

Lent is a time to “Create Ourselves Anew”. It is a season for penance, reflection, helping others, and fasting in order to prepare ourselves for Christ's Resurrection and for our own Redemption. Often, we are asked, why do we need a special time of year to concentrate on these things . . . shouldn't we always be creating ourselves anew? Of course, we should always work towards being the best person we are called to be.



The Church recognizes, however, that we are all human. We do need special times to remind us what it means to be a person of faith, a follower of Jesus. Lent is one of these special times. Please join us in our Lenten journey of prayer, fasting, and service.

This year, during the Lenten season, we invite you to reach out and give of yourself to brighten someone's day. Here are some ideas for our École Holy Cross families during Lent:

- Learn about the Easter story through books or online bible channels for children
- Make a card or an art project for someone in your family
- Do something kind for the earth. Help someone in your family with a chore.
- Read a book to a sibling
- Say something kind to friends and family members
- Go on a Lenten walk as a family

Mme Marlene Forest-Wallace  
Principal

Mme Brigitte Levasseur  
Assistant Principal

# École Holy Cross School Hours:

## Kindergarten

### Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Kindergarten AM – 8:20am – 11:27am

Kindergarten PM – 11:57am – 3:04pm

### Thursday

No School for Kindergarten

## Grade 1 to Grade 9

### Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

8:20am - First Bell

8:25am - Second Bell, classes begin

3:03pm – Dismissal

### Thursday Early Dismissal

8:20am – First Bell

8:25am – Second Bell, classes begin

12:02pm - Dismissal

## Exit door for pick up at the end of the day

**Door #5** - Kindergarten

**Door #2** – Grade 34A, Grade 4A, Grade 5A, Grade 56A, Grade 6A

**Door #3** – Grade 1A, Grade 1B, Grade 2A, Grade 2B, Grade 3A

## Celebrating Success at Holy Cross



Congratulations to Eva Ejinaka for her performance last Saturday with the Northern Alberta Junior Honour Band!



Congratulations to Mme Vanessa Pastor who received the Keith Mann Young Band Director's Award.



# Shrove Tuesday

On Shrove Tuesday, February 17, all K-9 students enjoyed pancakes as part of our school celebration. Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Tuesday.

Thank You to our Parent Council for providing pancakes for all our students for Shrove Tuesday.

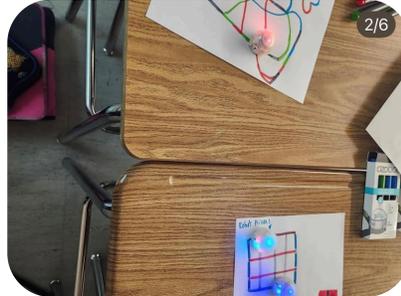
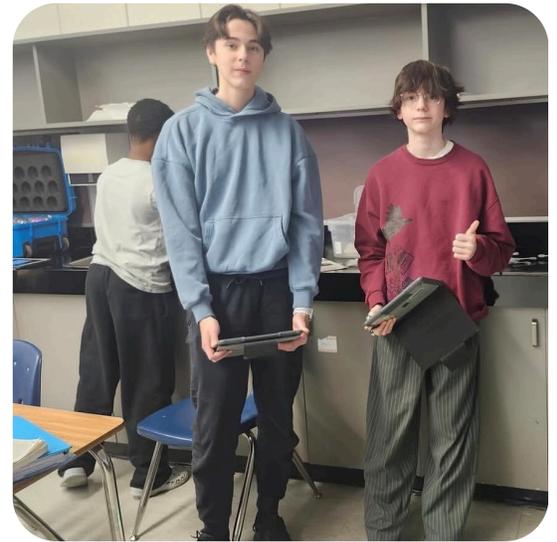


