



## St. John Bosco Catholic School

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

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

December 2024

### Message from Administration

We received this beautiful image on canvas from the Division. Hope you were able to spot it in the Learning Commons at Demonstration of Learning. Below is the explanation:



### ***The Meaning of the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness Canvas***

(An excerpt from Chief Superintendent Anderson's Opening Leadership Meeting Greeting)



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Pope Francis encourages schools to educate students in the three transcendentals: Goodness, Truth, and Beauty. To better understand Pope Francis's challenge to us, I would like to share a metaphor that has been presented by many theologians and mystics.

Imagine life as a mountain to be climbed... and at the very top of the mountain is our destination... the Kingdom of God.

Imagine the mountain stretching up before us... it rises up so high that we can't see the top, but we know that God is waiting for us up there.

The mountain has three distinct sides, or faces, each representing one of the transcendentals: truth, goodness, and beauty...

and our job is to help students find their unique path,

and once on their way, we encourage them to keep climbing.

There are many paths up the mountain, and it doesn't matter which path a student chooses to take. All that matters is that each student keeps climbing.

Each path offers unique experiences and life lessons, and if the path is chosen with care and prayer, it will be aligned with God's plan for that student.

It will lead the student towards the summit... towards God.

*From the Team,*

*S. Schultz, M. Prystasz, and D. Bergevin-Tran*

### **Festive Fridays**

Here at St. John Bosco School, we love getting into the holiday spirit. Each Friday in December students and staff are encouraged to dress in their Christmas festive attire. Join in the holiday cheer!

### **Dates for the Holiday break**

It is standard ECSD practice to have a full day of school on the Thursday before the Christmas break. This year, Thursday, December 19 is a full day of school. Please ensure



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your child has lunch and snacks for that day. Christmas holidays will begin at dismissal on Friday, December 20 at 11:41am. Please ensure you arrange to pick up your child at the appropriate times on these switched hours.

### Back to School

We are back to school on Monday, January 6, 2025. We wish you and your families a blessed, safe, and healthy holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

### Read A Thon Update

Thank you to all the families for reading with their children at home and participating in this year's SJB Read A Thon. It was a successful event! The funds raised will go toward Shrove Tuesday hotcake lunch from McDonald's. We are grateful for your generosity and commitment to reading.

### Kindergarten Social Justice Activity Update

In November, the Kindergarten children created Christmas cards to sell to our families to support the Hope Mission Christmas Dinner. Through their efforts and the support of our SJB families, we were able to raise \$994. This will allow 368 people to enjoy a warm Christmas dinner at the Hope Mission. Thank you to all of the families who supported this fundraiser and the kindergarten artists for sharing their work!

### Terrific Kids Recognition Program



**“Live as Children of the Light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is GOOD AND RIGHT AND TRUE. Ephesians 5.1 8-9**

At St. John Bosco School, we 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



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message of HOPE. We teach, encourage and recognize positive attitude, good character, and responsible citizenship. We take the time to individually recognize students in being a Terrific Kid three times a year.

When it is your child's turn to be recognized and celebrated as a Terrific Kid, they will receive a letter in their agenda and you will receive an email a few days prior to the assembly with information of what to expect.

### **Term 1 - Terrific Kids Presentation**

Wednesday, December 4 11:30-12:10 (Div 2) & 12:50-1:30 (Div 1)

\*Kindergarten Friday, December 6 at 10:30am and afternoon class at 2:10pm

### **Ski Fieldtrip for Grades 4-6 Students**



January 15, 2025. Forms should be accurately completed to inform the hill of the requests.

### **Traffic Safety and Cross Walk Safety Information**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yAV-oOwDV4>

**"Your Children's Safety over Convenience"**

Traffic Safety at St John Bosco School continues to be a priority for the staff, parents, and community members of our school. We ask all families to consider closely if convenience is more important than the life of any one child in our school and/or adult from our surrounding community.



Our actions as adults demonstrate our values to the young lives watching us. Demonstrating unlawful behavior teaches children lessons about values and more importantly about respect for the law and one's neighbors.



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### Student Drop and Go Zone

To ensure the maximum safety of our students, please do your part:

1. Use the parent drop off zone west of the layby in front of the school for quick “drop and go”
2. Be mindful and respectful to our school patrollers and staff who are out there doing their best to keep everyone safe
3. Do not park in the ETS bus zones or the crosswalk area
4. Do not jaywalk. Be sure to walk to designated crosswalks.
6. Do not use the staff parking, as it is limited for staff use only and is a dangerous spot for student traffic.



### **LAYBY OFF LIMITS TO ALL VEHICLES AS IT IS BUS ZONE.**

Now that cooler days are here, we thank you in advance for helping us by teaching your child to have their coat, gloves and backpack ready to go to make their exit out of the car quickly and efficiently.

### Lost and Found Items

For the last few weeks, several items have been collected in our Lost and Found Bin. We currently have two full tables of sweaters, jackets, hats, gloves, runners that are not labeled. This past week, staff have visited the Lost and Found with the students to see what items can be claimed. In the meantime, if your child is missing something, please describe the item via email to your child's classroom teacher and they will do their best to find it. Moving forward, we ask that you please clearly label your child's items so they can be easily returned to them (hats, jackets, mitts, ski pants, shoes, lunch boxes, water bottles etc).



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### Bus Safety



During school assemblies, broadcast and classroom conversations we have been learning about Bus Safety. We will all be riding the bus at some point this year and the rules apply to us all. Please take the time at home to review important rules and expectations.

