



September 2024 Newsletter

St. John Bosco Catholic School

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

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

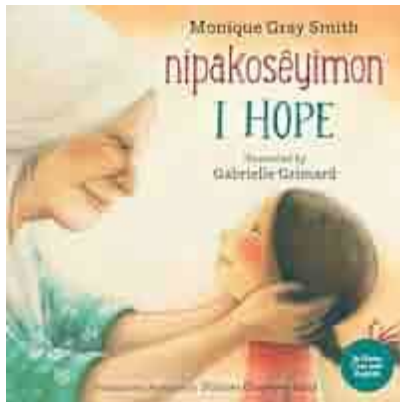
Information from Administration:

Welcome St. John Bosco families to the start of the 2024-2025 school year! We hope you feel refreshed from summer fun with family and friends. We look forward to a new school year rich in learning opportunities and making memories.

Our current student count is 637 students and 48 staff members. We will continue to communicate with families through the new tool 'School Messenger' and the school website. Thank you for your patience with information during start up. We are committed to serving your children with compassion and grace.

The Division and School theme this year is, *People of Hope*. We are guided by Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Our theme book is a bilingual book written by Monique Gray Smith. It is written in both English and translated into Plains Cree by Dolores Greyeyes Sand. Each classroom has a copy of the book and teachers will explore various activities with their students.



On behalf of the administration team, we welcome many new families to our community plus happy to renew our connections with long standing families.

God's blessings from your administration team,

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



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Communication from the Office of the Chief Superintendent and Edmonton Catholic School Division:

Follow the link to see the message from our Chief Superintendent.

<https://www.ecsd.net/August-September-2024-Message>

Devices Off, Learning On!



The province has introduced new rules for personal mobile devices and social media in schools. Cellphones, tablets, laptops, and smartwatches must be stored away during class to minimize distractions and maximize students' focus on learning. Also, social media sites will continue to be blocked on school networks. These restrictions build on Edmonton Catholic School's commitment to creating an environment where students can thrive academically and emotionally. For more information, visit [ecsd.net/devices](https://www.ecsd.net/devices).

Safe Arrival - Reporting Student Absences

How can you report your child's absence in advance?

You can report your child's absence with SafeArrival using one of the following three convenient methods —24 hours a day, seven days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

To create your account, please use the same email address and phone number that you use for PowerSchool.

On your mobile device:

1. On your mobile device, download and install the School Messenger app from the [Apple App Store](#), the [Google Play Store](#), or [by clicking here](#).
2. When you open the app for the first time, select Sign Up to create your account,



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3. Select Attendance, followed by Report an Absence.

Using the SafeArrival website:

1. [Click on the SafeArrival website](#). Upon your first visit, select Sign Up to create your account.
2. Select Attendance then Report the Absence.

By telephone:

1. Call 1-833-525-9071 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

You can always report your child's absence by contacting the school office directly, 780-471-3140.

St. John Bosco School News:

~~Reminder to parents; you can still order your child's back to school supplies;~~



GET THE WORD OUT

Remember, every time you let parents know about our program, your school receives another entry into our \$1000 draw! Please see details [HERE](#).

Please let current parents or parents of new/late registrants that:

- They can still order with no late fee!
- Your school supply lists are available on our website
- Parents can order throughout the entire fall - it's not too late!

PLEASE NOTE: Any orders placed today will be shipped out within 2-3 business days.



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SJB SPIRITWEAR ONLINE SALES AND SJB SPIRIT DAYS- Sept. 3rd - Oct.6th

Demonstrate your school spirit by purchasing spirit wear online effective Sept. 3rd - Oct.6th . **All students, parents and staff are invited and encouraged to show their SJB School Spirit by wearing your school spirit wear and school colors on September 20th.**

TO PURCHASE YOUR SPIRITWEAR, ONLINE SALES WILL RUN FROM Sept. 3rd - Oct. 6th.

To order online, click the link

below: <https://stjohnboscoschool2024.itemorder.com/shop/home/>



Picture Day at St. John Bosco



School Picture Day will happen on Wednesday, September 18, 2024. Please mark your calendars.



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NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION DAY MONDAY, SEPT. 30– NO SCHOOL

The Government of Canada is committed to reconciliation and ensuring that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools is never forgotten. September 30th is a federal statutory holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This year, the **school will be closed on September 30th**. This day provides an opportunity for each Canadian to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools. This may present itself as a day of quiet reflection or participation in a community event.

