

Welcome to St. Anthony School

Student Information Handbook



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Principal's Message

I am pleased to welcome you to St. Anthony School! Whether you are new to Drayton Valley or you have chosen St. Anthony School for a different reason, we are honoured that you will allow us to be part of your child's educational journey.

Please take the time to look through this document for information about the upcoming school year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

All Done in His Name,
Mrs. Janelle Molzan
Principal

Attending a Catholic School

We welcome students from many faith backgrounds to attend our school. All students attending St. Anthony School will be expected to attend our school assemblies, liturgies and Masses (both at the school and parish). Only students who have received their First Communion and Reconciliation in the Catholic Church will participate in receiving the Eucharist and Reconciliation; however, all students can participate by receiving a blessing at these times.

By attending our Catholic school, you are choosing to have your children educated in faith-based education. We teach the same Alberta curriculum as other publicly funded schools, while we permeate faith into teaching and daily interactions with others. We strive to teach our students to live and love like Jesus.

School Calendar

Our 2024-2025 school year begins on September 3, 2024 for students. Our office is open starting August 28th at 12pm. Please find the calendar using [this link](#).

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Bell Times

Doors Open at **8:18am** – Please do not drop your child off before this time, as there is no supervision.

8:33 am– School day begins. Students attend morning prayer and announcements in the gym

8:48– Return to class for regularly scheduled classes

10:45– First Recess

11:05– First Nutrition Break

11:20– Regularly scheduled classes

12:39– Second Recess

12:59– Second Nutrition Break

1:14– Regularly scheduled classes

3:11– Dismissal time

Our school day ends at **3:11pm**. Please have your child's pick up pre-planned, as the office staff and our teachers are already extremely busy. It may be helpful to write the plan in your child's agenda in case they forget.

Students that wish to stay after school to play on the playground **MUST** have a parent/guardian present, or they will be asked to go home. They are welcome to come back **after 4pm**, understanding that there is no supervision or access to the school.

***Please Note that our lunch times have changed. We will be following a balanced day for nutrition breaks. Students will be encouraged to eat half of their lunch during each break. Lunch orders (once up and running) will be given out at the second nutrition break.

Allergies

As part of our commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment for all students, we want to inform you that our school has a few students and staff members with severe nut allergies. These allergies are life-threatening and require us to take extra precautions to ensure the safety of our school community.

We kindly request that you avoid sending any nuts or nut-containing products in your child's lunch. This includes peanuts, tree nuts, and products that may contain traces of nuts. Your cooperation in this matter will greatly help us in preventing any potential allergic reactions and ensuring a safe environment for all.

Acceptable Use of Technology

Each student at St. Anthony School is equipped with a school Google account. This allows them to access our computers at school, as well as their account at home. Teachers will share your child's information with you when they begin using computers in class. In order to prepare for this, parents will need to sign the acceptable use of technology form. This will be sent home in September, if you have not already signed it.

*** As part of our commitment to maintaining a focus and engaging learning environment, cell phones and smart watches will not be permitted during school hours. Students in Kindergarten to Grade six should be leaving their devices at home. If they are brought to school, they will be required to be kept in their lockers and will not be the responsibility of the school.

Students in Junior High (Gr.7&8) will be required to hand in their devices at the beginning of the school day. These devices will be securely locked in the teacher's closet and returned to students at dismissal.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping us create an environment where all students can concentrate fully on their studies and develop healthy social skills.

Please click [this link](#) to review the Minister's letter regarding cell phone usage.

Dress Code

It is expected that students dress in a manner that is modest and not revealing. This would include stomachs and undergarments being covered, shoulder straps at least 3 fingers wide, shorts & skirts mid-thigh or longer, etc. **Our school dress code applies to all students, for all activities.** (This includes after-school sports) Students not meeting these expectations will be asked to change or contact parents to exchange the clothing items. Headwear is not permitted inside the school, unless it is for a special dress up day. All students must have designated indoor shoes at all times.

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School Supplies

St. Anthony School partners with School Start to make ordering school supplies easy for parents. For a quick link to St. Anthony School Supply Lists, [click here](#). This will provide you with the list and the option to purchase school supplies through School Start or purchase them on your own.

Fees

School fees are posted to School Cash Online in the fall. If you need help accessing this program, please contact the office. A breakdown of costs will be provided.

*Additional fees may arise throughout the school year for field trips, extra curricular activities, and electives (junior high).

