

## November 2020

In November, we celebrate Catholic education Sunday on Nov. 3. This is an opportunity to support Catholic education in our community, to ensure the continued success of our Catholic schools, and to promote the mission of Catholic schools to spread God's message of love and peace in the world. St. John the Evangelist Parish will have masses to celebrate Catholic education Nov. 3.



November is also a month where we remember all saints and souls. All Saints' Day on November 1<sup>st</sup> is a feast day celebrated by Roman Catholics. It is an opportunity for believers to remember all saints and martyrs, known and unknown throughout Christian history. All Souls' Day is marked on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and is an opportunity for Roman Catholics to remember and pray for the faithful departed.

At Peace, September and October were busy months. We continue to be vigilant with our COVID procedures. Together we are doing our best to mitigate risks and offer the best quality Catholic education possible. Our students have settled into the routines and are focused on doing their best. We are also taking time to have some fun. In October, we had APPLE flex Thursday where the students learned about keeping their minds, bodies and spirits healthy. Our theme in October was gratitude. We asked students what they were grateful for and we expressed their gratitude over daily announcements. Then we ended October with Halloween. We missed having parents at school for the Halloween parade, but we had a virtual parade where everyone in the school was able to 'show off' their costumes. It was different, but fun.



## Changes to School Procedures due to COVID-19

Please continue to screen your children daily for COVID-19 symptoms using the [Alberta Health Checklist](#). Do not bring a child exhibiting any of the COVID-19 symptoms to schools. We know that this may be difficult because of work but know that we are complying with AHS regulations. The checklist has changed recently, therefore look at the link above.

Masks are mandatory at school and students are required to bring one or two masks to school. Putting your child's name somewhere on the mask helps us return it to your child if the mask is lost.



Each teacher has created a Google Classroom for use in school and at home. If your child is sick, they will be able to continue their learning through Google Classroom. Take time to see if your child knows how to access their class Google Classroom.

## Bible Celebration

Father Dean and Sophie, from St. John the Evangelist Parish, led our Bible Celebration this year on October 15. Father Dean took the time to personally sign each Bible. The celebration continued over the recess time and Sophie apologized to the students. One of our students politely replied, "Don't worry. I don't mind missing recess. I always wanted my own Bible". We have the best students!



## School Council

We  
Love  
Our  
School

We love our school council. The organization has purchased computers, provided money for field trips, and bought licenses for programs such as Mathletics, Raz Kids and Brain Pop. They also initiated our science fair which occurs in late spring. The school council has given something for every child in the school! We are looking for new members. The time commitment is small, but valuable. No experience is necessary. Attend our next meeting and just listen to what goes on. Our next meeting is on Nov. 12 at 4:30 pm. Call the school office if you would like to volunteer your time. We will have the meeting in the school library, or you can attend virtually through your child's Microsoft Teams account.

## Braided Journeys



Braided Journeys is hosting two after school sessions, one leadership grade 6 group on Thursdays from 12:13 – 2:30 pm and one grade 5 group on Tuesdays from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm. If you would like more information, please speak with Miss. Nicole.

## Donations

Thank you to the families of Peace for providing your support to our 'Toonies for Turkeys' fundraiser. We raised enough monies to provide 4 of our families with a gift card to help purchase food for Thanksgiving.

We would like to thank Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God Parish on 156 St. and 104 Ave. for providing the school with food for our snack program and our food bank. They surprised us last week with a carload of food. Thank you for continuing to look after us!



We would like to thank the company Unbelts for their generosity. They have provided us with some reusable cloth masks. Thank you for thinking of us.

We would like to thank the anonymous donors who have helped us with our morning snack program. We have been having cereal and milk, pancakes, muffins, waffles, hash browns and much more in the mornings.



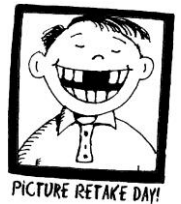
## Parent PowerSchool

### You Must Do This!

Did you know that you can pay school fees online with a credit card? Did you know that you can see your child's up to date assessments online as well? If you have not registered for Parent PowerSchool or if you have not checked on your child's progress, you must do so immediately. It is a tool that you will be using for many years. This is how you will see your child's progress and report card marks.

## Celebrations and Events

Picture retakes will occur on **Monday, November 9** in the morning. Please remember to have your child return their picture package to the photographer. If your child is learning online, you must book an appointment through the school for a retake.



In November, we remember the young men and women who have served Canada during times of war, military conflict, and to promote global peace, to protect our basic fundamental human rights and to preserve our values that help to define who we are as Canadians and as a country. We will be remembering all those who have served our great country at our Remembrance Day Ceremony at 10:50 a.m. on **Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**.

