



St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School



October, 2008

School Information

- Principal
Mr. Dave Dempsey
- Assistant Principal
Mrs. Cathy Schiiller
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[www.ecsrd.ca/
st.joseph/
default.htm](http://www.ecsrd.ca/st.joseph/default.htm)

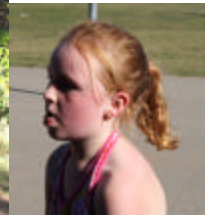


Terry Fox Run

In 1980, Terry Fox set out on his run across Canada to raise awareness and money towards cancer research. Running with one artificial leg, he persevered until his health no longer permitted him to continue. His courage continues to be celebrated across Canada with annual Terry Fox Runs. To kick off our Terry Fox campaign this year an assembly was held on Wednesday, Sept 17. As a celebration of Terry's dream, on Tuesday, Sept. 30, students ran a course through the forested area behind the school for a total run of 1.5 km. The participation was fantastic, with everyone in motion, running and/or walking, on that beautiful day. On Oct. 8 at

2:25 pm the students will gather in the gym to discover the final count for this year's Terry Fox campaign.

We are hoping to raise a whopping \$5,000 to help in the battle to defeat cancer forever. If we meet this goal then Friday, October 10 will be declared "Dagon's Farm Day." All students and staff are encouraged to dress up as farmers in support of our friend Dagon. A special thanks to all those who have already donated both their time and their money for such a great cause. If you would still like to contribute, please send in your pledge forms.



Important Dates

- Oct. 8 Terry Fox Wind up in the gym- 2:25pm
- Oct. 10 Thanksgiving Celebration - 9:30 am
- Oct. 13 Thanksgiving Day (No school)
- Oct. 15 Stone Soup Lunch
- Oct. 20 School Council Meeting - 6:30 pm

- Oct. 23 Evergreen CSRD Cross Country Run - 4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 30 Halloween Carnival/Party
- Oct. 31 Professional Development Day - No School

Evergreen CSRD

Cross Country Run

St. Joseph School is proud to host the eighth annual **Evergreen CSRD Cross Country Run**. It is a run designed for all Grade 3 to 6 students attending schools in the Evergreen district. This run is a 1.5 - 2.5 km run through the wooded area behind St. Joseph School. All students have the opportunity to compete by simply showing up to practice at scheduled recess times and attending the day of the race.



The race is to be held on Thursday, October 23 from 4:00 p.m. until approximately 5:30. We ask that all students who participate in the event bring a twoonie to help offset the cost of the event. There will be snacks, drinks as well as a participation ribbon available for the students. Additional ribbons will be awarded to the eight fastest students in each grade level.

Volunteers will be asked to set up along the course and help direct the runners, check people in, or hand out ribbons.

Counselling News

The 2008-2009 school year is off to an exciting start. We are very fortunate to have many Grade 4 students who are willing to help make St. Joseph School a safer place for all students.

Safety Patrol has started. A total of 45 students have been trained to help students safely cross Weston Drive. We thank all these students for their help and their parents for driving and allowing them to provide this important service.

Many Grade 4 students are currently being trained as members of the C-Team. Soon these students will be out on the playground at recesses helping students solve problems. The Grade 4 students are being trained in listening and in mediation skills. Students can approach them for help in solving problems. C-Team members are another way to ensure that recesses are a time for fun and free play.

The RAINBOWS program will be starting soon. The RAINBOWS program helps children to heal a loss (death, divorce, separation, and abandonment) by encouraging participants to share their feelings with caring facilitators and other children who have suffered similar experiences. Thanks to all the facilitators who are volunteering their time to help support the RAINBOWS program. This

program works because of you.

Several counselling programs are available to assist children at St. Joseph School. This year we will be offering programs that address social/friendship skills, organizational skills, managing anger, and anxiety. Students will meet with the counselor once a week for 40 minutes. If your child prefers to meet with the counselor on an individual basis, this can also be accommodated. If you are interested in any of these programs, please phone Mrs. Guimond at the school.

