

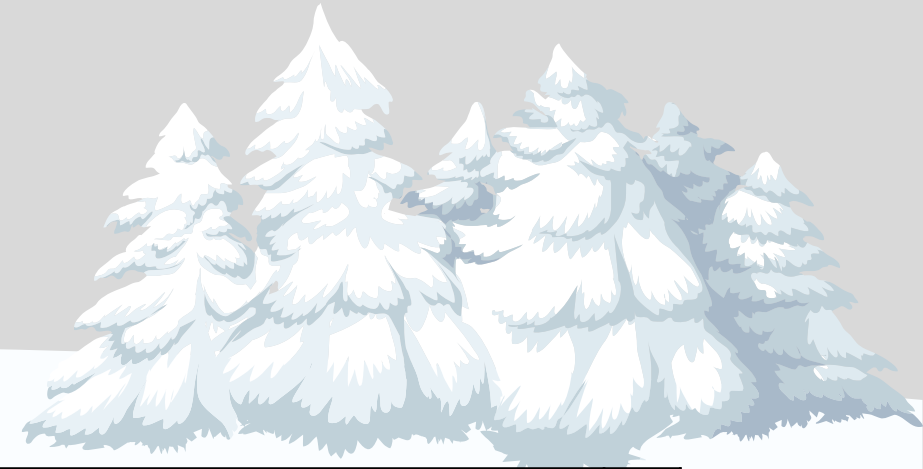


Newsletter

BISHOP DAVID MOTIUK CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
855 Lewis Greens Dr NW | [P] 780 409-2603 | [F] 780 444-1291 | www.bishopdavidmotiuk.ecsd.net

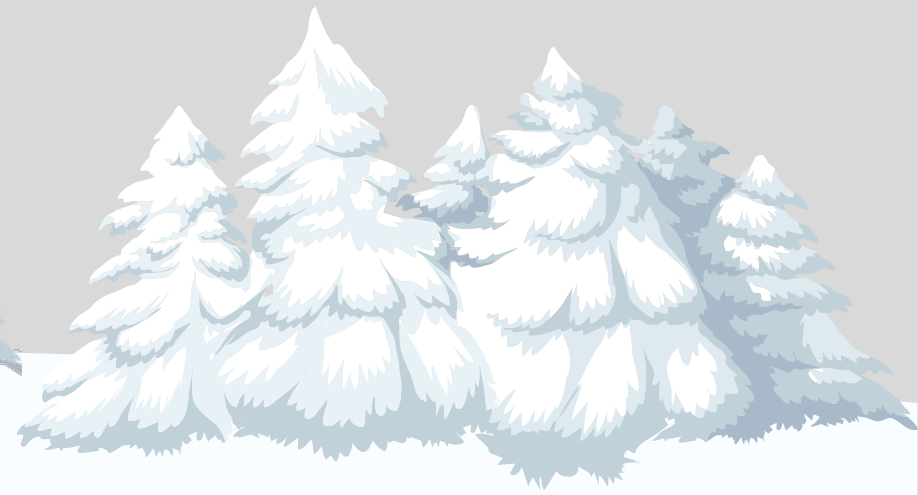
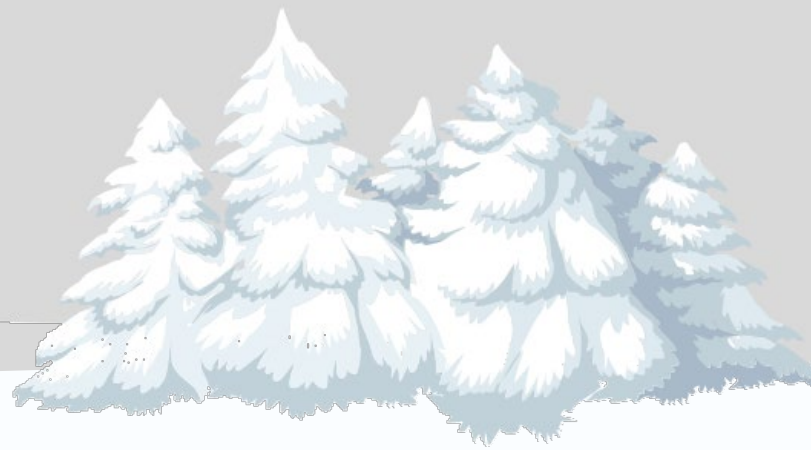
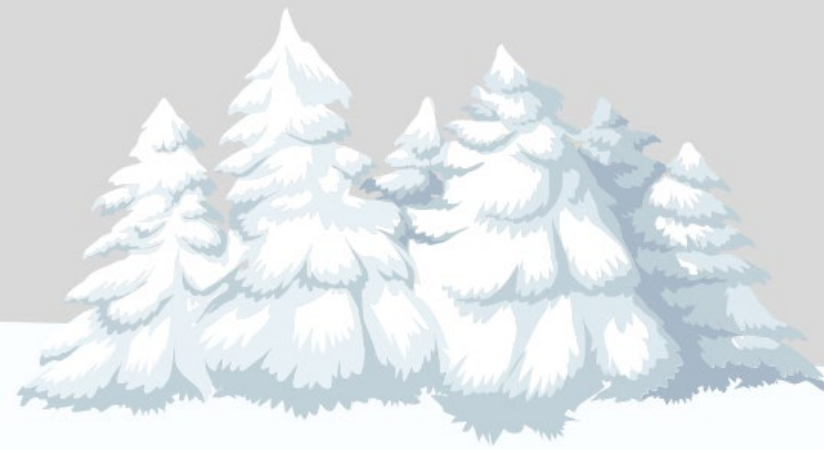
January 2025 | Vol 9 | Issue 5

