



Newsletter

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November and December 2021

Newsletter #3

<p>Inside you will find: November Calendar December Calendar Good Shepherd Parish News Remembrance Day Demonstration of Learning Learning Updates And more ...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Matthew 5:9</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"></div>
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Dear Parents/Guardians,

November is the month of remembrance. All Souls Day, November 1st, is a day to remember those who have passed before us. On November 11th, we acknowledge Remembrance Day, a time to give thanks to those involved in the fight for peace in our world. It is through their acts that we can enjoy the freedoms we have today. God calls each of us to do our part in being peacekeepers, in our home, school, community, and beyond. Peace begins with each one of us. Throughout the weeks ahead, we will be reflecting on the true meaning of peace, and classes will gather in spirit to pray for peace during our Remembrance Day service on **Wednesday, November 10th at 10:45 a.m.**

The recent days have allowed us to enjoy the beauty of fall, but the crisp morning air is a sign that winter's entrance is just around the corner. We know that soon the cooler temperatures will be here to stay for the winter months. It is time to ensure children have their warm clothing ready to bundle up so that they can embrace experiences that come with winter. As we look for opportunities for breaks outdoors in the fresh air, dressing for the weather will allow this to be an enjoyable experience.

Our advent season is also approaching. Our 1st day of advent is Sunday, November 28th. It is a time for us to prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus. We, as a school community will celebrate each week of advent in our classrooms prior to the Christmas break.

Wishing you and your family good health and God's grace.

Mrs. Kathleen Korner
Principal

Ms. Shanley Mercer
Assistant Principal

Advent Prayer

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a wonder at the **wisdom** and power of Your Father and ours. Receive my **prayer** as part of my service of the **Lord** who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a joy responsive to the father's joy. I seek His **will** so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is **right** to bring to the manger of my Lord. Raise in me, too, sober reverence for the **God** who acted there, hearty gratitude for the **life** begun there, and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son.

I pray in the name of **Jesus** Christ, whose **advent** I hail.

Amen.



IMPORTANT DATES

Daylight Savings Ends	November 7, 2021
Catholic Education Sunday	November 7, 2021
Remembrance Day Ceremony (virtually in classrooms)	November 10, 2021
Remembrance Day	November 11, 2021
Remembrance Day Weekend	November 12 - November 15
Grade 6 Immunizations	November 24, 2021
Parent School Council Meeting @ 6:30	November 24, 2021
Holodomor Memorial Day	November 26, 2021
1 st Sunday of Advent	November 28, 2021

There will be no school on the following days (below) for 2021-2022.

Remembrance Day Weekend	November 11 - 15
Christmas Vacation	December 20 - January 3
Family Day	February 21
Teachers' Convention	March 3 - 4
Spring Break	March 28 – April 1
Good Friday	April 15
Easter Monday	April 18
Victoria Day	May 23

OFFICE NEWS

Access to the front door of the school is for Parents/Guardians doing business in the office from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily, except for Thursday afternoons, when staff meet for professional development in the afternoon.

If you require assistance when the office staff are not available, please leave a phone message (780 487 2264) and your call will be returned in a timely manner. The school answering machine is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.



As the office closes daily at 3:00 p.m., it is important that Parents/Guardians pick up their child(ren) promptly upon dismissal at **2:40 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and at 11:40 a.m. on Thursdays.** When picking up students after school, parents are also asked to meet students at their designated doors. If you have more than one child, please arrange a common meeting spot for the students to gather to avoid unnecessary worries after school.

If your child will be late coming to school, please call the school office to let us know. Any unexplained absences will result in an automated phone call to all phone numbers on file. Students coming to school late must report to the office upon arrival to pick up a late slip which is given to their teacher to let them know they have arrived at the classroom.

VERIFICATION OF STUDENT REGISTRATION



Thank you to all Parents and Guardians who have completed their child's Verification of Student Registration online. **To date there are still 17 Verification of Student Registrations that have not been completed.** This form is very important in order to keep your child's information current and up to date for our files and in the event of an emergency (i.e. address, phone numbers, email addresses, emergency contacts other than yourselves, and any medical information). This year you have been receiving reminder emails to complete this document online and phone calls. As the deadline to complete this document was September 30th, we ask that you log into your parent powerschool account to complete the document for each child you have registered at St. Justin School whether they attend at school or at home. Please use google chrome to log into your parent powerschool account and only use a computer or laptop to complete this documentation online. If you do not have a computer or laptop, we have a school chromebook available in the school office for you to use. You must make an appointment ahead of time if you need to use our school chromebook for this purpose. Please call the office at 780 487 2264 to make an appointment. Please note office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

ALLERGY SAFE SCHOOL



We continue to support being an Allergy Safe School. Information was shared school wide as we discussed our educational program with staff, students, and parents earlier in the year. Our priority is to identify us as **NUT AWARE** and educate everyone throughout our school. Please help us keep students (and adults) safe by refraining from sending any items containing nuts to school.



