

— November 9 2025 —

# St. Lorenzo Ruiz School Newsletter



## Principal

Ms. Jennifer Millar

## Vice Principal

Mr. Dustin Kasun

## Office Coordinator

Ms. Sydney Naidu

## Superintendent

Ms. Jenise Vangool

## School Board Trustees

Ms. Michelle Christopher



## Principal Message

November invites us to pause, remember, and give thanks for the courage and sacrifice of our Veterans. Our school community gathered in the gym for a moving Remembrance Day liturgy led by Mr. Astillero's Grade 7/8 class. Through their leadership and reflection, we were reminded of the gift of peace and our call to be peacemakers in our world today.

Throughout the month of November, we will focus on the Gospel Virtue of *Community*. Jesus calls us to be peacemakers and reminds us that we are one family and beloved children of God. As a school community, we will continue to focus on seeing the good in others, building one another up, and sharing our gifts and talents to strengthen our sense of belonging.

This time of year is also a busy season for both students and staff as we prepare for assessments and reporting. It is exciting to witness our students' growth and to look ahead to new goals for the next term. Thank you to the families who have scheduled their conferences. We encourage all families to schedule a time with their child's teacher. Our goal remains 100% family connection! If you need any assistance booking a conference, please contact Ms. Naidu.

Wishing everyone a wonderful month filled with peace, gratitude, and community.

Mrs. Millar & Mr. Kasun

## IMPORTANT DATES

### NOVEMBER

4-Conference Scheduler  
Open

10 - PLD (No School)

11 - Remembrance Day  
(School Closed)

20/21-Three Way  
Conferences

21 - No School

26 - Spirit Day (Crazy Hair)

28 - Report Card Day

### DECEMBER

11 - Gr.6-8 Band Concert

11 - Family Christmas Night

## 2025-2026 St. Lorenzo Support Staff

Educational Assistant - Betty Gibson

Educational Assistant - Cheryl Forseille

Educational Assistant - Dara Hardy

Educational Assistant - Josie Schell

Educational Assistant - Marilyn Sarceno

Educational Assistant - Tanya Radics

Educational Assistant - Travis Vellacott

Educational Assistant - Shay Arno

Educational Assistant - Rumi Paul

Educational Assistant - Teresa Garcia

Educational Assistant - Nilo Azures

Educational Assistant - Liz Potter

Educational Assistant - Godwin Kalu

Educational Assistant - Chris Bautista

Educational Assistant - Aurora Cuaresma

Educational Assistant - Olha Kondakova

Educational Assistant - Mike Mendoza

Head Caretaker Kevin Knihnitski

Caretaker - Vilma Bermoy

Caretaker - Charles Ilustre

Brailist - Jordan Westgard

School Counsellor - Karen M. Johnson

Office Coordinator - Sydney Naidu

Vice Principal - Dustin Kasun

Principal - Jennifer Millar

Lest We Forget



# Reporting on Student Growth

As we come to the end of the first term, we are ready to reflect on the learning that has taken place over the last three months. Here is information regarding the three main areas of the reporting process. Thank you for being partners with us in your child's learning.



## Student Conferences

Our staff is very excited for our first round of Three-Way Conferences. It is a great opportunity for families and teachers to come together with a common goal of reflecting on the learning that has occurred in the first term and set goals for future learning.

We sometimes get the question from parents, "Do I need to attend?" The answer is YES! Your connection will show your child that what they do in school is important. Research indicates that student achievement increases when families, students, and teachers work together as a team. These conferences are important to the students as it allows them the opportunity to discuss their learning experiences, celebration items, and learning needs with their teacher(s) and parent(s).

## Portfolios

Another key component of the reporting process is the student portfolio. At our school, each student has a learning portfolio that showcases their evidence of learning throughout the year. Portfolios may be kept as a hard copy (binder) and/or shared digitally through your child's Learning Story on Edsby. The purposes of a portfolio are to highlight student progress, celebrate successes, reflect on learning, and set future goals. We encourage families to take time to review and discuss these portfolio pieces together as a way to support and celebrate your child's learning journey.

## Report Cards

This year, we will be sending home a paper copy of the report card. Families will also be able to access report cards through Edsby. Report cards will be sent home on Friday, November 28.

Please see the attached information sheet to learn more about assessment reporting.

## Winter Clothing

It's hard to imagine but Winter will soon be upon us. It is very important that children are dressed for the weather conditions. We continually monitor the weather, and our school uses the division's guidelines of -25 degrees Celsius to determine if it will be an indoor or outdoor recess. All students are expected to go outside for recess and lunch breaks. Students should be wearing winter boots, a winter jacket, snow pants (encouraged in the younger grades), and other winter wear. We want our students to be safe, comfortable, and properly dressed for the weather. Children who are dressed warmly have a great time outdoors. Just a reminder to label your child's outdoor clothing.

## Attention New St. Lorenzo Families

Our school community has a cherished tradition that every family donates a Christmas ornament with their family name on it to hang on our school tree. This beautiful display has become a symbol of our community and connection as one St. Lorenzo Family. We warmly invite all new families who joined us this year to take part in this tradition by sending an ornament with your child. Please note that these ornaments will become part of our permanent collection and will be used year after year to decorate our school Christmas tree, reminding us of the growing and lasting bonds within our community. You are welcome to drop off your ornament with Ms. Naidu at the front office.



