

Holy Trinity Catholic School

6610 - 57 Street Olds AB T4H 0E1

P: 403.556.9444 F: 403.556.2880

<http://holytrinitycatholic.ca> Email: htsinfo@rdcrs.ca



Dear Holy Trinity School Families,

I hope this letter finds you and your families with excitement and anticipation for the new school year. As we embark on a new academic year, I would like to take a moment to address an important policy that was carefully considered and implemented at Holy Trinity Catholic School in the 2020-2021 school year: our No Cell Phone Policy. This policy stemmed from extensive consultation of research and feedback from stakeholders, with the aim of creating a focused and conducive learning environment for our students.

Because of the cohorting requirements during the pandemic, one exception was made to this policy after its implementation. Middle school students and elementary students could not intermingle during morning recess, and it left middle school students with limited access to our field and playground. Because of this, middle school students were allowed to bring their cell phones out at recess times as an activity to engage in. With access now restored to the field, playground, intramurals, and our new gaga ball pits, this exception will be rescinded this year.

At Holy Trinity Catholic School, we prioritize the academic growth and holistic development of our students. By re-implementing the fullness of the No Cell Phone Policy, we aim to foster a focused and engaging learning environment that promotes effective communication, meaningful interactions, and the development of critical thinking skills. We kindly request your support in adhering to this policy and encourage you to discuss with your children the importance of leaving cell phones at home or keeping them turned off and stored securely during school hours in their locker. Together, we can create an environment that maximizes learning opportunities and cultivates the value of community that we hold dear.

It is important to note that other elementary and middle schools in our community also implement this policy, and we will be in line with other schools in Olds. Numerous studies have shown that the presence of cell phones in educational settings can have a negative impact on student learning and well-being. You need only look for any peer-reviewed research and will find the increasingly overwhelming support regarding No Cell Phone policies in schools.

Be assured that you can always call the office to communicate emergent items with your children, and they will have this same access to contact you. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in providing the best educational experience for our students. Please call the office if you need any clarification. (403) 556-9444.

Sincerely,

In faith and partnership,

David Griffin
Principal

Kali Leatherdale
Assistant Principal

