

SAA Bulletin #4 - September 21/2020

Serve Achieve Aspire

Take a look at some of the learning that took place last week in our school!

Students in grade 3 are creating life size concept maps about themselves! After reading, [No One But You by Jen Cummings](#), they explored all the ways God has made them unique and exceptional! They have so many interests and gifts to share with the world!



Grade 1 students combined math with apples to create some beautiful apple patterns. We are taking advantage of this beautiful weather by taking our classroom outside. So awesome to learn in the sunshine!



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy Monday! Blessings to you on this wonderful start to your week. God is good and God provides us each day with many beautiful people, experiences and love that we are grateful for in our daily lives. Our scripture message that we move forward with this week is that "God sustains us", as [Bishop Barron](#) speaks of. God loves us, God cares for us like no other! We look at Isaiah this week and come to understand more about how God is always there for us:

"Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call him while he is near" (Isaiah, 55:6).

Lord, help us move forward this week with your message in our hearts and minds. Blessings to all of our Sister Alphonse families, staff and students during this upcoming week! Also, if there are any parents who are interested in attending a virtual inservice on a Faith based resource which provides information on building relationships with their children, please contact Mrs. Samson at csamson@gsacrd.ab.ca. The session will take place next **Tuesday, September 29th, at 6:00 via Google meet**. Thank you!

Superintendent's Update - Week ending September 18, 2020:

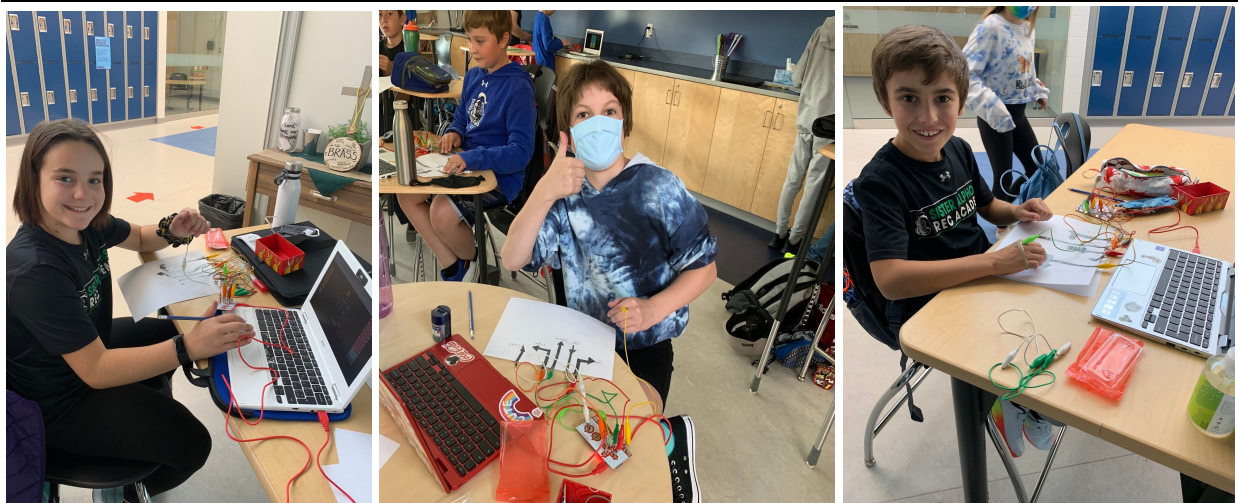
Please click on the link below to read the latest update from Dr. Clint Moroziuk, Superintendent of GSACRD Schools:

- [COVID-19 Update - Sept. 18, 2020](#)
- [Student Illness - Guidance to Health](#)

Kindergarten students are learning about how patterns are all around us! This week we worked on building our own patterns with manipulatives.



Grades 4,5,6 begin to explore the world of coding and robotics in their dynamic option class.



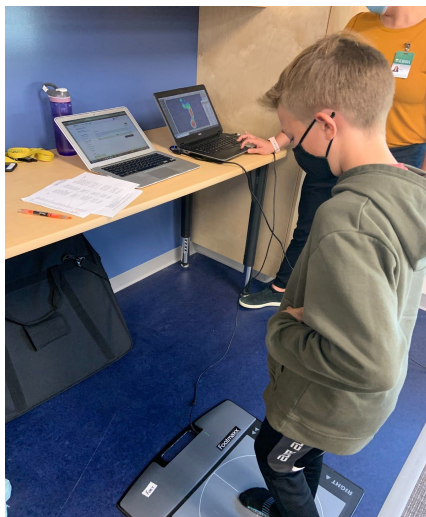
Daily Health & Safety Protocol Information:

- Before coming to school each day, all staff and students must complete the Alberta government's [COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire](#), which is available in [multiple languages](#), to determine whether they **can attend or must stay home**. The form does not need to be submitted to the office. If your child has any symptoms, contact your school office to let your child's school know. Everyone who enters a school will see a sign that reminds them to complete the daily COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire before entering the building.

