

"Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path."  
-Psalm 119:105

God's Story  
OUR STORY



## “Developing Gifts for Joyful Service”

*When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."*

*-Luke 23: 33 - 34*



### **Easter Chapel**

With everything going on around Co Vid 19 precautions, the Easter season may have snuck up on you. Easter is a wonderful time to be reminded of the power of the cross, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the hope we have as a result. Daily staff devotions will continue to be shared on our “ICES Devotions” page (found on our Community Learning page)

On the morning on Thursday, April 9, ICES will release an audio/visual version of our ICES staff led Easter chapel. “He has risen indeed!”

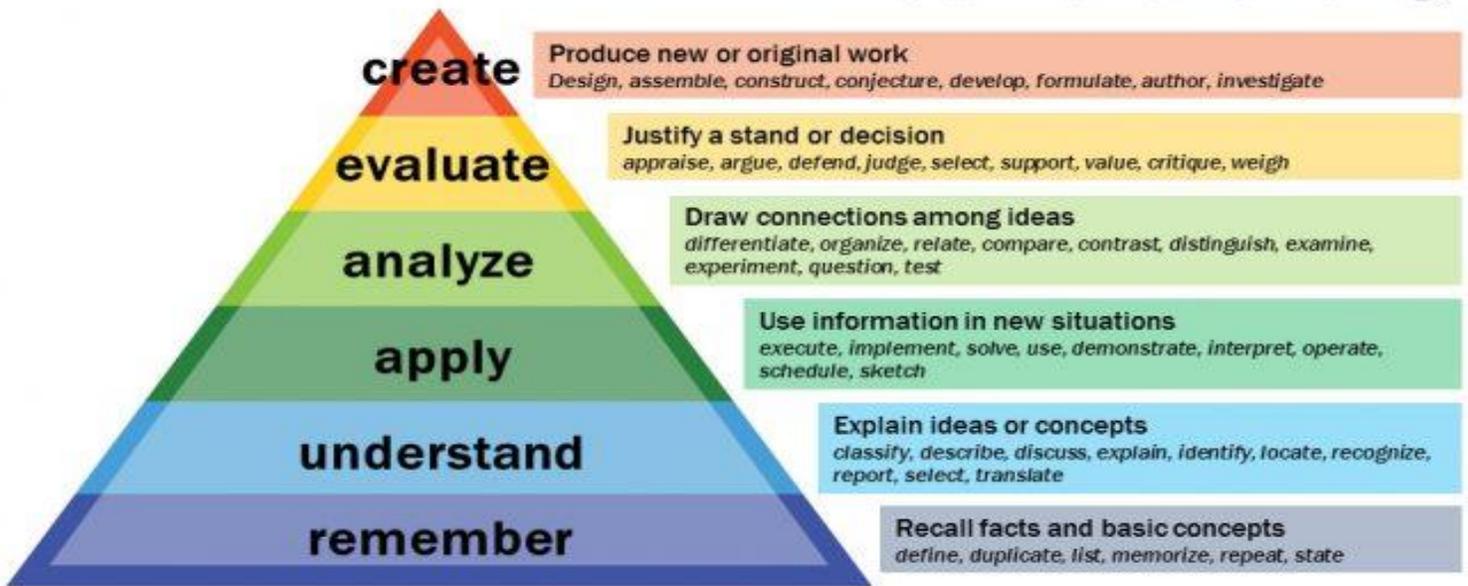
### **What is learning?**

We have always tried to encourage parents to be a part of our learning process, but this situation is certainly unique! We are very thankful for the efforts of parents, in working with teachers to facilitate learning in their children...we are also grateful for the many positive and encouraging responses we have received from parents. We continue to encourage parents that have questions or concerns to contact their child’s homeroom teacher. We certainly want to be sensitive to the diverse situations that families find themselves in. Parents that are having issues with technology are welcome to request a paper packet from their teacher. These will be available for pick up on Tuesdays.

