



Newsletter

St. John Bosco Catholic School

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February 2024

Administrators' Message

"Love doesn't mean doing extraordinary or heroic things. It means knowing how to do ordinary things with tenderness." (Jean Vanier)



February, through a focus on 'Randoms Acts of Kindness' is really all about our personal intentions towards others. We are reminded that friendships, relationships, and kindness contribute not only to others well-being, but also our own health and wellness.

Our February message is inspired by the work of Brené Brown. Whether we're committing to love, or art, or business, or kindness, she shares that we must have the courage to do it whole-heartedly, with full awareness that there will always be those who find us lacking. In Brené's work on vulnerability she addresses the connection between kindness and vulnerability. She touches on the difference between being kind and being nice. She mentions that "nice" doesn't require us to be vulnerable; one can be nice without risk, and without exposing too much of oneself, without making a connection. Nice, while often pleasant, doesn't require sincerity or commitment. Brené is clear as she defines "kind" as connecting; it means being conscious and intentional about the impact one's words or actions may have; it means expending energy and effort and caring about the outcome. It also means suspending judgments and accepting people as they are. Kindness requires one to take a risk and to be vulnerable. With this month of February as the month of love and kindness we invite you to go beyond the basic definition and expression of kindness. Make a conscious effort to do things *kindly* that you perhaps once did *nice*ly. Outwardly, there's probably not a lot of difference. However, consider this, try to pause and exchange a few words, make eye-contact, and ask about their world and what is going on with them as you wish them well. If you allow yourself to be vulnerable, the answer is it doesn't matter. As Brené Brown eloquently explains, connection is why we're all here, sharing this planet, and it's what gives meaning and purpose to our lives. To make that deep connection, we have to allow ourselves to be seen. That means having the courage to be imperfect, to expose our flaws, and the willingness to be vulnerable. Living our most authentic life requires that we let go of our shield and lower our guard, and that we embrace our flaws and our vulnerability. It's scary, but, oh, the rewards of living an authentic life are beyond measure. From February 11-17, we will be joining schools, communities, and agencies across the country and around the world by celebrating "Random Acts of Kindness" on February 17th. The reality is that kindness should be the norm, and each day we should be focused on being kind to those around us and to ourselves. To learn more about Random Acts of Kindness, visit <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/>



As Catholics, February also marks the beginning of our Lenten journey by recognizing learning about and participating both, Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday as steps in that journey. Scripture reminds us, **“For it is in giving that we receive”, St. Francis of Assisi.** Giving is one of the most amazing acts we can perform. Why? Because it is an endless circle, an action-reaction-action cycle that, once started, can only be stopped by

the giver's conscious choice.

This month also highlights the start of our online registrations for the 2024-25 school year. New applications to register at our school open online on Feb 1st. To register online [click here.](#)

February is also the time where the pre-enrollment/intention online process begins for our current families already registered at our school. Beginning on Feb 1, our families will have the opportunity to indicate their intentions for the upcoming school year. *Please log into your parent portal and complete the process by clicking on the left bar pre-enrollment icon.* For specific help on how to complete this process, refer to the specific section in this newsletter that outlines more detailed information.

For schools, February also marks the mid-way point of the academic school year and with it comes several activities and important dates for the continued growth of our school community. We are happy to host our Parent Literacy Night for Grade 1 Parents on Wednesday, February 17th from 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. We would love for you to join us so we can share tips with you for supporting your child's growth in writing. Family Day, which is on Monday, February 19 and in the words of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, we are to, “Go home and love your family”. We are blessed to be given time to do so. Parents are reminded that this is a statutory holiday and as such, no school. We invite parents to attend our SC meeting on February 21 at 6:30 pm. Teachers' Convention will take place on February 29 & March 1. There will be no school for students.

Ms. A. Esposito-Brady
Principal

Ms. Kowalchuk
Assistant Principal

REFLECTION/PRAYER

Dear God, Hear our prayers as we begin this Lenten Journey with you. Help bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and my heart for silence and solitude. Let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart. Guide me as I seek and repent. Help me give to those in need and in doing so re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity. Watch over my children in this grace filled time.
Amen

Message from Pope Francis - Lent: a time for renewing Faith, Hope and Love

'Dear brothers and sisters, every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father.'

PREPARATIONS FOR THE LENTEN PERIOD

[What is the theme of Lent 2024?](#)

40 Days of Grateful Presence and a call to giving thanks for the many things in our lives we take for granted. Our hope is that during the 40 days of Lent we can all use gratitude to help us to be more present in our daily lives.



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER & CALENDAR INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

A reminder that we post SJB calendar and event dates directly onto our website for ease of access from wherever you are. Please click on the links below and place into your favorites list for easy access each month.

To access the school's calendar of events, click on link below: <https://stjohnbosco.ecsd.net/calendar>

To access the school's newsletters, click on the link below <https://stjohnbosco.ecsd.net/newsletters->

ONLINE PRE-ENROLLMENT PROCESS FOR 2024-25 FOR CURRENT PARENTS

It's that time of year when ECSD will be asking all families to indicate their intentions for the upcoming school year using an online format as was done last year. Effective February 2024, families were able to go into their parent portal and indicate their school intention for the upcoming school year for each child. If you intend to remain at St. John Bosco School, please indicate as such as prompted; if, however, you are moving into another area, or are leaving our school for other reasons, it is important that you indicate that to us and let us know what school you are planning on attending in the field provided. **This information helps our school to begin planning and preparing for the upcoming school year.** Having good enrollment estimates/projections is important as we begin to plan for staffing and other school needs. Your confirmed submission online of your intention for your child(ren) will be necessary so that we know you intend to come to our school for the next year. **It is important that all our families complete the online intention process as soon as they receive notification from ECSD. If we notice that you have not yet stated your intention for the upcoming school year, you can expect a call from our front office staff. Please see below for instructions on how to state your intentions online through the parent portal.**

Instructions on How to State Your Intentions for the Upcoming School Year:

Please [watch this video](#) if you need assistance completing the pre-enrollment for next year process.

