



Our Lady of Peace Elementary School

15911-110 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5P 1G2

Phone 780-489-1222; Fax 780-489-0868

Email: www.ourladyofpeace.ecsd.net

December 2020

The first Sunday of Advent was on November 29. As a Church we enter a precious period of in-betweenness. It is a time of expectancy and watchful waiting. Pope Francis says, "Advent is a time given to us to welcome the Lord who comes to meet us, to verify our desire for God, to look ahead and prepare ourselves for the return of Christ." Our Lord has already come and we wait for him to come again. In Advent we are called to be watchful: "you do not know when the time will come"; "Beware, keep alert"; "Keep awake". These insistent passages call us to be attentive in our every moment. What if every moment was one in which we might meet our God? What might we notice? How might we act? Let us pray for the grace to be receptive to God in every moment.



Advent: Advent began on Sunday, November 29. Father Dean celebrated mass and blessed our Advent wreaths at our school on Thursday, November 26. The grade 5 students led the celebration in the gym.



The Advent wreath is a green circle signifying God's unending love for us with three purple candles and one pink candle. As each candle is lit before Christmas, God leads us out of the darkness. Each candle signifies something different: The first candle signifies Hope, the second Faith, the third Joy and the fourth Peace. Our students will be lighting the advent candles every Monday following a short celebration during announcements.

Parent – Teacher Interviews

Report cards will not be handed out during this time. Your child's continuous assessment can be viewed on Parent PowerSchool. On this website you can find up to date assessments that will help you understand your child's progress. On **Thursday, December 3** you can book a time to meet with your child's teacher either by phone or a video call through Microsoft TEAMS. A link to book an appointment has been sent out to parents 2 times in the past week. Check your email. Each parent is asked to schedule a private time with their child's teacher to discuss their educational progress. Times can be booked from **1:30 pm – 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**. If you cannot make it on December 3 you are invited to call your child's teacher and have a conversation. If you need help, call the office.

Student Events



Our students will be celebrating the Advent/Christmas season with a pancake breakfast on Friday, December 11. We have a group of Good-Will Ambassadors who have chosen our school to spread the 'Spirit of Christmas'. We are grateful!

Our Lady of Peace would like to thank the 1A class for being our leaders this month. They are organizing a '**wear your Christmas gear**' day on **Tuesday, December 15**. Everyone is asked to wear the Christmas colours of red and/or green, a Santa hat, Christmas sweater or anything 'Christmassy'. Join in the fun on December 15. The grade 1A students chose as their activity of the month to be cookie decorating. This will happen on December 17. Great choices 1A students, leaders of the month!

We are please to continue the **travelling Christmas party** for our students on **December 17**. Student will be involved in three different Christmas themed activities on this morning. The morning will be full of Christmas cheer!

December 18 is pajama day. Students will spend part of the morning in their classes watching a Christmas movie, playing games or having a Christmas party. Watch for specific information from the teachers in your child's agenda. Remember please do not bring food to share into the school.



Student Social Justice Activities

We are so proud of our students and parents. When it comes to helping others, you step up and support. Most people think of charity simply as a benevolent act of giving. The most general definition of charity, however, means so much more than that. Charity in its purest sense means love and encompasses our love for God and our love for our fellow people. Thomas Aquinas said, “the habit of charity extends not only to the love of God but also the love of our neighbor.” These two kinds of love are closely tied to one another.

For Thanksgiving we were able to support 3 of our families in need. Currently our families are purchasing raffle tickets to support the Edmonton Catholic Champion Foundation. Deadline to purchase tickets is December 1. The grade 6 students have decided to do a food drive and the entire school is creating crafts to brighten the lives in two Seniors' Centres in Edmonton.

This month we continue with kindness. Students who show a sign of kindness will have their kind act and name posted in a heart. At the end of the week we choose three names, and those students receive a prize. Some of the acts of kindness have been “making me laugh”, “closing my locker for me”, “being kind and caring”, etc.

Our students are learning the importance of giving and we are so proud of them!

School Council

School Council met on Nov.12 in the school library. Among the many items discussed, our school council supported the school in the purchasing of the following materials: music instruments, alternative seating items, and activity panels for our sensory room. Thank you, school council, for helping us. Our next meeting will be on Jan. 20. We will be conducting our next meeting online, so you may listen to what goes on. We hope to see you then!

