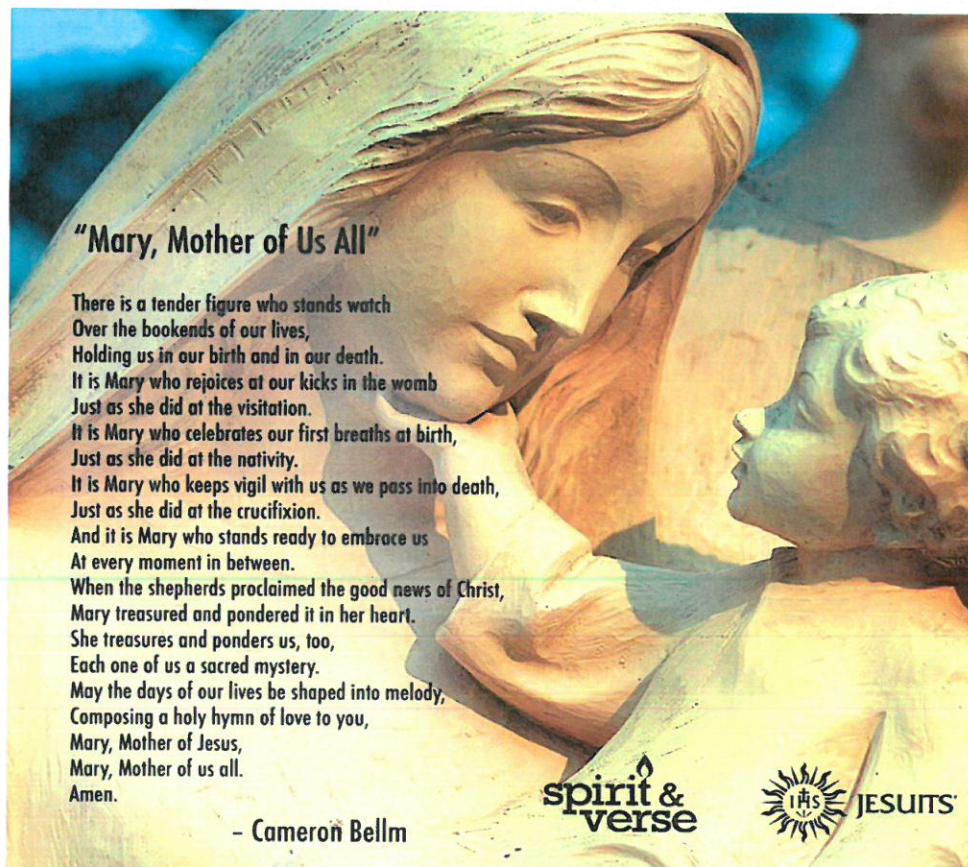


Dear St. Teresa families,

April was perhaps one of our favorite months thus far for our school community. Our long-awaited spring concerts came to fruition, and it was nothing other than spectacular! We have many thank-yous to give: A great big thank you to our SAC for their work in procuring us our very own stage, to everyone that helped when it was delivered, to our division for their help with setting up the stage and dismantling it, to our office staff for their work with coordinating and providing tickets as well as filtering questions, to our teachers and support staff for their help with the dances, the decorations, their support and flexibility in order to accommodate the many practices, rehearsals and the support for our students for the concert evenings and lastly to Mrs. MacGregor for her vision, her dedication, her months of planning and overseeing all of the details. It takes a village to come together for this beautiful work of God to be such a success! Gracias!

We are an Easter people! The month of April also gave us the opportunity to be able to celebrate Easter at St. Thomas More Parish. We were extremely blessed to be able to attend mass as an entire school community for the 1st time this year and celebrate Easter. Fr. Mark and the entire staff of the parish were very welcoming. We look forward to being able to celebrate mass once again in June.

We are joyful to welcome the month of May. In our Catholic tradition, it is recognized as the month of Mary and as such we are looking forward to coming together as a faith community in honour of our Mother Mary and pray the rosary during this month.



