



St. John Bosco Catholic School

7411 - 161A AVE NW, Edmonton, AB T5Z 3V4

Phone: (780) 471-3140 Fax: (780) 471.3293

October 2024

Message from Administration

Thank you for the warm welcome to St. John Bosco School. It has been wonderful to meet so many of you and to hear such kind things about SJB. We are inspired by the words of Father George at our opening celebration that HOPE is an acronym: Help – Other – People – Every(time). We are filled with hope that this year will bring new friendships, new learning, and new connections.

In true St. John Bosco fashion, we have hit the ground running from Bible celebrations with Father Glenn in grade 4 to running club at Rundle Park for grades 3-6 and even launching Operation Christmas Child schoolwide. This upcoming month, we kick off our Home Reading Incentive Program to earn Pizza with the Principal. October winners will celebrate with a pizza lunch with the principal on Friday, November 1st.

Edmonton Catholic School Division Prayer

Loving Father, you sent your Son into the world to redeem us by his Cross and Resurrection. Send your Spirit upon us today to make us stewards of your gifts and witnesses of your Son, Jesus Christ, in our schools and in our world. We were created in your image and likeness; each of us a precious gift. Through the intercession of our Most Blessed Mother, Mary, the Mother of God, we ask you to protect and guide our students and staff; caring and watching over us at all times.

Come live in our hearts and strengthen us to love and serve you. Let us glorify your name, being kind and generous to everyone we meet. With Christ as our model and our teacher, we celebrate and witness our faith, learning together, working together, and praying together in answering the call to a faith-filled life of service. We pray this through your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



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Safety at SJB

Please read the following safety tips:

1. Ensure you are using the crosswalks appropriately with your children during drop off and pick up times.
2. Ensure you are reminding your child to sit responsibly while riding the bus and not eating or drinking during their ride.
3. Choose a meeting spot with your child that is not in a high traffic area (ex. Front of the school or bus layby) as these are busy places for our bus students both before and after school.
4. Do not park your car in the 'Stop and Go' or the designated Daycare area as this creates backup and delays in traffic.
5. Communicate with your child's teacher (either in the agenda or email) or the school office if there is a change in plans in how your child will be getting home. With no information from you, your child will be expected to go home their usual agreed upon way according to school documentation.

See [here](#) what the Alberta government recommend for school safety.

SJB School Safety Patrol Team

Our Grade 6 patrol team is a dedicated group of young leaders who have undergone hands-on training to ensure the safety of our community members at our crosswalk. These students take their responsibilities seriously and have been equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to manage pedestrian traffic efficiently. Through their training, they have learned the importance of patience, communication, and attentiveness, ensuring that everyone, from fellow students to parents and other community members, can safely cross the road. Their commitment to safety and their role as leaders in our community is truly commendable, and they exemplify the values of responsibility and care that we hold dear in our school. Patrollers will be out assisting families cross in the mornings. Elecia Grange from AMA came out on September 24, 2024, to train our patrollers. We are continuing to build on our skills in the coming weeks. A BIG THANK YOU to all of our Patrollers!



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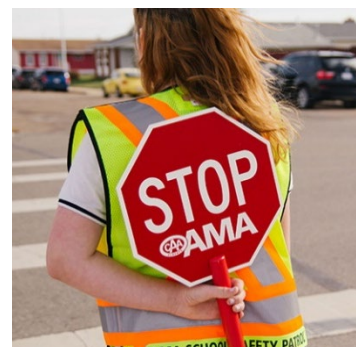
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When driving towards the crosswalk please slow down and watch for our Grade 6 student patrollers, who are out daily. If you need to stop, please allow a safe stopping distance from the crosswalk. When stopping for a pedestrian at a crosswalk, drivers should stop their vehicles far enough back (about two to three car lengths) so traffic in other lanes will be able to see the pedestrian and have time to stop.

Please refer to the City of Edmonton website for more information:

https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/pedestrian-crosswalks

When walking across the crosswalk please wait for the patrollers to say “proceed.” This is the signal that patrollers are trained to use when it is safe to cross. If cars have not stopped, patrollers will not say “proceed.” Students have been instructed to look for a safe gap in traffic. If there are any concerns, please do not address the patrollers, see staff that are outside supervising. Staff members will address. Patrollers are working diligently to ensure a safe crossing for all and continue to work on their skills year-round!



Elementary Cross Country Run

On September 24th, the St. John Bosco Running Club took part in the ECSD Cross-Country Run. Students aged 7 to 11 competed in races up to 2 km. Every participant received a ribbon and a treat for their efforts. We are incredibly proud of our students' enthusiasm, positive attitudes, and school spirit. They truly embodied what it means to be a St. John Bosco ambassador.