The other interesting thing about having these discussions is that they reveal different perspectives on learning. As a staff we have had many discussions on this topic, as there are many philosophies on what learning activities should look like.

Benjamin Bloom first developed his learning “taxonomy” in 1956. Throughout the years it has been updated and refined. While there are different theories related to learning, the premise of the model is widely accepted in the educational community. A traditional view of learning typically focuses on the first level of the taxonomy: “remember”. This is a necessary first step; however, for learning to be truly meaningful in shaping our students as problem solvers, idolatry discerners, justice seekers, servant workers etc. they also need to engage in the higher levels of thinking and learning outlined in the taxonomy (next page). Given this, the learning activities provided by our staff are designed to challenge kids on these different levels. Hopefully this gives more clarity to parents as to the educational choices we make. For more reflection on a comprehensive learning approach, see the videos posted on the ICES General Learning page (Under the “Community Learning page” link).

# Bloom's Taxonomy



## Announcement from Lethbridge School Division

-Below is a partial transcript of a video Superintendent Cheryl Gilmore sent to parents.

*"On Saturday, the Government of Alberta announced the temporary reallocation of resources, which shifted funds from education to Alberta's COVID-19 response. The health emergency which has gripped the world continues to have implications close to home.*

*We face the unfortunate task of extending release notifications and announcing temporary layoffs to some staff. Although these adjustments are temporary, they will have a significant impact on the Lethbridge School Division team going forward. For the staff members who will be departing mid-month and at the end of the month, your unwavering commitment to students and families is truly valued.*

*I want to emphasize the temporary reductions in no way diminish the excellent work these individuals have done, the connection they have made with students or the support they offer to our colleagues, families and school communities. On behalf of Lethbridge School Division, thank you for all you have done, and will do again in the future, for all of our students and families. We look forward to reuniting with each of you soon.*

### Further Clarification:

-all part time and non-seniority support staff (Education Assistants) will be laid off on Wednesday, April 15.  
-all full time seniority support staff will be laid off on April 30 with the plan to bring these people back in the next school year. *Note: this includes our Librarian, but does not extend to our head secretary.*

These are certainly challenging times. As a school community, we at ICES extend our sympathies to the cherished colleagues impacted by this. We hold you (and everyone in our school community) in prayer and we look forward to being working alongside you all once again in the near future!

# TEACHING FOR TRANSFORMATION (TFT) RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

Continuing Christian Education at Home

As you begin the transition to working with your child at home, here are a couple Family Rhythms we encourage you to add to your routine:

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## MORNING MEETING

Spend a few minutes once per day and try these three things:

- **Name:** welcome each person by name so that everyone hears their name spoken in a positive manner. You can include a question for everyone to answer: your favourite part of yesterday, something you're looking forward to today, your favourite pizza, an emotion that you're feeling right now, a favourite joke. Let your children select questions too.
- **Game:** include something fun that gets people laughing and/or moving. There are lots of websites with team-building type activities if you want to try a few new things. Brain science recommends doing 10 minutes of vigorous physical activity at the beginning of the day to optimize learning and reduce behaviour management.
- **Frame:** end your circle with a reading that frames the learning for the day. You could use a scripture from the Throughline resource or another reading you find. Again, include your children in selecting and reading. Include a prayer time.

## Counseling Corner:

In this phase of social distancing, there are some tremendous blessings; we are learning how to be together. But being together to this degree can be a challenge. The typical ways we empty stress aren't entirely available- no spin class for me! All the family dynamics are magnified by such constant togetherness and some of our kids are feeling extra emotional, making parenting all the more challenging. So how do we walk through this time with grace? We give grace, especially to ourselves. Parents, you've been at it full-time and it's not easy. Hang in there. You only have 100% to give. That means if you're trying to give 100% to each child, and to house work, and to your spouse, and to a job, you're making a terribly unfortunate math mistake. What can you do today to take care of yourself? How can you support others in your family to do the same?

Jen Day

Teacher Counsellor – ICS

