



OLMC Bi-Weekly Update

Sept. 3, 2021

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

Happy Friday Everyone! What a fantastic first few days back at school! It was wonderful to see our students back from summer holiday, as they began their full days of classes. Even though our staff and students continue to wear masks, it was apparent by the smiles in their eyes that they were overjoyed to be back together as part of the Tiger family.

I want to extend a big “thank you” to all our parents and guardians! We are so appreciative of all the positive messages of support that the staff has received in the past few days. I know that the teachers and support staff have worked countless hours to make sure that we were ready to provide an outstanding learning experience for our students. Your patience is appreciated as we iron out some of the details of our new daily routines. I also want to thank our students, who have done a great job following the COVID19 protocols that continue, in order to keep the school community safe and secure.

Today was the first OLMC “Fun Shirt Friday!” As part of this year’s school theme of renewing our commitment to community, every Friday we encourage students and staff to wear their favorite “fun shirt” to school. Whether it be a t-shirt with a positive message, a jersey with your favorite team’s logo, or simply a favorite brightly colored sweater, celebrate the end of the week by wearing a top that helps put a smile on you and your classmates’ faces when you arrive at school on this day!

In closing, I want to personally thank everyone for their warm welcome to Our Lady of Mount Carmel! I feel blessed to be here and look forward to meeting as many of the students, parents, and guardians as possible, in the upcoming months.

Take Care and God Bless,

Duncan Buchanan
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, Sept. 17th.

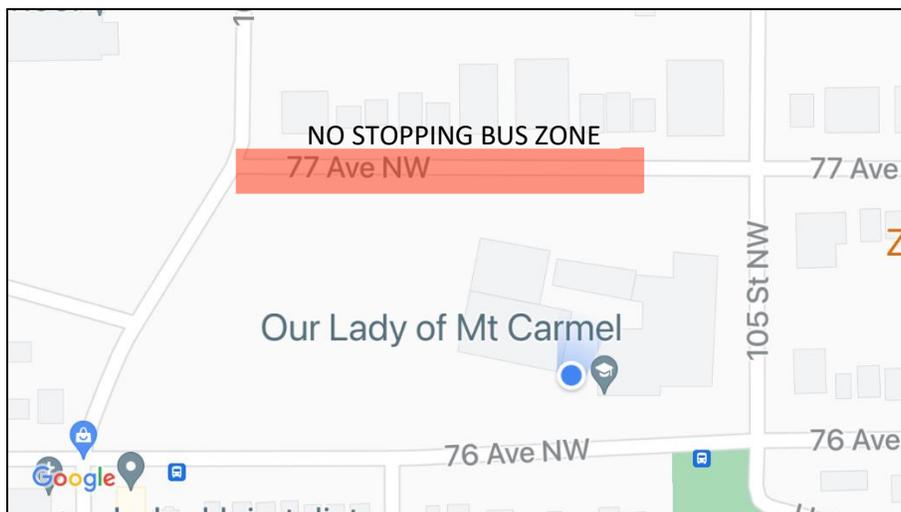
Please feel free to contact the school at 780-433-1062 if you have any questions or concerns relating to your child’s education.

Updated School Re-entry Plan

Please note that OLMC follows the ECSD Back to School Plan, [updated on Sept. 2, 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

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. With so many buses arriving before and after school, it is important to respect the no stopping zone that extends immediately from 106 street along 77 Ave until the sign approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ along the length of the avenue. Please see the map below for the no stopping/bus zone. We also ask that cars do not double park at any time along the street in order to keep traffic flowing at these busy times of the day. Thank you for your help in keeping the streets around our school safe!



Staffing Update

Grade 2

Our Lady of Mount Carmel is pleased to announce that the teaching position of our Grade 2 teacher, Miss Reilly Panchyshyn, has been extended to a full-time role. Miss Panchyshyn will now be here with her grade 2 class for the entire school day!

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. Please join us on September 21, 2021, at 6:30PM in the library (hopefully) and on Teams.

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

Photo Day – Sept. 14th

On the morning of Sept. 14th, LifeTouch Photography will be at the school to take student and staff photos for the current year. In addition to providing a photo for our yearbook, families will have opportunity to purchase photo packages from the company. Further details on viewing proofs and ordering photos online will be given to students with their Order Form on Picture Day.

Meet the Staff – Virtually – Sept. 14

Unfortunately, with the current Back to School Plan in place, we are again unable to hold our annual in-person meet the teacher evening. Instead, the staff will present a virtual alternative on Tuesday, Sept. 14th. That evening, recorded video greetings will be available online from all our teaching staff, so that you are introduced to the wonderful team that is responsible for your children's education throughout the day. A link to the teacher introductions will be available on the main page of our school website the evening of Sept. 14th.

School Opening Celebration – Sept. 10

Students will be joining together for our school opening celebration next Friday, Sept. 10th in the morning. We look forward to gathering together, distanced and masked, in our grade divisions, as we begin our year by renewing our Catholic Faith traditions.

Terry Fox Run

We are very excited to tentatively 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. Further detail, including a finalized date will be announced in the near future.

Staff Social Justice Initiative

As part of the OLMC staff's renewal of commitment to the greater community, we started our year off by joining in the Edmonton Catholic School Division opening Mass and participating in our own Social Justice initiative. For the Mass offertory, we decided to collect cereal and pasta to donate to the local Youth Emergency Shelter. Here is a photo of our team with the day's collection. Thank you to our teachers and all support staff for your generosity!



PowerSchool Access for Parents

PowerSchool helps support you, our parents to access important information on your child's education. If you are experiencing any difficulty, please contact our administrative support team, Rhonda and Leanna at 780-433-1062. Parents can check student progress, pay for school fees & bus passes, and do other tasks all on PowerSchool: <https://powerschool.ecsd.net/public/>

PowerSchool

Need to Create a New Parent Account?	Returning Parent Sign In / Student Sign In?
<p>To create an account, please contact the school to receive your child's Parent Access ID and Parent Access Password. Once you have retained the information, please proceed click on the "Create Account" button to establish a Username and Password.</p> <p>Please note, Access ID and password must only be used to create the account and cannot be used as the Username and Password in the Parent/Student Sign In. If your account was created on or after February 2012, you do not need to create a new one.</p> <p>Create Account</p>	<p>Username: <small>(Must be Parent Access ID cannot be used as the username)</small></p> <input type="text"/> <p>Password: <small>(Must be Parent Access Password cannot be used as the password)</small></p> <input type="password"/> <p>Did you forget your username and/or password?</p> <p>Sign In</p>

Support

[Instructions](#) | [Contact Us](#)

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In order to logon the PowerSchool site:

- Enter your Username and Password in the Parent/Student Sign In
- Click on Sign In
- Continue to follow the links as you require

Fun Shirt Friday

A few pictures from our first Fun Shirt Friday! Check out those Fun Shirts on our Grade 1 students!





Final Words

Just a reminder that Monday, Sept. 6th is the Labour Day Holiday. There is no school on this day. Classes resume on Tuesday, Sept. 7th.

Have a wonderful long weekend and enjoy the sunshine!