



## AUSTIN O'BRIEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

**September 6, 2021**

**Meet the Teacher:** We will be holding a virtual Meet the Teacher evening on Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30pm. We will be emailing the links to the individual teacher meetings next week and will also post the links to our school webpage.

**Alberta Health Services COVID-19 Vaccinations:** COVID-19 immunizations will be available in schools in September and October for eligible students in Grades 7-12. Immunization is an effective means of protecting Albertans from COVID-19, and it is an important part of ensuring our schools can return to normal. Attached is a letter from Alberta Health Services that provides an overview of the program.

Attached to this newsletter is a parent/guardian consent form that includes additional program information. If you will be taking advantage of having your child(ren) getting immunized at school, please complete the consent form and return it to your child's school.

A parent/guardian consent form must be completed for each student that will be vaccinated under this program. AHS has also indicated that parents wanting to receive a vaccination may also do so at their child's school. More information about date and time will be shared with parents by their respective school when the program begins.

**Orange Shirt Day:** Crusader Students and Staff are encouraged to wear an orange shirt on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) Residential School (1891-1981) Commemoration Project and Reunion events that took place in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in May 2013. This project was the vision of Esketemc (Alkali Lake) Chief Fred Robbins, who is a former student himself. It brought together former students and their families from the Secwepemc, Tsilhqot'in, Southern Dakelh and St'at'imc Nations along with the Cariboo Regional District, the Mayors and municipalities, School Districts and civic organizations in the Cariboo Region.

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of this project. As spokesperson for the Reunion group leading up to the events, former student Phyllis (Jack) Webstad told her story of her first day at residential school when her shiny new orange shirt, bought by her grandmother, was taken from her as a six-year old girl.

The annual Orange Shirt Day on September 30<sup>th</sup> opens the door to global conversation on all aspects of Residential Schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they have left behind. A discussion all Canadians can tune into and create bridges with each other for reconciliation. A day for survivors to be reaffirmed that they matter, and so do those that have been affected. Every Child Matters, even if they are an adult, from now on.

The Government of Canada has proclaimed September 30<sup>th</sup> as a new statutory holiday called the *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation*. This proclamation addresses one of the 94 calls to action of The Truth and Reconciliation Commission: "We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process."

**MANY GIFTS, ONE SPIRIT**

### **Post-Secondary Events:**

The dates are posted on our website, and there will be announcements made as well. All presentations will take place in the library. I will have student permission forms available in the library as well. These permission forms will be required for admission and must be signed by the student's teacher for that block.

University of Alberta: September 14th 1:45-2:30

NAIT: September 28th 10:30-11:12

Concordia University: October 8th 2:00-2:48N

MacEwan University: TBA

School Wide Post-Secondary Fair (includes most Alberta institutions): October 5th 9-11 am in the gymnasium

The schedule for the fair will include all grade levels. All presentations as of now, are in-person.

**Crusader Senior Football Schedule:** Crusader parents, students, staff, and fans are welcome to cheer on our senior football team on the following dates:

<b>Senior Football Schedule</b>		
AOB vs ABJ @ Emerald Hills(scrimmage)	Fri Sept 3	@8:00pm
AOB vs Spruce Grove @ Fuhr Park	Fri Sept 10	@5:30
Ross Shep vs AOB @ JP Bowl	Fri Sept 24	@7:30
Salisbury vs AOB @ JP Bowl	Fri Oct 1	@7:30
AOB vs Bev Facey @ Emerald Hills	Thurs Oct 7	@5:00
AOB vs Bellerose @ Larry Olexiuk Field	Fri Oct 14	@5:00
Harry Ainlay vs AOB @ Clarke Stadium	Fri Oct 22	@7:30