

ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL – HUMBOLDT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are looking forward to an amazing 2025-2026 school year. At St. Dominic we strive be a welcoming community where we live our GSCS mission statement of nurturing faith, encouraging excellence in learning, and inspiring students to serve, making the world a better place.

In nurturing our faith we take our lead from St. Dominic, the patron saint of our school.

St. Dominic, the Confessor – Feast Day: August 8

Mary, the mother of Jesus, appeared to St. Dominic the Confessor in the year 1206 after he had been praying for people who disliked Christianity. She praised him for his valiant fight then gave him the rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and how it would help, and told him to preach it to others.

At St. Dominic School we hold prayer as the foundation for our growth in faith and strive to let our faith guide and permeate all aspects of our school life and learning.

We also encourage excellence in all areas of our learning and aim to develop the God-given gifts and talents of our students to their fullest capacity. High standards of classroom behavior, study, physical activity, and artistic expression are encouraged. Through most-promising practices for curriculum delivery and robust extra-curricular programming (numerous sports, choir, drama, battle of the books, etc....) all students of varied interests and ability can find St. Dominic School a place of growth.

Finally, we inspire our students to take their gifts and use them to reach out to others within our school, parish, and greater community. Positive relationships and community building are emphasized so all can learn in an atmosphere of love and acceptance.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new students, families, and staff. We would also like to offer a big welcome back to all the children and families who make St.

Dominic School their choice for Catholic education. Together we make St. Dominic a great Catholic community of learning.

Sincerely,

St. Dominic Administration Team

DAILY SCHEDULE

7:00 – 8:30	Before & After School Program
8:30	Doors are open
8:45	Warning Bell
8:50	Announcements/O' Canada/Morning Prayer
	Period 1 classes begin
9:30	Period 2 classes begin
10:15	Recess Break
10:30	Period 3 Classes
11:15	Period 4 Classes
12:00	NOON HOUR LUNCH DISMISSAL

Safety Patrollers leave at 11:55 to prepare for their duties. All other students are dismissed at the 12:00 noon bell.

12:20	Students are dismissed for noon hour activities
12:45	Warning Bell
12:50	Period 5 classes begin
1:35	Period 6 Classes
2:20	Recess Break
2:35	Period 7 Classes
3:20	Warning Bell
	(<u>bus students only</u> are dismissed at this time)
3:25	End of Day Dismissal

Attendance/Absenteeism

Enter your child's absence in Edsby. Call the office for help if needed. If there is no absence entered for your child, you will receive a call, text, and/or email if they are not present during

attendance. If a student arrives late, they must check in at the office prior to going to class.

Student Sign Out Procedure

At St. Dominic School, we require all students who are leaving the school to be signed out by an adult at the main office. This helps to ensure our students are leaving only with authorized adults, and aids in keeping an accurate record of when and with whom our students are leaving the school. This will not need to occur during lunch provided the students will be returning to school for the afternoon.

School Admin: Student Fees – Classroom Expenses

A student fee of \$25.00 is paid for by the GSCS Division.

A **\$6 fee** is collected at the beginning of the school year for a student agenda (classrooms use this for their daily communication).

Religious Education

Critical to a Catholic school's identity is the understanding that:

- Catholic schools are places of human formation.
- Catholic schools are rooted in their mission to proclaim the gospel.
- Catholic schools strive to create a special and sacred atmosphere where the presence of Christ can be seen and known.

The Religion Program offered by all Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools is Pearson's *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ*. It is approved by our Catholic bishops and was developed in collaboration with Catholic educators from across Canada. It reflects the content of faith expressed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and follows the rationale and methodology of the *General Directory for Catechesis*. All classes receive 150 minutes of religious instruction per week using it. Prayer is a vital part of the program and is included throughout lessons. The program uses a variety of approaches to help students understand why, how, and when they can pray. The prayers presented

throughout the program are used daily for classroom prayer life including opening of the school day, before lunch prayers, and prayers at the end of the day. The units of study, following the liturgical seasons (Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent & Easter), are further explored and experienced in assemblies, liturgical celebrations, and masses marking important Church feast days. Each of our classes leads these for our school faith-community. Parents are notified of our all-upcoming events in our Edsby "Week at a Glance". All are welcome to attend.

