



Our Lady of Mount Carmel School

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Administrators' Message November Newsletter 2011

October was a very busy month. Read in Week was very successful. We had a variety of guest readers come in to read with the students. Thank you to all guests who came out to share your stories with the students.

We would like to welcome our student teachers from the University of Alberta. Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with us.

*Our Remembrance Day Commemoration will be held on **Wednesday, November 9th** at 9:00 AM in our school gym. Any students in cadets, scouts, girl guides, brownies, sparks etc. are encouraged to wear their uniforms. All parents are welcome to celebrate with us.*

***November 10th** is a district wide P.D. day so there will be **no school** on this Thursday morning.*

*During the month of November we will be reporting to you about your child's progress. **On November 25th**, report cards will be going home. We hope to see all parents and students at the student/parent/teacher Learning Conferences on December 1st. Your attendance is very important in guaranteeing the whole cycle of assessment is complete. A Learning Conference Request form will be sent home with the report cards.*

A big thank you goes out to the Mrs. Pinto and Mrs. Clarke and the members of the Spirit Team for all the hard work organizing and running our Halloween Carnival. It should be an excellent afternoon.

***BOOK FAIR:** We will be hosting a **Book Fair** from **Nov. 29-Dec.1** (we are open during S/P/T conferences!)*

Mr. Michael Kovacs Principal
Mrs. Theresa Lema Assistant Principal



REPORT CARDS & S/P/T Learning Conferences

Reports cards for all grades one to nine students will be sent home on Friday, November 25th. Demonstrations of Learning and time to discuss your child's report card with his/her teacher for the first reporting period will be held the following week on December 1st from 1:00-5:00 pm and 6:00-8:00 pm. A letter will go home describing the Student/Parent/Teacher conferences and inviting you to schedule a conference time. Please plan on joining your child in this celebration of his/her learning!

Kindergarten classes will be cancelled on December 1st to accommodate a full day of Demonstrations of Learning. Kindergarten will be booking between 8:30 AM and 7:30 PM with time for lunch and supper. Please book a time with Mrs. Lamoureux.

Grade 9: Take Our Kids to Work Day

Take Our Kids to Work Day is on Wednesday Nov. 2 for all Gr. 9 students. In the past, children who attend Edmonton Catholic Schools have participated in this program, which takes place during school hours. It is your individual choice whether you decide to have your child partake in the *Take Our Kids to Work Day*. This day will not be organized by Edmonton Catholic Schools and it is not a district sponsored field trip. All the grade 9 parents will need to report this day as an absence—call the school office at 780-433-1062 or return the letter that was sent home to all grade 9 students.

School Council News

Our School Council meeting will be Wednesday, November 2 at 7 PM in the school library. Your new School Council Executive for the 2011-2012 school year is as follows:

Chair: Sigrid Olsen

Vice Chair: Stephanie Dunstan-Adams

Secretary: Rachelle Ross-Panchyshyn

Treasurer: Shawna Wilson

The 7th annual SAC magazine subscription fundraiser will run through the month of November. The fundraiser involves buying or renewing magazine subscriptions. CCRP is a "middleman" for the subscriptions, and there are hundreds of magazines in the program. We have chosen this fundraiser because:

- it offers good value, as the products are offered at a saving (the program guarantees the lowest prices available, and CCRP will accept any lower price coupons when they are attached to the order form);
- it promotes reading in our community;

- it offers excellent commissions to our school (40% stays with the school);
- all orders are guaranteed 100% for service and satisfaction through CCRP's office;
- friends, co-workers and relatives can be invited to submit order forms or order online;
- it's easy and convenient, especially for Christmas gifts!

The funds raised will be used to sponsor school activities such as:

- Family Dance and Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast
- supplies and costumes for student performances and concerts
- projects or identified student needs approved by the School Advisory Council

A brochure, order form, and instructions will be sent home with your child for you to consider. Orders may be placed online or by returning your order form to the school.

During the Parent/Student/Teacher interview we will be selling front row raffle tickets for the Christmas Concert.

Casino News

Attention: parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and siblings over the age of 18!

OLMC Casino committee needs only five more volunteers. Can you help to make our casino successful?

