



Administrators' Message

Dear students, parents and caregivers:

We have undergone a significant amount of planning and organizing for student safety during this extraordinary time. We want to thank the parents and caregivers who have been diligent in monitoring their children for symptoms prior to sending them to school. This element of risk mitigation is essential for the continued smooth operation of FMT. Frequently, we are given new information that helps us to streamline our efforts.

[Please Click on this LINK](#) to See current Alberta Health updates regarding Alberta's school response to COVID 19.

Learn more about [Symptoms and testing](#).

[Watch this clip](#) of the Chief Medical Officer of Health discussing COVID-19 symptoms.

If someone has these symptoms	They are required to do this	We also recommend this
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fever ● Cough ● Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing ● Runny nose ● Sore throat 	<p>The student is required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days from when their symptoms started or until their symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The student should be tested for COVID-19. ● If COVID-19 test results are negative and they do not have a known exposure to COVID-19, the student should stay

		<p>home from school until their symptoms go away.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If the COVID-19 test results are positive, the student should follow the instructions they receive from Alberta Health Services (AHS) Public Health.
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If someone has these symptoms	They are required to do this	We also recommend this
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chills ● Painful swallowing ● Stuffy nose ● Headache ● Muscle or joint aches ● Feeling unwell, fatigue or severe exhaustion ● Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or unexplained loss of appetite) ● Loss of sense of smell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are no mandatory requirements to isolate for these symptoms, however, it is recommended that a student stay at home until their symptoms go away. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The student should be tested for COVID-19. ● If COVID-19 test results are negative and they do not have a known exposure to COVID-19, the student should stay home from school until their symptoms go away. ● If the COVID-19 test results are positive, the student should follow the instructions they

<p>or taste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pink eye (conjunctivitis) 		<p>receive from AHS Public Health.</p>
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Here are some important messages for our students:

1. You are the focus of the class, not the teacher. You are important as a learner and a human being in our school.
2. You are capable of anything.
3. You will be expected to engage in the learning activities during class time. You will be an active learner. Your teachers, as the class facilitators, will be just that –facilitators. Their job will be to introduce the learning activities, but you will be responsible for the actual learning.
4. Everything you do—good or ‘bad’—affects everyone else in the room or online. That means everything you do matters because you matter.
5. Struggling is a part of learning. If it’s simple or simply done, you’re probably not learning anything.
6. Your mindset matters more than anything you do or don’t know/are or are not ‘good’ at, etc.
7. Do your best and make us proud!

J. Fillion
Principal

K. Lupul
Assistant Principal

Custodian Appreciation Day

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to take the time to say thank you to all of the custodial and maintenance staff who make sure that our schools and sites are clean and safe places for the students and staff who spend a significant part of each day there. The important role of our custodial and maintenance staff has become even more evident as our eyes are focused on preventing the spread of COVID-19 in our schools and sites. Their service allows us to begin each workday with security and confidence. Thank you Mr. Stawnichy, Mrs. Heer and Mr. Acidre, for keeping us safe.

World Teachers' Day

UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the body which is responsible for **World Teachers' Day, Monday, October 5**, has chosen the theme **Teachers: Leading in Crisis, reimagining the future** this year. They share the following:

The day provides the occasion to celebrate the teaching profession worldwide, take stock of achievements, and draw attention to the voices of teachers, who are at the heart of efforts to attain the global education target of leaving no one behind. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly added to the challenges faced by already over-extended education systems throughout the world... The issue of teacher leadership in relation to crisis responses is not just timely, but critical in terms of the contributions teachers have made to provide remote learning, support vulnerable populations, re-open schools, and ensure that learning gaps have been mitigated. The discussions surrounding WTD will also address the role of teachers in building resilience and shaping the future of education and the teaching profession.

You can learn more about the UNESCO theme and celebrations for World Teachers' Day by [clicking here](#).

Student Expectations During COVID 19

As you can probably imagine, COVID 19 has created additional challenges to our educational reality. Alberta Education and our Division has determined a baseline threshold for safety considerations for our sites which have been widely distributed. It is critical that, regardless of our own personal thresholds for these measures, we maintain that baseline while in school and hopefully in the community. As we hold responsibility for each others' well-being, we must engage in actions that protect one another. To that end, we thank you and our students for your fidelity to the plan and your flexibility to adjust as needed when our context or circumstances change.

We have been in contact with several parents as there are a number of students who have required multiple reminders about masks and/or distancing. Our protocol is that we either: maintain 2 m physical distance; or if unable to distance, keep our masks on. While there is reduced risk in outdoor settings, we are still asking students to follow these guidelines on school grounds (and hopefully everywhere else). Please discuss this with your child to stress the important safety consideration of this policy to our entire school community.

Given the importance of compliance, there will be very little room for flexibility. We have had clear direction from Alberta Health and our Division in creating our safety procedures. As per the Education Act, we must ensure that student conduct contributes to a safe learning environment. Repeated failure to follow COVID 19 safety protocols may necessitate an in-school or out-of-school suspension.

OCTOBER DATES

October 2- Custodian Appreciation Day

October 5- World Teacher Day

October 9 - Picture Orders Due to Lifetouch

October 12- Thanksgiving- No school

October 26 - Picture Retakes (**online** students, please call the office to set up an appointment for your child)

October 29 - Faith Development Day - No school

October 30 - Halloween Festivities (COVID 19 Modified)

Halloween Considerations and Guidance during Covid

- Covid masks must still be worn
- Full face masks are not allowed
- No replicated weapons are allowed
- Costumes must allow for sanitization and washing of hands – therefore no hand covering.
- No sharing of candy among students
- If teachers are handing out treats – all treats must be individually packaged and handed out by the teacher after they have sanitized their hands; they will also be utilizing gloves when distributing.
- Sadly, we will not be having a Dance.



