



## FATHER VACHON SCHOOL

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Website: [www.gscs.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/vac](http://www.gscs.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/vac)

Principal: Mrs. J. Millar [jmillar@gscs.ca](mailto:jmillar@gscs.ca)

Vice Principal: Mrs. E. Hilbig [ehilbig@gscs.ca](mailto:ehilbig@gscs.ca)

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Monday, Nov. 9 – PLD - No School**

**Tuesday, Nov.10 – Remembrance Day Virtual Liturgy @ 11am**

**Wednesday, Nov.11 -Remembrance Day -No School**

**Friday, Nov.13 – Spirit Day – “Hat Day”**

**Thursday, Nov.19 – Conferences (3:30-8:00pm)**

**Friday, Nov. 20 - Conferences (9:00-1:00pm) – No School**

**Friday, Nov. 27 – Spirit Day – “Wacky Hair Day”**

**Friday, Dec. 18 -Last Day Before Christmas Break Begins**



#### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*Father Vachon is a community guided by God's light and the traditional teachings of Mother Earth.  
We nurture relationships and embrace diversity, while fostering a love of learning.*

#### OUR VISION

As a Catholic school community, we inspire one another to follow God's light  
and use our unique gifts to make the world a better place.

***“Clothe yourselves in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience” Colossians 3:12***

### Principal's Message...

I think we can all agree that the weather has been an absolute blessing this week! The warm weather has been especially wonderful for our students and staff as it means the opportunity for classes outside. With the projected forecast of heavy snow this weekend, it's time to get those warm winter clothes ready!

November is a month to take time to remember and honour our Veterans. Our Remembrance Day liturgy will be a little different this year as we have moved to a virtual format for all assemblies and liturgies. Miss McLean and the Gr.3/4 class have worked very hard preparing for the liturgy and it will be a meaningful experience for our school community.

Also, during the month of November, we celebrate the Tipi teaching of Kinship and the Gospel Virtue of Community. Jesus calls us to be peacemakers. He reminds us that we are one family because we are beloved children of God. As a school, we will focus on being the kind of people who only see the best in others. We are encouraged to continue to work together, respecting and sharing experiences and talents of one another.

This time of year, students and staff are busy preparing for assessments and reporting. It is exciting to see the growth of the students and to set goals for the second term. We encourage all families to book a conference with the classroom teacher. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear about your child's strengths and areas of growth, and how we can work together to advance their learning. As always, we are aiming for 100% family connection! If you need any assistance booking conferences, please call Mrs. Gabruch.

Have a wonderful month and God Bless 😊

Mrs. Millar & Mrs. Hilbig

## Reporting on Student Growth

As we come to the end of the first term, we are ready to reflect on the learning that has taken place over the last three months. Here is information regarding the three main areas of the reporting process. Thank you for being partners with us in your child's learning.

### 1. Student Conferences

Our staff is very excited for our first round of Student Conferences. It is a great opportunity for families and teachers to come together with a common goal of reflecting on the learning that has occurred in the first term and set goals for future learning.

***This year, the student conferences will take via a phone conversation. Please have your son or daughter with you at your scheduled time and the teacher will call you. If possible, please use the speaker phone function. This will allow the student and parents/caregiver to participate in the conversation.***

***For this term, Mrs. Hill's class will be using Google Meet to conduct virtual student conferences. We would like to thank Mrs. Hill and her students' families for embracing this opportunity. We are hoping to take the knowledge gained from this experience and provide all families the opportunity for virtual conferences at the end of the second term.***

We sometimes get the question from parents, "Do I need to attend?" The answer is YES! Your attendance will show your child that what they do in school is important. Research indicates that student achievement increases when families, students, and teachers work together as a team. These conferences are important to the students as it allows them the opportunity to discuss their learning experiences, celebration items, and learning needs with their teacher(s) and parent(s).

The conference is not only an opportunity to view learning experiences through the eyes of your child but also to gain a better understanding of how you are able to support your child's learning.

Possible questions you may want to ask during the conference:

- ***What skills will my child be expected to master or develop this year?***
- ***How will my child's learning be assessed?***
- ***How can I be actively involved and support my child's learning this year?***
- ***How can I know what work needs to be completed? How can I keep track of progress on assignments and support homework?***
- ***Is my child receiving adaptations? How can I help my child at home if they need learning adaptations to support their learning style?***

### 2. Portfolios

Another key component of the reporting process is the student portfolio. Over the term, the students and teachers have worked to create both a portfolio binder and/or an electronic portfolio (Seesaw). Please take the opportunity to look at the portfolio with your child prior to the conference. **Portfolios will be sent home or shared on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.**

### 3. Report Cards

Yes, we will be sending home a paper copy of the report card! However, if you prefer an electronic copy please email your child's classroom teacher. Report cards will be sent home on **Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**. Included with the report card will be a copy of your child's goals for the second term. Please return the report card envelope to use for the second term.

