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St. Charles Catholic
Elementary School

May 22, 2026

Dear St. Charles Families,

As we celebrate Pentecost Sunday this weekend, we are reminded of the gift of the Holy Spirit and the courage, joy, and hope it brings into our lives. Pentecost calls us to share our gifts with others, build community, and be people of kindness and faith in all that we do. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide our students, staff, and families as we journey together through these final weeks of the school year.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our families who supported the Grade 6 bottle drive and those who generously provided monetary donations toward camp and farewell activities. Your kindness and support help create meaningful memories and opportunities for our students as they prepare for this special milestone. The Grade 6 students will also begin freezie sales on Friday as they continue their fundraising efforts. Thank you for supporting them!

Families are warmly invited to join us for two special upcoming school events. On Monday, we will gather together for our Living Rosary celebration, a beautiful opportunity to pray together as a faith community. We also look forward to celebrating the many gifts and talents of our students at our upcoming Talent Show. Thank you for encouraging and supporting our students as they share their creativity and confidence with others.

Please also save the date for our final Parent Council meeting of the school year on June 3rd, and for our school Cultural Day celebration on June 5th. We look forward to these opportunities to gather together as a community and celebrate the diversity and spirit of St. Charles School.

May God continue to bless your family with peace, joy, and the guiding presence of the Holy Spirit this Pentecost season.

Laurie Bonanni-McGee

Erin Pruski

Principal

Assistant Principal



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Chief Superintendent Message

Join Chief Superintendent Lynnette Anderson as she reflects on our Division Patron, Mary, Mother of God, and celebrates the gift of publicly funded Catholic education in Alberta in her [May Chief Superintendent Message](#).

Upcoming Events:

Please continue to check our website regularly for news and events,

[St. Charles Catholic Elementary School](#) you can download the calendar to your devices or print it out! [Calendar of Events](#)



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](#)

[ECSD SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025-2026](#) Subject to Change

Focus: COMPASSION		MAY 2026- Asian Heritage Month	
May 25		Living Rosary @ 10:30 AM	
May 29		Talent Show at 1:00 PM	

Focus: FAITHFULNESS		JUNE 2026 – National Indigenous History	
June 1, 2026		Grades 4/5 & 5A away at Fort Edmonton (morning only) All library books to be returned Transportation Deadline to apply	
June 2		School Spirit Day/ Assembly at 10:15 am	
June 3		Last SAC Meeting @ 6:30pm Grade 2 Jurassic Forest All Day	
June 4		ELA Part B Provincial Achievement Test	
June 5		St. Charles Multicultural Day	
June 8		Grade 6 Immunization	
June 10		Riverhawks Game at 11:00 for Grades 1-5	
June 11		Social Studies PAT Fr. Marc Parish Visit	
June 12		Science PAT Kindergarten Full Day Zoo Field Trip Hot Lunch- Boston Pizza	
June 15		Math Part A PAT	
June 16		Games Day- Fitset Ninjas Booked for the day Hot dog lunch provided by SAC	
June 17		Year End/ Grade 6 Farewell 10:00 AM Liturgy	
June 18		Math Part B PAT	
June 19		Grade 6 to Camp Nakamun Kindergarten Family Picnic Day Grade 2 Bronx Bowling 11:00AM-1:00 PM	



June 21	Happy Father's Day National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 22	Grade 4-6 to Millenium Place Grade 1 Bowling at St. Albert Bowling Center
Tuesday June 23	Last Day of Instruction
Wednesday June 24	Report Cards go Live at 12:00 noon

ECSD SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026-2027- Updated Final

Edmonton Catholic Schools has updated the 2026–2027 Division school year calendar. While the total number of instructional and operational days remains the same, a few dates have changed.

For most ECSD students, the first day of school will be Wednesday, September 2, 2026. There will be no classes for all ECSD students on Monday, October 19, 2026, as the province conducts a scheduled referendum and Elections Alberta has requested that schools not be in session that day.

View and download the calendars at ecsd.net/calendar.

Updated Calendar
for the 2026–2027 School Year

ecsd.net/calendar



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 peace and justice throughout the world and gratitude for Catholic Education.

Date: Monday, May 25, 2025

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Gymnasium

We hope you can join us for this very special time.





Summer Fun Comes Early!

Our Grade 6 classes will be selling Jumbo Freezies for \$ 2.00 starting on Friday, May 29th. All proceeds support camp and farewell activities.

Thank you for your support!



Please return all library books for June 1st. Mrs. Melynk will be organizing and reshelving titles in preparation for the fall. Any students who have not returned their books by June 1st will receive a friendly reminder. Thank you for helping us with our year end wrap up.



Transportation Applications Due June 1

Transportation applications for the 2026–2027 school year are due by Monday, June 1.

