



[ST. PHILIP SCHOOL

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Newsletter 1 – September 2025

Principal: Mrs. Paola Kobussen

Vice-Principal: Mr. Nathan Gaudet

Office Coordinator: Mrs. Gayle Lockert

GSCS Trustees: D. Boyko/O. Fortosky

Superintendent: T. Shircliff

GOSPEL VIRTUE - FRIENDLINESS

I am friendly. Today I will smile and say hello to people. I will share myself and show an interest in others.
I like myself, and I know I can make new friends.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 15	Holiday Mash Up Day – wear items from different holidays
September 16	Western Day
September 16	5:30 pm – Meet the Staff BBQ in the gym
September 16	6:00 pm – Meet the Teacher in the classroom
September 16	6:30 pm CSCC Meeting and AGM in the library
September 17	School Colors Day
September 17	11:00 am – School Wide Walk
September 18	Pajama Day
September 18	3:45 pm – Soccer game at Bishop Pocock
September 19	House League Color Day
September 20	Deadline to order Healthy Hunger (Family Pizza)
September 25	11:40 am – Healthy Hunger (Family Pizza) for those who ordered
September 25	1:10 pm – Terry Fox School Run Day Walk
September 29	Orange Shirt Day - wear orange
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – NO SCHOOL
October 1	School Clothing online orders begin
October 1	4:00 pm Cross Country Practice – Diefenbaker Park

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! I extend a warm welcome to all our students, families, and staff, and a special greeting to those joining us for the first time—may you quickly feel at home in our St. Philip school family.

As we gather again, it's exciting to begin this next chapter of learning and growing together. Our theme this year is **"Pilgrims of Hope,"** reminding us that we are all travelers on a journey filled with curiosity, kindness, and new possibilities. Along the way we'll celebrate our faith, build friendships, serve others, and have plenty of fun as we discover the gifts God has placed in each of us. We're especially delighted to welcome our new parish priest, Father Ed, who will walk with us on this adventure.

May this year be one of hope, laughter, and joyful surprises for every member of our St. Philip School community!

*Blessings,
Paola Kobussen, Principal*

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for our Catholic school community where we can journey in faith together. Help us to accompany each other in our learning as we grow, living as joyful disciples of Jesus and bringing good news to the world. May your love speak to our hearts, helping us to bring hope to others and a commitment to justice in all we do. Help us to begin this new school year with hearts that welcome Jesus in everyone we meet.

MEET THE STAFF BBQ AND CSCC MEETING AND AGM

We would like to welcome all parents & caregivers to “Meet the Staff” on Tuesday, Sept. 16th beginning at 5:30 pm. The format will be:

- 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm Hotdog BBQ in the gym.
- 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm Classrooms will be opened for you to Come and Go and meet your child’s teacher. Your child is welcome to join you in the classroom.
- 6:30 pm CSCC meeting and AGM in the library

We know that a great school is built on great relationships. Thank you for taking the time to come out and meet our staff!

DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES

We have noticed a number of students being dropped off early in the mornings and picked up late after school. It is expected that **students should not arrive any earlier than 8:25 am and that they are picked up or walk home following dismissal at 3:10 pm.** The exception to this is when they are under teacher supervision to receive extra help with work. Arrangements with the Before and After School Program need to be made for students arriving before this time or needing to be picked up later. The telephone number for the Before and After School Program is 306-659-7106. This is to ensure students safety as there is no supervision during these times.

FORMS, FORMS AND MORE FORMS

A number of forms will be sent home...a Student Data Verification Form, a Media Release Form, a Noon Lunch Form and an Inappropriate Language Policy Form. Please fill out these forms for the new school year and return them to your child’s classroom teacher ASAP.

STUDENT ABSENCES



Edsby will be used to [report student absences](#). Edsby can be accessed [online](#), or on mobile apps available in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

Here are some short [help videos](#) to demonstrate some of Edsby’s features.

School Bundle messaging tool is a new service and will be used to inform you of unreported student absences.

No app is needed. There is no need to edit settings or set notifications. **Just make sure the school office has up-to-date contact information for you to receive voice calls, emails and/or SMS text messages.**

Communication will come from the email noreply-gscs@schoolbundle.ca (listed as Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools) and the phone number 1-306-400-6811, so please make sure that information is in your contacts so it doesn’t end up in your spam/junk folder.

As a reminder: all students who arrive late need to check in at the office for a late slip. Also, if your child is leaving early, they need to let the office know before leaving the school.

VOLUNTEER CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK

If you plan to volunteer in your child's classroom or other areas of the school, a Criminal Record Check form needs to be completed and taken to the City Police for approval. Stop by the office to get a registration form. Criminal Record Checks need to be renewed annually so if renewed in September it will be good for the whole school year.