Tentative Liturgies for 2025-2026

Opening Mass (With St. Augustine and HCI)
Terry Fox Assembly
Thanksgiving Liturgy
All Saints Day Liturgy
Remembrance Day Assembly
Reconciliation Service (Advent and Lent)
Adoration (Advent and Lent)
Advent Mass (With St. Augustine and HCI)
Advent Liturgies
Christmas Concert
Ash Wednesday Mass (With St. Augustine and HCI)
Lent Liturgies
Stations of the Cross (Lent)
Holy Thursday Liturgy
Alleluia Easter Liturgy
World Catholic Education Week Liturgy
Mount Carmel (Visit, liturgy, or mass)
Closing Mass/ Grade 8 Farewell

Other Resources Utilized Include:

Fully Alive- Family Life Education Program

SCSBA Catholic HIV/AIDS Resources

These resources support Health Curriculum Outcomes where HIV/AIDS is referenced in Grades 2, 4-9

A strong home-school-parish connection is vital in meeting the aims of Catholic education. To encourage this, St. Dominic offers a variety of options:

- Youth Masses- Students lead church ministries at mass at St. Augustine once/ month.
- Youth Choir- Students can join our choir that sings at events throughout the school year, and our youth mass once/month.
- Youth Group- Grade 6 and Up- A variety of engaging social activities are planned throughout the year at St. Augustine Church and throughout the community.

Sacramental Preparation Programs

Preparation for the sacraments is done in collaboration with our school and St. Augustine Parish. Parents can expect a letter to be sent home from St. Augustine Church prior to the commencement of each program (which take place at St. Augustine Church).

Students in **Grade 2** prepare for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Students in **Grade 3** prepare for the **Sacrament of First Eucharist**.

Students in **Grade 6** prepare for the **Sacrament of Confirmation**.

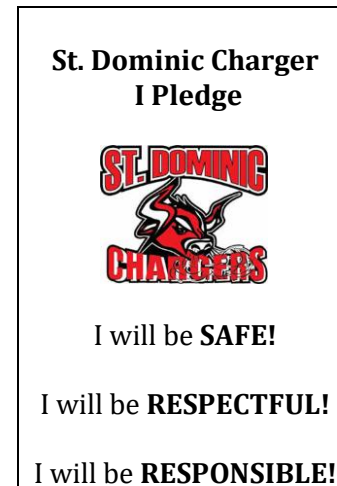
A resource book for each program is purchased from the church. The school classroom program supports and compliments the preparation activities that the students are completing at the church.

Student Behavior Plan and Expectations **PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support)**

At St. Dominic School we aim to provide a consistent and fair behavior plan. Research shows that students achieve at a higher level when they know school expectations and feel safe. Our plan

provides detailed expectations for shared areas of the school and places an emphasis on **respect, safety, and responsibility!**

Teachers and staff teach classroom and school-wide expectations explicitly and consistently. Posters throughout the school reinforce PBIS.



School-wide expectations, specific consequences for breaking those expectations, and a system of documenting the interventions attempt to reduce negative behaviors. PBIS focuses on decreasing poor choices through positive support and explicit teaching of appropriate behaviors rather than through fear of punishment. When teachers observe students following expectations, they give "Charger Tickets" to be placed in the "Bull's Eye". Charger Tickets are entered in weekly/monthly school-wide draws.

PBIS emphasizes building positive interactions between students, staff, and parents. We are confident that our unified approach is supportive of an environment that enhances your children's academic and social development.

(See our School-Wide Matrix for our list of positive school expectations.)



