

Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School

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October 2017

Students, Parents, Staff, and Parish,

Division Theme & Social Justice Goal

This year our Division theme is *Challenge Accepted*. Our division has *accepted the challenge* of supporting Valeda House as our large scale social justice project for our community. Valeda House supports women and families in the Edmonton area (including Sherwood Park and the County of Strathcona) in providing supports of temporary shelters for homeless women who may face exceptional challenges in finding safe housing. This is a safe and secure environment that is alcohol and drug free, non-smoking and no pets.

How To Support Your Child And Connect With The School

We know one of the key indicators to success in our student's education is communication and building connections between the home-school and parish. Our staff are asked to make contact via phone in regards to attendance and behavior. If contact is not made by phone, then an e-mail follow-up is expected to keep parents connected and informed. We want our parent / guardians to be active participants in supporting their child while finding the balance of independence the students so greatly desires. If you have a concern with a staff member or subject area, please follow the protocol in relation to speaking to the right person(s):

- First step is always to meet or discuss concern directly with the teacher
 - Teacher may request the support of the Subject Coordinator for clarification of the concern
- If not satisfactory, a request can be made to the Grade level administrator
 - Mrs. Heather Thomson (Grade 9) heathert@eics.ab.ca
 - Mrs. Ruth Tymko (Grade 10) ruthb@eics.ab.ca
 - Mr. Brett Cox (Grade 11) brettc@eics.ab.ca
 - Mr. Greg Lakeman (Grade 12) gregl@eics.ab.ca
- If necessary, a Learning team meeting can be arranged if wrap-around supports are deemed to provide the best support to the student and family
 - Admin E-mail: adminabj@eics.ab.ca
 - Facilitator & Counsellor E-Mail: abjstudentservices2017@eics.ab.ca
 - Michelle Steeves – ABJ Family Support Liaison Worker (FSLW)
 - office located in Learning Commons (Room #170D)
michelle.steeves@eics.ab.ca - ext. 1704

Another effective tool available to **parents/ guardians 24/7 is the ability to monitor grades and assignments** using PowerSchool. Teachers are expected to have grades inputted for all assessments within 2 weeks of completion of the work. Many of teachers are diligent in posting marks much sooner than the 2 week maximum. All families should now have functional PowerSchool usernames and passwords for students and parents in Grade 9-12 to better monitor student progress. This effective tool is accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week! If you experience any issues, please contact the school office for assistance 780-467-2121.

We will begin a review of our school goals, improvement opportunities and wants / needs of the students, staff and parent communities. If you would like to be a participant in this process please let Mr. Cox know at brettc@eics.ab.ca

Please use the far west entrance when dropping off or picking up students. But please be respectful to NOT drop-off in the bus lane or drive through the staff parking lot.

Parent School Council (PSC)

Your next Parent School Council meeting will be **Monday, November 20 at 6:30pm** – If you'd like to be active with the PSC please contact the school or e-mail the Chairperson Melanie at [mswilvers@gmail.com](mailto:mwilvers@gmail.com)

Important Dates to remember and put on your fridge calendar, Google Calendar or calendar of choice:

October

- 2** **Wear Orange T-Shirts in** a spirit of hope for reconciliation between Canada and its First Nations
- 2-5** Kraft Dinner collection all week to support Food Banks
- 4** **Early Out – students dismissed at 2:14pm** / Annual Bus Evacuation practice run
- 5** ABJ Scots Football vs. McNally at 5:00pm Emerald Hills Turf Park (behind the school)
- 9** Thanksgiving Day – hopefully you are able to spend time with family & friends **NO SCHOOL**
- 10** **UBC Presentations** at ABJ (E-Campus)
- 11** Cross Country Zone Meet
- 14** Cheer Team Bottle Drive
- 16** **ABJ Strathcona County Election Polling Station 8am – please vote today**
- 17** **ELAA Post-Secondary Fair**
- 20** PICTURE RETAKE DAY 8:30am
Ask NAIT One-on-One sessions – see Counsellors to sign up
- 23** ABJ Awards Evening at Festival Place (Grades 10-12 awards from 2016-17)
Sister Helena presentation in the gym (afternoon)
- 24** **MacEwan One-on-One sessions** – see Counsellors to sign up
- 24-25** Grade 9 P.A.R.T.Y Program
- 25-26** CALM classes: Careers in Business and Accounting
- 26-27** Grade 12 Religion Retreat (for those signed up)
- 30** Pumpkin Smashing at lunch
- 31** ABJ Halloween Costume contest at lunch

November

- 1** **Early Out – students dismissed at 2:14pm**
- 1-2** **Three Way Conferences (formerly known as Parent-Teacher Interviews)**
- 10-19** Fall Break – no school with Classes resuming on Monday, November 20

***** Counsellor class room visits to Grade 9 & 10 students will occur throughout the month *****

From school.jokes... What is the quickest way to double your money? Fold it in half!

Where does success come before work? In the dictionary! ...the only place as we all know hard work leads to success!



"I know in whom I place my trust" 2 Tim 1:12