

***“Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter,
Nurture and Serve”***

St. Elizabeth Seton School



BELL TIMES

MONDAY - FRIDAY	
Supervision Begins	8:30am
First Bell & Entry into School	8:45am
<i>No Morning Recess</i>	<i>No Morning Recess</i>
Outside Lunch Recess	11:44am - 12:15pm (30 min)
Lunch in Classroom	12:14pm - 12:44pm (30 min)
Afternoon Recess	2:15pm - 2:29pm (15min)
Dismissal	3:30pm

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA

Please check our website www.stelizabethsetonschool.ca and follow us on our St. Elizabeth Seton School Facebook & Instagram pages.

STUDENT ASSEMBLIES

St. Elizabeth Seton hosts regularly scheduled liturgical celebrations and celebrations of student achievement promoting the “Bucketfiller” philosophy. Parents, families and friends are always welcome at our celebrations. Check our school website for specific dates and times.

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Welcome to St. Elizabeth Seton School for the 2023-2024 school year and to our new and returning families. I believe that a successful school year is rooted in open communication and continuing support between home, school, and parish. Our Admin Team along with the staff, look forward to working with all students, parents and our home parish, to create a successful and faith filled educational school year.

Our division theme this year is *“Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter, Nurture and Serve”*

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

St. Elizabeth Seton School is committed to working in partnership with our parents, St. Mary’s Parish and community members to provide educational opportunities that develop our students as ethical citizens and engaged thinkers with an entrepreneurial spirit.

Mr. Mike Cellini
Principal
mike.cellini@rdcrs.ca

Mr. Ken Meraw
Vice-Principal
ken.meraw@rdcrs.ca

SCHOOL DIVISION VISION & MISSION

Our Vision

Making Christ known to children.

Our Mission

- Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools is committed to supporting inclusive communities that foster care and compassion of students, families and staff with a complete offering of learning opportunities delivered within the context of Catholic teachings and tradition, and within the means of the Division.
- Called to continue Jesus' mission as prophet, priest and servant, we are guided by His life and teachings in all that we do.
- Our schools are gospel-centered communities of hope, fostering a Catholic value system within a pluralistic society.

- We focus on the education of the whole child helping students develop spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically.

PRINCIPLES OF PRACTICE

- **We honor our children**
Our schools are child-centered communities. We celebrate each student as a unique child of Christ through our love, caring and respect.
- **We provide a safe and secure environment**
Our schools provide an environment of belonging for all children through gospel-centered communities of hope.
- **We live and proudly proclaim our Catholic faith**
Our faith permeates our thoughts, words and deeds as we model Jesus, serving children first.
- **We provide quality education in a Catholic environment**
Our schools maintain high standards of academic achievement while fostering lifelong faith development.
- **We pray as an education community**
Our Catholic Christian education system reflects the communion of home, school and church providing daily opportunities for prayer and celebration of our faith.
- **We practice servant-leadership**
Staff members are committed members of our faith community who serve the family, school and church.
- **We focus on our mission through clarity of purpose**
Our Catholic Christian faith is clearly and consistently communicated and supports our unique and distinct ministry.
- **We value our staff**
Our staff members are an integral part of our community and we affirm their ministry and life long journey.

SAFE AND CARING SCHOOLS

Our schools strive to be places where all students, staff and parents feel welcome. Our motto, **“Inspired by Christ, Aspiring to Excellence”** and our Principles of Practice, proudly proclaim that our schools are Christ-filled centers that ensure a climate conducive for learning and that we respect each student as a person, unique in God’s creation.

Our Division has administrative procedures outlining the division’s policy on student behavior and staff discipline procedures. These are located in Administrative Procedures # 310-314 and can be found on the division’s web site.

Each school has student behavior expectations specific to the needs of that school to ensure a safe and caring environment. These expectations are listed on the school’s website and are posted in classrooms. Expectations are shared with students at the beginning of each month throughout the year and are also shared with parents so we can work together to provide all students with the best possible educational experience while in our school.

St. Elizabeth also offers the P.L.A.Y. program, virtue visits and classroom buddies. All of these initiatives provide the opportunity for our older students to mentor and act as good role models for our younger students and to build relationships with one another. We have a zero tolerance for bullying and are diligent in dealing with all concerns brought forward.

Red Deer Catholic Regional School Division is committed to using the LIFE 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. The LIFE Framework is the result of a provincial collaboration of Catholic school jurisdictions. Each of our schools may be organizing LIFE Framework/Diversity groups. They will keep their communities informed as these groups are established by placing notices in their newsletters/websites.

