



ST. PHILIP SCHOOL

1901 Haultain Avenue, Saskatoon, SK, S7J 1P4

Phone: 306-659-7450

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E-mail: st.philip@gscs.ca Website: www.gscs.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/phi

Newsletter #8 – April 2026

Principal: Mrs. Paola Kobussen

Vice-Principal: Mr. Nathan Gaudet

Office Coordinator: Mrs. Gayle Lockert

GSCS Trustees: F. Possberg/T. Jelinski

Superintendent: T. Shircliff

GOSPEL VIRTUE - COURAGE

I have courage. I am willing to try new things. I admit mistakes and learn from them.
I listen to my heart. I have the courage to do the right thing.

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 1	9:00 am – Palm Sunday Mass at St. Philip Neri Church led by Gr 4/5
April 1	9:00 am – Deadline to purchase Bingo cards through myschoolbucks.ca
April 2	Holy Thursday Stations of the Cross led by Gr 7
April 2	9:00 am – Deadline to order hotdogs
April 3	Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
April 5	Easter Sunday
April 6 – April 10	EASTER BREAK – NO SCHOOL
April 7	Green Shirt Day – support organ donors - wear green!
April 13	8:40 am – Classes Resume
April 15	8:40 am – Gr 8 goes to see a French Film at the Roxy Theatre
April 15	6:00 pm – CSCC Family Bingo in the gym – doors open at 5:30 pm
April 16	11:00 am – Hotdog lunch (for those who ordered)
April 20	11:00 am – Gr 7 goes to Saskatoon Music Festival at Elim Church
April 21	Legacy One Presentation for Gr 6 – Gr 8 in the gym
April 22	Earth Day Event – school grounds clean up
April 24	PULSE Student Retreat
April 25	Deadline to order Healthy Hunger lunch for April – Boston Pizza
April 30	8:40 am – French Cultural Presentation: Rob Malo & Ti-Bert School Tour
April 30	11:45 am – Healthy Hunger – Taco Time (for those who ordered)
April 30	Gr 1 Bake Sale
May 1	Flower Power Kick Off



ADMIN MESSAGE

- As we journey through this season of Lent, our school community has taken time for reflection, prayer, and meaningful participation in our Lenten liturgies. It has been a special opportunity for students and staff to come together in faith and grow spiritually as we prepare for Easter.
- At the same time, our halls and fields have been full of energy and accomplishment. We are proud to celebrate a successful track season, an exciting basketball season, and the enthusiasm and teamwork shown during Battle of the Books. These experiences highlight the dedication, talent, and school spirit that make our community so vibrant.
- There is no doubt that this is a busy time of year, but it is also what makes our school such a wonderful place to be. Learning, faith, athletics, and extracurricular activities all come together to create a rich and engaging environment for our students.
- As we look ahead to Easter, we are reminded of the message of hope, renewal, and new beginnings. We wish all of our families a joyful and restful Easter break and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the final stretch of the school year.

*Blessings,
Paola Kobussen – Principal*

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.

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.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Edsby Attendance

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.



KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten Registration for the 2026-27 school year will open in January. Children who will be 5 years old on or before December 31, 2026, can register for Kindergarten by contacting the school or visiting www.gscs.ca/kindergarten.

If you have questions or need more information, contact us at 306-659-7450 or st.philip@gscs.ca.

KINDERCARE

Our partner PCDC (Parent's Child Development Co-Operative) continues to offer a "KinderCare" program. This program offers care on alternate days of our St. Philip Kindergarten Program. If you are interested in accessing this support, please confirm your spot for the fall by connecting with Jasmine Entwistle, Centre Director, St. Philip Location at 306-659-7106 or spdirector@pcdcearlylearning.ca. **[Priority will be given to St. Philip families]**. Once again, a great opportunity for our young students and their families.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS COMPETITION



We would like to congratulate all of our students who participated in Battle of the Books this year— what an incredible display of reading, dedication, and teamwork! Your enthusiasm for books has truly shone through.

A special shout out goes to Indiana, Natalie, Avery, Emanuela, and Matthew for representing our school at the division-wide competition. They demonstrated outstanding effort and teamwork, finishing in an impressive second place out of more than 25 schools.

We are so proud of all of our readers for their hard work and commitment—keep turning those pages!

