



MCS Kindergarten 2021-2022

Weekly Announcements

Week of

Nov. 29- Dec. 3

Field Trips this Week

We have our second of the Sacred Teachings Mindful Movement field trips this Monday and Tuesday. Please dress your child in clothes that they can move in!

Christmas Colors and Dress your Best

Please note looking ahead that December 8th and 9th are Dress in Christmas Colors days, and on December 16th and 17th we will be recording our Christmas concert-please dress your child as you would for a Christmas Concert.

Advent

Advent starts this week! We will have a short celebration each morning with the rest of the school as we examine the ornaments of the Jesse Tree. December is a time to celebrate and learn about the birth of Jesus and the Christmas story.

Early Out

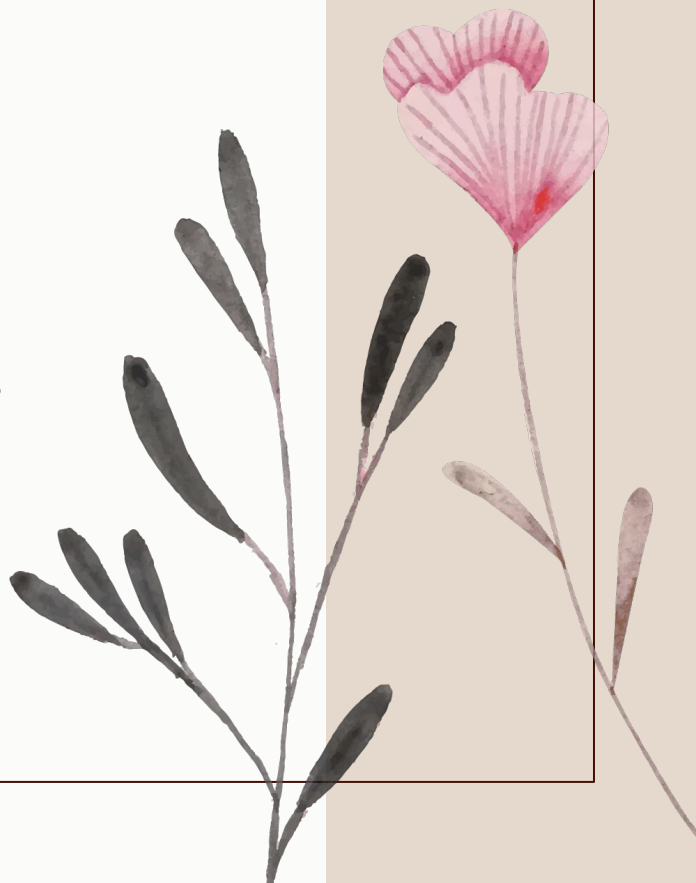
This Wednesday is early out-school ends at 2:15pm.

Outerwear

Please ensure that your child is prepared for the weather **every day**. This includes snow pants, gloves, and a warm hat. It is important that we still take full advantage of our beautiful outdoor spaces even in the winter! Dressing your child for the weather will go a long way in ensuring they continue to love the outdoors in every season!

Encouraging your child to get ready independently will also help them out when we are going outside, as well as help them keep track of their own belongings in class.

Please ensure your child's outdoor clothes are labelled, and if your child happens to come home with someone else's items, I would appreciate a quick email to let me know so we can track them down.



Week of November 22-26

Students have enjoyed the new addition to our outdoor play area-snow! **Please continue to send your child in weather appropriate clothing each day.** We are outside for morning and afternoon recesses, up to 30 minutes each. Gloves, toques, snow pants, warm coat, and boots are necessary for this time of year. **Please ensure all items are labelled.**

Scholastic

Students greatly enjoyed exploring all of the books at our book fair. The book fair sales are now closed, however if you would still like to purchase scholastic books, feel free to do so using our class code listed below at [scholastic.ca/readingclub](https://www.scholastic.ca/readingclub). Using this code will allow our kindergarten class to collect rewards like books or materials for our classroom.