Our school is proud to sponsor the Alberta Parenting for the Future Association six week presentation—Raising Amazing Kids on Wednesday Oct. 22 & 29 and on Nov 5, 12, 19 and 26 from 6:30 –8:30 pm. Child care will be provided. There is no charge for this course or the child care, though pre-registration is required. Please phone Mrs. G. Guimond at the school for more information.

Mrs. G. Guimond

School Council News

Hello Everyone! Welcome to a brand new school year. We held our annual general meeting and elections for this year's School Council on Sept. 15 and we were happy to welcome some new faces on council this year.

Chairperson:	Micia Kawulka
Vice Chair:	Sherry Ratsoy
Secretary:	Joe Macdonald
Communications Off.	Charyl Donnan
Member-at-large:	Jeri Wilson & Toshi Tanaka-Isaac
Teacher Rep:	Gwen Guimond

Our Board of Trustees Liaison is yet to be decided.

We will keep you up to date on what we are working on through letters home, email and newsletter items. Please contact us if there is any issue that you think School Council could help with. Our meetings usually run on Monday nights from 6:30—8:00 pm in the staff room. We look forward to seeing you there.

Holy Childhood Association



St. Joseph will be raising money for the Holy Childhood Association throughout the year. The Holy Childhood Association has the motto 'Children helping children'; it provides elementary school children with opportunities to raise funds specifically for children in developing nations and to be involved in year-round missionary education. Look for more information about fundraising in future letters home to parents.

St. Joseph Parking Lot

We do have limited space in our parking lot for parking and pickup of students, especially at the end of the day. Please observe the following guidelines while entering the parking lot.

??Do not stop against any curb painted yellow, other than to pick up a waiting student.

??Do not double park around the circle

??Park only in the visitor parking stalls or along the inside circle.



??Please be visible to the student(s) to be picked up. We prefer all students cross to a car safely with an adult.

??Any pedestrian traffic to visitor parking should travel west along the front sidewalk and across the painted crosswalk.

??Pedestrians should travel around the parking circle to cross to neighbourhoods.

??Do not park in the bus lanes.

??Students waiting to be picked up must wait in the front foyer.

RCMP and Bylaw Enforcement officers will be asked to enforce these regulations.

Bible Presentation "Receive the Good News"

Grade 4 students from St. Joseph and John Paul II school celebrated the holy Eucharist and received their bibles, that were blessed at Holy Trinity Church on Thursday, Oct. 2. Special thanks to Father Paul for his inspirational words and to all the children who showed such respect for receiving God's holy word. The event, sponsored by the Spruce Grove Knights of Columbus, supplies the grade fours with their own bible to aid in their spiritual formation. Thanks to all those parents who came out to support their children.



Thanksgiving Celebration

St. Joseph School will be celebrating Thanksgiving on October 10th at 9:30 am in the gym. In order for the students to share in the abundance we have in our cupboards, we ask each child to bring a dry food product for the Parkland Food Bank any day this week. We hope to see you there!



Grade 3 Provincial

Achievement Test Results, 2007/2008

The Provincial Achievement Test results are in for our Grade 3 students from last year. We are very pleased with the results. A full report will be made by administration to School Council on October 20th. We have just received the individual profile reports and they will be sent home in the near future. Below are the summary figures for our school. We are very proud of these results.

<u>Language A</u>	<u>St. Joseph</u>	<u>Provincial Average</u>
Acceptable Standard	96.2%	89.1%
Excellence	28.8%	26.7%

Mathematics

Acceptable Standard	90.4%	87.1%
Excellence	27.4%	25.9%

St. Joseph School had 100% of its students participate and write the P.A.T.'s for 2007 /2008. The provincial average was 89.8%.

Boston Pizza Receipts

Boston Pizza has always been a huge supporter of the Catholic schools in Spruce Grove. If you and your family are eating at the restaurant and you ask them to stamp the receipt with their Operation Education stamp and then you submit the receipt to our office, Boston Pizza will donate 5% of the total receipt to the school.



