



OLMC Bi-Weekly Update

Sept. 17, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of Students of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School,

Happy Friday everyone! I wanted to share with you all just how excited I am to be starting my new journey as an Assistant Principal here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. After only a few short weeks, I appreciate how blessed I am to be working with an exceptional staff, who strive to create a school community where all are welcome, embodying our school motto, "We are family."

As we look ahead at the week to come, we have many activities taking place at the school such as voting in the Federal election, COVID vaccinations for those JH students with parental consent, and the Terry Fox Run. Thankfully, despite some changes to COVID protocols, we are still able to gather outside where we will all participate in this important activity reminding us of Terry's courageous battle. This year, the Running Room will be out to support our school community, helping to add to the fun on that morning!

On another note, Mr. Buchanan and I want to give a huge shout out to all the parents who have been making an exceptional effort dropping their children off and staying out of the bussing area. This makes the morning drop off smooth and efficient, but most importantly safe for our students!

As always, if you have any concerns, please give us a call. We love to hear from our parent community and don't forget the school's annual School Advisor Council is meeting on Tuesday, September 21 at 6:30PM on TEAMS (see link in the School Council section that follows).

Many Blessings,

Sandra Hartum
Assistant Principal
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School

Bi-weekly updates replace the monthly newsletter and will be posted on the website after they are delivered by email. The next update will be sent on Friday, Oct. 1st. Please feel free to contact the school at 780-433-1062 if you have any questions or concerns relating to your child's education.

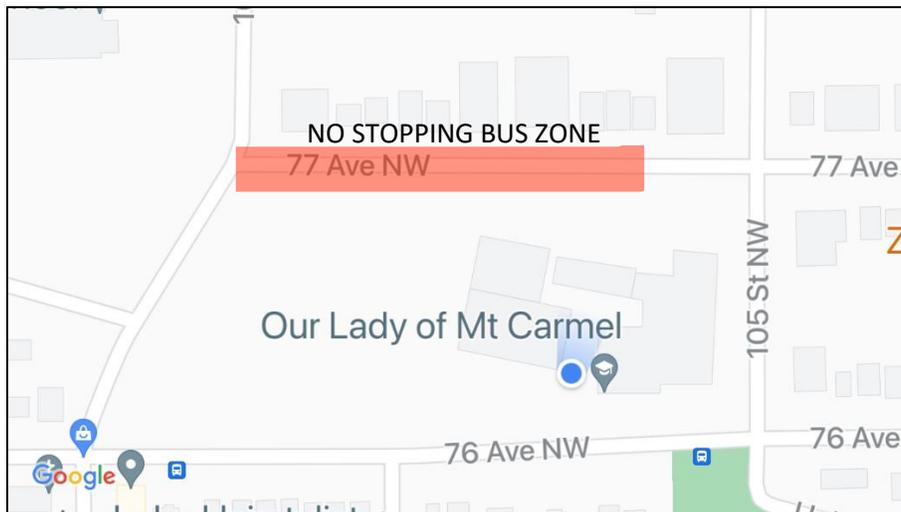
Updated School Re-entry Plan

Please note that OLMC follows the ECSD Back to School Plan, **updated on Sept. 16, 2021**. As a school we continue to prioritize the health and safety of our students, staff and families. All students and visitors are required to take the [Alberta Health Daily Screening Checklist](#) before coming to school to determine if they should attend. In addition, masks are mandatory for all K-12 students and staff inside schools, the yellow school bus, and all Division provided transportation. Students are not required to wear masks while eating or drinking, during music or physical education class or outdoors. Visitors, including parents and guardians, are also required to wear masks inside the school. Finally, all visitors are required to make appointments, use the Daily Screening Questionnaire, and remain masked for the duration of their visit. At this time, volunteers are not allowed to work directly with students. Please visit the following link in order to view the details of our Division Plan: [ECSD Back to School Plan 2021-22](#)

Parking Around OLMC - Update

*City of Edmonton Bylaw Enforcement has indicated that they will be specifically watching for parking violations at OLMC from Sept. 17-24. Please follow the posted signage on our nearby streets and avoid a ticket!

A reminder to all parents and guardians that parking directly around the school is very limited. We ask for your continued cooperation in not parking in the bus zone on 77 Ave. Please see the map below for the no stopping/bus zone.



School Calendar & Website

This school year, we encourage all of our community members to visit our website and associated School Calendar for up-to-date information about the school. We will regularly add important dates and events related to student life and learning. The link to these important sites can be found here: [OLMC Website](#) and here: [School Calendar](#).