Please apply by June 1 if your child:

- will take the bus for the first time
- has a new home address
- is changing schools

You do not need to apply if your child already takes the bus and both your address and school remain the same.

If your child currently takes the bus but will not need transportation next year, please submit a cancellation form and return the bus pass to the school office by the end of June to avoid future charges.

Apply or cancel at

ecsd.net/applyfortransportation.



Apply if your child:

- is new to the bus
- has a new address
- is changing schools



ecsd.net/applyfortransportation

Parent Council



Our Last SAC Meeting is June 3 @ 6:30 in the library. Come and share your voice and meet great people.

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

Many positions on the Executive will need to be filled for the upcoming school year. Please consider putting your name forward.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



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St. Charles Got Talent!

We look forward to seeing the incredible talents of our students and celebrating their creativity and confidence in our first Talent Show.

The performance will take place on **May 29th at 1:00 pm.**

Thank you to all the performers and teachers for your time and dedication to preparing for this event.

 A form titled 'Games Day Food' with a hotdog icon. It includes a sun icon and text stating that the parent council will provide all-beef hotdogs, chips, and Kona Ice for Games Day on Tuesday, June 16th. Below this, it asks parents to indicate which items they would like for their child, with four radio button options: an all-beef hotdog, chips, and Kona Ice; a vegetarian hotdog, chips, and Kona Ice; chips and Kona Ice only; or I will send lunch from home (no hotdog, chips, or Kona Ice). There is a line for the child's name and class. At the bottom, there is a thank you message to the Parent Council and icons for a hotdog, a drink, and an ice cream cone.

Games Day Food Order

Order forms were sent home last week. Please return your order by Monday May 25th.



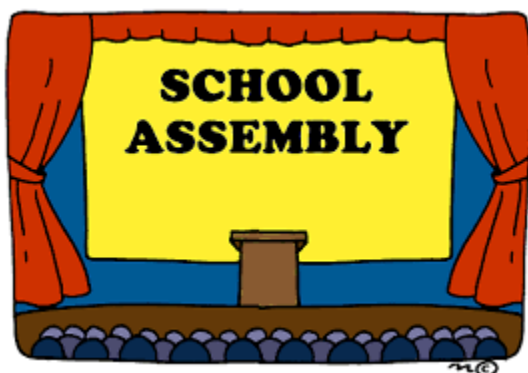
We are excited to announce our upcoming Cultural Day celebration, and we would love for you and your family to participate in this special event!

Date: Friday, June 5th

Time: All day

Cultural Day is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate the rich diversity that makes our school so unique. We are looking for families to share their culture through food, clothing, music, flags, and other cultural artifacts. There will be tables set up, each representing a different culture or country, where families can work together to showcase their heritage.

A letter will be coming home with your child on Monday explaining how students and families can participate.



Please join us for our last Student Assembly on **June 2nd at 10:15 AM**. We will be recognizing our students who demonstrated our Christian Values of Compassion and Faithfulness.



Parish News

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



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



**Registration for our
2026 summer camping
season is now OPEN!**

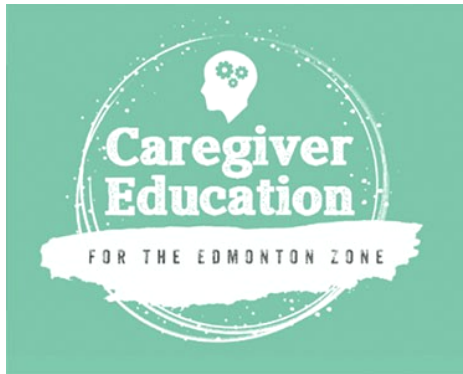
For young people from grades 4 to 12.
Experience faith, fun, and community at
camp! Celebrate the Sacraments, make
friends, and learn new skills like archery.
Owned and operated by the Catholic
Archdiocese of Edmonton.

www.OLVC.ca



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Important Phone Numbers- Promoting Health & Wellness for Families



- 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

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

Addiction and Mental Health Edmonton Zone Resources



Child and Adolescent Mental Health Intake – Call 825-402-6799

- Provides a single intake service for child & adolescent community mental health clinics across the Edmonton Zone and can provide support to determine the services that best fit the needs of a child or youth.

Child and Adolescent Single Session Walk-In Clinics

- This service offers a 50-minute, solution-focused, single therapy session on a first-come, first-serve basis with a focus on exploring specific issues and possible solutions. A guardian must accompany the child/youth for consent purposes.
- Please call ahead; phone appointments are also available.
 - Northgate Centre 780-342-2700 (Monday-Friday, 12:30-4:00 pm)
 - Rutherford Health Centre 780-342-6850 (Monday-Friday, 12:30-4:00 pm)
 - St. Albert 780-342-1410 (Wednesday, 12:30-4:00 pm)
 - Leduc Central Hope Building 780-986-2660 (Wednesday, 12:30-4:00 pm)

Mobile Addiction Services, Youth – Call 780-408-8783 (8:00 am – 4:30 pm)

- This service offers a continuum of programs and services for children/adolescents (aged 12 - 18), families, and professionals concerned about alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and gambling. Phone appointments are available.

