École HOLY CROSS
Catholic Elementary/Junior High School

Le lien

September / septembre 2026

We would like to welcome everyone back to the start of a new school year.

Throughout this year, we hope that all parents will find opportunities to share their gifts and talents in assisting our teachers with several activities both in and out of the classrooms. You are your children's teacher and with your support, our goal is to provide your children with the best possible educational experience.

At École Holy Cross, we aspire to have our students succeed in every aspect of their learning. We continue to set our minds on Christ; for it is in Christ that we find our hope, our peace, and our joy in times of trouble, faith gives us hope.

We prepare our students for achieving their own successes in school and beyond. Holy Cross students will continually examine the impact their learning and actions have on themselves,others, and the world.



Looking forward to an excellent school year!

Holy Cross Admin Staff

780-489-1981 8203web@ecsd.net 15120 104 Avenue, Edmonton, AB

École Holy Cross School Hours

Kindergarten

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
8:20am - 3:02pm

Thursday - Early Dismissal
8:20am - 12:00pm

Grade 1 to Grade 9

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
8:20am - First Bell
8:25am - Second Bell, classes begin
3:02 - Dismissal

Thursday - Early Dismissal
8:20am - First Bell
8:25am - Second Bell, classes begin
12:00 - Dismissal

Exit door for pick up at the end of the day

Kindergarten	Door #5 (south)
1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B	Door #3 (east)
3A, 3B, 3C	Door #5 (south)
4A, 4B, 4C, 5B, 6A, 6B	Door #2 (west)
5A	Door #1 (north)

Holy Cross Staff 2026-2027

Teachers Kindergarten to Grade 6	
Kindergarten	Mme Sarah van't Veld
Extensions – Flight	Mme Morena Lemay
Grade 1A	Mme Rachel Eidelman
Grade 1B	Mme Paige Leslie
Grade 1C	Mme Florette Ganguem Epse Diboa
Grade 2A	Mme Catherine Cloran
Grade 2B	Mme Melanie Fortin
Grade 3A	Mme Emilie Djieuma Nguemecheu
Grade 3B	Mme Melissa Weimer
Grade 3C	Mme Miriam Ekohsso Edobil
Grade 4A	Mme Carolle Comlan
Grade 4B	Mme Jeannette Ngameni
Grade 4C	Mme Sandrine Kouam
Grade 5A	Mme Marilena Shipka
Grade 5B	Mme Akoman Ehui
Grade 6A	Mme Meghan Fausto
Grade 6B	Mme Gaelle Cheguem

Teachers Junior High 7-9	
Grade 7A	M Ambroise Gnoan
Grade 7B	Mme Nathalie Amyotte
Grade 8A	Mme Melinda Moscaluk
Grade 8B	Mme Kelsey Hefford
Grade 9A	Mme Alix Nibogora
Grade 9B	Mme Sally Saliba
	M Lambert Dzuno

Complexity Team	
Complexity Teacher	Dr Gertrude Aberdeen
Complexity - EA	Mme Layal Khorfane
Complexity - EA	M Wilny Cadichon

Intervention Educator	
Math Intervention Educator Instructional Coach	Mme Nicole Mongrain
Math Intervention Educator	Mme Chantal Collin
FLSW	Mme Laura Naccarato

Support Staff	
Educational Assistant	Mme Lindsay Myhre
Educational Assistant	Mme Claudine Nyirabihogo
Educational Assistant	Mme Seyli Salinas
Educational Assistant	Mme Mireille Piard

Administrative Staff	
Principal	Mme Marlene Forest-Wallace
Assistant Principal	Mme Brigitte Levasseur
Assistant Principal	Dr Sarah Novosel-Ulbrich
Administrative Assistants	Mme Natalie Walsh
	Mme Michelle Hartt
	Mme Kelly Paltzat