Our class code: RC154681

Field Trip Next Week

Our next set of mindful movement sessions exploring the seven sacred teachings are November 29 (MW) and 30 (TTH). This month we are exploring courage with the bear.

We are continuing to explore our environment and the seasonal changes. This week we noticed the absence of the squirrel that usually occupies our school yard, and students are wondering where it may be! We are also discussing other animals and how they survive winter-by hibernating, migrating, or adapting.

We are working on the sounds of speech and how they connect to written language, and are focusing hard on letter formation- remembering to start at the top, and emphasizing lowercase letters.

We enjoyed working on patterns last month, and students continue to work on patterning in other activities as well, as well as exploring mathematical language.

Week of

October 25-29

Mrs. Keil

Mrs. Fortier is out of the classroom as acting Administrator on Monday and in training on Wednesday. Mrs. Keil will be in.

Field Trip

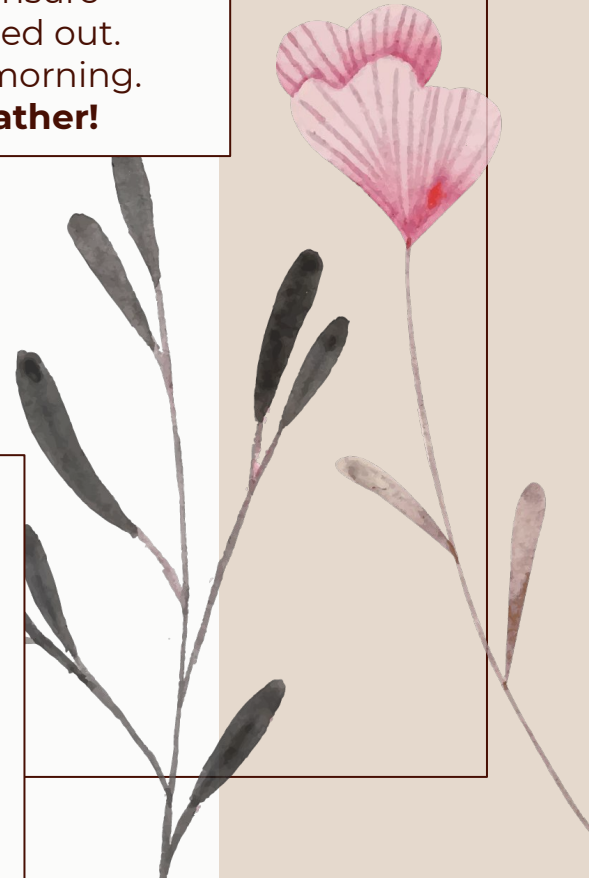
Tuesday afternoon will be our first nature field trip. Please ensure PowerSchool forms are filled out. The next trip will be Nov. 1 morning.

Please dress for the weather!

This Week

This week we are celebrating all things Halloween! Please note that MW class is welcome to wear their costumes on Wednesday, and TTH class on Friday. Please see Mrs. Antoniuk's communication regarding Halloween costumes and protocol.

<https://www.smores.com/1c3af>



Week of

October 19-22



Field Trips

This week we have field trips with the Strathcona Wilderness Center to continue our conversations around fall and the changes we see around us. Next week we have our first “nature school” trip to Malvern park. Please ensure your child’s low-risk permission forms are completed in PowerSchool.

Epic Books

Reading to your kindergartener is one of the best ways to help them develop literacy skills. To access books online, we have set up an Epic Books classroom. Epic includes a variety of books with different topics and levels.

Feel free to explore Epic Books (via website getepic.com/students or the Epic app on mobile) using our class code: lcj4739

Parent Council

Our parent council is meeting virtually October 27 at 7:00pm.

meet.google.com/umx-dnhe-rdd

This week we are continuing to explore fall and the changes in our surroundings, as well as Halloween! We have some exciting numeracy activities that we will be exploring this week including patterning and counting activities.

Students loved learning about Turtle Island, the Sky Women, and truth with our Mindful Movement in-school field trips last week.

