

MAY NEWS

MAY 4, 2026



May Message

Spring has arrived, and it is wonderful to see the weather getting warmer and students enjoying time outside.

This month, we reflect on our Holy Mother, Mary, and the grace she bestows, guiding us closer to Jesus through prayer. She is the ultimate model of faithfulness, and throughout this month, we dedicate ourselves to deepening our devotion through the Holy Rosary.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all mothers and mother-figures in our school community a blessed Mother's Day on May 10th!

There are many more exciting activities and events in the coming month and we look forward to continuing to see our students grow and shine in their learning. It is a busy time for everyone, and we appreciate your continued support and dedication to our students.

Message from the Superintendent

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



Prayer for May

Loving God, Thank you for all the mothers in the world.

Bless them so that they may always give life and nourishment to their children through their firm faith, generous and selfless love, good example and constant concern for their children.

Grant that we, their children, may honour them always with a spirit of profound love, respect and thanksgiving. 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 or 87 ST as this is very dangerous for our pedestrians and patrols. We thank you for your support in putting safety first!



School Fees

ALL school fees, including field trip fees must be paid in full prior to attending. These events are graciously supported by our SAC and take much time and effort from our staff to plan and coordinate. It is important to ensure that your fees are up to date on PowerSchool. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

Multicultural Day



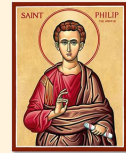
Thank you to all parents and families for supporting our Multicultural Day on April 24th. It was a wonderful day of learning and celebrating our diversity, cultures and traditions. Thanks to all for sending delicious treats for the students to enjoy!

Asian Heritage Month

May is Asian Heritage Month!

Asian Heritage Month is an opportunity for us to learn more about the diverse culture and history of Asian communities in Canada, as well as to acknowledge the many achievements and contributions of people of Asian origin who, throughout our history, have done so much to make Canada the country we know and love.

St. Philip Day



On Friday, May 1, we celebrated our school namesake with St. Philip Day. Students took part in faith based activities and joined together for a special liturgy. We continue to grow in our Faith as we look to St. Philip as a model of Jesus. St. Philip, Pray for Us!

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 April, we focused on **Honesty**

This month's focus will be on **Self-Awareness** 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.

Victoria Day Break- No School

Please note there is **no school** on Friday, May 15 and Monday, May 18 for the Victoria Day Long Weekend. Classes will resume on Tuesday, May 19.



Month of Mary

May is dedicated to Mary, our Holy Mother. In this month, we focus on praying the Rosary as a way of growing closer to God. Classes will be honouring Mary through a liturgy and praying of the Rosary.

Grade 6 Farewell- Save the Date!

As they complete their Elementary Journey, the Grade 6 students will be honoured at a farewell celebration on the afternoon of **Friday, June 19**. More details will be shared by homeroom teachers in the coming weeks.

Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Exams

PATs are administered annually to all Alberta students in Grades 6 and 9. These standardized tests reflect the essentials that all Alberta students are expected to achieve, regardless of school choice or location.

PATs help:

- determine if students are learning what they are expected to learn
- report to Albertans how well students have achieved provincial standards at given points in their schooling
- assist schools, authorities and the province in monitoring and improving student learning

It is important the students are well rested, have a good breakfast and arrive to school on time to help them have a successful experience. Grade 6 students will write on these dates. Exams commence at 9:00AM

ELA Part A - May 22 **Part B**- June 4
Social - June 11

Math Part A- June 15, **Part B**- June 18
Science -June 12

Sacraments



Congratulations to all our St. Philip students who have celebrated or will be celebrating the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation this year. May God continue to bless you in your Faith Journeys!

**If your child has celebrated a sacrament this year, please email your child's teacher to notify them. We will be honouring all students who have celebrated these sacraments at our Year End Mass.*

Thank you!

Mental Health Awareness Week May 4-8th



Students and staff are encouraged to wear a hat on Wednesday, May 6th for *Hat's On for Mental Health*. We acknowledge this day to build understanding of the importance of mental health and how we can support one another.

Extra Curricular Activities

Many of the experiences students enjoy at school beyond regular classroom learning are made possible because teachers, staff, and community members generously give their time. This may include helping with lunchtime activities, special events, clubs, or school teams, often before or after the school day.

These activities are not part of regular instructional time, but they play an important role in helping students build confidence, learn to work with others, and feel connected to their school community.

Our school and Edmonton Catholic Schools are grateful to the teachers, staff, and community members who volunteer their time in these ways. By working together, we can show respect and appreciation for those who support students outside of regular work hours and help make school a welcoming place for all.



Ben Calf Robe Traditional Pow Wow



You're invited to the Ben Calf Robe Traditional Pow Wow! Taking place on Saturday, May 9 at Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre Indoor Field House, this free, family-friendly event is open to all. The event celebrates Indigenous culture and history through traditional pow wow dancing and drumming. Attendees can also explore a variety of artisan, craft, and food vendors.