## School Parking Lot & Student Doors

A friendly reminder to all families about parking around the school. Please do not park in the bus zones at the front of the school or in areas designated for taxis or accessible parking (unless you have a valid permit). These spaces need to remain open to ensure safety and access for everyone. We have also noticed some parents/caregivers parking in the staff parking spaces. We kindly ask that these spots be kept for staff, as they pay to park there. Finally, please avoid parking in the neighbouring condo parking lots. Those spaces are reserved for residents, and we want to continue being good neighbours by respecting their property. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us keep our parking areas safe, respectful, and accessible for all.

## School Lockdown Practice

On Wednesday, November 12, our school will be conducting our bi-annual school lockdown drill. A school lockdown alerts staff and students that an imminent danger exists inside or just outside the school. School personnel lock classroom doors, move students away from windows/doors and remain in their classrooms/spaces until directed by a police officer that it is safe to leave. Our staff will discuss the procedures and prepare the students for the practice. We are sensitive to the fact that this can cause various levels of stress for everyone involved, especially for our younger students.

Please discuss the following situations with your children:

- The student is in the hallway during a lockdown - the nearest staff member would direct them into the closest classroom before they would lock their door.
- The student is in the washroom during a lockdown – the student should shut and lock the stall door, stay quiet, and hide.

The safety of our students is our top priority. We recognize that these drills can be difficult to think about and sometimes unsettling for students and families. Our approach is always gentle and age-appropriate. We focus on helping students understand the importance of safety without creating worry or stress. If you would like more information about our lockdown procedures, please contact Mrs. Millar.



# Our School Survey - Grades 4-8

Our Grade 4-8 students will be participating in an online school perception survey for students called the Our SCHOOL Student Survey. This is a provincial survey completed annually by all Grade 4-12 students.

About the Our SCHOOL Student Survey:

- Allows students to share their feedback anonymously on their experiences at school, school environment, and school improvement programs.
- Based on their feedback, students have the opportunity to be involved in action plans fostering increased student engagement
- Participation in the survey is voluntary, however, all students are encouraged to participate.
- The time required to complete the survey may vary, but it is designed to be completed in approximately 30 minutes.

Survey measures include such topics as behaviours and attitudes linked to student success, emotional and social well-being and physical health. For more information about the survey, please visit The Learning Bar's website: [www.thelearningbar.com](http://www.thelearningbar.com). If you have questions or would like to request more information about the Our SCHOOL Student Survey, please contact Mrs. Millar or Mr. Kasun.

## Schools Win Twice Campaign

**In 2024, St. Lorenzo raised \$910.00 from the SWT Lottery!**



This month, our school is proud to support the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation's Schools Win Twice Campaign. Funds raised through this campaign directly support students across our Catholic schools, including ours, by providing faith-filled learning experiences, classroom resources, and scholarships. Every donation helps create opportunities for our students to grow in faith, knowledge, and service. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of the children and families in our school community.

**When purchasing tickets, please be sure to select St. Lorenzo because we get 50% of our school's prize lottery ticket sales.**



# SCHOOLS WIN+TWICE

ONLINE LOTTERY AND 50/50



## Support our Schools! Buy your tickets today.



Win a **Grand Prize Family Fun Vacation worth \$10,000**  
See reverse for all prizes, ticket prices, and more.

**Tickets on sale\***  
**Oct. 22 - Dec. 3, 2025**  
**All Prize and 50/50 Draws December 3 at 3:00 pm**  
**Please support our lottery as every ticket sold makes a difference in our schools.**

**SchoolsWinTwice.ca**

\*May only be purchased in Saskatchewan; must be over 18 to purchase. All draws will be made at 420 22nd St. E., Saskatoon

# St. Lorenzo CSCC

We want to give a huge shout-out to our amazing CSCC for their incredible support and dedication to our school community! Over the past few years, through a variety of fundraisers and community events, the CSCC has raised an outstanding \$21,000. Their hard work has made it possible for the school to purchase new iPads and Chromebooks, providing students with valuable technology to support learning, creativity, and engagement in the classroom. While \$21,000 is an incredible accomplishment, our CSCC is already hard at work raising additional funds to help replace aging technology and ensure our students continue to have access to updated technology for their learning. Thank you to the St.Lorenzo community for their continued generosity supporting our students.

Also, another big thank you to our CSCC for organizing the St. Lorenzo Family Halloween Dance on October 24! It was a fantastic evening filled with great costumes, delicious snacks, and community spirit. Events like this truly bring our school family together and remind us of the joy in celebrating as a community.

Thank you to all the families who joined us for the dance!


**ST LORENZO STUDENTS NEED YOUR HELP**

We are having an online auction to raise funds to replace technology for the students and we are looking for donations

**Deadline to donate November 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Auction will run from November 23<sup>rd</sup> - December 7<sup>th</sup>

If you are interested in donating please contact Katy at [k\\_evered@hotmail.com](mailto:k_evered@hotmail.com)  
Donation letter available upon request

All who donate will be featured on our Facebook page and acknowledged throughout the auction.



**CONNECT WITH US**

**St Lorenzo Ruiz School Parents Facebook Page**

We post hot lunch information, Parent Council updates, Fundraisers and school events



**Join Now**

Please make sure to answer

**Online Auction begins November 23**

**SUBWAY**

**Hot Lunch**

**Thursday November 20<sup>th</sup>**

To order visit [healthyhunger.ca](http://healthyhunger.ca)



**Deadline to order November 14<sup>th</sup>**