



HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY



# September Newsletter

## Welcome Back!

With the school year ready to begin, we are excited to welcome everyone back and wanted to share some changes, updates, and important dates that are coming up!

### September Dates to Remember

- Sept. 3 First Day Grade 9's **ONLY**.  
Grade 10—12 Schedules  
~ Available After 1:00 pm **ONLY**
- Sept. 4 All Students first day of classes
- Sept. 18 Opening Mass  
Terry Fox Walk, Hot Dog Lunch,  
Parking Lot Party  
BBQ Supper & Meet the Teachers 5:30 pm
- Sept. 20 No School—Teachers only
- Sept. 27 Truth & Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day  
Youth Event (Details Page 3)
- Sept. 30 No School—National Truth & Reconciliation

### Updates & Payments

Payments for various fees as well as permission forms are all accessible through the School Cash Online Portal. To access this please go to our website and scroll to the very bottom of our page. You will see a Quick Links drop down menu, choose School Cash Online and it will take you to the portal where you can either login or setup an account.



### Bell Times 2024-2025

Our class schedule will remain the same as last year. We will have we 1 ¼ hour blocks and a 45 minute Tutorial/Flex block, which occurs in the morning between blocks 1 and 2. We will continue with the 2 different Friday schedules which are located on your child's class schedule. We will announce which Friday it is each week to ensure students know what classes they will be attending.

Warning Bell	8:33 am
Block 1	8:35 am—9:49 am
Tutorial	9:51 am—10:36 am
Block 2	10:38 am—11:52 am
Lunch	11:52 am—12:43 pm
Block 3	12:45 pm—1:59 pm
Block 4	2:01 pm—3:15 pm

### PowerSchool

We encourage all families to access PowerSchool. This can be done through our website at HT.Starcatholic.ab.ca. Click on the Menu button (right top corner), then Parents, then PowerSchool. As a parent make sure to choose the Parent link.

You will be able to see your child's attendance (Lates and Absences), marks, and assignments.

This year teachers will be able to mark an assignment as Collected. This means that when an assignment shows as NHI (Not Handed In) it is outstanding and will need to be turned in. Our teachers plan to increase the information accessible through the platform. Report Cards will continue to be online through the portal as well.

If you do not have access or are having difficulty please contact the front office for assistance.

### Information Updates

We distribute our information updates via email and Facebook primarily, please make sure that we have your updated email address and find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/HTAhighschool>



#### Holy Trinity Academy

5749 45 Avenue

Drayton Valley AB T7A 0B6

Phone: 780.621.5735

#### Website:

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## Automated Calls

Automated calls that come home are for absences only. Calls will not be made for excused or late entries.

## Picture Day!

School photos will be October 10, retakes will be November 13.



## School Clothing

School Clothing is available at the office. It is also a great gift idea for Christmas! Contact the front office for more information.



## Faith Corner

Our Holy Trinity Academy Catholic School is ready to welcome students and families back!

With faith, joy and hopefulness, we look forward to a blessed school year. Our faith theme this year is Encountering God's Goodness. When we are orienting our life toward God's Goodness, He opens our eyes to his plan for us, beauty in the ordinary and Christ's presence in all who we encounter.

May God Bless you as you come back to school this year!



## LIFE Framework

### General Notice

Catholic schools share a foundational belief that all children are loved by God, are individually unique. The school has a mission to help each student fulfill their God-given potential in all aspects of their person: physically, academically, socially, morally and spiritually. Catholic schools are committed to using the LIFE (Lived Inclusion For Everyone) framework as a guideline for the creation and operation of student groups that are comprehensive in their approach to inclusion and open to the exploration in a Catholic context of a variety of issues including bullying, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, discrimination, justice, and respectful relationships and language. Alberta legislation recognizes that parents have both the right and responsibility to make informed decisions respecting the education of their children. Please accept this as general notice that students may be organizing LIFE Framework/Diversity clubs at the school in the future. If a LIFE Framework/Diversity club is formed, notification of the formation of the club will be sent to all parents.

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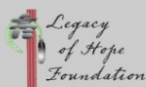
## The National Day for TRUTH & RECONCILIATION Youth Event

September 27th, 2024  
Holy Trinity Academy, Drayton Valley  
10:00 - 11:30 & 1:00 - 2:30  
Grades 9-12

With the Sixties Scoop Thriver Michaela Lewis



- The Legacy of Hope Foundation exhibit
- Bi-Giwen: Coming Home, Truth Telling From the Sixties Scoop
- Elder Guidance
- Drum & Song



contact Alison at astruth@inoqomeducation.ca to book your school

Funded by the Government of Canada

Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



### **\*\* NEW \*\* Tutorial Policy**

#### **TUTORIAL TIME**

Holy Trinity Academy is part of the high school redesign program, and as such incorporates time into the daily schedule to provide opportunities for students to receive extra help. TUTORIAL time is MANDATORY time meant for all gr. 9-12 students to access whatever help is necessary to their academic and emotional well-being. This time can be used to re-teach essential standards, offer support, provide homework help, make-up assignments, conference with students, and offer enrichment. Students **MUST** attend tutorial block in teacher specific rooms, allowing them to receive appropriate assistance. Attendance will be taken during this time, as it is considered class time.

