



## **GREATER SASKATOON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT**

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools: a welcoming community where we nurture faith, encourage excellence in learning and inspire students to serve others, making the world a better place.

*We love because He first loved us.  
-1 John 4:19*

## **ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

St. George Catholic School is a faith-filled and joyful community where all are welcomed and empowered to build a strong foundation of learning. With courageous hearts, we love and serve others.

## **VISION STATEMENT**

Igniting faith, inspiring learning and serving others; we seek holiness.  
Be strong and courageous. The Lord your God is with you wherever you go.  
Joshua 1:9

## **STUDENT BELIEF STATEMENTS**

- We believe faith is the basis of who we are and guides us to live out our call to holiness.
- We believe learning inspires us and others to become better people.
- We believe we are called to make the world better by serving others.

## **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

- We expect students to be respectful, responsible and safe and contribute to a positive learning environment.

## **ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

Bullying occurs when a child is a target of repeated negative actions by one or more students. Bullying means there is an imbalance of power and this results in the victim being unable to defend him or herself. Bullying can be physical, verbal, cyber, reactive or relational. Bullying involves an imbalance of power, creates fear and is not gender specific.

At St. George Catholic School, we feel that everyone in our community has the right to feel safe. Our approach to bullying and relational aggression is first through prevention: teaching students emotional and social learning, developing community and strong

relations within our school and having close supervision. In the event of a report of bullying behaviour, we investigate carefully, respecting the confidentiality of all involved. We problem solve, record the issue, and take appropriate action (taking into account the age and maturity of students, the level of harm that occurred and the degree of repetitiveness of the behaviour).

### SCHOOL HOURS

Time	
8:55 am	Classes begin
10:15-10:30 am	Recess for Kindergarten to Grade 4
10:30-10:45 am	Recess for Grade 5 to Grade 8
	Classes follow recess
11:55-12:15	Lunch for Kindergarten to Grade 4 and Recess for Grade 5 to 8
12:15-12:40	Lunch for Grade 5 to 8 and Recess for Kindergarten to Grade 4
	Classes
2:00-2:15 pm	Recess for Kindergarten to Grade 4
2:25-2:30 pm	Recess for Grade 5 to Grade 8
	Classes
3:30 pm	Dismissal

### ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance promotes academic success. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to inform the school of any absences via Safe Arrival. There are three ways to report a student absence:

1. Sign up at: <http://go.schoolmessenger.com>
2. Download and install the free SchoolMessenger app
3. Call toll-free: 1-844-425-7221

If the school has not been contacted about a child's absence, you will receive an automated message to the numbers provided. Thank you for your anticipated help in using the Safe Arrival process prior to any absences.

### SCHOOL ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

Students are expected to arrive at school no earlier than 8:40 a.m. and leave school promptly at dismissal unless they are involved in extra-curricular activities (postponed at this time) or are enrolled in the before and after school program. Direct supervision of students begins at 8:40 a.m. each school day and direct supervision ends the day at 3:45 p.m. We encourage parents who need to drop their children off early or have them stay late to use the before and after school program because we do not provide early morning or after school supervision.

**Please note that during school hours, perimeter doors are locked. Entrances and exits are through the main doors of the school.**

### RECESS

Students are expected to go outside during recess. Students must remain within the school boundaries for their own safety and in their designated zones for the day. The children are to stay 15 metres from Redberry Road and within the fences to the north, west and south of the school, and not past the farthest ball diamond. Indoor recess will be called when the temperature and/or wind chill is -27°C or colder. Indoor recess also may be called due to wind, rain or sleet.

### **NOON LUNCH BREAK (11:55 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)**

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools offer supervised lunch breaks as a service to families. Expectations:

- Students understand and follow the expectations outlined by their teacher/school.
- Students remain seated in their desks while eating and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner.
- Students are to be respectful to classmates, staff and the school environment.
- Students are expected to clean their eating area and go outside for recess weather permitting.
- Students are to remain on school property at all times.
- Students must provide the teacher with written permission from a parent/guardian before the lunch break if the student must leave for an appointment or for other reasons.
- Ongoing communication between home and school will be important if issues arise with a student concerning the lunch break. A student may be asked to eat at an alternate location or off school property until an appropriate plan can be established.