A big thank you to all the parents who came out to support our runners—it was wonderful to see our own cheer squad in action.

Congratulations running club!

Parent Information Night For Families of English Language Learners

Whether you are new to the St. John Bosco community or have been part of our school for many years, we invite you to join us on **Wednesday, October 2nd from 6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.** for an informative evening specifically designed for our families of English



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Language Learners. We will discuss strategies for helping your child in reading and writing, how to use PowerSchool, the school website, Google Classroom, homework expectations, resources within and out of school, as well as many other topics of interest. It is important that we connect with all our families, and we encourage you to bring any questions you may have about the school. The session will be held in the music room and is for adults only. Please enter through the front door. If you have any questions about this information night for parents, please call Mrs. Garcia at (780) 471 – 3140.

MDT – Multi Disciplinary Team Information Evening

Our Multidisciplinary Team will be hosting an information session for our Kindergarten families on **Wednesday, October 2nd at 6:30pm to 7:30pm**. This evening will give parents the opportunity to meet our in-house specialized team as they review their roles and functionality within the kindergarten classroom setting. Parents will have an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the session. Please use the main entrance doors at 6:30pm.

Literacy Night for Parents of Grade 1 Students

Calling all parents of Kindergarten & Grade 1 students! Have you ever wondered what literacy activities you should be doing at home with your child? Do you want some tips for assisting your child to read the books that he/she brings home in his/her home reading bag? Do you constantly find yourself telling your child to “sound it out” and then realize this strategy is not helping your child to read? We would love for you to join us on **Wednesday, October 16th from 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.** for a Parent Literacy Night designed just for you! This dynamic and informative session for parents will answer many questions you may have about your child’s literacy development. You will also be provided with strategies to assist your child read his/her home reading book, as well as activities to do with your child to increase comprehension skills. The session will be held in the music room and is only for adults. Thank you for understanding that we are unable to accommodate children at this session. We hope to see you there!

Thanksgiving Celebration – Friday, October 11th at 10:30 A.M.

Although we all experience new challenges, we cannot forget our many blessings and must always take the time to be grateful. Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to



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reflect on what we appreciate in our lives, such as our families, our safe communities, our country, our opportunities, our friendships, and our education. We will celebrate as a school community on Friday, October 11th at 10:30 A.M. The celebration will be led by our Grade 1 classes. Parents of students in Division 1 are welcome to join us in the gym. All Division 2 students will watch the livestream of the celebration in their classrooms. We will be collecting donations for the Food Bank starting on October 1st. Please consider donating to our community's less fortunate families.

READ-IN WEEK – OCTOBER 7 to 11

This year, Read-In Week will be from October 7th to 11th and the theme is “**Reading Is For Everyone**”. The beauty of reading is that it touches the heart and soul of every human being. Whether we are listening to stories or reading independently, there is a story for every single person to enjoy. During Read-In Week, staff and students will participate in activities such as reading stories while connecting to the land outside, wearing words on clothing, and dressing up as a favorite book character. This exciting annual event allows all of us to celebrate and share the importance of reading. We are so thrilled to once again invite guests from the community to read to our students and share their love of reading. Parents are encouraged to get involved by finding cozy places to read together as a family and by discussing the various activities your child has experienced throughout the week. We hope everyone spends time talking about books and sharing their love of reading together!





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Picture Retakes Day

A reminder that our picture re-take day is on **Wednesday, October 16** for any students who wish to have their picture retaken. Class pictures will be constructed in the composite format.



Go Green Club

Starting in October, Grade 4 students will have the exciting opportunity to join the Go Green Club. This initiative involves collecting juice boxes and paper for recycling, and it aims to promote leadership, community service, and environmental stewardship. Through their participation, students will not only contribute to a greener school but also embody Catholic values of caring for God's creation and serving others. This club aligns with our commitment to nurturing responsible stewards of the environment and compassionate members of our community.

Extra-Curricular Music Groups

There has always been a strong musical tradition at St. John Bosco School and this year is no different!

This year at St. John Bosco we will be having a Spring Concert! Stay tuned for all the details in the upcoming months.

Students in Grade 5 interested in joining the Grade 5 Handbell Choir are invited to attend an information meeting on Monday, October 7, 2024. The choir will practice on Mondays at lunch recess and will perform a song at our Advent Celebration on December 20.

Love to sing and dance? Our Glee Club for grades 4, 5, and 6 will start rehearsals in January in order to prepare for our Spring Concert!



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Grades 1, 2, and 3 students will be invited to share their voices in the Junior Choir, which is also starting in January. Their performance will be at our Spring Concert!

