



## January 2026 Newsletter

### Administrators' Message

January 9, 2026

Dear St. Richard Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope that your holiday season was filled with peace, joy, and the love of Christ. As we begin 2026, we are filled with anticipation for all the wonderful things God has in store for our school community.

As we reflect on the past year, we are truly grateful for the many accomplishments and experiences that have brought us closer together as a school community. From our Advent celebrations, Christmas festivities, Kid Inventor activities, and all the other wonderful experiences, we have witnessed the growth of our students in faith, academics, and character. These moments are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, staff, families and parish, all of whom contribute to creating a vibrant spirit in our school.

Looking ahead, we are excited for the opportunities that this new year brings. May 2026 be a year of growth, joy, and blessings for our entire school community.

Thank you for your continued partnership. Please know we always welcome your feedback. You can contact us via email or phone. Let us continue to walk forward in faith, with Christ as our guide.

Blessings to you all for a healthy and prosperous new year!

Alannah Muirhead  
Principal

Leanne Aura  
Assistant Principal

## Have Your Say in Catholic Education!

The ECSD Annual Survey is here! A paper survey has been sent home with your child. Please complete one survey per child and return it to our school or mail it directly using the supplied Canada Post business reply envelope.

The letter inside the envelope incorrectly states the deadline as January 9. The correct deadline is January 23, 2026.

Your feedback helps shape the future of Catholic education. Learn more at [ecsd.net/annualsurvey](http://ecsd.net/annualsurvey)

## Parent Council News

Our next parent council meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 22 at 6:30pm** in the library. We invite all parents and guardians to join us at our meetings. Thank you to our council and volunteers who assisted with the Santa breakfast and a special thank you to Santa for coming!

## Healthy Hunger

Parent Council is once again offering families the opportunity to order lunch for their children through Healthy Hunger. Thank you to Holly Karch for organizing this for our families.



### Healthy Hunger Dates for 2025/26

January 23 Dairy Queen  
February 13 Subway  
March 13 Pizza Hut  
April 17 Popeye's  
May 8 Rice Bowl Deluxe  
June 12 Dairy Queen

Please note all orders are due at 11:59 pm the Sunday before the order is delivered.

Volunteers are also needed to help deliver the orders to the classroom. If you can help, please email [strichardparentassociation@gmail.com](mailto:strichardparentassociation@gmail.com)

## Progress Reports

Student progress summary reports will be available for students in grade one to six via PowerSchool on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. Please take the time to review your child's progress with them. We also encourage you to connect with your child's teacher if you have any questions about your child's learning. Please note that there is no summary report for kindergarten students.

## Inclement Weather

This is a reminder to ensure that your child comes to school with appropriate clothing for being outdoors. As we know, the weather can change quickly, and we want to ensure students are prepared to be outside in colder temperatures.

## Transportation

Those families who are using the yellow school bus are reminded to download the Bus Planner App for up-to-date information. The app will send notifications of delays or bus cancellations.

If your child rides the bus, it is important that you communicate with your child what arrangements are in place should the bus not arrive at their stop in the morning or if it is delayed, especially with colder temperatures.

We also ask that you ensure you have your contact information up to date in PowerSchool, so in the event the bus is delayed at the end of the day, the school can contact you to pick up your child.

Please note that issues with yellow bus transportation should be addressed directly to the Division's transportation department at 780-441-6078.

## Reading Stars at St. Richard

Our school wide literacy initiative, *Reading Stars*, continues this month. Students were so proud to put their reading strips into the grade jar and many jars were overflowing. Thank you to everyone for your participation; all our students win when they read!

## Professional Learning Days

A reminder that St. Richard staff will participate in a school-based professional learning day. As a reminder there will be no classes for students on the following day:

Thursday, January 29, 2026

## Chaplain's Corner

Returning to the routines of school, work, and extracurricular activities after the Christmas season we also transition into Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. This is signified with the colour green.

As the Christmas season draws to a close and the darkness of January falls upon us, it is important to remember that the light of Jesus Christ still shines brightly to guide us through our daily life.

As a Catholic community let us not forget our sense of hospitality that was shared with friends and family over the holidays and let us continue to be welcoming and inclusive of all people that we encounter.

With this intention in mind, the theme for the book selections for January focuses on hospitality.

[Eddie Longpants](#)- Written by Mireille Levert, this book tells the story of learning how to welcome and accept someone who is different from us.

[Four Feet Two Sandals](#) by Karen Lynn Williams and Khadra Mohammed- Ten-year-old Lina is thrilled when she finds a sandal that fits her foot perfectly, until she sees that another girl has the matching shoe. What will the girls do?

## School Fees

School Fees were posted to Parent Power School accounts in September. Fee payments can be made online. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please contact the office to speak with Mrs. Muirhead to discuss how we can support you.

## Cobs Bread Dough Raiser Fundraiser

A reminder that St. Richard is part of the Dough Raiser Program at **Cobs Bread at Harvest Pointe**. Mention our school's name when it's time to pay, then they ring in the sale under the umbrella of our school's name. 5% of the total sales rung under our school's name will be paid back to our school in the form of a cheque at the end of the school year in June 2025! Please tell your family and friends about this opportunity, the more sales we can accumulate, the more we get back for our students.

## Mark Your Calendars

January 10 – Bottle Drive

January 18 – Deadline for Healthy Hunger Order at 11:59 pm

January 22 – Parent Council Meeting – 6:30 pm in the library

January 23 – Hot Lunch Day

January 27 – Progress Reports available at 4:00 pm on PowerSchool