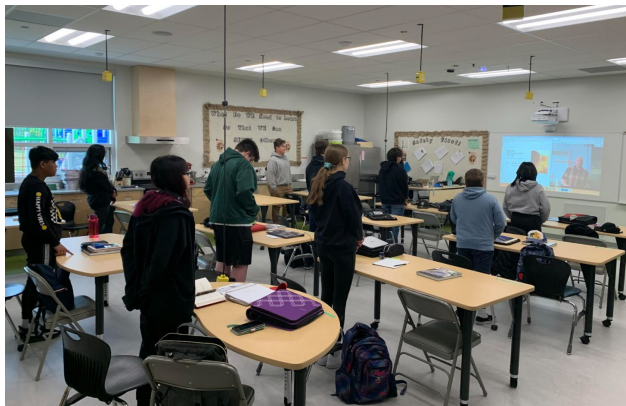
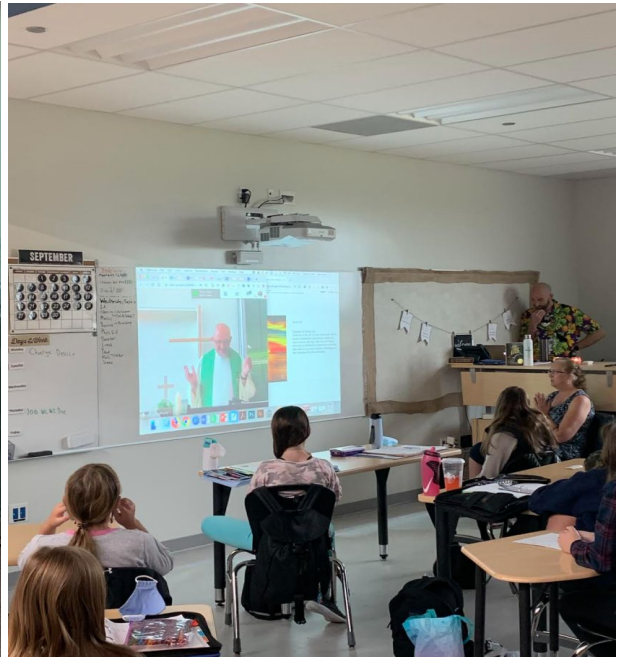
Quick Links for Parents/Guardians:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire - Daily questionnaire for safe arrival at school each day.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GSACRD Transportation• GrACE (Graceful Advocates for Catholic Education)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GSACRD District School Re-Entry Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• St. Gabriel Education Centre
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parent Handbook *UPDATED SEPTEMBER 18, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• K-6 Mental Health Resources

Recreation Academy students participated in yoga type activities and Baseline Concussion Testing last week. The results of their test can be compared to results they would get if a concussion is suspected in the future.



Our Sister Alphonse Academy family was blessed to have Fr. Ignacy, our GSACRD Chaplain, Doug Kramer, and our Grade seven students lead us in a beautiful opening celebration last Wednesday that called us to Arise! Get Up! And experience the joy of living in Christ.



[Welcome Back Spirit Week!](#)

Thank you to all the Knights for participating in Spirit Week this past week at Sister Alphonse the Knights Spirit was alive and displayed by all the great outfits and theme day participation. Check out posts on the [SAA Facebook Page](#) and [SAA Instagram sisteralphonse_gsacrd](#) social media posts this past week of all the pictures of our SAA Knights. Who has SPIRIT! KNIGHTS DO!!

The KNIGHTS of SAA know how to show their school spirit. They also enjoyed a yummy treat for being "back at school!"



The SAA Spirit Wear order from late August arrived just in time for the KNIGHTS Spirit Wear Day this past Thursday. Haven't purchased SAA clothing but would still like to, watch for upcoming bulletins for the next order dates from Sportfactor.

Important Message for Online Learners and Bus Transportation:

Please note that if your son/daughter is participating in online learning and **does not require bus transportation**, a bus **cancellation form must be filled out** through the [Transportation parent portal](#) - online forms and requests. Without this cancellation form being submitted, the fees will still be applied.

Emergency Evacuation Drills

We will begin practicing our Fire Drill Emergency procedures this week (weather permitting). We will always notify our students that we are running a drill. As per District Administrative and Hour Zero Emergency Procedure we shall complete Emergency Evacuation drills (Fire Drills), Lockdown, On-Alert, Hold-Secure, and Shelter-In-Place drills during the year. Our Evacuation drills will still be meeting COVID-19 School Re-Entry Plan requirements:

Students in grades 4-12 should wear masks.

