



December 19, 2025

Dear Families,

As we enter the joyful season of Christmas, we pause with grateful hearts to give thanks for the many blessings within our school community. This sacred time invites us to reflect on the gift of Jesus' birth—God's promise of hope, love, and new life for all.

May the light of Christ fill your homes with peace, your hearts with joy, and your days with moments of grace and togetherness.

We pray that this season brings rest from life's busyness, strength for the journey ahead, and renewed faith in God's abiding presence among us.

May the blessings of Christmas remain with you and your loved ones now and throughout the New Year.

Wishing you a holy, peaceful, and joy-filled Christmas,

Laurie Bonanni-McGee

Principal

Erin Pruski

Assistant Principal



Chief Superintendent Message

You can read Chief Superintendent Lynnette Anderson's December reflection on Truth, Beauty and Goodness as we begin our Advent journey by [clicking here](#) or by visiting ecsd.net/chief-superintendents-message.





With Gratitude from All of Us



We wish to thank all our families for their generous donations to the **Sign of Hope Campaign** during our Christmas Concerts.

We collected a total of **\$782.60** for this important organization. To learn more about them please visit: <https://www.cssalberta.ca/News/category/sign-of-hope>



We also wish to extend our gratitude to our students and their families for generously donating to the **Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation**. We raised a total of **\$1064.20**.

Staffing Update:

Mrs. Gayle returns from maternity leave on January 5th and will be teaching the Grade 4B class.

We have been so blessed to have **Mrs. Magee** start the year off in this class and we are even more excited to share the great news that she will remain with us until the end of the year to help support students across the grades in the areas of literacy and math.



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Upcoming Events:

Please continue to check our website calendar regularly for news and events, <https://stcharles.ecsd.net/> you can download the calendar to your devices.

St. Charles is on Instagram! This is where you will find a snapshot of the upcoming week and some great photos of what is happening. Follow us at: [stcharles_ecsd](#)

We have also included the link to the Division Calendar for next year. [ECSD SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025-2026](#)

Focus: COURAGE JANUARY 2026	
January 5	Welcome Back to All
January 5-23	ECSD Annual Survey Grades 4-6
Jan. 6	Epiphany Celebration 11:00 with Father Glen MacDonald Division Chaplain Jubilee Year of Hope ends
Jan. 7	SAC Meeting @ 6:30pm- Welcome Trustee Palazzo
Thursday Jan. 8	Fr. Marc Parish Visit
Friday January 9	School Spirit Day- Hot Lunch Subway
January 19-21	Grade 4A to ICE school (includes Feb.9 and 10)
January 26	Grade 1 In school Field trip - Art Workshop- Clay & Glass Fusion Cardinal Leger Presentation to interested Grade 6 students
January 27	Family Literacy Day 2026: Make mealtime family learning time
January 28	Bell Let's Talk Day Tools to help everyone with mental health Bell Let's Talk
Thursday January 29	School PD Day- No Classes
January 28	Kindergarten Puppet Treehouse Presentation- Library closed
Friday January 30	School Visit with Gary Gagnon (ILS) Medicines and Prayer Grade 4-6

Important Reminders

BusPlanner Delays App

We encourage our families who have children who take the bus to download the BusPlanner Delays App on their mobile phones to receive late bus notifications. Instructions are located on [Yellow Bus Delays - Edmonton Catholic Schools](#)



Hot Lunch is January 9- Subway

All orders MUST be placed 5 days prior to the lunch date. In most cases, this will be a Sunday.



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School Advisory Council

Our **School Advisory Council** (SAC) plays an important role in building a strong school community, and we need your help.

Our Next Meeting is January 7 @ 6:30 in the library- Welcome Trustee Palazzo

We hope to see you for this very important meeting. Come and hear about the great things happening at ECSD from our very own Trustee Sandra Palazzo.

Northwest Solution Phase 2: New Schools in Chambery and Griesbach

<https://www.ecsd.net/northwest-solution>



Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/G-JKtj5KDXy>

More information will be shared with families in the new year. Stay tuned!

Supporting Wellness in our Schools and Families

Important Phone Numbers



- Recovery Alberta Children Youth & Families
Centralized Intake Services: 1-780-342-4415
- Recovery Alberta Crisis and Stabilization
Team: 780-407-1000
- Canadian Mental Health Association Distress
Line: (780) 482-4357
- Kids Help Phone: Phone 1-800-668-6868 •
Text 686868 • Message online [kidshelpphone.ca](https://www.kidshelpphone.ca)

Additional tips for supporting mental health at this time of year

- AHS: Navigating the Holidays with Care:
<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/news/Page18687.aspx>
- CMHA Edmonton: Winter Mental Health - a Guide for Good Practices:
<https://edmonton.cmha.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/CMHA-Edmonton-Winter-Mental-Health-Guide.pdf>

Visit our website for tip sheets, videos, and more! www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca



Winter Clothing

For families requiring assistance with winter clothing, please contact our office. We have sizes available. Thank you to our Knights of Columbus, and our families for the generous donations.

Food Donations

We want to remind all our families that we are here to support you. We are still collecting food donations for our pantry, and any family in need is asked to contact the office or speak with Mrs. Moniz directly for assistance. Her email is laura.moniz@ecsd.net



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Parish News

Please visit [St. Charles Parish](#) for more on happening in our Parish.

Please let us know when your child celebrates their Sacraments and send along a photo for our display!



Congratulations to our students and their families who celebrated their First Holy Communion at St. Charles Parish this month. May the grace of our Lord Jesus live in your heart and continue to bless you always.

Emma (photo), Elena (photo), Gerjan, Veronica, Yorakbel, Yotam, Ezana, Noel, Alex, Ruhen, Madeleine, Mico, Gabrielle, Irene



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

School News





Serious fun was had with decorating doors, and Christmas activities.



... an abundance of great food for the Grade 4 & 5 potluck, which was enough to serve all our students.



... and a final Christmas Carol sing-along in the gym.



From All of Us at St. Charles School. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

See you all January 5th at 8:00 AM!