OUR SCHOOL DAY

8:35 am	Morning Bell
8:40 am	Classes Start
10:10 am	Recess
11:40 am	Lunch Break
12:02 pm	Lunch Recess
12:25 pm	Afternoon Bell
12:30 pm	Classes Resume
1:55 pm	Recess
3:10 pm	Dismissal

2025-2026 ST. PHILIP STAFF LIST

Administration:

Principal	Paola Kobussen
Vice-Principal	Nathan Gaudet

Office & Facility Support:

Office Coordinator	Gayle Lockert
Head Caretaker	Romie Canto
Evening Caretaker	

Teachers:

Kindergarten M/W	Allison Treble
Kindergarten T/T	Allison Treble
Grade 1	Dominique Collins
Grade 2	Janice Schulte
Grade 3	Sydney Rowley
Grade 4/5	Maria Santoro
Grade 5	Jillian Jaeb
Grade 6	Mel Espeseth
Grade 7	Ian Olivier
Grade 8	Leanne Anderson
Core French	Nathan Gaudet
EAL	Leanne Gusikoski
Release	Lana Reeves
CCT	Cheryle Risling

LAT

LAT (Deaf & Hard of Hearing)

Itinerant Interpreter

Jeff Duncan

Lisa Warren

Becky Jalbert

Curriculum Support:

Band

Daniel Udchic

Counselor

Chrissy Krowchenko

Educational

Assistants:

Norma Barrick

Angie Denis

Danielle Herbert

Tatiane Inomata

Mila Pshebylo

Tasha Uhryn

Interpreters:

Lisa Buhler

Amy Bowman

Lana Janzen

Deborah Popovici

Maegen Urdal

Sadie Weimer

PLASTIC CUTLERY



Since most stores have stopped selling plastic cutlery, we do not have spoons or forks in the staffroom for students. Please pack a spoon or fork with your child's lunch if they are having yogurt, fruit cups, soup, etc. Also, please remember that the microwave in the staffroom is not available for students. Please use a thermos to keep your child's lunch warm.

ST. PHILIP SCHOOL CLOTHING



St. Philip School clothing can be ordered from October 1st **until October 15th**. **No late orders will be accepted!** Clothing can be ordered using the following link.

<https://www.expressitmore.ca/showrooms.htm> **Password: Falcons**

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Edge Imaging will be in our school on **Monday, October 6th** in the morning to take pictures of all Kindergarten M/T, Gr 1, Gr 2, Gr 3, Gr 4/5 and Staff. Edge Imaging will be in our school on **Tuesday, October 7th** in the morning to take pictures of all Kindergarten T/TH, Gr 5, Gr 6, Gr 7 and Gr 8.

CROSS COUNTRY



Our St. Philip Cross Country Running Team is looking for runners aged 8 and up! Information and a permission form will be sent home with interested students.

What is Cross-Country?

Those who participate will practice running ~1.5km twice a week at lunch. Runners will meet outside the gym doors at 11:40 am, check in with their coaches, then go for their practice run. Once finished (practice usually takes about 10-15 minutes), they will be directed back to their classroom to eat their lunch.

Our Cross-Country Team attends a mandatory practice meet on Wednesday, October 1st at 4:00 pm and the actual competitive meet on Wednesday, October 8th at 4:15 pm held at Diefenbaker Park. We will practice throughout the month of September, and our season wraps up the first week of October.

Mrs. Espeseth, Mrs. Risling, Mr. Gaudet

TERRY FOX SCHOOL RUN DAY WALK



The annual Terry Fox School Run Day walk will be happening here at St. Philip School on **Thursday, September 25th**. Toonies for Terry" will be collected. Help us reach our goal by donating! Let's do our part to help find a cure for Cancer. Go St. Philip School!

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION (ORANGE SHIRT DAY)



On **Monday, September 29th**, all are invited to wear an **orange** shirt for Truth and Reconciliation Day. **Orange Shirt Day**: communities coming together in a spirit of reconciliation and hope because every child matters. For more information www.orangeshirtday.org. On Tuesday, September 30th, there will be NO SCHOOL in lieu of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAYS (PLD)

GSCS have professional learning days for elementary school staff for staff meetings, planning, collaboration and professional development. On these days there are no students at school: **Tuesday, September 30th, Friday, October 10th, Monday, November 10th, Monday, January 26th, Friday, March 13th, Friday, May 8th and Monday, June 8th.**

TREAT DAY

This year St. Philip School will continue to have Treat Day fundraisers. Order forms will be sent home and orders can be placed through your child's **My School Bucks** account. Please see attached My School Bucks instruction letter [MySchoolBucks](#).

HEALTHY HUNGER LUNCHES – last Thursday of the month



St. Philip School will continue to use Healthy Hunger as a means to order and pay for school lunches online. At the end of each year, Healthy Hunger deletes all data from their website so all parents will have to register their children on the website. Please see attached [Healthy Hunger Parent Letter](#), before you can place an order. Once you register your children, then you can select the lunch your children would like and pay for it online with a credit card or interact card. Parents can make changes and cancellations to lunch orders anytime up to 5 days before the school lunch date. Your payments can also be refunded online. If you do not register your child in advance, the order will not be processed. Healthy Hunger lunches will be **September 25th – Family Pizza; October 30th – Taco Time; November 27th – Subway; January 29th – Family Pizza; February 26th – Prairie Grazer; April 30th – Boston Pizza; May 28th – McDonalds.**

BUSSING TO ST. PHILIP SCHOOL



Bussing is provided to students living further than 1.2 km from the school in Broadway, Exhibition, Grosvenor Park, South Corman Park and Varsity View areas.

