

# Madonna

## PUF Pathways Newsletter

### September 2021



Welcome to our 2021/22 school year!



My name is Tracey Pineau and I feel very blessed and honoured to be able to be a part of your child's education journey this year. I have been an elementary teacher for over ten years and my last four years have been in the Brighter Beginnings/New Pathways program at both Madonna school and at SaintJohn XXIII. It was during this time that I received most of my experience with children with complex needs. I find teaching in a classroom with children with complex needs extremely rewarding and I am so excited to finally meet your little ones face to face!

During the next few weeks of September, our wonderful PUF Pathways team will be able to get to know your child's interests and abilities in order to design a program that will be specially tailored to their strengths and needs. The Pathways team members that are in the classroom on a daily basis include myself and our lovely EA's Ms. Visagie and Mrs. McCloy.

## Our Daily Routine

Our PUF Pathways hours are from 12:30 to 3:30. Although our days will be flexible to some extent, there will always be the element of a predictable routine.

Our typical day will consist of:

- Arrival activities (play dough, puzzles, building blocks, etc.)
- Circle time (movement exercises and stories)
- Exploratory play (i.e sensory materials, science exploration, art, imagination games, fine and gross motor activities, etc.).
- Snack break
- Calendar time (Movement, Literacy and Numeracy focus)

We will also occasionally have an Occupational Therapist and a Speech and Language Pathologist in our classroom, so your child will have many enriched learning opportunities!

Please note: Once our students are comfortable with our classroom routines, I will try to spend at least part of our day outside (weather permitting) so please be mindful to dress your child for the appropriate temperature (or put the extra clothing in the backpack) . As well, on any given day we might get messy with various art mediums, and although we have art smocks that are offered, your child may not always successfully wear one. Please dress your child for having fun!

## September Classroom Themes

- All About Me!
- Mat Man (pre-printing skills and labelling parts of the body)
- Introduction to Animated Literacy and our Sound Wall!



## Important Dates

September 6 : Labour Day (no school)

September 9: Virtual Meet The Teacher (6:30-7:30)

September 9-10 : Staggered Entry Days for PUF students

September 13: First day for all PUF Students

September 24: Terry Fox Run

September 30: Orange Shirt Day

## Reminders

Please bring your child's labelled school supplies on their staggered entry day. If your child needs an item please let us know, for we have quite a few supplies and should be able to help them out.

When regular classes begin and if you are dropping your child off after 12:30pm, please come to the front door, ring the doorbell or phone the office (780-467-7972) in order to gain entry through the front door of the school.

## COVID Protocols

Masks are strongly recommended in school and required on the bus. Students will sanitize hands upon arriving and departing the school, as well as throughout the day. Please refer to the COVID checklist before you send your child to school and follow the recommendations from AHS.

<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/edc-covid-19-screening-questionnaire-english.pdf>

## Communication

I can be reached through email ([traceyp@eics.ab.ca](mailto:traceyp@eics.ab.ca)). If there is a situation in which you need to get a hold of me immediately, please call the **school office (780-467-7972)**. Our main method of parent communication will be Google Classroom; more information on how to sign up will be sent home next week.

## Snacks

Thank you for sending NUT-FREE snacks! Many students have allergies and we appreciate your effort to keep all students safe during their school day. Please do not send juice boxes for snack time. Please pack a water bottle for your child instead; thank you for your cooperation.

## Family Photos

We have a family photo board that is displayed for our students to see before they enter the classroom. Please send us a photo of your family so that we may put it up for our display!

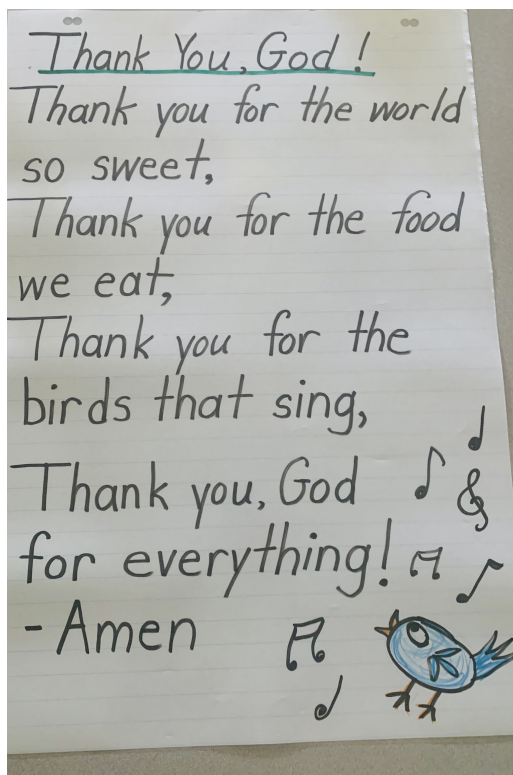


## Birthdays

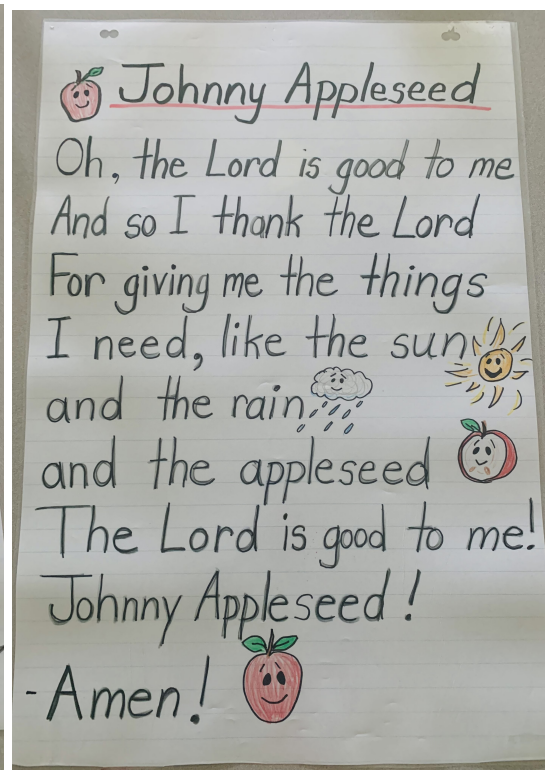
I love to celebrate students' birthdays in the classroom! If you would like to contribute to his/her celebration, please consider donating a book to our class library that I will read to the class in your child's honour, in lieu of bringing a sweet treat (which is in accordance with our Nutrition Guidelines and promoting healthy eating habits). Thank you for your understanding.

## September Prayers

### Circle Time Prayer



### Grace



## Welcome Video from Father Jim

Here is the link to a quick welcoming message from Father Jim:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KIMP3AUz0qcckX0Pz4nv2ku\\_SG8L7Avs/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KIMP3AUz0qcckX0Pz4nv2ku_SG8L7Avs/view)

## A Video Tour of Our Classroom

This video will give you a quick overview of where to meet during our staggered entry day next week, as well as give you a glimpse into our classroom.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CQWUIntYkh1hUHu\\_uku4mYf6clxQLJMg/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CQWUIntYkh1hUHu_uku4mYf6clxQLJMg/view?usp=sharing)

PUF Pathways Social Story:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-b0YxmWe92E-3YoPyxX7KfJgnzJToAakwOPkPEzXmeo/edit?usp=sharing>



We are so excited to have your children join our classroom.  
It will be an amazing year!