



# September Newsletter

## St. Alfred Staff

Our staff for this year is as follows;

Principal – Mr. Bishop  
Secretary – Mrs. Elias  
FDK – Mrs. Roper / Ms. Skrypka  
FDK – Mrs. Palmer-Almond  
FDK – Mrs. Biagi, Mrs. Nieves  
Gr. 1 – Mrs. Worden  
Gr. 1/2 – Mrs. Levitt  
Gr. 2 – Mrs. Heyes  
Gr. 2/3 – Miss DelGobbo  
Gr. 3 – Mrs. Maney  
Gr. 3/4 – Miss Christie  
Gr. 4 – Mr. Pantusa  
Gr. 5 – Mr. Mascio  
Gr. 5/6 – Mrs. Wright  
Gr. 6 – Mr. Federici  
Gr. 7 – Miss Lorence  
Gr. 7/8 – Mrs. Wheeler  
Gr. 8 – Mr. Paxton  
ERT – Mrs. Warner  
FSL – Mme. Santos  
FSL – Mme. Hardy  
PTM – Mrs. Brooks  
PTM – Mr. Goslin  
Music – Mr. Friesen  
ESL – Miss Amorim  
Library – Mrs. Wilson  
EA – Mrs. Egan  
EA – Mrs. Kealey  
EA – Ms. Somoygi  
EA – Mr. McCarthy  
EA – Mr. Martynak  
EA – Mr. Szczepanski  
EA – Mr. Saranchuk  
EA – Mr. Ferrara  
EA – Mrs. Wojcik  
CYW – Mrs. Rogers

## School Cash Online

We continue to encourage all of our families to register online for School Cash so that they can make online payments for things like class trips and hot lunch days. This method is quick and easy, and limits the amount of cash that is being transported to school by our students. If you need any help getting started, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

## Welcome Back

Welcome back, Eagles! We have many new faces that we welcome to our St. Alfred community, with many new students registered for school and many new staff members as well. I trust that everyone has enjoyed the summer and that we are ready to get back to learning. We are all looking forward to a great school year together, with many activities planned in the coming months. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We love to have open dialogue with our parents and guardians!

## Food Sharing

To ensure the safety and well-being of all of the students at St. Alfred we would ask that you not send food in with your child to share with others in their class. This includes special events like your child's birthday, Halloween, Christmas and Valentine's Day. Food sensitivities and food allergies can turn a very innocent sharing into a life threatening event. Thank you in advance for your co-operation with this initiative.

## Safe Arrival

Just a reminder that we continue to use an automated safe arrival system. If your child is absent from school, you must either call the safe arrival system at 1 844 287 6287, visit the website at [go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca) or use the School Messenger mobile app to indicate that they are safe. Student safety is paramount, so thank you in advance for your co-operation in ensuring that the school is notified of your child's absence.

## Catholic School Council

All parents are invited to attend our first Catholic School Council meeting on **Monday, September 23** at 7 PM in our library. If you are interested in being a member of the council, please let the office know prior to this meeting. Please consider taking the time to come to the meeting or to volunteer for our many initiatives. More details will follow about the meeting in the coming days. See you on the 23rd!

## Truth and Reconciliation Day

Saturday, September 30 is Truth and Reconciliation Day in Canada. As a remembrance of this solemn occasion, students are invited to wear orange shirts to school on this day. Teachers will be engaging with students in a number of different activities in remembrance of this important occasion.

## Meet the Teacher Night

On Thursday, September 19, we invite our families to come and meet with their child's teacher. This event will run from 6 PM until 7 PM, and we look forward to seeing many of our families that night!



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## **School Day Schedule**

As you are aware, our school day schedule has changed for this year. School will still begin at 8:30, and students will be in class until 10:40. They will then be outside from 10:40 to 11:00, and then back inside eating from 11:00 until 11:20. They will again be in class from 11:20 until 12:40. They will then go outside from 12:40 until 1:00, and then return inside from 1:00 until 1:20. The school day will end at 2:50. Please be sure to plan your child's lunch and snacks accordingly, as there will be two 20 minute blocks when students are able to eat. Several smaller snacks might work better for some children, others may eat their "lunch" during one break and eat snacks during the other. This will take some adjustment, thank you for your patience.

## **Cell Phones in Class**

The province has changed the rules regarding cell phones and vaping. As we continue to foster a safe and positive learning environment for all students, I would like to remind you of the new regulations regarding cell phone use that have been implemented in Ontario schools.

To minimize distractions and maximize learning, cell phones are only permitted during instructional time when they are being used for educational purposes as directed by the teacher. Outside of these times, students are expected to keep their phones turned off and stored away unless needed for documented learning needs and/or health related requirements. We kindly ask for your support in reinforcing this policy with your children and encouraging them to focus on their studies during school hours.

Please also note that there is no access to social media through our school board network, again in an effort to minimize distractions for students during learning time.

Your cooperation is essential in helping us maintain a healthy and respectful school environment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these rules, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

## **Spirit Wear**

Our school spirit wear provider is Big Bear Spiritwear. You can order directly from Big Bear at the link below, and orders will be delivered to the school.

<https://www.bigbearspritwear.com/st-alfred-catholic-school/>

## **First Communion**

Any parents who are interested in having their child receive the sacrament of First Communion are invited to a parent meeting on Tuesday, September 17 at St. Alfred Church. You may attend either the 10:30 or 6:00 meeting. If your child has not yet been baptized and you are interested in the Rites of Catholic Initiation for Children (RCIA) program, please contact the church at your earliest convenience to begin this process.