St. Dominic School Behaviour Matrix

	Class Time	Hallways/ Transitions	Bathroom	Recess	Lunch	Technology	On the Bus
Be Safe	I stay in my desk unless I ask to leave.	I walk calmly on the right side of the hallway.	I only stay in the washroom if I am using it.	I keep my hand and feet off others. I stay within my playground boundary. I refrain from throwing sand, rocks, or snowballs.	I sit down to eat my lunch in my own desk.	I keep my password and personal information safe.	I stay seated and face forward.
Be Responsible	I am prepared for class. I complete my work. I keep my materials organized.	I have permission to leave my classroom. I go quickly to and from my destination.	I wash my hands when I am done. I leave the bathroom clean and tidy.	I enter and exit the school through the appropriate door. When the bell rings I go outside <u>OR</u> stop playing and come in.	I clean up my desk and put my things away.	I know and follow the school AUP.	I arrive at the bus stop early.
Be Respectful	I raise my hand before speaking.	I respect the bulletin boards, walls, and the work of others. I wear inside shoes.	I leave others to their privacy.	I listen to the supervisors. I use kind words to solve problems. I change my shoes and put them on the boot rack.	I use my inside voice. I am kind to others with my words. I listen to the supervisors.	I use my assigned device. I put the device away in the correct spot and plug it in.	I use kind words. I listen to the bus driver. I use my inside voice.

Other Reminders:

- Toy guns, knives, lasers, firecrackers, lighters, matches, etc. are not allowed at school, and will be confiscated, stored at the office, and may be returned only to parents.
- Students are expected to follow the directions and instructions of the school staff and adult supervisors without argument or expressions of disrespect.
- We expect students and their families to respect our faith. At St. Dominic School we are sharing with parents and the parishes the responsibility for educating students in the Catholic Faith. We expect students to respect the mass, prayers, rituals, symbols, ceremonies, and the instructional program activities of the religion course and of the school.

Consequences

Sometimes we need to undertake strategies to help students recognize how their behavior is inappropriate and to teach control and responsibility for one's behavior. We believe acting in socially appropriate ways is a learning process. We agree that parents should be informed and involved in the process. The positive and negative consequences that we use in this learning process are based on the three "R's" of logical consequences:

- Related: We will try to make the consequence fit the situation and be a learning opportunity.
- Respectful: We will try to respect the dignity of the student in the process.
- Reasonable: The consequence will be reasonable and short term.

General consequences may include:

- discussions, problem solving, reviewing behavior expectations, writing about the problem and solutions
- loss of privileges, times out, detention, writing action plans
- removal from class, activity, or event
- loss of special events or program opportunities (field trips, team sports, school events)

- making restitution, trying to make it right by explaining or apologizing, school/community service
- Parent/student/teacher problem solving conferences

More serious consequences may include:

- In school suspensions
- Out of school suspensions
- Alternative programs/placements

Mobile Device Use at School

Students may use the school telephone when they have a staff member's permission to do so. During the school day students will not be permitted to use personal devices. *Students who are using these personal devices at school will have them confiscated and the device will be held in safe keeping. On a first offence, students will be able to pick up the device at the office at 3:30pm. For future offences, the student's parent must pick up the phone.* (Please note special permission to use a personal device has been given to some students with medical needs). If you need to contact your child throughout the day please call the office 306-682-1080 and we will ensure your child connects with you during their breaks, or if it is an emergency we will connect you directly to their classroom.

Please note that the time a student rides on school buses is considered part of the school day. The bus driver may or may not choose to allow the use of electronic devices on the bus. Any inappropriate use of electronic devices on buses may result in the privilege of use being revoked. Photography and video recording is prohibited for personal safety and privacy of others riding the bus, in the same way they are prohibited at school.

