



5302 48th Street Taber, Alberta T1G 1H3

Phone: (403) 223-3352 • Fax: (403) 223-3855 • spt.holyspirit.ab.ca

Michelle Nevil, Principal • Mary Tilleman, Associate Principal

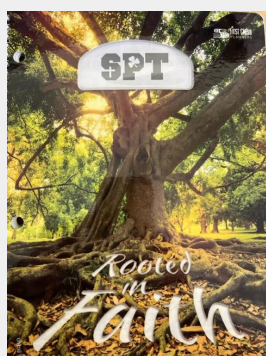
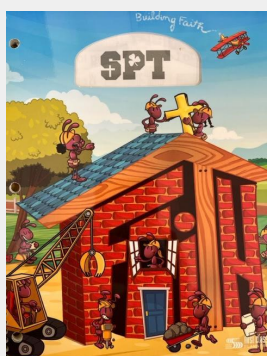
September 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4 Labour Day – No School	5 - First Day of School (Grade 1-5) - ECS Orientation	6 - Pre-K Open House (8:30-3:00 PM) - ECS Orientation	7 ECS Orientation	8	9
10	11 1st Day of ECS 1st Day of Pre-K	12	13	14 - Opening Mass at SPT @ 11:15 AM - School Council AGM @ 3:45 PM	15	16
17	18	19	20 Terry Fox Run (1:30 PM)	21 - Busses Not Operating - Back to School BBQ (5-7PM)	22 School PD – No School	23
24	25	26	27 CEC Board Mtgs @ 6PM	28 - Orange Shirt Day 9AM Prayer Service	29 - Truth & Reconciliation Prayer Service @ 8:45 AM - Orange Shirt Day	30 Truth & Reconciliation Day

Our Motto is **Learning to Love and Loving to Learn**



We are Hospitable at SPT. Refer to pg. 8 in your agendas and you will see some cool challenges for welcoming others.



Don't forget the school agendas, it's an important source of communication.

ROCK TIME

Rock Time is our weekly assembly that happens the first day back from the weekend at 8:45 AM in our gym. You are welcome to join us.

At our first Rock Time we reflected on the scripture of Faith Plan: What should be done then, my friends? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

(1 Corinthians 14:26)



Mark your Calendars

- Sept. 14 @ 11:15 AM - Welcome Back Mass in our Gathering Space 
- Sept. 14 @ 3:45 PM School Council AGM 
- Sept. 20 @ 1:45 Terry Fox Run 
- Sept. 21 @ 5-7 PM - Welcome Back BBQ 
- Sept. 29 - Orange Shirt Day 

 = Please come and join us.



At SPT we are.....

- In our second year of our Faith Plan called Build!! Pilgrims of Hope; God is in our Minds.
- A Kelso School where we learn about Kelso Character and Kelso Choices
- A Green School where we promote ways to take care of our Mother Earth. We have solar panels that generate power for us to track.
- A Multiage School where relationships are very important; Kind is Cool at St. Pat's School

All families are welcome to our Welcome Back Family BBQ and Opening Mass.

School Council News:

Our School Council Annual General Meeting will be held on
Thursday, September 14th @ 3:45 PM.

Our school council is an advisory committee that works closely with school administration. They plan fundraising events, coordinate volunteers and advocate for all SPT students and staff. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings to find out what's happening in our school community.

Save the Date

WELCOME BACK BBQ

September 21st – 5:00 PM

At St. Patrick School

- All SPT Families are welcome to join us for our Welcome Back BBQ on Thursday, September 21st @ 5 PM. There will be food (Burgers, chips, and cold treats) and door prizes.
- This is a great time to meet our SPT staff and fellow SPT parents, as well as see your child's classroom.

Lifetouch.

PICTURE DAY IS COMING!

