ST. PHILIP SCHOOL

1901 Haultain Avenue, Saskatoon, SK, S7J 1P4
Phone: 306-659-7450 Fax: 306-659-2140
E-mail: st.philip@gscs.ca Website: www.gscs.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/phi

Newsletter #3 November 2026

Principal: Mr. Michael Smela **Vice-Principal: Mr. Nathan Gaudet** **Office Coordinator: Mrs. Gayle Lockert**
GSCS Trustees: K. Day/B. Elliott Superintendent: T. Shircliff

GOSPEL VIRTUE - PEACE
I am peaceful. I use peaceful language and find peaceful solutions to any problem that arises.
I find my inner peace and let it carry me gently through the day.

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 2	8:40 am – All Souls/Saints Day over the intercom led by Mr. Smela
November 2	Schools Win Twice Online Lottery – draw date December 2nd at 3:00 pm
November 3	6:00 pm – CSCC Meeting in the library
November 4	Growing Smiles Poinsettias online orders begin
November 4	12:45 pm – KMW and Gr 1 goes to the Remai Modern
November 5	3:30 pm – Boys volleyball game at Bishop Pocock
November 5	3:30 pm – Girls volleyball game in our gym
November 8	Indigenous Veteran's Day
November 9	9:00 am – 3-Way Conferences Online Booking through Edsby begin
November 10	WEAR RED/WHITE for POPPIES/PEACE
November 10	10:30 am – Remembrance Day Liturgy in the gym led by Gr 6/7
November 10	1:00 pm – School Photo Retakes – for those who missed photo day
November 10	3:30 pm – Boys volleyball game at St. Matthew
November 10	3:30 pm – Girls volleyball game in our gym
November 11	**Remembrance Day – NO SCHOOL**
November 12	**School Vacation – NO SCHOOL**
November 13	**School Vacation – NO SCHOOL**
November 16	Louis Riel Day
November 16	9:00 am – 3-Way Conferences Online Booking through Edsby ends
November 17	Last day to order Growing Smiles Poinsettias
November 17	8:30 am – Gr 3 – Gr 5 Skillastics Fitness with Tony Michalchuk in the gym
November 17	3:30 pm – Boys volleyball game in our gym
November 17	3:30 pm – Girls volleyball game at St. Bernard
November 19	3:30 pm – 7:45 pm – 3-Way Conferences
November 19	3:30 pm – 7:45 pm – Book Fair in the library
November 20	8:45 am – 12:45 pm – 3-Way Conferences – **NO SCHOOL for students**
November 20	8:45 am – **12:00 pm** – Book Fair in the library – **NO SCHOOL for students**
November 21	Deadline to order Healthy Hunger lunch for November – Wok Box
November 26	11:40 am – Healthy Hunger lunch – Wok Box (for those who ordered)
November 27	2:10 pm – SOAR Assembly in the gym

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.

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

As we welcome the month of November, our school community turns its heart toward our new virtue — **Peace**. This month, we'll be learning and reflecting together on what it means to be peacemakers — through our words, our actions, and the way we care for one another. May we all take time to find moments of calm and kindness in our busy days and share that peace with others.

A big **thank you** to everyone who supported our **Socktober** campaign! Your generosity and compassion truly make a difference for those in need. It's always inspiring to see how our school community comes together to live out our faith through service.

We're also looking forward to our **Three-Way Conferences**, a special time to celebrate your child's growth and learning. These conversations are a wonderful way to strengthen the partnership between home and school. If you haven't yet signed up, please take a moment to book your time — we can't wait to share in your child's successes!

Another exciting update — **Schools Win Twice tickets for 2026 are now on sale!** This supports the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation, which provides funding to enhance our schools in meaningful ways. Every ticket purchased helps enrich the learning experiences of our students — thank you for supporting Catholic education! See the QR code below for more information.

Finally, we invite all families to join us for our **Remembrance Day Liturgy on Tuesday, November 10th at 10:30am**. Together, we will pause, pray, and reflect as we honour those who have served and continue to work for peace in our world.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for being such an important part of our school family. May God's peace be with you and your loved ones this month and always.

With Gratitude and Blessings,
Mr. Smela

DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES

Students should not be 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 (when the school doors open) and that they are picked up or walk home following dismissal at 3:10 pm**. 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.

