

St. Nicholas Weekly News

February 28th-March 3rd, 2022

Dear Families,

The conflict in Ukraine is tragic and many people in our St. Nicholas community have been affected by this unprovoked war. On Tuesday, March 1st, all EICS schools will be standing in solidarity with the people of Ukraine by wearing the national colours of blue and yellow. At 11:00 a.m., we will have a moment of silence across the division to pray for peace in the Eastern Europe. We offer a prayer for peace as we support the people in Ukraine:



God of infinite mercy and goodness, with grateful hearts we pray to you today for Peace. You offer us your peace continually and constantly remind us that peacemakers are blessed. We pray to you for the people of Ukraine who are experiencing conflict and death. Bless the leaders with wisdom, vision and perseverance needed to build together a world of justice and solidarity, and to break down walls of hostility and division. To you we pray that the people of Ukraine may never yield to discouragement and despair, but become heralds of new hope to one another in this challenging time. Lord, grant peace to Ukraine. We pray through Christ our Lord, Amen.

As we approach the season of Lent we are reminded that this season provides us a time to prepare for the essence of our faith - the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 2) and lasts 40 days. We participate in Lent through Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Students and staff will participate in a virtual Ash Wednesday mass at 12:15pm. Classroom teachers will be distributing ashes to students (following Covid protocols set forth by the parish). If you are able to join us virtually please visit the parish website at www.olph.ca. Click on "Livestream Worship". The recording will be posted following the mass.

Shrove Tuesday falls on the Tuesday before Lent (March 1). On this day, we traditionally eat pancakes, syrup, and sausages. In the past, the reason for this delicious meal was to use up foods such as butter, eggs, and milk before Lent. On Tuesday, students will receive individually wrapped pancakes and sausages from Headquarters restaurant paid for by our School Council. We are asking students to bring in a toonie that day to assist School Council to offset some of the costs.

God Bless,

Peter Rachmistruk

Principal

Upcoming Important Dates

- **Tuesday, March 1** - Shrove Tuesday (bring \$2 for pancake breakfast)/Wear blue and yellow
- **Wednesday, March 2** - Ash Wednesday mass/Early dismissal (2:14pm)
- **Friday, March 4** - PD Day (no school)
- **March 22/23** - Parent/Teacher conferences (more information to come)
- **Thursday, March 24** - Last day of classes before spring break
- **Monday, April 4** - Classes resume

Information

- During Lent, as we prepare our hearts for Easter, we try to spend more time in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This year, we want to engage our students in two special service projects
 - Letter/card writing to families in Saddle Lake and Ukraine
 - Clothing Collection for the Clothing Nook at OLPH.
 - Our goal is to show even our littlest students that they are never too small to generously serve others.
- **Book Fair Information** - Our book fair will run from February 28 – March 10. Students will have one opportunity to peruse the book fair and one opportunity to come in and shop. Parents will have the opportunity to shop from the comfort of home at our Virtual Book Fair, <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5160349> Books will be shipped in sealed envelopes to St. Nicholas. If the books are presents and you would like the books to go home with you instead of the student, please contact the school or Mrs. Nixon (librarian) to arrange pick up.
- Thank you to our school community who were so generous supporting Connor Hayes' (grade 2/3 Mrs. Spooner's class) MS Readathon fundraiser in support of the MS Society. As a school community we raised \$508.55. We are so proud of Connor and our school community!
- Kindergarten registration is now open for online registration. Children who are five years old on or before December 31, 2022, can be registered for Kindergarten. For the 2022-2023 school year, Ukrainian Kindergarten will be offered on Tuesdays/Thursdays (and some Fridays) and English Kindergarten will be offered on Mondays/Wednesdays (and some Fridays). To register please go to - <https://www.eics.ab.ca/programs/kindergarten/kindergarten> Check out our trailer - [St. Nicholas Kindergarten Trailer 2022-2023](#) Please share this infographic to your social media platforms to help promote our wonderful school - [St. Nicholas Kindergarten Information 2022-2023](#)



St.Nicholas Catholic School

Facebook @stncatholic

"Our Catholic School Family, embracing both English and Ukrainian Bilingual programs is dedicated to providing the best opportunities for learning while nurturing in our students' continuous personal growth."

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