### **ALLERGY AWARE**

Our school is an allergy aware school. Parents/Guardians are asked to abstain from sending nut products to school at any time. Students are reminded that trading foods is not recommended due to the number of students with various food sensitivities that may lead to a severe allergic response. Hand washing before and after eating is essential. Our school is also scents aware, so please refrain from wearing strongly scented perfumes, cologne or hygiene products. Additionally, we ask that due to allergies that pets not be brought into the building. Thank you for your anticipated support.

### **LEARNING EXCURSIONS – ON HOLD**

Out of school programs and excursions are an integral part of our educational programs and help students develop self-reliance, initiative, responsibility and co-operative attitudes. Excursions provide the children with real world exposure to curriculum.

Notices for out of school activities are listed in the dates to remember section of the school newsletter. In addition, classroom teachers provide detailed information regarding the purpose of the excursion. Each student will be required to have the Parental Consent and Waiver form for field trips filled out at the beginning of each school year. Excursions such as swimming and skiing will require a separate permission form.

If transportation of students in a private vehicle is required, a photocopy is needed of the driver's valid license plus a form must be filled out prior to the excursion departure.

GSCS has a policy for volunteers where a Criminal Occurrence Security Check will be requested free of charge from Saskatoon Police Service for individuals interested in volunteering at our school. Forms can be obtained from the office for volunteers to take with them to the Saskatoon City Police Station to have this completed. These checks need to be renewed annually.

### **STUDENT PROGRESS REPORTING**

Progress reports are sent home for Grades 1-8 three times a year in November, March and June. Progress reports are sent home for Kindergarten in March and June. As part of the assessment process, student portfolios are developed at each grade level. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of student work that tells the story of the student's growth and achievement as a learner. Conferences involving the parent, student and teacher are scheduled for all families in November and March.

Individual contact between parents and teachers is on-going. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers at any time throughout the school year.

### **HOT LUNCH - POSTPONED**

In order to add some variety to school lunches, students will continue to have the opportunity to pre-order lunch through the Healthy Hunger website at [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca). Once you have registered your child, login to view all up-coming lunches and place your orders online. Each class will have the opportunity to be in charge of a hot lunch day, and proceeds from hot lunches will support classrooms.

### **SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS**

School newsletters are sent out every 3rd Thursday afternoon electronically via e-mail. The newsletters are available on the St. George website [www.gscs.ca/geo](http://www.gscs.ca/geo). If you have changes to your email address, please notify our office.

### **ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

St. George School promotes the safe use of technology to support student learning. St. George School recognizes that many students bring their own technology to school. As such, personal technology is included in the Acceptable Use Agreement. By using technology at St. George School, students agree to the following:

1. I understand that the technology I am using is for school related purposes, thus I will follow instructions when using technology and the Internet/Cloud.
2. I understand that GSCS staff and students use Microsoft Office 365 and Google Education, which is a cloud-based service.
3. I understand that I will follow all established Internet safety guidelines:
  - a) Technology is considered an extension of the classroom. Therefore, any content that is deemed inappropriate in the classroom is also inappropriate in a digital context.
  - b) I will protect all my identifying information and establish appropriate privacy settings when using technology.
  - c) I will not post identifying information without consulting the three questions - accessibility, ownership, and erasability.
  - d) I must never, under any circumstances, agree to meet someone that I have met over the Internet.
  - e) When signing up for a web tool, I will consult the terms of service, answer questions truthfully and take appropriate steps to protect my privacy. If I am unsure of what to do, I will ask my teacher for assistance.
  - f) I will not post photos/videos of myself or others, without written parental/guardian consent (Part One of the Media Release Form).
4. My Office365 and Google Education accounts are monitored by GSCS. Inappropriate use may be flagged and addressed by the school administration team.
5. I will not share any passwords associated with my GSCS account with anyone except my GSCS teacher(s). Under no circumstances will the account of another student or GSCS teacher be used.
6. Should I intentionally, or unintentionally, damage a device or use technology improperly, repair/replacement costs will be dealt with individually between the school and my family/guardian.