100 Voices

We have a few spots open for 100 Voices in January 2021 – June 2021 for in person learning. Your child must be 4 years old by December 2020, preferably in our catchment and Catholic. 100 Voices is a learning through play program focusing on literacy and numeracy development using developmentally appropriate play-based experiences. We have ½ day programs: a morning class from 8:30 am – 11:31 am and an afternoon class from 12:10 pm – 3:11 pm. The program runs Monday – Wed, and Friday. We will first accept siblings of current students. Your first step is to contact the school and we will give you further direction. If you are interested, please contact the school and the next step of determining eligibility will be made.

Traffic Issues

It is illegal to make a U-turn in an intersection or the middle of the road. As well, cars need to be parked **at least 5 meters from a crosswalk or corner**. Please take precautions because we do not want anything happening to our children.



Our Lady of Peace is an APPLE School

Our Lady of Peace has been an Apple School for ten years with plenty of reasons to celebrate our healthy environment. Being an Apple School means much more than just healthy food. It encompasses our physical atmosphere, our school policy and the partnerships we make within our community. Our morning snack program is a staple for our students, supplying them with nutritious food. Everyday, we provide our students with a healthy lunch. We also have fun hallway activities promoting movement. This healthy environment is essential for our students to be able to learn better.



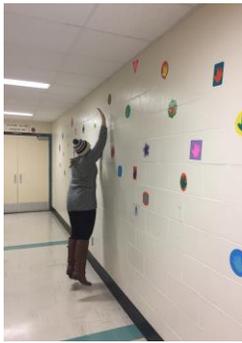
Prayer at Peace

Every day, we have student led prayer in our school broadcasted through our Smart Boards. Our children create their own prayers and read them to the entire school community. We take time to pray for those who need it. We are always praying for the health of our families at Peace!



Moving in the Hallways

Physical Literacy: In our hallways we have hop scotch, bugs, alphabet circles, and counting flower in our hallways. We are thankful to our behavioural therapists who have created movement spaces for our students. These areas allow our students a space to move and wiggle so they are better able to focus on learning. We are proud to be a showcase school in Edmonton Catholic



Literacy: School Goal

Literacy: This year one of our school goals is promoting reading and writing. We encourage our students to read at least 20 minutes by themselves, to an adult, or have an adult read to them every night. After reading ask your child questions like: 'What did you like best or least about the book?' or 'Can you tell me who the main character of the story is? How do you know?' Encourage your child to read ingredients in a grocery store or street signs as you drive. Your children can also write grocery lists, or a letter to Santa. Literacy is everywhere.

Every month we focus on vocabulary words. This month the words are list, suggest, search and analyze. These are words with multiple meanings and contexts. Focusing on vocabulary will help your children develop critical thinking skills. Talk about their meanings and try using them in a sentence.

Numeracy: School Goal

Numeracy: This year another one of our school goals is increasing the students' understanding of numeracy. It is important that all students practice basic math facts at home. This can be as easy as reviewing simple addition and subtraction facts (What is $3+2$, 11×3 , etc.). It is also important to have short math conversations with your children. For example ask your child 'whose bowl has more cereal?' and 'how do you know?' Cut food into equal pieces. Point out $1/2$, $1/3$, $1/4$, etc. Help establish the concept that $1/4$ of a piece of a chocolate bar is smaller than $1/2$ of a piece. Estimate the time it will take to clean a bedroom or toy box. Then do an accurate timing and compare.



Trivia

Edmonton is situated on which treaty territory?

We acknowledge that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people

How many treaty areas are located in Alberta?

5 are located in Alberta: Treaties 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10

Christmas Concert



This year you will be able to view the Christmas Concert on your child's Google Classroom, the week of December 14. Thank you, Mr. Oberhofer.

Christmas Gifts

During the Christmas season, the students at Peace have received an anonymous gift from a student in another Edmonton Catholic School. Unfortunately, due to COVID, this will not occur this year. We are following AHS guidelines to keep you safe. The other anonymous school wishes everyone a safe and healthy Christmas and that they are thinking of us.

Important Time Changes This Month!

Time Changes: Please note that December 17, **Thursday**, is a **full day** for kindergarten to grade 6 with dismissal at **3:00 pm** on December 18, **Friday**, is a **half day** and the last school day before Christmas Break! Dismissal is at 12:13 pm. **100 Voices** have school on **December 17**, but **not** on **December 18**.

All students **return** Monday, **January 4** to **online learning** and then **January 11** to **in person, if they were in person before Christmas**



Social Media

Follow us on **Twitter**: @OurLadyofPeace1

Instagram: ourladyofpeacecsd

Facebook: OurLadyofpeaceschool Edmonton

Fun Times at School

Crazy Hair Day!



Metis Week Museum



Advent



Kindergarten Extensions MacDonalD's Drive Thru



Artwork for the Seniors' Centres



Kinder with Extensions Provocation



Kinder SnowPeople

