



Holy Spirit Flyer



"Grow With the Spirit"

Volume 7 Number 4

Serving Grade K- 8 Students in Devon, Alberta

December, 2011

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Christmas Concert Practices are well under way for this year's festivities. Pictured above are some of the cast from the Primary Concert which includes students from Kindergarten to Grade 3. For times and dates please see page 7 for more details on both concerts.

Holy Spirit



Evergreen serves Catholic families in Devon, Hinton, Spruce Grove, Stony Plain and Westlock. For more information call the board office at 1-800-825-7152. The next school board meeting is **Monday, December 12th at 2:00 p.m.** in the Division Offices at Holy Trinity Church in Spruce Grove. Our next School Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday January 10th** in our **Staff Room at Holy Spirit School.** All Holy Spirit School parents are welcome.

Inside this Issue:

Remembrance Day Ceremony, Grade Three India Day, Student Union: Crazy Hair Day & Hugs from Holy Spirit Donations and Candy Cane Grams, Volleyball Finals & Basketball Tryouts, Christmas Concert Dates and Times, Oliver Twist Prop Donation Wish List, Food Hampers for Devon Christmas Elves.....and much more



The Devon Christmas Elves have brought two donation boxes to Holy Spirit. Donations of new toys and non-perishable food items will help local families. Holy Spirit Staff request that you donate to charity rather than give Teacher gifts so those who need are cared for first. Thank you for your help!

Evergreen CSRD #2 Schools: Holy Spirit K-8, Devon; St. Joseph - K-4; St. Marguerite - Gr. 5-8; St. Thomas Aquinas High School - Gr. 9-12, Spruce Grove; John Paul II - K- 8, Stony Plain; St. Mary - K-12, Westlock; St. Gregory- K-4; Gerard Redmond - 5-12, Hinton

Important Dates

- December 4 Second Sunday of Advent
- December 6 Feast of St. Nicholas
- December 7 Early Dismissal 1:45 pm
- December 8 Immaculate Conception
- December 11 Third Sunday of Advent
- December 14 Primary- Kindergarten—Grade 3
Christmas Concert 1 pm & 7pm
- December 15 Elementary- Grades 4-6
Christmas Concert 1 pm & 7 pm
- December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent
- December 23 Last Day of Classes &
School Mass 9:15 am
- January 9 First Day of Classes 2012



Staff and students recognized Remembrance Day with a wonderful ceremony attended by many special guests. Pictured above is Corporal William James Stout, an Afghanistan veteran. He shared with student the role played by the Canadian Army around the world.

Parish News

Catholic Girls League

Welcoming girls ages 10 -16

Join us Dec. 3rd & 17th 3:00—4:30 pm

St. Maria Goretti Church

We meet the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month.

Come join the fun!

Contact: Mrs. Phedelia Arnold (780) 987-9169

PARISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Children's Liturgy of the Word and many other jobs at our Parish. Call the Parish St. Maria Goretti at 780-987-2858 or Margaret Cargill, Education Co-ordinator at 780-987-0353.

Ambassadors For Christ Youth Group

Welcoming youth aged 12 to 18 years old

Youth and Family Christmas Potluck

Friday December 2nd at

St. Maria Goretti Church

Begins with Mass at 6 pm

\$5 gift exchange (good for a girl or a boy)

RSVP Connie Fraser 780-987-5425



Where is Father James?



In November Father James attended our Remembrance Day Ceremony. Several special guests attended including those pictured at left. Please see more information about Father James on Page 5

Current Events



Grade 3 India Day



Grade 3 classes celebrated India Day together. The students enjoyed many activities including hand painting, yoga and eating several Indian dishes that were interesting to sample. Pictured above left are Mrs. Laarz and Mrs. Joyce in their traditional Indian Sari's. Pictured above and to the right is Kaitlyn showing her painted hand. Below are students hand painting with brown felt pen markers to look like henna and students practicing yoga with Mrs. Glebe.



New Grade 5 Teacher

Christmas came early this year when Alberta Education added money to our school budget and we were able to hire Caitlin Swaren, pictured above, to teach grade five.

We welcome her many talents. The 5/6 split class, the regular grade five class and the regular grade six class have been reconfigured into two grade five and two grade six classes. This will greatly reduce the number of students in each class and will help us better serve the needs of our students.



Celebrating her 60th Birthday was not the quiet event that Mrs. Stecyk may have hoped for. 60 students presented her with a carnation and a hug to show a small amount of our appreciation for all she does in our school library and around the school. Her angel wings are showing in the picture above.