Your child's report card may include a Record of Adaptations. This allows us to document and communicate the adaptations that your child is accessing to achieve success. These adaptations are made by teachers to support student achievement in all subject areas and programs. The Adaptive Dimension is intended to meet students' needs through adaptations that enrich, extend, reinforce or teach differentially. Adaptations should not be viewed as giving students preferential treatment or advantages over their peers. Students are provided with adaptations in order to give them opportunities to achieve curricular outcomes. As always, please ask your child's classroom teacher or Mrs. Millar if you have any questions.

## Student Conferences Scheduler

**Student Conferences are scheduled for November 19th from 3:30 pm - 8:00 pm and November 20th from 9:00am - 1:00 pm.** We will be using the ONLINE scheduler for families to sign up for the conferences. The scheduler will open November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 am and close on November 18th at 4:00 pm. All families would have received new credentials. If you do not recall this email, please search your mailbox for "noreply@gscs.sk.ca". If you did not receive any credentials, please check your junk email. Although the scheduler is not available to sign up for conferences until November 10<sup>th</sup>, please log in at <https://apps.gscs.sk.ca/pt> to see if your credentials work.

When the scheduler opens on November 10<sup>th</sup>, and please sign-in, you will see a screen with a dropdown list containing the student name for each of your children on the top left-hand side. Select the child you wish to schedule a conference for, then select the teacher (if applicable), and finally select from the available times. If you are having difficulty logging on or do not remember your login credentials, **please call Mrs. Gabruch 306-659-7210.**

## Family Access to Our School Building

We have many protective factors in place to help keep the students and staff safe at our school. One of these factors is the limiting access of parents and caregivers in our building. **At this time, parents and caregivers are not permitted in the school.** We know that this is not an easy transition for families, and truthfully for us as well. We would love nothing more than to have our doors open to our entire community. However, for now, we are asking parents to drop-off their children outside the doors.

If you need to drop an item off for your child, please knock on the front door of the school and a staff member will be happy to help you or call the main office. Thank you for your understanding as we all work to keep our students and staff safe, and the continuation of face-to-face teaching.

## What Happens When My Child Is Sick at School?

Please note that we have been given direction by our school division, in consultation with Saskatchewan Health Authority, that in the event your child has any Covid symptoms, they will be taken to an isolation room where they are supervised until a parent or guardian picks them up. You will be contacted (or your emergency contacts) and asked to take your child home. **The next step recommended is for you to call 811.** The 811-operator will give you advice which may include self-monitoring, Covid testing or seeking medical treatment. **Students must be symptom free for 48 hours in order to return to school.** We understand that this process may present challenges for families. Please contact Mrs. Millar if you have any questions about these procedures. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and for working with us to help keep our school safe for everyone.

## Homework When Your Child Is Away From School

Due to the policy of requiring students to be symptom free for 48 hrs. before returning to school, your child may be absent from school for several days. It is imperative that your child sign into their Google Classroom, as soon as he or she is well enough to begin completing their missed assignments. All Gr.1-8 students are connected to a Google Classroom. Parents are also asked to accept the invitation to connect to the classroom. Students will be expected to complete missed assignments. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.



Google Classroom

## Poppy Donations

On Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, poppies will be distributed to students to wear during our Remembrance Day Liturgy. We are asking students to bring a small donation to support the Saskatoon Legion. Students are welcome to bring the donation at any time next week.

## Winter Clothing

It is very important that children be dressed for the weather conditions. We continually monitor the weather and our school uses the division's guidelines of -25 degrees Celsius to determine if it will be an indoor or outdoor recess. All students are expected to go outside for recess and lunch breaks. Students should be wearing winter boots, a winter jacket, snow pants (encouraged in the younger grades), and other winter wear. We want our students to be safe, comfortable, and properly dressed for the weather. Children who are dressed warmly have a great time outdoors. Just a reminder to label your child's outdoor clothing.

At our school, it is an expectation that all students have indoor shoes. Although sock feet are comfortable for many students, for safety reasons students are required to wear footwear, including running shoes for gym class. **Please ensure your son/daughter has a pair of indoor shoes (and yes, this includes the middle years students). Thank you!**

## Student Masks

At our school we have reusable and paper masks available to students at their request. However, we are going through several boxes of paper masks per week. We are asking families to give their children a quick reminder in the morning about remembering to bring their mask to school. Thank you!

## Father Vachon CSCC News

Some families may have already heard about our new interactive designs on our playground. We want to give a BIG THANK YOU to the Father Vachon CSCC for purchasing stencils and spray paint to create these designs and enhance our school playground. Thank you to Mrs. Hilbig, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Kimberly, and the Gr.8's for making the stencils. Please check out the photos in "Our School Corner."

The CSCC is an amazing group of parents! Please consider joining the council and attending the next meeting on **December 2 at 6:30pm.** For further information, please email **fvparentcouncil@gmail.com.**

# OUR "SCHOOL CORNER"



**THANK YOU TO THE  
FATHER VACHON CSCC  
& OUR SCHOOL  
FAMILIES!**



**Father Vachon School...Reaching Out...to Transform the World!!**