



## Orange Shirt Day

A Day to Remember the Children

### What is Orange Shirt Day?

The day grew out of a commemoration event held in 2013 to mark the legacy of St. Joseph Mission, a residential school near Williams Lake, BC and was inspired by the story of Phyllis (Jack) Webstad who attended that school.

This is Phyllis (Jack) Webstad's story in her own words:

*I went to the Mission for one school year in 1973/1974. I had just turned 6 years old. I lived with my grandmother on the Dog Creek reserve. We never had very much money, but somehow my granny managed to buy me a new outfit to go to the Mission school. I remember going to Robinson's store and picking out a shiny orange shirt. It had string laced up in front, and was so bright and exciting – just like I felt to be going to school!*

*When I got to the Mission, they stripped me, and took away my clothes, including the orange shirt! I never wore it again. I didn't understand why they wouldn't give it back to me, it was mine! The color orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared.*

(reprinted from [www.orangeshirtday.org](http://www.orangeshirtday.org))

Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity to remember the legacy of residential schools in a spirit of reconciliation. The day's slogan "Every Child Matters" reminds us of the importance of every child and that every child should be allowed to grow and learn free from fear.

Regina Catholic Schools will mark Orange Shirt Day on September 30.

St. Cecilia Parish will recognize Orange Shirt Day at Mass on September 28 and 29.

You are invited to  
wear orange