



Principal's Post

“For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

This time of year lends itself to feasting, celebration, well wishes and wonderful memory making moments. This is fitting, because we are reminded in Hebrews 13:5 that the Lord—who is described above—would **never** leave us or forsake us. What a privilege to celebrate the birth of Christ while he, himself is in our presence! We trust your Christmas time is truly blessed this year.

Over the last few months, the elementary school has undertaken a house competition. Recently the Hornets won the Art competition and all students are currently awaiting the results of Mr. Reimer's writing challenge. Currently the Badgers are in first place, closely followed by the Grizzlies!

Our students in both high school and elementary have been busy preparing a virtual Christmas program. A link to this presentation will be emailed out prior to December 18th. We are thankful to Mrs. Nickel, Mrs. McKenzie and Mrs. Ens for all their hard work.

Sadly, at the end of this month we will be saying goodbye to Mrs. Thiessen in grade three who will be spending more time with family. We have so appreciated her input into the lives of our students here at school. We wish her and her family God's very best.

Finally, we wish each one of you a safe and very merry Christmas!

David Cameron

Dates to Remember:

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| December 10 & 11 | Grad Photos |
| December 18 | Last day of school before Christmas Break |
| December 21-Jan 1 | Christmas Break |
| January 4 | First Day of Classes |
| January 27 & 28 | Quarter 2 Final Exams |
| January 29 | Semester Turn Around Day (No Students) |

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to all who brought Christmas shoeboxes to the school this year—we collected 60!



Around the School....

This week the grade 7s started talking about composting. They all got the opportunity to learn about vermicomposting and how it works. Some even got a little dirty.



Final Thoughts.....

The other day I was reading a blog and the woman writing it was saying how this year was so different from other Christmases. She said that due to the restrictions, they weren't able to have their family over and how she kept thinking "no one is coming for Christmas". Then she heard Jesus' voice saying "I'm still coming"! It was such a great reminder that even though our Christmas this year may look different than others we've had, Jesus is still going to be there. If you think about the birth of Jesus so many Christmases ago, Mary and Joseph didn't have family around them either—yet it didn't stop Jesus from coming.

It's my prayer that this season, you will feel the presence of Jesus in your celebrations, no matter how many people are around us—he is there. May we look around us at how He may be calling us to show his love to those who need it. Maybe it's a phone call to someone who doesn't have any family left, maybe it's a text to someone who always finds this time of year hard for whatever reason. Maybe it's spending time on our knees in prayer for those who are struggling with their faith, their health/mental health, their family or life in general. Maybe it's putting together a hamper for a family that is finding it hard to put food on the table, let alone buy presents for their kids. I pray God will open our eyes to see people through His eyes, open our hearts to be obedient to whatever / wherever He is calling us to do or be. May we use this time to be a light in the world, to make a difference.

¹⁰ Be devoted to one another with [authentic] brotherly affection [as members of one family], give preference to one another in honor; ¹¹ never lagging behind in diligence; aglow in the Spirit, enthusiastically serving the Lord; ¹² constantly rejoicing in hope [because of our confidence in Christ], steadfast and patient in distress, devoted to prayer [continually seeking wisdom, guidance, and strength], ¹³ contributing to the needs of God's people, pursuing [the practice of] hospitality.

Romans 12:1–13

Information for Parents:

COVID-19 Notification and Illness in School

Students should never go to school if they are sick or if anyone living in the home has tested positive for COVID-19. Everyone in the home must self-isolate for 14 days from the date of last exposure if anyone tests positive.

Parents will be advised if a COVID-19 related risk is identified to the health and safety of students, staff or the local school community. Timely updates will be provided to parents and teachers about any new developments.