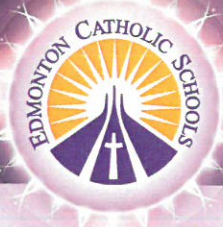
"Mary, Mother of Us All"

There is a tender figure who stands watch
Over the bookends of our lives,
Holding us in our birth and in our death.
It is Mary who rejoices at our kicks in the womb
Just as she did at the visitation.
It is Mary who celebrates our first breaths at birth,
Just as she did at the nativity.
It is Mary who keeps vigil with us as we pass into death,
Just as she did at the crucifixion.
And it is Mary who stands ready to embrace us
At every moment in between.
When the shepherds proclaimed the good news of Christ,
Mary treasured and pondered it in her heart.
She treasures and ponders us, too,
Each one of us a sacred mystery.
May the days of our lives be shaped into melody,
Composing a holy hymn of love to you,
Mary, Mother of Jesus,
Mary, Mother of us all.
Amen.

- Cameron Bellm

spirit & verse

JESUITS



Let Your Light Shine Forth

May 2023

*As for us, we will walk in the name of the Lord our God forever and ever.
~Micah 4:5~*

This scripture provides the setting for the celebration of Catholic Education Week in Alberta, which takes place from May 15 – 19 this year. In their letter to mark this occasion, The Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories offer their appreciation to everyone who is involved in the great endeavour of Catholic education and invite all to walk together with them to promote and strengthen the gift of publicly funded Catholic education in our province. May 18 is World Catholic Education Day, and we invite students, families, and staff to wear blue in support of Catholic education. Watch our website and social media throughout the week to learn how #ECSDfaithinspires!

Our Division is so incredibly excited to be hosting our annual Ben Calf Robe Traditional Pow Wow in person once again for the first time since 2019! The event, held in partnership with the City of Edmonton, will be held at Clarke Stadium/Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre. It will be an amazing day filled with a joyful celebration of Indigenous culture. The Powwow will feature a variety of dancers, drummers, and craft and food vendors. Grand Entries will be held at 1 pm and 6 pm. Everyone is welcome; bring a friend! Visit the News section of [ecsd.net](https://www.ecsd.net) to learn more.

Edmonton Catholic School of Alternative Education offers a wide range of 10, 20, and 30 level classroom-based, self-paced, and online high school courses, as well as [Millwrights Apprenticeship Course](#) during the month of July. Our programs give students the opportunity to repeat a course or to get a jump start in their academics. Summer School runs from July 4-24. Registration is now open. To find out more, visit <https://www.ecsd.net/summer-school>.

Of course, May, a month which we commit to Our Holy Mother, Mary, is also the month that sees us honouring the many people who fill the role of mother in our lives. I would like to share an excerpt of a blessing with you, written by Irish poet and philosopher John O'Donohue for his own mother as I wish you a Happy Mother's Day!

*On the day when the weight deadens on your shoulders and you stumble,
may the clay dance to balance you.
May the nourishment of the earth be yours,
may the clarity of light be yours,
may the fluency of the ocean be yours,
may the protection of the ancestors be yours.
And so may a slow wind work these words of love around you,
an invisible cloak to mind your life.*

Yours in Christ,

Robert Martin
Chief Superintendent

Harry Potter and Mary, the Mother of God

May is the month of Mother's Day.

May is also the month of Mary, when we traditionally turn to the Mother of God with added devotion asking her to pray for us in a special way to her son, Jesus. For who can deny the pleas of a mother?

Which brings us to Harry Potter....

Ok, I admit it. I've read all the Harry Potter books and have seen all the movies. [And I'm quite excited about the new Harry Potter tv series (ok, still in production but coming out in a year or two!)]. I wanted to know what our young people are reading and Harry Potter's hot! And you know what? I'm not only enjoying the read but have found many Christian parallels.

Take *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, for example.