CORE PROGRAM

INTEGRATED RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All students at St. Elizabeth Seton School are expected to participate in the religious education programs, in addition to Religious Education classes, liturgies and masses that are held throughout the year. St. Elizabeth Seton is a part of the St. Mary's Parish Community where children celebrate friendship with Jesus in the sacrament of the Eucharist and living as a Christian within the Church community through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Parental involvement is required for First Eucharist and Reconciliation. Please contact Mrs. Charmaine Marcinek at St. Mary's Parish for more information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

SCHOOL FEES

Presently, there are no school fees at St. Elizabeth Seton School. There may be fees associated with transportation depending on your proximity to the school. Please make cheques payable to Red Deer Regional Schools #39.

TRANSPORTATION

Please visit Red Deer Catholic's website for more information or call the Transportation office at 403-309-8801.

COLD WEATHER

It is important for children to have opportunities to go outside and be physically active. With the weather being so unpredictable, please dress your children appropriately for our changing Alberta weather. When the temperature drops below -25, including the wind chill, students stay indoors.

ATTENDANCE/STUDENT INFORMATION

Regular attendance is mandatory for all students. The parent or guardian must excuse each absence. Please make every attempt to have your child at school. **IF FOR ANY REASON YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN ARE GOING TO BE LATE OR ABSENT, PLEASE CALL US AT 403-343-6017.** If your child is absent and the school has not been notified, you will receive an automated phone call from the school.

Student files are updated on an ongoing basis. Please notify the school immediately if you have a change of address, home/work/cellular phone numbers, changes to emergency contact information or email address.

CRISIS RESPONSE PROCEDURES

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools has implemented a School Division Safety Plan to create and maintain safe and caring schools. This plan includes a Crisis Response Manual, which outlines procedures and guidelines for managing a critical incident as well as regular fire drills, Hold and Secure, Shelter in Place, and Emergency Lock Downs. Staff is trained in these procedures and practices occur periodically throughout the year for students and staff to ensure we are able to deal with a critical incident in a safe and effective manner. Our school is also equipped with an AED (Automated External Defibrillator).

MEDICAL CONCERNS

Please inform the school of any medical concerns. Medical concerns and accidents of a serious nature will be reported to parents immediately. Medication will **not** be administered to students without written consent from a family doctor AND parents signing a release form. Please ensure that if your child requires a medical alert bracelet or necklace that they wear it daily.

SCHOOL PARKING LOT

In the interest of your child's safety, the school parking lot is OUT OF BOUNDS to all students at all times. Parents dropping off or picking up students should do so on Anders Street in the designated area.

DRESS CODE

At St. Elizabeth Seton School, we promote and enforce modest dress for grades Kindergarten to Grade 5. Students are expected to dress modestly. Clothing is to be appropriate and respectful for the classroom.

All students are asked to have a pair of inside shoes and a pair of outside shoes. This contributes greatly to the cleanliness of our school.

In order to be positive role models for your children and our students, we also ask parents to please dress modestly when visiting our school.

BICYCLES & SCOOTERS

If your child brings a bicycle to school it must be placed in a bike rack and locked. No bikes are to be ridden on the school grounds. Bikes must be walked from the street to the bike rack. The school personnel cannot supervise the bike rack area continuously; therefore, the school cannot guarantee the security of the bike rack.

PARENTS

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council consists of parents, staff members and the school principal. School Council elections take place in September. The purpose of parental involvement is to assist in and contribute to enhancing the school environment. The Council meets once per month and all parents are welcome to attend the meetings. We look forward to your involvement in making St. Elizabeth Seton a fantastic school.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parent involvement is supported and encouraged. Research indicates that such involvement in the education process assists in increased student achievement and success. There are many opportunities for parents to play a significant role in their child's education. We would like to hear from you if you are interested in volunteering. All volunteers require a Criminal Record Check. These are valid for 3 years. Involvement is encouraged in ANY of the following areas:

1. Being a reading role model for your child and promoting a positive attitude about reading,
2. Attending school functions,
3. Providing a supportive learning environment at home,
4. Volunteering for work committees and projects,
5. Providing supplementary learning activities at home,
6. School Council involvement,
7. Providing positive support and good public relations for the school, and
8. Communicating frequently and openly with the school.

We realize that the personal lives of families are different and that degrees of involvement at the school by parents are dependent on many factors. Your support in open communication with us and in providing your child with a good learning environment at home is extremely important for student success. If you would like to volunteer in your child's class, please contact the home room teacher. We are gracious for any support you can give us by volunteering your time for committees, projects or attending activities at the school.

SCHOOL VISITORS

For the safety of all our students and staff, all visitors are asked to sign in at the school office. To ensure child safety, all doors are locked during the day except the main entrance.