



Principal Report November 5 2025–2026

While we were away:

- We are so grateful to Mrs. Brown, our Educational Assistants, student support staff (Ms. Fenisha, Mrs Moniz, Mrs Arogante, Mrs. Hansen) and our custodians for all the work completed in our absence.
- Our staff was here to support our parents, and ensure that our school environment was ready for our return and the return of our students who we all missed dearly.
- Staff also engaged in many professional learning opportunities.
- Sandra Palazzo was re-elected as our Trustee. We are so blessed to have her ongoing support. We will be inviting her to join one of our meetings.
- Mrs. Pruski received her Masters Degree in Religious Education in October. Congratulations!

Our return:

We are all happy to be back together as a school family. We welcomed 5 new students to St. Charles in October, which puts our enrollment at 349. We anticipate a few more before January, which will put our total enrollment over 350.

Our first days back were focussed on reestablishing relationships with our students and ensuring they all knew how much we missed them.

Our teachers wasted no time in coming together to plan for instruction while ensuring students had a fun-filled Halloween.

Yesterday, our students joyfully celebrated St. Charles Faith Day!

This year's theme, *"Saints and Service: Our Call to Holiness,"* guided a meaningful day of prayer, learning, and community. We began with a beautiful liturgy, followed by classroom activities exploring the inspiring lives of the Saints. In addition to learning about our patron, St. Charles, students

also discovered the story of our newly canonized Saint, Carlo Acutis, whose life of faith and service young people can relate to.

Each class has committed to a special service project, so stay tuned for updates from your child's teacher as these acts of kindness take shape.

The day concluded with joyful dancing, singing, and a sea of glowing halos—a perfect reflection of faith in action!

On Friday we will have our Remembrance Day Service at 10:30 am. We hope you can join us.

Our Social Justice Leadership Team was eager to come back together and pick up where we left off. We are collecting cereal for our ECSD schools and socks, mittens, and toques for the homeless.

We also had many students donate candy from their Halloween collection. These will be repackaged by the club and donated to our homeless.

Looking Ahead: Focus on Instruction

As mentioned in our previous communications, we continue to make adjustments to our calendar of events.

Our first priorities are helping students get back on track and ensuring their learning continues with as little disruption as possible.

- Fall break is Nov. 10–12
- Nov. 13 we have Alberta Opera presenting Pinocchio to grades 1–6 at 9:30– a \$4.00 charge has been added to PowerSchool.
- Nov. 14 is Picture Day
- There will be no Assembly for November, but will resume in December. October's focus will be recognized then.
- Our Parent Teacher Interviews will go ahead on November 20 however, there will be an adjustment to the times. Our bookfair will be postponed until spring. More details will come regarding bookings.
- Teachers will continue to use SPACES EDU to share your child's learning in real time. Class newsletters will be coming out on Friday, but they will

only be posted on the platform and not emailed out separately. Please be sure you accept the teacher invite.

- Our School Growth Plan reviews have been pushed back to December to allow us time to work on our goals. (The school plan can be found on our website)
- This year the Community of School Council meeting will be held the evening of November 18. Input from Council is essential as this year there will be process work done with the Division in establishing the Division Plan for Continuous Growth over the next 3 Years.
- Grade 4-6 FLEX Options are postponed until the new year.
- Soccer intramurals will begin soon and our Volleyball coaches will holding tryouts
- We will continue with a Christmas Concert on December 11 & 12, at the church. Students will not be losing classroom instruction for extra practices. All preparations will happen during their music block. More details to follow.
- Our Christmas Spirit week plan includes the following:
 - 15- Christmas Door Decorating
 - 16- Dress Like An Elf
 - 17- Wear Advent Colors/ Red & Green Theme Day
 - 18- Christmas Sweater/ Polar Express (full day)
 - 19- PJ Day/ Festive Wear (early dismissal)
- Christmas Vacation is December 22- Jan. 2
- Alien In line has been rescheduled for Feb.
- We have a PD day scheduled for Jan. 29. We haven't yet rescheduled the day we lost. Two half days= 1 PD day

Considerations: Based on some of the discussions from our last meeting

1. We have received a substantial amount of support through grants from the Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation DreamMaker Fund. So far they have given us \$2150 to cover our Wellness dog visits this year. In addition another \$1000.00 for our grade 2 and 6 Telus Coding field trip.

