

St. Martin's News

February 2016

Principal's Message:



It is that time of year – to celebrate! At the end of January we are sending home a formal document to celebrate all of your child's hard work in school and to share with you how much your child has learned since September. At St. Martin's School we are so proud of our hard working students who continue to grow and learn together in all areas: reading, numeracy, critical thinking, writing, deepening understandings of key concepts, collaboration, and creativity just to name a few. In addition to academics our students are growing as spiritual people with amazing gifts to offer their community. Our students are developing socially and emotionally as well; and with each day, each week and with each new challenge our staff at St. Martin's witness our students flourishing!

Being an educator in a school is such a rewarding career because of the opportunities to see growth and to feel how your efforts make a difference in the lives of students. It is a real joy to be in this role at our school and to be part of an amazing team that is truly dedicated to ensuring each child learns as much as they can each year. As well, every year we look at strategies and ideas that we can bring forward to encourage and engage students to learn just a little more. It is a lot of work, but it is well worth it!!

Every year Alberta Education and the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta asks for nominees to recognize excellence in education. They are looking for parents or guardians to nominate someone in their child's school who they feel is doing an outstanding job for their students. If you would like to recognize a staff member from St. Martin's, please let Mr. Dumont know by calling 780-632-2266 or by email at jo-sephd@eics.ab.ca.

2016 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS



**Nominate an outstanding teacher
or principal today**

**Nominations are open
December 9, 2015 – March 4, 2016**

To request a package email: edc.excellenceinteaching@gov.ab.ca
or call: 1-866-590-1660.

To download a package, visit: www.education.alberta.ca

Constable Jaison Gagnon—School Resource Officer

As the School Resource Officer (SRO) of the Vegreville area I carry the same duties and responsibilities as any general duty police officer though my main focus is to the schools. I explain to students who ask why I'm visiting that the schools are part of my patrol zone and it is my job to make sure everyone is safe at school and to and from school. Though this is a simplified explanation of my duties, it more or less defines my role. In addition to patrols and traffic enforcement in school zones, I also take ownership of any criminal or provincial investigations involving the schools; essentially acting as a liaison between the RCMP and the school community and providing a legal perspective on school concerns. I am also frequently in the schools delivering presentations to students on various topics including personal safety, crime prevention and substance abuse among others. And I support community policing efforts and often assist with RCMP programs and local youth initiatives.

My main goal as the School Resource Officer however, is to develop positive relationships with students and act as a key contact for youth, parents and teachers. Of course, being in the schools helps to break down any communication barriers between youth and the police. I highly encourage students and parents to speak to me regarding any concerns or questions they may have. Though some people find it hard to get past the uniform, those who talk to me will find that I am very approachable and am always willing to listen and to be a friend.

Cst. J. GAGNON (Reg# 60830)
RCMP Vegreville Détachement

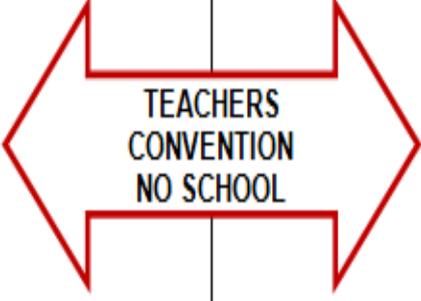


St Martin's Extended KinderCare Program

In our last workshop for Extended Kindergarten we did some project based learning according to the interests of the kids. My students were really interested in learning about some community helpers. Pictured here are some of the experiments we did as a class role-playing the job of a scientist. We had such great fun and lots of laughs ensued as we watched these experiments come to life before our eyes!



February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>Prayer Assembly 3S & ECS Subway Forms Due By Noon</p> <p>Gr.4 Skiing at Sun ridge</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Ground Hog Day</p> <p>Basketball Blossom Program</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Early Dismissal 1:55pm</p> <p>Penny Carnival</p> <p>Subway Day</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>TEACHERS CONVENTION NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>6</p>
7	<p>8</p> <p>Prayer Assembly Digital Design Gr 1. Skating Resilient Kids 1:30-2:55 Foundation Meeting 6pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Bulling Presentation</p> <p>Hot Lunch Chicken Noodle Soup</p> <p>Basketball</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Ash Wednesday Liturgy at St. Martins Parish 9am</p> <p>Spirit Day Dress Fancy</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Hot Lunch Meatballs and Mashed Potatoes</p> <p>Basketball</p>	<p>12</p> <p>PD Day No School</p>	13
14	<p>15</p> <p>FAMILY DAY</p>  <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Prayer Assembly French</p> <p>100th Day of School! Hot Lunch Beef Barley Soup Basketball</p>	17	<p>18</p> <p>Hot Lunch Chicken bowl</p> <p>Basketball</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Winter Carnival!</p> <p>Pancake Day School Sponsored</p>	20
21	<p>22</p> <p>Prayer Assembly Rec and Leadership</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Resilient Kids</p> <p>Basketball</p>	24	<p>25</p> <p>Hot Lunch Meatballs with Mashed Potatoes Gr. 5 Skiing at Rabbit Hill</p> <p>Basketball</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Junior University Session #1</p>	27
28	<p>29</p> <p>Prayer Assembly Fine Arts</p> <p>Resilient Kids</p>					