If you do not require assistance, and are familiar with the process, simply log into [PowerSchool](#) and go to the "Pre-Enrolment for Next Year" icon to select your preferred school for the 2024-2025 school year.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR NEW FAMILIES REGISTERING AT OUR SCHOOL

For information about our registration process for the upcoming 2024-25 school year, visit our school website at <https://www.ecsd.net/1024>.

To learn more about what we offer your child at St. John Bosco School, [click here](#).

For any families with Kindergarten age children entering school, click on the link to get more information about our half-day Kindergarten programming [Kindergarten](#).

For any families with children in grades 1 to 6 and are interested in registering at our school, click on the link to learn more about what we offer for our [Grades 1 to 6](#).

The registration process begins with the parents going online and completing the registration process. **Click on the link to complete an online registration form** at <https://stjohnbosco.ecsd.net/register>.

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED, NOR PROCESSED UNLESS ALL YOUR DOCUMENTATION HAS BEEN UPLOADED.

Students outside our catchment area may be accepted if there is space and program, however, transportation will be the responsibility of the parents.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS REGISTERING A CHILD IN KINDERGARTEN

Entering Kindergarten is an exciting time for both, you and your child and it is an important first step in their Catholic education journey. We have both morning and afternoon classes. We want the transition to our school to be as smooth as possible for our families. To that end, we have included information for you below.



At St. John Bosco Catholic Elementary School community our motto, “**Celebrating God and Youth**” speaks to our school’s philosophy. Our liturgical celebrations, living our core values and our dedicated staff are just a few of the many ways in which we ensure that your children are surrounded by an environment that is focused on learning and respect for one another.

St. John Bosco School serves the communities of Crystallina Nera East & West, McLeod Park, Cherry Grove, Mayliewan and Schnosee. Our attendance area is East to West 59A St to 82 St and from North & South 173 Ave to 153 Ave. Parents from other areas that are wishing to register their children are free to do so and will be considered provided there is space and programming for their child. St. John Bosco School has an inquiry-based school environment that is inclusive and permeates our Catholic faith.

Our Kindergarten Program includes the following:

- Certified Teacher
- Early Learning Educational Assistants
- Faith-Based & Inclusive Learning Environment
- Reggio Inspired Programming
- Engaged & Inquiry-Based Learning Environment
- Learning through Discovery & Play
- Integration of the Fine Arts
- Rich oral language opportunities
- Faith based instruction permeates all subject matter.



The Multi-Disciplinary Team – Supporting Inclusive Programming.

In Early Learning, all our programs are inclusive and are serviced by our Early Learning Team that includes Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Phys-Ed Specialist, Behavior Specialists, Family School Liaison Workers, Fine Art Specialists and Early Learning Consultants. Please click on link to see a listing of all our school's service providers for a variety of services that our students receive based on interventions they require.

We look forward to seeing you at our open house and encourage you to attend to learn more about our school and all that it has to offer your child. For your convenience, we will assist you in gathering all the necessary documents and help with the completion of online forms to complete the application process.

Applications for Registration Packages will only be considered when all the specified documents/forms are attached as part of your application. **To prepare for the online application to register process, please see below and gather your documents in advance.**

ELIGIBILITY:

- To qualify for kindergarten, your child must be **5 years of age by December 31, 2024.**

DOCUMENTATION:

- You will be required to provide a copy of:
- Child's Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residency to verify home address (utility bill) and if applicable, childcare provider confirmation.
- Complete and sign an ECSD Student Registration Form
- Sign the Early Learning forms attached to the Registration Application Package you receive.

TRANSPORTATION:

Determine if you qualify for transportation based on your address and complete the necessary forms which can be found on our Division's Transportation website at <https://www.ecsd.net/transportation>.

For more information and for your convenience, the following link will connect you to our **school's website** <https://www.ecsd.net/1024>.

REGISTRATION: If you are looking to register your child in Kindergarten, click on the link to complete your online registration form at <https://www.ecsd.net/register>.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS REGISTERING CHILDREN IN GRADES 1-6



Our motto, “**Celebrating God and Youth**” speaks to our school’s philosophy. Our liturgical celebrations, living our core values and our dedicated staff are just a few of the many ways in which we ensure that your children are surrounded with an environment that is focused on learning and respect for one another.

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Our Mission:

To prepare our students to live in and contribute to a changing world and engage in active faith-filled, lifelong learning; St. John Bosco School provides an interactive and collaborative inquiry-based learning environment that promotes higher level critical thinking utilizing real-world tools.

We Offer:

- ‘Universal Design for Learning’ that incorporates best practices for multiple & flexible options for student expression & engagement such as, multiple technologies & diverse learning spaces for student needs & choice.
- Inquiry-based learning that offers student engagement & Multi-age Instruction for Project-based Learning.
- (S.T.E.A.M.) **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **A**rt & **M**ath focused Learning Commons/Makerspaces that includes a Wind Tunnel, Magnet Wall, Lego Wall, Light Labs, Robotics, Dash & Dot Coding Robots, Cubelets® Robot Blocks Osmos, Tagoo Blocks, & more hands-on learning tools for optimal inquiry-based learning.
- Learning & Tech Coaches to coordinate flexible approaches to learning, customized for individual student needs.
- Multiple Disciplinary Team (MDT) of Service Providers (OT, SLP, PT, FSLW, EBS, RCSD).
- Full wireless capabilities with smartboards, FM systems, netbooks, chrome books, iPads, laptops and more.
- Junior ATB Financial Literacy Program
- French as a Second Language Instruction.
- Levelled Literacy Intervention (LLI) for Struggling Readers, SIOP Program for (ELL) English Language Learners.
- Google Classroom
- Robotics
- Athletics Program
- Discovery Education
- Kagan Collaborative Strategies
- Transportation for catchment students
- ‘Munch a Lunch’ Hot Lunch Program
- Before & After School Care Facilities: Gold Star, Kinder Kollege Daycare, Tots 2 Kids, & Numerous Day Homes.
- **We also offer a MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM OF PERSONNEL providing services to students.** Please click on link to see a listing of all our school’s service providers for a variety of services that our students receive based on interventions they require. [SJB Multidisciplinary Team List](#)