STUDENT ABSENCES



All student absences must be sent in through Edsby.

Please enter the absence in Edsby as soon as you know your child will be absent.

If you receive a message that your child is absent, please enter in Edsby or call the school to clear this absence.

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.

POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER



Starting November 4th, we will be having a poinsettia sale to raise money for our Grade 8 out of city classroom field trip to John Bosco Camp. Each poinsettia will be sold for $20.00 each. Poinsettias can be ordered using the following link.
https://stphilip.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home
Team Name is St. Philip Saskatoon
Deadline to order is November 17th.



SCHOOLS WIN TWICE

The Schools Win Twice Online Lottery has started. Please make sure to always select St. Philip School, as this fundraiser directly benefits our school, funding special activities and programs that enrich your children's experience.

Ticket sales began October 21, 2026, and the draws will be made December 2, 2026.

Scan below for more details on Schools Win Twice!

SCAN ME

SCHOOL PHOTOS – FOR STUDENT/STAFF ABSENT ON PHOTO DAY PHOTOS

School Photos for Students and Staff absent on Photo Day will be taking place on Tuesday, November 10th at 1:00 pm. **This is for Students and Staff who were absent on picture day**. If you were not satisfied with your child's proof and are requesting a retake, *you must return your proof to the office* ***before November 9th*** *stating the reason for the retake*. Thanks for your cooperation!

CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAM

The Saskatoon Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program provides assistance to **low income families with children under 17 years** of age during the Christmas season. ID will be required for every member of your household when you pick up your Christmas Hamper. Participating families receive food and gifts they may otherwise be without. Our Christmas Hamper Registration for **2026 is open from November 1st to 30th**. You can register online at The Salvation Army, www.salvationarmysaskatoon.org.

REMEMBRANCE DAY LITURGY



Our school will be holding a Remembrance Day Liturgy at 10:30 am on Tuesday, November 10th. We would like to honor the service men and women who have made sacrifices to bring peace to our world. **All students and staff will receive a poppy on the day of our Liturgy and are asked to bring a loonie ($1.00) donation for the Royal Canadian Legion.**

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

We will be holding a book fair during 3-Way Conferences. Please stop by the library and purchase a book or two.