ST. MARTIN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4314 - 54 A Avenue, Vegreville, Alberta T9C 1C8
Phone: (780) 632-2266 Fax: (780) 632-6886



KidSport Vegreville presents: Grey Cup Meet and Greet with Tony Washington

January 25, 2016

Dear Parents, Guardians, and our St. Martin's School Community,

It is with heavy hearts that we share with you the news of the passing of our evening custodian, Mr. Frank Sperberg. Mr. Sperberg passed away on January 23. He is survived by his wife and two sons. This news was shared with students on Monday January 25 in their classrooms following prayer assembly. We are humbly asking our St. Martin's families to pray for Mr. Sperberg and his family during this difficult time. Counselling supports are available to our students, staff and St. Martin's Community. If you have any questions please contact myself at 780-632-2266 at St. Martins School, or by email at josephd@eics.ab.ca.

Prayer of Sorrow

God of all consolation,
in your unending love and mercy for us,
you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life.
Show compassion to your people in sorrow.
Be our refuge and our strength to lift us
From the darkness of this grief,
To peace and joy in your presence.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen

Yours in Christ,

Joseph Dumont
Principal
St. Martin School
4314 - 54 A Avenue
Vegreville, Alberta T9C 1C8
Phone: [780 632 2266](tel:7806322266) Fax: [780 632 6886](tel:7806326886)
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KidSport Vegreville is THRILLED to announce that Offensive Lineman and 103rd Grey Cup Champion **Tony Washington** of the Edmonton Eskimos will be making a special stop in Vegreville at the Vegreville Aquatic & Fitness Centre on **Wednesday, February 3 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.**

Admission: Free with a non-perishable food donation to the Vegreville Food Bank.

Hot chocolate and give-aways provided by Rocky Mountain Equipment Vegreville.

Come out and celebrate with us as we wrap up our 20th anniversary with Tony and the iconic Grey Cup. This special event is our way to say THANK YOU FOR 20 AWESOME YEARS!! Looking forward to seeing you there! Remember to bring your camera!



So ALL Kids Can Play



TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Phone: [780-449-6480](tel:7804496480)

Fax: [780-449-6481](tel:7804496481)

Notes for riding and alternate bus

If you require your child to ride a different bus to or from school, you must send a note to the school one day prior to the day your child needs to ride a different bus. The school staff will sign the note which will then be given to the driver by your child. If a student does not have a note from their parent or guardian which has been signed by the school office, we cannot allow them to ride a different bus. If this is a long-term arrangement, you must contact the Transportation Department to make arrangements. **Note** – Several routes do not have capacity for extra riders. Students taking an alternate bus will be refused with a note signed by the school office.

Bus delays/cancellations

The Transportation Department communicates bus delays and cancellations on the EICS website and via the Synre-Voice call out and email system. Please ensure your phone numbers and emails are correct at the school.



Administrative Procedure 007 - Transportation

WINTER APPAREL REQUIREMENT FOR RIDING SCHOOL BUSES

Background

The Division believes that the safety of students transported on school buses will be enhanced if students are required to wear proper apparel during winter months. (November 1 – March 31)

Procedures:

1. In order to enhance the safety for students transported on school buses during winter months, students shall be required to wear appropriate winter footwear and outerwear and to carry with them suitable winter headwear and gloves/mitts.
2. Parents are responsible to ensure that the students are dressed appropriately for the weather conditions of the day.
3. All students riding on school buses or other Board-approved vehicles during winter months shall be required to wear/have available winter footwear, outerwear, headwear and gloves/mitts.
4. Bus drivers are to use their discretion in determining the suitability of the student's clothing for the weather conditions.
5. If a student presents him/herself at a morning pick-up and is not properly dressed, the bus driver shall pick up the student and, upon arrival at the school, the driver will complete a misconduct report identifying the problem and submit it to the Principal.
6. The Principal shall contact the parent of the student immediately to request that the student be properly dressed in future and to advise that, if the cooperation of the parent and student is not received, school bus transportation may be suspended. Once suspended, bus riding privileges shall only be reinstated if the student adheres to the winter dress procedure.
7. If, after the action noted in Procedure 6 has taken place, a student presents his/herself at a morning pick-up inadequately dressed, the driver is to take the student to school and report, in writing, the situation to the Principal, who will further suspend the student from riding the bus and possibly recommend the student be expelled from riding the bus for a period of time in excess of five (5) school days.

Reference: Section, 25, 45, 51, 52, 60, 61, 113, 117 School Act
Traffic Safety Act
School Bus Operation Regulation
Student Transportation Regulation 250/98 (amended AR 197/2000)

Register your child now for Kindergarten at St. Martin's School
(If they will be 5 years old by March 1, 2017 they qualify.)