Grade 6 students interested in joining the Handbell Choir will have the opportunity to start in January to prepare a song for the Spring Concert.

Music touches the soul of every person, and it will be wonderful to see and hear the many amazing musical talents of our SJB students!

HOMEREADING PROGRAM BEGINS OCTOBER 7th

One of our school goals continues to be building literacy in our students, as it will serve them well into their future. With our continued efforts towards building literacy in our students, we would like to share with you some information about our school-wide Home Reading Program. You and your child are invited to be a part of this reading incentive program that will complement their current home reading. Essentially, the program provides an opportunity to make reading a special time for you and your child. We will be kicking off our **Home Reading Program on October 7, 2024**, which also marks the start of Read-In Week, an annual event towards the promotion of Literacy development.

How the Home Reading Program works:

- Each student will have access to “home reading books” that they can read at home.
- Each student will receive **“Incentive Sheet” with strips on it**. After your child has read, and met their specific minutes/goal each night, a parent or guardian is asked to initial one box on the incentive sheet. *Only one box can be initialed each night, regardless of the amount of time spent reading.*
- **As your child completes one full reading strip**, they are to **hand the strip in** to their homeroom teacher, whereby the teacher will tear off the strip and submit their name into a jar.
- **At the end of each month**, during morning broadcast there will be **one name drawn from each classroom jar**. **If your child’s name is drawn you will have a free pizza lunch with Mrs. Schultz.**



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READ-A-THON WEEK OF OCT 21 - 25



Our annual Read-a-thon will kick off on **October 21st through to the 25th**. Details about the Read-a-thon will follow in a separate package that will be sent out on Friday, October 11th in the student agendas along with the pledge forms.

Please follow the instructions carefully and thanks for supporting this fundraiser. Monies raised will be used for student program enhancements. **Pledge forms and monies collected are due back Nov. 4th.**

The Read-a-thon event will take place the week of October 21st-25th at school during homeroom literacy time in the morning. Parents are asked to help encourage a love of reading and to convey the importance of literacy as a life skill. Through your participation, collaboratively we stress this and help to raise funds to be used towards student program enhancement.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The St. John Bosco Student Leadership Team is excited to spread HOPE and enthusiasm to make this year an amazing one for our SJB community! Thank you to the interest, dedication, and positive spirit from the students' leaders during our first meeting! We are very appreciative of the support from the SJB staff and administration.

The SJB Leadership Team is about leadership, wellness, and social justice. A leader is a positive role model that inspires change and action in themselves and those around them. Leadership focuses this year will include Social Justice leaders, Physical Education and Wellness leaders, Recess Activity Leaders, and Broadcast Announcement Leaders.



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The mission of the Leadership Team is to show HOPE and let our light shine forth by sharing our passions, talents, and ideas to build school spirit, model compassion, spread joy and help others in and around our community. Our vision is to see all St. John Bosco School students grow as healthy and helpful leaders in our community.

Social Justice: By June 2025, the students of St. John Bosco will experience kind acts towards each other daily and practice ways to help individuals in need around and outside of the school community through Social Justice initiatives.

Physical Education and Wellness: By June 2025, the students of St. John Bosco will work on being leaders of themselves by practicing self-regulation techniques, problem solving strategies, fueling our bodies with physical activity, healthy foods/drinks, and mindful moments.

The Students Leaders will:

Listen and act

Encourage each other

Always show a positive attitude

Dream big and make a difference

Empower others by leading by example

Reflect and continue to grow

Serve our community

We look forward to continuing this journey at St. John Bosco School, doing what we can to bring out the leader in ourselves and to help each student be the best they can be. Stay tuned for further updates and fun theme days throughout the year! We hope to have a great year together in leadership! Ms. Craig and Ms. Melnyk



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FOOD BANK DONATIONS

The St. John Bosco Student Leadership Team is leading our first Social Justice project by collecting and donating nonperishable items to the Edmonton Food Bank and the Veterans Association Food Bank for the month of October. Please consider donating, as any small bit will make a huge difference in the lives of those that are going hungry. The Food Bank helps 20 000+ people each month. By donating to the Veterans Association, you can help support and enrich the lives of Veterans and their families.

How can I participate? Click on this link to view a list of the Food Bank's most needed non-perishable items:

https://www.edmontonsfoodbank.com/documents/141/Most_Needed_Items_Full_Page.pdf

Food items can be brought to school and placed in one of the Food Bank boxes until Friday, November 1, 2024

Thank you for your donations S.J.B. community! We are people of HOPE!