The evil Lord Voldemort has killed Harry's parents and tried to kill Harry too, but was unsuccessful, leaving only the telltale scar of a lightning bolt on the young boy's forehead. By the end of the book, when Harry defeats Voldemort for the first time, he inquires of Dumbledore, Headmaster at Hogwarts School of Wizardry, "Well ... Voldemort said that he only killed my mother because she tried to stop him killing me. But why would he want to kill me in the first place?"

Dumbledore replies, "Alas, the first thing you ask me, I cannot tell you. Not today. Not now. You will know, one day When you are older...."

"But why couldn't Quirrell touch me?," asks Harry.

"Your mother died to save you. If there is one thing Voldemort cannot understand, it is love. He didn't realize that love as powerful as your mother's love for you leaves its own mark. Not a scar, no visible sign ... to have been loved so deeply, even though the person who loved us is gone, will give us some protection forever. It is in your very skin. Quirrell, full of hatred, greed and ambition, sharing his soul with Voldemort, could not touch you for this reason. It was agony to touch a person marked by something so good."

Friends, we all have been marked by the powerful love of a mother. Mary. Jesus' mother. The mother of God. Her love for us knows no limits, and she constantly intercedes on our behalf before her son, Jesus.

During this month of May, let us ask Mary to pray to Jesus in a special way for our students, parents, teachers, staff and volunteers that they may be marked and protected with the power of love, the love of God.

Most holy Lady, Mother of God, light of my darkened soul, my hope, my protection, my refuge, my comfort and my joy, intercede with Jesus for the salvation of our souls.

And may God bless all our earthly mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, and those who cared for us and loved us when we were young.

Bishop David Motiuk

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton

DON'T FORGET....

Please check your parent PowerSchool account to keep up to date with your child's fees. If you have not done so, please pay your school fees as soon as possible. Also, keep up to date with what is happening at Escuela St. Teresa School by checking out our website stteresa.ecsd.net or Instagram [st_teresa-school_ecsd](https://www.instagram.com/st_teresa-school_ecsd).

ABSENCES AND VACATIONS

For your child's safety, we ask that you please contact our school office by phone at 780-437-6022 every time your child will be absent from school. It is vital that we know that your child is safe during school hours. This includes absences for appointments, vacations, and illness. During the hours that the school is closed, you may always leave a message on the school's voicemail system.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If your child will be **five years old by December 31st, 2023**, they are eligible to attend kindergarten in the 2023-2024 school year. Edmonton Catholic Schools Division (ECSD) only offers online registration. Go to the online form, located at www.ecsd.net create an account, and then fill out all the necessary information. Kindergarten registration began online on January 23rd, 2023. We will continue to accept school registrations for kindergarten after this date and throughout the rest of the school year, but you may be waitlisted.

To register your child for kindergarten, you must have:

- Completed Registration Form (online)
- Copy of your child's Birth Certificate (uploaded online)
- Copy of the child's/parent's Baptismal Certificate (uploaded online)
- Proof of Residency (Proof that you live in our catchment area)



Confirmation of Registration will NOT occur until we have ALL the required documents.

LIBRARY

As the end of the school year draws near, the school library will have the dates of **MAY 23rd - 26th** for the final week to take out books. **June 2nd ALL BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED.** After this date for any books that are not returned, the student will be notified of a fine for a lost book.

RELIGIOUS SACRAMENTS

If your child has recently received a sacrament through the Catholic church, please notify the office at **780-437-6022**, so that we may recognize this important milestone in their faith journey.

PRINCIPAL & ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY

Monday, May 1st is Principal and Assistant Principal Appreciation Day. Thank you to **Señora Zelada** and **Mrs. Saccomanno** for all that you do for St. Teresa!

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

Tuesday, May 3rd is School Bus Appreciation Day. Thank you to all our amazing bus drivers. We need to recognize the significant role that school bus drivers play in the safety and well-being of the students they transport.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The 2023-2024 Transportation Application is available here: www.ecsd.net/apply-for-transportation. The application deadline for School Start-Up is **May 23rd, 2023**. If you have any questions about transportation for the upcoming school year, please email transportationservices@ecsd.net or call 780-441-6078.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

MAY 15 – MAY 19

This occasion affords us the welcome opportunity to reflect on the crucial role Catholic schools play in educating our children and young people by creating formative communities of love and care that bear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Alberta's Catholic schools are beacons of hope for families across the province seeking faith-based education for their children.

