

# FEBRUARY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2, 2026



## February Message

It is hard to believe that February is upon us! It will be another very busy month at St. Philip with many exciting events taking place. In addition, our students will have several days off as we recognize Family Day and our staff participate in Faith Development Day and Teachers' Convention!

We look forward to our Annual Carnevale this month which will continue to showcase our wonderful Italian Language & Culture learning as we begin the season of Lent.

As we enter the season of Lent, we are invited into a sacred time of renewal, reflection, and preparation. Lent calls us to slow down and make space for God's presence in our daily lives. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we open our hearts to transformation—choosing to grow in compassion, humility, and gratitude.



## Message from the Superintendent

Please click [here](#) for a message from Chief Superintendent Anderson:



## Prayer

Loving God,  
As we enter the month of February,  
open our hearts to Your gentle  
presence.

Help us share kindness with one  
another, even in small and quiet ways.  
Fill our days with the warmth of Your  
love, so that we may reflect that love  
to all we meet.

As Lent draws near, prepare our  
hearts with hope—  
hope that renews us, guides us, and  
brings us closer to You.

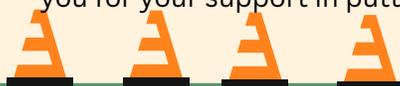
May we walk this season with  
compassion, courage, and gratitude.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Safety Reminders

**Absolutley NO PARKING or  
DROP OFF/PICK UP in Staff  
Parking Lot**

**NO parking/drop off in the bus lane** where orange pylons run. No U-turns on 144Ave as this is very dangerous for our pedestrians and patrols. We thank you for your support in putting safety first!



# Carnevale

We are excited to announce that St. Philip School will be celebrating Carnevale, a festive season in Italy similar to Mardi Gras, featuring vibrant costumes, parades, and various activities. Due to scheduling, this year's Carnevale will be held earlier on **Friday, February 13, 2026**.

Join us for a day filled with fun and festivities! The St. Philip School staff, students, and community will come together to enjoy:



- Games and Crafts
- Delicious Food
- Performances and Cultural Experiences
- Many other exciting activities and Italian language highlights



Students are welcome to wear costumes or cultural attire to add to the festive spirit.

We warmly invite parents/guardians, grandparents, families, and community members to join us in this celebration.

Let's make this Carnevale a memorable event for everyone!

Thank you to all parent volunteers !

Special thanks to our Italian Language and Culture teachers for planning and organizing this wonderful event!

## School Assemblies



This year we have been focusing on the Virtues as a theme for our school wide assemblies, which develop our faith and sense of community. Virtues are good qualities that help us make kind, fair, and honest choices. They guide us to do what is right and to be our best selves.

During the month of December, we focused on

**HUMILITY**

This month's focus will be on **FORGIVENESS** where students will learn more about the virtue.

Each assembly ends with a draw for 5 lucky students to have "Pizza with the Principals". This opportunity is a wonderful time for students to share their learning from our assembly, give ideas for the school, ask questions, and get to know others while enjoying a tasty treat with our Admin Team! It is a favourite time for all!

## PC Food Grant



Once again, our school is fortunate to have received a Grant from **PC Powerful Kids**. With this grant, we are able to provide weekly, healthy snacks to our students while teaching about nutritious foods and choices. These snacks are usually distributed on Fridays and students have enjoyed apples, oranges, bananas, cheese, yogurt and granola bars.

## NO SCHOOL DAYS

Please note there is **NO SCHOOL** for students on the following Days:

**Monday, February 16- Family Day**

**Wednesday, February 25- Faith Development Day**

**Thursday & Friday, February 26 & 27- Teachers' Convention**

## St. Valentines Day/ Random Acts of Kindness

Our classes will recognize St. Valentine and participate in activities on **Thursday, February 12th.**

Students are invited to wear **red/pink/white.**

More information will be shared by homeroom teachers.

We will be celebrating *Random Acts of Kindness* throughout the week of February 17-20th .

### Pink Shirt Day

Pink Shirt Day will be recognized on February 24th.