Sports News

Volleyball Ends and Basketball Begins

Volleyball finals for the Junior Girls team took place in Ermineskin School Tuesday November 15th.

The Junior Boys did not have to travel as far since their final games were in Devon at Holy Spirit and Riverview. The Flyer boys team managed to win silver medals in a fast paced game against Thorsby. Congratulations to all our volleyball players who learned a lot of skills this year.

Thanks to all the Teachers who coached: Mr. Hardy, Mrs. Weins and Mrs. Kearley.

Basketball tryouts will begin in early December. Practices will take place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays with all games being played on Thursdays. Once the LDAA schedule is made your child will bring home a schedule and we will post it on the school web site.



Health & Wellness News

DE-Stress in December

Managing stress is the subject for Alberta Health Services Health Talk December 2011 Newsletter. Visit their website for more information

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca>



Rainbows & Sunbeams Available

These Grief Peer Support groups are available if enough people express interest. Family and Community Support is also now available in Devon. Dealing with divorce and death can be tough and a peer support group can reassure students that they are not alone and that there is always hope for a happy future. Please contact Mrs. Vani at 780-987-5730 for info.

Grade Seven Students Attend a "Challenge Day" at Riverview



Holy Spirit Catholic School grade seven students, teachers and parent volunteers, spent November 30th at Riverview working in teams to "challenge" one another. The day centered around learning that each of us has value and all of us are dealing with a variety of issues in our lives.

By learning to value one another more sincerely, students are encouraged to be kind to one another and to recognize and avoid bullying.

Arts & Entertainment

The Musical Adventures of Oliver Twist



This year, our school is producing the musical "Oliver Twist" slated for early February! We are looking for the following materials: If you are able to loan, construct, or donate the following materials, please contact Meg Wiens at the school. Or email:

mweins@ecsrd.ca

Thanks in advance for your help!!

What We Need Wishlist:

Wallpaper—old fashioned
Wooden table
Two wooden benches
Small round table
White tablecloth
Two arm chairs
Cane
Cocked hat
Bowler hat
Antique or formal umbrellas
Wooden chests
Costume jewelry, coins, and bags of money (not the real stuff).
Handkerchiefs (male and female)
Pistols (x3)
2 Easy chairs
Straight back chair
Small stool
Wooden club
Handcuffs (x2)
Pieces of iron fence or replica
Late 1800's English attire including jackets, dresses, pants, shoes, hats, canes, bib overalls, or anything that may contribute to the mood of the play.



On Thursday, November 24th, the Grade 4 students visited the Energy Discovery Centre to learn about energy sources in Alberta. (Pictured above is both grade four classes.) Our province is known as the "Energy" province due to all of its natural resources. The students watched a movie about the oil discovery near Devon; explored the interactive learning lab; and were inside the giant drill bit. It was exciting.

CHRISTMAS PLAY Dates and Times:

***Kindergarten—Grade
3 Students:
December 14th, 2011
1 pm and 7 pm**

***Grades 4—6
December 15th, 2011
1 pm and 7 pm**



Grade six student Adria is pictured above working on an art project based on a work by Vincent Van Gogh. Learning about art in this way is a lesson in history, composition and of course patience. Well done!



Gratitude Graffiti



Student Council Activities

Thank you to Student Council for organizing some fun and kind activities. Crazy Hair Day which was held Friday November 18th. Warm Hugs From Holy Spirit was a first time event where donations of warm winter clothing were taken to charitable organizations for families who need. The mountain of donations was impressive and we thank all the Holy Spirit families who dug in their closets for these very useful and timely items. Pictured to the left are the girls loading the coats into Mrs. Kearley's car. Another event for December will be Candy Cane Grams available for purchase at both recesses for only fifty cents each. The Candy Cane Grams will be on sale until December 19th and then delivered to the classes by council members.

Grade Four Students Received Bibles From K of C

In grade four, students at Holy Spirit Catholic School study the Bible, learning about each of the different books in the bible, when and by whom they were written and how to begin their own study of the Bible.

Each year, the Knights of Columbus from St. Maria Goretti Parish donate bibles for our grade four students.

A celebration was held on November 18th at St. Maria Goretti Parish. During the celebration, Father James blessed the bibles and grade four students participated in a celebration of song and prayer.

Special thanks to Mr. Bolkowy and Ms. LaPointe for helping prepare this celebration.