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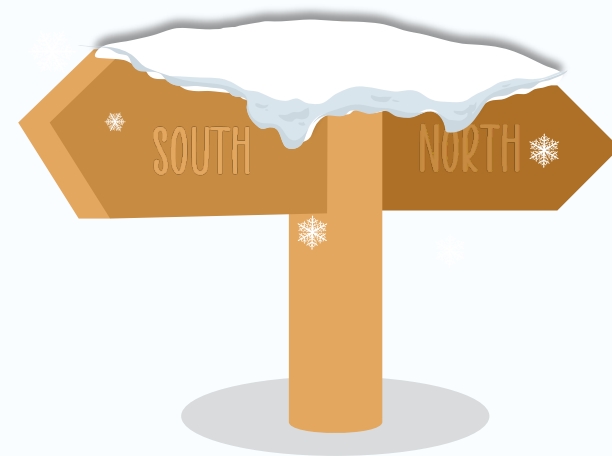


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Messages



Administrators' Message

Happy New Year to each of our families!!

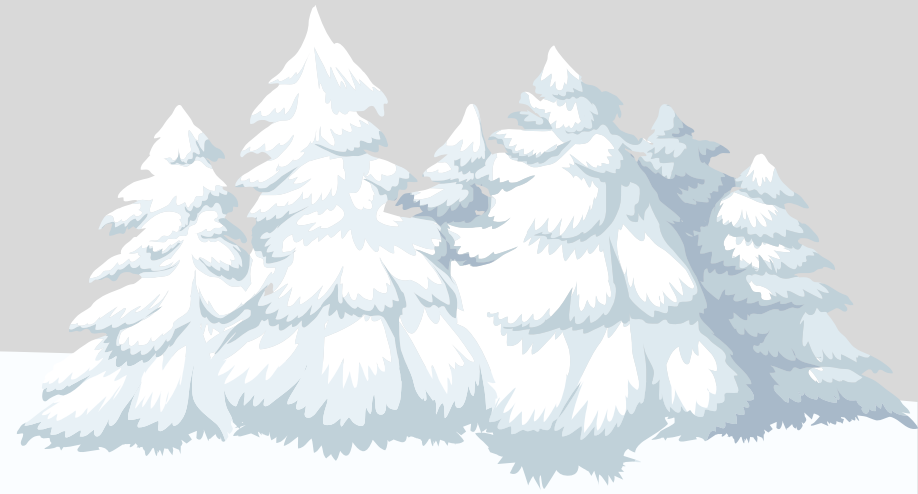
In January, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, also known as "Three Kings Day" and "Twelfth Day". This is a Christian holiday commemorated on January 6. It falls on the twelfth day after Christmas and signals the conclusion of the twelve days of the Christmas season. The three kings were open to the wonder and joy of encountering the Messiah in the person of the small, vulnerable infant born in the humblest of circumstances. We hope and pray that each of you is renewed by the light of faith and that you experience the same wonder and joy as the Magi did as we begin this new liturgical year.