Everyone is welcome! For more details, visit ecsd.net/powwow.

Updated 2026-27 Division Calendar

Edmonton Catholic Schools has updated the 2026–2027 Division school year calendar. While the total number of instructional and operational days remains the same, a few dates have changed.

For most ECSD students, the *first day of school will be Wednesday, September 2, 2026*. There will be no classes for all ECSD students on Monday, October 19, 2026, as the province conducts a scheduled referendum and Elections Alberta has requested that schools not be in session that day.

View and download the calendars at ecsd.net/calendar.




Important Dates:

Important Dates for May:

May - Asian Heritage Month

May 1 - St. Philip Feast Day Liturgy and activities


May 3 - Feast of St. Philip

May 4 - Bus Driver Appreciation Day 

May 6 - Hats On For Mental Health (Students are invited to wear a hat for Mental Health awareness)

May 8 - School Patrol Lunch for those who serve as patrollers

May 9-15 - *Catholic Education Week*

May 10 - Mother's Day 

May 12 - School-wide Assembly - AM

May 14 - World Catholic Education Day - Wear Blue

May 15 - May 18 - *Victoria Day Long Weekend* - No School

May 19 - Living Rosary/Mary Liturgy - AM

***May 22** - Grade 6 ELA PAT- Part A 9:00 AM

May 22 - Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch orders due for interested students;

Kona Ice Treat for students from SAC

May 26 - SAC Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

May 29 - School Spirit Day: Future ME Day; Healthy Hunger Hot Lunch for students that ordered

SPARK NEWS

Our Student Faith Leadership Group is finalizing plans for the remainder of the school year.

SPARK has planned the next Spirit Day which **will be on Friday May 29, 2026 and it will be "Future Me Day"**-

Students are invited to dress in an occupation or career they think they might be in the future! We look forward to seeing all the aspiring future students!



Parish Information

We are blessed to continue to have St. Matthew Parish as part of our learning and growing in faith. Father Joy continues to visit classrooms once per month.

For any information on Sacraments, mass intentions or anything, please contact the Parish at 780-475-2888



We continue to enjoy opportunities to celebrate Mass as a school family. Our next, and final Mass this year, will be on June 19th. As always, parents are welcome to attend!

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:

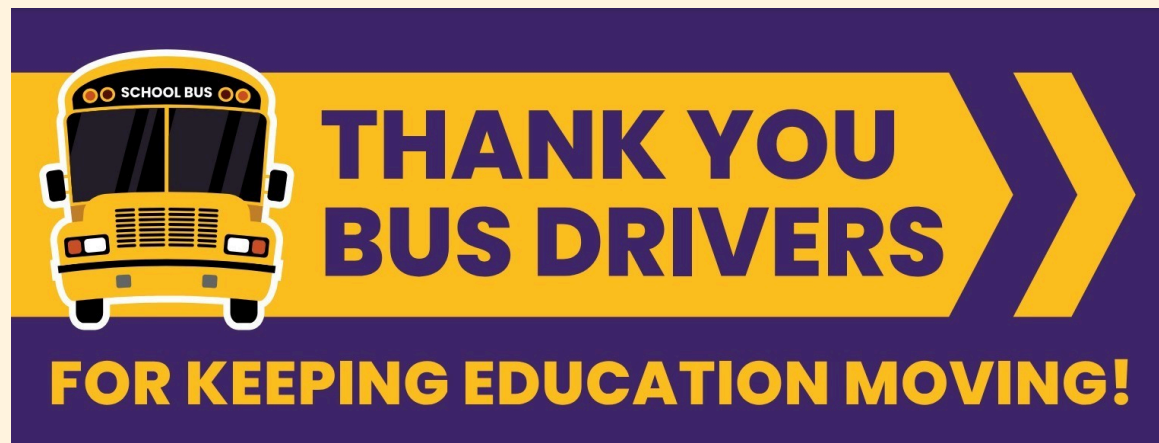
Instagram: [stphilip_ecsd](#)

Please visit our school

[website for more information and monthly calendar](#)



Bus Driver Appreciation Day



Parent Volunteers

Thank you to all our volunteers, for being a living witness to Christ's love!
Thank you for generously giving your time, talents and energy to support our school community.

We celebrate and recognize all volunteers who give their time and help create opportunities and experiences for our students.

We are grateful for all you do to make St. Philip School a wonderful place for all!



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

-Friday, June 5th (4 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 the last Bingo
please contact: sabrina.filiplic@ecsd.net


PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN, these events support your child's learning experiences!

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, May 29, 2026. Orders are due online on May 22.

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

School Advisory Council (SAC)

The next SAC meeting will be on
Tuesday, May 26th at 6:15 PM.
(Elections)

All parents are welcome to attend.



Fundraisers

Thank you to all families who supported the recent fundraisers! We appreciate your support!

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 -