

December 20, 2024



St. Charles Catholic
Elementary School

Parent Week At A Glance

January 5 -January 11, 2025

Message from the Administration

Dear Families,

We hope this Advent season was filled with prayer and preparation for the joyous Christmas season ahead, and we hope you take some time to read our Christmas letter. God bless our students and families!

A special thank you to our teachers and students for leading us in our weekly Advent liturgies and to our parents for joining us. We are a community of believers! In addition to our Monday Morning Liturgies, our school community took part in an Advent Calendar over our Morning News Broadcast. We watched up to Day 20, and invite families to visit the links to complete the story and see the full picture revealed:
[Day 21](#) [Day 22](#) [Day 23](#) [Day 24](#)

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday January 6th**. If you have not sent in your ECSD Survey, you still have time to either mail it in, or have us send it in through our interoffice mail. All surveys close on January 10. Your opinions matter to us.

Congratulations to Chaman Proulx who won the 50/50 SAC Christmas Raffle. We wish to express our sincere gratitude to all our families who supported the SAC fundraisers and Casino. We hope to see more parents at our next School Council meeting on **Wednesday January 8, 2025 at 6:30pm**. Come and learn about all the new and exciting plans for the rest of the school year.

Warm Regards,

~The School Administration

Did you know...

[illegible]

If you visit our website <https://stcharles.ecsd.net/> you can download the calendar to your devices? This is the most up to date calendar of events.

Follow us on Instagram [stcharles_ecsd](#) for updates and announcements, and do not hesitate to reach out to us at (780) 456-5222 or email us at 8057PublicEmail@ecsd.net if you have any questions or need assistance.



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

Important Reminders:

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

Parking Lot/ Drop Off & Pick Up- High Importance



Please refrain from driving in and out of the parking lot to drop off or pick up your child at the back entrances. In some instances we see parents and students sitting in idling vehicles until the bell rings in the morning or after school. This becomes a dual problem for us in that there is a reduced number of parking spots for staff, and a safety concern for people or children walking through the lot. Please use the drop and go areas and limit the time in these spots so that traffic is not backing up.

We understand that some families have little ones in the car and others may need extra time for drop off, so we ask parents to just wait a bit as the drop off areas clear by circling around or waiting for the buses to leave.

We will not mark students late until after announcements. With the snow and colder temperatures, we understand you may not want your child outside, however please trust that we will let students in if the temperature is below -20 with wind. Supervision is in the back and front starting at 7:45am. Please do not drop off earlier than our supervision time. Our priority is always student safety but we need everyone's cooperation.

ECSD Annual Survey

1. Complete the paper survey
2. Fill out a survey for each child registered
3. Return by January 10, 2025

Visit ecsd.net/annualsurvey for more information

Parent & Student ECSD Surveys- Due January 10, 2025

Edmonton Catholic Schools is committed to providing an excellent Catholic education to the more than 50,000 students we serve. We believe it is important to hear your thoughts on the overall performance of your child's school and the Division so that we can see what's working and what needs to be

improved. One of the ways we gather your feedback is through the ECSD Annual Survey. This year, paper surveys are back and will be distributed either through your child's school or sent directly to your home.

How to Participate?

- Fill out a Survey - Take a few moments to complete the survey—it's a small step that makes a big difference for our Division.
- One Survey per Child - If you have more than one child in ECSD, please complete a survey for each student, focusing on their individual educational experiences.

- **Return by January 10, 2025** - Return the survey using the provided business reply envelope. You can send it back through your child's school or drop it in any Canada Post mailbox. Due to the Canada Post strike, you are encouraged to return the survey directly to your child's school.

Inclement Weather



The health and safety of students is a paramount consideration in the organization of outdoor activities and recess. Decisions regarding outdoor activities are to take into consideration inclement weather that may result from the following conditions or combination of conditions:

Continuous rain, Extreme wind, Extreme cold and/or Air Quality.

Environment Canada's weather for Edmonton is the site that is consulted at https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/ab-50_metric_e.html.

The suggested guideline is that students do not go outside if the temperature is -20°C or colder, or if the temperature and wind chill factor are -20°C or colder.

- During inclement weather (e.g. temperatures below -20°C with windchill) students will be permitted in the school at 7:45 am. Indoor supervisors will be assigned to supervise areas inside the school. Outside bus supervision will still occur from 7:45 am to 8:00 am.
- Recess will occur indoors during inclement weather. Students will remain in their homeroom classes and schedules may be prepared for classes to access the gym during indoor recess breaks.
- Late arrivals of all students after 8:00 am, are, at all times, asked to enter the main doors.
- Students are to re-enter the school at the end of the day if they miss their bus, the bus is delayed, a sibling forgets to meet the student, etc.

Bus Transportation



REMINDERS FROM EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Information regarding pick up and drop off times for your child are found on PowerSchool.

Parents of kindergarten and grade one students are reminded that there must be an ADULT (not an older sibling) at the stop to receive the student. If there is no adult at the stop, the student will remain on the bus and will be returned to school to await pick up.

All transportation enquiries/concerns are to be addressed to the Edmonton Catholic Schools Transportation department at 780-441-6078, NOT the school, bus driver or bus carrier.



Volunteers at St. Charles-

All people wishing to volunteer with us will need to complete a **volunteer form** for the year. Some parents will require a police record check (PIC) and child welfare check (IRC) if they are going on field trips or working with students. Please provide your child's teacher with your email address and interest in volunteering.