Call 780-632-2266 for more details or see us online at

stmartins.eics.ab.ca



Join us at the **Free**

Pre-Kindergarten Fair

Ages 2-4
(4 year olds who are not attending kindergarten in 2016)

Date: February 26, 2016
Time: Drop-In between 2-6
Place: Vegreville Centennial Library Gym

Community partners will provide fun activities that you can do at home with your child
Learn more about how you can help your child learn and grow
Connect with community resources



You will receive a free pre-k bag to take home with books, puzzles, play dough, art supplies and more



Sponsored by The Vegreville & District Child Development Coalition (VDCDC)



Dear Parents,

On Wednesday, February 3, St. Martin's School will be having a NICKEL CARNIVAL! As in the past, money raised from this event will be donated to charity – to help our students continue to realize the importance of service and helping others.

All of the students will have the chance to try their luck at various booths set up by our Grade 4-6 students. There will be many fun games of chance, skill, guessing games, etc. Each game will cost between 5 cents and 25 cents to play. Students will each have a turn (with their grade) to visit the booths set up in the gym. There will also be popcorn (\$1.00/bag) for sale that day.

To eliminate the need for an abundance of candy to be used as prizes, the school is asking for any small, unwanted items that are clean and gently used (toys, jewelry, knick knacks, comics, etc., but **NO STUFFED ANIMALS**) that students will be thrilled to receive as prizes. Please send them to school with your child as soon as possible. Your cooperation in this manner will truly enhance the success of our event. (Also – please note that if any candy IS used for prizes, it will need to be brought in original, sealed packaging so that we are able to read the ingredients and ensure no nuts or traces of nuts). **Please send a large ziplock bag with your child for Friday's Carnival, for them to put their prizes in.**

We look forward to a profitable day and much fun for your child!

Thank you! 😊





SAINT VALENTINE'S STORY

St. Valentine, for whom this holiday is of course named, was an actual historical figure. He was a Roman physician who was also a Christian priest during the days of the early church. This was at a time when Christians saw tremendous persecution and many practiced in secret.

There are actually a couple versions of the Valentine's Day story. One version, has it that Valentine was so loved by the children of the town that they would constantly write him notes speaking of their affection--hence the origin of exchanging valentines.

In the other version of the story, Valentine is working to heal a blind boy and is arrested by Roman soldiers for his work as an "undercover priest". Valentine is shortly thereafter sentenced to die. And yet before he is taken off to be executed, he takes the time to write to the little blind boy a note explaining to him Jesus' love, enclosing a small treat. According to this story, when the boy eats the treat his eyesight is miraculously restored, and he is able to see well enough to read Valentine's note --which is, of course, at the exact same moment that Valentine is executed.

St. Martin of Tours

Saturday February 6, 2016
Mass 4:30pm

Sunday February 7, 2016
Mass 9:15am

Saturday February 13, 2016
Mass 4:30pm

Sunday February 14, 2016
Mass 11:15am

Saturday February 20, 2016
Mass 4:30pm

Sunday February 21, 2016
Mass 9:15am

Saturday February 27, 2016
Mass 4:30pm

Sunday February 28, 2016
Mass 11:15am

St. Martin's Catholic School

4314-54A Ave

Vegreville, AB

T9C 1C8

Phone: 780-632-2266

Fax: 780-632-6886

Visit us at:

stmartins.eics.ab.ca

Electric Skillets Needed

We need 5-7 parent volunteers with electric skillets or flat tops for pancake day on February 19th. If your able to help and or bring skillets please contact the school.



Breakfast Club News

- Thank you Wendy Cannon, Heike Seniuk, Christy Webb, Dee Palichuk, Curtis Palichuk, Tracey Smiley-Adam, Mavin Grinde, Candice van der Torre, Brenda Forbes, Trevor Zacharkiw, Cheryl Zacharkiw, Tracey Krawchuk, Kim Katarenchuk, Marlon Sarafinchan, Brad Mills, Adrienne Mills and Stephanie Brophy for volunteering at the Vegreville Friends of the Breakfast Club casino on January 7 and 8th.
- The Vegreville Elks are helping us to upgrade the kitchen facility by funding the installation a new kitchen range and exhaust fan!
- Thank you Tim Horton's! The Breakfast Club received a cheque for \$4900 from the Smile cookie campaign held in September.

HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Children of Light

Class Dates - Friday at 4:00 PM

February 5 - NO class
12 - NO class
19 - class
26 - class

March 4 - NO class
11 - class
18 - class

25 - NO class
April 1 - NO class (Easter Break)
8 - class
15 - NO class
22 - class
29 - class

First Solemn Holy Communion Classes

Class dates - Sundays from 10:15-11:15 AM; Divine Liturgy (English) follows class at 11:15 AM
February 7 - Class 3
14 - Class 4
21 - Class 5
28 - no class - K of C breakfast

fast
March 6 - Class 6
13 - Class 7
20 - Class 8
27 - no class - Easter Sunday

April 3 - no class - St. Thomas Sunday (Church dinner)
10 - Class 9
17 - Class 10
24 - no class - K of C breakfast
May 1- First Solemn Communion 11:15 English Mass