# Skating



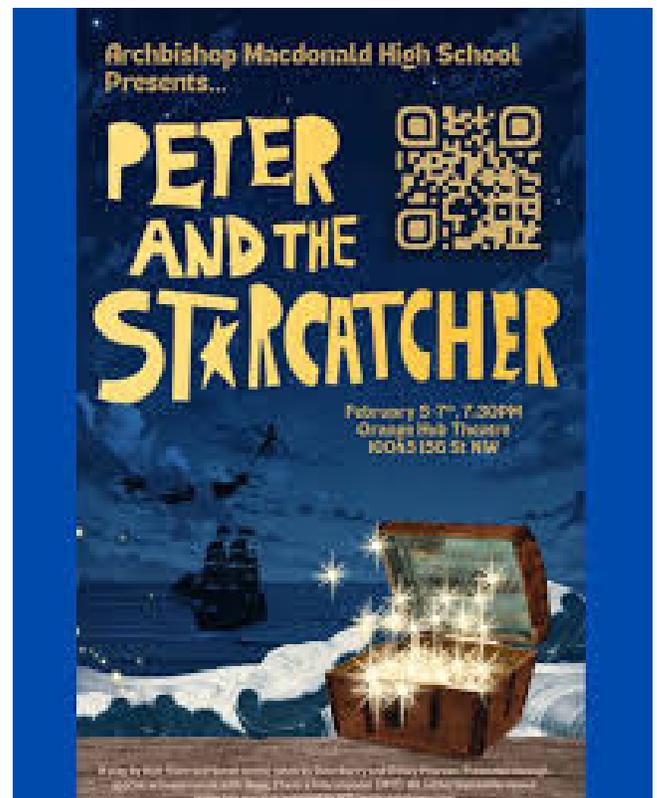
## CTF - Robotics

Students in the robotics class had great time exploring the materials and participating in engaging, hands on activities. They enjoyed working with the Ozobot, the mini sphero and the large Sphero robots while learning to apply coding skills at the same time. The class combines fun, creativity as students bring their coding ideas to life through robotics.



## CTF - Drama

CTF Drama students attended a matinee performance of Peter and the Starcatcher, presented by Archbishop Macdonald students.

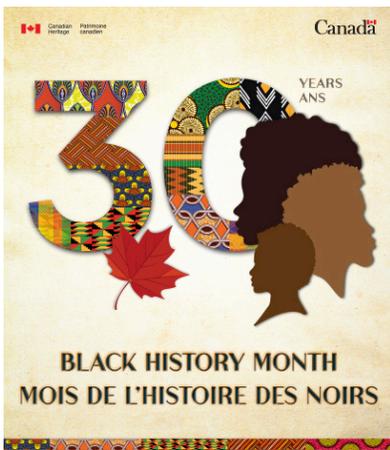


# Black History Month

Our school proudly celebrates Black History Month, a time dedicated to honoring the achievements, culture, and contributions of Black Canadians and Black communities around the world. Throughout the month, students explore the stories of influential figures in history, engage in meaningful discussions, and participate in creative activities that highlight resilience, innovation, and the ongoing pursuit of equality.

This year's event features classroom projects, guest speakers, music and art showcases, and interactive learning stations. Students discover important historical milestones, learn about African and Caribbean cultural heritage, and reflect on the values of respect, empowerment, and inclusion.

By celebrating Black History Month, our school reaffirms its commitment to creating a welcoming environment where every student feels seen, valued, and inspired. Together, we recognize the past, celebrate the present, and imagine a brighter, more equitable future for all.



Honouring Black Brilliance  
Across Generations –  
From Nation Builders to  
Tomorrow's Visionaries

Honorez l'excellence des  
personnes noires au fil des  
générations, des bâtisseurs  
du pays aux visionnaires



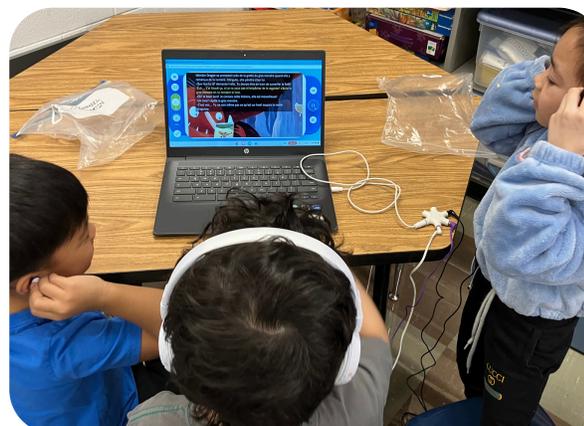
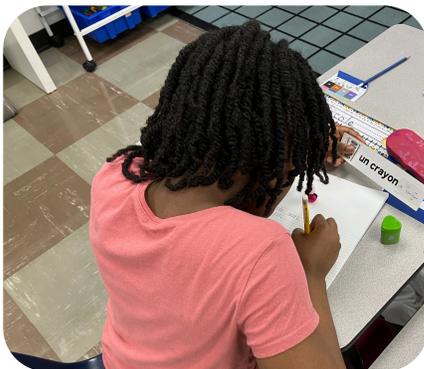
## Art Club