Custodial Staff	
Head Custodian	M Tesfaye Hunde
Evening Custodian	M Nomer Tadeo

Le lien
September / septembre 2026

Celebrating Success at Holy Cross



Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! We extend our very best wishes to all students, staff, and families as we embark on another year of learning and growth. May this school year be filled with curiosity, collaboration, resilience, and success. We look forward to celebrating achievements, supporting one another, and creating lasting memories together. Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Le lien
September / septembre 2026

Remember to Bring your Water Bottle



It is important that students bring a water bottle from home prefilled, that they can refill throughout the day. In addition to the regular water fountains, there are 3 water bottle filling fountains. **NO GLASS BOTTLES PLEASE.**

Lunch Routines



Students should bring their own cutlery as plastic cutlery is no longer available at the school. During lunch, the younger grades are supervised by teachers, and student monitors

Birthday Treats



This school year we will continue to recognize and celebrate each student's birthday through fun and engaging classroom activities. We kindly ask that families not bring treats for the class to celebrate birthdays. Please come to the office for your birthday pencil.

Allergies



Please alert your child's teacher as well as the office staff if your child suffers from severe allergies. Parents of children with severe allergies must have a completed medical form on file.Forms are available at the office and must be redone every year. We ask that all students refrain from sharing lunch or snacks with others. Please do not send nuts or nut products with your child(ren . Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

A reminder as well that all students who require an epi-pen or a puffer must wear it on their person at all times. Please take the time to discuss this with your child. It is important to us that all our students are safe.

Lockers



All Grade 6-9 students were provided their own lockers and locks. If a lock is lost, there will be $5 replacement fee. Students must use a school lock.

Recess and Playground Equipment



Recess and Playground Equipment Playground equipment is not permitted before or after school as there is no active supervision. Supervisors will be outside before and after school to ensure students arrive and depart from school safely.

Transportation Information



- All new bus riders and families should read **Student Transportation Manual**, essential safety and transportation information.
- Bussing schedule can be found in your **PowerSchool parent portal** under the Transportation tab. Bus fees can be paid online via your parent portal.
- **BUS SCHEDULE**: Parents are required to review bus times every weekend on their parent accounts. Times are subject to change weekly on WEDNESDAYS. If you do not have a PowerSchool account, please contact your school.
- **BUS DELAYS**: Parents must download the free **Bus Planner Delays app** on their mobile phones. Parents will be alerted of delays 10 mins or more through this app only. Visit **www.ecsd.net/transportation** for instructions. Do not wait outside longer than 10 minutes before calling Transportation for information - please call 780-441-6078.

2026-2027 Transportation Forms can be found here:

- Transportation Application
- Change of address
- Cancellation

Staff Parking Lot - Staff Member Parking Only



We ask parents for your co-operation to please not park in the staff parking lot before school nor after school. In addition, the staff lot is not to be used for dropping off or picking up students. Please use the sidewalk where you will be safe. Staff enter and leave the parking lot at all hours of the day, so this area needs to be clear of pedestrians at all times.



Please be respectful to our neighbors by not blocking their driveways and not making u-turns at school.



School Bus Zones Student Safety



Parking in school bus zones is illegal and presents a serious safety hazard. Such parking forces a bus to double park when loading or unloading students. Parking in school bus zones creates a highly unsafe situation for students. Unauthorized vehicles will be ticketed.

Crosswalks

Always use crosswalks and pedestrian-activated signals when they're available. It's safer to cross at marked crosswalks or controlled intersections whenever possible. Pedestrians have the right of way in a crosswalk unless a peace officer or traffic control device directs otherwise. This means that even if the crosswalk is unmarked, vehicles must stop and yield to pedestrians. A pedestrian crossing a roadway outside a crosswalk must yield the right of way to vehicles.



Cell Phone & Mobile Devices Policy at School

Please read what those updates were with Alberta Education's announcement to **limit distractions in classrooms** across the province.



A personal mobile device is any device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet and includes:

- Cellphones
- Tablets
- Laptops
- Smartwatches

General Restrictions

- No Use of Personal Mobile Devices During Instructional Time
- Students will not be allowed to use personal mobile devices during instructional time
- Devices Must Be Silent or Powered Off and Stored Away
- If students bring personal mobile devices to school, they must be kept silent or turned off and stored in their locker and in their backpack.
- No Access to Social Media
- Students will not be able to access social media on school networks or school devices. Known social media sites will continue to be blocked from Division networks.

