



11350- 25 Avenue

Edmonton AB

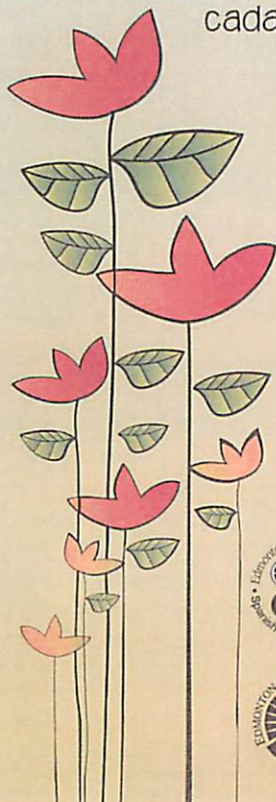
T6J 5B1

780 437-6022

www.stteresa.ecsd.net

We come to
grow each day

En donde crecemos
cada día



Dear St. Teresa families,

Welcome to March! February was a month that was filled with many wonderful moments in our school community. We welcomed new families during our Open House on February the 8th! We celebrated Valentine's Day with a variety of fun activities throughout the school. On February 22nd we had an Ash Wednesday celebration which was led by our grade 3 teachers and students. We were very fortunate to have had Deacon Gordon from St. Thomas More Parish join us in our celebration. As we enter this time of lent, we are reminded of the importance to take time to pray, reflect and fast.

We want to take this opportunity to also thank our Volleyball coaches, Mrs. Hubble, Sr. Rivas and Sra. Tierney for all of their hard work and dedication with our team members. It was wonderful to witness as our students' skills and abilities grew throughout the season. It was exciting to see them play and display a tremendous sense of sportsmanship and camaraderie among them as they supported one another to be their best self during their games and tournament. They have certainly represented us very well this season. Great job!

As the month of March is upon us we are excited to welcome you back for our second demonstration of learning on March 23rd as well as our second book fair. Please join us on March 20th for our SAC meeting.

We hope that you have a wonderful spring break and are able to spend time with your loved ones, relax and enjoy the warmer days ahead.

Many blessings!

Queridas familias de Santa Teresa,

¡Bienvenidos al mes de marzo! Febrero fue un mes que estuvo lleno de muchos momentos maravillosos en nuestra comunidad escolar. ¡Damos la bienvenida a nuevas familias durante nuestra jornada de puertas abiertas el 8 de febrero! Celebramos el Día de San Valentín con una variedad de actividades divertidas en toda la escuela. El 22 de febrero tuvimos una celebración de Miércoles de Ceniza que fue dirigida por nuestros maestros y estudiantes de 3er grado. Fuimos muy afortunados de que el Diácono Gordon de la Parroquia St. Thomas More se uniera a nosotros en nuestra celebración. Al entrar en este tiempo de Cuaresma, se nos recuerda la importancia de tomar tiempo para orar, reflexionar y ayunar.

Queremos aprovechar esta oportunidad para agradecer también a nuestros entrenadores de Voleibol, Sra. Hubble, Sr. Rivas y Sra. Tierney por todo su arduo trabajo y dedicación con los miembros de nuestro equipo. Fue maravilloso presenciar cómo las habilidades de nuestros estudiantes crecían a lo largo de la temporada. Fue emocionante verlos jugar y mostrar un tremendo sentido de deportividad y camaradería entre ellos mientras se apoyaban mutuamente para ser lo mejor posible durante sus juegos y torneo. Sin duda nos han representado muy bien esta temporada. ¡Buen trabajo!

A medida que se acerca el mes de marzo, nos complace darle la bienvenida nuevamente para nuestra segunda demostración de aprendizaje el 23 de marzo, así como para nuestra segunda feria del libro. Únase a nosotros el 20 de marzo para nuestra reunión de SAC.

Esperamos que tenga unas maravillosas vacaciones de primavera y que pueda pasar tiempo con sus seres queridos, relajarse y disfrutar de los días más cálidos que se avecinan.

¡Muchas bendiciones!

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.

LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

Pre-enrolment for students already attending an ECSD school began on **Monday, January 23**. You will be able to log onto the PowerSchool parent portal and select your preferred school for the 2023-2024 school year using the "Intentions for Next Year" icon. All students currently in school will need to declare their intentions regardless if they are staying with their current school or transitioning into kindergarten, or another school. This pre-enrolment process for returning students will close on **Friday, March 10th** to allow our schools time to plan for staffing, class sizes, and programming for the new school year. If your plans change after **March 10th**, you can always contact the school to change your school selection. The pre-enrolment process for returning students is key in helping us understand how many students to expect at our school for September 2023.

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.



ASH WEDNESDAY CELEBRATION

On **Wednesday, February 22nd** we held our Ash Wednesday Celebration.



LENT

Lent is the six-week 40-day (not including Sundays) celebration that helps believers prepare for Easter through penance and fasting. The Lenten season this year takes place from Wednesday, **February 22 to Thursday, April 6, 2023**. Lent is a time of reflection marked by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The past few years have provided us with significant opportunities to interpret Jesus' difficult journey in the desert and to the cross through the lens of current world crises. As we prepare for Lent this year, our Holy Father has appealed to us to begin our Lenten season through prayer and fasting.

TEACHERS CONVENTION

Thursday, March 2nd and Friday, March 3rd are Teachers Convention Days. There will be **NO SCHOOL** these days. Teachers Conventions give teachers an opportunity to reflect on and learn about new and innovative pedagogical practices and theories. Conventions are a core component of teacher professionalism, which in turn enhances student learning.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

MONDAY, MARCH 8TH

The theme this year for International Women's Day is #BreakTheBias. Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Together we can forge women's equality. Collectively we can all #BreakTheBias. Individually, we are all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day. We can break the bias in our communities. We can break the bias in our workplaces. We can break the bias in our schools, colleges, and universities. Together, we can all break the bias - on International Women's Day (IWD) and beyond.

ROCKS AND RINGS

The Olympic sport of curling is introduced to the students in our school gymnasium. All the necessary equipment is provided by Rocks & Rings. This program runs **March 14th – 16th**.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY



We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day on **Friday, March 17th**. Remember to wear green!

HOT LUNCH

KFC Hot Lunch will be available on **Friday March 17th**. The deadline to order will be **March 12th, 2023**.

INDIGENOUS LEARNING WORKSHOP

Friday March 17th, the school will be participating in classroom workshops hosted by Indigenous Learning Services.

IN PERSON DEMONSTRATION OF LEARNING

Parents and students are invited to our Demonstration of Learning held **Thursday March 23, 2023, from 5pm-8pm**. Your child's teacher will send more information regarding a schedule.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held the week of **March 20th to March 23rd**. The book fair will be open the evening of **March 23rd from 5pm to 8 pm** to coincide with Demonstration of Learning.



SPRING BREAK

Thursday, March 23rd will be a full day switch Thursday and **Friday, March 24th** will be a half day switch Friday leading up to Spring Break. We are off school from March 27th-March 31st. We are back to school on **Monday, April 3rd**.

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.

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.



PURDY'S EASTER FUNDRAISER

Calling ALL chocolate-lovers! We are teaming up with Purdy's Chocolatier to fundraise in hopes of raising \$1,000! Stock up on your favorite Purdy's Easter treats (did someone say Hedgehogs?) AND support a great cause at the same time—it is the best of both worlds. All fundraising profit raised will directly support replenishing our Phys Ed equipment, so every order makes a great difference to us. Ordering is as easy as eating chocolate. Please go to <https://fundraising.purdys.com>, fill out your info you will need an email address, click "Join Campaign," enter campaign number **65439**, and order to your heart's content! The order deadline is **March 20, 2023**, so get shopping. Your orders will be available before Easter **April 4th to April 6th** for pickup.