School Fees

This 2021-22 school fees have now been posted on the Parent PowerSchool site. We ask that all parents and guardians log in and clear their fees as soon as possible. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated as it allows us to program for the year as intended. If you have any questions about school fees, or have difficulties logging into PowerSchool, please contact Mrs. Lewis in the Main Office at 780-433-1062. [PowerSchool Sign In](#)

School Council – First Meeting – Sept. 21

Welcome from your School Council:

A school council is a group of parents, caregivers, teachers, principals, staff, and community representatives who promote the well-being and effectiveness of the entire school community and enhance student learning.

Our central focus is our desire to create a strong learning environment for K-9 OLMC students. We recognize that the foundation of what we have today has been built upon the characters of community, hospitality, justice, tradition, sacramentality, humanness, rationality, and spirituality.

Our school council welcomes and accommodates diversity in its membership and strives to embody the District's core values of dignity and respect, honesty, loyalty, fairness, and personal and communal growth in all its actions and goals.

A school council may advise the Principal respecting any matter relating to the school. Areas that we typically address are school planning, budgeting, communications, community

relations, programming, the continuous growth plan, and the three-year strategic education plan.

All parents/caregivers of OLMC students have an equal voice, equal vote.

Our school council (SC) executive has a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Principal. Our school is fortunate to have a separate OLMC Fundraising Society (FS). We coordinate hot lunches, fundraisers, and plan how \$40,000 of gaming funds are spent each year.

The fundraising society has its own bylaws, banking, and executive: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. We meet after the School Council meetings.

*Our first meeting is our Annual General Meeting. All board positions will be voted in. Due to current COVID-19 protocols, please join us **virtually** on September 21, 2021, at 6:30PM on Teams. The link to the Teams meeting on this day is here: [OLMC School Council AGM](#)

Hope to see you there.

Katrina, Therese, Courtney, Susan

OLMC Fundraising Society

Welcome from your OLMC Fundraising Society,

Join us in ordering 15 lbs. boxes of hand-picked apples to fundraise for our students, from Davison Orchards (Vernon, BC).

Yes, they last longer than store bought varieties. Yes, they are more delicious.

Your choices are:

Davison Honeycrisp - \$40.00

Ambrosia - \$30.00

Royal Gala - \$30.00

Okanagan Blend - \$32.00

(A mixed box of two of their freshest varieties)

This fundraiser will be added on PowerSchool under “school fees” in the next week. You will indicate the number of boxes for each variety of apple. Please send the attached poster to friends and relatives and then combine their orders with yours (they won’t be able to access the PowerSchool ordering). We will collect all orders and funds online, so please contact us at olmcsac@gmail.com if you have questions.

The student that sells the most boxes will win a long sleeve baseball style t-shirt from Davison Orchards.

Place your orders in PowerSchool by October 14, then pick up your apples at Our Lady of Mount Carmel on October 27 (time TBA).

We're excited,

Katrina, Courtney, Noele, Susan

Meet the Staff – Virtually – Until Sept. 30

Unfortunately, with the current Back to School Plan in place, we were again unable to hold our annual in-person meet the teacher evening. Instead, the staff presented a virtual alternative that was available on Tuesday, Sept. 14th. Please visit the staff's recorded video greetings online so that you are introduced to the wonderful team that is responsible for your children's education throughout the day. [Meet the OLMC Teachers](#)

JH Cross Country Running

Congratulations to the JH Cross Country running team who participated in the first trial run of the season. Yesterday afternoon, Sept. 16th, Mila U. (5th), Livia M. (18th), Ben M. (PB time) and Bauer L. (9th) ran their hearts out on a cool and windy day at Rundle Park. All runners completed the 2- or 3-kilometer courses in fantastic times and represented the school in a very positive manner! We look forward to cheering them on again in the City Championships next Thursday, Sept. 23rd. Go Tigers!



Terry Fox Run – Sept. 24

We are very excited to announce the return of one of OLMC's biggest events of the Fall season. Staff and students look forward to participating in the annual Terry Fox Run! This will be our first whole school social justice activity, as the school community runs outside around the school perimeter in support of the Terry Fox Foundation. In an effort to show the support of our school to this great cause, we are asking all student to bring a **"Toonie for Terry"** next week to your home room class. All proceeds collected will go to the Terry Fox Foundation. If you would like to learn more about Terry Fox, you are encouraged to go to the Foundation website here: [The Terry Fox Foundation](#)

Orange Shirt Day – Sept. 29

On Wednesday, Sept. 29, we encourage all students and staff to wear an orange shirt in honor of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which takes place on Sept. 30th, and is a school holiday.

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation Sept. 30

There is no school on Thursday, Sept. 30, as ECSD recognizes the Federal holiday on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. To learn more about the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day, please feel free to visit these sites:

[Government of Canada – Reconciliation](#)

[Orange Shirt Day](#)

Final Words

Remember ... "What you are is God's gift to you, what you become is your gift to God."

Have a wonderful weekend!