

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 Chalice Fundraiser to support our families in Guatemala, Family Services of Central Alberta with our Gifts for Grandparents and families within our own school community. 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 11, 2023 in our school gym at 9:00 a.m.
- **Awards:** 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.
 - **December 19 - Grade 5 Shine awards at 9:00 a.m..**
 - **December 19 - Grades 8/9 Awards at 10:15 a.m.**
 - **December 19 - Grades 6/7 Awards at 11:00 a.m**
- **Honor Roll:** In conversation with School Council members, students who attained Honor Roll and Honor with Distinction will be emailed their digital certificates. Homeroom teachers will recognise their accomplishments in class. If students attain honor roll all year, they will be presented with a certificate at the year end awards ceremony in which parents will be invited to.
- **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!
- **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 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

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

occur after our Crusader Awards on December 19th, 2024. Please check out our new athletic calendar <https://www.ecolemotherteresa.ca/athletics>

- **Community:** We are hoping that on Wednesday December 18th, our school community will join together for a meal. We will be serving our students a Christmas dinner including Turkey or Ham, potatoes, veggies and a bun. We look forward to sharing this experience together.
- **Music program:** Our grade 5 and 6 music classes, as well as MS band, will be performing on Dec 18th in our gym from 1:30-3:00 p.m. All are welcome!
- **French Immersion:** During the last week of December, 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 9- Advent celebration at EMTS at 9:00 a.m.**
- **December 11- MADD presentation for grade 8 and 9**
- **December 12- Student Pep Rally**
- **December 13 - NO SCHOOL - PD Day**
- **December 11 - Tim Horton's Hot Lunch**
- **December 18- Christmas dinner**
- **December 18- Music and Band Concert at 1:30**
- **December 19 - Grade 5 at 9:00 a.m..**
- **December 19 - Grades 8/9 Awards at 10:15 a.m.**
- **December 19 - Grades 6/7 Awards at 11:00 a.m**
- **December 20 - January 5 - Christmas Break**
- **January 6 - Return to School**

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