January is also the start of the new calendar year, and the time when school administration begins planning for the next academic year. Although it seems quite early, we have already been receiving inquiries about registration for next year from new families. We are excited that we will be welcoming Catholic families from the Big Lake communities to our school next year. Please see the information on registration procedures later in this newsletter for more information.

Terry Volk

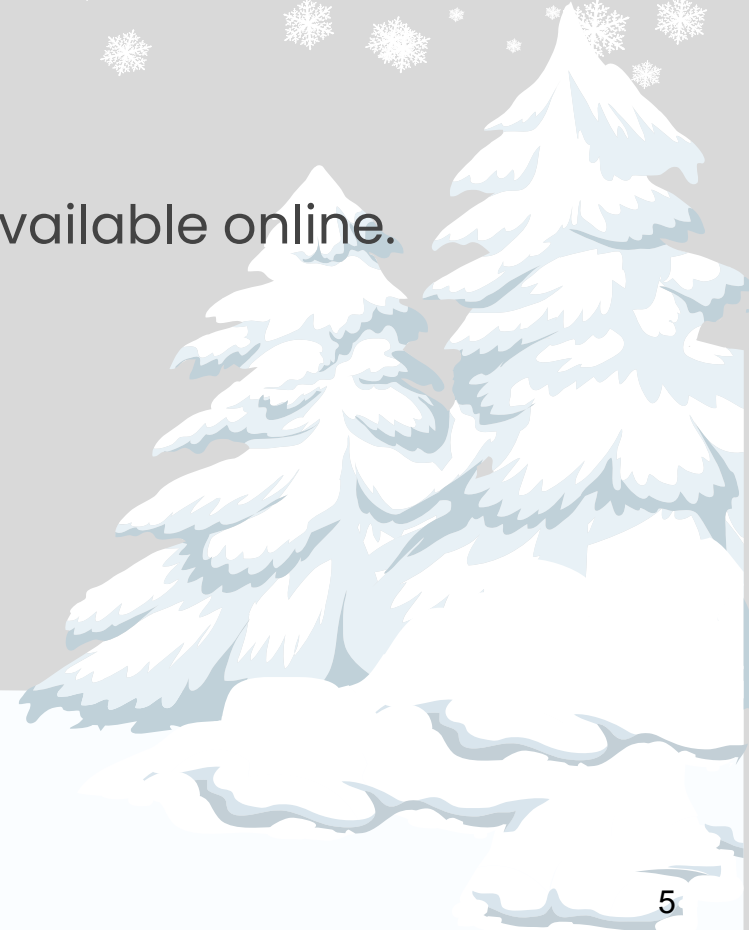
Joe Estephan

John Edwards



Message from Chief Superintendent Anderson

Chief Superintendent Anderson's Message is available online.





IB Coordinators' Message



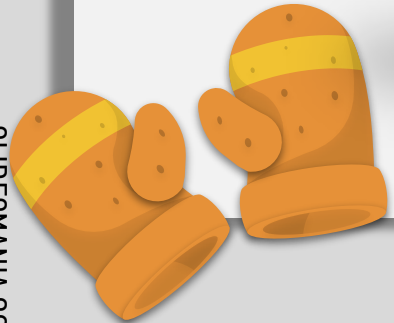
Our IB Coordinators invite you to follow our school on social media to stay updated on all the exciting happenings in our PYP and MYP classrooms and school community. This is a great way to learn about events, achievements, and to gain insight into how the IB programs are implemented at Bishop David Motiuk.