Mrs. Glebe and Mr. MacLellan presented each student with a bible. After receiving their bibles, the grade 4 student's sang the song (Holy Ground). After the celebration they got some snacks that the parents provided. Then the students went back to school. By Liem

Thanks for the Donations!

A special thank you for donations and fund raising that have allowed Holy Spirit School to purchase all of the new games you see in the flex space.

Money was raised through donations of Canadian Tire Money and profits from the sale of Smoothies. These were used to make some of the purchases.

We owe a special thank you to the Swityk family for donations of a foosball table and shuffleboard. AWESOME!

HAMPERS FOR DEVON CHRISTMAS ELVES

As we prepare for the Christmas season our school community is helping the Devon Christmas Elves fill food hampers for those in our community that need assistance. Each class in the school has been asked to fill a hamper.

This can be an expensive and stressful time of year so if you are able to help it would be greatly appreciated. Your child's teacher will send more detailed information regarding what items to contribute. The hampers need to be ready by December 9th.



Phone Directory

Staff	Extensions	Assignment
Mr. Dempsey	111	Principal
Mrs. Glebe	110	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Barron	115	Counseling and Special Education
Mrs. Herriman	100	Kindergarten
Ms. Teasdale	101	Grade 1
Mrs. Vant Hoff	102	Grade 1
Mrs. Pocha	105	Grade 2
Mrs. Johns	104	Grade 2
Mrs. Joyce	107	Grade 3
Mrs. Laarz	106	Grade 3
Mr. Bolkowy	201	Grade 4
Ms. Lapointe	202	French/Grade 4
Mrs. Jensen	206	Grade 5/6
Mrs. Tamblyn	207	Grade 5
Mrs. Kearley	205	Grade 6
Mrs. Weins	200	Grade 7
Ms. Gardner	109	Grade 8
Mr. Mazurek	107	Grade 7
Mr. Hardy	137	Phys. Ed
Mrs. Tamblyn	207	Special Ed.

General Office

Mrs. Vani	300	School Secretary
Mrs. Swityk	116	Financial Secretary
Mrs. Stecyk	133	Librarian

Teacher Assistant

Mrs. C. Jensen	Mrs. Berube
Mrs. Shields	Mrs. Marshall
Mrs. Hugh	Mrs. Miron

Custodial Staff

Goran Ilievski
Amy Tkachuk

Medication Policy For Students

Students needing occasional medications, such as puffers, allergy medication, aspirin, etc, are to take those medications at home whenever possible. Medication that needs to be given at school must have a completed medication instruction form as well as an 'Authorization for the Administration of Medication' form filled out by a legal guardian. These forms are available at our school office. ALL medication that comes into the school must be turned into the office. We do not want students storing medicine in their lockers. For safety reasons, medicines are stored centrally at the office where they are supervised and safely administered when required. Also, for liability reasons we are not able to give over the counter nor prescription medicine to a student unless we have a waiver signed by the parent. We ask your full cooperation as we are primarily concerned with the health and safety of all our students. Thank you.

No Child Without: Free allergy bracelets.

Canadian Medic Alert Foundation partners with schools across Canada to provide Medic Alert bracelets at no cost to children 14 and younger. To enroll in the program please request a brochure from our school office.

Parent Advisory Council still looking for President, Vice President and volunteers to be committee members. Please contact Mr. Dempsey with your best ideas and you too can become more involved at your child or grand child's school. Call 780-987-5730 for more information.

Lost & Found Items

Before the Christmas Holidays all Lost and Found Items are donated to charity. Please remember to go through the many items before or after the Christmas Concerts.



All of our Evergreen Schools use Parkland Student Transportation busses. When busses are cancelled due to weather it is announced on major radio stations like 630 CHED and CISN and on their website. Please contact Parkland Student Transportation for more information:
1-780-963-8452.

December 2011

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name. Psalm 63:4

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	5	6 <i>Feast of St. Nicholas</i>	7 <i>Early Dismissal 1:45</i>	8	9	10
11 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	12	13	14 K- Gr.3 <i>Primary Christmas Concert 10 am & 7 pm</i>	15 Gr. 4-6 <i>Elementary Christmas Concert 1 pm & 7 pm</i>	16	17
18 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	19	20	21	22	23 <i>Last Day of Classes School Mass at 9:15 am</i>	24
25 	26	27	Christmas Vacation- Classes resume January 9th			31 