Bend the Rules on Thursday and Friday

All students are invited to Bend the Rules on Thursday October 21, 2021 and Friday October 22, 2021

Each rule bent will cost the student \$1.00. Students may choose from the following:

- Wear a hat
- Sunglasses
- Chew gum (please ensure you child is comfortable chewing gum)
- Wear pajamas
- Wear slippers

All money collected will be donated to **Lurana Shelter**.

Thank you for your support of our Elk Island Catholic Schools Division Social Justice Project to support Catholic Social Services' Lurana Shelter.

Please Note: Due to Covid, please make your donations through your child's account on PowerSchool.

Thank you for your support!
Madonna Catholic School Staff



Week of

October 12-15

Photo Retakes

Please note that photo retakes will be this **Thursday, October 14**. If you wish for your child to have their photo retaken, please let Mrs. Fortier or Mrs. Roberts know (lorir@eics.ab.ca).

Field Trips

We have some upcoming field trips this week! Please make sure to check your child's PowerSchool account to pay the corresponding fees.



This Week

This week we continue to explore fall and the changing seasons. We are also exploring the first of our Seven Sacred Teachings sessions learning about Truth and it's animal representative, the turtle or Miskwaadesii. We are continuing to work on our sound wall and phonological awareness by examining compound words, syllables and rhyming words.

With the weather changing, we still want to get outside as much as possible. Please make sure to send you child with labelled outdoor gear **every day**.

Rosary Walk

Thursday and Friday this week we will be participating in a Rosary Walk with the school. Please make sure to dress your child for the weather!

Week of

September 27-October 1

Photo Day

School photos are MONDAY.
Tuesday/Thursday students are invited
to come at 8:30am to have their photos
taken.

Truth and Reconciliation Week

We will be recognizing Truth and
Reconciliation Week with a variety of
activities throughout the week of
September 27-October 1.

We will honor Orange shirt day on
September 28 and 29. Please have your
child dress in orange for those days.
There will be no school on September 30 in
observance of the National Day for Truth
and Reconciliation.

This Week

We have enjoyed learning about ourselves
and exploring our similarities and
differences-we are all God's masterpieces!
This is a theme we will continue to explore
and revisit throughout the year.

We will be reading books by indigenous
authors and learning about Orange shirt
day this week, as well as learning about fall
and the changing of the seasons.

We are including phonological awareness in
our daily practice, and are continuing to
explore the sounds (phonemes) that make
up speech by adding them to our sound
wall.



Library Books

Kindergarten students have enjoyed having the opportunity to visit and take books out of the library this week!

Please help your child remember to bring their book back on their library day (Wednesday for MW students, Thursday for TTH students).

Hot Lunch

Please see Mrs. Antoniuk's SMORE bulletin for information on ordering hot lunch for your child.

Hot lunch is on FRIDAYS, so please ensure that you are only ordering for Fridays that your child attends, if you decide to order.



Field Trips

We are very excited that field trips are happening again! We have some very exciting opportunities for field trips this year, including outdoor learning opportunities with Strathcona Wilderness Center, mindful movement sessions focusing on the Seven Sacred Teachings, and nature mornings and afternoons at our local greenspace. Please keep an eye out for field trip forms and fee requests in PowerSchool, as these may require prompt attention.

Kangapouches

Please continue to send your child's kangapouch in their backpack each day, and check it daily.

Week of

September 20-24

Election Day

Our school is a polling site for the upcoming election on Monday, September 20. Please meet on the pink dots as usual.

Colder Weather

Please keep the weather in mind when you send your child to school each day.

Our bell rings at 8:40am and we go outside for two recesses, and do some outdoor programming as well. Remember to label your child's clothing!

This Week

We will continue exploring "us" and what makes us special. We will be reading the books *Eyes that Kiss in the Corners* by Joanna Ho and *Same, Same But Different* by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw. We will also continue to explore our calendar and numeracy by focusing on the days of the week, and exploring the changes that are happening around us!

