



ST. ALPHONSUS Catholic Elementary/Junior High School

NEWSLETTER | February & March | 2025

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday

8:00	JH doors open for breakfast program
8:15	Supervision in the Playground starts
8:15	Elementary doors open for morning meal
8:25	First Bell
8:30	Classes Start
10:00	Elementary Recess
11:50-12:23	Lunch
2:59	Dismissal

Thursday

8:00	JH doors open for breakfast program
8:15	Elementary doors open for morning meal
8:25	First Bell
8:30	Classes Start
10:00	Elementary Recess
12:03	Dismissal



Administrators' Message

Dear St. Alphonsus Families,

As we move into February and March, we embrace a season of learning, reflection, and growth. This year is especially meaningful as we celebrate the **Jubilee Year of Hope**, a time to renew our faith, trust in God's plan, and share hope with those around us. Throughout the coming months, our students will reflect on what it means to live with hope and how we can bring Christ's light to others through kindness, service, and prayer.

We look forward to welcoming families and celebrating the hard work of our students during our **Demonstration of Learning**, where students will have the opportunity to showcase their progress and achievements.

We also prepare our hearts for **Ash Wednesday**, which marks the beginning of Lent. This is a time of prayer, sacrifice, and acts of service as we walk with Christ toward Easter. As a school, we will focus on ways to live out our faith, encouraging students to embrace the spirit of Lent through reflection and meaningful actions.

In athletics, our **boys' and girls' basketball teams** continue their season, demonstrating great teamwork and dedication. We are proud of their efforts and sportsmanship as they represent our school in competition.

Looking ahead, we will soon approach our **two-week Spring Break at the end of March**, providing students and staff with time to rest, recharge, and spend time with family.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a faith-filled and enriching learning environment. May this Jubilee Year of Hope inspire us all to trust in God's love and share that hope with one another.

Sincerely,

Joan Woodlock
Principal

Michele Wilson McCune
Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT DATES in February & March

FEBRUARY	
12	Grade 6 Feeder School Visit
12	Open House for 25/26 new registrations
17	Family Day – NO SCHOOL
26	Faith Development Day – NO SCHOOL
27-28	Teacher's Convention – NO SCHOOL
MARCH	
04	Shrove Tuesday
05	Ash Wednesday Liturgy
06	Demonstration of Learning
13	Full Day of School
14	Half Day of School
17-28	Spring Break – NO SCHOOL
31	Classes Resume

NEW!!!

Reporting Student Absences

ecsd.net/reportingabsences

OR

1-833-525-9071 and follow the prompts. This number will only work if you call from a number listed in your child's PowerSchool. Call the office for assistance.



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WINTER WEATHER

Winter weather is still here, and we want to be sure that everyone is prepared to embrace the elements and temperatures for the many months ahead. Edmonton Catholic School's standing policy on inclement weather is to restrict outdoor activities when the temperature, combined with wind chill, is -20 degrees. Our division uses [this link](#) to determine temperature.

For our students to enjoy the winter weather, please be sure to send children to school with warm boots, a warm winter coat, mitts or gloves, and toques. All children will be expected to go outside regardless of if they dressed for the weather. If your child is too sick to go outside for recess, please keep them at home.

If you require support ensuring your child(ren) have the warm clothes they need, please e-mail:

FSLW: Danielle Novikoff

E-mail: danielle.novikoff@ecsd.net

Roots & Wings: Heather Casselman

E-mail: heather.casselman.ta@ecsd.net

Chief Superintendent's Office

February is upon us, and with this month that is focused on love and kindness, Chief Superintendent Lynnette Anderson continues to reflect on the themes of goodness, truth, and beauty in her Chief Superintendent's Message. Read about how to explore your school's student achievement and survey results, an upcoming evening of learning for parents and guardians, and our Division's Top Employer Award. You can [read the full message here](#).

Supporting Wellness in our Schools and Families

To help keep our school community healthy, we kindly ask that you keep your child home if they are feeling unwell. Staying home when sick helps prevent the spread of illness and allows children time to rest and recover.