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Teachers' Convention NO SCHOOL	3 Teachers' Convention NO SCHOOL	4
5	6	7	8 International Women's Day	9	10	11
12  Daylight Savings Time	13	14  Rocks and Rings	15 Rocks and Rings	16	17  KFC Lunch Indigenous	18
19  BOOK FAIR	20 Book Fair	21 Book Fair	22 Book Fair	23 Full Day Book Fair Demonstration of Learning 5 – 8pm	24 Half Day 11:30 Dismissal	25
26  SPRING BREAK	27 Spring Break	28 Spring Break	29 Spring Break	30 Spring Break	31 Spring Break	



April 2nd Palm Sunday

April 3rd – Back to School after Spring Break

April 4th – 6th Pick up Purdy's Chocolate Orders

April 6th - Holy Thursday

April 7th – Good Friday - NO SCHOOL

April 7th – Green Shirt Day

April 9th – Easter Sunday

April 10th – Easter Monday – NO SCHOOL

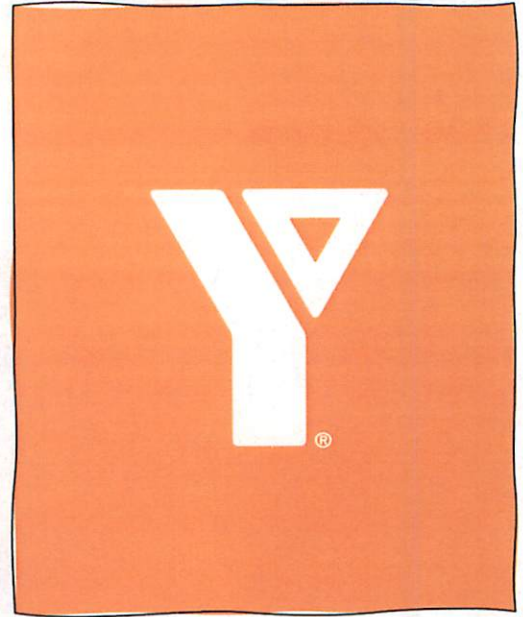
April 11th – Grade 6 Immunizations

April 17th – April 19th – Spring Concerts

April 20th – Easter Mass at St. Thomas More

April 22nd – Earth Day

April 26th – Administrative Assistant Day



YMCA Blue Quill CHILD CARE

OPEN 7am-6pm

Qualified Educators

Interest Based
Activities

Inclusive
Environment

Outdoor Focus

**Government
Subsidy Available**

PRESCHOOL

\$715.50/month* this fee has been reduced by Affordability Grant
available July and August prior to starting Kindergarten

KINDERGARTEN

\$290.25/month* this fee has been reduced by Affordability Grant

SCHOOL AGE

July and August **\$762.30/month***

July and August **\$200/week**

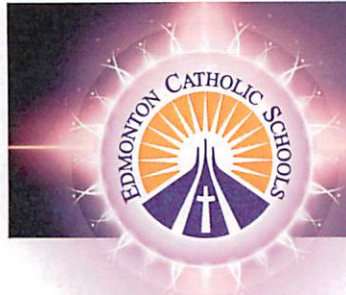
September 2023 to June 2024 **\$633.15/month***

*Based on an average of 21 days

To Register Now Call: 780-399-1536

For Care on or after July 1st please visit:

ymcanab.ca/childcarewaitlist



Let Your Light Shine Forth

March 2023

During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend “a high mountain” in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline – asceticism – as God’s holy people. ([Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for Lent 2023](#))

In his message for Lent this year, Pope Francis reflects on the learning that flows from the Gospels’ accounts of the Transfiguration. Jesus takes three of the disciples up the mountain so that together, they may have a grace filled experience after a disciplined journey. He asks us to draw parallels between the spiritual journey of Lent and the ongoing synodal journey that the Church has undertaken. He reminds us that the purpose of our Lenten and corresponding synodal journeys is to “enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Saviour.”

This has been a year of unprecedented growth for our Division. Since September 1, 2022, we have grown by an additional 1,667 students. We have welcomed over 790 students from Ukraine and an additional 628 students from other countries. We already have 1,673 kindergarten students who have applied for the upcoming school year and it is growing everyday! We are pleased and honoured that our families are seeking an excellent, faith-based Catholic education for their children! Growing enrolments mean that our Division also needs more schools to address our needs. Please watch our March 22 Public Board Meeting to learn about our Capital Plan requests that will be submitted to the Government of Alberta. You can find connection information on ecsd.net.

