

May 16, 2025

Parent Week At A Glance

May 18-24, 2025



St. Charles Catholic
Elementary School

Message from the Administration

Dear Families,

The month of May holds special significance in our Catholic tradition. May is dedicated to **Mary, the Mother of God**—a time to reflect on her example of faith, love, and devotion. Throughout the month, our students are participating in special prayers and activities to honor Mary and deepen their connection to her as a spiritual role model. We are especially looking forward to our **Living Rosary Celebration on May 23**, and we warmly invite all families to join us for this meaningful event.

We would also like to express our heartfelt **thanks to everyone who supported our Grade 6 fundraising week**. Events such as **Break the Rules Day, the Bottle Drive, and Freezie Friday**—all planned and led by our Grade 6 students—were a big success! Your generosity and encouragement made a real difference, and our students are truly grateful for the wonderful sense of community and support. The funds raised will go a long way in helping support their upcoming activities and celebrations.

A quick reminder that the **Victoria Day long weekend** is just around the corner. There will be **no school on Monday, May 19 and Tuesday, May 20**. We hope you enjoy this opportunity for rest, relaxation, and time together with loved ones.

Wishing you a joyful and grace-filled May.

Blessings,

Ms. Laurie Bonanni-McGee
Principal

Mrs. Ashley Jennings
Assistant Principal



Chief Superintendent Message

Join Chief Superintendent Lynnette Anderson as she reflects on the Easter season, supporting good mental health, and the many celebrations that take place in spring. [Click here](#) to read her May Message.



Mary, Mother of God: A Guiding Light for Catholic Education

The month of May holds a special place in the hearts of Catholic Christians around the world, recognized in the Church's liturgical calendar as a time of profound devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. Within the Edmonton Catholic School Division, this month takes on added significance. Mary is not only our spiritual mother - she is also our patron saint, a guiding presence who walks with us in faith, formation, and education.

Mary's role in the life of the Church is both foundational and inspirational. She is revered not only as the mother of Jesus but also as the first disciple and evangelizer. Her life was a continual affirmation of faith - a steady, resounding "yes" to God. This unwavering trust is perhaps most beautifully revealed in the story of the Visitation. Rather than proclaiming the Good News with grand speeches, Mary offers her testimony through presence - by carrying Christ within her and sharing that quiet, powerful witness with her cousin Elizabeth.

While Scripture preserves only a few of Mary's words, her impact on salvation history is profound. From the moment of the Annunciation to her presence at the foot of the Cross and beyond, Mary accompanied Jesus through every stage of His earthly mission. Her life was a journey of surrender and transformation, defined by love and sustained by faith. Through her openness to God's will, Mary became a vessel of divine grace, shaping the course of history through humble obedience.

The early Church recognized this profound role and honored her with the title *Theotokos* - a Greek term meaning "God-Bearer" or "Mother of God." This title, officially affirmed at the Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D., upholds the Church's core belief in Jesus Christ as fully divine and fully human. Today, *Theotokos* remains a central expression of Marian devotion in both Eastern and Western traditions, reminding us that by drawing close to Mary, we are led ever more deeply into the mystery of her Son.

In Catholic education, Mary continues to be a model of discipleship, compassion, and wisdom. Her example calls us to nurture not only minds but hearts, to encourage faith alongside knowledge, and to journey together in a spirit of grace and humility. As we honor Mary throughout the month of May, we recommit ourselves to her example - one of steadfast faith, selfless love, and a willingness to let God's plan unfold through us.

May Mary, Mother of God and patron of our schools, continue to guide us in all we do, helping us to grow as learners, believers, and disciples of Christ.

Fr. Julian Bilyj
ECSD Chaplain



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](https://www.instagram.com/stcharles_ecsd)

Please continue to check our website calendar regularly for news and events, <https://stcharles.ecsd.net/> you can download the calendar to your devices. We have also included the link to the Division Calendar for next year.

