

February 2021

Love is the only light that can constantly illuminate a world grown dim (Pope Francis, April 2016). And the light shines strongly at Peace. We can see it in our students and in our parents/families that support us.

“Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.” - Mother Teresa



As Catholics, we all know that “Valentine’s day” was not invented by the greeting card or chocolate selling companies- it is the feast day of St. Valentine! It is widely recognized as a day for love, and devotion. There is a Christian message that should be remembered during this day. The love of our Lord. Such is the love that each Christian is called to express in his or her own life, for God and neighbor. During this month, we enter the season of Lent, commencing with Ash Wednesday on February 17. We take this time to create a deeper relationship with God as we journey towards His death and resurrection. God loved us so much that he gave up His only Son for us so that we might have salvation. Never forget that Jesus said, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:12-13).

It was not too long ago we were celebrating Advent and the ‘coming of Christ’. It is indeed hard to believe that we are entering into February! This is the midpoint of our school year. It is a blessing to see that the days are getting longer, the cold temperatures are hopefully receding, and our students continue to enjoy the beautiful winter God has given us. The months seem to move faster as we come to February. At Our Lady of Peace, we have many activities happening for our students. This month we are asking students to post statements of gratitude in our gym hallway. The research shows that focusing on gratitude improves mental health. Even though some of our regular activities have been cancelled due to COVID, we are still building community in many creative ways.



[Register at
ecsd.net](http://ecsd.net)

If you know of anyone who would like to join the Our Lady of Peace family, we are now taking fall registrations for kindergarten to grade 6. All registrations are online. Anybody new to the school is to visit ecsd.net and click on the box "How to Register". If you are experiencing trouble registering, please call the school at 780-489-1222.

If your child was born between Jan. 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, he/she can register for kindergarten. We are now accepting registrations.

100 Voices

We are sad to say that the 100 Voices program is moving from Our Lady of Peace School. To make the program better than it is, many 100 Voices sites in the west end are being amalgamated into one site, at Our Lady of Victories School. If you have a child you would like to attend the 100 Voices program next year, please register online at www.ecsd.net