Bicycles, Scooters, Skateboards & Rollerblades**Rules and Guidelines**

- The above are allowed for riding to and from school only.
- Safe riding practices are required to and from school.
- Walk the above across the safety patrol intersection.
- The above are not for playing at recess or noon times.
- Bike storage is along fences on either side of school.
- We strongly recommend that students lock their bikes.

- Scooters, rollerblades, and skateboards must be stored inside.
- Helmets are strongly recommended.
- The school cannot be responsible for lost, stolen or damaged bikes, scooters, skateboards, and rollerblades.

Inside Shoes & Gym Clothing

- We strongly encourage all the students to have a pair of inside shoes (gym runners) to wear at school. Two good reasons for this are: It helps keep the school clean AND: For health and safety reasons.
- Gym Clothing: T-shirts, gym shorts, or sweatpants for gym activities are expected for Grades 3-8. K to Gr. 2 students only need their inside gym shoes for gym activities.

Expectations For Student Dress

We encourage students and staff to use good judgment in deciding the types of clothing to wear to school. As a Catholic elementary school with students ranging in age from young children to adolescents, we want our students to respect the positive values and healthy lifestyles of our families, our Church, and our school. Headwear is not to be worn in school, except for special days. St. Dominic School is an extension of the Church and as such, removing headwear, and dressing modestly is valued. In a Catholic school, virtuous living is always encouraged. Students learn in their classes, and review at assemblies, ways of dress that encourage the virtue of modesty. These include but are not limited to:

- Refraining from attire with offensive language or content.
- Wearing shirts that cover the shoulders (at least 3 finger width, no spaghetti straps) and midriffs.
- Wearing shorts and skirts that go below the tips of the fingers when arms are down at one's side.
- Ensuring undergarments are covered.

Communications Protocol

The main form of communication between parents and the school is done through Edsby. If you are not on Edsby, please

contact the school for help to get set up. All weekly communication will be posted on the Edsby "River of News". Teachers will also send messages to parents via Edsby.

Contacting the school when you have a question or concern is an important part of good school community relations. It is important for parents/caregivers to know that we welcome your questions and concerns. In most cases, parents and the teacher can resolve the concern or address the issue in such a way as to benefit the child, the teacher, and the parents.

We also know that despite our best efforts there will be times when we need to talk more often, communicate more clearly, and work together to solve difficult problems. The following is the suggested protocol:

- Talk directly to your child's teacher. We know how much parents care for their children and want the best for them just as we do as teachers & support staff. Most concerns will be addressed through this direct, open, and honest communication.
- If after communicating with the teacher, concerns still exist, parents are invited to contact the principal or the vice principal for further discussions. We hope to assist in communication and to find solutions that would be to the satisfaction of everyone.

If a parent's concern is still not addressed satisfactorily after communicating with the school administrators, parents may discuss their concerns with the Superintendent of Education, Mrs. Terri Fradette.

This protocol is the appropriate and ethical approach to dealing with concerns. It should be noted that at any time when parents have concerns related to school administration matters, they should feel free to bring those concerns directly to the school administration.

Medications Policy

If your son/daughter is required to take medications during the day, please complete the required 'Administration of Medication'

form available at the office. The school office will supervise the administration of medications. Classroom teachers do not look after medications in the classroom. The school cannot give out pain-relievers such as aspirin or Tylenol. Please contact the school office if you have questions/needs regarding your child in this regard. The school would appreciate having all medications, other than the epi pen, handled at the office so that the medications are safely supervised.

Assemblies

Assemblies are held monthly to celebrate school successes, award positive behavior, and build a sense of belonging.

Student Leadership & Service

A variety of meaningful experiences are provided to develop the leadership capabilities of our students.

Our Student Leadership Council (consisting of students from Grades 6-8) organizes activities such as gym blasts, dances, spirit weeks, special events, movie nights, lunch sales, as well as charitable donations. These events encourage school spirit, build community, and cultivate a sense of belonging for all.