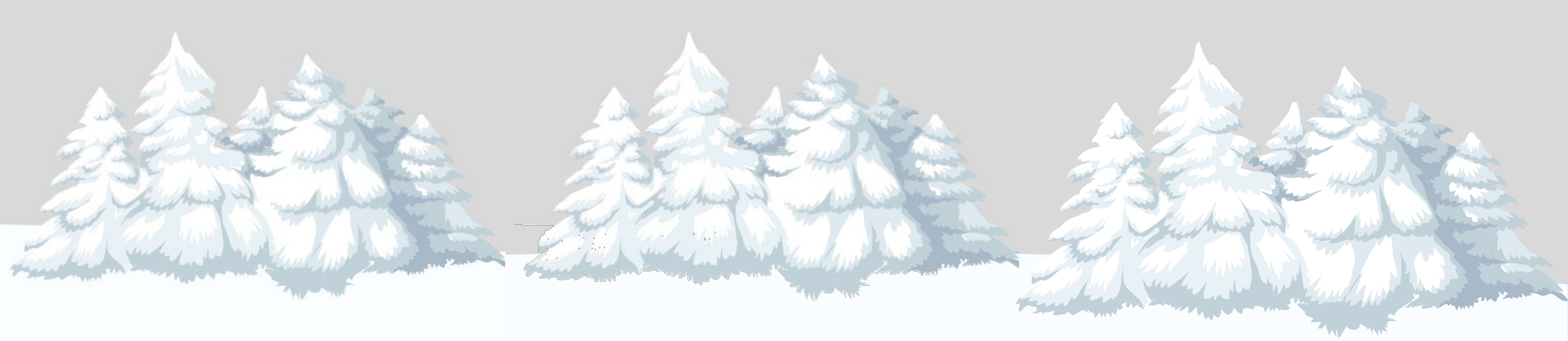
Join us online to stay connected!

Instagram: [bishopdavidmotiukecsd](#)

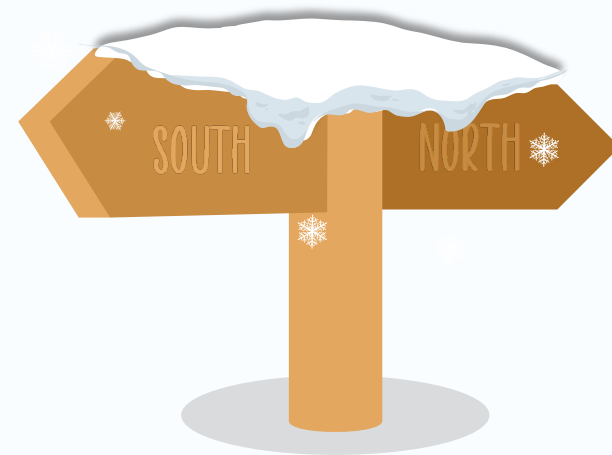
Facebook: Bishop David Motiuk School ECSD

As always, we welcome questions about the IB programmes in our school. Andrea Olivieri is the coordinator for the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and Lyndsy Panizzon is the coordinator for the Middle Years Programme (MYP). They can be reached at Andrea.Olivieri@ecsd.net and Lyndsy.Panizzon@ecsd.net





Important Information



Assessment in ECSD

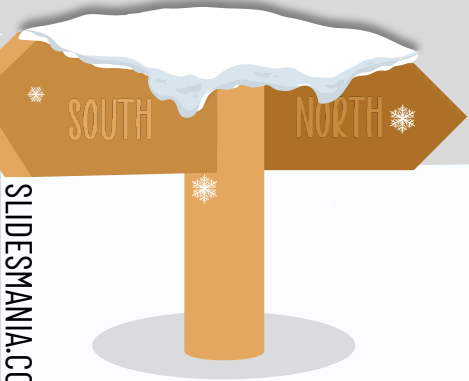
We will be issuing a summary report card in January as well as a final report card in June. Teachers will continue to enter marks and comments for each assessment directly into the PowerSchool gradebook and parents will still be able to access the gradebook at any point in time.