Family Board

Our students have enjoyed sharing their family photos with their class over the last few days. If you haven't yet, please share a photo of your family with Mrs. Fortier via email or send in your child's kangapouch. If you do not wish to send a photo of your family, you can always send a picture of something that has a significance to your child-a pet, special place, etc..





Terry Fox Run

We will be celebrating Terry Fox this Thursday and Friday. Encourage your child to wear red or blue.

If you would like to donate to the Terry Fox Foundation, please use this link and information:

<http://www.terryfox.ca/MadonnaCatholic>

Your personal Username: 2021AB8605

and Password: CUREAB277

Opening Mass

Opening Mass for Sherwood Park elementary schools is this Thursday at 10:00am. We will be watching via OLPH's livestream. You are welcome to watch along with us if you are able.

Photo Day

Photo day is Monday September 27 only.


Please note that **Tuesday/Thursday** students can come for photos between 8:30 and 9:00am on the 27th.

Truth and Reconciliation Week

We will be recognizing Truth and Reconciliation Week with a variety of activities throughout the week of September 27-October 1.

We will honor Orange shirt day on September 28 and 29.

There will be no school on September 30 in order to observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



Week of

September 13-17

September 30

Please see the communication from Mrs. Antoniuk regarding school closure for Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30.

This will impact our **Tuesday/Thursday** Class. When we have an updated calendar reflecting the change, it will be sent to parents.

Photo Day

Photo day is Monday September 27 only.

Please note that **Tuesday/Thursday** students can come for photos between 8:30 and 9:00am on the 27th.



This Week

This week we will be exploring our own characteristics and what makes us unique! We have some beautiful books that we will read on this topic, including *We All Play* by Julie Flett and *The Colors of Us* by Karen Katz. We will work on writing our names using lowercase letters, and introduce the phonemes /t/ and /m/. We will also start working number talks into our daily routine..

Mrs. Fortier is out of the classroom **Monday and Thursday morning** this week. Mrs. Kiel is in Monday morning, and Mrs. Perri on Thursday.

Week of

September 13-17



Our First Week

We had a lovely first week of kindergarten! We are working hard getting used to our new routines and learning together. Thank you parents for promptly returning the consent forms in your child's kanga pouches.

Election Day

Our school is a polling site for the upcoming election. On Monday, September 20 we will be entering the school using a different door. Please meet Mrs. Fortier on the pink dots as usual, and we will go around the school to another door once the bell rings.

Family Board

We will be exploring the topic of ourselves over the next month-we would love if each child could share a photo of their family with the class, that can be put up around our "family" board.

Please share a photo of your family with Mrs. Fortier via email or sending in your child's kangapouch.

Week of

September 7-10

Classroom Community

For our first few weeks, we will be working on building our classroom community: we can learn from each other, work together toward a common goal and fill a variety of roles in our classroom. Each child has unique gifts that they bring to kindergarten, and everyone belongs!

Birthdays

We have started the year strong with some prompt birthday celebrations!

Please note that we will celebrate birthdays in our own special way in the classroom, and as of right now, we will not be celebrating with shared snacks.

Meet the Teacher

We have our virtual Meet the Teacher on September 9, 6:30-7:30pm. Please log in using your child's EICS account (info in kanga pouch).

<https://meet.google.com/yzt-pvng-vdx>

Early Dismissal

September 8 is early dismissal. Class will end at 2:15pm.

Week of

September 7-10

Kanga Pouches

Your child will be going home with a “kanga Pouch” tomorrow! This will hold your child’s art, messages from the school, etc. Please check it daily and send it back to school each day.

Masks

Please see the EICS communication regarding masks. Masks are required for all staff and students when in common areas.

Forms

Your child is receiving some important information in their kanga pouches this week. Included is your login information for Google Classroom and a consent form for our inclusive learning services staff.

We are blessed to have the opportunity to have each kindergarten student in our division to be seen and screened by division SLPs, OTs and other professionals to see how we can best support each child. Please return these forms as soon as you are able to. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to reach out!