

OCTOBER NEWS

OCTOBER 5, 2026



October Message

During October, we celebrate Read In Week, welcoming several guest readers and taking time to focus on the importance of literature and reading to empower our knowledge. October 18-23rd is **Catholic Education Week**, a time to come together in celebration of the gift of Catholic education, which is grounded in our faith formation with the school, home, and parish. Catholic Education Sunday will be celebrated on October 18th. October is also a month where we focus on praying the Rosary. Our students are learning about the Rosary this month.

As well, we acknowledge our amazing teachers on October 5th which is World Teachers' Day!

This month, we give thanks for the many blessings we have and look forward to time with family and friends. We also take time to think of those less fortunate and pray for them.

Many blessings for a Happy Thanksgiving to all our St. Philip families!



Prayer for Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the many blessings You have given our families, our school, and our community.

As we gather this Thanksgiving, fill our hearts with gratitude for the gift of faith, the love of family and friends, and the beauty of Your creation.

Help us to share our blessings with those in need, to show kindness to one another, and to recognize Your presence in our daily lives. May our homes be filled with peace, joy, and love this Thanksgiving.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Message from the Superintendent and ECSD Newsletter

Division Level Newsletter



Safety Reminders

The safety of our students is our top priority. **PLEASE:** No Parking in staff parking lot and **NO parking/drop off** in the bus lane where orange pylons run. We thank you for your support in making safety first!



Reporting Absences



Please call the office at 780-475-3566 to inform our office staff when your child is absent from school. If the school has not heard from you regarding your child's absence, you will be contacted. If you call after hours, you can leave a message regarding absences on our answering machine. Please state your child's name and the reason for the absence.

Parents can also report absences using SchoolMessenger.

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

Further information and directions can be found on ECSD linked here: [Reporting Absences with School Messenger](#)

Thank you for your cooperation!

Food Bank Collection

Classes will be collecting non-perishable food items up to October 9th. We will be sharing these collections with St. Matthew Parish and the Food Bank to support their food bank programs. Thank you so much for your kindness and support!



THANK
YOU

Alberta Education Screeners

Administration of these screeners is now complete.

The results of these screeners will be shared with parents upon collection of data. More information will follow.

Hispanic Heritage Month

October provides an opportunity for Edmonton Catholic Schools to recognize the many contributions Canadians of Hispanic origin have made, and continue to make, in this country. Hispanic Canadian Heritage Month also serves as an opportunity for people of Hispanic origin to come together and celebrate their shared culture.



Parish Information

We are blessed to continue to have St. Matthew Parish as part of our team learning and growing in faith.

We thank Father Joy who visited our Grade 4 classes for their Bible Celebration. All students received a Bible that they will have for their own.

For any families interested in First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion please call the Parish.

For more info please call the Parish at 780-475-2888



Please visit our school website for more information and

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness..."

- Galatians 5:22 -

Student Clubs

Several of our student clubs are underway and students are eager to begin sharing their gifts and talents as they serve the St. Philip School family!

Our Student Faith Leadership Group will begin meeting soon. The **SPARK** Team is a group of students who lead spirit days, plan school activities and spearhead social justice projects that our school community can be a part of. The SPARK Team typically meets at lunch or after school to plan and collaborate with the lead teachers.

The next school Spirit Day is on October 23rd: "Dress As a Book Character Day!"

Our Recess Leaders Team is just getting underway. GLOW (Rosary Group) will be starting this month.

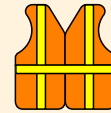
Volleyball tryouts will be starting this month as well.

We are so proud of all our students who give of their time to contribute to their school!

Safety

The safety of our students is a **top priority**. We ask for parent cooperation with respect to entrances. Please enter only from the front door if you have an appointment.

ABSOLUTELY NO PARENT parking in the staff parking lot or BUS ZONES. We also ask that families use the CROSS WALKS when crossing the street. Our Gr. 6 Patrols will continue to help in this area. Thank you.



School Fees /Powerschool

School fees **are now due** and can be paid on PowerSchool.

If you require support with setting up your PowerSchool account, please contact the school office.

It is very important that you have a working account as this is where you will make payments, view report cards, etc.



"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness..."

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Follow us on social media:
Instagram: stphilip_ecsd



Please visit our school website
for more information and
monthly calendar

Custodial & Facilities Appreciation Day

On October 2, Edmonton Catholic Schools celebrated Custodial and Facilities Staff Appreciation Day. This day holds special significance as we take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to the custodial and facilities staff who work to maintain safe, clean, and welcoming environments in our schools and sites.

