

Principal's Message

Welcome back to another exciting school year! We are so thrilled to welcome both our new and returning students and families to St. Elizabeth School. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new principal of St. Elizabeth School. My name is Delia de Sousa, and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to partner with you in your child's educational journey.

This year, our division theme is "Rejoice in Hope," inspired by Romans 12:12, which reads, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer." As Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope," this theme resonates deeply with our school community.

"Rejoicing in Hope" means embracing optimism even when we face challenges, trusting in God's plan for us, and spreading that hope to others around us. In our school community, this theme will guide how we interact with one another, how we approach our learning, and how we serve each other. We will encourage our students to be beacons of hope, supporting their peers, showing compassion, and acting with kindness in everything they do.

I look forward to working together to make this a wonderful year for your children.

Blessings, Delia de Sousa Principal



Chief Superintendent Anderson's Message



Chief Superintendent Anderson's Message for September is available on our division website.

Labour Updates

The Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA), which represents teachers throughout the province, and the Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA), which represents the Government, are currently negotiating a new collective agreement.

At this time, no job action has been announced, so we are proceeding with business as usual.

For updates on the bargaining process and possible job action, please visit the <u>Labour Updates</u> page on our division website.



Meet the Staff Evening

Thursday, September 25 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. You will have the opportunity to tour the school and visit your children's classrooms. Our wonderful teachers will be sharing important information about the school year and parents will have the opportunity to ask questions. Families will be treated to hot dogs and chips during our evening.

Our School Council parent meeting will begin at 7:00 pm, directly following Meet the Staff. Elections for executive positions will occur at this time. We would love to have parents join and become involved in our parent advisory group!



School Hours

First Bell	8:20 AM
Recess	10:15 AM-10:30 AM
Lunch	12:00 PM- 12:20 PM
Lunch Recess	12:20 PM -12:35 PM
Dismissal	2:59 PM

*Thursday Dismissal: 12:00 PM



Office Hours

Our school office is open from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Thursdays, our school office is open from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Parents who call the school after these hours are asked to leave a clear message, and we will return your call as soon as we are able to. Parents are asked to enter absence information through PowerSchool.

Please remember that we will be happy to give your child a message at the end of the day or at breaks in instructional time, such as recess or lunch. We thank you for your understanding of our wanting to protect learning time for all students by not interrupting classes for messages.



Visitors and Volunteers

For the safety of our students, the doors to the school remain locked during the school day. In keeping with our district Occupational Health and Safety requirements, all visitors and volunteers must report to the office, review the safety guidelines for the school, sign in, and receive a visitor's badge. Everyone must sign out in the office as well.

St. Elizabeth, like all schools in ECSD, complies with our division-wide volunteer administrative procedures. Some of the key points in the procedures include:

1. All volunteers shall be required to complete a "Volunteer Registration Form" annually and prior to commencing any volunteer activities in the school.





Visitors and Volunteers

- 2. All volunteers who are to be assisting with school activities on any given day shall register at the school office at the beginning of each day. School staff shall be instructed that a volunteer register or log shall be kept and made available to the school principal at all times. The volunteer register shall contain legible names of the volunteers and their expected location or classroom assignment during the course of their duties during the day.
- 3. While engaged in volunteer activities, all volunteers shall wear appropriate identification.

In keeping with division policy, we will be asking all parents who have not yet done so to complete the volunteer registration form. Thank you for your cooperation and support!



Important Information

Property Taxes

All property owners are encouraged to examine their Tax Notice to ensure that their support is assigned to Edmonton Catholic Schools. If you own a business or are in a business partnership, please check to see that your taxes are being allocated to our division (partial allocations can also be designated). If there is an error, please contact the City of Edmonton using their 311 number or through email: taxinquiry@edmonton.ca

Personal Property/Electronic Devices

Students are responsible for all personal property, including electronic devices. All personal items should be clearly marked with the student's name. This makes it much easier to return items to students if they are misplaced and reduces the number of items collected - and often not claimed - in our Lost and Found bins. Students should never leave money and valuables unattended. The school cannot be responsible for damage or loss, and we do not investigate if these items go missing.



Student Pick Ups and Drop Offs

We kindly ask for your diligence in respecting speed limits and parking restrictions in and around our school. In particular we ask that parents **do not use the bus zones** for drop-offs and pick-ups. As well, the **staff parking lot is strictly prohibited** for student drop-offs and pick-ups.

We encourage you to use the **neighbouring Leefield community parking** instead.

Your cooperation in helping keep our students safe is greatly appreciated.



School Fees

\$50 fee for students in grade 1-6. School fees are directed toward items such as software subscriptions and consumable items for students and activities such as school events and fun days. Every effort has been made to keep school fees as reasonable as possible.

We recognize that payment of fees can be difficult, especially for those parents who have a number of children returning to school. Fees may be paid online through PowerSchool using either Mastercard or Visa. Parents who are unfamiliar with making payments through PowerSchool are invited to contact our school office for assistance.



Social Media

Do you wonder about what's going on in classrooms at St. Elizabeth? Follow us on social media to see what we're up to:

Instagram: stelizabethecsd



Upcoming Events

September 11 – School Opening celebration 11am

September 17 – Terry Fox Rally 1pm

September 22-26 – U School for Grade 5 & 6

September 25 – Let your light shine awards 11am

- Meet the staff 6-7pm and Parent council meeting 7-8pm

September 26 – Pancake Breakfast and Terry Fox Run 1:00pm

September 29 – Orange Shirt Day

September 30 – No school: Truth and Reconciliation Day

