St. Martin's News February 2017 Principal's Message:



As you may have heard through our e-mail and social media announcements, a dear friend of St. Martin's passed away this week. Nicole Sarafinchin, our hot lunch coordinator or affectionately known by our students as the "Hot Lunch Lady", was involved with our hot lunch program for over 8 years. When I first came to St. Martin's I was always so pleasantly surprised by the wonderful aroma that wafted down the hallways of St. Martin's; hot lunches can't smell that good, can they? That feeling of surprise was quickly replaced with a feeling of comfort. I would think to myself, Mrs. Sarafinchin is in the school and it must be a hot lunch day, the kids are going to be excited. And they were. The students would race for their seconds and it was in getting seconds that Nicole had a chance to really interact with them. She would ask how they were doing or what was new in their lives? The interaction always finished with a smile and it is the smile of Nicole that I will always remember.

St. Martin's lost a true friend this week and as a school community we share our prayers with the Nicole and her entire family. May God bless you in your time of sorrow but also fill your hearts with the memories of your beloved Nicole.

As a final message from me, I just ask that you hug your little ones, whether they are in kindergarten or grade 6. Treasure every moment for we do not know what the next holds.

With many blessings,

Dan Coles Principal St. Martin's Catholic School

> Family Dance February 16, 2017 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Stay Tuned for More Information

Check Out What's Happening at St. Martins

Gr 5/6 Basketball









ECS Puppet Theater







Fine Arts Guest Artist Project







| February 2017 | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| Ŷ | | | 1 Early Dismissal 1:55pm | 2 Happy Goundhag Dayl Hot Lunch Taco Salad | 3 Both ECS Classes Hot Dog Day | 4 |
| 5 | 6 Gr. 5/6 Basketball 3:15-4pm | 7 Hot Lunch Beef Stew | 8 Gr. 5/6 Basketball 3:15-4pm | | 10 Convention chool | 11 |
| 12 | 13 Gr 4 Skiing Sunridge Gr. 5/6 Basketball 3:15-4pm | 14 Gr 5 Skiing Rabbit Hill | 15 Gr 6 Skiing Rabbit Hill | 16 Family Dance 100th Day of School REAL Foundation Presentation to Gr 6 | 17 PD Day No School | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Family Day No School | 21 | 22 Pink Shirt Day Gr. 5/6 Basketball 3:15-4pm | 23 | 24 Both ECS Classes ECS In School Field Trip 'I am Unique' | 25 |
| 26 | 27 Gr. 5/6 Basketball 3:15-4pm | 28 | | | | |

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Please note, Hot Lunch Dates for last two weeks of February are not available yet, when you receive form please make a note for yourself indicating if your child has hot lunch or not.



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.

Holy Trinity Mass Times

St. Martin's of Tours Mass Times

Saturdays 5:00pm(in English)
Sundays 9:00am(in Ukrainian)
11:15am (in English)

10:15am after Ukrainian Mass

12:15pm after English Mass

St. Martins Catholic School

4314-54A Ave Vegreville, AB T9C 1C8 Phone: 780-632-2266 Fax: 780-632-6886 Email: josephd@eics.ab.ca Visit us at: stmartins.eics.ab.ca ◊ Feb. 5– 9:00am
◊ Feb. 12– 11:15am
◊ Feb. 19– 9:00am
◊ Feb. 26– 11:15am
Saturday Mass at 4:30pm
Wednesday Mass at 9:00am

Vegreville Youth group is open for any youth grades 6-12.

> Direct any questions to Caron Berube at caronberube@hotmail.com.