Extracurricular Activities

- SJB Student-Led Broadcast Team
- Environmental Education & Engagement Club
- Jr. & Sr. Technology Club
- Social Justice Service Learning

- Student Leadership Team
- Running Club
- Volleyball Team
- Floor Hockey
- Soccer Teams
- Music Ministry

- Sr. & Jr. Glee Club
- Hand Bell
- Ukulele & Recorder Instruction
- Orff Instruction
- Annual School Wide Performances
- Other community performance venues

For more information and for your convenience, the following link will connect you to our **school's website** <https://www.ecsd.net/1024>.

REGISTRATION: If you are looking to register your child in Grades 1-6, click on the link to complete your online registration form at <https://www.ecsd.net/register>.

SCHOOL X ACCOUNT - @StJohnBoscoYEG

Our school has a **SJB X account @StJohnBoscoYEG**. The SJB X account has been a great way to share updates, reminders and even highlight school wide events. We have had many positive comments and are happy to say that our number of followers continues to increase daily. We have begun to include video clips and picture collages of the many school events as a way of celebrating our terrific staff and the students that make the school come alive with their positive energy and amazing school spirit. **To visit our SJB X account, click on the following link, [@StJohnBoscoYEG](https://www.instagram.com/StJohnBoscoYEG)**

SCHOOL WEBSITE



Parents and community members are asked to use our school's website to stay up to date on the latest going on in our school. The school website is filled with information related to the school's academic and extracurricular programs, special student services and support, registration and hours of operation information, monthly newsletters and calendars highlighting school events. This is also a great tool to tell your friends and family about should they be interested in registering their children at our school. The website also allows you to email the principal directly and provide suggestions and/or inquire about school programs and/or events. **To visit our website, click on the following link, [St. John Bosco School Website](#)**

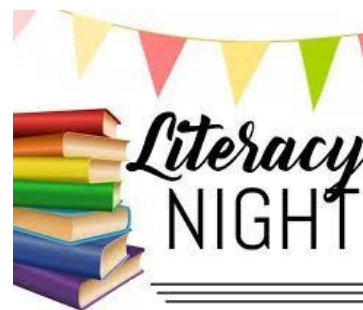
PARENT PORTAL PASSWORD RESET

Parents are reminded that they are able to reset their own passwords or username as needed. They do NOT have to call in and ask our office staff to reset.

The screenshot shows the 'PowerSchool SIS' logo at the top. Below it is the title 'Recover Account Sign In Information'. There are two tabs: 'Forgot Password?' (selected) and 'Forgot Username?'. The main text reads: 'Parents, to recover your password or if you have been provided a username and are setting your password for the first time, provide the information below. Students need to contact the school directly.' Below this are two input fields: 'Parent Username' and 'Parent Email Address'. An 'Enter' button is located to the right of the email field. At the bottom, a disclaimer states: 'If you are experiencing sign in issues, please contact your school for assistance. For security reasons, PowerSchool is unable to assist with sign in, password, or other accessibility-related issues.'

LITERACY NIGHT FOR PARENTS OF GRADE 1 STUDENTS- Feb. 7 @ 6:30 pm

Calling all parents of 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 become a better writer? We would love for you to join us on **Wednesday, February 7 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 with writing, and we will do a quick review of strategies to use when reading with your child as well. 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!!



HOT LUNCH - SHROVE TUESDAY



SHROVE TUESDAY

We will begin our preparing for Lent with our Shrove Tuesday Hot Lunch on Tuesday, February 13th. Students will be served a free hot lunch of pancakes provided by our School Council. Thank you for generosity and help in serving our students.

ASH WEDNESDAY

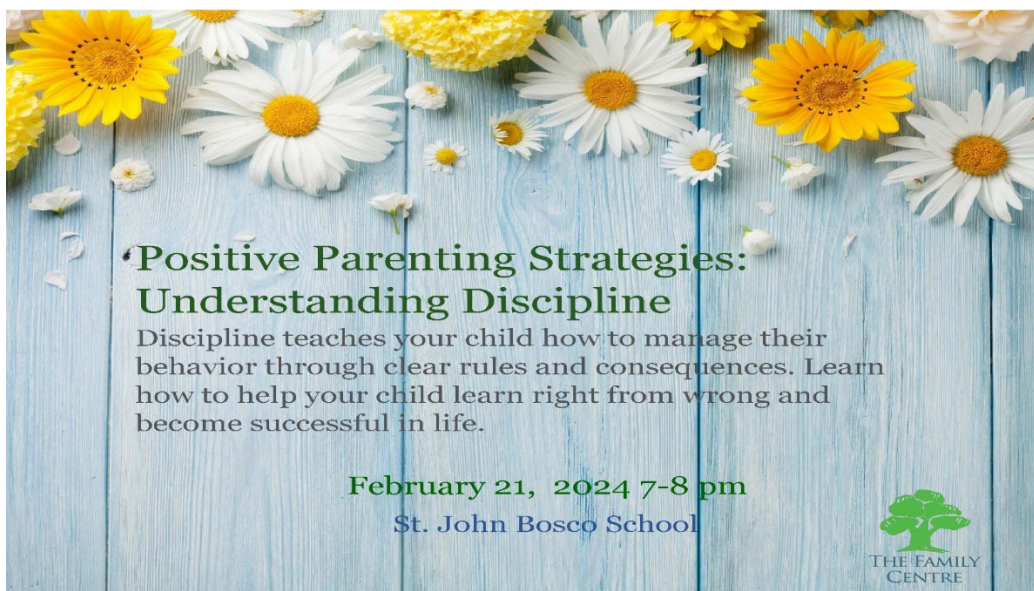
Join us on Wednesday, February 14th at 11 am, our Grade 1 team will lead us on this first day of Lent. We will receive our ashes from Father George in our celebration. Ash Wednesday begins the 40 days of Lent a time when remember that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert fasting and resisting temptation. It's a time for spiritual fasting so we can cleanse and renew our faith as we prepare for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