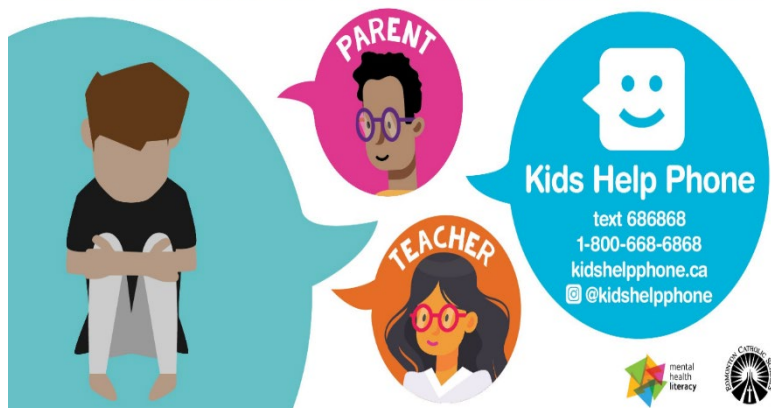
On Friday, September 27th, we encourage students to wear orange to school as we will be participating in Orange Shirt Day activities and reflections.

Mental Health Matters

St. John Bosco School continues to nurture the whole child. Mental Health is a part of physical health. We are committed to having a mental health champion teacher on site and age-appropriate activities are shared in classes throughout the year.

Parents and caregivers can find out more about AHS community mental health clinics, free caregiver education sessions and much more on the ECSD's [AHS Mental Health Parent Information](#) website.

NEED TO TALK? A TRUSTED ADULT CAN HELP





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Dear St. John Bosco Families,

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, I want to inform you about some important changes regarding the use of personal mobile devices and social media in our school.

These updates are in alignment with Alberta Education's announcement to [limit distractions in classrooms](#) across the province.

A personal mobile device is any device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet and includes:

- Cellphones
- Tablets
- Laptops
- Smartwatches

General Restrictions

- **No Use of Personal Mobile Devices During Instructional Time**
Students will not be allowed to use personal mobile devices during instructional time. This includes zero access to personal devices at recess, before or after school.
- **Devices Must Be Silent or Powered Off and Stored Away for the Day**
If students bring personal mobile devices to school, they must be kept silent or turned off and stored in their locker, backpack, cubbie, or another secure location. If you need to contact your child, please contact the office. If your child needs to contact you throughout the day for any reason, they are allowed to come to the office to use the school phone.
- **No Access to Social Media**
Students will not be able to access social media on school networks or school devices. Known social media sites will continue to be blocked from Division networks.

Exceptions

Students who require personal mobile devices for health reasons or specialized learning needs can coordinate with school administration to receive appropriate accommodations.



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Exceptions will be made to ensure that these students have the necessary tools to support their well-being and educational requirements.

As we get ready for the first day of classes, I encourage you to discuss these changes with your child and help them understand the importance of minimizing distractions during school hours. Please contact the school office if you need to reach your child during school hours.

We understand this may be an adjustment, and we appreciate your understanding as we work together to make this a successful school year for everyone. More information can be found on our website, ecsd.net/devices.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the school.

Mrs. Sonia Schultz



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September is a Month of Reflection

September is the month of the “new beginning”, and it is in this moment that we think of a list of good intentions and objectives. For this reason, the Salesian Bulletin of Brazil has published 8 teachings of Don Bosco to be applied in our daily life.

1. Never postpone the good you can do today to tomorrow;
2. Let us treat others with kindness, with courtesy, with charity;
3. Faith opens a path through humble and concrete steps;
4. Do good to everyone, harm no one;
5. He who is humble and loving will always be loved by all;
6. It is not possible that whoever has gratitude does not have the other virtues;
7. The most effective teaching is to do what one expects from others; and
8. Do the good you can, without appearing.

<https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/good-to-know/item/13543-8-teachings-of-don-bosco>

September Teacher Prayer

Prayer for the 2024-2025 school year (source: mrshudsonteachers).

God, let everything we do be done in love.

May we create an atmosphere where all are welcome.

Give us the creativity, wisdom, and energy to meet the unique needs of all our students

Help us take care of ourselves by giving abundant moments of rest.

On challenging days, give us perseverance and peace.

Remove any obstacles that stand in the way of serving our students well.

May our words and actions always be seasoned with grace, compassion, and truth.

Protect all schools, staff members, and students in Your mighty hands.