If a student, teacher or staff member displays COVID-19 symptoms while at school:

- They will be asked to wear a non-medical mask and self-isolate in a separate room until they are able to go home. A parent/guardian will be notified that their child is ill.
- A COVID-19 test is recommended. Call HealthLine 811 or your family doctor to arrange testing. If you are located in Regina or Saskatoon, consider visiting a drive-through testing site, where no appointment is required.
- Public health will provide further guidance about when it's possible to return to school.
- All school areas used by the individual will be identified and immediately cleaned and disinfected.
- **If a positive test result is received by a student or teacher:**
- If a child, teacher or staff members tests positive for COVID-19, public health will provide assistance and begin the contact tracing process immediately. This process is followed in all identified COVID-19 positive cases and provides guidance on monitoring and isolation to all close contacts. Anyone living in the same home would be considered a close contact. The investigation will identify anyone else who may have been a close contact.

- Teachers, staff and parents/caregivers of students who are considered to be close contacts of a person with COVID-19 will be contacted directly by public health via the contact tracing process.
- All teachers, staff and parents/caregivers of students in the same classroom (cohort) of a person with COVID-19 will be contacted directly by public health and by their school via email. This notification will occur separate from the contact tracing process.
- Those teachers, staff and parents/caregivers of students in the same cohort who are considered to be non-close contacts will be advised to self-monitor for symptoms and be offered priority testing options.
- Public Health will then advise on further actions that may be required, and it is important to note this could vary based on the circumstances of the positively identified case. A positive case in the cohort (classroom) may not present a high risk to the entire cohort.
- Further steps could include requirements for the cohort (classroom) to self-isolate at home and public health will advise in each situation.
- Those teachers, staff and parents/caregivers of students in the school population, outside of the same cohort, can also seek public health advice regarding self-monitoring for symptoms, transmission risk and access to priority testing options at any time.

Information for Parents and Schools:

Thresholds for Changes to In-Classroom Learning

The following case definitions will be used by Saskatchewan public health officials when assessing COVID-19 cases in school settings starting in the fall of 2020. It is a cautious approach as we enter a school year during a pandemic – circumstances that are new to every jurisdiction. This approach will be assessed throughout the school year based on transmission trends and risk, and health system and education system capacity. Public health surveillance will guide this policy to ensure that Saskatchewan balances the need for school-setting based education while mitigating COVID-19 transmission for students, their families, teachers and staff as real time information becomes available.

Single Positive COVID-19 Result

- If a student or teacher receives a positive COVID-19 test result, public health immediately begins their contact investigation. Notification processes will proceed as outlined in "Information for Parents: COVID-19 Notification and Illness in School."

Outbreak Declaration

- If two individuals within a school test positive for COVID-19, an outbreak is declared for that school.
- The declaration of an outbreak does not automatically result in school closure. Like outbreaks in acute care, long-term care, or business settings, an outbreak declaration may be triggered by a low number of cases but is used by public health to mobilize and coordinate a response to the infection.
- With the declaration of an outbreak, all parents of that school will receive notification and the declaration will be posted to Saskatchewan.ca.

Threshold for Changes to In-Classroom Delivery

- If the contact investigation determines there have been close contacts in the classroom setting, parents of children in that classroom will be notified.
- If there is a second positive case confirmed in that classroom, the class will receive alternate instruction (non-classroom) arrangements for 14 days and public health will guide the school on specific actions to ensure the classroom setting is safe for return.

Threshold for Changes to School-Wide Delivery

- Schools or a section of schools will receive alternate instruction (non-classroom) arrangements when:
 - There are two or more positive COVID-19 cases in more than one classroom, and there are regularly shared common areas and amenities (entrances, washrooms, buses); and
 - Public health cannot establish transmission links between those cases through the contact tracing investigation.
 - In some instances, the above may only be applicable to a “wing” of a school where cohorts of classes are sharing common facilities. If this characterizes an entire school, the school will be moved to alternative learning opportunities.
- Local medical health officers will also take specific school settings into consideration when designating a school to this type of approach, including: class/school layout and operations, vulnerable populations in that school or community, transmission risk in the community, etc.
- Public health may also designate a school to this type of approach when there is high risk in the community based on community transmission
- Public health will guide the school on the specific actions to ensure the classroom setting is safe for return (cleaning, amended classroom layout).