Exceptions

Students who require personal mobile devices for health reasons or specialized learning needs can coordinate with school administration to receive appropriate accommodations. Exceptions will be made to ensure that these students have the necessary tools to support their well-being and educational requirements.

École Holy Cross is a Closed Campus



Parents can enter the school if they are required as part of the educational programming needs of the school (ex. Medical injections, learning supports, etc), upon appointment.

Parents, Visitors, Guests are not permitted to walk the hallways to classrooms unannounced without visiting the office and presenting themselves to maintain a safe environment for our students. The office staff will assist parents and teachers or office staff will walk the children to their classrooms.

We encourage parents to have children develop organizational habits and check that they have all they require for school in their school backpack, i.e. lunch, school materials, water bottle and proper clothes for the weather.

All visitors will also be required to sign into the Visitor Log.

Non-essential persons are not allowed into the school and food deliveries will not be accepted (ie: Skip the Dishes).

School Fees

PowerSchool Parent Portal

School Fees can be paid online via your parent portal. School fees can be paid starting September 15. Bus Fees can be paid immediately. We encourage all parents to pay their fees online by accessing the PowerSchool parent portal. PowerSchool is the Edmonton Catholic Schools online program that allows parents to view attendance, assessments and pay school fees, and bus pass fees. If you require access to you PowerSchool parent portal, please contact the office. Here is the link for your child's school fees for Kindergarten to Grade 9:

2026-2027 Holy Cross School Fees

Follow us on Instagram

Follow us at @holycrossecsd to stay up to date with our school's programs, events and all other fun stuff our students are doing!

Edmonton Catholic Schools

Some of our students and staff have sensitivities to various chemical-based or scented products.



Your cooperation is appreciated as we work together to accommodate these health concerns.

Thank you!

EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Birch Bay Ranch

Birch Bay - Grade 7 students enjoyed a day of fun filled activities at Birch Bay Ranch September 9, 2026.
















Opening School Mass at St John the Evangelist

On September 14, Holy Cross students gathered in unity as they walked to church for the Opening School Mass, celebrating the start of the academic year with faith, reflection, and a sense of community" with Father Thomas.







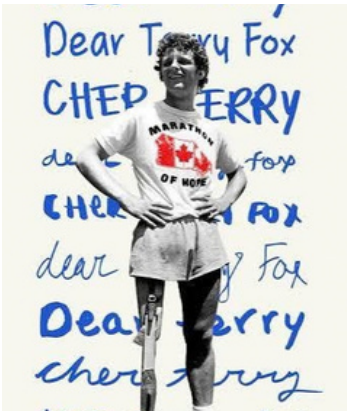






Terry Fox Run-Walk September 15, 2026

A big thank you to all students and families who donated toward this year's Terry Fox initiative! Our students participated in our Week of Terry every morning leading up to our school wide walk/run. The Terry Fox Run teaches the students a very valuable lesson; it teaches the children the importance of working together as a team to help others. This year, Holy Cross was able to raise over $500 for cancer research! Keep trying like Terry!











Holy Cross Junior High students attended the Edmonton Catholic Schools Cross Country Run races on Thursday, September 24.











Food Donation Drive

This October, our school will be supporting the Food Bank by collecting much-needed food items to help individuals and families in our community. To make donating easy, each week will focus on a specific category of food. **Week 1:** School snacks such as granola bars, crackers, fruit cups, and other individually packaged snacks. **Week 2:** Pasta and sauce, including boxed pasta and canned pasta sauce. **Week 3:** Peanut butter and jam, which have been specifically requested by the Food Bank. **Week 4:** Non-perishable food items such as canned goods, rice, beans, and cereal. We encourage everyone to participate and help make a difference by contributing whatever they can throughout the month. Together, we can support our community and help ensure that local families have access to nutritious food.