Mr. Gaudet & Mrs. Espeseth

FLOWER POWER FUNDRAISER



May 1st - May 7th Flower Power Fundraiser is a go this year! All orders are online through Brightwater Greenhouse - <https://brightwater-greenhouse.square.site/> **Deadline to order is Thursday, May 7th and pick up in the gym is Thursday, May 14th.**

Please don't forget to select and check St. Philip as your delivery school.

FAMILY BINGO



The CSCC Parent Council will be hosting a Family Bingo in the school gymnasium on Wednesday, April 15th beginning at 6:00 pm – doors open at 5:30 pm. In addition to the Bingo, there will be a cash concession and fun for the whole family. Funds raised from this event will help cover student activities.

Bingo Card Packages will be on sale through your child's **My School Bucks** account. My School Bucks instruction letter is attached. [My School Bucks Letter](#) There will also be an order form sent home for CASH orders. Deadline to purchase Bingo Card Packages will be **Monday, April 13th**. Don't miss out on great prizes to be won! Bingo Packages will be distributed at the door. Extra Bingo cards will be sold at the door.

GRADE 8 RECYCLING FOR CAMPING TRIP



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 typically good for a year 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

THANK YOU! A huge thank you to Mr. Spray and all the volunteers who gave of their time to make our rink available for our St. Philip students and all the families in the community!



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: **Friday, May 8th and Monday, June 8th.**

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 **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. The CSCC meeting dates are: **May 5 and June 16.** If you are wishing to become involved, please email our CSCC Chair, Aubry Claypool Thompson at cscpphic@gscs.ca or our Principal, Paola Kobussen at pkobussen@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. 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 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!**

PCDC 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 Jasmine at 306-659-7106 or spdirector@pcdcearlylearning.ca

APC COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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

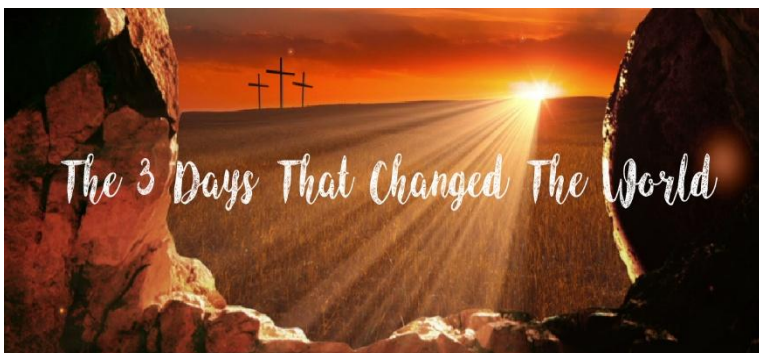
Livestream Masses: Sunday ~ 10:00 am

Sacrament of First Communion - There are four preparation sessions. The first session is scheduled for **April 12th** after the Sunday Mass. The celebration of First Communion is on **Saturday, May 2nd and Sunday, May 3rd**. Pre registration is necessary and has begun. For more information, please contact Shirley at the parish. The link to the registration form can be accessed here.

[First Communion registration form](#)

Sr. Cindy Lewans and Shirley Hyshka

TRIDUUM MASSES AT ST. PHILIP NERI CHURCH



Holy Thursday – April 2 at **7:00 pm**
(Adoration to follow until 10:00 pm)

Good Friday – April 3 at **3:00 pm**

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil – April 4 at **8:00 pm**
(Easter Celebration in Welcome Area to follow)

Easter Sunday – April 5 at **10:00 am**

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.

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.

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



GET SET!
Tuesday, April 7

VOLLEYBALL WORKSHOP

- ▶ AGES 10-14
TWO COURTS
- ▶ 10AM - 3PM
ONE HR LUNCH
- ▶ PIZZA & GATORADE AVAILABLE \$10

Warman Home Centre Communiplex
FACILITATED BY UI7 DIV I COACHES & PLAYERS
HIGH COACH TO PLAYER RATIO

Email to register:
ui7aces@gmail.com

\$75

Preston
Early Learning Centre

SUMMER CAMP

Adventure, laughter, and memories

Weekly camps from
June 29th-August 28th, 2026

- Creative Art
- Outdoor Adventures
- Neighbourhood Explorations
- Science and Discovery
- Storytelling
- Water Play

For campers 5-12 years old
Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm
Located at 1602 Louise Ave in Saskatoon
\$200 per regular 5-day week
\$160 per stat holiday 4-day week

Register at www.prestonearlylearning.ca starting March 1st, 2026