

"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"

Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For you dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead. Isaiah 26:19 (ESV)



Easter Chapel

With everything going on around CoVid 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.

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!"

Announcement from Lethbridge School Division

-Below is a partial transcript of a video Cheryl Gilmore (Leth school division superintendent) 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 we extend our sympathies to the cherished colleagues impacted by this. We them (and everyone in our community) in prayer and we look forward to being working alongside you all once again in the near future.

What is learning?

Throughout this process, we have heard a wide range of perspectives from parents on working through the learning process with their kids. We have always tried to encourage parents to be a part of our learning process as much as possible, 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 also 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 school days.

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 etc. they also need to engage in the higher levels of thinking and learning outlined in the taxonomy below. 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