Thursday, October 5th, 2023

St. Patrick School



What to Expect:



Students are
photographed on
Picture Day



Pictures are
sent home with
your child



Review pictures
& purchase on
mylifetouch.ca



2022-2023

Yearbook Update

Thank you to all of you who purchased a yearbook last year. The yearbooks will be sent home with the students during the week of September 18-22. Thank you for your patience!

Important Reminders:

Late or Absent Students – Please call our school office by 9:00 AM if your child will be late or absent from school! Our phone number is 403-223-3352.

Agenda Notes – The agenda is an important communication tool between home and the school. If there are any changes in your child's schedule, a change in bus/kidzone schedule, or a change in who is picking up your child, please make note in your child's agenda. If the change occurs during the day, give our school office a call and we will pass on the message to the classroom.

Picking up Students During School Hours – Parents, if you are picking up your child during school hours, please check-in at our office to sign out your child. While signing out, the office will contact your child's homeroom teacher to have your child sent down to the office. Thank you in advance for your cooperation by helping us to continue to create a safe and supportive learning environment for all of our students.

Medical Notes/ Medication – If your child needs to take medication at school, please see Mrs. Mankow in the office to fill out the required paperwork. Additionally, please keep us updated on any allergies or medical changes the school should be aware of.

Microwave Use at Nutrition Times – We have two 15-minute Nutrition Breaks for our students to eat and the entire school eats at the same time. Due to the limited time please send your child with lunches that do not require a microwave. This will ensure that all students will have ample time to eat their lunch. More time will be provided in class for those students who need to eat more.

Milk and Juice Program – Starting Friday, September 15th, 2022

We are excited to be offering our chocolate milk and juice program again this year. The program will be run by our Grade 5 students with the help of Mrs. Gross and Mrs. Wickson. Chocolate milk and juice will be available for purchase during the 1st Nutrition Break. Milk cards can be purchased at the office or on SchoolCashOnline. **If you pay for a card online, please have your child come to the school office to request the card. Thank you.**

We have two types of cards available:

- 1) \$10 punch card valid for 10 individual milk/juice purchases
- 2) \$20 punch card valid for 20 individual milk/juice purchases.

If you don't want to purchase a punch card, students are also able to purchase milk or juice individually. Each drink is \$1.00

*****Proceeds from the milk program supplement our breakfast program and Grade 5 Farewell. *****



Stay Connected:

Check out our school website: spt.holyspirit.ab.ca

School Calendar: spt.holyspirit.ab.ca/school/calendars

Follow us on Social Media:



[St. Patrick School - Taber](https://www.facebook.com/St.PatrickSchool-Taber)



[@spttaber](https://www.instagram.com/spttaber)



[@SPTtaber](https://twitter.com/SPTtaber)

Board Briefs:

Each month, the School Division Trustees publish a summary of their meetings:

https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/board_administration/board_of_trustees/board_meetings

2023-2024 SPT Staff

Principal	Mrs. Nevil	Counsellor	Mr. Dylan
Associate Principal	Mrs. Tilleman	Librarian	Mrs. Ulrick
Admin Assistant	Mrs. Mankow	Head Caretaker	Mr. Gillespie
Admin Support	Miss Rosella	Education Assistant	Mrs. Appleton
Pre-K Leader	Mrs. Utke	Education Assistant	Mrs. Baier
Kindergarten	Ms. Sergo	Education Assistant	Mrs. Campbell
Grade 1F	Mrs. French	Education Assistant	Mrs. Hart
Grade 1V	Mrs. Visscher	Education Assistant	Mrs. Kerner
Grade 2/3D	Mr. De Coste	Education Assistant	Ms. Langhofer
Grade 2/3G	Mrs. Gutfriend	Education Assistant	Mrs. Kuryvial
Grade 2/3K	Mrs. Krishnan	Education Assistant	Mrs. Maruyama
Grade 4/5G	Ms. Gross	Education Assistant	Mrs. Stock
Grade 4/5W	Mrs. Wickson		
Grade 4/5P	Miss Paul		