Police Information checks for volunteers, ages 18 and above, can be obtained free of charge directly from Edmonton Police Services, with a voucher which is provided by our Division. The voucher must be **used within 1 week of obtaining** it. **Please check your junk mail** if you haven't received it.

Some field trip volunteers may also require an IRC to be completed, which is free. Please contact your local Children's Services office or email CS-IRCrequest@gov.ab.ca for a blank form.

Please note that the clearance is valid for one year from the date it was issued. Once you have received your documents, please send them to the office.

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.

Supporting Wellness in our Schools and Families

Meet Our School Support Team

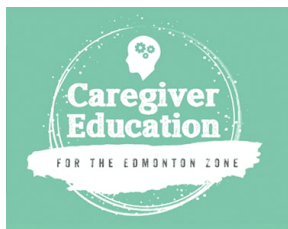
Karla Blimke, our Family School Liaison Worker (FSLW), offers support to our students and families here at St. Charles School. Mrs. Blimke will be at our school on **Mondays and Fridays**. Her email is karla.blimke@ecsd.net



Ms Fenisha, our Emotional Behavioural Specialist works alongside our teachers to provide support for our students. She will also be working directly with students to help support their development. Ms. Fenisha will be here Monday to Friday all day. Her email is fenisha.francis@ecsd.net

Families Helping Families at St. Charles-Please reach out to our office if you are experiencing challenges. Our school team is here to support all our families.

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.



Alberta Health Services is proud to offer FREE online programming for parents and caregivers who support children and youth, as well as sessions for adults looking to support their own wellness. Sessions are live and interactive. Our aim is to increase awareness and reduce the stigma around addiction and mental health challenges, provide participants with evidence-based information,

and offer strategies that promote health and resilience. [Click to learn more.](#)
Download our latest newsletter: [November/December Newsletter](#)

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

Check out the many more resources on Healthy Living/ Healthy Communities
[Parent Information Series | Alberta Health Services](#)
[Health A-Z](#)
[Healthier Together](#)

CALENDARS

EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

2024-2025

DIVISION

CALENDAR

● First Day of Classes

● Last Day of Classes

○ Early Dismissal Day

○ Cancellation of Early Dismissal Day

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

NO CLASSES

Heritage Day

Labour Day

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Thanksgiving Day

Remembrance Day

Christmas Day

Boxing Day

New Year's Day

Family Day

Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Easter Monday

Victoria Day

Canada Day

August 5

September 2

September 30

October 14

November 11

December 25

December 26

January 1, 2025

February 17

April 18

April 20

April 21

May 19

July 1

● NO CLASSES

Fall Break/
Remembrance Day Weekend

Christmas Vacation

Faith Development Day/Staff PD

Teachers' Convention

Spring Break

Victoria Day Weekend

November 8-12

Dec 23-Jan 3

February 26

February 27-28

March 24-28

May 19-20

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Sunday

Holodomor Memorial Day

Ash Wednesday

World Catholic Education Day

National Indigenous Peoples Day

First Day of Summer School

October 19-25

October 20

November 23

March 5

May 29

June 21

July 2

AUGUST

2024

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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JANUARY

2025

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FEBRUARY

2025

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MARCH

2025

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APRIL

2025

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MAY

2025

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JUNE

2025

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JULY

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Focus: Patience		JANUARY 2025
January 6		• Classes resume
January 8		• School Council Meeting 6:30 pm
January 9		• Early Dismissal
January 10		• LAST DAY for ECSD SURVEYS • Assembly - Patience 8:30 a.m.
January 13		• Grade 3-6 skiing (also Feb.10)
January 16		• Early Dismissal
January 17		• Flying Canoe Field trip (Tentative) 4A, 5A, 6A 9:30-11:30
January 20		• Flying Canoe FT 4B, 5B, 6B 9:30-11:30
January 22		• Grade 6 visit from Cardinal Ledger 12:30-1:30
January 23		• Early Dismissal • Gr 6s to St Edmund for feeder school visit
January 24		• School Spirit Day & Hot Lunch
January 30		• Early Dismissal • Kindergarten Program • Fr. Cramer Visits
January 31		• Gr 1A and 1B Printmaking In School Field Trip in Library • Digital Summary Report Card PDF available at 4:00 PM



Chief Superintendent December Message December 2024

Please visit the website <https://www.ecsd.net/december-2023-message> for Chief Superintendent Anderson's December message.

Community Board Baturyn Community League

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

Child Care Available at St. Charles



Before and After School Care

for children 6-12 years old

Kids & Company is a leading child care and early learning provider. In addition to child care for children under 5, we also offer School Age programming for children ages 6-12, including Before and After School care.



Why Kids & Company?

- Programming tailored to each child's interest.
- Meals and snacks provided by Kidco Kitchen.
- Care is provided on non- school days including PD Day.

Register



**kids&
COMPANY**

Parish News



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

Weekday Mass Times

- Tue: 6:30pm
- Wed: 9am
- Thu: 6:30pm
- Fri: 9am
- Sat: 9am

Weekend Mass Times

- Sat: 4:30pm
- Sun: 9am, 11am, 7pm

CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

St. Charles Reconciliation Celebration

Wed. December 11 7PM

Christmas Eve

Tue. December 24 6PM, 9PM 12Midnight

Christmas Day

Wed. December 25 11AM

Holy Family Sunday

Sat. December 28 4:30PM

Sun. December 29 9AM, 11AM, 7PM

New Years Eve

Tuesday, December 31 4:30PM

New Years Day

Wednesday, January 1 11AM

Christmas Season Weekday Mass Times