SJB SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING - FEBRUARY 21, 2024 @ 6:30 PM

At St. John Bosco School, we value the School Council and the Parent Fundraising Society. The roles these groups play in contributing to our school programs is invaluable and we are proud to say we have an outstanding and committed parent community! **The next School Council Meeting will be held on February 21 at 6:30 pm .**

The council works closely with the school, staff, and administration to advise and liaise with us, and to inform both the school and parent community. This includes discussions on things such as new policies, fundraising, and new programs. Parents are encouraged to become active members of the School Council and the Parent Fundraising Society and to attend all meetings as posted on our school's website. In addition, we would like to share with you at this time our scheduled SC meeting dates for the current school year.

We would like to **extend an invitation to all parents to attend this month's school council meeting as it will also include a parent information session on Positive Parenting.** Presenters from the Family Centre will be presenting.



WINTER WALK DAY



On **Thursday, February 1, 2024**, the students and staff of St. John Bosco school will be participating in a province wide initiative to get outside and exercise. This initiative put forth by SHAPE Alberta is to increase fitness and embrace our cold weather climate. As the Kindergarten students are not here on that day, they will do their walk on Friday, February 2, 2024 during their class time.

In order for the students to enjoy walking in the winter, it is imperative that they "dress for success". All students should bring the following items to school:

- Snowpants
- Winter coat
- Winter boots
- Warm mittens/ gloves
- Toque

Walking is great for our health, the environment, reducing traffic and building community! Winter Walk Day celebrates our Alberta winter while promoting the year-round health benefits of walking. Last year, over 120,000 Albertans took part in this event.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION FOR GR 6 STUDENTS

J.J Bowlen Visit to Grade 6 Students

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Principal Daniela Stabile and Assistant Principal Careyann Werth for taking the time to visit our school on January 10th. Their informative session provided valuable insights into the transition to junior high and offered our grade 6 students a glimpse into what lies ahead.

The presentation centered on the diverse options available at our feeder school, J.J. Bowlen. From various activities to engaging clubs, the presentation shed light on the exciting opportunities awaiting our students. It also highlighted the significant shift students will experience, moving from a single teacher in elementary to multiple teachers in junior high. The lessons imparted during the session are crucial in better preparing our grade 6 students for the upcoming chapter in grade 7. The knowledge gained will undoubtedly contribute to a smoother and more informed transition.

We are excited to share that J.J. Bowlen will return on February 7th for another information session. Additionally, on February 15th, our grade 6 students will have the opportunity to visit J.J. Bowlen, touring the school and gaining firsthand experience of what classes are like there.

We look forward to the ongoing support and collaboration in ensuring a successful transition for our students.



ART CLUB



The Art Club Team, Ms. Migadel and Ms. Nguyen are excited to announce that Art Club will be starting in February. This will allow students to express their inner artist, while learning and appreciating various art movements. We will be creating art with different mediums, while having a lot of fun! Art Club for students in grade 2-6 will be held at lunch recess once a week. Our thanks go out to the teacher sponsors for creating this opportunity for our students.

KIDS KOTTAGE GRADE 6 SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT



The Grade 6 teachers and students are excited to announce in collaboration with Kids Kottage in Edmonton, we are launching a social justice project aimed at collecting essential items for children in need led by our grade 6 students. As we are currently bringing in donations for We Care Marketplace we will be beginning our project on **February 5th**. There will be a slight overlap, but we know that everywhere needs supplies! Broadcast announcements will be coming. Feel free to copy and paste the items we are collecting.

Donation Period:

All donations are kindly requested to be brought in between **February 5 - March 15**. Your generosity will make a significant impact on the lives of those in need.

Participation: We invite all students and staff from Grades 1 to 6 to actively participate in this project by contributing donations.

Collection Boxes: Dedicated donation boxes will be stationed in the Grade 5/6 wing for your convenience.

Collection Items:

- Gently used and washed children's clothes and shoes
- Children's books
- School supplies
- Band-aids
- Batteries
- Diapers

SJB RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

During February SJB will also be participating in the MAKE KINDNESS THE NORM CHALLENGE to highlight kindness and see how we can create a positive ripple effect with our kind actions and words! Teachers will be teaching the whole weeklong about kindness and expressions of love to family and friends. We are upholding this annual tradition of celebrating *kindness* because we know everyone can use more *kindness* in their lives. Scientific evidence shows us the positive effects of doing *kind acts* for others as well as receiving or even witnessing *kindness*.

Imagine a world where you can succeed by being nice.

Where we all pay it forward.

Where people look out for each other.

It all starts with an act.

"Making Kindness the Norm" this February at SJB

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS WEEK IS FEBRUARY 11-17TH.

