



# Knightly News

## September 2020 Newsletter

### A PRAYER FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

*Dear Heavenly Father,  
We thank you for the opportunity  
to begin this new school year,  
and we ask that you bless  
the students, staff, and families  
that make our school a great place.  
We pray that you will guide us in all ways,  
so that we will seek your will  
in everything that we do.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen*

### A Message from Administration

We hope all our families were able to enjoy as restful a summer as you would have wanted and that you were able to stay healthy. As we open our doors this year for the 2020/2021 school year, we know that there will be a great number of changes at St Nicholas Catholic Junior High. But rest assured, what will not change is our continued efforts and commitment to creating a rich, faith filled learning environment for our students...your children.

We know that there will be many challenges ahead of us but with the work the St Nicholas staff have been doing throughout the month of August we are feeling very prepared to face those challenges. We are also looking forward to working side by side with our students and families to ensure this year is a successful year. For those students who have chosen to learn at school we look forward to seeing you in our halls and in our classes. For those of you who have chosen to learn remotely we wish you well and remind you that you are still very much a part of our St Nicholas family.

During our Orientation Days last week, we were able to walk our students through the new protocols and procedures we have implemented at the school. In the weeks to come we will assess and re-assess these protocols to ensure they maintain a high level of safety for all. We encourage, and will provide opportunities for student feedback and, as always, we will keep our families abreast of all new developments. Our School Re-Entry Plan will be available on the St. Nicholas website.

Please take some time to read through this newsletter as it contains pertinent information for the upcoming school year. Regarding the events on our September Calendar if circumstances arise that require us to rescheduled and/or adjust our mode of delivery we will be sure to communicate these changes with our families immediately.

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school at (780)-474-3713.

God Bless

**Alex Buttigieg**  
Principal

**Julie Francois**  
Assistant Principal

# SEPTEMBER

		1	2	3	4	5
			Grade 7 and 8 Orientation Day	Grade 9 Orientation Day	PD Day  No Classes	
6	7  Labour Day  No Classes	8  First day of classes	9	10 School Opening Celebration (10:00am)  Student Voice Session  CTF Selections	11	12
13	14 School Council Meeting (Tentative) (6:00pm)	15  Picture Day	16	17  First CTF Thursday	18	19
20	21  School Council Meeting (Alternate Date) (6:00pm)	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30  <b>Orange Shirt Day</b>  	October 1 <sup>st</sup>  Terry Fox Run  		

# Opening Celebration

Welcome Back Celebration

A  
Liturgy of the Word



GOD CALLS US EACH BY NAME

Thursday, September 10, 2020

10:00am

East Field on the main soccer pitch (weather permitting)  
In classes on Teams if inclement weather

*...I have called you by name, you are mine.  
Isaiah 43:1*

# St Nicholas Staff



Buttigieg, Alex	Principal
Francois, Julie	Assistant Principal/Science/LC
Gannon, Jackie	Admin Assistant
Buwalda, Dorothy	Clerk/Media Resource
Alstad, Ben	Music/ELA
Bossio, Marco	Soccer Academy Director/ Religion
Filiatreault, Daniel	Social Studies/Phys Ed
Graen, Petra	WIN Jr
Herzog, Kathryn	ELA/Phys Ed
Kordyban, Leanna	Core Support Teacher
Lush, Linda	Science
Martire, Laudio	Math
McNeely, Paul	WIN Jr
Molloy, Andi	Art/Drama/ELA
Paniccia, Jason	Social Studies
Valle, Sophia	Foods/Math
Cardinal, Elaine	EA Inclusive
Day, Angela	FSLW WIN Jr
Diamante, Christine	EA WIN Jr
Heinrich, Rhonda	SLP WIN Jr
McLellan, Sharon	EA WIN Jr
Reyes, Irvin	OT WIN Jr
Lafreniere, Christina	FSLW
Stangier, Melissa	Student Service
Tyler, Isaac	Braided Journeys
Stewart, Dan	SRO
Bazzarelli, Dino	Soccer Academy Coach
Lipinski, Bob	Head Custodian
Mroczek, Urszula	Custodian

# Bus Passes



On the last 2 and first 2 days of the month bus passes will be on sale before school and during lunch in the office.

You can also pay for bus passes online through PowerSchool at <https://powerschool.ecsd.net>. Please call the school prior to going online, and they will ensure that the bus pass gets added to your account. If paying at the school, please send cash or cheque with your child and they will be able to obtain a bus pass from the main office. All prepaid bus passes will be prepared ahead of time and can be picked up at the office by students.