If your child has a medical condition (allergies, asthma, diabetes, etc.) it is critical that the proper medical forms are completed. All medical information needs to be updated at the **beginning** of each school year. These forms provide valuable information to school staff in the event of a medical emergency. Please note that if your child needs to take any **prescription medication** throughout the school year at school, a Request for Administration of Medication/Medical Treatment form must be completed by both the physician and the parent. For safety reasons, if your child needs an EpiPen or an inhaler, they will be asked to carry their EpiPen or inhaler on them (a fanny pack is great).

IF YOUR CHILD REQUIRES PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION, PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND WE WILL SEND THE FORMS HOME WITH YOUR CHILD.

STUDENT ILLNESSES



We expect that only healthy students and staff will come to school each day. Parents and caregivers must assess their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school.

Parents or Guardians are expected to ask their child(ren) the health questionnaire daily and follow all Government of Alberta health instructions on the questionnaire. Students who have any symptoms noted on the questionnaire cannot attend school. Families are not required to submit the form to the school. This is a tool to assess your child's wellness before sending them to school.



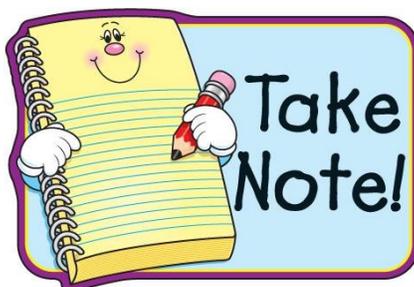
St. Justin School accepts online payment for all fees. This service is accessed with ease through your Parent PowerSchool account. By using this simple on-line payment process, you can benefit from paying in the comfort of your own home, anytime, anywhere! Please contact our main office for any assistance you may require. Student account statements will be emailed regularly to Parents/Guardians as a reminder of what may be outstanding. School fees are due immediately. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

KEEPING OUR SCHOOL CLEAN

Guests that enter St. Justin School often comment on how clean our school is. A special thank you to students and staff who respectfully remove their boots and shoes at the entrance of the school. Your conscientious effort to remove outdoor footwear greatly assists Mr. Giron in keeping the floors clean and our environment clean and safe for all, as we travel through our halls each day.



SWIFT K-12



Edmonton Catholic Schools uses the Swift K-12 Notification Service. This service is a powerful, easy-to-use communication tool for schools and parents. Swift K-12 quickly delivers daily attendance, special announcements, and district messages to parents. The notification will send phone calls, emails, and SMS text messages to parents. With this notification service, parents will be contacted regarding absences when the school has not

been notified about the absence. Parents/Guardians will receive prompt information of transportation issues, parent nights, and emergencies. If you are not receiving these messages, please contact the school office so that we can verify your contact information.

YELLOW BUS PASS INFORMATION

Please note that the **monthly deadline date for purchasing yellow bus passes from St. Justin Elementary School is the 1st of every month.** All bus passes are purchased through your parent powerschool account. Courtesy reminders are emailed out.



ALL SAINTS' and ALL SOULS' DAY



All Saints' Day, the day in which Catholics celebrate all the saints, known and unknown, is an old feast. A *Saint* is a very blessed and holy person who deeply loved God and dedicated their life to serve God and others unselfishly. This day arose out of the Christian tradition to celebrate a feast day in order to ensure that martyrs to the Faith were properly honored.

REMEMBRANCE DAY RECOGNITION

The first Remembrance Day was conducted in 1919 throughout the Commonwealth. Originally called Armistice Day, it commemorated the end of the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11:00 a.m., the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

The poppy is the symbol of Remembrance Day. We continue to use replica poppies, sold by the Royal Canadian Legion to raise money for Veterans.

Please consider sending a donation with your child to the school to support our Veterans, as well as to reinforce to students our appreciation and respect for all those who have served in the Canadian military to protect our Canadian freedom. The Remembrance Day service will take place online in classrooms on **Wednesday, November 10th.**

*We will
remember them*



Please remember to "fall behind" and turn your clock back one hour on **Sunday, November 7th at 2:00 a.m.** Be sure to get plenty of rest and be ready to learn on **Monday, November 8th,** when the amount of daylight will be shorter, and our evenings become longer.

GRADE 4 GOOD NEWS BIBLE CELEBRATION

On October 25th, the Grade 4 students were presented with their own blessed Bible during the Good News Celebration. As parents and guests could not attend in person this year, parents were still invited to watch with the use of technology! Mrs. Korner and Ms. Mercer gave each student their own bible and students pledged their thanks to God. This event is an integral part of the Grade 4 religion curriculum. Students will keep this Bible at school for the remainder of their time in elementary school.



