

God Calls Us EACH BY NAME

I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,...
plans to give you a future with hope.
- Jeremiah 29:11 -

It is that exciting time when we head into a new school year with eagerness and anticipation. We know that there continues to be some uncertain times ahead, but as we forge forward, we know as a community we can handle whatever comes our way. The staff at Our Lady of Peace School are excited to be back and look forward to seeing the faces of our students back in our classrooms. We are very excited and already have many things planned to make it another successful year at Our Lady of Peace.

Our theme for this year is “God calls us each by name” and is guided by scripture from Jeremiah. At its root, our theme is a message of hope. Catholic education is entirely about building a future with hope. When we serve the children of Edmonton Catholic Schools, our goal is to instill in them a sense of wonder in themselves as children of God so that they see themselves as members and builders of his Kingdom. There is nothing more hopeful than this.

IMPORTANT

School Hours

School Hours of Operation	Kindergarten – gr. 6
8:30 am	Outside Bell
8:35 am	Classes start
10:30 – 10:45 am	Recess
12:10 – 12:30 pm	Lunch Recess
12:30 – 12:50 pm	Lunch
1:55 – 2:00 pm	Afternoon Break
3:03 pm	Dismissal Bell
* 12:15pm dismissal on Thursdays	

Changes to School Procedures due to COVID-19

Parents are required to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms daily using the [Alberta Health Checklist](#). Do not bring a child exhibiting any of the COVID-19 symptoms to school. Masks are mandatory for grades 4-6 and strongly encouraged from kindergarten to grade three. Please have an extra mask in student’s backpack. Each teacher will have 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. If your child becomes ill during the day, they will be placed away from others. You will immediately be called to pick up your child.

School Conduct Policy

Our school conduct policy is located on our website. Please take time to read it. It can be found at <https://www.ecsd.net/8010>

School Dress Code

Please remain appropriate by keeping underwear, bra straps or midriffs under clothing. Given the spiritual nature of our school, students are asked to use good judgement regarding clothing and masks with offensive language or slogans. Students are **expected to always have a pair of indoor runners for school**. Students are asked to remove their outside footwear and change into clean indoor gym shoes upon entering the building. Ensure that students are dressed for the weather. Weather permitting, all students are sent outside for morning as well as lunch recess each day.

Parent PowerSchool

The online site, [Parent PowerSchool](#), is an important tool that every parent/guardian **must** access. Through this site your child's academic progress will be available in real time. Your child's marks will be online and updated as soon as a new assessment is accomplished. As well through PowerSchool, you will be able to pay for field trips or bus passes with a credit card/debit card. PowerSchool is a tool that will be used throughout your child's time with Edmonton Catholic. If you require assistance in obtaining an id and password for PowerSchool, please contact Mrs. Oliver at school to help you. She can guide you through the process.



School Council (Parent Council)

Our first School Council Meeting will be held Oct. 12 at 5:00pm. Your voice is very important to us and we want to hear it! We strongly encourage your participation in School Council and we are looking for parents to participate in our school council. This would mean a brief commitment, once a month, on Microsoft Teams. No experience is necessary. Parents come together to discuss ways they can help the school and the students of Our Lady of Peace. We ask that you give it a try. We have a school council meeting soon. A Swift message will be sent to parents with the date and time of our first meeting.

School Fees

Our school fees for the 2021-2022 school year will be \$20.00 per student from Kindergarten to Grade 6. We would like to thank our school council for supporting our parents and students by taking on the

cost of computer programs, repairs, purchasing of books and subsidizing field trips. Their support allowed us to reduce our school fees.

Our comprehensive school fee schedule can be found on our website.

Snack and Lunch Program

This year, because of a combination of private funding and President's Choice Charities, we are able to provide a healthy snack every day to our students! Snack will occur between 8:35 – 10:00 am. We would like to thank an anonymous individual who has fundraised monies in order that every child in our school receives a healthy snack. We are fortunate to have community members looking after the welfare of our students!