To see if your child qualifies for bussing, check out the First Student website at saskatoon.firststudentinc.com or call the school at 306-659-7450.

FIRST VIEW

First Student bus company has a new communication tool for all bus riders. First you must register, then you will be able to track the bus, receive notifications of delays and get answers to some frequently asked questions. Please see these links for setup. [App Installation Guide - FirstView](#), [FAQ - FirstView](#), [Mail - What is FirstView](#) **Our school code is: T2V3K** Please advise your children to return home if the bus has not arrived at their stop after 10 minutes and check the FirstView App. We do not want any students walking to school without parent permission.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CSCC meetings will be held in the library at 6:00 pm and all are welcome!

GSCS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Here's their latest newsletter (it can be found online at <https://foundation.gscs.ca/newsletters/>)

BE SEEN IN JEANS

Our school staff will be supporting the Greater Saskatoon Schools Foundation by paying to wear jeans on Fridays. As well, our staff will wear jeans to support the United Way on Wednesdays in October.

POP CAN TAB COLLECTION



Silver for Gold is a fundraiser to collect aluminum can tabs to raise money for Childhood Cancer in Saskatoon, run by the online community, **Small But Mighty YXE**. Silver for Gold is not just about collecting tabs and donating money towards Childhood Cancer; it is also about raising awareness of children and families affected by cancer, within our community & across the province. **Please donate your pop can tabs to this worthy cause! It's as simple as removing the tabs from your cans, collecting them in a ziplock bag and dropping them off at the office!**

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Before School and After School care is handled through PCDC.



- Quality care for school age children before and after school.
- Care for full days on PLDs and summer.
- Open Mon-Fri, 7:30am -6:00pm

For more information, please contact Jasmine at 306-659-7106 or spdirector@pcdcearlylearning.ca

ST. PHILIP NERI PARISH

Phone: 306-343-0325; Fax: 306-343-0900;

Website: www.stphilipneriparish.ca; Facebook: Saint Philip Neri Parish

Weekday Masses: Tuesdays ~ Fridays at **8:30 am**

Weekend Masses: Saturday ~ **5:00 pm**; Sunday ~ **10:00 am**

Livestream Masses: Sunday ~ **10:00 am**

APC COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



For information on activities happening in our community, please check out their website at www.adelaidechurchill.ca

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters will be emailed home the **last week of each month** (except for September and January) and will be posted on our website:
www.gscs.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/phi.

EXTERIOR DOORS

Due to safety, all exterior doors will be locked, except for the main front door, during the school day from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Students and visitors are reminded that entrance to the school throughout the day will be through the main entrance only. **All visitors should report to the office.**

UPDATING STUDENT INFORMATION

Please call the school and let us know if you have changed your telephone number or have moved. In case of an emergency, we need accurate, updated information to contact you.

TELEPHONE MESSAGES

Our telephone system has changed. Our telephones are now on automated answering. Please listen carefully to the prompts. To leave a message for teachers "press 9". To leave a message for Mrs. Lockert "press 0". **All calls will be directed to voicemail and messages will be returned as soon as possible.** Thank you for your understanding.

OUTSIDE FOOTWEAR

Parents, students and staff are reminded to remove any wet outside footwear when entering the school. This will ensure the floors will be kept dry and clean for those who do remove their footwear. Thank you for keeping our school safe and clean.

MEDICATION POLICY

The School Division policies outline appropriate procedures dealing with a variety of emergency situations, which includes administration of emergency medical assistance or medication. Prior to administering medication (prescription or non prescription). It is stated that a letter from the child's parent/ guardian and a letter from the physician is to be received at the school. If this applies to your child, please contact the school for more information.

ALLERGY ALERT



We have a number of students and staff at our school that are **highly allergic to peanuts and nut products**. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. Because of the seriousness of this danger, we ask that you are careful to avoid sending these foods or foods containing them to school. A reminder that if you have a child that needs medical treatment that is life threatening, please contact the principal at the school. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

For the safety of our students, please do not use the staff parking lots as a drop off or pick up zone. When dropping off your children, please use Haultain Avenue and drop them off by the gym doors.

SCHOOL ZONES

- The speed limit in school zones is 30 kms/hr
- U-turns are prohibited
- Parking is allowed in designated areas only
- Stopping or parking is not allowed in a school bus loading zone
- Jaywalking is prohibited; pedestrians must cross at intersections or marked crosswalks



BOOK SPINE POETRY CONTEST

SEPT. 19 - OCT. 12, 2025

www.saskla.ca/programs/book-spine-poetry-contest

Scan the QR code for your chance to win a
McNally Robinson gift card!



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