### **SCHOOL SAFETY PATROLS – POSTPONED**

School Safety Patrols function to help students cross Redberry Road safely. Patrols are supervised by staff but monitored by students who are learning responsibility and commitment. It is important for parents to discuss safety practices with their children when crossing the street, especially for those times when the patrollers may not be at their stations. Patrollers will attempt to use the following schedule:

8:40 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.

3:30 p.m. to 3:40 p.m.

Extreme weather, student activities or student absences may affect patrollers being at their stations. Safety Patrols will not be outside when temperature or wind chill is -27°C or colder.

### **FIRE DRILLS**

Six fire drills will be held periodically throughout the school year. Each room has a map marking exit routes from the building. Students must use the nearest exit and proceed calmly to their assigned meeting place outside the school. Each class grouping has a designated meeting place in the schoolyard.

### **LOCKDOWNS**

The safety of our students and staff is our number one priority. In partnership with the Saskatoon Police Service, all Saskatoon schools conduct two lockdown drills a year. One is in the fall, and one is in the spring.

A school lockdown alerts staff and students that an imminent danger exists inside or just outside the school. School personnel lock classroom doors and cover door windows. Students and staff remain in their classrooms until directed by emergency personnel that it is safe to leave. Students and staff will be notified that it is a drill.

### **SCHOOL EVACUATION**

If an evacuation of the school is needed, St. George students will walk to Lawson Heights School (in area evacuation site) or be transported to Bethlehem High School (out of area evacuation site). Upon arrival at the emergency location, parents/guardians will be notified. Use of cell phones is strictly prohibited during emergency situations.

### **STUDENT POSSESSIONS (Lost & Found)**

Please mark your child's belongings. Found items are placed in a bin. Valuables brought to school are the responsibility of the student and done so at his/her own risk.

### **DRESS CODE**

It is expected that students will dress neatly and in good taste. All clothing is to be suitably modest for a Catholic school. Hats are not to be worn in the school unless it is a special activity or spirit day. Short shorts, spaghetti straps, halter tops, tube tops and any other top that shows undergarments, midriffs and/or has lower necklines are not acceptable for school wear. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to cover up or change as soon as possible.

### **BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS & LONGBOARDS**

Students are welcome to ride these items to school but must remain off them at break times. Students must stay away and off parked bikes. We cannot guarantee the safety of bicycles, so bicycles should be locked in the bicycle rack immediately on arrival. Scooters, skateboards and longboards brought to school must be stored in the student's locker.



## SCHOOL SCHEDULE 2020-2021

### MONTH

September	8	First Day of Classes
October	12 26	Thanksgiving Day Holiday <b>Staff Professional Learning Day – No classes</b>
November	9 11 19 20 27	<b>Staff Professional Learning Day – No classes</b> Remembrance Day Conferences (3:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.) <b>Conferences (8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) – No classes</b> Progress Reports
December	18	Last Day of Classes before Christmas
January	4 25	Classes Resume <b>Staff Professional Learning Day – No classes</b>
February	15 16-19	Family Day Holiday February Break
March	8 18 19 26	<b>Staff Professional Learning Day – No classes</b> Conferences (3:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.) <b>Conferences (8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) – No classes</b> Progress Reports
April	2 5-9 19	Good Friday Easter Break <b>Staff Retreat – No classes</b>
May	7 24	<b>Staff Professional Learning Day – No classes</b> Victoria Day Holiday
June	7 24 25	<b>Staff Professional Learning Day – No classes</b> Last Day for Students/Progress Reports <b>Staff Professional Learning Day</b>

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