## 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR BUS PASS COST

ETS \$59.00

YELLOW \$59.00

**If busses are running late:** In the morning if there are any issues with the buses running late or not showing up please contact **Transportation Services @ 780 441 6078**. The office is open from 7:15 AM and the sooner we are aware of an issue the sooner we can work to get it resolved.

# School Council

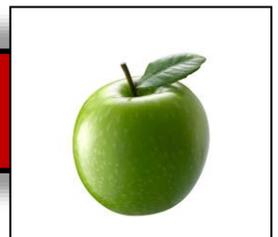


The first meeting of the School Council is primarily to elect new classroom reps, and the executive positions. If you are interested in any of the positions, please contact the school for more information.

**Our first meeting is tentatively scheduled for  
Monday, September 14, 2020 @ 6 pm in the Gym or remotely**

Many hands make light work, and the more parents we have involved in the school, the more we can accomplish together.

# St Nicholas Re-Entry Plan



A preliminary St Nicholas re-entry plan was shared with all our families at the end of August outlining measures we were implementing to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and families. It was again shared with our students on their respective Orientation Days (September 2 and September 3). Final details pertaining to lunchtime routines

designated door entry and CTF Thursday Scheduling have been added and will be shared with or students on Tuesday, September 8.

An updated copy of our re-entry plan will be shared with families and uploaded to our school website as well as any changes that arise throughout the year.

On Thursday, September 10 we will be engaging with our students to get feedback on the re-entry plan. Our hope is to work with our student population and address the pros and cons of the plan and adjust accordingly. This will be done with a collaborative solution-based approach.

Thank you to the staff who worked on creating this document and for the support we continue to receive from all of our families.



## Technology

All our in-school learners will be assigned a device (HP Laptop/Chromebook) that they can use throughout the course of the school day. Students are responsible for taking care of the device and ensuring it is placed in their homeroom charging cart at the end of each day. Students are asked to make their homeroom teacher immediately aware of any damage or technical issues with their device.

All students having their own device was made possible with the funds and support from our School Council. A huge thank you goes out to our Tech Coach, Mrs. Lush, who put countless hours into organizing and preparing all our student devices.

If families are interested in purchasing a Chromebook for your child (whether they are learning in school or at home) here is a link to our Division's Chromebook Purchase Program:

<https://emerge.compuugen.com/emerge/Access?GUID=53feed0dbad942ef8ec0bc0afee7e343>

Chromebooks can be purchased with 3-year warranty packages that include accidental damage coverage and tech support.



## School Fees

School fees for the 2020-2021 school year are due by September 30, 2020. Soccer Academy deposits are due immediately. Online payment is a fast and convenient way to keep track of your account and with limited opportunities to come into the main office on-line payments are quick easy and efficient.

If you are unsure of your balance you can go on line at <https://powerschool.ecsd.net> . If you have any difficulties accessing your PowerSchool account call the school at 780-474-3713. Visa, MasterCard or Debit payments can be made through PowerSchool. If you are sending a cheque to school please ensure that it is dated on or before September 30, 2020.

<https://powerschool.ecsd.net/>

Item	Description of costs	Total cost for items
Technology User Fee (4404)	<b>Apps</b> Exam Bank Curio Mathletics Raz Kids	\$3 \$1 \$9 \$2
	Site Licenses <b>Brain Pop</b>	\$4
	Electronic Device User Fee	\$15
Whole School Activities	Other whole school presentations/activities Motivational/ Guest Speakers	\$15
Student Council/School Leadership Activities	Activities that are community Dances, People for Good Lunches (monthly), Special event consumables, apparel	\$11
<b>TOTAL Supplemental Education Fee</b>		<b>\$60</b>
Food Studies semestered	Consumables, baking supplies, groceries	\$30
Band 7 full year	Jump start, Bandshare	\$35
Band 8, 9 full year	Bandshare	\$25
Band	Instrument Rental	\$40
Item	Description of	Total cost for items
Farewell Activities Grade 9 (4707)	Gr. 9 students only, decorations, photo booth, consumables, program	\$10
Yearbook		\$10
Academy (4406)	Science	N/A
	Soccer	\$1000
	Fine Arts	\$0
Course name	Descriptions of costs for course	Course fee
Art 7,8, 9 semestered	Sketch book, clay wire, mask making supplies	\$15
Drama 7,8,9 semestered	Costumes, set supplies, mask making supplies	\$15
CTF full year	Consumables, baking supplies,	\$20
Item	Description of costs	Total cost for items
Mouth pieces	Reeds	\$2