Week 1:



Week 2:



Week 3:



Week 4:



Small Items, big impact. Food donations will be given to our local food bank to help families in our community. Thank you for your generosity!



Oui Learn Together: Learning Resources for French Immersion Families

Welcome/Bienvenue

Helping your child succeed in French Immersion starts at home, and you're not alone.
At Edmonton Catholic Schools, we believe every child can succeed in French Immersion, and every family can play a meaningful role in that success. That's why we created Oui Learn Together, a new online resource hub designed just for French Immersion families.

This space is built around one simple idea, you don't need to speak French to support your child's learning. What matters most is your encouragement, your curiosity, and your belief in your child's potential.

What You'll Find Here

- Practical tips for supporting language development at home
- Engaging videos that show real strategies in action
- Activities and ideas that fit into everyday routines
- Seasonal topics, released four times a year, curated by ECSD's French Immersion consultants

Each resource is designed to be simple, supportive, and easy to use, whether you're helping with homework, reading together, or finding fun ways to use French beyond the classroom.

Why It Matters
Research shows that family involvement is one of the strongest predictors of student success. In French Immersion, that involvement doesn't require fluency, it requires connection. Talking, reading, playing, and showing interest in your child's learning builds confidence and strengthens their skills in both French and English.

Learn more at **ecsd.net/ouilearntogether**

Welcome lunch - FRAP

In collaboration with École Holy Cross, FRAP organized a welcoming pizza lunch for new students from Grades 7-9 on Tuesday September 29, 2026. This welcoming lunch was an opportunity for your child to connect with ambassadors who will guide them in the school. The Settlement Worker (SWIS) will introduce FRAP services to new students as well as all the services available at École Holy Cross for students.





After-School and Lunch Recess Tutoring



We are pleased to once again offer after-school tutoring this year for students in Grades 4-9.

New this year, we will also be offering lunch recess tutoring for students in Grades 4-6.

Francophonie Albertaine Plurielle (FRAP) will provide support in French to small groups and individual students whenever possible. This additional support is designed to help students strengthen their skills and build confidence in their learning.
More information regarding schedules, registration, and program details will be shared soon. We look forward to supporting our students' success throughout the school year.

IMPORTANT DATES



Monday, October 12, 2026	Thanksgiving
Wednesday, October 14, 2026	Picture Retake Day :)
Friday, October 16, 2026	Holy Cross PD Day - No Classes
Monday, October 19, 2026	Referendum Day - No Classes
Monday, October 26, 2026	SAC Meeting
Wednesday, November 11, 2026 - Friday, November 13, 2026	Remembrance Day Weekend
Monday, December 21, 2026 - Monday, January 1, 2027	Christmas Vacation

École
HOLY CROSS
Catholic Elementary/Junior High School

ECSD SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026-2027



July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

First Day of Operation
August 31, 2026
First Day of Instruction
September 2, 2026
Last Day of Instruction
June 28, 2027
Last Day of Operation
June 29, 2027

Labour Day	Sept 7
Truth & Reconciliation Day	Sept 30
Thanksgiving Day	Oct 12
Election Day	Oct 19
Remembrance Day Wknd	Nov 11-13
Christmas Vacation	Dec 21 to Jan 1
Family Day	Feb 15
Faith Development Day/PD	Feb 24
Teachers' Convention	Feb 25- 26
Professional Development Day	Mar 25
Spring Break	Mar 26 to Apr 2
Good Friday	Mar 26
Easter Monday	Mar 29
Victoria Day Wknd	May 20-24

MONTH	Operational Days	Instructional Days
August	1	0
September	20	19
October	20	20
November	18	18
December	14	14
January	20	20
February	19	16
March	19	18
April	20	20
May	18	18
June	21	20
Total	**190**	**183**

Non instructional Days

Non-Operational Days

Cancellation of early dismissal

Early Dismissal

Statutory Holiday - Office/School Closed

Named Holiday - Office/School Closed