



Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

September 6, 2017

As an effort to keep students organized and parents informed, I have decided to implement the use of an app known as "Remind" (www.remind.com) that can be found on both Apple and Android devices. I am encouraging all parents to join Remind.

What is Remind?

Remind is a free service that lets me send one-way messages via push notifications or email to everyone in the class. These simple messages can be sent out to both parents and students directly to your handheld device or email. Remind will keep our phone numbers private, while making it a lot easier to stay in touch when you're outside the classroom.



Why use Remind?

The messages that I will be sending are reminders to students and parents about upcoming test dates, due dates, permission forms that are past due, and important dates such as Confirmation rehearsal or high school parent information night. As students enter into the intermediate division and prepare for high school it is important that they are able to keep organized and manage their time wisely.

Does someone need a smartphone or a tablet to use Remind?

No, a smartphone is not necessary to send or receive Remind messages. However, you must be able to receive texts. If you cannot receive texts you can sign up to receive Remind notifications by email.

What makes Remind safe?

1. NO ACCESS TO PERSONAL CELL NUMBERS

- Teachers never see student or parent phone numbers, and students or parents will never see their teacher's phone number.
- Remind messages are sent via an anonymous phone number issued when you sign up for an account. Your personal cell phone number and carrier are in no way connected to your messages.

2. A TEACHER NEVER HAS ACCESS TO A STUDENT OR PARENT'S PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Students and parents subscribe to receive a teacher's messages by sending a text or email from their personal device with a distinct class code.
- Once subscribed, parents/students can only be identified by their name (which they provide) on a teacher's class roster list.

3. NO INDIVIDUAL MESSAGING

- All messages sent with Remind go to your entire class. Teachers cannot directly communicate with one student.
- This prevents any form of bullying, favouritism, or inappropriate conversation between teachers and students.

4. ONE-WAY MESSAGING

- Students and parents can't reply to teachers. This allows teachers to focus on communicating with their students and parents without worrying about managing another inbox.

5. LOGGED AND SECURE COMMUNICATION

- All messages sent are saved in a teacher's account. This log can never be edited or deleted to ensure that an accurate list of a teacher's communication history is always available.
- Remind uses industry standard practices, including SSL, to keep our service secure and backed up.

6. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

- Remind does not sell or share information about students, parents or teachers.
- Personal information remains private and confidential.
- For more information, see Remind's Privacy Policy (www.remind.com/privacy-policy)



Students Joining Remind

Not only am I encouraging parents to connect with the classroom, but I am asking that all students connect using Remind. I am asking that you let me know if you give your child permission to join Remind by completing and returning the form below. Remember, students will only be able to receive messages and will not be able to be involved in any conversation with a teacher or any other student through this process. I will not have access to their phone number.

It is recommended that both parent and child join Remind so that both can receive messages from the teacher. Please let me know if you have given permission for your child to join Remind. You can have your child join at home, or you can have them join at school with my help.

Please complete the bottom portion and return to school by Friday September 5.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

The Intermediate Division

Permission

Student's Full Name: _____
(Please print)

Please check the appropriate box below:

Yes, I give my child permission to join Remind. They have joined from home.

Yes, I give my child permission to join Remind. I would like the teacher to help them join at school.

No, I do not give my child permission to join Remind.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date