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING



Upcoming Events:

[ECSD SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025-2026](#)

(subject to change)

Focus: Gentleness MAY 2025- Asian Heritage Month	
May 19- 20	Victoria Day Weekend- No classes
May 22	Parent Appreciation Event at 7:45 - 8:45 am
May 23	Living Rosary Celebration- Whole School 10:30 am
May 26	FLEX
May 28	Grade 6 ELA Part A Provincial Achievement Exam 9AM-11AM
May 29	Fr. Cramer Visits New Kindergarten Wonder Day- 2 Blocks
May 30	Kindergarten Family Day 9:45 -11: 00 AM

JUNE 2025 – National Indigenous History	
June 2	LAST FLEX
June 5	Early Dismissal Grade 6 Camp at Nakamun
June 6	Assembly 8:30 a.m. Hot Lunch- Boston Pizza
June 9	AHS Immunization All Day
June 11	Edmonton Public Library Summer Reading Program @ 1:45 - 2:15 PM
June 12	Fr. Cramer Visits ELA Part B Provincial Achievement Exam 9AM-10AM
June 13	Grade 6 Math Part A Provincial Achievement Exam 9 AM- 9:20 AM
June 16	Millenium Place Grade 4-6
June 17	Grade 6 Math Part B Provincial Achievement Exam 9 AM- 10:10 AM Grade 3 Activate Field Trip at 9:00 - 12:10 PM
June 18	Grade 6 Social Studies Provincial Achievement Exam 9 AM- 10:00 AM Grade 2 Jurassic Forest Field Trip 8:15 AM - 1:50 PM
June 20	School Spirit Day/ Games Day & Lunch provided by SAC
June 23	Grade 6 Farewell & Year End Liturgy
June 24	Grade 1A and 1B Bowling Field Trip Grade 4 Unbirthday Party at Telus World of Science @ 8:45 AM - 1:30 PM
June 25	Last day of classes



Upcoming Hot Lunch Dates: Orders for Hot Lunch are due the Sunday prior, before midnight!- **June 6- Boston Pizza**



**St. Charles is blessed
with a wonderful
parent community!**

We would like to express our appreciation by providing **coffee and donuts** to parents during drop off **Thursday May 22!** Teachers and staff will be in the drop off zone next to the main parking lot beginning at **7:45 am**. This is drive up service!

**Just pull up and we
will deliver!**



We would like to invite you to join us in honoring our Blessed Mother Mary, through student-led praying of the Holy Rosary. We will be offering prayers for our new Pope Leo XIV and in gratitude for this Year of Jubilee.

Date: Friday, May 23, 2025
Time: 10:30 am
Location: Gymnasium



Celebrating the Sacraments



First Reconciliation & First Communion

Congratulations to all our students who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Communion! May you always know how much He loves YOU! **Please remember to send us a picture.**



Congratulations to Jera on celebrating her First Holy Communion. We are so proud of you and may you always know how much Jesus loves you!

May God continue to bless all our young people who have celebrated the sacraments this school year.