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

2023 - 2024 Bell Times

Monday - Thursday	
Outdoor Supervision	8:20 AM
Entrance Bell	8:26 AM
Class Begins	8:28 AM
1st Nutrition Break	10:30 – 10:45 AM
Morning Recess	10:45 – 11:00 AM
2nd Nutrition Break	1:00 - 1:15 PM
Afternoon Recess	1:15 - 1:30 PM
Bus Students Dismissed	3:10 PM
Town Students Dismissed	3:15 PM

Friday	
Outdoor Supervision	8:20 AM
Entrance Bell	8:26 AM
Class Begins	8:28 AM
Nutrition Break	10:00 – 10:15 AM
Recess	10:15 – 10:30 AM
Students Dismissed	12:00 PM

St Patrick School
Breakfast Program
will begin on
September 11, 2023

NUT FREE ZONE



This includes
any foods with
peanuts or
tree nuts.

THANK YOU FOR
HELPING US KEEP
EVERYONE SAFE!

SPT



SPT

**TERRY FOX
RUN**

**SEPTEMBER 20TH
JOIN US IN THE GYM
FOR OUR KICK OFF
ASSEMBLY @ 1:45 PM**



ST. PATRICK SCHOOL IS TAKING THE TERRY FOX CHALLENGE!

AS PART OF OUR TERRY FOX SCHOOL RUN,
THIS YEAR OUR GOAL IS TO RAISE \$1000!

PLEASE HELP US REACH OUR GOAL BY DONATING AT:

[HTTPS://SCHOOLS.TERRYFOX.CA/STPATRICKSSCHOOLTABER](https://schools.terryfox.ca/stpatricksschooltaber)

THANK YOU FOR JOINING OUR SCHOOL IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER.
#TERRYFOXCHALLENGE #TERRYFOXLIVESHERE @THETERRYFOXFOUNDATION

Hello SPT Community,
My name is Nicole Smith, and I am
thrilled to have the opportunity to run
the Breakfast Program again. This will
be my 6th year at St Patrick School.
The program will start on September
11th, and your child(ren) will be
welcome to come for breakfast each
day from 8:10am until the start of the
school day. If you have any questions
about our program, please contact the
SPT office and I'll be in touch.



SEPTEMBER 2023

Breakfast Program Menu

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
♥	♥11 Granola Bar + Apple sauce	♥12 Cereal milk Fruit	♥13 Toast Cheese Veggies	♥14 Yogurt w/ Fruit + granola	♥15 Crackers Cheese Veggies	♥
♥	♥18 Granola Bar Fruit	♥19 Cereal milk Fruit	♥20 Cookie Vegetable Yogurt	♥21 Yogurt Fruit Granola	♥22 PD Day No School	♥
♥	♥25 Crackers Cheese Fruit	♥26 Cereal milk Fruit	♥27 Egg Wraps + Vegetable	♥28 Toast with Jam + Veggies	♥29 Smoothie Day!	♥
♥ OCTOBER ↓	♥2 Granola Bar Fruit	♥3 Cereal milk Fruit	♥4 Baked apple + oat granola crisp Vegetable	♥5 Toast w/ Jam + Veggies	♥6 Crackers Cheese Fruit	♥
♥	♥9 Thanksgiving Day No School	♥10 Cereal milk Fruit	♥11 Cookie Vegetable	♥12 Yogurt Parfaits	♥13 Smoothie Day!	♥
♥	♥	Notes: We are NUT FREE at SPT!				