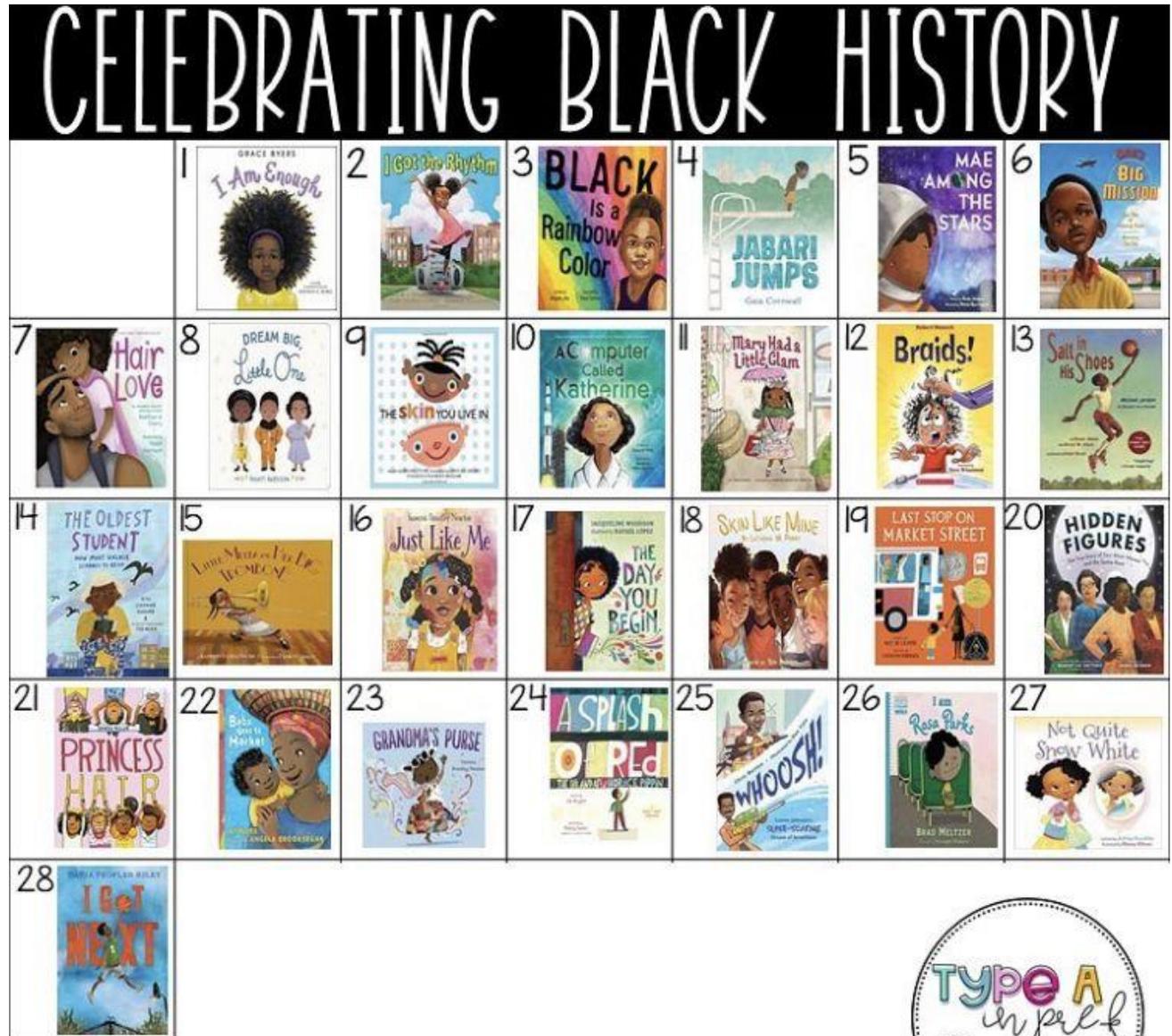
School Fees and Buses Passes

Our school fees this year are low because of our generous school council which helps to pay for many of our needs. Without their support, our fees would be higher. If you have not paid your \$13.00 school fee per child, please do so immediately.

Bus pass fees are due at the end of every month. Our monthly bus pass fee is \$35.00 per child or \$30.50 if you have three or more children taking the bus.

Black History Month

This month is Black History month. In many of our classes, students are reading books on this theme. Below are some books that you can search on Youtube read aloud.



Student Activities

St. Thomas More will be virtually presenting their school to our grade 6 students on Feb. 4. Our gr. 6 students will have the opportunity to see inside St. Thomas More and explore the programs offered at this junior high school. This is an important event for our grade 6 students, so ensure that they are at school on this date!

Grade one students will be celebrating the 100th day of school on February 9. This will be a day full of activities involving the number 100. Grade 1 students will be counting to 100 in many ways, writing 100 words, sorting 100 things etc.

This month the 2A class is directing leadership activities. That means it is their turn to organize school wide activities. On February 12 they have chosen an appropriate theme, 'wear red, pink or white day', in honour of St. Valentine's Day.

For the school activity of the month the grade 2 students have chosen to collect aluminum pull tabs off pop cans to donate to charities where they are melted down and recast as wheelchairs. There will be a box at the front of the school, where students can deposit the aluminum pop pull tabs. We will also accept clean aluminum pie plates.

Since **Valentine's Day** is on Sunday this year, we will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Friday, February 12. Each teacher will be organizing events in their classroom. Due to AHS guidelines, no treats from home can be brought into the classroom.

Valentine cards must be brought to school by Friday, February 5th in a bag. Preparation of the Valentine's at home should include the use of hand sanitizer before writing and storage of all the cards. On Feb. 12, after the cards have sat untouched at school for a week (longer than necessary but suggested to ensure minimum time untouched), the teacher, following AHS protocol, will distribute the cards to the students. Thank you for your co-operation.

Shrove Tuesday is on February 16. As is tradition, the students will receive pancakes and sausages for lunch.

Ash Wednesday is on February 17. We will acknowledge the day with a liturgical. The Edmonton Archdiocese is working on appropriate protocols to ensure the safe distribution of ashes.

We continue our numeracy focus with a morning dedicated to **numeracy activities** on February 11. Our teachers are working on fun and interesting ways to integrate numeracy into the lives of our students during this morning.

Junior High Open Houses for Gr. 6 Students

Each junior high school will be hosting an online open house. Below are the dates and times of those in our area.

School	Date of Virtual Open House	Time	Location of School
St. Thomas More	February 18	7:00 pm	9610 - 165 Street nw
St. Mark	February 16	7:00 pm	11625-135 St. nw
St. Rose	February 10	7:00 pm	8815 - 145 Street nw
Jean Forest Leadership All Girls' Academy	February 24	6:30 pm	8830 - 132 Avenue nw

Our Lady of Peace Open House

If you know of someone looking for an elementary school for their child, have them attend the Our Lady of Peace online open house on March 18 at 5:30 pm. More information can be found on our website at:

www.ecsd.net/8010

Other Dates to Remember

February 15 is family day. There is no school on this day.

Teachers' Convention is on February 25 – 26. There is no school on these days.

Our grade 3 students will be completing the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT) at the end of February beginning of March. The students cannot study for this test, but the results help us better understand the students we are educating.

We will be welcoming student teachers to our school in the month of February.

Our Demonstration of Learning will occur on March 18. More information will follow in next month's bulletin.

Happenings Around the School



Grade two students
learning about
buoyancy the fun
way!



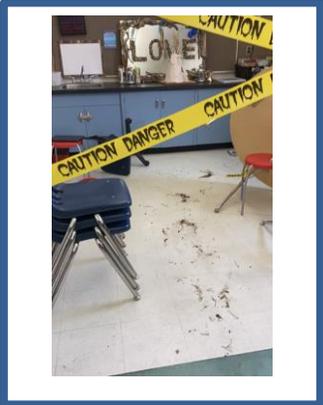
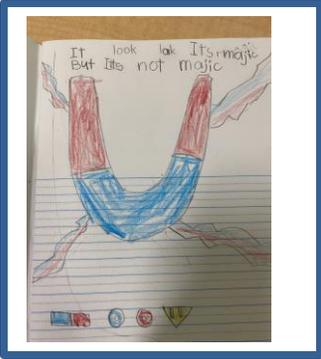
Trickster Residency
at Peace. The
students are
learning how to
create an original
play right from the
beginning.

Kindergarten students working on creating shapes and letters!



More Happenings Around the School

Magnetism in Grade One



Evidence and Investigation in grade 6.

Who did it?



Retro Days