It's easy to be kind to everyone! Show your school spirit and kindness this week!





"I'VE LEARNED THAT PEOPLE WILL FORGET
WHAT YOU SAID, PEOPLE WILL FORGET
WHAT YOU DID, BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER
FORGET HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL."

- MAYA ANGELOU



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
FOUNDATION
www.randomactsofkindness.org

Kindness improves our subjective well-being, reduces pain, and improves mood. It also increases life satisfaction and boosts the immune system.

BENEFITS OF KINDNESS



ONE AND FUN "SNOWBALL" SOCK TOSS (FEBRUARY 12 - 16)

"This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you." John 15:12 Jesus loves us in an extraordinary, incredible way. The SJB Leadership team is following this commandment and has come up with a way to bring Jesus' love and goodwill into the community. The Bissell Centre is in need of warm socks for those in need. Students are encouraged to donate a pair of new, warm socks for women, men or children to help make a difference. Donations will be accepted until February 10th.



Students who bring socks will be provided the opportunity to participate in a "Snowball" Sock Toss with their peers in the gym during designated recess breaks on the week of February 12 – 16th. We will play and celebrate how we are able to come together as a community to make a difference.

PINK SHIRT DAY - FEBRUARY 28, 2024

Our whole staff as always will be wearing their pink shirts and will be encouraging everyone to wear pink on February 28 to show their support to end bullying and promote healthy relationships by practicing kindness and providing service to others.



Let's practice being kind, being empathetic and understanding! Being part of Pink Shirt Day is easy. **Wear your pink shirt, take a photo, and share it on social media with the #PinkShirtDay or #SJBStronginKindness hashtags.** For more information, please visit Pink Shirt Day's website: <https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/> Also, check out their permanent "Pink T-Shirt

Day" page on **Facebook** to be informed for future years! Check out this pink shirt day video: <https://youtu.be/6DPNFx6qCAM> **Be kind and lift each other up today and all year long!**

HEART & STROKE JUMP ROPE FOR HEART EVENT

St. John Bosco is excited to be holding our sixth annual **Heart & Stroke Foundation JUMP Rope/ HOOPS for Heart Kick-Off** via school broadcast on **Friday, February 2nd.**

The event will run from February 26 to February 27th in individual Phys. Ed. classes!

EVERYTHING is online! The SJB fundraising page will open on February 1st - March 6th. Click on this link to take you directly there:



<https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/51097>

From this link you can:

- set-up your child's personal fundraising page
- Share your child's fundraising page
- Start a dialogue with your child about why they're jumping
- Learn life-long healthy habits by practicing the EASY healthy habits every day at school and at home. You can track your habits online!

Make healthy lifestyle choices! Why Jump?

- **Get moving** - Doing an activity that gets your heart rate up is great, but even something at a lower intensity, such as a leisurely walk, can help too!
- **Eat well** - Eating a heart-healthy, balanced diet is one of the most important things you can do to help lower your risk of heart disease and stroke.
- **Reduce your stress** - Physical activity can clear your mind, reduce tension and boost your energy. Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate- to-vigorous aerobic physical activity per week, in bouts of 10 minutes or more.

All money raised will support the Heart & Stroke Foundation in their mission to promote children's health and fund vital heart and stroke research. **For the second year we are encouraging the students to get active by skipping rope AND shooting hoops!**

Students at SJB will be learning about the importance of living a healthy lifestyle, while giving back to their community. We are excited to promote the benefits of skipping and making healthy choices for our hearts here at SJB! We will be sharing some *Positive Mental Health strategies* to take care of our minds, bodies and souls. We have a school fundraising goal of \$2000 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. There is information, facts, tips, etc on the website www.jumpropeforheart.ca.

If you can fundraise, we thank you and appreciate every dollar! Prizes this year will be in the form of **gift cards** to Amazon, Indigo, Toys R Us, Walmart and will be delivered straight to your home with the address you provide online! Click [here](#) for prize info. If not this year, then we hope that you and your family are showing your support by choosing "Healthy, Just Right" foods, getting active for 1+ hours every day, decreasing non-educational games on screens and choosing water over sugary drinks!

WE CARE MARKETPLACE SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT

St. John Bosco School continues to teach about the importance of Social Justice Service Learning as part of being caring and compassionate citizens. Social Justice is an important part of our religious studies and teaches children early on the importance of taking care of our brothers and sisters.

St. Teresa of Avila a Carmelite nun from an early age understood fully the power of engagement through our daily actions towards helping one's brothers and sisters in Christ. To that end, we hope to encourage and inspire our staff, students, and their families to be a visible presence and support for our city's homeless, who need our good works. **Praying for them is just not enough when we can really do something tangible for them.** We hope you will join us as this promises to be a fulfilling and rewarding experience.

We will start collecting items from January 8-Feb. 20th and will distribute out to our city's homeless on February 25th at Clansman Park parking lot from 9:45 to 11:00 AM. The address is 110th St. and 111th Ave.

Those interested are invited to participate in the completion of this social justice service-learning project by volunteering to spend a little time on Sundays to distribute the items collected to Edmonton's homeless and working poor at the 'We Care' Marketplace in downtown Edmonton.

St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

Christ Has No Body

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.



Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for Edmonton's homeless. Our goal is to collect and fill through family donations 1 large Rubbermaid bin per homeroom with a variety of items such as toiletries, socks, gloves, and granola bars, etc.