## Math Club



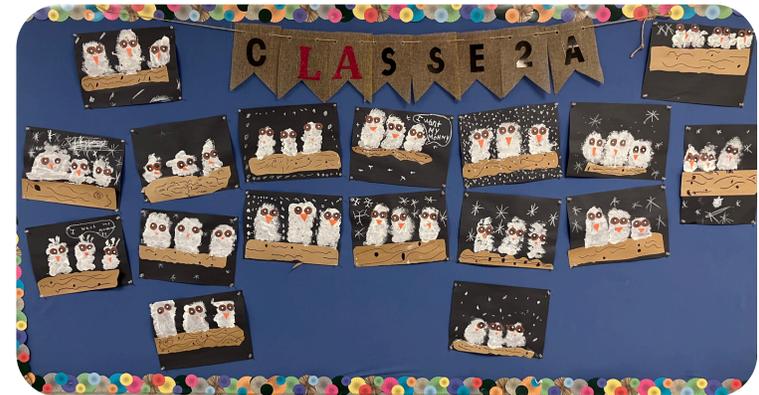
## Grade 1 Reading Centres



# Artists at work



# Elementary Art Gallery



HOLY CROSS PRESENTS THEIR  
**2026**  
**ELEMENTARY**  
**MUSIC CONCERT**

Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm

Doors open at 5:45 pm

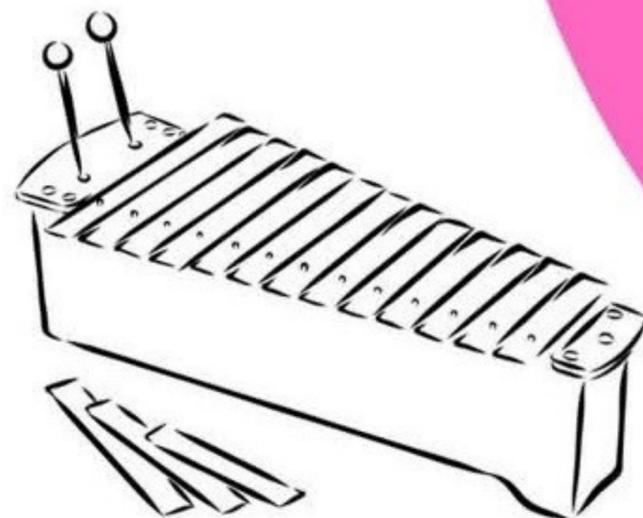
Large Gym

15120 104 Ave NW

Admission through donation to the ECSD Foundation



**FEATURING THE GRADE 3-6 CHOIR**  
**AND ELEMENTARY GRADES 1-6**





## 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.

## Oui Celebrate La Francophonie

Celebrate French Culture in Alberta's Year of the Francophonie

Alberta has declared 2026 the Year of the Francophonie, a province-wide celebration of francophone language, culture, and heritage.



Across Edmonton and beyond, there are countless opportunities for families to explore French culture together. Best of all, you do not need to speak French to take part! Curiosity and enthusiasm show your child that learning French matters.

## Le mois de la francophonie

March is Le mois de la francophonie. Over the next few months, the students at Holy Cross will participate in a variety of activities that highlight the francophone culture. Students will be invited to share why they love learning French and write their name on a heart. These hearts will be displayed in the hallways around the office. The students will be given a ticket which will be entered into a draw to win French books.



## Join us for Cabane à sucre on March 14!

Edmonton Catholic Schools is hosting a French Immersion Cabane à sucre on Saturday, March 14, 2026. This annual French tradition invites French Immersion families to experience French language and culture through hands-on activities and shared celebration.

The afternoon event will take place at École J.H. Picard in south Edmonton.



### Event and Registration Details

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2026

Time: 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Location: École J.H. Picard ([7055 99 St. NW, Edmonton](#))

Cost: \$10 per family, payable through the “school fees” link located in [PowerSchool](#). Your payment in PowerSchool is considered your registration for the event. The week before the event, you will receive a ticket and schedule for the day's activities.

**REGISTER NOW**

**Registration closes on Tuesday, March 10**

# Demonstration of Learning - March 19, 2026

The Celebration of Learning will be held on **Thursday March 19th**.