Shifts: **November 3- from 6:45 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.**

November 4- 11:30 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Call Sigrid Olsen at 780 991 5336 for more info or email: sigridolsen@shaw.ca

School Picture Retakes

Our picture retakes will be on Monday, November 1 in the morning. Students are requested to bring back their original pictures when they come in for retakes.

Kindergarten News

Please note the important dates below for the kindergarten classes:

- November 4-No Classes
- November 7-In-class puppet presentation (1:00-2:45)
- November 21, 23, 28, 30-Skating lessons
- November 28-First Advent Celebration at school

Inclement Weather

We are entering the cold season and we encourage students to dress appropriately for the weather. Students go outside at recess and lunchtime unless the weather is inclement. Components of inclement weather are: continuous rain, extreme wind, extreme cold (combination of temperature and wind-chill factor of **-20 degrees Celsius**).

Students stay inside during inclement weather. We are in contact with the weather bureau and we also follow a weather chart that gives us the necessary information. Rest assured that we would not allow the little ones to freeze. We also rely on students to follow good judgment when it comes to freezing temperatures. When students arrive early at school, students may use their respective entrances when severe conditions arise.

Please be advised that the following Radio and TV Stations will carry announcements with respect to transportation cancellations due to inclement weather conditions.

RADIO STATIONS

CHED
CISN FM 103.9
JOE FM 92.5
INEWS 880 AM
The Bounce FM 91.7

AM 930 The Light CJCA
SHINE 105.9 FM
CFRN The Team 1260
EZ Rock 104.9
The Bear 100.3 FM

CBC
CHFA (CBC Fr.)
CFCW 790
CAPITAL FM 96.3
K97 97.3

TV STATIONS

CITYTV

CTV Edmonton

GLOBAL Edmonton

CBC TV

Every effort will be made to have messages broadcast commencing no later than 6:30 a.m.

Visitors to the School/Parent Pick up

For the safety of all students in the school ... we are asking that all parents picking up their child/ren from school to please come to the office to sign out your child/ren. All visitors to the school must sign in at the office.

Skating Lessons

As part of the physical education program, the grade K - 3 students will participate in skating lessons with SUBAR Power Skating at the end of November. Students will require skates and helmets. Parents, please watch for a field trip form that will give detailed information on cost and requirements. It will be coming home soon with the students.

We could use your hands...to help with tying and untying skates at the rink. If you are available to help, please indicate that on the field trip form or contact your child's teacher.

Where: George S. Hughes Southside arena

Dates: November 21, 23, 28, 30 & December 5 (Mon. and Wed.)

Time:

Kindergarten & Grade 1: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Grade 2 & 3: 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.

Celebrations and Music News

I would like to thank all the singers who came out to help with our Thanksgiving Celebration held on October 7th at the school. With the assistance of Mrs. Clarke, the Performing Arts Academy Choir certainly added to our celebration and helped to guide the rest of the students. Great work!

Upcoming events: Our Remembrance Day observance will be on Nov. 9th. The grade 9 band will be making its premier performance and our own Kindergarten class will be performing a song. Parents are welcome to attend.

Even though it seems early, Our Christmas concert is approaching quickly. It will be taking place on Dec. 15th at 7:00 PM. Students need to be at the school by 6:30 so they have time to warm up their voices and instruments.

Please ensure that if your child is either in Elementary or in the Junior High Band Program that they have that evening free. It will be great to see all the kids dressed up for their first concert of the year! As always, parents and grandparents, etc. are welcome to attend.

Thanks to everyone who sold entertainment coupon books. Sales were much better than last year. In the next newsletter I will give the final sales figures and also who our big prize winners were.

"Music education is not merely desirable, but essential, to the full development of every student. The primary values of Music and music education overlap the essential life values that most individuals and societies pursue for the good of each and all: personal growth, differentiation, complexity, enjoyment, self-esteem, and happiness. The welfare of a society depends on the ability of its citizens to pursue and achieve these values regularly. The quality of individual and community depends on providing people with the knowings and the opportunities they require to make a life as well as a living" --- David Elliot.