HOLY SPIRIT SMT & SPT 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Aug 30 First day for staff
Aug 30 Opening Mass

O – 2
I – 0

AUGUST '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		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	31		

SEPTEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					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

Sept 4 Labour Day
Sept 5 First day for students
Sept 21 No busses
Sept 22 School PD Day
Sept 27 Div. Board Meeting
Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

O – 20 (22)
I – 18

Oct 9 Thanksgiving Day
Oct 20 No busses
Oct 23 Div. PD Day
Oct 25 Div. Board Meeting

O – 21 (43)
I – 20 (38)

OCTOBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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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		

Nov 10 Day in lieu of Nov 11
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 13 Non-operational day
Nov 20 No busses
Nov 22 Div. Board Meeting

O – 20 (63)
I – 20 (58)

Dec 20 Div. Board Meeting
Dec 21 Last day before break
Dec 22 School PD Day
Dec 23-31 Christmas break
Dec 25 Christmas Day
Dec 26 Boxing Day

O – 16 (79)
I – 15 (71)

DECEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					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
31						

JANUARY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	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	31			

Jan 1 New Year's Day
Jan 2-7 Christmas break
Jan 8 First day after break
Jan 24 Div. Board Meeting

O – 18 (97)
I – 18 (91)

Feb 1 Semester 2 begins
Feb 16 School PD Day
Feb 19 Family Day
Feb 20 Day in lieu of Sept 30 for support staff
Feb 20 & 21 Unassigned time for teachers
Feb 22 & 23 SWATCA
Feb 28 Div. Board Meeting

O – 20 (117)
I – 15 (106)

FEBRUARY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				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		

MARCH '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Mar 8 School PD Day
Mar 11 Div. Collab. Day
Mar 27 Div. Board Meeting
Mar 28 Last day before Easter break
Mar 29 Good Friday
Mar 31 Easter Sunday

O – 20 (137)
I – 18 (124)

Apr 1-7 Easter break
Apr 8 First day after break
Apr 24 Div. Board Meeting

O – 17 (154)
I – 17 (141)

APRIL '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			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	31	

May 17 School PD Day
May 20 Victoria Day
May 22 Div. Board Meeting
May 27 Spiritual Dev. Day

O – 22 (176)
I – 20 (161)

Jun 26 Div. Board Meeting
Jun 27 Last day students
Jun 28 Last day for teachers

O – 20 (196)
I – 19 (180)

JUNE '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						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						

JULY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	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	31			

No students
Stat Holidays
School PD/Div. PD/Spiritual Dev./Collab. Days
Div. Board Meetings
First and last days for students
First and last days for teachers



NOTICE TO PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF RELIGIOUS PERMEATION

Section 58.1 of the *Education Act* requires a school board to give notice to a parent or guardian when courses of study, education programs, institutional materials, instruction or exercises include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion. All of the schools in this division are Catholic Separate Schools, the essential purpose of which is to fully permeate Catholic theology, philosophy, practices and beliefs, the principles of the Gospel and teachings of the Catholic Church, in all aspects of school life, including in the curriculum of every subject taught, both in and outside of formal religion classes, celebrations and exercises. Every course of study and educational program, all institutional materials, instruction and exercises will at all times include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion.



FAIR NOTICE LETTER

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals use progressive discipline to help a student take responsibility for their actions, change their behavior and learn from their mistakes.

When students' behaviors pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm, the Southwest Alberta Regional Violence Risk Threat Assessment Protocol (VTRA) helps principals take further steps to protect the well-being of students and staff. The protocol helps schools respond quickly to threatening incidents such as: possession of a weapon or a replica weapon, bomb threats or plans, verbal, written or electronic (internet, text) threats to kill or injure oneself or others or other threats of violence, fire setting.

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening behavior. Principals may first bring together a School Threat Assessment Team, which ideally includes the principal / associate principal, a school based counsellor / jurisdictional lead and police of jurisdiction. If the situation is serious the principal may also consult the Superintendent of Schools and call in members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This community team may include representatives of community agencies who work with us to keep our schools safer such as, but not limited to, local police, children's mental health organizations or Child and Family Services. Parents / guardians will be notified as soon as possible in the Stage I - VTRA Process. If parents / guardians cannot be reached, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behavior, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

This letter complies with procedure 2 of *Administrative Procedure 322: Violence Threat / Risk Assessment (V-TRA) Protocol*, which states that parents / guardians will be provided with "fair notice" that each threat will be taken seriously. Should you wish to further review this Administrative Procedure, please visit our website at www.holyspirit.ab.ca.