The grade four students are the school's leadership team for this month. They have chosen crazy hair day as the school spirit day which will happen on **Tuesday, Nov. 17**. As well, they chose a common activity day for the school, yoga! The grade 4 students will lead the school in a yoga session on **Wednesday, Nov. 26**. Thank you grade 4 students!

In preparation for Advent, Father Dean will be joining us for the blessing of the wreathes. This will take place on **November 26 at 9:15 am**. The celebration will be viewed throughout the school on the Smart boards.

This month is **kindness** month at Peace. We will ask students to write a kind gesture that happened to them at school on a heart. At the end of the week, three hearts will be chosen to receive a small prize.

## Metis Week

November 12 – 15 is Métis week and we will be celebrating with the creation of a Métis museum in the Braided Journeys room. We will showcase Métis culture, the Canadian history of the Métis people, artifacts, Octopus bags, Bannock teachings, beadwork and more. All the while the flute and fiddle will be playing in the background. Thank you to all who will contribute to this wonderful experience for our students.

What does the Métis Flag look like?  
Answer on the following pages



## Social Media

Did you know that we have a Facebook site (OurLadyofpeaceschool Edmonton)? We are also on Twitter (@OurLadyofPeace1) and Instagram (ourladyofpeacecsd). We also have a website, [ecsd.net/8010](http://ecsd.net/8010), where you can find out newsletter, calendar, lunch menu and much more. Check us out and like our posts.

## Demonstration of Learning

On December 3, the staff will be hosting a virtual or phone 'Demonstration of Learning'. From 1:30 pm – 7:00 pm, you will have a chance to book a 10 minute time slot with your child's teacher to discuss the progress of your child as well as receive ideas on how to increase your child's success at school. In the last week of November, you will be receiving a sheet from your child's teacher requesting the selection of a time slot. You may choose one of two options: a phone call or a call through your child's Microsoft TEAMS account. Even though we are not able to meet in person, the staff feel it is very important to make this connection with you.

## Christmas Concert

We would like to thank Mr. Oberhofer who is preparing our students for a virtual Christmas Concert. This year, your child's Christmas presentation will be viewed on their Google Classroom the week of December 7, 2020. Even though we cannot be together this year, Mr. Oberhofer felt it was important to showcase our talented students. What is Christmas without a Christmas Concert? Thank you, Mr. O, for doing this for us.



**At Our Lady of Peace we have many resources to help our children:**

Behaviour Therapist and Therapeutic Behaviour Assistants: Implements positive approaches to education and provides positive behaviour supports.

Therapeutic Speech and Language Assistant: Under the guidance of a Speech Therapist, uses assessment and observation to help determine the extent of verbal and non-verbal communication abilities; assess difficulties in context of the curriculum; and determines communication alternatives

Therapeutic Speech and Language Assistant Student: A student from college, under the guidance of a Speech Therapist.

Therapeutic Occupational Assistant: Works with an Occupational Therapist to assist teachers with educational programming for children/youth who have difficulty interacting with and participating in their environment.

Educational Assistants: Assists with educational planning in the classroom under the direction of a teacher.

Braided Journeys Instructor: Provides assistance to First Nations, Metis and Inuit (FMNI) students, individually and/or in groups, to support literacy and reading strategies as well as offering cultural opportunities.

Intern Psychologist: Provides support through individual or group counselling, under the direction of a Registered Psychologist.



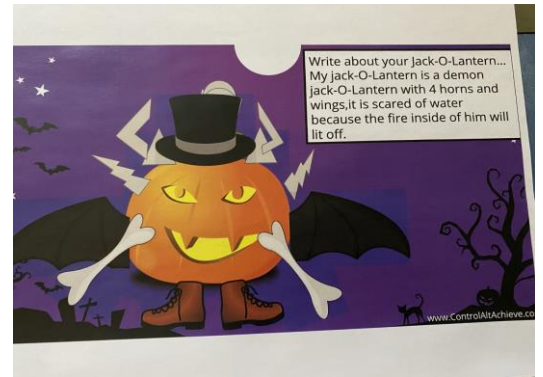
The Métis Flag: the symbol, which represents the immortality of the nation, in the center of a blue field represents the joining of two cultures.



**Did You Know This About Our Teachers?:** We are very proud of our teachers and their dedication to learning. In the first two months our teachers have attended sessions on Google Classrooms, Power TeacherPro (our assessment tool), Catholic Permeation of the Curriculum, Levelled Literacy, Math UP (new math program), Mental Health, PATHS (Health) program, Religion Curricular Study, APPLE Schools (healthy eating), Tipi Teachings, and much more!