As well, we will be continuing our lunch program at Our Lady of Peace. Every Kindergarten to grade 6 student will receive a free lunch (milk included) from Monday to Wednesday and Friday. The menu will be posted on our school website. Parents are asked to provide healthy snacks for recess and breaks. If you know that your child will not like a particular lunch, parents are asked to prepare a lunch from home for that day. We are very thankful to the to the Alberta Provincial Government Nutrition Program.



Nehiyaw Pimatisiwin Cree Culture and Language Program

We are blessed to have the Nehiyaw Pimatisiwin Cree Culture and Language Program in our school. We welcome, new to our program, Lyndsey Chamberlain as our Braided Journey's Instructor. She will focus on literacy development and cultural learning as she develops a program that will most benefit our students. More information will come in future newsletters. Feel free to reach out to her.



Orange Shirt Day

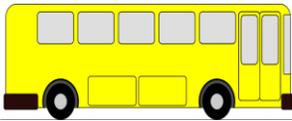
Orange Shirt Day grew out of an Indian Residential School survivor's account of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission Residential School. The orange shirt is meant to recognize the harm done to Indian Residential school students and show a commitment to the principle that Every Child Matters! Every child will be given their own Orange Shirt on September 29 to commemorate this important holiday. There will be **NO SCHOOL** September 30 for Truth and Reconciliation Day.



Meet the Staff

Unfortunately, we will not have our annual 'Meet the Staff' barbecue this year. We are looking into a different format. In the meantime, if you have any concerns or information, please reach out to your child's teacher.

Bus Passes



Bus pass fees are to be paid through Parent PowerSchool. Bus passes are \$36.75/month or \$32.00/month/child for families with 3 or more children. Families who are unable to purchase a bus pass are to **contact** the principal at the beginning of **each month**. Bus passes will be checked by the bus drivers!

If you have a change in address, please inform the office immediately. It takes three to four weeks to set up bussing to a new location.

Agenda Books

Each child from grade 1 to grade 6 will receive an agenda book, the cost of which is included in our school fees. This is an excellent communication tool between the home and school. Check the plastic pocket located in the front of the agenda daily for additional information. Any field trip forms (hopefully later in the year) or other noteworthy school-related activity will be placed in the pocket. We are fortunate to have these agendas, and will use them for the following reasons:

- To teach and develop organizational skills
- To enable students to manage their time and assignments more effectively
- To build and maintain communication among students, parents and teachers
- To improve learning and achievement
- To maintain a Catholicity focus

There will be a replacement cost of \$8.50 for a student who has lost their agenda.

Cell Phones

Students are to keep their cell phones in their backpacks during the school day. If students need to call home or if you need to get in touch with your child, we ask that you use the school phone. Refer to Freedom of Information and Privacy regulations for further information.

Safety

In order to maintain the security of the school, we will be practicing 6 fire drills (3 in the fall/winter and 3 in the spring) and 3 lock downs. In the case of an evacuation of the school building, our children will be moved to Mayfield school or if Mayfield cannot be used, to the Mayfield Community Hall. From there we will be calling parents/guardians to pick up their children.



Car and Road Safety

When dropping off your children with a vehicle, do not park in front of the school. This is the designated bus and handicap parking zone. Parent parking is available on the east side of the school. Parking or dropping off students in the staff parking lot is dangerous and prohibited. Also remember that the **speed limit** in the area of elementary and junior high schools is **30 km/h**. Do not park in the handicapped stall on the west, kinder/grade 1 entrance. This spot is used daily by one of our parents.

Office Hours



Our normal office hours are from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. You may reach us during this time. Outside of those hours, we ask that you leave a message and we will return your call. Occasionally on a Thursday afternoon when we are in a staff meeting you may get the answering machine. At any other time if the answering machine is on, it is because we are in an assembly or working with children, and no one is available in the office. If you leave a clear message, we will always return your call!

