Principal: Carol Sarich
 Vice Principal: Daniel Denis
 Office Coordinator:
 Mary Ann Hill

 Trustees: Michael Raney, Sharon Zakreski-Werbicki
 Pastor: Fr. Gerard Cooper & Rev. Fr. Joe-Nelo Peninp<br/>Catholic School Community Council (CSCC):
 Jodie Ostrowski

 Phone: (306) 659-7200
 Attendance:
 Edsby App<br/>Email:
 Email: Father.Robinson@gscs.ca<br/>Newsletter:
 8:35 am - First Bell<br/>10:10 - 10:25 Recess<br/>11:40 - 12:20 pm Recess/Lunch

#### Principal's Pen

Happy New Year!! Hope 2025 is off to a great start and may all the blessings of the year in front of us, be enjoyed by all.

January began with a flurry of activity, starting with Track practices (grades 4-8), Battle of the Books meetings, Kindergarten Open House, grade 8 transition meetings for high school along with getting back into regular routine. We continue to be challenged by inconsistent weather patterns, with indoor recesses one day and zero degrees the next. Please be mindful that students come prepared to go outside for 2025 Dates to Remember

#### <u>January</u>

24 – Tim Horton's – Healthy Hunger lunch

1:55 – 2:10 pm. Recess 3:10 pm Dismissal

- 24 Spirit day Hat Day
- 23 Kindergarten Open House
- 27 Professional Learning Day no classes

recesses unless below minus twenty-six degrees with the windchill. With the business of daily events, time flies by quickly, please continue to check the dates to remember and Edsby messages for updates.

#### <u>Pick up and Drop Off</u> - Parents are reminded not to enter or park in the staff parking lot at any time. Dropping students off in the parking lot is a dangerous practice.

Also, many neighbors on Rogers Road, Cowley Road and Forsyth Crescent are also reminding parents that parking in their driveways and pulling in and backing up is dangerous and illegal. Student safety is our priority, and we respectfully remind everyone about their role.

<u>School Arrival</u> - With the snows' arrival, there have been some students starting to come to school before 8:20 am when classrooms are open, and some students are coming very late to school, after 8:45 am. Please note that the start of the day, and when attendance is taken, is when the first bell rings at 8:40 am. Students should be in their classrooms by 8:35. Thanks for your attention to this matter. Thank you for ensuring your child is prepared daily with outdoor gear.



<u>Kindergarten Drop In/Open House</u> - Parents and guardians are invited to attend a come and go open house for Kindergarten on January 23 anytime between 4 - 6:00 pm. Come through the front doors of the school and turn left to the kindergarten classrooms. Mrs. Sarich and the Kindergarten teachers will answer your questions and provide you with some information about registration, busing and programming. French Immersion and English Kindergarten. We look forward to meeting you soon. Registration forms are also available on our website.

<u>Kindergarten Registration</u> It's not too soon to think about kindergarten for next fall! At Father Robinson school, we strive to see students reach their full potential in a faith-filled learning environment, as well as teach children that they have what it takes to reach out and make the world a better place. If your child will be five years old by Dec. 31, 2025, he or she can begin kindergarten in September this year. Registration forms are on our website. Please download the registration form, complete it, save it, and then email it to Father.Robinson@gscs.ca Birth Certificate or Baptism certificate are required for proof of age.

Joyful Feelings Preschool - is having their Open House / Registration for the 2025-2026 school year. It is a



drop-in on January 23 from 3 - 6p.m. In the preschool classroom on the north end of the school. This is a non-cooperative preschool located at Father Robinson school with two staff members, excited to work with your child, to develop confidence, independence and kindergarten readiness through play, song, dance, and crafts. Children must be 4 years old by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. For

more information and a registration form, please contact Doreen Kazman, owner/director at: joyfulfeelingspreschool@gmail.com.

**Indoor/Outdoor Breaks** - With the cold weather approaching, rest assured that the temperature is checked daily prior to outdoor breaks.



- 25 or warmer, all students are outside.
- 26 to -29 is optional. Students have the option of staying inside or going outside.
- 30 or colder, all students are indoors for safety.

<u>Addictions Awareness Week</u> - In support of Addictions Awareness Week, Mind Over Matters has provided GSCS access to Screenagers Under the Influence: Addressing Vaping, Drugs, and Alcohol in the Digital Age—the

third powerful documentary from Dr. Delaney Ruston. This Im in the acclaimed Screenagers series explores how today's tech-driven world influences teen attitudes and choices around substance use. Constant exposure to messages about drugs, alcohol, and vaping—from social media and influencers to advertising—has made substance use more accessible and appealing to teens. Screenagers Under the Influence offers a timely, research-based perspective for understanding and countering these trends.