If your child has symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, vomiting, or diarrhea, please keep them home until they are feeling better.

Thank you for your support in keeping our students and staff healthy!



We need your help! Pre-enrolment for current students is now open. Sign into your [PowerSchool account](#) and click on "Pre-Enrolment for Next Year" to let us know if you will be returning to our school or where you will be attending as you move into Kindergarten, Junior High, or High School. The pre-enrolment process lets us know how many students to expect in September 2025 and helps us plan for staffing, class sizes, and programming. To learn more, visit ecsd.net/pre-enrolment.

What to Expect at Demonstration of Learning

We are excited to welcome you and your child to our upcoming **Demonstration of Learning** event! This is a special opportunity for students to share their progress, showcase their work, and reflect on their learning with you.

What to Expect:

- ✔ **Student-Led Sharing** – Your child will guide you through their learning journey, showing examples of their work and discussing what they have learned.
- ✔ **Interactive Experience** – You may be invited to ask questions, try activities, or engage in a short discussion about their goals.
- ✔ **Teacher Support** – Teachers will be present to provide context and answer any questions you may have.
- ✔ **A Celebration of Growth** – This is a time to encourage and celebrate your child's hard work and progress!

How You Can Support Your Child:

- ◆ Show interest by asking questions like, *What are you most proud of?* or *What was challenging for you?*
- ◆ Encourage reflection by helping them set new learning goals.
- ◆ Celebrate their achievements, big or small!

Thank you for being a valued partner in your child's education!



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Morning Drop-Off

Morning Drop-off Reminders:

When dropping off students in the morning, **please do not enter the staff parking lots**, as this poses a safety risk to our students - students may be dropped off in front of the school along the field and north parking lot sidewalk.

Please do not park in the bus zone at any time during drop-off.

Parents/caregivers, please say goodbye to your child(ren) before they enter the school.

All parents entering the school need to check in at the office.

We thank you sincerely for your cooperation in our continued efforts to keep our students and staff safe.

JH Locks & Lockers

This year all junior high students will be provided a school owned lock for their locker. The replacement fee will be \$9.50.

TRANSPORTATION

What to do when your yellow school bus is running late?

We want all families prepared in the event of bus delays. While bus drivers will complete their route, no matter how late they may be running, we recommend that families make alternate arrangements if a bus does not arrive within **20 minutes** of its scheduled time.

To help prepare for a delayed bus, families are reminded to:

- Check for delays before you head out the door via the BusPlanner Delays App or the [ECSD bus delays website](#).
- We recommend children wait with a friend or trusted adult at the bus stop.
- Have a plan in case the bus does not arrive. For example, return home or go to a neighbour's house.
- Make alternate arrangements for getting their child to school if needed.
- Dress children appropriately for the weather to withstand any delays or wait times.

Stay Notified

Our Transportation Services team uses several methods to keep families informed about bus delays:

- BusPlanner Delays App: Download the free app on Android or iPhone to receive notifications
- Division Website: Delayed routes are posted at <https://ecsd.mybusplanner.ca/Alerts>.
- Call Transportation Services at 780-441-6078.

Bus delays can happen, but being ready can make all the difference.



ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ALPHONSUS



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ST. ALPHONSUS

Contact St. Alphonsus Catholic Parish at: 780-474-5434

For information about Sacramental Preparation for First Communion, Reconciliation, and Confirmation, email: dawn.nowicki@telus.net

For further Parish information visit: www.stal-stclare.caedm.ca/



PowerSchool

Parents are reminded to ensure they have their credentials to Powerschool to access a broad array of student information. Parents are able to pay school fees, track attendance, and review their child's academic progress through this application. Please be sure to visit: powerschool.ecsd.net

If you are having difficulty accessing your account or have forgotten your credential, please contact the school office.

School

FEES

As we turn to a new month, families are reminded that all school fees are past due. Payment can be made using your PowerSchool Account.