- It is recommended that students in K-3 wear masks for evacuation drills, although it is not mandatory at this time.
- Drills may be conducted in a variety of ways to incorporate physical distancing such as in small groups using various exits or one class at a time.
- It is critical to ensure students are familiar with the proper exit to use and the proper exiting procedures and gathering procedures.
- LIVE EVACUATION: Should a live evacuation be required, student safety should take precedence and physical distancing would be of secondary importance.
- Physical distancing can be planned at the prescribed meeting place following an evacuation drill.

- If you require more information about our emergency procedures, please do not hesitate to call the school.

Orange Shirt Day!

On **Wednesday, September 30** we ask all students and community members to wear the color orange. The date in September for Orange Shirt day was chosen because it is the time of year when children were taken from their homes to Residential Schools and because it is an opportunity to stand for anti-racism and anti-bullying in homes, schools, communities and throughout the world. It is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools, and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

"The residential school experience is one of the darkest, most troubling chapters in our collective history." — Justice Murray Sinclair, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Chairman

Physical Distancing & Mask Reminders:

Thank you to all of the parents who are ensuring their children reach each of the entry and exit doors safely! Just a kind reminder to ensure physical distancing is being followed and please continue to encourage your child to wear masks whenever possible. If possible, please check in with your child to see if they have a clean mask to wear each day. Although we have some extra disposable masks that may be available for students on occasion who forget one, we have seen an increase in the number of students requiring one for use. Thank you for your assistance in and daily support in keeping everyone safe!

SAA School Nurse

Alberta Health Services' Registered Nurse, SheriLynn Blackburn met this past week with administration regarding upcoming inoculation dates for Grade six, some Grade seven students, and Grade nine students. Last year due to the cancellation of classes, some grade six students may have not received all of their vaccinations, so they may be scheduled to receive them this year. Ms. Blackburn will be sharing the scheduled dates and further information with us shortly.

SAA School APP

The SAA App for iOS and android is available. Just search for "My School Day" on the app store. When you run it, it will guide you through selecting Sister Alphonse Academy- this only needs to be done once. The app will be used to send out news and notifications from our school.

Kind Reminder - Lunches & Water Bottles:

Students please bring a water bottle to school as the fountain is not open to drink water without one at this time. Also, students may want to bring a few extra snacks to school if they find they are a bit more hungry as we do not have the milk program or Snack Shack available at this time. Thank you!

Supporting Mental Health Resources:

The Covid-19 Pandemic has been a challenging time for families all over the world. Communication and support is more important than ever in meeting the needs and challenges that people are facing today. Included here is a resource for supporting mental health and your family: [K-6 Mental Health Resources](#)
[St. Albert Parish News](#)

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

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

Congratulations to the New School Council Executive 2020/2021:

Thank you for all of the School Council Executive members, parents, and our School Trustee, Mr. Joseph Becigneul, who attended our SAA School Council meeting last Wednesday evening! Many parents attended and provided some excellent ideas and feedback. SAA Committee positions were determined during this meeting as well:

- Partners in Prayer - Nicole Kluthe
 - Compassionate Friends - Nicole Kluthe & Christine Hoskins
 - Staff Appreciation - Christine Hoskins
 - Volunteer Sign ups - Lindsay Martyna, Brandi Aguilar
 - Yearbook Committee - A big thank you to Sandra Kosik who has done an excellent job of the yearbook!
 - Friends of SAA Fundraising Society - Kristi Rouse
- Parents are encouraged to send in ideas and suggestions for fundraising ideas to the Friends of SAA.

If you are interested in helping out with any of the committees listed, please contact Mrs. Samson at csamson@gsacrd.ab.ca.

The SAA School Council Annual General Meeting was also held and positions were nominated and accepted for this new school year. Please welcome and congratulate the following Executive School Council members for 2020/2021 school year!

Chair - Karla Bergstrom

Vice Chair - Christine Hoskins

Secretary - Keri Wilson-Hackett .

Date of October School Council Meeting - October 14th @ 6:30pm. The link will be shared closer to the meeting date. Thank you!

Home to School Information/Communication

We do our best to provide as much information as we can about school events through a variety of methods. This includes: [SAA School Website](#) and [Web Calendar](#), email, [SAA Facebook Page](#), [@Sister Alphonse Twitter](#), [SAA Instagram sisteralphonse_gsacrd](#) and our SAA School App.

As long as your email address is current you will receive our weekly bulletin on the first day of school each week. This is a new change for this school year. If there is the rare occasion where we need to send home paper correspondence we usually try to do it on a Monday. The [SAA Weekly Bulletin](#) is also posted on our school website.

School News - Take a look at what's coming up! **September 21 - September 25**

Monday (21)	
Tuesday (22)	
Wednesday (23)	
Thursday (24)	<i>Spirit Wear Day! Wear your Knights wear or Blue or Green!</i>
Friday (25)	<i>No School - Professional Development Day & Staff Meeting PM</i>

God bless and take care.

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