Ms. Craig and Ms. Melnyk

Halloween 2024 – Thursday, October 31st

A costume parade for grades 1-3 will be held in the gym at 8:30am. The grades 4-6 classes will have their parade in the gym at 9am. Parents are welcome to attend and get festive by dressing in costume! Teachers will have Halloween activities in their classes. Please send an individual treat for your child to enjoy. We will not be bringing in class sets of treats.

Kindergarten Halloween Party!

Our Kindergarten Halloween Party will take place on Wednesday, October 30! Students are invited to come to school dressed in their costumes, ready for a fun-filled day of Halloween-themed activities. While costumes are encouraged, we kindly ask that any accessories be left at home to avoid any distractions or misplacements.



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Throughout the day, we will enjoy special classroom activities and participate in a parade around the school to show off our fantastic costumes! Please note that we will stay indoors to ensure costumes stay clean and intact for trick-or-treating on Halloween night.

Parents are welcome to send a small Halloween treat for their child to enjoy during the celebration. We are looking forward to a spooktacular day!

HOT LUNCH - HEALTHY HUNGER



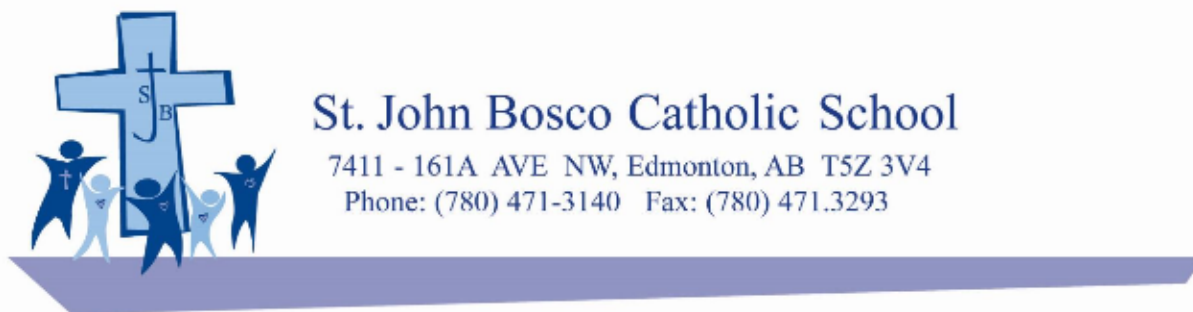
SJB Hot Lunch is BACK for another school year! Our hot lunch service provider is called **Healthy Hunger**. This year for parent convenience, all hot lunches will be posted for the year for parents who choose to pre-order and pay all at once. If you are interested in volunteering on our hot lunch days, please email at sjbhotlunch@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support of our hot lunch program!

To access the instructions on how to register and use this program, please see the additional attachment.

If you haven't already done so, please register on the Healthy Hunger website to order hot lunch for your child(ren) should you be interested.

We will be offering the following hot lunch days for the year, please see the timelines listed in the chart.

Hot Lunch Vendor	Order Deadline	Hot Lunch Day
Edo	October 13, 2024	October 18, 2024
Mucho Burrito	November 17, 2024	November 22, 2024
Carl's Jr.	January 12, 2025	January 17, 2025
Panago	April 6, 2025	April 11, 2025
Pita Pit	May 18, 2025	May 23, 2025



Click on the link below, which will take you directly to the website to pay order and pay online:

<https://healthyhunger.ca/>

Please note that **hot lunch is not available to kindergarten children due to their half-day program and dismissal times.**

Payment of School Fees

Please visit the parent portal at <https://powerschool.ecsd.net/public/home.html> to see a list of fees. Thank you for your diligence with fees.

Bus Notifications

It can occasionally occur that buses are delayed. Please notice when Transportation Services sends out delay notifications as they can be sent out at any time before the route is set to start. You can get notifications from the Bus Planner Delays App for your convenience. Additionally, you can set up alerts at : <https://busplannerweb.ecsd.net/Alerts>
Also, by using the Bus Planner Delays App:

<https://www.ecsd.net/page/34228/transportation-services-busdelay-notifications>

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars for:

- The first School Council Meeting is Wednesday, October 23rd, 2024, at 6:30pm.
- The first Demonstration of Learning event on Thursday, November 28, 2024, from 1-4:30 and 5-7pm. We will send out more information about how to sign up online for an appointment schedule. Thank you for supporting your child's educational experience at St. John Bosco. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Point of Gratitude

As October is Gratitude month, we are grateful for our amazing custodial team! Mr. Bains, Mrs. Drapala, and Mrs. Lestari keep our school shining and clean on a daily basis.

Custodial Appreciation Day is Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024.