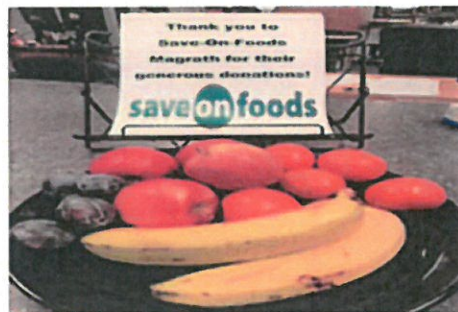
Please wear blue clothing on **Wednesday May 18th** to recognize Catholic Education.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 28th is Pentecost Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks.

SAVE ON FOODS

Thank You to **Save on Foods** in Magrath for their generous gift of helping provide healthy snacks for our students for the school year. A special thank you to Senorita Jesus for organizing this snack program. Next time you are grocery shopping at Save on Foods please make sure to say thank you from St. Teresa School.





SAC has organized a Mother's Day fundraiser once again with Growing Smiles (greenhouse). The day to pick up your orders will be **May11th**.

SPRING CONCERT

Thank you to all the parents and students who entered the draw for Best Seats in the House for our Spring Concert. St. Teresa was able to raise \$770.00 which will be used towards our music program.

BOTTLE DRIVE

The Student Association Council would like to thank everyone who donated to the bottle drive fundraiser. An amount of over \$400 was raised to support the students and school.

Coming up in



June 3 BQCL Community Garden Grand Opening

June 2 Parent Appreciation Morning

June 9 Grade 4 Bowling Fieldtrip

June 9 Family Dance

June 14 Grade 1 TELUS World of Science Fieldtrip

June 16 Fun Day/Hot Lunch

June 18 Father's Day

June 19 Year End Mass

June 20 ELA PAT

June 21 Indigenous People's Day

June 22 Math PAT Part A

June 23 Math PAT Part B

June 26 Social Studies PAT

June 27 Science PAT

June 27 Grade 6 Farewell

June 27 Last Day of School

JUN
3



BLUE QUILL
COMMUNITY GARDEN

2023

GRAND OPENING

FREE TO THE PUBLIC | 11 am - 2 pm | RAIN OR SHINE



BOUNCY SLIDE ● GAMES ● \$2 HOTDOGS ● KIDS PLANT WORKSHOP

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to the residents of the greater Blue Quill community who continue to support our community garden. Funding for the garden was provided by: Prairie Economic Development Canada, Sustainable Food Edmonton, the City of Edmonton, and Blue Quill Community members.

VENDORS & DISPLAYS:

HOME COMPOSTING

EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

EDMONTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

BUTTERFLY WINGS n' WISHES INSECT DISPLAY

TREE TIME SEEDLING SALE

BLOOMS ON 7 ~ SPRING CUT FLOWER SALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

11 AM - 2 PM



BLUE QUILL
COMMUNITY LEAGUE
11304 25 AVE NW



Butterfly Wings n'
Wishes Ltd



FLOWER FARM



Event info: www.bqcl.org/community-gardens/

Event Sponsored by:

Edmonton



2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY PRINCIPAL/ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	2	3 HATS ON FOR MENTAL HEALTH DAY 	4 STAR WARS DAY 	5 CINCO DE MAYO 	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 MOTHER'S DAY 	15 CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK	16	17 GRADE 6 LANGUAGE ARTS P.A.T.	18 WEAR BLUE - WORLD CATHOLIC EDUCATION DAY SKAHA LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND	19	20
21	22 VICTORIA DAY NO SCHOOL	23 DEADLINE FOR STUDENT BUSSING - SEP 2023	24	25	26	27
28 PENTECOST SUNDAY 	29 PROVINCIAL ELECTION	30	31			