Parish News

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





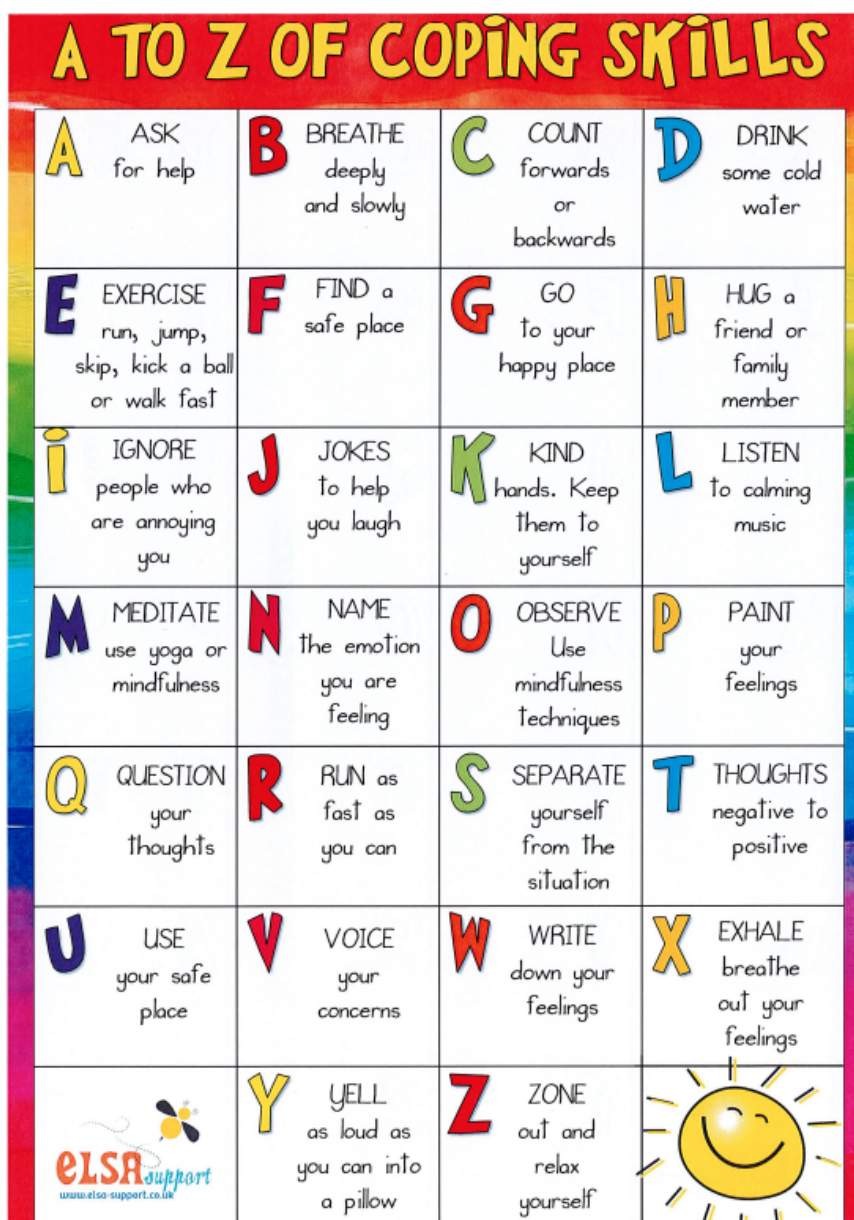
Supporting Well-Being in Our Schools

At Edmonton Catholic Schools, we know that student and staff well-being go hand in hand. When staff thrive, students thrive too. ECSD is launching the Integrated Health and Well-being Framework, which supports mental, spiritual, physical, social, and emotional well-being in our schools and workplaces.

This new framework provides a more holistic approach to the well-being of both students and staff as we retire the Mental Health Strategic Plan. By prioritizing well-being at all levels, we are creating a supportive and inclusive school community where everyone can thrive.

We invite families to read through the framework to become familiar with the supports in place for your children.

Visit ecsd.net/health-and-well-being-framework



REMINDERS-



THEFT HAPPENS!

Remember to always lock your bike properly! Please use a high-quality bike lock to secure your bike to our bike rack.

Bug Spray and Sunscreen



Alberta Health Services recommendations:

- Prolonged exposure to bug spray is not recommended for elementary-age children.

