childhood education and home education. Your feedback will be used to inform the development of the *Choice in Education Act* that will be introduced in spring 2020. To assure the ongoing viability of your jurisdiction of choice, it would be important that

through the survey you could affirm the value of Catholic education for your child, the importance of its contribution to the greater society, and its right to flourish as a minority-based form of constitutionally protected education within our province. [Choice in Education Survey Link](#)

St. Albert Parish News

CWL Bake Sale after Masses November 30/December 1

What would Christmas be without the CWL's wonderful baking and cooking? Come to the parish hall after the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses to purchase some amazing apple pies, tempting tourtières and marvelous meat balls as well as many other treats and goodies.

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast December 1st

After you have picked up your treats from the CWL bake sale, stay for a delicious pancake breakfast prepared by our Knights of Columbus. Don't miss this time for fellowship and good food following both Sunday morning Masses!

Advent Penitential Celebration, Thursday, December 5th

Our Advent Penitential Celebration will take place on Thursday, December 5th at 7 pm in the main church. There will be a reception in the parish hall following the service. Please bring a plate of goodies to share with others at the reception.

Advent Evening Prayer Vespers December 3, 10, 17 at 7 pm

Join us for these three Tuesday evenings of Vespers in the main church. There is no better way to prepare for the coming of Christ than to participate in these beautiful, solemn musical devotions. Following Vespers on Tuesday, December 17 we will have a reception in the parish hall.

Children's Mass

Our parish celebrates a children's Mass at 11:00 am on the second Sunday of each month.

RCIA

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Please contact Darryl at the church office or email: Darryl.Tymchuk@caedm.ca

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

Holy Family Parish News

Christmas Hampers

Holy Family Parish will be collecting donations for the Christmas hampers on the weekend of December 7th and 8th, to give ample time for Sacred Heart Church to assemble them. For monetary donations, cheques can be made payable to Sacred Heart Parish. Please give generously to our fellow Catholics. The hampers will be delivered on Saturday, December 21st, 2019. Please contact the office for more information on how to donate to this worthy cause.

Youth Activities

Do you want to meet youth your age who share your faith? Do you want to play amazing games with amazing people? Do you want to have great discussions about the faith? Unite and Verve are youth groups for you! Hope you all had a great weekend. On Monday, at Unite, we will be hearing a talk about St. Jude, our saint of the month. On Wednesday, we will be having an All Saints' Day party from 6:30—8:30 pm at St. Albert Parish. This event is for youth in grades 4-9. We will be doing a cemetery scavenger hunt, a saint emoji game, and lots more! Please email Noëlle if you are attending so that she and Rebecca can plan accordingly.

Unite: Mondays from 7:00—9:00 pm for grades 9-12

Verve: Wednesdays from 7:00—8:30 pm for grades 6-8

If you are interested, or have any questions, please email Noëlle at youthprograms@holyfamilyparish.ca

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