**2:00pm- 6:00pm**  
**No Bookings Required**

This is a wonderful opportunity to share in your child's accomplishments and is an important part of our home school partnership.

École Holy Cross staff members very much value the positive working relationship we have with our parent community. We strongly encourage all parents who have concerns about their child's learning, be it academic, social, or emotional, to contact the teacher as required. Do not wait until the Celebration of Learning to advise the teacher of your concerns.

We look forward to celebrating your child's achievements with you on March 19th.

## Scholastic Book Fair



**SCHOLASTIC**

*It's* **BOOK FAIR** *time!*

Thursday, March 19, 2026  
2:00pm-6:00pm  
Large Gym  
NO CASH - DEBIT OR CREDIT ONLY

**COME TO THE FAIR  
CHOOSE BOOKS  
YOU LOVE**

Dates / Times / Place

Every purchase at the Fair benefits our school! **Woo hoo!**

DOG MAN, CAT KID COMIC CLUB © Dav Pilkey.

The graphic features a red wavy line border, a light blue background with white clouds, and illustrations of Dog Man and Cat Kid. Dog Man is a dog in a blue superhero suit with a bone in his chest, and Cat Kid is a cat in a yellow and black striped suit. There are also blue stars and a blue snowflake-like shape.

# Father Michael Mireau Youth Faith Day

Edmonton Catholic Schools will welcome thousands of Grade 8 students to this year's Father Michael Mireau Youth Faith Day, taking place from March 18 to 25, 2026 at St. Charles Church. The annual celebration brings students together for prayer, music, learning, and a shared encounter with Christ that strengthens their sense of belonging as young people growing in faith. Holy Cross grade 8 students will be attending on Monday, March 23, 2026.

## A Division-Wide Faith Experience for Grade 8 Students

Over six mornings, every Grade 8 class across ECSD will gather for a half-day experience that includes a Eucharistic Celebration and a presentation by internationally acclaimed Catholic youth speaker Jesse Manibusan. His message encourages students to view their faith as active, joyful, and lived out every day.

## This Year's Theme: Serve Like a Superhero

This year's theme, Serve Like a Superhero, continues Father Michael Mireau's legacy of inspiring students to recognize their gifts as God given strengths. The theme invites students to consider their talents as their "superpowers" and to use them in service to others.

Examples include:

- offering kindness
- including a classmate who feels left out
- standing up for someone who needs support

These everyday actions remind students that leadership and love are lived through simple, meaningful choices.



## Bus Safety Review

Learning to Ride the Bus Safely. All students would benefit from reviewing bus safety whether they are daily riders or commuting for a class field trip.

Please review the following transportation safety videos:

**[School Bus Safety Video - Step by step guide to learn to ride the bus safely.](#)**



**[How to Stay Safe on the Bus](#)**



## Partners in Safety

Family support and student cooperation are essential in ensuring the school bus is a safe and enjoyable experience. The school bus driver's primary objective is to ensure the safe transportation of students to and from school. The driver must focus on the road and traffic conditions, not student behaviour. The school bus is considered an extension of the classroom. Students must always follow the rules and safety procedures during transport and while at bus stops. The school administration will be notified of students who violate the code of conduct.

# Pre-Enrolment Toolkit

Beginning Monday, February 2, 2026, families with students already attending an ECSD school can pre-enrol for the 2026-2027 school year.

Key Dates:

- Monday, February 2, 2026 – pre-enrolment and registration open
- Friday, March 13, 2026 – pre-enrolment for current students closes

Registration for new students and pre-enrolment for current students is now open! Sign in to your **PowerSchool account** and click "Pre-Enrolment for Next Year" to let us know if you will be returning to our school or where you will be attending next year (select what applies: Kindergarten, Junior High, or High School). The pre-enrolment process lets us know how many students to expect in September 2026 and helps us plan for staffing, class sizes, and programming. To learn more, visit [ecsd.net/pre-enrolment](https://ecsd.net/pre-enrolment).

Reminder of Deadline for Pre-Enrolment

Don't forget to share your plans for the 2026-2027 school year! Sign in to your **PowerSchool account** and click on "Pre-Enrolment for Next Year" to let us know if you will be returning to our school or where you will be attending as you move into kindergarten, junior high, or high school. The pre-enrolment process lets us know how many students to expect in September 2026 and helps us plan for staffing, class sizes, and programming. You can find more information about pre-enrolment on [ecsd.net/pre-enrolment](https://ecsd.net/pre-enrolment).



