



October 2020

Dear Parents and Families,

As we enter October, the month of Thanksgiving, we are truly thankful for the many blessings we've experienced this year. The adaptability of our students and staff in wearing masks, adhering to the protocols of re-entry, and willingness to make this year work shows great resilience and a positive spirit. Combined with our school theme of **"Choose Joy!"**, the efforts by all to make this workable is appreciated! We are truly grateful for all your support.

Thanks for taking the time to view your teacher's video tour of their class and expectations as we were unable to run a "Meet the Teacher" Evening this September.

Thanks to all for helping develop the routines and practices to keep Covid safe in our building. For student illness, if showing any of the symptoms for Covid, students are to stay home for 10 days and until the symptoms are gone. If they receive a negative Covid test result and the symptoms are gone, they can return before the 10 days are up. We have attached the Screening questionnaire that is to be gone over daily before coming to school. If any questions, please contact our office.

Thanks to everyone who has filled out their Returning Student online verification. This helps keep our information current for all of our students. If you haven't completed this yet, please do this through your PowerSchool account.

During this Thanksgiving season, we truly feel blessed and thankful for all the abundant gifts our Lord has so graciously provided. We especially want to thank you, our school family for all you bring. From all Mount Carmel staff, we wish you and yours a very blessed Thanksgiving.

Pat Lema & Neil Hutchinson
Principal Assistant Principal

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Edmonton, AB

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Phone: 780-433-1062

Website:

www.ourladyofmountcarmel.ecsd.net

School Mission: Our mission is to provide a quality education which embodies the Catholic Faith principles of nurturing, acceptance, respect, and love.

Principal: Patrick Lema

Email: patrick.lema@ecsd.net

Assistant Principal: Neil Hutchinson

Email: neil.hutchinson@ecsd.net

Admin Support:

Rhonda Lewis

Mina Coco

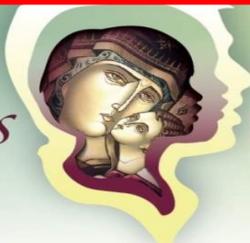
Bus lane and Parking lot:

To all the parents who drop off or pick up their children:

Thank you for keeping the bus lane clear—we have about 9 buses that make their way through each morning and we need to keep the space open for them. Please do not park or stop in the areas marked for the busses.

Thank you for also not using the parking lot as a drop off. We want to help get all our staff and students in safely each morning.

God Calls Us



EACH BY NAME

PowerSchool Access for Parents

PowerSchool

The screenshot shows two main sections: 'Need to Create a New Parent Account?' and 'Returning Parent Sign In / Student Sign In?'. The first section includes instructions for creating an account and a 'Create Account' button. The second section has fields for Username and Password, and a 'Sign In' button. There is also a 'Forgot your username and/or password?' link.

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 Mina at 780-433—1062.

Academy families: please set up your monthly payments if choosing this option.

Parents can check student progress, pay for school fees & bus passes, and do other tasks all on PowerSchool:

1. <https://powerschool.ecsd.net/public/>
2. Enter your **Username** and **Password** in the **Parent/Student Sign In**
3. Click on **Sign In**
4. Continue to follow the links as you require.

Please note: school fees are not all posted yet as we work out how fees will look across the four quarters of this school year.



Picture Day Retakes



SMILE! If you missed (or didn't like) your first set of pictures, the picture day retakes will occur on October 22! Also, for families in **online classes**, the morning will be your time to come in for pictures. Times and information will be sent to our online families directly.

Read-In Week October 5 – 9



During Read In Week, we celebrate the gift of reading in our lives. The ability to read and share stories that connect us is a gift we want our children to experience. Read In will be virtual this year as we welcome parents to connect with their child's class and share a story. Please contact your classroom teacher if interested in participating via computer to share a favourite story.

School Council

Hello Mount Carmel Families,

We warmly welcome all familiar and new faces to a new school year! We would like to extend an invitation to join us at our School Council. Please know by virtue of your child attending Mount Carmel, you are automatically a part of our School Council! We would love to hear your voice at our meetings. Volunteers make the year go smoothly and by working together we can prevent burnout for everybody. **At our October 20 meeting we will be having our elections for the executive positions for both the school council and also the fundraising society.**

2020-2021 School Council Meeting Dates:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| October 20—6:30 pm | —meetings in the Library or online (we will send out a link for those who wish to join online) |
| November 24 -6:30 pm | March 23 -6:30 pm |
| January 19 -6:30 pm | April 20—6:30 pm |
| February 23 —6:30 pm | May 18—6:30 pm—final meeting |

Terry Fox and the Marathon of Hope



For our Terry Fox Run on October 1, we will be heading out to run and remember the legacy that Terry started with his own run. For donations, we ask that you please do them online at this link:

<http://www.terryfox.ca/OurLadyOfMountCarmelSchoolEdmonton>

Classes will be running with their own cohort group that morning.

Covid Protocols and Updates

Here we are one month into the school year and things are looking a little different. Thanks to our students and staff for making this work so well and adapting to the rules.

For our junior high students, they are in their home room for the morning and the teachers rotate through to teach their subjects. Students are eating lunch in the classroom with no canteen or microwaves. Then in the afternoon, they head to their afternoon academy or classes.

We are not planning on extracurricular sports (volleyball and basketball) as many of our students are taking part in their own sport cohort through their hockey, soccer, or other club sport.

For our elementary students, recess and lunch are at staggered times and the recess areas are clearly defined for which grade is in which area (park, tarmac, or field). Group work doesn't quite look the same and desks are in rows.

We are not planning for fieldtrips beyond what is happening for the Academy Students.

We are not having large assemblies or celebrations—these are done in the classroom and we broadcast in to them with our morning prayer or other announcements.

We do not have the buddy classes that worked together on projects and helping around the school.

Students are sanitizing as they enter the building and their classrooms. In times of transition and around our building, they are to be wearing masks as well.

We have about 20% of our students who are in the online classes—so it is a little less busy in our halls and at drop-off.

What we are seeing is students glad to be together and working back at school. The 5 and a half months from March until September were a long time to be out of the routine. It feels good to be together, even if we are approaching things in new ways. Our young students are getting into the routine of a full school day and there is great work going on in classes.

Teachers are adapting to following a common pacing guide across all our schools—units and topics have to be taught at the same time so that the online and in-class programs align.

We are also receiving a lot of encouragement from you, our parents! For people not coming in to the building or making appointments when needing, for affirming comments and support, and for the work you do to support your children with positive messages and hope, we give thanks!

It has been a stressful and busy start up with so many unknown factors and yet we are a school filled with learners. That feels good and right!

Take care and stay safe!

2019-20 Yearbooks

A limited number of 2019-20 Yearbooks are available for \$20 each. They can be purchased online through your child's PowerSchool account OR you can contact the office at 780-433-1062 for alternate arrangements. While quantities last!

October 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			Orange Shirt Day	1 Terry Fox Run	2	3
4	5 Read In Week!	6	7	8	9 Thanksgiving celebration in the classrooms	10
11	12 Thanksgiv- ing – no school today	13	14	15	16	17
18 Remember to save and send in your Boston Pizza receipts to the office.	19	20 Look for a message coming from the Division about the next chance to change your child from either online or in-class learning. Quarter #2 starts on Nov. 10.	21	22 Picture Retakes	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Staff Faith for- mation Day – no school for students	30 Halloween activities in individual classrooms	31 Halloween and Daylight Savings