St. Dominic School has also implemented a volunteer program. Grade 6-7 attend St. Mary's Villa several times a year to read, craft, or play games with the residents. Grade 8 students visit Futuristic Industries to build relationships with the community members. Grades 5-8 students also volunteer with school programs such as Safety Patrol, our Healthy Start Breakfast Program, and are lunch monitors in the junior classrooms. All programs aim to build a greater sense of Catholic social service & stewardship in our students.

St. Dominic is a Nutrition Positive School

Thanks to grants from the various sources, and help from our CSCC, St. Dominic School offers a regular breakfast and emergency lunches for all our students. The breakfast program runs from 8:30 to 8:45 each school morning. A range of nutritious foods are offered such as bagels, cereal bars, muffins, yogurt, cheese, a selection of fruit, and a juice box. If you have any questions about

our Nutrition Positive Program, please feel free to contact Mrs. Corcoran.

School and Community Support Services and Resources

Through the GSCS Division we have access to several Support Services and Resources including a Speech and Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Educational Psychologist, Public Health Nurses, and School Social Workers.

Report Cards – 3-Way Conferences

The school year is divided into three terms. Report cards for Grades 1-8 are issued through Edsby at the end of each term. November and March will be published on Edsby, and a paper copy will be sent home in June. 3-Way conferences are held in November and March. Kindergarten report cards are issued in March and June.

'St. Dominic Catholic School Community Council' (CSCC) and 'Friends of St. Dominic School'

St. Dominic is very thankful to have an amazing Catholic School Community Council. This group is essential as they serve as an advisory board for our school and are a voice for our school at the board level. The CSCC contributes to many school projects, activities, and events. They run our breakfast and lunch programs, offer special lunches at school during the year, help at the annual Fun Day, provide treat bags at Christmas, and do countless other spirit building & fundraising events for St. Dominic School.

You will receive an invitation to help during the year in various projects. The response has traditionally been very good. Should you forget to return the slip, contact the school and we'll forward your information to the council members.

NUT ALLERGY ALERT
St. Dominic School Strives
To Be Nut Free

We have several students in our school who have severe allergies to nuts. Because contact with nuts can be fatal, we are urging parents to check carefully before sending lunch and snacks to school, to ensure they are nut free. Parents and students need to read labels before sending/bringing lunch/food to school. Any lunches that contain nuts of any sort will be removed from the classroom and the student will be served lunch/snack from the Nutrition Positive Program. Public Health continues to update staff about allergy concerns and procedures for the use of an epi-pen. We thank you for your cooperation.

St. Dominic tries to maintain an up-to-date register of students that have significant medical conditions that the school staff should be aware of. These may include issues such as asthma, allergies, diabetes, migraines, or any other physical limitations or conditions.

Please let your child's teacher and the school office know of any conditions such as those mentioned above or any other medical matters the school should be aware of. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our information up to date.

Transportation of Students
For Field Trips and Extra-Curricular Activities

Our Board of Education has established a set of policies and procedures related to the transportation of students as per the guidelines set forth by the Saskatchewan School Trustees Association. The safety of students is the prime concern of our board members, administrators, school staff members, and parents.

The following points outline the main aspects of the policy for the information of parents:

- For most regular school day field trips: school bus, or charter bus transportation will be arranged by the school.
- For local special activities such as Safety Patrol events, swimming, sports activities etc., transportation will be provided by the school staff/parent drivers, or school bus transportation.
- Students involved in field trips, school activities, etc., are required to use the transportation provided except where it has been confirmed that a student's parents have personally assumed responsibility for their own children.
- Parents may not assume responsibility for other children.
- All students are required to wear seatbelts in vehicles.
- A record of the students involved in the trip and the specific travel arrangements for each student will be filed at the office for every trip.
- An information note will be provided to students to give to their parents regarding the nature of the trips, activities, transportation arrangements, schedules, and any other appropriate details. For all out-of-town trips, a permission form signed by parents or guardians is required.
- Parent volunteer drivers may be used in special circumstances. When this is necessary, parent volunteers shall be required to complete the *Application for Automobile Driver Authorization* form and provide a recent **Criminal Record Search** form. Please get a criminal record request form from the office prior to going to the RCMP. The requirement for a Criminal Record Search applies to all staff and volunteers who work in GSCS. Criminal Record Checks are valid for 3 years.
 - Drivers must also have a Package Policy on their vehicle with 3rd party liability coverage of no less than \$1,000,000.