# Schedule – 2020/2021

<b>DAILY SCHEDULE</b> <b>(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday)</b>
<b>Block 1</b> 8:17 - 9:06
<b>Block 2</b> 9:08 - 10:00 (Includes 7 minute snack break)
<b>Block 3</b> 10:02 - 10:47
<b>Block 4</b> 10:49 - 11:34
<b>Block 5</b> 11:36 - 12:26 (Includes 5 minute homeroom)
<b>Lunch</b> 12:26 - 1:03
<b>Block 6</b> 1:03 - 1:55 (Includes 5 minute homeroom)
<b>Block 7</b> 1:57 - 2:43

<b>DAILY SCHEDULE</b> <b>(Thursday)</b>
<b>Homeroom</b> 8:17 - 8:27
<b>CTF Block 1</b> 8:29 - 9:53
<b>CTF Block 2</b> 9:51 - 11:16
<b>Homeroom</b> 11:16 – 11:21

# Soccer Academy



Welcome back! The Soccer Academy staff are excited to be on the pitch coaching the beautiful game to our passionate soccer students of St. Nicholas.

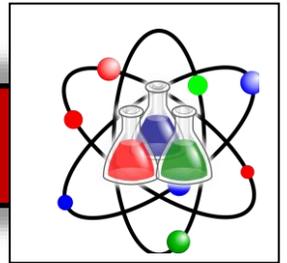
The month of September will be a major focus on establishing routines guiding all our athletes through the new safety procedures put in place to ensure our staff and students are safe. Furthermore, we will be sizing up our athletes for their academy apparel that will be ordered this week for all the students that have paid their deposit. We plan on being outdoors training on the pitch for most of our sessions, so it is important to come prepared for the weather.

All our soccer families are encouraged to check out the Soccer Academy Google Site and Soccer Academy Google Classroom to be up to date on upcoming events, important documents, weekly training schedules, athletes of the month, reminders, challenges and assignments.

Soccer Academy Google Site: <https://sites.google.com/ecsd.net/soccer-academy-2020-2021/home>

Soccer Academy Google Classroom Class Code: **yaelp7w**

# Science Academy



Due to Covid-19 protocols and restrictions, our cross-graded Science Academy is cancelled for this school year. It is being replaced with two CTF courses in Semester One that are geared to students wanting a more in-depth experience in science through more hands-on experience.

## EXPLORE SCIENCE 9 Block 1

Explore the hands-on aspect of the Science program! Due to Covid-19 restrictions and classroom limitations, there will be minimal hands-on lessons in regular science classes until restrictions are lifted. This course gives students the opportunity to participate in small-group and individual activities from the grade 9 program and also grade 8 activities that were missed during the lockdown. Preference will be given to those students who were previously enrolled in the Science Academy for this year.

## EXPLORE SCIENCE 8 Block 2

Explore the hands-on aspect of the Science program! Due to Covid-19 restrictions and classroom limitations, there will be minimal hands-on lessons in regular science classes until restrictions are lifted. This course is an opportunity to actively engage in small group and individual hands-on lessons. Preference will be given to those students who were previously enrolled in the Science Academy for this year.

# Orange Shirt Day



## **Wear an orange shirt on September 30, 2020 to honour & bring awareness to the experiences of residential school students.**

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event, held in spring 2013 in Williams Lake, BC. It grew out of a former student's account of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission. The orange shirt is meant to recognize the harm done to residential school students and show a commitment to the principle that every child matters! A date in September was chosen because it is the time of year when children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. It is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools, and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

**EVERY CHILD MATTERS**

Seeking God's inner beauty.  
Glory be to Jesus Christ!

Welcome back!

I pray you and your family had a restful and fun-filled summer. I appreciate it may have been different with the pandemic still upon us, and that you had to be creative in finding ways to enjoy God's creation while physical distancing and staying safe.

Well, a new School Year begins. The principals, teachers, and staff look forward to journeying with you in the education of your children. We know things will be different, and will require some adjustments along the way, but together we walk hand in hand as we explore God's love and beauty in our lives and in the world around us.

Beauty. Inner beauty. I spent a lot of time this summer reflecting on beauty, and I'd like to ask you to do the same during this school year.

Thinking about beauty came to me early on at the outset of the pandemic. One day, I was in my office at the Pastoral Centre, chatting with someone on the phone. As I often find myself doing, I spun my chair around and looked out the window at the passersby on the street. I was startled by someone who had stopped and was staring back at me through the window! Well, she wasn't really staring at me. Let me explain.