This little donation goes a long way in supporting some of our extra and co-curricular events.

Parenting Programs

Alberta Parenting for the Future is offering a variety of programs throughout the fall in the Tri-Municipal area. All programs are free of charge. Here are just some of the courses that can be accessed through the APFA.

1 2 3 Magic
Raising Your Strong Willed Child
Toolkits for Dads
Kids Have Stress Too
Discipline: Who's In Charge
Making Connections
Tick Tock Time



For more information on these and many more programs offered by APFA, please call 963-0549 or go the website at <http://www.apfa.ca/>

McDonald's Fundraiser - Just a reminder to keep your receipts from McDonald's Restaurants and bring them into the school office. McDonald's donates a percentage of the total receipt back to the school.



**Halloween Activity Day—
Spooktacular Coin Carnival**



Welcome back to our Spooktacular Coin Carnival! Along with all the usual scary little ghosts, goblins, and witches haunting our hallways there will be a lot of commotion in the gymnasium. Students will be able to visit the **Spooktacular Coin Carnival** in the gym and then take part in a variety of activities sure to get their hearts pumping. Homeroom classrooms will be responsible to set up a games/carnival type station in the gym that will be run by parent volunteers. Then, 3 to 4 classes at a time will visit the gym and for 30 minutes students will go to the stations of their choosing. In the middle of the gym will be our giant cauldron where students deposit their silver coins (no pennies please) to participate in our activities. All the money that is raised will go towards Save-A-Family for our Family in India.

After lunch, at 12:20 pm, all students will be called to the gym and the ever popular costume parade will begin. Each class will take a turn to walk around the cauldron in the middle of the gym and show off their costumes to the others. The cauldron will then be filled with the coins gathered at each station in the morning. Following the costume parade the Spooktacular Coin Carnival will continue throughout the afternoon.



If you are able to help out with the coin carnival, please contact your child's homeroom teacher and let them know. If you have any questions and concerns, please contact the office.



Stewardship Corner

Students at St. Joseph's have been learning about the importance of water and how much of it we use. Ponder these facts.

The average Canadian uses 326 litres per day.
A person can survive about a month without food, but only 5 to 7 days without water
Fresh water animals are becoming extinct 5 times faster than land animals
Most of the world's population must walk at least 3 hours to collect water

A 5 minute shower will use 100 litres of water
Once evaporated, a water molecule spends about 10 days in the air



Next month, be prepared for the water challenge.
St. Joseph's School Cares for God's Creation. Let's make the world a better place together!

Prayer to St. Joseph

Blessed Joseph, husband of Mary, be with us this day. You protected and cherished the Virgin; loving the Child Jesus as your Son, you rescued Him from the danger of death. Defend the Church, the household of God, purchased by the blood of Christ.



Guardian of the Holy Family, be with us in our trials. May your prayers obtain for us the strength to flee from error and wrestle with the powers of corruption so that in life we may grow in holiness and in death rejoice in the crown of victory.

Monday Morning School Prayer

We are God's creation, kind and good.
Working together as we should.
To encourage a world filled with peace and love.
Inspired by our Father, God above.
Helping all creatures, large and small.
Working hand-in-hand for the good of all!



October 2008

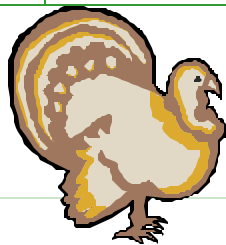


"Care For God's Creation"

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Terry Fox Wind up 2:25 pm	9	10  Thanksgiving Celebration	11
12	13 Thanksgiving Day 	14	15 Stone Soup Lunch	16	17	18
19	20 School Coun- cil 6:30 pm	21	22	23  Evergreen X- Country Run	24	25
26	27	28	29	30  Halloween Carnival	31 PD Day No School	

September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



**Come join us for our
Thanksgiving
Celebration!
October 10 at 9:30 am**

November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						