#### **FACULTY ADVISORY and WEEKLY SCHEDULING**

Monday's tutorial block will have a faculty meeting in which you will **choose your tutorial rooms for the week**. You will use PowerSchool and the FLEX SCHEDULE link to select your sessions or see what sessions teachers have requested you. You will also use this time to set goals, share your current marks and performance with your Faculty Advisor, and receive instruction from your Faculty Advisor.

At times, a student may be requested by the teacher to attend subject-specific help sessions. When this request is made, it is mandatory the student attends. Otherwise students can choose their location. Failure to choose open tutorial blocks or attend blocks will be considered an absence and phone calls will go home. \*Parents may also log into PowerSchool Flex Schedule and assign your free blocks.

TUTORIAL TIME IS CONSIDERED CLASS TIME. STUDENTS IN GR. 9 THROUGH 12 ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AND ALL CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS APPLY. NO VIDEO GAMES NOR SOCIAL MEDIA SURFING ARE PERMITTED. THE PC (PHONE POLICY APPLIES TO TUTORIAL TIME) **TUTORIAL IS 9:51-10:36AM DAILY.**

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## Tutorial Policy—Continued

### TUTORIAL BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

	During Tutorial	When Completing Work	When Completing Group Work
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize tutorial time in accordance with requirements.</li> <li>Follow directions.</li> <li>Stay seated.</li> <li>Display good manners.</li> <li>Use appropriate language.</li> <li>Exercise self-control.</li> <li>Be punctual and reliable.</li> <li>Attend all closed tutorials.</li> <li>Positively deal with frustration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus on completing individual work without disrupting others.</li> <li>Use technology appropriately.</li> <li>Access teacher help when needed.</li> <li>Utilize peer assistance in an effective manner.</li> <li>Remain on task.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively and remain on task.</li> <li>Respect the members in your group, communicating effectively to promote success.</li> <li>Work with group members and not additional students.</li> <li>Access teacher help and additional resources when necessary.</li> </ul>
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be on time.</li> <li>Report to the appropriate classroom.</li> <li>Take responsibility for learning.</li> <li>Complete tasks without oversight.</li> <li>Demonstrate initiative to advance.</li> <li>Bring necessary materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete required work, and when finished work ahead or review.</li> <li>Learn techniques of self-discipline.</li> <li>Go beyond basic skills to gain expertise.</li> <li>Seek assistance when needed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bring all the necessary materials to work.</li> <li>Complete tasks assigned.</li> <li>Understand, negotiate, and balance diverse views to reach solutions.</li> <li>Exercise flexibility and compromise to accomplish a common goal.</li> </ul>
Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn ways to organize learning.</li> <li>Use multiple strategies to learn new material.</li> <li>Understand areas when additional work or help would be beneficial.</li> <li>Continue working on a concept until an optimal level of understanding is achieved.</li> <li>Set long and short term goals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare and learn new ways to prepare for assignments and tests.</li> <li>Be willing to reason through an answer.</li> <li>Create a plan for success.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate group input into work.</li> <li>Respond positively to teacher and peer feedback.</li> <li>Develop and communicate new ideas.</li> </ul>

### \*\* NEW \*\* HTA Personal Communication Device Policy

PCDs include cellphones, tablets, Chromebooks, laptops, smartwatches, and smart glasses.

1. There is no use of Personal Communication Devices (PCD) anywhere in the school from 8:35 to 3:15, with the exception of lunch break. Laptops/Chromebooks are permitted to be used during academic activities as directed by staff.
2. For privacy and safety reasons, PCDs may not be used in washrooms and change rooms at any time during the day, including lunch break.
3. Personal Communication Devices (PCDs) are not allowed during class time unless staff allows them for specific learning tasks. PCDs must be silenced or turned off and stowed away in a bag, backpack, locker, or in a designated area as directed by staff. They are not to be on your person.
4. Limited use of personal mobile devices must be permitted, as determined by a principal, for health or medical reasons or to support special learning needs.

