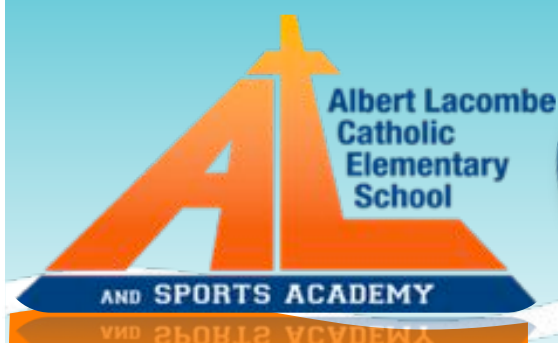


WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

# B.E.A.R. NECESSITIES

June 24, 2016



## Key Dates

*Monday, June 27 – Last Day of School – Report Card Distribution*

*Monday, August 22 – School Office Opens*

*Monday, August 29 - Office Closed for Division Blueprint's Day*

*Wednesday, August 31– Back to School BBQ & Meet 'n' Greet 5-6:30 p.m.*

*Please see page 2 for the September Calendar*

## YEAR-END HIGHLIGHTS

We mark the end of our school year with a couple of special school-wide events. On June 24, St. Albert Parish Pastoral Assistant, Mark Gueverra, joined us in our Year-End Celebration. He commended our students for their efforts to be BEARS: to show Belonging, Excellence, Accountability, Respect and Safety. We also recognized our Grade 6 students who are moving on to new horizons in junior high--you have given us great satisfaction as we watched you grow in confidence, skill and stature! We are proud to call you BEARS and wish you well in the future! We were also blessed by the presence of our AL extended family, our parents, grandparents, and older siblings. It is always great to have you celebrate with us! Thank you to our Grade 6 team of staff and students for organizing this event.

On June 27, our Talent Show, will give our students an opportunity to showcase their abilities in a variety of areas. We look forward to a variety of musical, artistic, comedic and athletic talents. It is always great to see the students display the courage to share their passion with us in a large group setting! Thank you to Mrs. Fedunyk and our staff team for working with the students on their performances.

Want to know what's going on and when next year? Please visit our calendar on the school website at:

<http://www.al.gsacrd.ab.ca/about/calendar>

# WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

Previous	September 2016						Next
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				1 First Day of Classes Kindergarten Staggered Entry Blue Group Only Attends	2 Kindergarten Staggered Entry - Orange Group Only Attends	3	
4	5 Labour Day, No School	6 ALL Pre-Kindergarten Funded Students Start Today  All Kindergarten Students Start Today  Picture Day Icon Photography	7	8	9 Opening Celebration with Fr. Ignacy 9:00 am	10	
11	12	13 CCLC	14 Pre-Kindergarten non-funded & mild/moderate Start today  Antigen Teaching for Gr. 5 students 1:30 pm	15 Terry Fox Run 2:00 pm	16 PD/Staff Meeting Day	17	
18	19	20	21	22 Gr 4 -6 District Cross Country Run @ Kingswood	23 No classes for Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten	24 St. Albert Parish Welcome Weekend	
25 St. Albert Parish Welcome Weekend	26	27	28 Preparation for Confirmation (Parent & child) - Registration & Session 1 6:30 pm	29 Preparation for Confirmation (Parent & child) - Registration & Session 1 6:30 pm	30		

**MESSAGE FROM MRS. TOD**

I came to Albert Lacombe five years ago for the second time. Our current Gr 6 students were in Gr 2! They've grown a little! I also worked as Vice-Principal at Albert Lacombe for four years in the 1990s, yes, before all of our students were born!

In that time, I have been honoured to be part of the AL school community, meeting great families, students, parents and working with fantastic staff members. I was given the gifts of Belonging, Excellence, Accountability, Respect and Safety, from many of you, and I saw you give this gift to each other so many times. You also made me laugh often which is another kind of wonderful gift.

Our students, staff, School Council, SEEALS and parents worked hard during these five years and I am so proud of what we have accomplished together. To highlight just a few: we Exploded our use of Technology, starting with one ipad cart, thanks to SEEALS, we added a laptop cart, Chromebooks, and now are set up for students to bring their own devices to school; we transformed our School Library into a very active, creative, heavily-used Learning Commons; we welcomed Artists in Residence into our school to improve learning; expanded Sports Academy; we celebrated our 50th Anniversary in fine style; and created a mural to show our BEARS spirit outside of the school. I must also mention the great Faith celebrations and Social Justice projects that we have organized to reach out to our brothers and sisters in our local and global communities. I must mention that working with the We Day Student Leadership Team has been very enjoyable for me. None of this would be possible without dynamic teams of staff, students and parents working together.

I have been blessed to regularly enter into vibrant AL classrooms and watch our teachers and EAs work their artistry with our kids. I have learned so much from them and we have celebrated student success in so many ways. We define success differently for every child because that is what they need from us, to build the scaffold to help them reach the next small step. Our office staff, library, LSF, Counsellor, Sports Academy staff, and Caretakers are fantastic team members who work hard every time to support student learning and a safe and caring learning environment for your children!

I am excited about the new opportunities ahead of me at Alberta Education but it is hard to leave such an exciting, supportive school community. I will miss chatting with families as they come to and leave school each day, your friendliness always brightens my days! I will miss watching students grow and mature, academically, spiritually, socially and emotionally--this is the best part of my work!! In my 32 years of work in Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools, my time at Albert Lacombe holds a special place in my heart and I thank each of you for providing me with great memories! God's Kingdom is being built daily here and What Starts Here is truly Changing the World! I wish your family a safe and blessed summer. Thank-you!