School Pictures

Is your child in 7E, 8E or 9E (online)? Pictures have arrived and can be picked up on Monday, Oct 5 at the front of the school from 8:45 until Noon. Orders need to be made through Lifetouch prior to Oct 9th.

A NOTE FROM OUR OFFICE

All parents/ guardians should have a PowerSchool Parent Login. If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact Cheryl at 780-471-1962.

REMINDER: If your contact information has changed, or if your Immigration Status has changed, please contact the office.

CLOSED CAMPUS

In the interest of student safety, Father Michael Troy is a closed campus. All students must stay on campus during school hours. Students have permission to leave the campus if the parents have notified the office in advance in writing or by email. We have a form for parents to fill out for this purpose.

Visitors to the School

Parents are key partners in their child's education. We encourage parents to make phone or online appointments with school staff rather than in-person visits to the school. As a Catholic school community, scheduled visits from the Parish team (priest, youth workers) will continue to be welcomed into the school, following standard safety protocols.

FIRE LANE ACCESS

In response to recommendations from the City of Edmonton Fire Department and the Edmonton Police Service, and with student safety in the forefront, the fire lane at the front of the school will only be accessible to emergency vehicles again this year. The fire lane entrance and exit will be available for student drop off in the morning, but will be closed to vehicular traffic starting at 10 am daily.

If you choose to pick your child up from school, please park on the streets adjacent to the school each afternoon, and obey the rules of the road when parking your vehicle and when exiting the area. As well, please ensure that your child utilizes the crosswalk when crossing the street.

Please note that if your child is experiencing mobility issues at any point throughout the year that you can contact the school to arrange for pick up at the front of the school.

Thank you for your understanding as we work together with the City of Edmonton Fire and Police Services in making the entrance and exit of our students as safe as possible.

Volleyball at FMT

We have begun our afterschool volleyball program with some additional safety considerations in place.

1. All equipment will be sanitized prior to and after each practice.
2. The players will sanitize at the beginning of practice (prior to removing masks) and at the end of practice (prior to returning masks to face).
3. There will be no high fives, fist bumps, chest bumps permitted at any time during practice.
4. Volleyball team cohorts will be limited to a maximum of 24 kids. These kids will practice 2 times each week. We may add a 3rd practice if the kids are interested.
5. Confined spaces will not be used. No locker rooms etc.
6. Students are expected to follow each of these precautions.

Renaissance Program at FMT

The Renaissance Program at Father Michael Troy is a program that affirms and recognizes the efforts and academic achievements of students. We recognize students through the ***Wall of Fame recognition cards, Renaissance Rallies (may be different this year), The Spirit of Father Troy Awards, BUG OUT Program, Random classroom visits (again different), and Celebrations of Success.***

Although we do budget for this program we always appreciate donations. Your donation goes directly to supporting student recognition - prizes for draws, incentives and social celebrations that highlight student achievement. If you can assist us or know of a business that would support Renaissance, please let us know.

The **Children's Mental Health Centre** is a community-based program that offers a full range of Clinical Services for children, adolescents and their families which includes psychological and diagnostic assessment services provided by multi-disciplined professional staff. Some of the services offered include Individual or Family Counselling, Parent Support Groups, Group Counselling for Teens and Group Counselling for Pre-Teen/Children. For more information and fees call 780-482-1717.

The Family Centre is offering various courses and workshops from their Education Services Department regarding *raising teenagers, co-parenting, raising children in blended families* and more. For further detail on these courses, please contact The

Family Centre for more information and cost at 780-917-8205 or

www.the-family-centre.com

Positive Parenting website full of resources and parenting ideas for all stages of development <http://www.positiveparentingconnection.net/>

Family School Liaison Worker

Wendy Shobe is our FSLW who can assist families with many issues they may face. Her email is wendy.shobe@ecsd.net

Parent Council Meeting and General Elections

The next meeting is online on **November 16th at 6:30**. We welcome all parents who wish to participate to please use the link below to join our Teams Meeting at that time.

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

[Learn more about Teams](#) | [Meeting options](#)

If you have questions about our School Council, please contact Melissa Bonnell, our school council chairperson at melissabonnell@yahoo.ca

Digital Citizenship

Our message to our students this month is that of respecting what the Responsible Use Agreement sets out. We want to make sure that everyone abides by the conditions set out in this document.

[.https://www.ecsd.net/ParentsStudents/ParentResources/Documents/responsible_use_agreement.pdf](https://www.ecsd.net/ParentsStudents/ParentResources/Documents/responsible_use_agreement.pdf)

We are blessed to have Wi-Fi in all our schools, allowing students access to the internet. They can use their personal devices to access the internet through WI-FI and they can use their own 4G/LTE networks. We are encouraging our students to use these networks responsibly to avoid potential issues that might affect them being able to access them.

We would ask that, as parents, you encourage your children to use technology wisely and appropriately. Our online reputations are important, and they can greatly impact our future. Please continue to educate yourself in the ever-changing world of Social Media, both its perks and its pitfalls. The internet is a great place to research this information. If any parent would like to speak to a STAY member, please contact your school directly and they will help you with this. See the link for a great resource.

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>

Phys Ed Teachers present the FMT Students of the Month

Each month, our PE teachers will be selecting 2 students of the month from each grade. This is to celebrate effort, participation and attitude. These students' photos will be posted in the gym and they will receive an FMT water bottle. Congratulations!!!



September Gr. 7 - Sarah G. & Juan Marin O. Gr. 8 - Ashley J. & Ethan S. Gr. 9- Caitlyn F. & Emmanuel O.