Summary report cards and student led conferences for the remainder of this year are scheduled for:

Summary Report: January 30, 2026

Student Led Conferences: March 19, 2026

Final Report: June 23, 2026

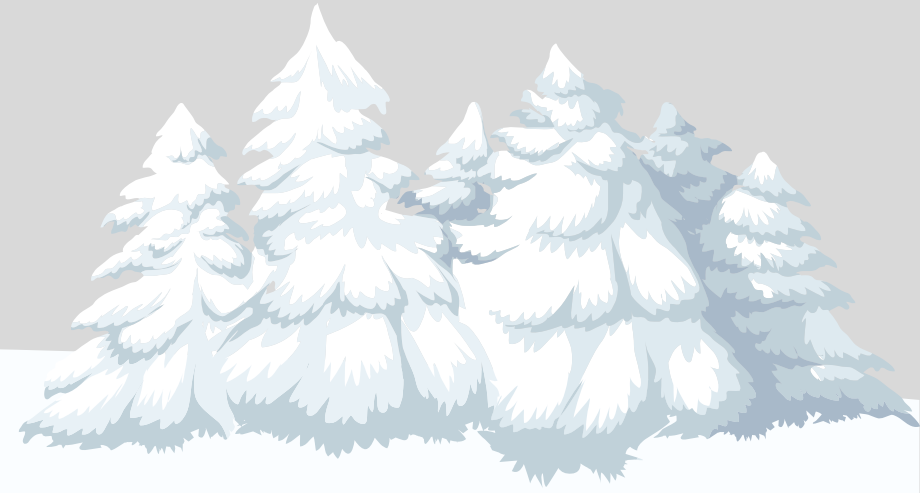




Catchment Area for BDM

- We are very pleased to let you know that effective September 2026, Bishop David Motiuk will be the designated school for students residing in the Big Lake area, including the neighbourhoods of Trumpeter, Starling, Hawks Ridge, Kinglet Gardens, and Pintail Landing will join our school community in Kindergarten through Grade 9. We remain the designated school for students residing in Stewart Greens, Webber Greens, Suder Greens, Potter Greens, and Breckenridge Greens. We are so pleased to welcome these new families to our school community.
- We understand that families may have questions about space and capacity. Bishop David Motiuk Catholic Elementary/Junior High School is well-equipped to welcome new students from the Big Lake area. With the recent opening of St. Josephine Bakhita Catholic Elementary/Junior High School, our school has the facilities and resources to support all students and maintain a positive learning environment for both current and new families.
- More information can be found on [the division website](#). If you have questions about the attendance area change, please visit this website or contact the school office directly.

Registering at BDM



With new boundary changes that will impact student enrolment to some extent, we will once again adhere closely to ECSD Administrative Procedure 300: Admission of Students, so new registrations will be accepted in the following order:

1. Resident* students in catchment area;
2. Resident students residing outside the catchment area;
3. Non-resident students residing within the catchment area; and
4. Non-resident students residing outside the catchment area.

* A resident student is a student who is Catholic or who has one parent who is Catholic.





Pre-Registration for Current ECSD Students

Parents of students currently enrolled at Bishop David Motiuk are asked to pre-register for the 2026-2027 school year by completing the pre-registration form in PowerSchool. **The pre-registration form will be open on Monday, February 2 through Friday, March 13.** Instructions will be sent by the division in a Broadcast message to parents of all current registrants.



Students Transferring To or From Another ECSD School



Parents of students currently enrolled in Edmonton Catholic Schools who wish to transfer to Bishop David Motiuk from another Catholic school or who wish to transfer from Bishop David Motiuk to another Catholic school **are not** required to complete new registration applications. Upon acceptance at Bishop David Motiuk or another Catholic school, files will be transferred from the student's current school.