### **STAFFING UPDATES**

It is the time of year when staffing changes are made in Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools. Changes are made throughout the school division, of which Albert Lacombe is a part, to accommodate enrolment trends at various schools, to honour collective agreements and contracts, and to provide new growth opportunities. Here are some of the staffing changes made to date:

- **Retiring** from Albert Lacombe after many years of teaching each are:

Mrs. McMartin  
Mrs. Tod.

We thank them for being a big part of AL's history, for sharing their dedication and gifts with multiple years of students, and for being great mentors of learning and faith!

- **Transferring** to share their gifts and talents at other schools are:

Mrs. Richard, going to Notre Dame School  
Mrs. Lutic, going to Neil M. Ross  
Miss Kenyon, going to Notre Dame School  
Mrs. Dunn, going to Bertha Kennedy  
Mrs. Crothers, going to Vital Grandin

We have been blessed by the service of all of these wonderful educators. Their dedication and caring for our students has been exceptional and their legacy will live on in our students.

- **Joining** the Albert Lacombe staff team for 2016-2017, will be:

Mrs. Charlene Kushniruk, our new Principal  
Mrs. Brianne Tworek, returning to Albert Lacombe to teach Grade 6  
Miss Emily Upfold to teach Grade 2  
Miss Natalya Fedorkiw to teach PreK  
Mrs. Val Cariou as an Educational Assistant in PreK  
Mrs. Florence is returning to PreK from her maternity leave

## **SPORTS ACADEMY UPDATE**

After going through our survey results and speaking to parents and athletes we have decided to make some changes to our GCD program moving forward, numbers permitting.

Ms. Belke will be certified in Acro dance for the fall and this component will be added to enhance and expand our Dance and performing athletics component. The Cheer component will be reduced, with some elements covered within the Dance and Gymnastics component. Acro dance is a style of [dance](#) that combines classical dance technique with precision [acrobatic](#) elements. It is defined by its athletic character, its unique [choreography](#), which seamlessly blends dance and acrobatics, and its use of acrobatics in a dance context. It is a popular dance style in amateur [competitive dance](#) as well as in professional dance theater and in [contemporary circus](#) productions such as those by [Cirque du Soleil](#). Acro is an especially challenging [dance style](#) for dancers as it requires them to be trained in both dance and acrobatic skills. Acro dancers must be in excellent physical condition as well, because acro is a physically demanding activity. There are also significant numbers of male dancers becoming trained in Acro. Please know that boys are welcome in this program.

In the gymnastics section we will be using a badge certification for the athletes so that they can progress through the different skills. We are also looking at the possibility of including trampoline training as one of our gymnastics coaches is certified in this. From a scheduling stand point the athletes will continue to be at Dynamyx twice a week and Fowler on Thursdays.

Whether you have registered for the program or not for next year, would like to register, or you have any questions in regards to programming please contact me via phone or email. If you have a question pertaining to Acro - you are best to contact Ms. Belke. Her email is: [ebelke@gsacrd.ab.ca](mailto:ebelke@gsacrd.ab.ca)

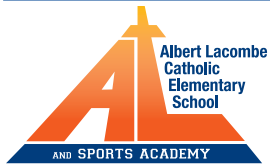
Please assist us by sharing this news with other families if you think they may be interested in this unique program!

Geoff Giacobbo  
Coordinator  
Greater St. Albert Sports Academy  
p.780-459-4478 f.780-458 - 6123 c. 780-405 - 9476  
[ggiacobbo@gsacrd.ab.ca](mailto:ggiacobbo@gsacrd.ab.ca)  
[www.gsacrd.ab.ca](http://www.gsacrd.ab.ca)



Society Enriching Education at Albert Lacombe

June 24, 2016



## ALBERT LACOMBE SCHOOL COUNCIL & SEEALS NEWSLETTER



In 2015-16 Albert Lacombe School Council and SEEALS supported in whole or in part the following items:

- Home Reading Program Materials for Grades 1P, 2R and 2/3F
- Math Game Materials for Kindergarten, 3OJ, 4M, 4/5S, 5K, 5/6L and 6ML Classes
- Mothers and Fathers Day Gifts
- Purchase of shelves for the library
- Classroom Enhancement reimbursements for teachers
- Artist in Residence – Marty Chan
- Playground Bins items
- Compassionate Friends
- Pink Shirt Day t-shirts
- Grade 6 Farewell gifts
- Shrove Tuesday
- Staff and Volunteer Appreciation
- In School Charity (funding field trips for families having financial difficulty)

### THANK YOU TO OUR FAMILIES AT ALBERT LACOMBE!

Your support of our SEEALS fundraisers has made funding all of these items possible.

Have a great summer!

See you in September.

School council is a means for parents and community members to work together with the school to support and enhance student learning. We decide which items should be funded each year from Albert Lacombe staff's priority list.

SEEALS is a group of parents who together with the staff, fundraise to support the initiatives decided by School Council.

School Council and SEEALS work together to make Albert Lacombe a better place for all of our students and staff. School Council and SEEALS executive members are proud to have served Albert Lacombe in 2015-16!





**NO EQUIPMENT?  
NO EXPERIENCE?  
NO PROBLEM.**



**Designed to help your child fall in love with hockey**

Our six week program focuses on having FUN, while learning basic hockey skills. Equipment included with registration. 6 weeks. Equipment included. Only \$199

You must be between the age of 6 and 10 and live in St. Albert to participate in this program. Program is limited to 45 participants and will be dealt with on a first come first served basis. For more info or to participate email: [officeadmin@samha.ca](mailto:officeadmin@samha.ca)