We would like to invite those of you who are able, to donate the items based on your child's homeroom targeted collection as listed below:

Homeroom	Donation Items being Collected
Kindergarten Homerooms	Granola Bars
Grade 1 Homerooms	Adult Gloves
Grade 2 Homerooms	Lip balm/Chap stick
Grade 3 Homerooms	Adult Toothbrushes
Grade 4 Homerooms	Adult Toques & Hats
Grade 5 Homerooms	Adult Socks
Grade 6 Homerooms	Toothpaste and single Kleenex packages
SJB Staff	Various Items & reusable bags

KINDERGARTEN FUNDRAISER FOR THE STOLLERY HOSPITAL



The Kindergarten Christmas Card Fundraiser raised \$407.80 for the Stollery. Thank you to the SJB families and Kindergarten artists who participated to help children in need.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW COMPETITION

We are proud to announce that St. John Bosco will be participating in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition! **The Council & District Throw will be taking place on Sunday, March 3rd at 1:00PM at St. Cecilia Junior High.** Participants also have the potential to compete in the District Throw on March 17th at St. Joseph High School. All interested students ages 9-12 are welcome to try out for this competition.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Students will practice during recess time on Thursdays. This event will be a great opportunity for students to nurture their passion for sports. Through practice, students will work on accuracy, precision and self-

discipline!

PRINCIPAL'S BRADY BUNCH PIZZA LUNCH FOR READERS



Special congratulations and shout out to all of our dedicated and avid readers at SJB. Ms. Esposito-Brady loves her time with the students best of all and is especially proud of our many enthusiastic readers who read daily at home!!

Please ensure that you encourage your child to do at least 15 to 30 mins. of nightly reading if they are Division 1. Division 2 students should be enjoying at least 30 to 40 mins. of independent reading at home. Reading non-fiction textbooks counts, but we also encourage children to read fiction, as it helps to develop one's imagination!! Looking forward to more reading and pizza shared with students. **Don't forget to track your minutes and bring back your reading strips so we can have you place them in your homeroom jar, which we draw each month!**

MONTHLY RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the following students whose names were drawn for **January's** Brady Bunch Pizza Lunch. On January 20th, the following students enjoyed their pizza with Ms. Esposito-Brady:

TRAFFIC SAFETY REMINDERS

Anyone who is experiencing these challenges are asked to **contact by phone 311 to register a complaint or go online at https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/service-311-contact-centre**.

311 Edmonton also has its own APP. Please upload so that you can take a picture on the spot and file a complaint.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS RELATED TO TRAFFIC SAFETY&LOGISTICS FOR OPTIMAL SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS

USE THE 2 CROSSWALKS AVAILABLE!

On the northwest and northeast side of the front of the school we have 2 separate crosswalks for parents to use and cross their children safely. Please use them.

STUDENT DROP & GO ZONE

- To ensure the maximum safety of our students, parents please read and follow the expectations set out below for when you drop off and/or pick up your children from the school.
- Use the parent drop off zone west of the layby in front of the school** for quick "drop and go" system of student drop off.
- Do not park your car and leave your vehicle unattended. It breaks the flow of the drop and go zone which helps many parents.**
- Be mindful and respectful to our school patrollers, volunteers and staff.** Do



KA -Harper C.	1A: Liam C.	2A: Lauren P.	3A: Ariana W.	4A: Khalia R.	5A: Jam	i.
KB -Finley G.	1B: Teodora P.	2B: Isabella M.	3B: Miles M.	4B: Sloane K.	5B: Brianna J.	6B: Julia C. V.
KC -Lily K.	1C: Castille W.	2C: Arya A.	3C: Harper B.	4C: Andrew C.	5C: Brody R.	6C: Sabrin G.
KD -Christina I.	1D: Aliyana A.	2D: Alice K.	3D: Karamveer C.	4D: Caleb K.		

not park close to the crosswalk as it impedes their visibility.

- Do not park in the ETS bus zones or the crosswalk area as** drop off or pick up zones.
- Do not jaywalk.** Please teach and review the expectations with your child weekly; this will help your child understand the rules. Be sure to walk with him/ her to the crosswalks.
- Do not use the staff parking,** as it is limited for staff use only and is a dangerous spot for student traffic.

The LAYBY is OFF LIMITS TO ALL PARENT VEHICLES IT IS A BUS ZONE. HEAVY FINES LEVIED.

TEACH CHILD TO GET OUT AND WALK AND ESTABLISH A DESIGNATED PICK-UP SPOT.

One of the key issues is that parents are not working with their children to teach them about walking, and meeting up at designated points, to make their pickup and drop off process easier. This also promotes daily walking for physical health. Children in grades Kinder and Gr. 1 are the only kids that really require parent drop off. Parents of students in grades 2-6 are encouraged to drop off and pick up with direction and training provided to their children to foster greater independence. There are amply supervisors onsite, as well as a area that is very safe.

DO NOT PARK IN NEIGHBORS' HOMES & DRIVEWAYS

We continue to have issues in this regard. Parents are asked to refrain from parking on our neighbors' driveways or blocking their access to their own homes. We are part of a larger community and while we can appreciate that there is limited parking in front of the school.

We are asking that you are mindful of actions in that you model for young impressionable children. They are learning disrespectful behavior with no regard for the law.

DO NOT PARK IN HANDICAP ZONE WITHOUT PLACARD

Refrain from parking in the handicap zone if you do not have a placard and permit to do so. It is disrespectful to those in need and teaches children that they do not have to follow rules and bylaws.

OBEY THE SPEED LIMIT

While it seems that the designated speed limit is not high enough for many drivers, the truth is that you increase your chances of having an accident for every mile above the limit that you drive. By staying at the speed limit, you provide yourself with more opportunities to avoid potential accidents because of the additional time that you have available.

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

You should keep your distance from the vehicles in front of you when at all possible. The further behind you are from a vehicle, the more you can see to avoid obstacles and the more time you have to react to unexpected events. Tailgating at highway speeds is dangerous because you have so little time to get your vehicle out of the way in case something bad should occur.