In Your holy name we pray. **Amen.**



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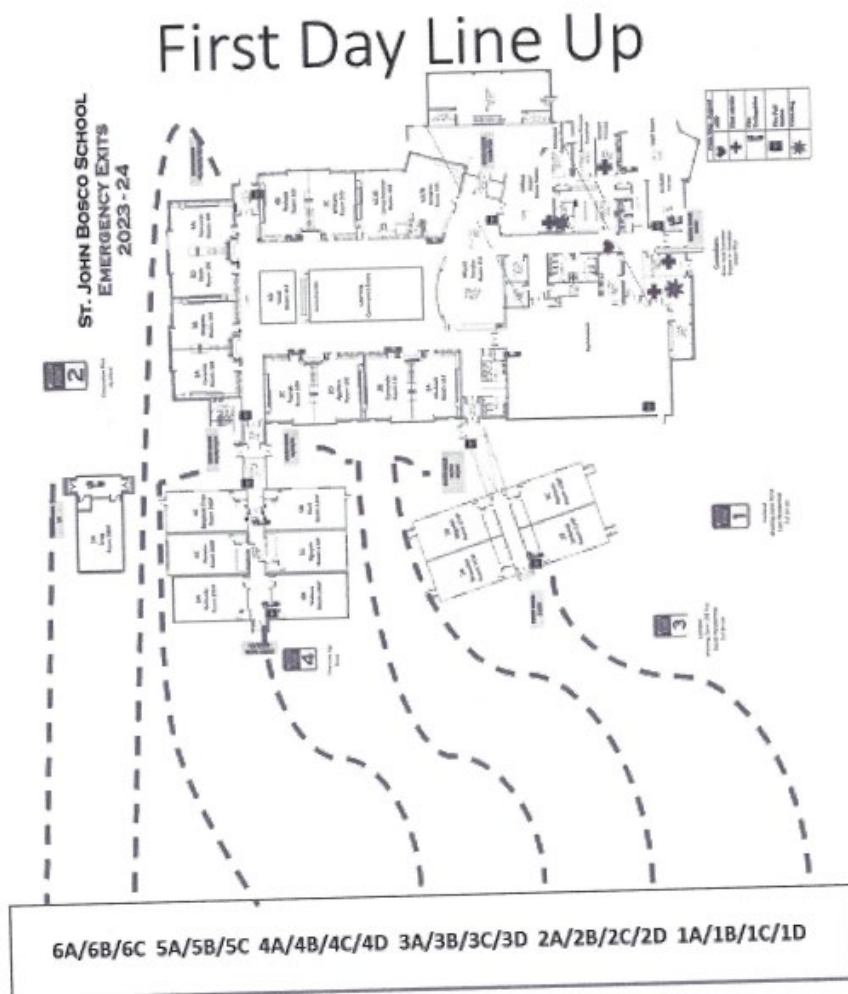
School Events Calendar on St. John Bosco Website

Please access current information on the school's calendar at

<https://stjohnbosco.ecsd.net/calendar>

Designated Doors by Homerooms

All doors are labeled as to which homeroom classes will enter and exit daily.





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Student Illnesses and Daily Health Awareness

Parents play a key role in keeping not only their child well but also all children at school healthy. We ask that when your child is not well, that you keep them home so they can rest and give their body time to recover.

Parents are reminded that students who are ill are to remain home to ensure that germs may not be spread to others. Children who are ill to go out for recess are required to stay home from school until they are able to participate fully in a regular school day.

Payment of School Fees

School fees are paid online at <https://powerschool.ecsd.net/public/>

Student Verification Document

Please verify that your child's registration information is accurate. All verifications are done online on the Parent Portal. Thank you for keeping your information up to date. This helps the office particularly in cases of emergencies.

If you do not have a username or password, please call the office and one will be emailed to you.

Transportation

All matters related to transportation are to be directed to Head Office at <https://www.ecsd.net/transportation> or by calling them at 780-441-6078.

All students riding the yellow bus will require a bus pass to scan on and off the bus. These improvements to rider safety help parents and schools always know the whereabouts of children.

Student Agenda Books

Please read and sign the front matter of the agenda book. Reviewing the information together with your child(ren) will help improve the processes at school. Replacing lost agenda books will be at the cost of \$8 for the families.



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School Council, Executive Membership, and Meet the Staff Night

Please consider volunteering for the SAC to have a deeper understanding of the activities going on at St. John Bosco School. There are many opportunities to organize fundraisers and enhance the school experience for all the students. Meetings are in person at 6:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month. Please see the website calendar. The first meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and paired on the same night as **Meet the Staff on Thursday, September 26 at 6:30pm**. We hope you can volunteer your time and talents this year.

Medication at School

Parents, please ensure the office has the correct documentation to support medical treatments during the school day. We take this responsibility very seriously and require accurate paperwork from medical practitioners to assist in administering medications. Thank you for your diligence with these matters. Your child's safety and well-being are very important to us.

Traffic Safety

Choose safety over convenience. Your child's safety is of utmost importance at St. John Bosco School. Please respect the rules of the road and model for your children to do the same. Use the crosswalks instead of jaywalking. Do not perform U-turns in front of the school and respect the private properties of the homes in the neighbourhood. Thank you for being a good neighbour and respectful citizen in our SJB community.

On that note, please do not park in the staff parking lot at any time. As our student population grows so does the number of staff. All stalls are reserved for school employees.