We are excited to announce the names of our two new schools! On February 22, the Board of Trustees voted to name the new Catholic High School in Dunluce/Castle Downs **Blessed Carlo Acutis Catholic High School**. The new Catholic K-9 school in Lewis Farms/Secord will be called **St. Josephine Bakhita Catholic Elementary/Junior High School**. These two extraordinary namesakes will provide exemplary models of faith in action for the families and staff who join those communities.

Did you know that the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton has a weekly electronic newsletter called The Window? The sign up is quick and easy, and you can have the latest news from the Archdiocese delivered directly to your email. Visit <https://caedm.ca/window/> to sign up and to read past issues.

Last month, I communicated to you how important it was for families who receive an Alberta Education Assurance Survey in the mail to share their thoughts on how their child’s school was performing in various areas. The Ministry has extended the deadline to March 17. If you have received a survey package in the mail, we deeply value your input into how we are doing; please take a few minutes to help us know what we are doing well and what we need to improve.

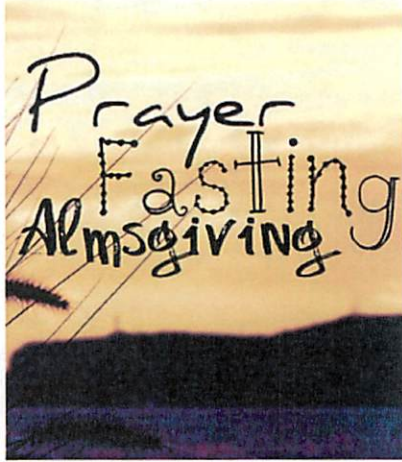
I leave you with a further thought from Pope Francis’ Lenten Message:

Dear brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus, so that we may experience his divine splendour and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations.

Yours in Christ,

Robert Martin
Chief Superintendent

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.
— (Matthew 5:16)



Three-Part Recipe for Lent

We have started our Lenten journey towards the Feast of all Feast Days – The Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. During these 40 days of Lent the Church calls us to prayer, fasting and almsgiving – a three-part recipe for Lent. During these 40 days of Lent let our prayer be the prayer of the tax collector in the Gospel of Luke: “God, have mercy on me, a sinner” (Lk. 18:13). The tax collector, standing alone in the temple, did not dare to lift up his eyes to heaven. He was too full of shame. He looked nowhere but to God’s mercy for help. His only plea is, “God, have mercy on me.” Let this be our plea as well. And the miracle in all of this is that there is mercy.

At the very heart of the universe beats God’s love. This is why we pray, “Lord, have mercy.” This prayer, uttered with the least particle of faith, will move mountains and open the way for God’s forgiveness and for the coming of His kingdom in our hearts.

The second part of the recipe for Lent consists of fasting: “When you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who is in secret will reward you” (Mt. 6: 17-18).

We fast for many reasons but the main reason for fasting during the Lenten season needs to be love. Love was one of the main purposes for fasting in the early Church. An ancient Christian writer, Hermas, in the 2nd century wrote about an interview with an angel on the subject of fasting. When asked about what kind of fast he was making, Hermas replied that he was fasting in the usual manner. The angel was not impressed with Hermas and told him that his fasting was useless. “If your fasting is to have meaning,” said the angel, “one should keep careful track of how much money is saved by it and then given to the poor and the needy.” This is the fast that the Church calls us to practice during Lent. We are called to fast not only for reasons of self-control and prayer, but also for reasons of love: to deny ourselves something in order to share it with a person in need.

After prayer and fasting the third part of the recipe for Lent is expressed in Christ’s words: “Whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret: and your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt. 6: 2-4).

The Church always encourages us to take care of the poor, the widow and the orphan. To answer that call we need to be reminded of the following passage: “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me” (Mt. 25:40). Jesus shows us that he is present in all persons. This does not mean that God and his creatures are identical by nature but by grace as members of his body. This is the mystery of the visible presence of Christ among us today. So whenever you give alms to the poor and needy, do it in secret and your Father will reward you.

This is then the three-part recipe for Lent that the Church offers us. Why not try it. You will find it to be the perfect recipe if you are looking not only for a resurrected Christ but also for a resurrected *you* this Easter.

Fr. Julian Bilyj
ECSD Chaplain