This documentary dispels myths and equips parents, educators, and teens with strategies for promoting healthy choices, supporting mental health, and fostering safe, balanced environments at home. Featuring a blend of personal stories and cutting-edge science, the lm highlights practical ways for young people to navigate substance use culture with resilience and informed choices.

Unlike many documentaries that focus on severe addiction, Screenagers Under the Influence addresses more common, everyday encounters with substances. It features expert insights from Dr. Anna Lembke of Stanford, Dr. Lisa Damour, and Dr. Nora Volkow of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, making it both an informative and engaging resource for youth and adults. GSCS will be hosting 4 parent viewings of the 70 minute documentary. Please consider joining us

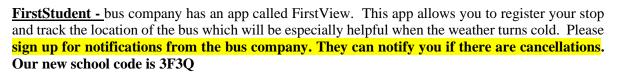
for one of the following screenings. All parents are welcome to attend.

Wednesday, January 15th Bethlehem High School 7:00 PM Monday, January 20th Holy Cross High School 7:00 PM Thursday, January 23rd St. Joseph High School 7:00 PM Wednesday, February 12th E.D. Feehan High School 7:00 PM

We are excited to offer these events as they support division goals in the area of mental and well-being. Following these viewings, all GSCS students in grades 7-12 will be viewing the documentary at school.

Watch the <u>Trailer</u> for further information. We look forward to seeing you

**EDSBY is a must!** Most school information is posted in Edsby. Please sign up for your parent account for each of your child/children. Attendance must be entered on Edsby. Please do not email teachers directly. Edsby will also be the only way to sign up for Parent teacher conferences. If you need a code, it should be gscs. New families must receive the GSCS EDSBY invite email. Please watch for these emails and check your junk mail.



FirstStudent - Bus transportation - FirstView App

FirstView - Installation Guide

### Father Robinson Catholic School Community Council (CSCC)

<u>CSCC</u> - All parents are invited to join us for our CSCC meeting on Monday, February 3rd at 7 p.m. They are usually held the first Monday of every month and we gather in our school library. Thank you for considering joining us. All are welcome to learn more about the council and how to support all students and classrooms.





Volume 5

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ONLINE

# NEWSLETTER

#### TOPIC:

Keeping Children Safe Online In today's digital world, kids are discovering online content earlier than ever! Technology brings exciting educational and social opportunities, but keeping our children safe online is key. Check out these practical tips to help make sure your child's online adventures are both fun and secure. View a checklist for parents by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

#### **TIPS AND TRICKS FOR PARENTS:**

Set Clear Rules Create boundaries such as: Time limits for online activities, using approved websites, apps, and games, and no sharing personal information (name, address, school, etc.).

ensure they're effective.

**Use Parental Controls** 

websites or apps, limit

screen time, monitor

downloads. Regularly

activity and restrict

review and update

these settings to

**Block inappropriate** 

Be Involved and Communicate Keep all devices in common areas of the house. Encourage your children to come to you if they see something online that makes them uncomfortable.

#### Promote Critical Thinking Teach children to

question suspicious links, messages, or requests from strangers and recognize that not everything they see online is true. Teach About Privacy Children should never share passwords, even with friends. Stress the importance of creating strong, unique passwords. Talk about the risks of posting personal details or photos publicly.

Know the Signs of Trouble Stay alert for signs your child might be struggling such as: acting secretive, sudden mood changes, and reluctance to discuss their digital interactions.



Blackstrap Youth Camp.

## 2025 Camper Registration!

Early bird pricing valid until March 1, 2025

#### Six Weeks of Camp - Two New Offerings

Week One: Sunday, July 6 to Friday, July 11 (Traditional Ages 8-13) Week Two: Sunday, July 13 to Friday, July 18 (Traditional Ages 8-13) Week Three: Sunday, July 20 to Friday, July 25 (Traditional Ages 8-13) Week Four: Sunday, July 27 to Thursday, August 31 (Ages 12-15) Week Five: Tuesday, August 5 to Friday, August 8 (Ages 6-9) Week Six: Sunday, August 10 to Friday, August 15 (Traditional Ages 8-13)

Register Today!