Dale Chapman
Music Director
Mount Carmel School

Homework and Extra Help Club!

Anyone wanting to have classroom time to catch up on any homework, or anyone in need of help with any work from class time is more than welcome to attend Homework club. This will be in Mrs. Wood's room 206 on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 8:00-8:40 a.m. Feel free to drop in at your convenience with all of your relevant books and materials.

Grade 6 Field Studies

Fabulous Sixes' Field Studies!

FAB Sixes explored deep in the woods to scientifically research & discover the richness of resources in Alberta's Trees and Forests!

The John Howard Society provided guest speaker Jay Shreiner who instructed us on Canadian Law; specifically, "The Youth Criminal Justice Act" in a two part series. Did you know that...Laws are *rules* with *consequences*!

Educator and Artist Don Delaney is our guest for a series of **two** unique programs; "Policy Debate" and "Art & Nature!" Mr. Delaney is a talented photographer, and wood carver of Alberta Birds. FAB Sixes welcome this special guest during a series of instructional and inspirational lessons.

October's journey led us to Ancient Athens! The Muse Project at the University of Alberta's Print Study Center and W. G. Hardy Museum provided effective time travel. This trip included holding, magnifying and measuring 3000 year old artifacts courtesy of Dr. Jeremy Rossiter. FAB Researchers discovered a 3000 year old Ancient Greek's fingerprint on an artifact! WOW! Learning is such an adventure!



Soccer Update

Boys Soccer

Congratulations to the Boys' Soccer Team. Their hard work and dedication made it a great season. Overall in the city south division they finished 3rd in the regular season schedule and finished off their final game against St. Basil in a crossovers match. Great job!

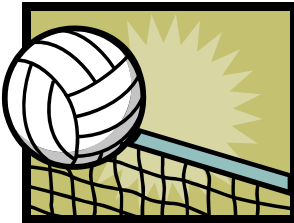
Girls Soccer

The Girls Soccer team also had an excellent season. They worked hard all year and despite not having a large group of players they did the school proud once again.



MTC Sports

For the first time in recent memory Our Lady of Mount Carmel will have 4 different volleyball teams this year. Due to the overwhelming response of student that wish to play volleyball the school will have both senior and junior teams this year. Of course this is also possible because of the dedication of a number of teachers that have volunteered to coach the teams this year. The teams have already been picked.



Congratulations to all student athletes who tried out and made the Senior Boys and Girls Volleyball teams. Good Luck to all teams!



Spirit Team News



Western Day on Monday November 14

The Canadian Finals Rodeo runs from November 9th to 13th at Rexall Place. Let's get into the Wild West spirit and wear our cowboy hats and boots.

Hot Lunch on Friday, November 25

The Spirit Team will be putting on a hot lunch from OPA! Souvlaki of Greece. Watch your child's agenda for order forms.

Thanks you to the spirit team members who have been working hard on so many school events this year:

Julian K, Mary J, Darrell B, Justin C, Brittany K, Brittany M, Reilly P, Jordan P, Daniel K, Blake S.



Superintendent's Message

NOVEMBER, 2011

“Oh Lord, you will ordain peace for us, for indeed, all that we have done, you have done for us.” (Isaiah 26:12)

On Sunday, November 6, parishes throughout Alberta will be celebrating Catholic Education. To have publicly-funded Catholic education in our province is truly a treasure, one that must be appreciated and nurtured. We thank the Alberta bishops for their continuing support of this gift, and thank all individuals from our District who are speaking on behalf of Catholic schools at the various masses within each of the parishes.

The month of November with its themes of peace, freedom and remembering those who have died in wars or who presently serve our country in the various peace-keeping missions is a time for parents/guardians to attend and participate in various celebrations in our schools. Please note the following dates when there is **no school for students**:

- Thursday, November 10 (District-wide PD for school staffs – no students attend)
- Friday, November 11, Remembrance Day holiday

Our District's enrolment based on our September 30, 2011 student count is 34,616. The Premier and Education Minister Thomas Lukaszuk announced \$107M to restore education funding across the province. Our portion of this funding is \$5,487,591 which will be allocated to schools, directly impacting students in the classrooms.