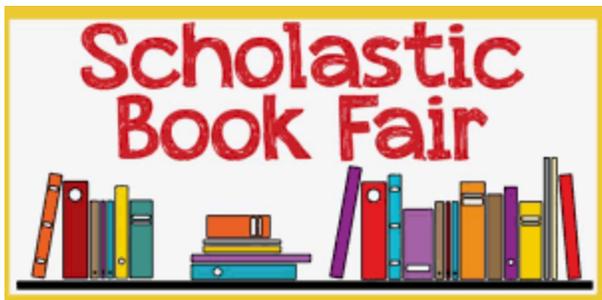
DEMONSTRATION OF LEARNING



Our first 'Virtual Demonstration of Learning' will be held by staff on **Thursday, November 25th**. Please watch for a Swift communication on **Tuesday, November 9th** with details about booking. Meetings with homeroom teachers should include your child and will be offered through Microsoft TEAMS or phone calls at scheduled times, running from 1:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Staff are looking forward to connecting with parents to celebrate your child's learning to this point and to set directions for next steps in learning.

Parents wishing to learn more details about the Alberta Curriculum at your child's grade level, please click on the link and choose your child's grade level tab.

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning/>



During the week of Demonstration of Learning we will be hosting a virtual book fair. The St. Justin book fair will be open from **November 19th until November 26th**. All purchased books help support literacy here at the school to allow us to purchase new and classic books for our learning commons. All online orders will be delivered to the school and sent home with your children. This is an opportunity to get some great stocking stuffer gifts. The link to our virtual book fair is found below. Happy reading!

[St. Justin virtual bookfair November 19th - 26th](#)

THE SIGN OF HOPE CAMPAIGN

Student leaders will be meeting to discuss fundraising ideas for our annual Sign of Hope campaign. Watch for ways that you can contribute to the Sign of Hope and Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation.



CHANGE IN DISMISSAL TIMES

Just a reminder that **Thursday, December 16th** will be a **full day of school for students** with **dismissal at 2:40 p.m.** Please make sure you send lunch and snack for your child on this date.

Students will be **dismissed at 11:40 a.m. on Friday, December 17th** for Christmas break. Classes will resume on **Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 8:05 a.m.**

SNOW VALLEY SKI FIELD TRIP INFORMATION



Due to COVID-19 safety restrictions, all fieldtrips are postponed at this time.

CELEBRATING LEARNING

How can you support your child's literacy development through the gifts you buy?

Consider these options as Christmas Gifts:

Books

Give the gift of reading to every member of the family! Consider your child(ren)'s ages, interests, and favorite genres. Ask your local bookstore for age specific recommendations.



Puzzles

Puzzles can help improve our children's fine motor control and spatial awareness; puzzles can heighten observation skills; puzzles can bring all members of the family together for quality time. There are puzzles designed for all ages from babies to adults!

Did you choose a dinosaur book for your child? Add a dinosaur puzzle to create a themed gift.

Board Games

Board games can also help our children practice their literacy skills in a fun, engaging way. The new games will be a hit during Family Game Night!

CELEBRATE READING

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 those words hold meaning).
- Children realize that books are fun!
- The routine of bedtime stories creates time to connect with your child(ren).

Let's read!

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!
- **Do not 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!

LET'S CELEBRATE ADVENT

As circumstances will not allow our community to gather for a Christmas concert this year, plans are underway for bringing the joy of the Advent season into your homes. More details will be shared in the upcoming weeks about a virtual Advent/Christmas presentation that will occur prior to our December break and be shared with you through Google Classroom.



HOURS OF OPERATION FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

The following information is included in this newsletter for our students who are returning to St. Justin from being online learners in Q1 and for our new students joining us for Q2.

Regular Day for Generations, Kindergarten, Grade 1 to Grade 6 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

First Bell	8:05 AM
Instruction Begins	8:10 AM
Morning Recess	10:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Lunch	11:45 AM – 12:05 PM
Lunch Recess	12:05 PM – 12:25 PM
Dismissal	2:40 PM

***Afternoon instruction includes a 5 minute health break

Early Dismissal for Generations, Kindergarten, Grade 1 to Grade 6 (Thursday)

First Bell	8:05 AM
Instruction Begins	8:10 AM
Morning Recess	10:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Dismissal	11:42 AM

In order to provide for early dismissal days before major holidays, the Thursday before Christmas holidays, Spring Break, and Summer Break will be a full day of instruction for all students. The Friday before the holiday will be a short day with dismissal at 11:42 a.m.

Morning supervision outside the school begins at 7:50 a.m. For the safety of all, please **DO NOT** send your child to school before this time as they will be unsupervised. As there is **no scheduled supervision in the playground before school, this area is not available to students before school.**

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Recess is an important part of the school day. It is a time for socializing with friends, exercising, and refreshing the brain! Recess will only be indoors during extreme weather conditions. In winter, the temperature combined with the wind chill must be - 20°C or colder in order to stay indoors. Ensure that your child is dressed appropriately as, weather permitting, all students are sent outside unless a student has special circumstances. Students need to be prepared by dressing for the weather with a jacket, toque and mittens/gloves.