We suggest:

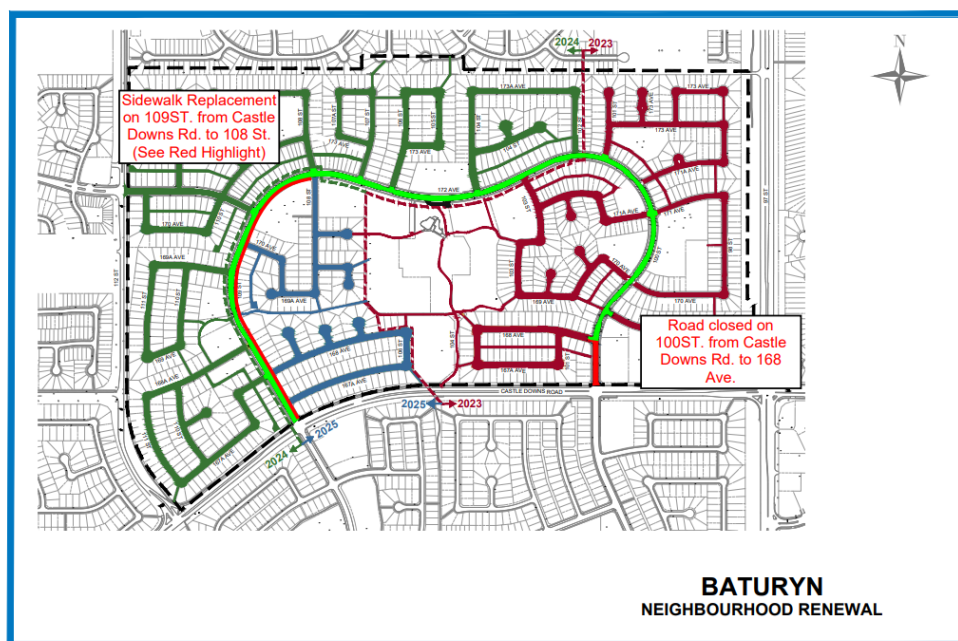
- Parents send long pants and long-sleeved jackets with their child as it is much better for students to cover up when they are outside, rather than using bug spray.
- The peak eating times for mosquitoes are dawn and dusk and these times are not during school hours, so by covering up, children should be okay outside.
- Staff members will not be spraying insect repellent or applying sunscreen on students.
- Parents who choose to send insect repellent with their children, please be advised that for safety precautions, this insect repellent is not to be shared with other students.
- Insect repellent should also only be sprayed outside, away from other students.

SUPERVISION REMINDERS/ Morning Drop off/ Afterschool Playground

Just a reminder that there are no teacher supervisors on the playground before or afterschool. If you are dropping off your child and will not be supervising them, we ask that you send them to the back of the school where the supervisors are located.

In addition, Baturyn School's lunch recess overlaps with our early dismissal on Thursdays. This has caused some issues at the park. Baturyn teachers are out to supervise their students and many of our students are going to the park to play unsupervised. For safety, we ask parents to speak to their child about going home after school if they are without a parent to supervise them.

**Road Construction
has begun!**



School Start Times/ Lates/ Illness- PLEASE Communicate with our office

Kindergarten Program- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:00 AM-11:00AM (Additional Days- January 30, February 13, March 21, April 17, May 15)

Grades 1-6- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
8:03 AM- 2:39 PM
Morning recess 9:45 AM-10:00 AM,
Lunch 11:45- 12:20 (recess 12:05-12:20)

Thursday 8:03 AM- 11:29
Morning recess 9:45 AM-10:00 AM





We are still accepting Registrations for the 2025-2026 school year.

Visit our website for a great video and don't forget to follow us on Instagram.

Spread the word.... St. Charles Catholic School is Awesome!

Please encourage your friends and neighbours to contact our office to book a tour.

REGISTER at:

<https://www.ecsd.net/register>

Community Board Baturyn Community League

Visit <https://www.baturyn.ca/> to learn more about events and to sign up for their newsletter.

Kids and Company

ONSITE DAYCARE at St. Charles

Spots Available!

2025 SUMMER CAMP

Ages 6-12 years old

Registration Open Now!

- ✓ Weekly Field Trips
- ✓ Meals & Snacks
- ✓ Fantastic Staff
- ✓ Weekly Themes
- ✓ New Friendships

And a Wide Range of Activities!