GRADE 2 SOCIAL JUSTICE INFORMATION



Grade 2 classes will be starting our Social Justice project for the rest of the school year. We will be collecting pop tabs for the "Tabs for Tots" program through the Edmonton Elks. We are asking for students to start collecting tabs from pop cans, juice cans etc. This will be a social justice project that runs until June, so you can bring collected tabs to school at any time throughout the year. Through the "Tabs for Tots" program, the pop tabs will be sold to scrap metal companies in Alberta and the funds will be utilized to purchase equipment for pediatric wards, neonatal units, delivery rooms and children's wards in hospitals across Alberta and B.C. Please help our grade 2 students take initiative with this Social Justice project and make a difference one pop tab at a time.

TERRIFIC KIDS WITH GIFTS RECOGNITION PROGRAM TERM 2



"Live as CHILDREN of LIGHT for the fruit of the light is found in all that is GOOD RIGHT AND TRUE" Ephesians 5.1 8-9

We are blessed! At St. John Bosco School, we recognize positive attitude, good character, and responsible citizenship. We count our blessings and celebrate our many gifts and talents three times a year with a recognition ceremony.

As a staff, we will encourage and continue to invite students to share their God-given gifts in service towards others and reflect on how they are sharing their gifts and the message of LIGHT. Those students demonstrating strengths in the highlighted virtue will be recognized. **This term the Virtues we will focus on the virtues of Charity, Courage, and Love.**

Student growth and sharing of personal gifts and virtues is at the heart of the 'Terrific Kids with GIFTS Recognition Program'. Thank you to Mr. Daniel O' Keefe who shares his personal gifts and virtues with us. He volunteers his time each term to ensure that our students are honoured. Thank you, Dan, for being a beacon of LIGHT!

We have 2 more Terrific Kids Assemblies in the Gym this year.

March 15	Div. 1- (K-3) 10:30 am	Div. 2 – (4-6) 2:15 pm
June 11	Div. 1- (1-3) 10:30 am	Div. 2 – (4-6) 2:15 pm

SHOW YOUR CULTURE DAY FEBRUARY 23

On Friday, February 23rd, SJB will be celebrating our beautiful cultural diversity by having a Show Your Culture Day at school. Celebrating the different cultures that make up SJB is a wonderful way to strengthen our school community. We encourage staff and students to come to school dressed in any traditional clothing they may have that shows off their culture on this day. The Leadership Team has put together a list of activities for classes to participate in to acknowledge and embrace the range of cultures in each classroom.



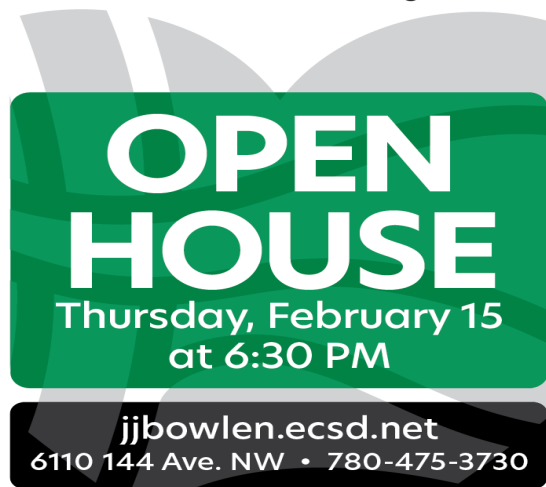
SOCCER TEAM

The SJB co-ed soccer team has been practicing hard since the new year in preparation for the St. Nicholas Junior High soccer tournament on Thursday, February 15th. Come cheer on the team and show some SJB spirit!

SJB Soccer Team 2024

Jacob R.	Nathan K.	Danijela Z.
Andre A.	Tudor B.	Alexa C.
Joy N.	Michael P.	Julianna F.
Milan J.	Nathan T.	Ariana M.
Jad K.	Giuliana Z.	Brielle S.

JJ BOWLEN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024



JJB is our school's feeder junior high school. **The vast majority of our Grade 6 students attend J.J. Bowlen School for Junior High.** As you think ahead to the next chapter in your child's schooling, please mark your calendar as the **JJB Open House is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, February 15, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m.** The morning of February 15 all grade 6 students will be visiting JJB school and taking part in their student orientation day dedicated to showing them the various programs available at their feeder school.

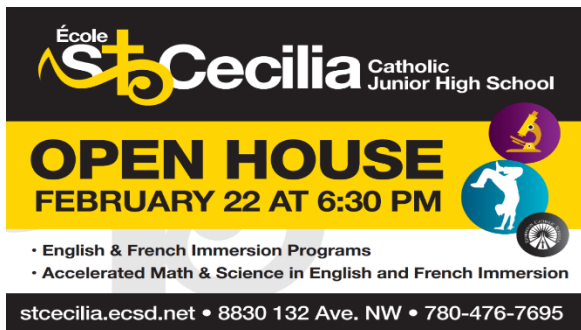
Should you want additional information, please call the school. Principal, Daniela Stabile who will also be coming out to meet and visit the grade 6 students a number of times and will continue to do so in the coming months to provide information about the school and the many programs it offers. She looks forward to providing additional information so that students and their parents are informed as they prepare to enter junior high.

CARDINAL LEGER JHS – OPEN HOUSE

Cardinal Ledger will be hosting its annual open house on February 8 at 6:30 pm. They offer the Enhanced Academic Program and the Italian Language and Culture Program for any student that may be interested.



ST. CECILIA -ACCELERATED MATH AND SCIENCE - DIVISION FOCUS PROGRAM- OPEN HOUSE FEBRUARY 22, 2024 AT 6:30 PM



For additional information contact St. Cecilia Catholic Junior High School Principal Nella Funaro 780-476-7695 or Email Nella.Funaro@ecsd.net.

