

# Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School

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## Scot's Week at a Glance

February 21 - 24

### Parents and Students Info:

- On Wednesday February 26th there will be a presentation from the U of A for Indigenous students! All grades are welcome! It will be in Mrs. Millious room 8(221) during PEP. There will be information about entrance averages, scholarships, life on campus and much more! Bring your friends and all of your questions!
- PEP Sessions on this Wednesday - please have a look at PowerSchool to register. PEP is an opportunity for students to seek out assistance or spend time in health and wellness activities.
- Culinary Team UPDATE! We had an extremely strong showing, and the students were calm, cool and collected through the NAIT Challenge - results will be presented on March 9th.
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- Our rookie Grade 9 Improv Team has made Finals - and they complete Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
- YFAST Info:

ABJ is hosting its 5th annual YFAST to raise funds for Valeda House. Students will be fasting for 24 hours (will be able to have broth and water) and will be sleeping at the school and participating in a retreat like format. Any students who want to participate should see Mrs. Murphy in room 136 or email [triciam@eics.ab.ca](mailto:triciam@eics.ab.ca) before February 19th. You may wish to donate to the Valeda House and you can through cash or cheque made out to "Sign of Hope". Here is one story from a lady who had lived at the Valeda House:

### **CAROL'S STORY**

Carol had spent years trapped in a cycle of abuse with her partner.

What began behind closed doors was now taking place in front of their two-year-old son. Carol could see the affect the violence was having on him. Once playful and happy, he was now showing signs of aggression and developmental delays.

Despite having no family to support her, and no assurance of what their future would hold,

Carol did the only thing she could do to protect her son. She left.

In the midst of this uncertainty and fear, Carol found Catholic Social Services' Valeda House, a temporary shelter for women in crisis who are pregnant, or have young children, and are at risk of homelessness.

Surrounded by loving staff and other brave women, Carol felt safe enough to begin healing and start building a better life for herself and her son.

Throughout her time at Valeda House, Carol watched her son's behavior improve and his playfulness return. Today, Carol has hope for their future.

*"Everything has blossomed for me. Even though I'm going through a lot and I still worry about my son, you've made me look at my future as a brighter one. Rather than the darkness I used to see, I can now see light," says Carol.*

Donor support through Sign of Hope funds three women's homes in Edmonton, including Valeda House. These are safe places, which empower and help women and their children find their "light" after enduring years – or decades – of abuse.

## **GrACE Contest**

### **A Celebration of Catholic Education**

***2019-2020 Theme: Love - First, Last and Always***

to unite, engage, educate and communicate with one voice on its behalf. GrACE, in partnership with the REAL Foundation, is happy to present this contest to EICS students.

This is our second annual GrACE Contest: A Celebration of Catholic Education.

We invite EICS students of all grade levels to submit work reflecting the importance of, and their experience with or contribution to Catholic education. This year our theme is Love - First, Last and Always. How have students shown love, or how have they contributed to the great message that God is Love?

**Student Submissions could include such things as (but not limited to):**

- A work of art
- A student poster
- A formal or informal essay
- Original music
- Poetry
- A presentation (video or otherwise) of social justice work
- etc

**Copies of Creative Writing Class Anthology Available for Sale**

- Copies cost \$10 and will be available for purchase at our Open House or contact Mrs. Boake at [Jaimee.Boake@eics.ab.ca](mailto:Jaimee.Boake@eics.ab.ca) to arrange pick up and payment!

**Apply for the 2020-21 Education Minister's Youth Council**

Junior and senior high school students are encouraged to apply for the 2020-21 Education Minister's Youth Council.

Forty students will be selected to form next year's youth council to bring their diverse interests, backgrounds and perspectives from across the province and provide input on education topics.

Council members serve a 10-month term starting in September and ending in June 2021. They will meet with the Minister of Education and Alberta Education staff three times during the 2020-21 school year. There will also be opportunities for council members to interact with one another outside of meetings.

Youth council members will:

- share diverse student perspectives with the Minister
- build positive working relationships
- work with one another and Alberta Education staff to provide input on education initiatives
- participate in leadership opportunities

Students can apply on the Alberta Education [student engagement page](#) by March 18.

"I am lucky to have approximately 720,000 of the brightest minds in the country as my bosses. Student voice is invaluable to me. The current youth council has done amazing work so far and I always look forward to each meeting. I can't wait to continue engaging with students who want to be a part of next year's council."

Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education



# GOWNS4GRADS

SUITS FOR GUYS

ROBIN HOOD LEARNING CENTRE  
141 Broadway Blvd. Sherwood Park

Feb 8 & 9 Noon – 4 pm  
Feb 15 & 16 Noon to 4 pm  
March 7 & 8 Noon to 4 pm  
March 14 & 15 Noon to 4 pm  
April 25 & 26 Noon to 4 pm

# Archbishop Jordan High School is hosting Professional Development Session for Parents and Staff!

Join us for a **FREE** evening with  
**Jennifer Pollard**  
Prevention Consultant  
Alberta Health Services



## Vaping: What You Need to Know!

ABJ Learnings Common Area  
**Tuesday, February 18th**  
6:30-8:00PM

For More Information Contact:  
Michelle Horon  
Family Wellness Worker  
[michelle.horon@eics.ab.ca](mailto:michelle.horon@eics.ab.ca)  
780-467-2121 ext 1190

### Have You Heard About Vapes & Vaping?

Even if you haven't, there is a pretty good chance the young people in your life have and many of them believe these products are harmless. Vaping has only been around for just over 10 years in Canada, but despite this relative newness, we are learning more and more about these products as a result of ongoing research globally. We will explore new information about what's being learned about short term health impacts and the chemical make-up of the vapour being produced. We'll discuss how you can recognize if your son or daughter is vaping, and how to talk to them about it.