Absences and Appointments

Parents are reminded to **phone** the school at **780-489-1222** to report absences and late arrivals. You may leave a message on our phone system. Also, a written note in the agenda is required when students need to be called away from school for appointments. **Students must be signed in and out when leaving or returning anytime during the school day.**

It is important that children come to school on time. When students consistently arrive late, it disrupts the flow of learning in the classroom, distracts other students, impedes learning and leave a child feeling lost, frustrated and behind.

This year the District will continue to use an automated phone callout system to parents of students who are absent without notification. Be advised that the automated system will call all of your phone numbers, including emergency phone numbers, until someone is contacted regarding a student's absence. Help our office by leaving a message on our answering machine or by contacting the school when your child will be away or late. Thank you.



Literacy and Numeracy Focus

This year's academic focus will continue to be on literacy and numeracy. Go to the public library and have your child pick out books of interest. The public library is free and has many resources such as dvd's, magazines and maker space devices. When driving in the car, take time to quiz your child on their basic number facts. Solid basic numeracy skills will aid your child in understanding math concepts.



French and Cree

A reminder that students in grades 4 – 6 will be studying either Cree or French as a Second Language. In addition, kindergarten to grade 3 students may take Cree as a Second Language. Please inform the office if you would like your child to take Cree language classes.

Medical Alert and Dispensing of Medication



To ensure that the staff is informed about your child's medical needs, **contact the office** to fill out a Medical Alert form. It is to be filled out **ONLY IF YOUR CHILD REQUIRES A MEDICAL ALERT** (for example Diabetes, severe allergies, asthma, epilepsy, etc.). The information will be kept private among staff. For some students to maintain their physical and/or emotional well-being in the school setting, it may be necessary for them to receive medication and/or medical treatment during the course of the school day. Edmonton Catholic School policy requires that a **form be signed by a doctor** indicating the nature and dispensing instructions for those students taking medication at school.

Mass Times

Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples

Saturday 8:30 am

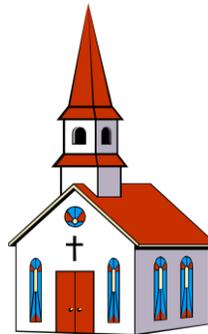
Sunday 10:00 am , 11:30 am, 7:00 pm

No mass during the week

St. John the Evangelist

Saturday 7:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm



From our Parish Office St. John the Evangelist:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This is a quick reminder that St. John the Evangelist Parish preparation programs for the sacraments of first Reconciliation and Eucharist (Communion) (gr. 2 and up), Confirmation (gr. 6 and up), and Baptism will start in the fall. Please contact the Parish office to come in for a short meeting with your child to register. If you belong to another Parish, please contact their Office or check their website to find out when their programs are and how to register.

Blessings,

Sophie, Linda, Fr. Dean

St. John the Evangelist Parish

9830 – 148 St., 780 452- 3988

Pastoral Assistant email: sophie.ogle@caedm.ca

General Parish email: stjohnevangelist.edm@caedm.ca

www.stjohnevangelist.edm.caedm.ca

APPLE Schools



Alberta Project Promoting
active Living & healthy Eating

Our Lady of Peace is proud to be an APPLE School. APPLE Schools is an innovative school-focused health promotion initiative that improves the lives of more than 16,500 students annually in 63 schools across Northern Alberta through healthy eating, physical activity, and mental health. To help us maintain this initiative please send your children to school with healthy, nut free snacks such as fruit, veggies, crackers and cheese for recess time.

Protocol for Parent Concerns

Edmonton Catholic Schools recognizes the freedom of all members of the school community (students, staff, parents and neighbours) to voice their concerns in an appropriate manner to the appropriate school personnel. The principle of “**first contact**” needs to be followed (Administrative Procedure 152). This means that the person(s) who have the concern have the responsibility to begin addressing the concern **directly** with those persons with whom they have the concern before taking their concern elsewhere. If a resolution is not found, then involve school administration and School Operations Services as needed. All parties will deal with concerns in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church.