All parents are asked to declare which school they intend to register in for the upcoming school year by completing the pre-registration screen in PowerSchool when it opens on February 2. The process takes less than a minute.

Once pre-registration screens have been completed, the principal of the school will review all transfer requests. Information about acceptance or non-acceptance will be communicated to families. In the event that a principal is unable to accept a new registration, the student will be assigned to their designated school by default. At that point, parents may choose to submit a request to a different school or accept registration at their designated school.



New Registration Applications for Kindergarten - Grade Nine

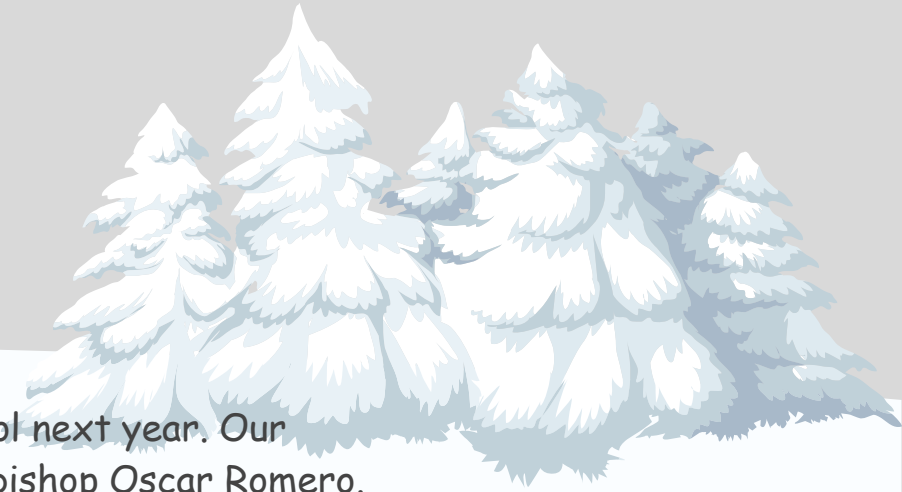
Registrations for students who are new to Edmonton Catholic Schools are done online. To register, please visit our division Register Today page. The principal will review new applications to determine eligibility and will contact families regarding applications. Online registration applications are not considered complete until we have received all required documents. These include:

- ❄ ECSD Registration Form
- ❄ Birth certificate
- ❄ Baptismal certificate (for sacramental preparation, if applicable)
- ❄ Landed immigrant certificate (if applicable)
- ❄ Copy of current report card
- ❄ Proof of address
- ❄ Complementary course form (online JH only)

Please note: students registering for kindergarten must be 5 years of age by December 31 of their kindergarten year.



High School Registrations



Grade 9 students at Bishop David Motiuk are gearing up for high school next year. Our designated high schools for students are St. Francis Xavier and Archbishop Oscar Romero. Information about these high schools will be presented to students.

Archbishop MacDonald High School Presentation

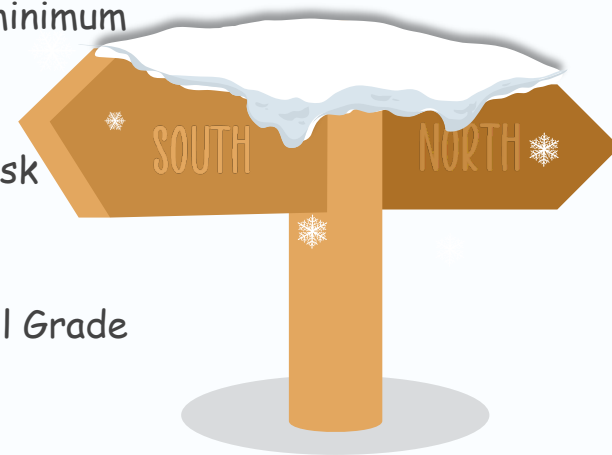
We are excited to welcome Archbishop MacDonald High School for a presentation on Friday, January 23, during Block 2 (9:45-10:32 a.m.).

