

It is our honour to celebrate with our parish community what we know and hold dear to our hearts: our children are the future of our faith and our faith community.

Every year, each class of St. Ignatius School is assigned to host a particular special event in our community life at the school. Putting on these events helps families get to know each other. We strive to have every parent/guardian contribute in some way throughout the year. This is very good for the school in general, of course, but also for parents and families, who find their experience of our unique community greatly enhanced as they get to know more and more of its community members.

Class Representatives coordinate the following events and staff them with parent volunteers from the classes responsible. There is a file for each event, which gives the representatives guidelines and tips about hosting the event. This file includes reports from previous reps, which give details on how events were run in years past. We make this as simple as possible, and there are always people available to answer questions and to help with organization.

Kindergarten and Grade Two

Staff Appreciation – Dates and times TBA

The Staff Appreciation event is an opportunity for us, as a community of parents, to thank the entire school staff for all of the talents, effort and energy that they put into the work they do with and for our children every single day. This event is a joint project of the grade two and kindergarten parents, and has taken many forms in the past. Previous events will be detailed in the files, but new ways to regale and treat the staff, showing our affection and gratitude, are always welcome. Because this event varies from year to year, its timing must be coordinated with the administration.

Grade One and Grade Seven

Grade 8 Farewell Luncheon- June - Last week of school

SISPAC is delighted to serve as host for this school celebration of the grade eight students. For many years we, as parents, watch these teenagers of our faith community grow up, and see them take on new and different responsibilities. We celebrate them as they leave our community, taking with them the values that we have shared. We, represented jointly by the grade one and grade seven parents, host the luncheon for the families who have come to celebrate their child's graduation.

Grade Three

First Communion – April/May: Reception after 9:30 a.m. Mass

It is SISPAC's honour to be the host for this parish and school celebration of the First Communion of our grade two students. As parents, we know about the constant need to

physically and emotionally feed and nurture our children. This is our opportunity to celebrate, together with the whole parish, our community commitment to feeding our children spiritually. We are responsible for the reception following the First Communion mass.

Grade Four

Confirmation – May: Evening Reception 7-10 p.m.

It is also SISPAC's pleasure to assist in hosting a full-parish celebration, as the Sacrament of Confirmation is received by grade eight students throughout the parish: from our school; from the parish Sunday School; and from the Spanish community in our parish. We are witnesses and welcomers, as our children receive this sacrament of full participation in our faith community. We are grateful to be able to celebrate with them, their families and our parish. We are responsible for the reception following the mass.

Grade Five

First Reconciliation – April/May: Evening Reception 7-9 p.m.

It is yet another pleasure for SISPAC to be the host for this parish and school celebration of the grade three students' First Reconciliation. As parents, we understand the need for reconciliation and the need to celebrate our restored relationships, both in the day-to-day lives of our families, and in the greater context of our relationship with God. We are responsible for the reception following this service.

Grade Six

Catholic Schools Week – February: Daytime events

With the school staff, SISPAC is proud to help organize this school celebration. Each of our families has chosen to send their children to a Catholic School, to assist us in teaching them our shared values and nurturing their faith and to prepare them for their academic futures. This is an occasion when we can really celebrate our faith, our commitment, and mostly, our legacy to the future of our community: our children. We work in collaboration with the staff to host various events during the week.

Grade Eight

Family Hamper Night – December: Evening event

SISPAC sponsors the Family Hamper Night, in which we gather as a school community to create Christmas Hampers to be given to local families. We do this in honour of the Christmas family of Mary, Joseph and Jesus, who needed refuge and help so long ago, and in recognition of that same family, here and now, still presenting itself at our door. By so doing, we both celebrate the joy of giving, and find ways to teach our children, and ourselves, more about the real meaning of Christmas. This event requires requesting and coordinating donations from the school community, setting up the packing evening, and organizing the distribution of the hampers.

If you have any questions about these events, or are interested in volunteering, whether as a Class Representative, or just casually, please contact:

Contact SISPAC at SISPAC@stignatius.mb.ca