This movement began in 2007 when a student in Nova Scotia was bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. It has since been recognized annually and worldwide as a day to stand up against bullying of any kind. Students are invited to wear pink on this day!



## Soccer Team



On February 12, our co-ed Soccer team will be participating in the St. Nicholas Soccer Tournament.

Thank you to our coaches: Miss Portela, Miss Hackova and Mr. Piano for thier extra time in providing this opportunity!

### Grade 4- 6 Ski Trip



The rescheduled Ski Trip for the Grade 4-6 classes will be on **March 3rd.** We hope for good winter ski conditions for this day!

**Permission forms and payment on PowerSchool must be received prior to this date in order for students to attend. Thank you.**

## Yearbooks

Yearbooks for this school year are now available for pre-order on PowerSchool at a cost of \$22.00.

The yearbook is compiled throughout the year and final product will be delivered to students/families next fall. If you are interested in ordering a yearbook, you can do so on your PowerSchool account.



Follow us on social media:  
Instagram: stphilip\_ecsd



Please visit our school website for more information and monthly calendar



## Important Dates:

### Black History Month

**Feb. 2** - Pre-enrollment and registration for 2026-2027 begins

Grade 6 - Legislature Field Trip

**Feb. 4** - St. Philip School Open House 6-7pm

**Feb. 9** - School Assembly

**Feb. 11** - Italian Culture Field Trip for Gr. 3-6 Italian students

**Feb. 12** - Valentine's Day Recognition - wear red, pink or white

St. Nicholas School Soccer Tournament (Soccer team)

**Feb. 13** - Carnevale - wear Italian Jerseys/Cultural attire/Carnevale costumes

Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch orders due online

**Feb. 16** - **NO SCHOOL - Family Day**

**Random Acts of Kindness Week Feb. 17-20**

**Feb. 17** - Shrove Tuesday - pancake snack provided; Chinese Lunar New Year

**Feb. 18** - Ash Wednesday Liturgy at school - 10:40am

**Feb. 20** - Hot Lunch for those who ordered; School Spirit Day - OLYMPIC DAY - wear Olympic colours, Team Canada apparel, or attire in support of any country

**Feb. 24** - Pink Shirt Recognition Day - wear pink

**Feb. 25** - **NO SCHOOL** - Faith Development Day for staff

**Feb. 26 & 27** - **NO SCHOOL** - Teachers' Convention

## Open House & Kindergarten Registration

Our school's Open House will be on **February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026, from 6:00PM - 7:00PM**. Please keep this date in mind, if you are looking to register or know of any families in the community who are looking to register for kindergarten for the 2026-2027 school year.

Registrations will begin February 2<sup>nd</sup> and are completed online by visiting [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net)



## Parish Information

We are blessed to continue to have St. Matthew Parish as part of our learning and growing in faith. Father Joy will be resuming classroom visits this year.

For any information on Sacraments, please contact the Parish.

**Registration for Confirmation** at St. Matthew closes on February 2, 2026. Please call 780-475-2888 if you would like more information.

## SPARK NEWS



Our Student Faith Leadership Group has been working hard to plan our School Spirit Days, activities and lead social justice projects. They were very busy in the month of December planning wonderful activities for our school!

The **next Spirit Day** will be on **Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> - OLYMPIC DAY!** In honor of the Winter Olympics, students are encouraged to dress with Olympic or country attire .

## Social Justice

Our SPARK team is planning several school wide activities that will tie into Random Acts of Kindness week, as well as serving our community.

More information will be shared within the month.



## Shrove Tuesday



On Tuesday, **February 17** our students will receive a pancake & sausage snack in the morning to recognize Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent begins in our Catholic faith. As we transition from Catholic Ordinary Time to Lent, Shrove Tuesday marks a significant moment before Jesus' 40-day journey into the desert.

Thank you to our Parent SAC who are providing this snack for all students!

If there are any parents who would like to volunteer to help with serving, please contact the school office.

