

NEWSLETTER

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS



It is with great pleasure that we welcome **Mrs. Britany Burnett** to the role of **Chief Financial Officer** with a start date of July 2, 2025.

Mrs. Burnett holds a distinguished educational background equipping her with a deep understanding of financial management and strategic decision-making.

With her amassed and diversified training, tremendous experience in Public Accounting and outgoing and endearing personality, Mrs. Burnett will be a wonderful addition to our divisional team.

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We are pleased to announce the appointment of **Mrs. Michelle Walkeden** as Principal of St. Michael School, to begin the 2025/26 school year.



Mrs. Walkeden has been a dedicated member of the St. Michael School community for many years, having served as a teacher, Learning Facilitator and most recently, as Vice-Principal.

Her deep commitment to our students, staff, and families is evident in her work and we are confident that she will continue to inspire excellence in her new role.

**Mrs. Sabrina Gulka** will be joining the Senior Administration Team effective August 1, 2025 to the newly established role of **Superintendent of Human Resources**.



Mrs. Gulka currently serves as the Principal of St. Michael School in Weyburn, and has been a dedicated member of the Holy Family community throughout her entire career. and has consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to Catholic education.

As a key member of the senior leadership team, she will play a vital role in supporting our schools and staff.

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Join us in welcoming **Mr. Tyson O'Dell** to our school division as Vice Principal at St. Michael School, commencing August 25, 2025.



Mr. O'Dell comes to our division with a wealth of experience in the classroom as well as at the administration level. Known for his deep commitment to student success, Mr. O'Dell is a passionate advocate for supporting the most vulnerable learners.

Mr. O'Dell will undoubtedly be a strong asset to both our division and the St. Michael School community.

THE GIFT OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION



Publicly funded Catholic Education is one of the greatest gifts we share here in the province of Saskatchewan—an investment in the future of our children and our communities. It reflects a deep commitment to equal opportunity and the belief that every child deserves access to quality learning, regardless of their faith background or individual circumstance. In our schools, students not only develop academic skills but also grow in character, creativity, citizenship AND their faith.

As parents and guardians, your role in this partnership is critical. One of the most powerful ways you support your child's success is by ensuring consistent attendance. Regular school attendance helps build routine, deepens understanding, and allows students to fully engage in classroom experiences that cannot be replaced easily. Current research consistently shows a very strong link between attendance and achievement—students who attend regularly are more likely to meet academic expectations, develop strong peer relationships, and experience a sense of belonging.

When we work together—families, schools, and communities—we make the most of this incredible amazing gift. Let us continue to value Catholic Education as a shared responsibility and a foundation for lifelong success. By encouraging regular attendance and nurturing a positive attitude toward learning, we help our children realize their full potential. THANK YOU for entrusting your children to our care and for your ongoing support in making Catholic education a priority for them.

Building Blessing: Exciting Facility Upgrades Ahead!

Holy Family's Facility Department has received some very exciting news! The Ministry of Education has awarded a Minor Capital Project to St. Olivier School in Radville for a full roof replacement! We are presently hard at work on the necessary steps prior to the start of construction!! This will include putting out a tender in the very near future!



We're grateful for this support and look forward to beginning construction soon. Stay tuned for updates as this important project moves forward!

In Matthew 9:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me..." This is certainly the case in Holy Family as we have been blessed with increased enrollments over the years! As a result, we have been granted funding from the Ministry of Education for a new relocatable classroom at St. Michael School in Weyburn. This additional space will be directly attached to the school and will function as a fully equipped, modern classroom—just like the others already in place. This relocatable will be attached directly onto the school and serve as another complete classroom. St. Michael currently has several portables classrooms. In fact, in place already. They look and function the same as all the other classrooms. St. Michael School had our highest utilization rate when it comes to students and instructional space. We anticipate work to begin this July!!!



MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH



In honor of Mental Health Month, Holy Family took an important step toward building awareness and support for mental well-being. We welcomed Tyler Smith, a renowned Mental Health speaker, who brought his powerful message to our schools and community.

Tyler connected with over 500 students across our schools, sparking meaningful conversations and providing tools for self-care and peer support. He also led a community mental health event attended by local residents, where he shared his story, trials and triumphs with our community.

This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to creating a supportive environment where mental health is prioritized and openly discussed. Holy Family will keep working together to break the stigma and ensure everyone in our community feels supported!

In May, we're shining a spotlight on the importance of early learning and celebrating the amazing educators and partners who make it all possible. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated *Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers and support staff*, to our *ECIP program*, and to our *Early Years*

Community Coordinator. Your care, creativity, and commitment lay the foundation for our youngest learners to grow, explore, and succeed.



We also want to give a big shout-out to **WEY FRC/The Family Place** for their ongoing partnership. Together, we're building stronger connections and providing essential support to children and families in our community. Early learning is where it all begins—and we're so proud of the incredible work happening every day!



May is Speech and Hearing Month:

This month, we're celebrating Speech and Hearing Month and recognizing the incredible work of our Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) at Holy Family!

Our SLPs play a vital role in helping students find their voices—whether through improving communication skills, supporting language development, or addressing challenges that impact learning. Their dedication ensures that every student has the tools they need to thrive in and out of the classroom. Thank you to our amazing SLP team for your patience, expertise, and unwavering commitment to our students. You're making a difference every single day, and we're so grateful for all that you do!



Welcoming Our New Shepherd: The New Pope

“Habemus Papam!” We joyfully welcome our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. The election of a new pope reminds us that we are part of a global Church united in love, service, and faith.



Who Is the New Pope?

He has chosen the name Pope Leo XIV which reflects his mission and values.

What Does a Pope Do?

The pope is the successor of Saint Peter, chosen to lead the Church, guide us in our faith, and be a symbol of hope. He teaches us how to live like Jesus, care for one another, and pray as a community.

Let's Pray Together.

Please join us in praying for our new Holy Father:

“Lord, guide and protect our new pope. May he lead with wisdom, compassion, and love. Amen.”



CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

May 25- June 1 is Catholic Education Week in Saskatchewan. This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, *"Pilgrims of Hope."*

There are five sub-themes, one for each day of Catholic Education Week and they are aimed at helping staff and students to reflect more fully on what being Pilgrims of Hope means to them. The five sub-themes are:

Day 1: By honouring human dignity / Honorent la dignité humaine

Day 2: By caring for creation / Prennent soin de la création

Day 3: By responding to the poverties in our world / Luttent contre les pauvretés

Day 4: By serving in solidarity / Servent en solidarité

Day 5: By living as peacemakers / Vivent en artisans de paix

Catholic Education Week is marked by special activities at all grade levels, including prayer celebrations and service activities. Stay tuned to hear an announcement from your child's school to hear what celebrations are planned!



May 25-31: Catholic Education Week

May 26: No School (In School Leadership Day)