- Last year we fundraised for the Foundation with our “Best Seats in the House” Christmas Concert ticket sales. It did conflict with SAC fundraising of 50/50 & Poinsettia Sales- and so we will not be doing a fundraiser at this time.
- I encourage SAC to help support the foundation this year with a donation, as they do a great deal to support us and our ECSD schools.
- Learn more: <https://www.ecsfoundation.ca/>

2. We are also in need of the Ipads and Chromebooks as requested at the last meeting. These are essential for us to be able to access resources as so many are digital. They also allow more kids opportunities to post their learning. We have 43 students who bring their chromebooks on a consist basis

The school will not be purchasing these as our dollars will be allocated only to increasing staffing this year.

3. When allocating SAC support: It should be equitable for everyone. It should not simply favor one grade or division.

- I am providing a highlighted list of those experiences that benefit all students. All of which are already included in our School Fee and can be charged to parents. The red items are the school priorities.



St. Charles Catholic Elementary School

School Requests for 2025-2026

- Chromebooks for Grade 2 and 3- asking for $30 \times \$385 = 11,500$ plus GST
 - (139 Chromebooks in Gr-4-6 for 166 students)
 - (28 Chromebooks in 2 & 3 for 106 students)
- Ipads for Kinder/ Grade 1- requesting 20 more - \$10,874
 - 10 purchased last year- \$5437.96
- Bibles for Grade 4 (Fall 2026)- \$25 each $\times 55 = \$1375$
- Field trip allocations per student- \$50 or Bus Coverage- 1 bus = \$207
- Classroom libraries to support New Curriculum, Decodables & Diversity- \$800
- Yearbooks - 1 per family @\$5.00 each

Items below are included in the School Fee Schedule:

- Alberta Musical Theatre- \$997.50- (charged to parents)
- Feb 2-13- Alien Inline Skating K-6
 - \$6137.25
- Feb. 13- Family Winter Carnival- SAC to cover cost of activities and cookies/hotchocolate
 - Horses booked- Lonestar 2 hr. minimum \$1500 plus GST, Delivery & Pick up Charge \$200 plus GST
- Snow Valley Skiing Lessons-Grade 4- 6
 - Booked February 3, 2026 & March 2, 2026
 - Lift Ticket & Lesson- \$35/student + \$12/student (rental) = \$47
- March 18 Family Math Games Night -Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks
 - \$650 +GST
- April 10- April 24 Groovebox Hip Hop Residency-K-6
 - 10 Day Residency @ \$115/hr $\times 6$ hrs/day-\$6900
- June 16 Games Day- Fitset Ninja Mobile Obstacle Course K-6 -\$1,875+gst
- Symphony at the Windspear for Grade 1-6 (Edu Concerts)
 - 1-3 May 13-\$1925 plus bussing
 - 4-6-March 6- \$1650 plus bussing

School Initiatives for 2025/2026

Literacy & Numeracy Focus:

- Pathway to Reading Research –Gr. 2
- Grade 1 Reading COP
- Targeted Writing in Grades 2 & 6 Pilot Project
- Mathematics Framework- PD for Grades 1 & 4. This year we will target Number Sense Routines
- Reframing Curriculum COP- Year 2
- Assessment & Reporting using SPACES EDU
- Collaborative Response- Year 2

Creating Communities of Belonging:

- Be An Upstander
- SEL Pilot School
- Wellness Champion/ LEAD Recess
- Restorative and Proactive Circles

We Continue:

- Monthly Assembly–Hospitality, Gratitude, Peace, Charity, Courage, Love, Forgiveness, Justice, Compassion, Faithfulness
- FLEX Options for 4-6 (October start) 1-3 (January start)
- Reading Intervention
- Spirit Days/ Hot Lunch Dates

School Wide Events:

- October 14-28- Alien Inline Skating K-6
- November 13- Alberta Opera- Pinocchio
- Feb. 13- Family Winter Carnival
- Feb.17- Shrove Tuesday- Pancakes for School Community
- Snow Valley Skiing Lessons–Grade 4- 6
 - Booked February 3, 2026 & March 2, 2026
- Symphony at the Winspear for Grade 1-3 (May 13), 4-6 (March 6)
- March 18- Family Math Games Night with Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks
- April 10- April 24 Groovebox Hip Hop Residency
- June 16 Games Day- Fitset Ninja Mobile Obstacle Course

Student Fundraising Planning

- Terry Fox
- Cereal Drive & Socks/ Mittens/ Toque
- Faith Day Service Projects
- No Stone Left Alone/ Veterans Week
- Social Justice Project planned for Advent & Lent
- Grade 6 Farewell/Camp