Addiction and Mental Health Crisis Team for Children and Youth – Call 780-644-4591

- This service offers immediate crisis support to children and adolescents and their care providers; it also provides support to professionals in the community in the child serving sector. Available 7 days a week, 8:00 am – 11:30 pm.





[Free to Play After-School Program in Edmonton](#)

We had many students express interest in being part of our St. Charles Soccer Team. Unfortunately we had to limit the number of players on the 4 teams. Thank you to all who tried out and our coaches for giving of their time and talents.

Please check out the [Free to Play](#) programs, offered by the city.

[Families Helping Families](#)

We invite families to drop off any extra non-perishables to help stock our shelf for our families in need. In particular, we need some gluten free items, granola bars, fruit snacks or other healthy snacks. Our pantry is located in our conference room, just across from the office. This is a more discrete location to ensure the dignity of those who may need a helping hand. Donations may be dropped off at the office. If you require support in any way, please reach out to Mrs. Moniz, our FSLW. Her email is laura.moniz@escd.net or simply call the school. She is onsite on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning.



[Safety Reminder:](#)

We've noticed more students using the playground before and after school. Please remember that there is **no playground supervision at these times**. On the rare occasion that you cannot arrange for a ride at dismissal time, we will be asking your child to wait inside the school for their safety. Thank you for supporting us in keeping our students safe and accounted for!



Practice Fire Drills and Lock Downs

As we move towards the end of the school year and into warmer weather, we will be continuing our required lockdown, severe weather and fire drills. These drills are an important part of ensuring the safety of our children in the event of an emergency.

Messaging will be sent home following any dynamic drill (not announced to students). The safety and security of our students and staff is of the utmost importance to us, and we will continue to refine our practice with the custom of these drills.

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](#)



Standard of Student Dress Reminder

With the warmer weather upon us. We encourage all families to speak with their children about appropriate dress for school. This also includes graphics on t-shirts and sweaters that may be offensive to younger students. Please review the [Standard of Student Dress Policy](#)

Park Use on Thursday After School- Let's be Good Neighbours

This is a reminder that on Thursdays, our dismissal time coincides with Baturyn's lunch recess. To support their staff in safely supervising students, we kindly ask our students and families to please wait until after **12:10 p.m.**, once all Baturyn students have cleared the area, before using the park after school on this day.

We have always been good neighbours; however, Baturyn staff have recently shared concerns that the presence of additional students and families during this time makes supervision more challenging. While we recognize that this is a public park, we ask everyone to be respectful of this shared space and mindful of their recess schedule.





Roots of Empathy
Racines de l'empathie

Are you a proud parent with a new baby?
Will your baby be 2 – 4 months old in October?

You and your baby can make a lasting
difference in children's lives in your community!



The charity **Roots of Empathy** provides an award-winning program for elementary school children that independent research shows increases empathy, reduces aggression and bullying, and increases caring, kindness and inclusiveness.

"Change the world, child by child" by becoming a Volunteer Family

The Program is centred around you and your baby's loving relationship, with a Roots of Empathy Instructor guiding a discussion with children, encouraging them to read your baby's emotional cues and take your baby's perspective. Your baby is the "Tiny Teacher". The children learn to identify and name your baby's feelings, reflect on and understand their own feelings, then bridge to understand the feelings of others. The development of emotional literacy helps children understand how their behaviour or words can hurt others, and enables children to make friends and build positive relationships.

I would strongly recommend this program for your baby and for your community. What a way to make a difference for students by bringing the pure joy of a baby into their world.

Volunteer Roots of Empathy Parent



What's involved in being a Roots of Empathy Family:

- Nine times over the school year, you and your baby will visit a classroom with the Roots of Empathy Instructor and join the children around the "Green Blanket".
- You will help the children learn all about your baby and in turn they will learn about themselves, their feelings, and their temperament traits.
- The children will celebrate your baby's milestones such as rolling over, clapping, sitting and more, which are captured in a photo book for you and your baby. The children show their love of the baby at the end of the program with wishes for the baby's future.
- For more information on what is involved and to apply, please see below
***Babies must be between 2 and 4 months old in October**



Laura Moniz, FSLW cell: 587-921-7985

laura.moniz@ecsd.net

We are hoping to continue offering the Roots of Empathy Program to students here at St. Charles for next year. If you know of someone who may be interested in becoming a volunteer family for us, please ask them to reach out to laura.moniz@ecsd.net



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