- **Stay seated facing forward** while you are at your seat and the bus is moving
- Treat others with respect by keeping your **hands and feet to yourself and speak quietly and politely**
- Your feet and backpack are on the floor in front of you not in the aisle.
- Keep all food and drinks in your backpack. **No eating or drinking on the bus.**
- **Listen to instructions given by the bus driver** to ensure safety for everyone.

### SJB Christmas Hamper Social Justice Program

The St. John Bosco School parent community has always been supportive and generous in helping those in need. As a continuation of our ongoing Catholic Social Teachings specifically in the way of Social Justice service learning, the SJB Student Leadership Team will be leading a school wide Christmas Hamper social justice project to help support families in need within our community during the Christmas season. Each grade level team of teachers will be coordinating and working with their students and their families for the sponsorship of a family based on the list provided below.

Gift cards towards the purchase of a protein of that family's choice, will be supplied by the school based on various donations received on behalf of local businesses. If you are able to donate a gift card toward the purchase of a protein, please contact the school and we will have the planning team follow up with you. The greater the total items we receive the more families we will be able to prepare a hamper for. Additional items donated, will allow for a greater number of hampers to be prepared.





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The Leadership Team will then organize and pack each of the hampers so that they are ready to be delivered to the families. Our goal is to feed families within our SJB community and/or St. Dominic Savio Parish community. **We will begin collecting food hampers on Wednesday, November 13, 2024.** We ask that all items are brought to school **by Friday, December 13, 2023.** This will allow the Leadership Team to sort and organize the hampers during their meetings on the following Wednesday.

**Hampers will be distributed by December 19th for am or pm for pick up.**

Please see hamper sizes and items to be collected below. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**The Student Leadership Team, Ms. Craig, and Ms. Melnyk**



### Hamper Sizes

**\*\*Each grade level group will be collecting food for a hamper size that corresponds to what is brought in and those classes' size.**

Medium Family (4-5 people)

Large Family (6-7 people)

XL Family (8+ people)

### Christmas Hamper Collection List

| Food Item Suggestions | Small Family<br>(2-3 people) | Medium Family<br>(4-5 people) | Large Family<br>(6-7 people) | XL Family<br>(8+ people) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                       |                              |                               |                              |                          |



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| Gift Card for a Grocery Store    | Provided      | Provided         | Provided         | Provided         |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Dried Lentils                    | 1 Box         | 1 Box            | 2 Boxes          | 3 Boxes          |
| Canned chickpeas or kidney beans | 1 Can         | 2 Cans           | 3 Cans           | 4 Cans           |
| Potatoes/ Instant Potato mix     | 5 lbs./ 1 box | 10 lbs./ 2 boxes | 10 lbs./ 2 boxes | 15 lbs./ 3 boxes |
| Cereal                           | 1 box         | 2 boxes          | 2 boxes          | 3 boxes          |
| Vegetables (canned)              | 2 cans        | 4 cans           | 5 cans           | 7 cans           |
| Fruit (canned)                   | 1 can         | 2 cans           | 3 cans           | 4 cans           |
| Soup (canned/dehydrated)         | 2 cans/pkgs   | 3 cans/pkgs      | 5 cans/pkgs      | 7 cans/pkgs      |
| Macaroni & Cheese                | 2 boxes       | 3 boxes          | 4 boxes          | 5 boxes          |
| <u>Real</u> Fruit Juice          | 2 litres      | 3 litres         | 4 litres         | 5 litres         |
| Baked Beans                      | 1 can         | 2 cans           | 3 cans           | 4 cans           |
| Chili or Stew                    | 1 can         | 2 cans           | 3 cans           | 4 cans           |
| Canned Fish                      | 1 can         | 2 cans           | 3 cans           | 4 cans           |
| Canned Meat (turkey, ham)        | 1 can         | 2 cans           | 3 cans           | 4 cans           |





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|                           |       |         |             |             |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Instant Coffee            | 1 box | 1 box   | 1 box       | 2 boxes     |
| Tea                       | 1 box | 1 box   | 1 box       | 2 boxes     |
| Peanut Butter             | 1 jar | 1 jar   | 1 large jar | 1 large jar |
| Jam                       | 1 jar | 1 jar   | 1 large jar | 1 large jar |
| Christmas Pastry/ Dessert | 1 box | 1 box   | 1 box       | 1 box       |
| Christmas Chocolates      | 1 box | 1 box   | 2 boxes     | 2 boxes     |
| Cookies                   | 1 box | 1 box   | 2 boxes     | 3 boxes     |
| Crackers                  | 1 box | 2 boxes | 3 boxes     | 4 boxes     |
| Rice                      | 1 pkg | 1 pkg   | 2 pkgs      | 2 pkgs      |
| Pasta                     | 1 pkg | 1 pkg   | 2 pkgs      | 2 pkgs      |
| Pasta Sauce               | 1 jar | 1 jar   | 2 jars      | 2 jars      |

### Poinsettias Pick Up Dates

Friendly reminder, if you ordered a poinsettias that you can pick up on Tuesday, December 10 between 1-4pm and Wednesday, December 11 between 8-5pm. Thank you to SAC for coordinating this fundraiser and all the effort it entails.

### Indigenous Teachings

We will be exploring Metis finger weaving in December from Kindergarten to Grade 6. There will be no charges for these cultural experiences.