We thank Mr. Sirica & Mrs. Le for all they do to keep St. Philip School clean and safe each day!



OPTIMAL LEARNING

Our staff and students continue to grow and learn through Optimal Learning, with a focus on the nine learning conditions.

This month, our school engaged in deep learning through many classroom activities, as well as school wide events such as the Terry Fox Run and activities that provided a deeper understanding of Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation.

We will continue to develop skills through rich learning experiences that highlight Optimal Learning and our Education Plan.

To learn more please see the following [LINK](#).



School Assemblies

This year we will continue to build our school community and focus on the theme “Rooted In JOY” by learning about the Fruit of the Spirit and the virtues that help us all share joy with others. This year, we will also focus on the lives of the Saints as models for us all.

We also acknowledge our student leaders and celebrate moments of joy in our school during assemblies.

At our first assembly, we learned about **KINDNESS** and how we can all help to spread kindness to create a place of welcome.

Our next assembly will be on October 21.



“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness...”

— Galatians 5:22 —



Important Dates:

October 2- Custodial/Facilities Appreciation Day!

October 5- WORLD TEACHERS DAY!

October 5-9 Read In Week



October 7- AMA presentation for Gr. 6 patrols

October 9- Thanksgiving Liturgy 9 AM- Father Joy attending

October 12- Thanksgiving- NO SCHOOL

October 13- Picture Day



October 14- Grade 4-6 Creating Communities of Belonging Presentation

October 16- Healthy Hunger orders due online

October 18-23- Catholic Education Week



October 18- Catholic Education Sunday

October 19- Referendum Vote- NO SCHOOL

October 21- School Assembly AM

October 22- Wear Blue for Catholic Education

October 23-SPIRIT DAY- Dress as a Book Character Day /HOT LUNCH for those who order

October 29- PD Day- NO SCHOOL for St. Philip

October 30- PM Halloween Activities



Important NO School Dates:

A reminder that there will be **NO school for St. Philip students on the following PD DAYS this year:**

Thursday, October 29

Friday, January 29

Thursday, March 25- Division PD Day



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School Advisory Council (SAC)

Your time makes a huge impact on our school! Many of our school initiatives are funded thanks to parent volunteers. Events like Bingos/Casinos help support school activities and provide new learning opportunities and equipment for students. It is a great way to get involved!

The next SAC Meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 17 @6:15 PM**. Trustee Sandra Palazzo will be attending.

Parents are welcome to join and sign up for volunteer opportunities!

Bingo Volunteers Needed

NO WALKING Bingo Hall for volunteers

Location: Fort Road Bingo

Dates for this year: October 20, December 4, January 18, March 4, April 16, June 2

Day Shifts (10:30 AM-4:00 PM)

Evening Shifts (4:30PM- 10:00PM)

Volunteer Perks

No walking, and free meal provided on shift.

Name entered for a gift card draw!

Volunteers still needed for October 20th- 1 day shift and 1 evening shift

If you can volunteer for any Bingo dates, please contact:

C.Capra926@gmail.com

Fundraising: Throughout the year, our SAC runs several fundraising activities to help support student activities/treats etc.

Thank you to all families who supported the first Fundraiser!

Healthy Hunger

Once per month, our SAC volunteers organize a hot lunch. Interested families can register online with HEALTHY HUNGER. Through this online process you will be able to order and pay for hot lunch from participating restaurants. Please note: **This is an optional program.**

Please visit: <https://healthyhunger.ca> to set this up.

The online orders are due one week prior.

The next Healthy Hunger Lunch will be on October 23rd

Orders are due online October 16.

Special thanks to the parents who have dedicated their time to organize and distribute these hot lunches this year! We appreciate it!



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Ongoing Fundraising

Boston Pizza Receipts Fundraiser

Dine Out & Donate! This cooperative fundraising initiative partners Boston Pizza restaurants in our community with the school to earn 5% cashback on the pre-tax total of submitted receipts.

1. Dine out at Boston Pizza.
2. Save your original receipt
3. Submit the original receipt to the school until June 2026

Bottle Drive Fundraising Opportunity- Skip the Depot

Our SAC has organized an ongoing fundraising opportunity for families who would like to donate bottles with Skip the Depot.

Scan the QR code, arrange a pickup time and the funds will go directly to the school fundraising through SAC.



We thank all parents and families who support our SAC in all events such as bingos, fundraisers, hot lunch, etc. which create special opportunities for our students!

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**THANK
YOU**
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