If, at any time, you have questions about the transportation policies for students please contact the school administrators.

Field Trip Program (Tentative Listing)

Kindergarten – Grade 2 Classes

- Local community trips to the museum, fire hall, greenhouse, etc.

Grade 3

Environmental Excursion – location TBA

Grade 4

- Saskatoon – Western Development Museum, University, and Forestry Farm
Agriculture in the Classroom Experience

Grade 5

- Duck Lake, Batoche, and Fort Carlton
- Wapiti Ski Hill

Grade 6

- Regina: Museum, RCMP Training Depot, Legislative Buildings, and Science Center
- Wapiti Ski Hill

Grade 7

- Asessippi Ski trip – Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding
- Moose Jaw Tunnels, Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw

Grade 8

- Asessippi Ski Trip – Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding
- Cross Country Skiing – Dixon
- Overnight camping excursion

Financial support for field trip programs comes from school fundraising activities. The Catholic School Community Council also fundraise to offset the cost of the Grade 7/8 field trips.

Computer Programs and Resources

We are fortunate to have an excellent supply of technology resources. We also have 92 I Pads & and 2 full carts of Chromebooks for student use. As well, we have a Smart Boards installed in classrooms to incorporate technology into lessons.

The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools has an established student policy for the computer and internet use at our school. This

information is sent home with students at the beginning of each school year which parents sign to acknowledge receipt of the policy and its boundaries. If you have any questions about the computer programs and policies, please contact the school office.

Lost & Found

Items are collected throughout the year. We regularly will set lost and found items out on display for students to see and claim. Periodically we take our unclaimed lost and found items to the Good Neighbor Store.

Birthday Invitations

Please do not send birthday invitations to school. Due to privacy reasons, the school cannot give out contact information for other parents.

Learning Assistance Programs

The Learning Assistance Teacher (LAT) provides support to the students of the school, working in collaboration with the classroom teacher and administration. They may provide support in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, organization, work habits and/or social behaviors.

The LAT aids classroom teachers in determining the needs of the students in the classroom, designing programing, providing assessments, and making referrals for special services.

Special services may include a referral to the Speech and Language Therapist (SLP), Occupational Therapist (OT), or Educational Psychologist (Ed Psych) for assessment and programming. Other referrals will utilize special services to help plan for and meet student's needs.

The LAT and classroom teachers coordinate the work of the educational assistants who provide support services to individual and small groups of students.

Parents play an important role in supporting their children in their learning. They are part of the program planning team and

are consulted throughout the process of planning and implementing the program.

Grade 8 Home Economics & Industrial Arts Program

The grade 8 program includes one morning a week attending the HCI Gr. 8 Home E. and I.A. programs. Students take Home E. for half the year, and then I.A. for the other half. We are thankful to work with our educational partners at the high school. Transportation is provided by school bus to and from the HCI.

Second Step

This year our school will continue with the social skills program called “Second Step”. This program teaches a variety of social skills which fit well with our Safe & Positive Schools Policy. The program will be taught from K-8.

Holidays & Extended Absences

At St. Dominic School we respect the parent/caregiver right to remove students from school for periods of time for holidays or other extended absences during the school year. We do stress that students learn best when at school. To that end, we will not be preparing “homework” for students away on these extended absences. Instead, teachers will provide literacy and numeracy practice congruent with course outcomes and student needs that will bridge the gaps in learning that will occur during extended student absences.