This presentation is designed for interested Grade 9 students only, in learning more about MAC and its academic programs. Please note: Admission to MAC typically requires a minimum average of 75% or higher in all core subjects.

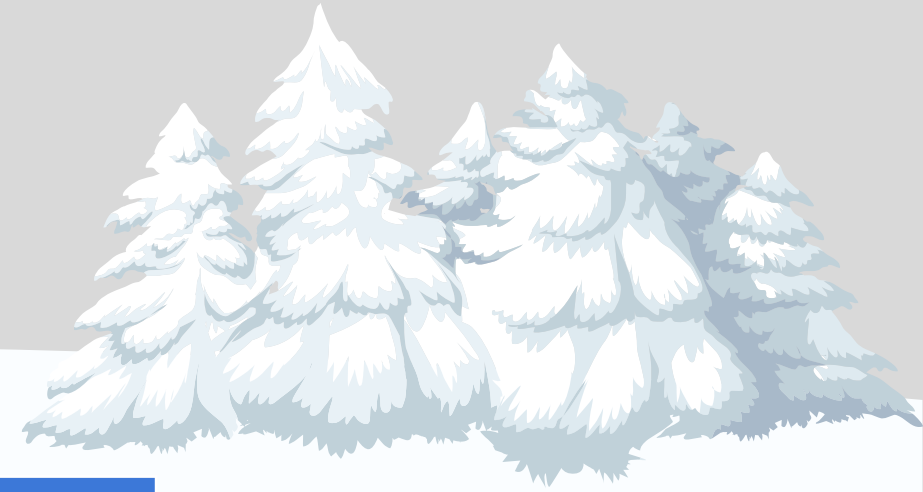
MAC does not offer dash 2 level courses, except for Math 30-2 in Grade 12.

If you are considering applying to MAC, this is a great opportunity for your child to ask questions and learn about expectations.

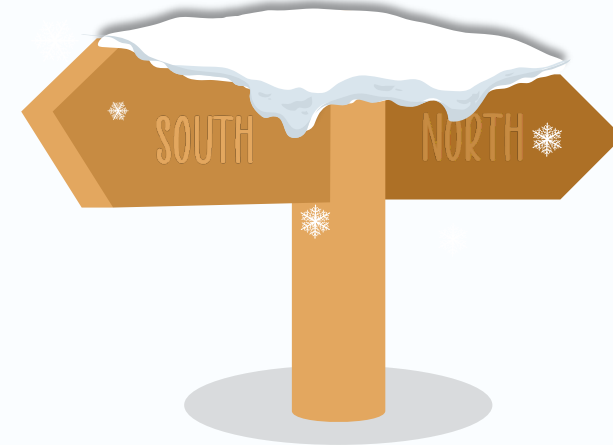
Please also note that St. Joseph Catholic High School will be visiting our school for all Grade 9 students on Monday, February 2, from 8:55-9:42am.



