

École Mother Teresa School

December Newsletter

Welcome to the month of December and the season of Advent. As we journey through the four weeks of Advent we quiet our hearts as we wait for the birth of Jesus and remember the real reason for the season. We thank you so much in advance for your generosity as we work to support the Sylvan Lake Food Bank with our donations, Family Services of Central Alberta with our Gifts for Grandparents and families within our own school community through our Hot Dog Sale. We know that this time of the year can be challenging for some and the ability to help, even in small ways, is greatly appreciated. We have many Advent, Faith and school spirit activities planned throughout the month as we look forward to the season.



Important Information

- **Faith:** Please join us for our Advent Celebrations December 13, 2023 at Our Lady of Assumption
 - Grades 7-9 at 9:15 a.m.
 - Grades 5-6 at 10:30- 11:30 a.m.
- **Awards and Honor Roll:** During our Friday, November 24th PD day, as a school community, staff had in-depth discussions and have expressed the importance of our Crusaders Awards and have chosen this as the emphasis for awards each term. The Crusader Award is given to a student from every grade 6-9 homeroom who is a model of faith that follows Mother Teresa's example. They are a responsible student, who works to serve and be the hands of God through faith, care and compassion, empathy and work ethic and they always do the right thing even when no one is watching. Please know that once our certificates are in, our students who attained Honor Roll and Honor with Distinction will be presented their certificates in a smaller setting within the classroom and in front of their peers. Our awards ceremony will be on December 14, 2023 and parents of our Crusaders Awards recipients will be notified.
- **Food Bank and Gifts for Grandparents:** As we recognise the increased needs within our community and that of Sylvan Lake, if possible, we encourage families to donate non-perishable food items and any gifts that could help support. Students can bring the items to their homeroom teacher...let's see who can bring the most!
- **Schoology:** As a school community, our next steps for schoology will be working towards adding our due dates of assignments and our tests and quizzes into your child's schoology calendar. This professional development for all teachers will occur at our PD day on February 2, 2024. Please contact kristin.miller@rdcrs.ca with any Schoology questions.
- **Athletics:** Crusader Basketball is underway with our senior teams completed and our junior team tryouts occurring during the first and second week of December. Once the teams are

*Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter, Nurture, and Serve
Inspiré par Dieu dans une aventure à découvrir, grandir, et servir.*

completed, we will finalize our coaches and get the seasons underway. In the New Year, we will once again be looking to run a skill development program for those students who did not make a team but are wanting to improve their skills. Our volleyball team awards will occur after our Crusader Awards on December 14.

- **French Immersion:** December 20th, we will be celebrating a French Tradition of Le Réveillon with our French Immersion community. This is a Christmas tradition that is normally celebrated on the 24th with food, music and community.

Important Dates

- December 4 - Taco Time Hot Lunch
- December 8 - NO SCHOOL - PD FAITH Day for all RDCRS staff
- December 11 - Tim Horton's Hot Lunch
- December 13 - Grade 7 to 9 Advent Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
- December 13 - Grade 5 & 6 Advent Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
- December 14 - Grades 6/7 Awards at 9:15 a.m.
- December 14 - Grades 8/9 Awards at 10:30 a.m.
- December 18 - Red and Green Day
- December 18 - Subway Hot Lunch
- December 19 - Christmas Socks Day
- December 19 - Grade 5 Awards 8:45 a.m.
- December 20 - Christmas Hat Day
- December 20 - Réveillon for our French Immersion community
- December 21 - Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
- December 22 - Christmas Pajamas Day
- December 23 - January 5 - Christmas Break
- January 8 - Return to School

Important Links

- [New curriculum info for parents](#)
- [EMTS schoology support for parents](#)
- [School calendar](#)
- [2022-2023 AEA Report](#)

As we look forward to a busy month ahead, we wish you blessings for a wonderful Advent season and a safe and blessed Christmas. Enjoy the anticipation and excitement that comes with waiting and the Christmas holidays to spend time with those you love.

Yours in Christ,



Mme Erika Pottage