School Clothing

If you are interested in purchasing school clothing, use [this link](#) to shop and place your order. There are many items to choose from that you are able to customize with your preference of our logos!

Attendance

If your child will be away from school, please contact the office. Attendance is completed each day to ensure the well-being of our students. The best way to let the school know about your child's absence is through email. You can use the email address ant.lg.attendance@starcatholic.ab.ca to or call 780-542-4396.

Please find a copy of the [STAR Catholic Attendance Brochure here](#) for more information.

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Messages During the School Day

There are so many things that can come up during the school day that can change plans for how your child is getting home after school. It is helpful when you know ahead of time to ensure your child knows the plan. If your child is younger, you can also connect with his/her teacher in advance and they can often help remind your child if the plan is different than usual. In situations where plans change while your child is at school, please connect with our wonderful office staff. They will be sure to pass the message along during one of our two break times. Please notify the office of any messages prior to 1:00pm to limit disruption to classes. It is also important not to rely on a message directly to the teacher during the school day, as they may not have an opportunity to check emails or other means of communication while they are teaching. You can find the school's contact information on the last page of this document.

Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is conducive to learning while creating a safe, caring, and welcoming environment. STAR Catholic's Student Code of Conduct is supported by the Education Act. Students are guided to ensure they do their best to live like Jesus. When students act outside of the Student Code of Conduct, responses are most often restorative, rather than punitive. Creating a supportive network between home and school is imperative for student success. To view the Student Code of Conduct, please [click here](#).

Student Drop Off & Pick Up

We are so excited to see your child on the first day of school! It can be very exciting, but also overwhelming for children and families. We encourage parents/guardians to **drop children off and pick them up** at their assigned door. Please see the door assignments below.

For parents/guardians of **Kindergarten** students, you are welcome to drop your child off and pick up at their classroom door for the month of September only. After routines have become familiar, we will be asking for parents to be dropping off and picking up at their child's assigned door.

Designated Doors:

Grades K&1- Southwest Bootroom

Grade 2- South Door (past playground)

Grades 3&4- Northwest Bootroom

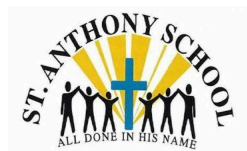
Grades 5&6- Back Door

Grades 7&8- Front Door

Bus Students in Grades 5-8- Front Door

****If students are needing to be picked up within the regular school day hours, please contact the office ahead of time to make arrangements. Parents/guardians are to wait at the office and the student will be called down.**

Parking Lot



Front Parking Lot Pick Up & Drop Off

Please help support us by following these guidelines for our parking lot.

1. Curbside - No Parking



Please use the curbside area as loading and unloading only. If you need to get out of your vehicle, park in angled parking.

2. Use the Crosswalk



Students, staff and parents are asked to use the crosswalk and cross only when the crossing guard permits to do so.

This helps with the flow of traffic and keeps everyone safe.

3. No Loading in Drive Lane



Do not have your child enter or exit the vehicle while stopped in the middle of the drive lane. This creates an unsafe environment as well as interrupts the traffic flow.

4. Keep Accessibility Parking Clear

Please do not park or stop in the accessibility parking unless you have a permit clearly displayed.



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Visitors & Volunteers

All visitors to the school are required to sign in at the office kiosk. We ask that visitors remain at the front office until they are greeted and welcomed in, by our staff.

Our school thrives on the support and dedication of our wonderful parent and community volunteers. Your involvement not only enriches our students' experiences but also helps create a vibrant and nurturing educational environment. Volunteer opportunities can range from joining a class on a walk to the parish to reading with a few students, to making a trip to the good will. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information on how you can contribute, please contact our school office. *** Our volunteers must have a completed volunteer package, which can take a few weeks to complete.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school and we will help point you in the right direction.

Main Office

780-542-4396

ant.lg.attendance@starcatholic.ab.ca

Mrs. Sherri Urchyshyn

Mrs. George McGee

Principal: Mrs. Janelle Molzan

janelle.molzan@starcatholic.ab.ca

Vice Principal: Mrs. Nicole Kotyk

nicole.kotykh@starcatholic.ab.ca

Learning Support Facilitator: Mrs. Grace Nyamweya

grace.nyamweya@starcatholic.ab.ca

Family & School Liaison Worker: Miss Kristina Hutchinson

kristina.hutchinson@starcatholic.ab.ca

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All Staff: first.lastname@starcatholic.ab.ca