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## **\*\* NEW \*\* HTA Personal Communication Device Policy ~ Continued**

### **Response to Non-Compliance**

1. On the first instance of non-compliance, the PCD will be confiscated by school staff, stored at the office, and returned by the principal or vice-principal at the end of the half-day (lunch or end of day).
2. On the second instance of non-compliance, school staff will confiscate the PCD, store it at the office, and have the principal or vice-principal return it at the end of the day.
3. On the third instance of non-compliance, the PCD will be confiscated by school staff, stored at the office and parents will be contacted to come to the school to retrieve the phone at the end of the day(after 3:15).
4. On subsequent occasions, non-compliance will result in the PCD being confiscated by school staff and stored at the office. Parents will be contacted to come to the school to take the phone and will be required to meet with administration and parents to develop and implement a technology agreement.

Earbuds connected to laptops and Chromebooks may be permitted by staff approval on a case-by-case basis.

Without staff consent, no video or audio recording is permitted within the school or classes.

For more information, please refer to staff at Holy Trinity Academy.

### **Guidelines:**

The teacher/EA may permit students to access their personal electronic devices during independent work time.

HTA is a 'bring your own device' school. Students are required to have a lap-top or chromebook to complete work. The use of these devices are at the discretion of the teacher/EA. It is consider a learning tool and should be used appropriately. If students are using the devices in an inappropriate manner and distracting those around them, the same protocol will be put into place for lap-tops and cellular devices.

### **Protocols:**

Severity and frequency of occurrences will be taken into consideration and failure to comply is at teacher discretion, but can be subject disciplinary action.

- Have computer with you at all times unless directed by a teacher.
- Computer is charged, ready to go.

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# Meet Our Staff

We wanted to take a moment to introduce our staff for the 2024—2025 School Year



HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY



Mrs. Keri-Lynn Clark  
Principal



Mr. Kirk Nelson  
Vice Principal



Mrs. Meghann Gupton  
Secretary



Mrs. Naomi MacLean  
Secretary

**Missing Photos:**  
*Clinical Counsellor*  
Ms. Britnie MacLean  
*Family Support Workers*  
Mrs. Kaycee Bloomfield  
Elder Linda Prentice

## Our Teachers for the 2024—2025 School Year



Mrs. Catherine Dohn  
Learning Support Fac.



Mrs. Eileen Beaulieu



Miss Jessica Bens



Mr. Darius Cheung



Ms. Bev Duperron



Ms. Ryley Jones



Mrs. Megan Martin



Mr. Ian McCourt



Mr. Shawn Ram



Ms. Lee-Adele  
Shykora



Miss Marie Titanich



Miss Emily  
Valiquette

**Missing Photos:** Mrs. Melissa Highfield

## Our Educational Assistants for the 2024—2025 School Year



Mrs. Lori Efird



Mrs. Jody Gardiner



Mrs. Trudy Henley



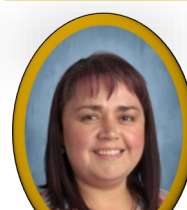
Mrs. Janice Koss



Mrs. Sunny Miller



Ms. Sherri-Lynn  
Peacock



Mrs. Heather Nickel



Mrs. Esperanza  
Tobias

**Missing Photos:** Mrs. Amanda Bannard, Mr. Daniel Greve, Mrs. Sheri Nadeau, Ms. Jody Smith

## Our Facilities and Custodial Staff for the 2024—2025 School Year

**Missing Photos:** Mr. Miles Gervais, Mrs. Arlyn Tuleta, Mrs. Julia Kuru

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September 2024

Re: VTRA - Letter of Fair Notice

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The STAR Catholic School Division is committed to providing safe and caring learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. To this end, we have invested heavily in the professional certification of administrative staff in Level 1 & Level 2 Violence and Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) training across the Division. VTRA helps schools respond quickly to incidents where students' behaviours pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm.

In all six of our school Division's communities, we have signed off on formalized community-based VTRA protocols that include other regional partners such as the public school jurisdictions, the RCMP, Alberta Health Services, and other community agencies. Such protocols outline how organizations will collaborate and work together to respond quickly to threatening behavior. These protocols are modeled on the work of the Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment Trauma Response.

Please be advised that the school division requires school administrators to complete a threat risk assessment in cases of students making significant threats to themselves or others. The purpose of the assessment is to ascertain the potential level of risk posed and identify supports that may be required. It is important for all parties to engage in the threat risk assessment process. If, for some reason, there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the threat-maker or parents and guardians, the assessment procedures will continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment. Personal information shared throughout the threat risk assessment process respects and weighs individual rights to privacy with the need to uphold the safety of all.

We are proud to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and are most fortunate to have our community partners at our side. If you wish for further information, please contact Assistant Superintendent Jordan Robinson at 780.986.2500

Yours in Catholic Education,

Laurie Kardynal  
Superintendent