

*St. Elizabeth Seton*

# SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER UPDATE



## Welcome Back!

It's great to see all our students back in the classrooms and hallways! There is certainly a buzz around the school, and that is very exciting. Our Kindergarten staggered entry days went smoothly, and we appreciate the support of our families as we move through our regular schedule this week. We are looking forward to a wonderful 2025-2026 school year!

Please see the following important information/updates:

## PowerSchool and Email Communication - **Communication and Student Progress**

We have heard your feedback about frustrations with Schoology, especially with the app's functionality. As a result, we have moved away from Schoology this year.

For **Communication**, we will be utilizing email (PowerSchool and/or Google platforms).

For **student grade reporting**, we will now be using **PowerTeacher**, which is the same program that Middle and High Schools use. This will create consistency for families as students move through our school division.

In the coming weeks, we will share more information about PowerSchool and PowerTeacher - specifically, how to view your child's progress online. Thank you for your patience and support as we make these improvements.

## **Student Fees & Field Trip Forms - IMPORTANT - ACTION REQUIRED**

RDCRS is once again using RYCOR Online Payments for our School Fees and RYCOR Online Forms for our field trip consents. Please see the information below!

**\* NEW this year is a \$30 Student Activity Fee** that will be applied to each student account and can be processed through our online payment system. This fee is to help offset some of the rising costs of the activities provided to students (field trips/bus transportation, guest speakers, school wide events, etc.) Please complete the online payment by following these steps:

- Log in to your PowerSchool Parent Portal on a web browser - NOT the app - <https://rdcrs.powerschool.com/public/home.html> (If you do not remember your username or password, please contact the office).
- Scroll down and choose **School Fees and Forms** (second from the bottom, on the left)
- Select the student name from the top banner
- Select **Due Now** from the top menu bar and add the \$30 Student Activity Fee to your cart
- Click on the cart icon on the top right and then complete the payment information. You will be emailed a receipt after you have submitted payment.

**Methods of online payment include Visa, Visa Debit, Mastercard and Mastercard Debit. Please note, Interac Debit cards cannot be processed online at this time**

**\* Also NEW this year is one main “Transportation Informed Consent Form” which ALL parents will need to complete at the beginning of the school year.** This will cover ALL bus travel for the year, including Mass and any other field trips within the city. The only time a separate consent form will be required is if the event has certain safety concerns (swimming, skiing) and/or is outside of the city limits.

Please complete the online consent form by following these steps:

- Log in to your PowerSchool Parent Portal on a web browser - NOT the app - <https://rdcrs.powerschool.com/public/home.html> (If you do not remember your username or password, please contact the office).
- Scroll down and choose **School Fees and Forms** (second from the bottom, on the left)
- Select the student name from the top banner
- Select **New Items**, complete and submit the **2025/2026 In Town Transportation Consent Form**

**Please note - Failure to complete and submit these forms will result in your child NOT being able to participate in AND ride the bus to these events**

Please feel free to contact the office at 403-343-6017 if you have any questions. Thank you.

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## **Cell Phones and Personal Electronic Devices**

In June 2024, information was shared regarding the Province of Alberta's new guidelines regarding personal electronic device use in schools. Please see the letter from the Minister of Education - [Minister's Letter to Parents](#). The following guidelines also align with the School Division's Administrative Procedure No. 114.

At St. Elizabeth Seton School, students are welcome to have their cell phones at school, as in many cases it allows families to communicate with each other before and after school. **During the school day**, however, cell phones must remain turned off and in student lockers, including at lunchtime, or during breaks during the school day. They are not to be used in the hallways, classrooms or outside during the school day, including indoor recess days.

1. If any mobile device/earbuds/phones are seen or heard in class during non-designated times, the student will be asked to take their mobile device to the office. Parents will be notified on any occasion that this occurs.
2. Devices delivered to the office will be returned at the end of the student's school day in the first and second instances. Should there be a third occurrence, a call will be made home, requiring a parent/guardian to collect the child's device.
3. Students can use their devices before school and after school. During these times, students are not to take photos or videos of others.
4. Students are not to access social media on the school network or school devices.
5. Any students who require an exception to this policy at the school level will require permission from the school administration. Exceptions to this policy would include students who require personal devices for medical reasons or to support special learning needs.

If you need to contact your child, please call the school at 403-346-6017, and we will be happy to deliver a message to them.

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## **Seton Wear is Back!**

SETON WEAR is back! All orders are to be completed online [HERE!](#) Orders are due by Sept. 26.

## **Running Club**

We are excited to announce that the Grades 4 and 5 Running Club at St. Elizabeth Seton School will begin next week! The club will run throughout the fall season, weather permitting.

Students will have the option to purchase a running club t-shirt. If you're interested, please order [HERE](#) by September 18.

This is a great opportunity for students to stay active, build endurance, and have fun with their peers.

Thank you for your support!

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***Upcoming Dates:***

Tuesday, September 16

Opening Mass and Grade 4 Bible Celebration

St. Mary's Church, 10:30

Tuesday, September 16

School Council Meeting, 7:00pm

Thursday, September 18

Jersey Day!

Friday, September 19

PD Day - No School

Wednesday, September 24

Terry Fox Run

Monday, September 29

Orange Shirt Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Tuesday, September 30

School Closed for Truth & Reconciliation Day

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Yours in Christ,

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