On October 5th, the Board of Trustees released the 2010-2011 Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Examination results. The District continued to exceed the province in a large number of subject areas for students in Grades 3, 6, and 9 as well as in Diploma Examinations.

- The percentage of Edmonton Catholic Schools' students achieving the **Acceptable Standard exceeded** the provincial percentage of students in **14 out of 17 standards**.
- The percentage of Edmonton Catholic Schools' students achieving the **Standard of Excellence exceeded** the provincial percentage of students in **9 out of 17 standards**.
- The percentage of Edmonton Catholic Schools' students achieving the **Acceptable Standard exceeded** the provincial percentage in:
 - School-Awarded Marks in **9 out of 11 standards**
 - Diploma Examination Marks in **7 out of 11 standards**
 - Final Course Marks in **8 out of 11 standards**

For complete Diploma and Achievement Test results, please refer to: http://ecsd.net/annual_reports/about.html#results

Many of our schools will enter the first formal reporting period with parents – please take this opportunity to visit your child's school and teachers and to discuss fully your child's learning.

On November 20th, Canadians celebrate National Child Day and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, reinforcing the Government of Canada's strong commitment to promoting and safeguarding the rights of children and youth in Canada and abroad. As a Catholic school district, raising awareness of child rights is an important part of support for our students and their families.

During the month of November, I urge to take part in an on-line parent survey regarding allocations of our District's 2012-2013 provincial funding. More information will be sent from your schools as part of this month's newsletter.

A harvest of justice is sown in peace by those who make peace. (James 3:18)

Sincerely,



Joan Carr
Superintendent

Bishop Motiuk Message

November 2011

Saint Andrew, Model of Evangelization

Saint Andrew is one of the Twelve Apostles chosen by Jesus. Andrew is also known as the *First-called*, since he was the first of all the disciples to be called by Christ (John 1: 35-40).

I've always liked Andrew. Maybe it's because legend has it that he preached the Gospel among my ancestors on the hills of today's Kiev, erecting a cross on the site, and prophesying that a great Christian city would be built there. But it's also Andrew's eagerness to follow Christ and introduce him to others that equally makes Andrew a favourite.

Andrew first met Jesus the day after Christ's baptism. Andrew and John were among the crowd when Jesus walked by, and they heard John the Baptist say, "Look, here is the Lamb of God" (John 1:36).

The Bible continues: "When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi, where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see'" (Jn 1:38-39). And immediately they began to follow Jesus.

Notice next the first thing Andrew does: "He first found his brother Simon [Saint Peter] and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah.' And he brought Simon to Jesus" (Jn 1: 40-42).

It's as if the news was too good to keep it to himself! Andrew rushes off to find his brother and leads him to Christ too!

Andrew would spend the rest of his life leading others to Christ, one person at a time.

Andrew serves as a model of evangelization. The most effective and important aspects of evangelization – sharing the Good News of the Gospel – takes place on an individual, personal level. Most people do not come to Christ as an immediate response to a sermon they hear in a crowded setting. They come to Christ because of the influence and invitation of an individual.

And this is what we can do for Christ today. Under the example and patronage of Saint Andrew, we can encourage our family members, friends, school classmates, neighbours, and co-workers to find Christ. We can personally invite them to come to Church with us on Sunday.

The most effective means for bringing people to Christ is one person at a time, on an individual basis. "Come and see!"

The Feast of Saint Andrew is celebrated in the Roman Catholic, Ukrainian Catholic, and in all the Eastern and Western Christian Churches on November 30.

Bishop David Motiuk
Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton

Archbishop Bishop Message



The **Catholic Bishops**
of **Alberta** and the
Northwest Territories

Les **Evêques Catholiques**
de **l'Alberta** et les
Territoires du Nord-Ouest

8421 - 101 Avenue | Edmonton | AB | Canada | T6A 0L1 | Tel 780.469.1010 | Fax 780.465.3003

Catholic Education Sunday

November 6, 2011

Open Wide the Doors

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Open wide the doors to Christ!

In the Book of Revelation we read, “Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.”