## Our Staff is Focused on Continuous Improvement!

### Student Artwork



## Read-Alouds at Bedtime

It is important for your children to read daily. It is equally important that we, as parents, read to our children regularly! Bedtime is the perfect opportunity to read aloud to your children.

### What are the benefits of reading aloud?

**There are so many! Here are just a few:**

- Children hear effective reading.
- Children learn the structure of story.
- Books spark conversation.
- Young children develop book sense (direction of print, recognition that letters represent sounds and that words hold meaning).
- Children realize that books are fun!
- The routine of bedtime stories creates time to connect with your child(ren).

### Tips for Reading Aloud:

- Read the title and look at the cover. Ask your child(ren) to **make predictions** about the book.
- Read with **expression**.
- Encourage your child to **look closely** and **talk about the pictures**.
- **Ask questions** and **talk** about the book before, during, or after reading!
- **Reread** books: children love to hear their favourites again and again!
- **Don't stop** reading aloud to your child(ren) just because they are readers themselves!

If you want your child to love reading, read great books aloud to them daily!





**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**SACRAMENT PREPARATION REGISTRATION 2020 – 2021**

**First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, and Confirmation** Our Parish is blessed to be part of your child's growth in faith through preparation for the sacraments entrusted to you as parents. Preparation this year is adjusted due to current conditions, with social distancing, sanitizing of surfaces, smaller groups, fewer sessions, and more parental involvement and at-home activities. Attending Mass with the family is the most significant preparation you can do for your child; families, please register in advance, come early, come often!

Children preparing for sacraments this year will be blessed at Masses in the months of December and January.

**First Reconciliation and First Eucharist (Communion)**

These sacraments are celebrated when a child is in grade 2 or higher.

**Registration/Orientation:** A parent is required to attend this session with their child. Bring your child's Baptismal Certificate if not baptized at St. John. We are asking for \$40 for materials costs. Between 10 and 15 parent-child pairs can attend each of these. Contact St. John to register for *one* of these Sessions:

1. Thursday, Nov. 26, 1-2:30 pm
2. Saturday, Nov. 28, 9:30 – 11 am
3. Saturday Nov. 28, 12:30 – 2 pm
4. Tuesday, Dec. 1, 6-7:30 pm

Dates for a separate **Parent Meeting** will be set for December/January, with attendance of one parent required at one of these meetings. There are two children's Reconciliation preparation sessions (Jan. 23; Feb. 13 with a parent) with Reconciliation received in the evenings of Feb. 23 or 24. There are two preparation sessions for First Eucharist (Mar. 6; Apr. 17 with a parent), and reception of the sacrament during April-May (dates to be determined).

**Confirmation** is celebrated when your child is in grade 6, Junior High, High School or as an adult. Confirmation candidates can prepare for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation and 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist at the same time as Confirmation. It is never too late to receive these sacraments!

**Registration/Orientation/Family Session:** A parent is required to attend this session with their Candidate. Bring the Candidate's Baptismal Certificate, and First Eucharist date and Church where celebrated, if these sacraments were not celebrated at St. John's. We are asking for \$50 for materials and Retreat costs. Between 10 and 15 parent-child pairs can attend each of these. Contact St. John to register for *one* of these Sessions:

1. Wednesday, Nov. 18, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
2. Thursday, Nov. 19, 1-3 pm
3. Saturday, Nov. 21, 9:30 – 11:30 am
4. Saturday, Nov. 21, 1 – 3 pm

There are three Candidate preparation Sessions (Jan 9, 30, and Feb. 30). They and their Sponsor attend a Retreat (Mar. 13 OR Mar.20). Reconciliation will be scheduled. Confirmation is celebrated on April 10 and 11.



## Baptism Preparation

*Are you expecting a new baby? Congratulations, we're so very happy for you!* We celebrate Baptisms on Sunday afternoons. Parents are required to take a short course (2 hours, on one evening) to help understand what it means to be baptized, and what they are committing themselves and their child to in this sacrament.\* We walk through the ritual of Baptism in the Church so you will know what to expect, especially these days. Godparents are welcome and encouraged to come to the class too. Please check our Parish website under the Sacraments tab for more information, and call us if you have any questions, especially about baptizing older children or adults.

(\*Fr. Dean has a great deal on right now: baptize three, and the 4<sup>th</sup> child is free! That means you are so well prepared you don't need to take another course ☺)

Do you have older children who would like to be baptized? Please contact us and we can prepare them too!

## Christmas Masses

**As for all Masses, advance registration will be required.**

**Social distancing significantly limits the number of people attending each Mass. Please share this with your families, and those who may not attend Mass regularly.**

**Watch for further information.**

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