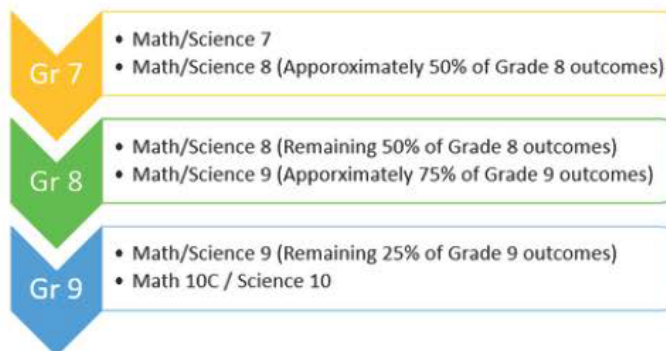
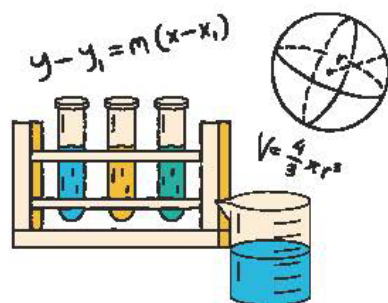
Please see additional information on the following page related to their accelerated Math and Science Programs.



Offered to both our English and French Immersion students!

The Accelerated Math and Science program is a math and science focus program for students in Grades 7-9 that offers students the opportunity to specialize their focus in mathematics and/or science and is specially designed for those who have a love for learning, enjoy being challenged, and love solving problems in unique or creative ways!

It is designed for students who enjoy a challenge and are capable of learning at a faster pace than that of the regular classroom. It provides students with the opportunity to complete Math 10C and Science 10 by the end of Grade 9. Course requirements are rigorous and students are commonly required to spend more time working outside of class to be successful. Here is what students can expect throughout the program:

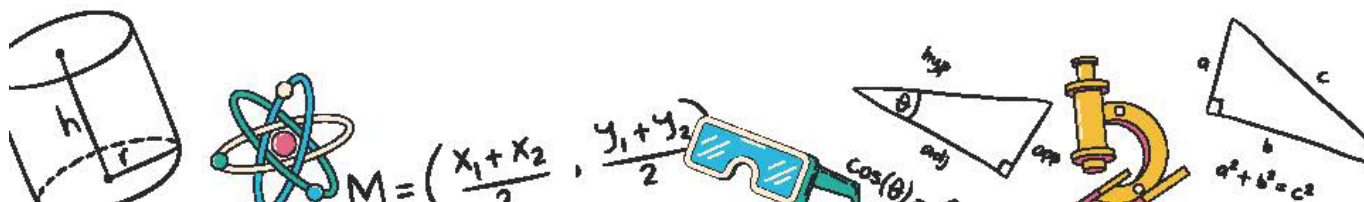


Admission to the program is based on the following criteria to ensure that École St. Cecilia's Accelerated Math and Science Program is a right fit for your child.:

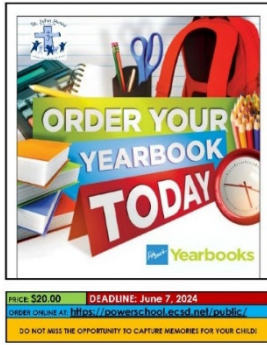
- Achieve a standard of excellence on the entrance exams.
- Students will have demonstrated an overall standard of excellence in Math and/or Science in Grade 6.
- The student's past report cards will indicate not only academic ability but also strong organization and work habits.
- Require recommendation from their Grade 6 teacher providing information about:
 - Academic achievement / ability
 - Work habits / Organizational skills
 - Motivation / Effort
 - Ability to work independently

Only 33 students will be admitted to this program, in both the English program and the French Immersion program. Registration links will be available on the [Open House page of our webpage](#) as of February 23, 2024.

Please contact us if you have any questions – we would be happy to assist.



YEARBOOK INFORMATION AND ORDERS



A reminder to parents wishing to order a yearbook as a keepsake for this year are asked to log in to the parent portal and under the fees/optional tab, order how many copies you wish. The cost of a yearbook is \$20.00. June 7th is the deadline to order. **Look for the icon below on parent portal site under fees.**

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

To access the Chief Superintendent's monthly message please click on the following link: [Superintendent's Message](#)



DISTRICT SPIRITUAL MESSAGE



Each month, we are committed to sharing religious, spiritual news and information through our Archbishop Smith, as well as our District Chaplain. To view that message [click here](#)

Catholic Education November 5, 2023, [English Letter](#) from the Edmonton Archdiocese

ST. DOMINIC SAVIO PARISH INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Welcome to St. Dominic Savio Parish! Please visit our website at <http://stdominicsavio.ca/> to learn more about our parish community and the ways we can serve you. Come back often to be kept up to date.

Grade 6 Student Information for Confirmation

Is your child over the age of 13 and has not yet been confirmed? Consider registering them in the RCIA Adapted for Children process.

Yesterday was the registration day. However, don't worry if you missed it. You can do so through the St. Dominic Savio Parish website stdominicsavio.sacraments@caedm.ca, or contact Michael, Pastoral Assistant, at 780-473-4259 ext 2.

ST. JOHN BOSCO SCHOOL STUDENT GAZETTE

We are happy to say that due to an interest in writing within our school, students expressed an interest in establishing a writing club whereby students would write articles for their very own student newspaper. Led by the help of Ms. Garcia, students gathered, wrote and are now ready to publish their very own paper. Click on the link to read [SJB GAZETTE](#).