3-WAY CONFERENCES

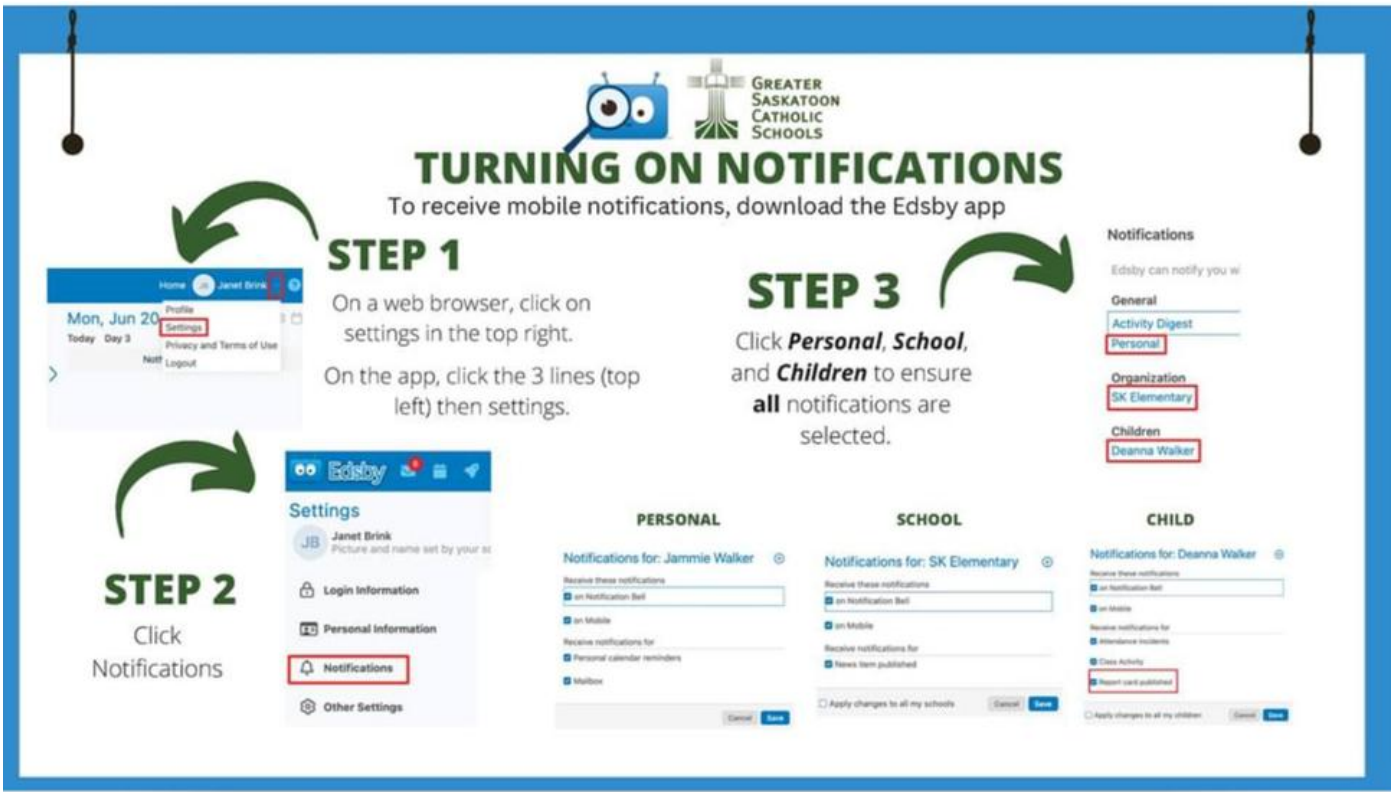


Edsby bookings begin on Monday, November 9th at 9:00 am and will close on Monday, November 16th at 9:00 am. 3-Way Conferences will be held on **Thursday, November 19th from 3:30 p.m. – 8:00 pm and Friday, November 20th from 8:45 am – 12:45 pm.** No regular classes for students on Friday, November 20th; however, students are expected to attend their 15 minute 3-Way Conference.

EDSBY 3-WAY CONFERENCE BOOKING

We will be using the EDSBY online scheduler for all parents to book their own appointments and sign up for the conferences. **Because both parents can be activated in Edsby, we ask that only <u>one parent</u> book the conference time (unless in different households).**

Please make sure your Edsby Notifications are turned on. **You will need to be using a computer during set-up to enable notifications.** If you would like to receive messages to your phone, you will need to ensure that push notifications for the Edsby app are enabled. You can also download the Mobile App. App code is GSCS.



EYE SEE...EYE LEARN (ESEL) PROGRAM

Your child's eyesight plays an important role in how he or she will do at school; however, signs of poor eyesight are not always easily spotted. To ensure your child has the best chance of succeeding in the classroom, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools is collaborating with the Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists to ask families to consider participating in the Eye See... Eye Learn Program®. Families are invited to have their son or daughter's eyes examined by a Doctor of Optometry. There is no charge for any child up until age 18. Thank you for your help in ensuring you child has equal access to learning opportunities through optimal vision. See: http://optometrists.sk.ca/Eye+See...Eye+Learn+Program for more information.

GRADE 8 RECYCLING FOR CAMPING TRIP

SARCAN DROP & GO The Gr 8 class is collecting pop bottles, juice boxes, etc for their year end camping trip. If you would like to donate, you can drop off at the Sarcan South (Jasper Avenue) location. Please make sure that you let them know it is for **St. Philip School** and the school phone number is 306-659-7450. Thank you for supporting our school.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

The Criminal Record Check (CRC) Policy has recently been updated. We know that many of you will accompany students on field trips and have provided the appropriate documentation. Here is what you can anticipate as a result of the updates:

- The majority of field trips will require a basic CRC. To acquire one, please Edsby message or call Mrs. Lockert at the office 306-659-7450. She will give you a letter to take to the Police. Police services will require you to stand in line with picture ID and pick up your CRC. Please bring it in to Mrs. Lockert and she will file it accordingly. Only Mrs. Lockert and Administration will see it, and it will be shredded once it is expired. There is no cost to parents for a CRC with the accompanying letter from the school.
- For parents accompanying a field trip that is over night, such as Grade 8 camping, you will require a vulnerable sector check. The process is the same as above, but the timeline is different- it will most likely take more than a week to procure.
- For parents wanting to coach at the school, you will also need a vulnerable sector check.

