

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

November 5	Junior and Senior Girls Play-offs
November 10	Remembrance Day Service 10:00 am
November 11	Remembrance Day – no school
November 12	St. Joe’s Dance 6:30 – 9:30 pm
November 13	Term 1 Report Cards go home
November 18	Parent/student/teacher conferences
November 19	SCC hot luncheon
November 19	Parent/student/teacher conferences
November 20	No school (in lieu of conferences)
November 25	Early dismissal
November 30	Advent Celebration 9:00 am
December 2	Advent Mass (at St. Joe’s) with Father
December 10	St. Joe’s Christmas Concert



**Spartan Spirit**



November 3, 2009

Edition #3

**Principal’s Message:**

As St. Joseph Middle School has begun to notice an increase in absenteeism, the intensity of cleaning at the school has been increased. The Cypress Health Region has informed us that a rag and regular soap and water or pre-moistened sanitizing disposable cloths that come in a dispenser are sufficient for cleaning desks and tables. We are also encouraging our students to continue with regular washing and sanitization of their hands.

On November 2nd, we had 30 percent of our student population out with flu-like symptoms. For the past week we have been in daily contact with the Cypress Health Region and the Holy Trinity School Division reporting information regarding student and staff absences due to illness.

The Cypress Health Region has asked us to contact parents if we notice that their child is coughing or exhibiting flu-like symptoms and for parents to take their child home. This is a precautionary measure to help ensure that your child and those children and staff around them are not being exposed to an unhealthy environment.

We have also noticed this week that we have a different group of students away due to illness from last week. We are hopeful that our student numbers will increase in the days to come.

Thank you for your support.

**Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences**

Our term one Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences will take place from 5:00 – 9:00 during the evenings of Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Each conference will take approximately 15 minutes. There will be no school for students on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

We encourage you to call the school (778-4640) by **Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** to arrange a convenient time. Thanks.

Interview slips will be in your child's report card envelope.

**Tabs for Tots**

The Sasktel Pioneers and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation with founder Bill Love have teamed together to continue the recycling program that benefits diabetic children in Saskatchewan. Our school will once again be collecting any aluminum pull tabs. Students can hand these in at the office.

**Remembrance Day Assembly**

Parents are invited to attend our Remembrance Day Assembly on November 10 at 10:00 am.

**Prayer Corner Request**

We are looking for pictures of family members that have served in the war for our school's prayer corner. These pictures will be copied and returned to you.

**Band Notes**

Cookie Dough and Fruit fundraising sheets have been sent home with the students. They will be due November 4<sup>th</sup>.

All bands will be performing at the St. Joe's Christmas Concert on December 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 pm.

**FCC Food Drive**

Congratulations to the SRC for their wonderful initiative with the FCC Food Drive. Students collected 400 pounds of food for this wonderful cause!

**Calling Kids in Sick**

We encourage parents to call their children in each day they will be missing due to illness (778-4640). Please leave a list of symptoms your child is exhibiting so we may report this to Public Health. Thanks for your assistance.

**Thank You**

Thank you to the School Community Council for their 'Spartan Graffiti' on our lockers – it is sure to spark on our teams!

**Welcome**

We would like to welcome our new bus driver (bus #3059), Mark Rosa. This takes effect at the beginning of November.

**Education Week**

The theme for Education Week this year was "Achieving My Inner Best". Students were involved in education week activities and student displays lined the hallways recognizing how students learn and achieve their 'inner best'.

**Volleyball**

Congratulations to the Senior Boys and Girls on their successful volleyball outings over the past two weekends. The Senior Girls placed second in the Swift Current Girl's tournament. The boys also placed second in the Swift Current Boy's tournament the following weekend.

The Senior Girls also won the tier 4 banner for the Medicine Hat Notre Dame "Dawg Pound" Volleyball Tournament - congratulations go out to Mrs. Wepler and the Senior Girls "A" team!

Congratulations to our Senior Boys for capturing second place in the League Play-offs yesterday!

Good luck to the girls who enter play-offs on Thursday!

**Holy Trinity's Annual Meeting**

As per the pamphlet sent home with students last week, we would like to invite you all to the Annual General Meeting on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. A video link to the meeting will be hosted at St. Joseph School for those of you unable to attend the meeting in Moose Jaw. For more information, please contact the school. Thanks.