



### MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

2020 was certainly a year like no other. It is hard to believe that the first term of the school year has passed and that 5 months of learning, amid a pandemic, have taken place.

This first term was one filled with many new challenges, yet also opportunities for growth. Teachers demonstrated such flexibility, resiliency, and creativity in finding ways to build community between at school and online learners, and to incorporate new strategies and tools for learning, communicating, assessing, and reporting. The support of our educational assistants and multidisciplinary team have proven invaluable in their support of the children of St. Pius X. We are so proud of our school team. We would also like to thank our families for their tremendous support in recognizing the efforts of staff to navigate student programming and learning in an unprecedented year. The community of St. Pius X is truly so special.

The month of February affords us a special day, Family Day, a time set aside to focus on getting closer to our loved ones. It is also a month dedicated to the Holy Family, the special devotion which proposes the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as the model of virtue for all Christian households. May this month, and the term ahead, allow us to experience great hope and faith...hope for good health and an end to suffering, and faith that our Lord is walking with us - and carrying us - during these troubling times.

*We bless your name, O Lord, for sending your own incarnate Son to become part of a family so that, as he lived his life, he would experience its worries and its joys. Father, help us to live as the Holy Family, united in respect and love. Bring us to the promised joy and peace of your eternal home.  
Amen.*

Mrs. T. Sauer – Assistant Principal  
Mrs. P. Binassi-D'Amours - Principal

### CHANGE IN LEARNING STANCE – RETURN TO SCHOOL

As we begin Term II (February to June), some families who selected online learning for students in Grades 1-6 may now feel that their children would benefit from returning to school in person. Should you wish to change your child's learning stance from online to at school, you are asked to contact the office to discuss the possibility of returning to school for Term II. Requests will be addressed/accommodated on a case-by-case basis by administration.

### COVID-19 GUIDELINES

It is expected that all stakeholders are familiar with, and adhere to, the **ECSD Re-entry Handbook** which is regularly updated by the Division. [The ECSD Re-entry Handbook](#)

### DAILY SELF ASSESSMENT

**Parents/caregivers must assess their child for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 every day before sending them to school.** Staff will assess themselves daily for the same symptoms.

Any student/staff/parent/guardian who enters the school grounds or school building must complete a daily self assessments: [healthassessmentchecklist](#).

**\*Any person who selects "yes" on any of the screening questions will not be permitted to enter the school, pending testing/results for COVID-19.**

### TEACHER/PARENT COMMUNICATION

As instruction begins at 8:30 AM and ends at 3:00 PM, communication with teachers should take place outside of these times to respect the integrity of instruction, the established routines and structures, and the confidentiality of conversations pertaining to students. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

## PARKING

Traffic Safety and Traffic Violations:

\*There is no drop-off, pick-up, or parking in the bus zone or handicapped zone in front of the school, or within FIVE METERS of the marked crosswalk.

\*Please do not enter the staff parking lot at any time throughout the day.

As an entire school community, we must work together to ensure that our children are safe before and after school. Please set a positive example when you are driving and parking around schools. Please abide by the following:

- Do not block or obscure the pedestrian crosswalks or school patrollers.
- Do not Jay Walk in front of the school. Please use the cross walk.
- Do not make U-turns in front of the school.
- Do not park or stop in marked bus zones.

## BUS PASSES/FEES

Reminder: bus pass fees are **\$35.00 per child due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month**. Please note that all fees are to be paid through PowerSchool.

## SCHOOL FEES: 2020-2021

Please note the following School Fees – in effect as of November 1, 2020 (based on September 2 learning stance choice and November 10 learning stance choice):

Kindergarten – **At school: \$16.00**

Kindergarten – **Online: \$12.00**

Grades 1-6 – **At School: \$36.00**

Grades 1-6 – **Online: \$18.00**

\*Please note that all fees are to be paid through PowerSchool as of November 1, 2020.

## FOLLOW US:

SOCIAL  
MEDIA!

You can find us at:

X @StPiusXECSD  
X St. Pius X Catholic  
Elementary School



## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next School Council meeting will be held on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM via Zoom. If you wish to attend, please email School Council Chair, Rayanne Fuhr, at [stpxschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stpxschoolcouncil@gmail.com).

## THEME DAYS

Throughout the year we have enjoyed some fun theme days, as suggested by our students: Western Wear Day, Pajama Day, Panda Pride Day, Jersey Day and Twin/Triplet/Multiple Day. This month, we will celebrate a special day on Chinese New Year, February 12, 'Multicultural Dress Day'. While we cannot gather as an entire school community to celebrate the diversity of our cultures with activities and food, we can still dress to show our pride in our own culture!

## VALENTINE'S DAY

As a result of COVID-19 safety protocols, the school is unable to allow for the distribution of treats/cards brought from home. Small Valentine's Day celebrations following health and safety protocols may still take place in classrooms, but families are asked not to send any items in for this occasion as we are treating Valentine's Day as we did Halloween.

## FAMILY DAY

On **Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> the school will be closed**. We wish you a wonderful long 'Family Day' weekend with your loved ones!

### SHROVE TUESDAY AND ASH WEDNESDAY

February 16 is Shrove Tuesday, the day before the Lenten season begins. On this day, students will be treated by School Council to a pancake lunch. Thank you to our SC for coordinating this meal.

February 17 is Ash Wednesday, one of the most important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Each classroom will host an Ash Wednesday Liturgy, celebrated virtually by our Division chaplains, and students will receive ashes from their teachers within their own classrooms.

### TEACHER'S CONVENTION

On **Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** and **Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>** the school will be closed as all teachers in Edmonton Catholic Schools will be participating in two full days of online professional development.

### 2021-2022 NEW REGISTRATIONS

Registrations are to be completed online for the upcoming school year. **Please locate the new 2021-2022 registration document at [ecsd.net](https://www.ecsd.net).** Note: Kindergarten students must turn 5 on or before December 31, 2021.

### GRADE 6 TO 7 TRANSITION

Beginning February 16, 2021 parents will be able to access the Parent Portal to declare which junior high school they intend to register their child in for the 2021-2022 school year.

Parents will need to log in and identify the current school their child is in, identify their designated school for next year and indicate their intention of attending their designated school as 'Yes', 'No' or 'No-Selecting Online'. (If parents select 'NO' or 'No-Selecting Online', then they will be asked to identify a school from a drop-down menu). Should you have any questions, or require assistance, please contact the office.

\*Please note that on February 9<sup>th</sup> all Grade 6 students will be visiting St. Mark Junior High – a virtual visit - for a school orientation.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MARCH:

Spring Break:

**Full Day THURSDAY** – March 25<sup>th</sup> – Regular Dismissal: 3:00 PM

**Half Day FRIDAY** - March 26<sup>th</sup> – Early Dismissal: 11:56 AM

**Spring Break:** March 29 – April 5: Classes resume Tuesday, April 6 following Easter Monday.

### OPEN HOUSE –KINDERGARTEN

Mark your calendars and help spread the word! If you know of any families that have children who are ready to attend Kindergarten, please spread the good word about our great school! Our virtual Open House will take place on March 25 at 6:00 PM. More information will be posted to the school website.