At the beginning of the school year as we renew all documents, you may want to submit a basic CRC as they are good for two years (basic CRC) and a year (vulnerable CRC) so that you aren't juggling last minute.

Please know that we truly appreciate all of the volunteering and engaging that you do at our school. We've said many times that this is a community that truly shows up and cares about everyone's wellbeing.

RINK NEWS

Mitch Spray, our Rink Coordinator, is looking for help to prepare the rink for this upcoming season. He needs helpers with flooding and taking care of the rink so we can keep the rink open. If you can help, please email Mitch at mitchspray@hotmail.com or call 306-715-8457. Thanks for your support.

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: **Thursday, November 12th, Friday, November 13th, Friday, January 22nd, Monday, March 8th, Monday, April 19th, Friday, May 14th, Friday, May 21st and Wednesday, June 30th.**

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 **November 26th – Wok Box; January 28th – Taco Time; February 25th – Family Pizza; March 25th – Prairie Grazer; April 29th – Boston Pizza; May 27th – 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: U6Z9B** 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. The next CSCC meeting date is **November 3rd.** If you are wishing to become involved, please email our CSCC Chair, Aubry Claypool Thompson at csccphic@gscs.ca or our Principal, Michael Smela at msmela@gscs.ca. All are welcome!

GSCS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

The GSCS Foundation newsletter 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. Also, our staff will wear jeans to support the United Way on Wednesdays in October and May.

POP CAN TAB COLLECTION



Silver for Gold is a fundraiser run by the online community, **Small But Mighty SK,** to collect aluminum can tabs to raise money for Childhood Cancer Canada. **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

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

For more information, please contact Courtney 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

Melodia Singers, a Catholic Community Choir for all ages, is seeking children for the junior choir. Children ages 6-13 are invited to rehearsals on Tuesdays. High school students and adults may join the senior choir. All information can be found at **melodiasingers.com**



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 8:45 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.

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.

SCENT ALERT



We kindly remind everyone that our school is a **scent-sensitive environment**. Many students and staff have allergies or sensitivities to perfumes, colognes, and scented products, which can cause serious health reactions. To ensure a safe and comfortable environment for all, we ask that students and visitors **refrain from wearing scented products to school**.
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping our school safe and welcoming for everyone.

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. **November 2026 Update:** We have been noticing that cars are parking in the middle of the road and students have been getting out/in. Please ensure that you park beside a curb to load and unload.

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

ALL SAINTS DAY PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for the example of the Saints. I desire to join in their company, worshiping you forever in Heaven. Please help me follow their footsteps, and yours, Jesus Christ. Please help me to conform myself to Your image, seeking Your will in all things, as the Saints did. Please help me to devote myself, and all that I do, to Your glory, and to the service of my neighbors. Amen.

Why do we celebrate All Saints' Day? On November 1st, we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, a time to pause and reflect on all those holy women and men who have come before us — and who live among us. We recognize that as one People of God, we go to God together, praying for one another, learning from the example, the wisdom of those who have lived the Gospel.

REMEMBRANCE DAY PRAYER

God our Father, your Son Jesus gave up His life to free us from the power of sin and death. On November 11th we remember those who fought and died for our freedom. We ask you to bless and console them together with their families. Help us to understand the sacrifices they made and may we never forget their generosity. May your Holy Spirit give us the courage to do good and show us how to be peacemakers through prayer and action. May we remember those who fought so that we might have the freedom and peace we enjoy today. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



In Flanders Fields
BY J O H N M C C R A E

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



St. Nicholas CSCC Presents
the 5th Annual

Northstar MARKET

Saturday November 7th, 2026
10am - 4pm

80+ Artisans and Vendors
Concession with light lunch options
St. Nicholas School Choir performing at 11:30am

Admission by Food Bank Donation

ST. NICHOLAS SCHOOL
530 MANEK ROAD, SASKATOON

Thank you to our Sponsor KISK

Contact csccnics@gscs.ca with any questions