In extreme weather conditions:

- Students will be welcomed into the school when supervision begins at 7:50 a.m. through their assigned entrances.
- Adult supervisors as well as a green sign system will notify students when they can come into the school due to weather conditions. A posted green sign means that students can enter immediately.
- Recesses will be indoors **only during extreme weather conditions**. Please have students dress appropriately for outdoor recess always. If you need assistance in providing warm clothing to your children, please call the school and speak with Mrs. Edgar.

- Please remember that if a child is too sick to go outside for recess, they are too sick to attend school and should remain at home and rest. Refraining from sending sick children to school will help to decrease the spread of germs within our classrooms.

Please be advised that the following Radio and TV Stations will carry announcements with respect to transportation cancellations due to inclement weather conditions. Every effort will be made to have messages broadcast commencing no later than 6:30 a.m.

RADIO STATIONS

630 CHED
CISN FM 103.9
THE CHUCK FM 92.5
INEWS 880 AM
KISS FM 91.7
UP! 99.3 FM
POWER 107

AM 930 The Light CJCA
SHINE 105.9 FM
TSN 1260
95.7 CRUZ FM
The Bear 100.3 FM
SONIC 102.9 FM
104.9 VIRGIN Radio FM

CBC
CHFA (CBC Fr.)
CFCW 840
The Breeze 96.3
K97 97.3
102.3 NOW! Radio

TV STATIONS

CITYTV

CTV Edmonton

GLOBAL Edmonton

CBC TV

SAFETY IN THE PARKING LOT

Thank you to everyone who chooses safety over convenience daily in our community.

Illegal parking around schools is a safety hazard for kids. Illegal parking causes congestion and visual obstructions that make it hard for drivers to see children crossing the street and can create disruption to the residents living in the area. This becomes even more dangerous as we move into winter weather.



When picking up or dropping off your children, please ensure that your vehicle does not block the entrance for vehicles or buses using the bus drop off lane.

You can expect to see Parking Enforcement Services patrolling school zones and issuing tickets to any vehicles found in violation of the Traffic Bylaw 5590. Fines range from \$50.00 to \$250.00, plus towing and impound fees. You may be ticketed **without warning** if you park in the designated bus drop off/pick up location.

When using the bus drop off lane, please drive up to the sidewalk and proceed to the far end of the drop off lane to allow the safe flow of traffic. Stopping to drop children off near the field (prior to the sidewalk) is not allowed at any time, as it puts our children at risk of being injured if there were a vehicle accident, or icy conditions causing the children to slip under a vehicle.

Park responsibly, know the rules and keep kids safe!



I would like to give a big THANK YOU to our St. Justin school staff and our community for doing such a great job during this time. Keep up the great work!

We had our Annual General Meeting on October 13th. Here are the members of the:

St. Justin School Council 2021-2022:

Chair – Kyla Mendiuk, Vice Chair – Raymond Aceron, Secretary – Raymond Aceron

Parent Advisory Association 2021-2022:

Chair – Raymond Aceron, Vice Chair – Kyla Mendiuk, Secretary – Kyla Mendiuk, Financial Officer – Raymond Aceron, Casino Coordinator – Raymond Aceron

School Council's next meeting is on **Wednesday, November 24th at 6:30 pm** via ZOOM. We hope to see you there. If you have any questions or would like to join the meeting please feel free to contact us at stjustinpac@gmail.com . Thank you for your support

Kyla Mendiuk – Chair

Casino Fundraiser

We have finalized our date for our major casino fundraiser next year. It will be held on February 24 and 25, 2022 at the Starlite Casino at West Edmonton Mall. Previous casino proceeds have been used to pay for our playground, buying laptops for the school and upgrading the PA system for our gym. We need many volunteers to make this a success. The various positions range from bankers, count room staff, & chip runners. The shifts can be from 4.5 -9.5 hours in length. We hope you can help support our school community by volunteering your time to making this fundraiser a success! We will be sending out more details soon! Any questions, please send them to stjustinpac@gmail.com.

St. Justin Parent Advisory Association

NEWS FROM GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

Penance & Eucharist Preparation 2022

To be entered into the family of God, be in union with Christ, and sealed by the Holy Spirit, is celebrated in the sacraments. Preparation for celebrating 1st Penance and receiving 1st Eucharist may begin as early as Grade 2. Preparation includes workshops, retreats, and mass reflections. Register online at **Winter/Spring Penance and Eucharist registration deadline is January 12, 2022.**

Registration is available through <https://goodshep.caedm.ca/Sacraments>