(Revelation 3:20)

When Pope John Paul II began his pontificate some of the first words he spoke were: “Do not be afraid. Open, I say open wide the doors for Christ.” His words have been echoed by Pope Benedict XVI. These words are an invitation to believers not to be afraid to allow the light and love of Christ to touch and transform our lives. As Catholics, we actively seek this light. We open the door to the Lord and know that He will come and sit with us and guide us. Let us be sure to open this door in our Catholic schools. Our beloved students need our schools to be bright with the light of Christ. We open the door to the Lord when the students follow a curriculum and activities fully permeated with the beauty of our faith; when teachers are authentic witnesses of the Christian life; when staff and administration strive diligently to ensure that our schools form a Gospel culture; and when trustees are guided by the teachings of the Lord and His Church and reflect their faith in the political arena. Schools that consciously open their doors to Christ are a priceless treasure. We must continue to support the valuable and vital role that our Catholic schools play in our Church and in our broader communities.

Let this Catholic Education Sunday be a call to ensure that we are continuing to open wide the doors to Christ in our schools. We will face challenges, but we must not cower in the face of them. Rather we must remain steadfast in our relationship with Christ and His Church. With Christ as our teacher, we will learn and grow in a living tradition of faith and wisdom. Opening wide our doors to Him, we shall be transformed into authentic witnesses of His love.

Therefore, do not be afraid. Let us move forward and open wide the doors of our hearts and our schools to Christ. - 2 -

A Special Message to Students on Catholic Education Sunday

When Jesus calls us to open wide the doors, he is asking us to open the doors of our hearts to him. Sometimes it is uncomfortable or scary to open the door to the unknown. But Jesus is not a stranger or an unknown in our lives. We were baptized into his family and are growing up in his Church.

When we open the doors of our heart to Jesus, we are inviting him into our lives and we are making a commitment to journey with him. Let us not be afraid of this.

Your Catholic school and your teachers are all part of the world that has opened its heart to Christ. Use these people as your role models in faith. See the possibilities that life holds in store for you when you chose to live in Christ's light.

If we embrace his light with our whole being, we will then also become roles models, evangelizers, for those who have yet to open wide their hearts. So go forth, and as Pope John Paul II told the Church: 'Do not be afraid. Open, I say open wide the doors for Christ.'

Most Reverend Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Edmonton

Most Reverend Gerard Pettipas CSsR
Archbishop of Grouard-McLennan

Most Reverend Murray Chatlain
Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith

Most Reverend Frederick Henry
Bishop of Calgary

Most Reverend David Motiuk
Bishop of the Ukrainian Eparchy of
Edmonton

Most Reverend Luc Bouchard
Bishop of St. Paul

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> <i>Picture Retake Day</i>	<i>2</i> <i>SAC Meeting 7:00 Library</i>	<i>3</i> <i>Casino</i>	<i>4</i> <i>Casino</i> <i>No school for Kindergarten</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> <i>Catholic Education Sunday</i> <i>Day light savings: Fall Back</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> <i>Remembrance Day Celebration 9:00am</i>	<i>10</i> <i>P.D. Day</i> <i>No School</i>	<i>11</i> <i>Remembrance Day</i> <i>No School</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> <i>International Education Week 14 - 18</i>	<i>14</i> <i>Base Hockey at MTC Hockey Academy all week</i> <i>Western Day (CFR)</i>	<i>15</i> <i>Base Hockey</i>	<i>16</i> <i>Base Hockey</i>	<i>17</i> <i>Stollery Hospital Presentations K-9(a.m.)</i> <i>Base Hockey</i>	<i>18</i> <i>Dental Screening K-4</i> <i>Base Hockey</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> <i>Oil Kings visit Elem. Hockey Academy</i> <i>Skating Lessons K-3</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> <i>Skating Lessons K-3</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> <i>Hot lunch</i> <i>Report Cards go home</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> <i>Advent Celebration</i> <i>Skating Lessons K-3</i>	<i>29</i> <i>Book Fair</i>	<i>30</i> <i>Book Fair</i> <i>Skating Lessons K-3</i>	<i>1</i> <i>Book Fair</i> <i>Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews</i> <i>No Kindergarten</i>		