If you have any questions regarding the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's use of the Southwest Alberta Regional V-TRA Protocol, please contact the Director of Support Services at the St. Basil Catholic Education Centre. We appreciate your support in ensuring our schools are safe environments for our students, staff and community partners.

Sincerely,
Ken Sampson, Superintendent of Schools



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary - Bow*

Dear Parents,

Another school year has started and as Alberta's new Minister of Education, I want to introduce myself and give you a quick update about some of the things your government has been doing to ensure our students are set up for success.

A top priority for my parents was getting me a high-quality education, since I'm a second generation Calgarian. Having immigrated to Calgary in the 1970s their educational opportunities were limited, and they firmly believed that a strong education is the path to greater success and prosperity. I took their advice to heart and went on to earn my PhD in political science and conflict resolution. I'm passionate about education and will work hard to set our students up for success.

As the 2023/24 school year gets underway there are several important highlights I want to share with you.

I firmly believe that the upcoming school year will give students the tools and resources they need to succeed.

Here are some of the things that we are working on:

1) We are injecting new funding to start the school year off on the right foot.

For the current school year, Alberta's government has increased funding to many of our school divisions to make sure they have the financial resources they need to give our kids a world-class education. Funding has increased by seven per cent from last year increasing the total amount of taxpayer dollars going directly to our school divisions to \$7.4 billion. In addition, a new Classroom Complexity Grant will be implemented which provides \$126 million over three years in new funding to help school authorities hire more educational assistants to help our teachers manage classrooms that are increasingly more complex with more students with diverse learning needs. As well, our hardworking teachers will also receive a two per cent salary increase this September as part of a deal reached with teachers last year and finally, we are providing \$414 million in new funding, a 32 per cent increase, to help bus another 80,000 students to school.

2) We are hiring more teachers and staff in our classrooms.

As students head back to class, they may start to see new friendly faces in their school. Budget 2023 provided funding to hire up to 3,000 new educational staff over three years, including teachers, educational assistants, bus drivers and other school support staff such as speech language pathologists and psychologists. Ensuring students have the supports they need to succeed in and out of the classroom is a top priority of mine.

3) We are focused on improving student mental health.

Alberta's government is supporting almost 80 mental health pilot projects across the province, with an investment of \$50 million. These projects will encourage student well-being through new and innovative approaches to providing supports and services like counselling, social and emotional learning, student assessment and training for school staff. For more information, please click [here](#).

4) We will continue to lead the country in early literacy and numeracy assessments.

As a father of two, I want to know how my girls are progressing in their academic journey and I know many of you want the same. In September of 2022, Alberta's government implemented new mandatory literacy and numeracy screening assessments for all students in Grades 1 – 3. These assessments will help identify students who are struggling with literacy and numeracy skill development and inform teacher intervention lesson plans and techniques to improve student skills. Based on school reporting, these interventions are working. I am very proud of the work that is being done here. Please know Alberta is leading the country with this type of early assessment and screening and will continue to foster new and improved ways to improve the education system. For more information, please click [here](#).

In closing, I want to thank and acknowledge all our hardworking teachers, educational assistants, principals, and other school support staff. The work that you do is deeply acknowledged and appreciated by Alberta's government and I want to express my personal appreciation for your work. I look forward to serving as our province's Minister of Education for our great province and am confident we can continue to provide every student with a world-class education.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Demetrios Nicolaides". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Demetrios" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Nicolaides".

Demetrios Nicolaides ECA PhD
Minister of Education

LEGO Club

Begins
Sept 20

every Wed
3:30 - 4:30 pm
school aged children

Taber
Public
Library