**\*Students will still need to bring lunch this day as this will be a morning snack\***

## Pre- Enrolment for 2026-27 School Year

### 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 Junior High.

The pre-enrolment process helps us know how many students to expect in September 2026, enabling us to plan for staffing, class sizes, and programming.

To learn more, visit [ecsd.net/pre-enrolment](https://ecsd.net/pre-enrolment).

**Pre- enrolment begins on February 2nd and closes on March 13th.**



## Pre-Enrolment for CURRENT STUDENTS

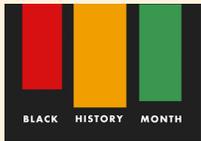
- Log in to PowerSchool.ecsd.net
- Click on the Pre-Enrolment for Next Year icon
- Follow the instructions to select your 2026-2027 school
- Complete for each child registered with ECSD



**Visit [ecsd.net](https://ecsd.net) for more information**

## Black History Month

Throughout the month of February, our staff and students are proudly recognizing and celebrating *Black History Month*. This is a chance to honour the legacy of Black Canadians and their communities. Division Consultants have shared many rich resources with our staff so that we can learn and explore more about black history in Canada and around the world! We look forward to the many activities and learning that will take place as we learn more about diversity and culture.



## St. Philip Spirit Wear



**We will once again be having an online webstore for anyone who would like to purchase St. Philip Spirit Wear!**

The apparel webstore will be accepting all orders until

**February 17th at midnight.**

It takes about 3- 1/2 weeks to process, pack & deliver the orders to the school.

Once the orders have arrived, a notification from the front office will be sent with pick-up instructions.

You can order directly on this link:  
[St.Philip Apparel](#)

## Wellness TEAM/ Recess Leaders



Our school Wellness Team—made up of Grade 4–6 students and Miss Farrar—has been sharing helpful tips, jokes, strategies, and Scripture passages during morning announcements to support the well-being of our school community. We appreciate their efforts in promoting healthy minds and bodies for learning!

Our Recess Leaders lead by Mrs. Martin & Miss Hackova have been creatively planning new games and activities for all grades to play during recess. We thank them for their commitment!

## Recycle Green TEAM



Mrs. Hamanishi-Lohner is leading a group of Grade 4 students who have been helping our school to be more “green”.

They are taking care of recycling juice boxes, as well as other green initiatives to help bring awareness to caring for our environment and God’s creations.

Thank you to all of our Green Club members for their hard work!

## GLOW TEAM



Our school prayer group has been gathering to grow in faith. The prayer group, led by Mrs. Diebolt, is called **GLOW** (God Lights Our Way). Together, we gather to pray the rosary and for the intentions of our school community.

If any families have prayer intentions, please send them with your child and GLOW will pray for your intentions.



## 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 initiatives and provide new learning opportunities and equipment for students.

### Bingo Volunteers Needed

NO WALKING Bingo Hall for volunteers

**Location: Fort Road Bingo**

-Sunday, March 8th (1 more day shift needed)

-Wednesday, April 22nd (3 day shifts needed)

-Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> (5 day shifts needed)

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!

If you can volunteer for any Bingo dates, please contact: [sabrina.filiplic@ecsd.net](mailto:sabrina.filiplic@ecsd.net)

## 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 next Healthy Hunger lunch will be on Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Orders are due online on February 13th.**

## School Advisory Council (SAC)

The next SAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 10 at 6:15 PM.** Parents are welcome to attend.



## Ongoing Fundraising

### Boston Pizza Receipts Fundraiser

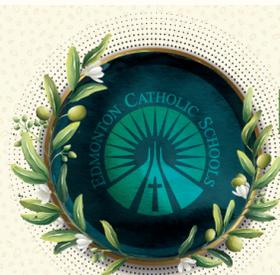
Dine Out & Donate! This cooperative fundraising initiative partners Boston Pizza restaurants in our community with the school to earn 5% cashback on the pre-tax total of submitted receipts.

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.



**REJOICE in HOPE**  
be patient in suffering,  
persevere in prayer.

- Romans 12:12 -