



110, 2700 67 Street
Red Deer, AB T4P 1C2

Phone: 403-341-4423
Fax: 403-341-5574

stjosephhigh.ca

December 8, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

"Fear not, I am with you; be not dismayed; I am your God. I will strengthen you, and help you, and uphold you with my right hand."
[Isaiah 41:10](#)

We are about a week into at-home learning and staff have been busy connecting with students and ensuring learning continues. A major focus for us with respect to at-home learning is maintaining contact, ensuring flexibility within the day for students to get work completed and have time to connect with teachers when questions arise. Teachers are sharing that students are engaging and appreciate the time to work independently while still having access to teachers when needed. We are cognizant of screen time for both students and staff and initial reports are the flexibility to be both online and work independently are working.

Alberta Health Services has shared that we will be online from January 4-8 with in school classes resuming on January 11. With Alberta Education notifying us that Diploma Exams are optional, our school division has made the decision to forgo Final Exam week in January and give teachers and students more face to face instructional time. This extra instructional time will be used to ensure curriculum outcomes that students have struggled with during the at home phase are reviewed as well as covering those outcomes that are crucial for the next grade/level. The last day of classes for semester 1 will be January 27 with semester 2 classes beginning on February 1.

With semester 2 right around the corner, students may require a timetable change. The process is described below:

- We have implemented a new timetable change process this year. This [link](#) takes you to our website that explains in detail the process and the required form to start the process of asking for a timetable change.
- Our counsellors will begin working on timetable changes in mid-January. Forms will be returned sharing the status of the request via email.
- Students who are requesting a change to move to an online class at this time will not be granted as online classes are full based on course request data completed by students in March 2020.
- Student timetables are available for viewing on PowerSchool. No printed timetables will be provided to students.

December finds us fully immersed in the liturgical period known as Advent. During Advent we recall the history of God's people and reflect on how the prophecies and promises of the Old Testament were fulfilled. This gives us a background for the present. Today we can reflect on the past track record of God and so begin to understand what it means to us now for the sake of what is to come, in our own future and that of our world. Like Lent, Advent is a preparatory season. Advent is the time we prepare our homes, hearts and our lives for Jesus, the King of glory and Prince of Peace. It has significance because it is a season of looking forward and waiting for something greater; both for the annual celebration of the event of Christ's birth, and for the time when Christ will come again. The staff of St. Joseph High School wishes your family a blessed and happy Christmas season.

Blessings,

School Administration Team

Principal - Graeme Daniel
graeme.daniel@rdcrs.ca

Vice-Principal – Dave Martin
dave.martin@rdcrs.ca

Vice-Principal - Teresa Borchers
teresa.borchers@rdcrs.ca