**Pre-Enrolment for  
CURRENT STUDENTS**

- Log in to [PowerSchool.ecsd.net](https://PowerSchool.ecsd.net)
- Click on the Pre-Enrolment for Next Year icon
- Follow the instructions to select your 2026-2027 school
- Complete for each child registered with ECSD

**Visit [ecsd.net](https://ecsd.net) for more information**



# School Fees - online payments

School Fees can be paid online via your parent portal.

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:

[2025-2026 Holy Cross School Fees](#)

## Holy Cross Apparel



There are many advantages to ordering through Entripy:

- Free shipping on orders over \$75
- Direct shipping to your address
- Online payment
- It's quick, easy, and hassle free!

[Holy Cross Entripy Shop](#)

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!

## Chief Superintendent's Office - Message

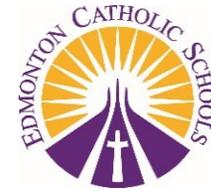


# IMPORTANT DATES



Thursday, March 12, 2026	Elementary Spring Concert
Thursday, March 19, 2026	Demonstration of Learning 2:00pm - 6:00pm No Bookings Required
Monday, March 30 to Monday, April 6, 2026	Spring Break / Good Friday / Easter Monday
Friday, May 15 to Monday, May 18, 2026	Victoria Day Weekend
Monday, May 25, 2026	Holy Cross School PD Day
Thursday, June 4, 2026	Grade 9 Farewell

# ECSD SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025-2026



First Day of Operation  
**August 28, 2025**  
 First Day of Instruction  
**September 2, 2025**  
 Last Day of Instruction  
**June 23, 2026**  
 Last Day of Operation  
**June 24, 2026**

July 2025							August 2025							September 2025						
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							31													

October 2025							November 2025							December 2025						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													

January 2026							February 2026							March 2026						
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April 2026							May 2026							June 2026						
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26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

Labour Day	Sept 1
Truth & Reconciliation Day	Sept 30
Thanksgiving Day	Oct 13
Remembrance Day/Fall Brk	Nov 10-12
Christmas Vacation	Dec 22 to Jan 2
Family Day	Feb 16
Faith Development Day/PD	Feb 25
Teachers' Convention	Feb 26-27
Spring Break	Mar 30 to Apr 6
Good Friday	Apr 3
Easter Monday	Apr 6
Victoria Day Weekend	May 15-18

MONTH	Operational Days	Instructional Days
August	2	0
September	20	20
October	22	22
November	17	17
December	15	15
January	20	20
February	19	16
March	20	20
April	18	18
May	19	19
June	18	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>184</b>

- Non-instructional day
- Non-operational day
- Cancellation of early dismissal
- Early dismissal
- Statutory Holiday - Office/School Closed
- Named Holiday - Office/School Closed



dreamcatcher™  
nature assisted therapy

# PD DAY KIDS CAMP!

School's out, adventure's in! Join us for an unforgettable PD Day at our 40-acre ranch! Kids aged 7-12 will get hands-on with horses, donkeys, goats, sheep, and chickens while playing animal games, exploring nature, and making new friends. From donkey pool parties to goat soccer matches, this action-packed day is led by our qualified Recreational Therapist and animal handlers.

**When:**

- Fri, Mar 6th
- Mar 20th

**Time:** 9am-4pm

- **Drop-off:** 8:45-9am
- **Pick-up:** 4-4:15pm

**Where:**

- 53044 RR #213,  
Ardrossan, AB



**REGISTER HERE!**



# CAMP de PRIN TEMPS

Gratuit



Inscrivez-vous  
ici

**30 MARS  
AU 2 AVRIL**

**ACTIVITÉS : BASKETBALL, TENNIS DE  
TABLE, CUISINE, TABLE RONDE, ARTS  
PLASTIQUES, PHOTOGRAPHIE,  
INFOGRAPHIE, THÉÂTRE**

 Edmonton Intercultural Centre  
(9538 107 Ave NW)

# Caregiver Education Team Newsletter

March / April 2026



Recovery Alberta is proud to offer FREE online programming to caregivers of school-age children and youth as well as adults in the community who want to learn more about addiction and mental health topics.

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application. A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

## March Education Sessions

### Understanding Anxiety Series

For adults supporting their own wellness or supporting the wellness of children and teens.