You see, the windows to our Pastoral Centre have a reflective film on them, so you can see out from the inside but you can't see in from the outside. From the outside, the reflective film is like a mirror, and you can see yourself in the mirror. Ann, we'll call her, wasn't really looking at me; she was looking at herself. She was combing her hair, putting on her lipstick, fixing her blouse. In my eyes, and in my heart, she was beautiful. She was a princess!

The reality is that Ann lives on the streets. She's homeless, as are many who live around our Pastoral Centre and Saint Josaphat Cathedral. That doesn't mean that Ann's not beautiful. That day, looking at herself in the "mirror" of our window, she saw beauty – beauty on the outside, and beauty on the inside. That day, God gifted me with a glimpse of how beautiful Ann is, in God's eyes, and in mine.

God "has made everything beautiful" (Ecclesiastes 3:11). We are beautiful. Everything around us is beautiful. That's the way God created us, created in God's image and likeness.

This school year, take time to see God's beauty in every sunrise, every sunset, in the world around us, in your child, and in each other. Let us remind ourselves, we are baptized into Christ, that God's love, beauty and glory are best revealed in the life of God's son, Jesus Christ. The best way to see

God's beauty is to be in relationship with Christ, each and every day.  
And if you don't see God's beauty, clean your glasses, then look again!

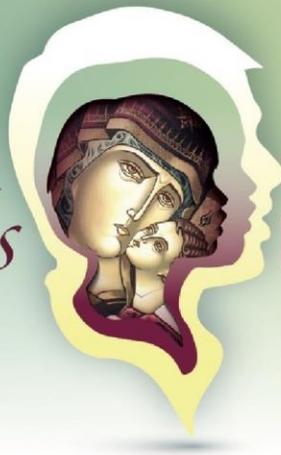
May God bless us and our new school year!

Bishop David Motiuk

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton

Welcome back to the 2020-2021 school year! Whether you have chosen to return to the classroom or to participate in an online environment, it is wonderful to have our students and staff connecting in a more 'normal' manner as we work together to provide a Catholic education that inspires students to learn and that prepares them to live fully and to serve God in one another. This is going to be a year unlike any we have ever experienced, and we are all going to draw on our ability to be flexible, nimble, and responsive

# God Calls Us



# EACH BY NAME

. . . I have called you by name, you are mine. ~ Isaiah 43:1 ~

**August 2020**

to the ever changing demands placed on us as we learn to exist in a Covid world. As you navigate through the quartermesters this year and revisit your learning options, it is important that you know that there are no wrong choices for your child and family with respect to the in-person vs. online learning environment. We are so pleased to be able to offer the advantage of multiple shifting points through a quartermester model.

Our theme for this year is **God Calls Us Each By Name**. It is grounded in scripture from Isaiah: "I have called you by name, you are mine." This provides the beautiful vision of our work in Edmonton Catholic Schools as being work for God; this is the essence of Catholic education. It also provides a beautiful vision of what we are trying to instill in our students: the understanding that they, too, have been called by God to serve. Over their time with Edmonton Catholic Schools, as our students come to know and love Jesus ever more deeply, they will discern how God has called each of them by name to serve Him and the world.

There are some exciting things that are happening in our Division right now. Divine Mercy Catholic Elementary School will have its first students this year. Within just a few short weeks, we are going to be having a site blessing and ground breaking for our new 950 student K-9 school in Keswick. We are preparing for a new 1300 student high school in Heritage Valley, and the construction of the Ben Calf Robe replacement school has begun. As a nod to our agility and nimbleness as a Division, we will be creating a K-12 online school as a viable option for our families.

Each year, ECSD establishes a [Division Plan for Continuous Growth](#) that sets out our primary goals for the year and the global strategies that we will use to achieve them. Our schools ensure that their site-specific plans for continuous growth are aligned with these goals. You can explore our Division plan by visiting [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net) or clicking on the link above.

I would like to share just a few additional words about our re-entry plan. I can't begin to emphasize the countless hours that our re-entry team has put in getting ready for our start up. They have put so much effort into being sure that we are well prepared and consistent across the Division as in person learning begins again.

1

This team is simply amazing! You can see the diversity of membership on this tremendous team by visiting the [ECSD Re-Entry Plan page](#) on [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net).

I will leave you with a thought from Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation on the call to holiness in today's world, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, that reflects the essence of how God has called us each by name: "The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created. He wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence... We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves." (*Pope Francis, 2018, sections 1, 14*)

Have a wonderful year of learning and growing in relationship with Christ!

Sincerely,

Robert Martin

Chief Superintendent