**Part 1:**

**An Introduction**

Monday, March 2  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

**Part 2:**

**Calming Our Bodies**

Monday, March 9  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

**Part 3:**

**Settling Our Minds**

Monday, March 16  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

**Part 4:**

**Overcoming Avoidance**

Monday, March 23  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

## March Education Sessions

### Collaborative Problem Solving

For parents and caregivers of children and youth in grades K-12

**Part 1:**

Tuesday, March 24  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

**Part 2:**

Tuesday, March 31  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

## April Education Sessions

### Understanding Autism

For parents and caregivers of children in grades K-12

**Part 1:**

Tuesday, April 14  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

**Part 2:**

Tuesday, April 21  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

## April Education Sessions

### More than Just a Bad Day *Understanding Depression*

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of a loved one.

Tuesday, April 7  
12:00 – 1:00 pm



Professional Practice & Education Services  
Edmonton

For more information, visit [www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

# March Education Sessions

Recovery Alberta

These free adult sessions are intended to provide community members with information and strategies regarding addiction and mental health challenges that can affect us all. When topics are presented as a series, participants can attend one or all sessions.

## Understanding Anxiety Series

### Part 1: An Introduction

This session will distinguish between normal worries and anxiety that is no longer helpful or productive and will help participants to identify signs that they or their child/youth may be experiencing anxiety.

**Date: Monday, March 2, 2026**

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of children and youth.

### Part 2: Calming Our Bodies

In this session, we will review how the body reacts to stress triggers, ways we can start to notice the body's stress responses, and strategies for regulating ourselves, children, and youth.

**Date: Monday, March 9, 2026**

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of children and youth.

### Part 3: Settling Our Minds

In this session, we will look at how anxiety can lead to negative thoughts and thinking traps that can hold us back. Strategies for encouraging more realistic thinking will be discussed.

**Date: Monday, March 16, 2026**

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of children and youth.

### Part 4: Overcoming Avoidance

In this session, we will discuss how avoidance of stressors can increase our stress response over time. We will discuss ways to manage stressful situations in steps and effective coping skills.

**Date: Monday, March 23, 2026**

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of children and youth.

## Registration:

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

[www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

## Participant Feedback

“I thought it was really well presented. The time was good, speed was good...the videos and examples were very helpful, and I appreciate the positive ending.”



Professional Practice & Education Services  
Edmonton

For more information, visit [www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

# March Education Sessions



These free sessions are intended to provide community members with information and strategies regarding addiction and mental health challenges that can affect us all.

## Collaborative Problem Solving

In these online sessions, we will explore ways that parents can foster effective problem solving in their child through empathy, clear communication, and collaboration in a way that reduce struggles when challenges arise.

### Part 1:

**Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026**

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For caregivers of children grades K-12, for adults only.

### Part 2:

**Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For caregivers of children grades K-12, for adults only.

Recovery Alberta

## Registration:

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

[www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

## Participant Feedback

“I thought it was well delivered and quite informative.”

“Wonderfully presented, exceptional resource, highly recommended....”



Professional Practice & Education Services  
Edmonton

For more information, visit [www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

# April Education Sessions



These free sessions are intended to provide community members with information and strategies regarding addiction and mental health challenges that can affect us all.

## More than Just a Bad Day Understanding Depression

In this session, we will discuss what mental health is, the difference between sadness and depression, and common signs and symptoms of depression. Treatment options and supportive strategies for coping and support will be shared.

**Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2026**

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of a loved one.

Recovery Alberta

### Registration:

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

[www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

### Participant Feedback

“I learned many interesting facts - thank you!”

“I am grateful for these sessions. They are short and insightful.”



Professional Practice & Education Services  
Edmonton

For more information, visit [www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

# April Education Sessions

Recovery Alberta



These free sessions are intended to provide community members with information and strategies regarding addiction and mental health challenges that can affect us all.

## Understanding Autism

In this introduction to autism spectrum disorder (ASD), participants will learn how ASD may affect the way children and adolescents interpret and interact with the rest of the world and the people in it. Once we understand the core characteristics of ASD, we will then discuss strategies to support our child's wellness.

### Part 1: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For parents and caregivers of children and youth grades K-12; for adults only.

### Part 2: Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

For parents and caregivers of children and youth grades K-12; for adults only.

## Registration:

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

[www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)

## Participant Feedback”

“I found these sessions, extremely helpful and will be using all of the suggestions given, it is much appreciated. I have already shared a lot of the materials with family and friends and even coworkers.”



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