High School Open Houses

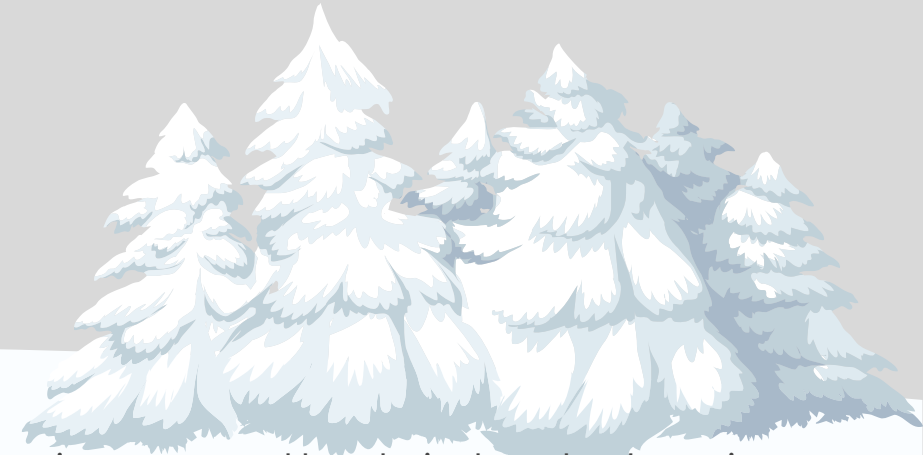


SCHOOL	OPEN HOUSE DATE	OPEN HOUSE TIME
<u>Archbishop MacDonald</u>	February 12	7:00 – 8:30 PM
<u>St. Francis Xavier</u>	February 18	6:30 – 8:00 PM
<u>St. Joseph</u>	February 24	6:00 – 8:00 PM
<u>St. Oscar Romero</u>	January 29	6:30 – 8:30



Extended Vacations

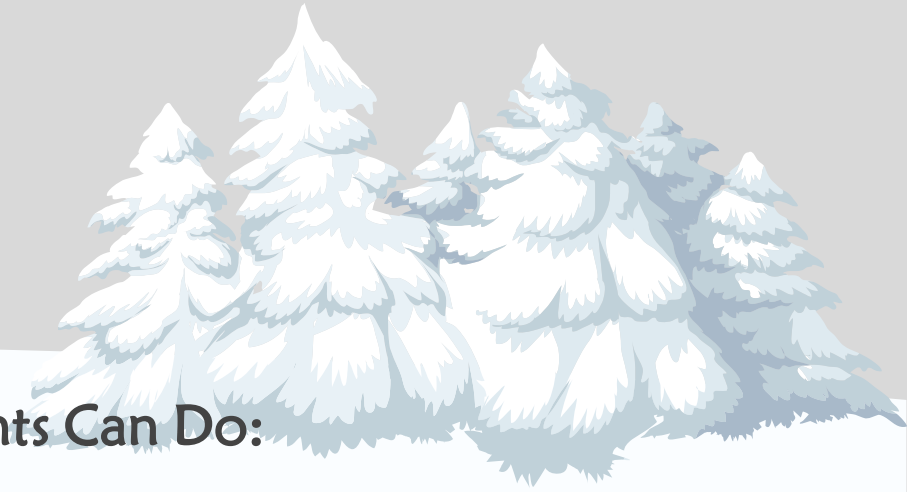
It's that time of year when many of our families are booking extended vacations. Please keep in mind that our classrooms are dynamic learning environments that are fluid and constantly changing. Work assigned is often project-based and is designed to promote critical thinking and a deeper level of student engagement. Even though tools such as Google classrooms are useful in terms of staying connected with the classroom, they are not substitutes for face-to-face learning and participation in learning activities. Consequently, we recommend that families avoid booking vacation time during the school year. This is especially important for students in grades six and nine, where students write provincial achievement tests. Another consideration for grade nine students is that their marks will determine which courses they may take in high school. Frequent absences may impact their academic performance at school.



If booking vacation time at natural breaks in the school year is not possible, or if a student must be away for truly important events or family emergencies, then parents are asked to contact the teacher to find out what general topics of study will be examined while the student is away. The student will be expected to review relevant course materials and monitor assignments being posted to Google classrooms, with the understanding that the student will likely have work to make up when he or she returns to school. It is the responsibility of the student to see each of his or her teachers to find out what work was missed during an absence and to complete all missed work, assignments and/or exams.

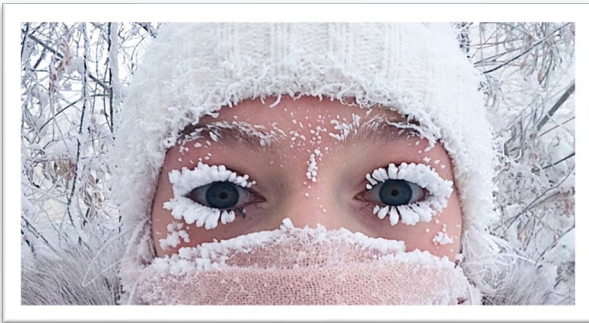


It Is Not Cool to Be Cold



Did You Know?

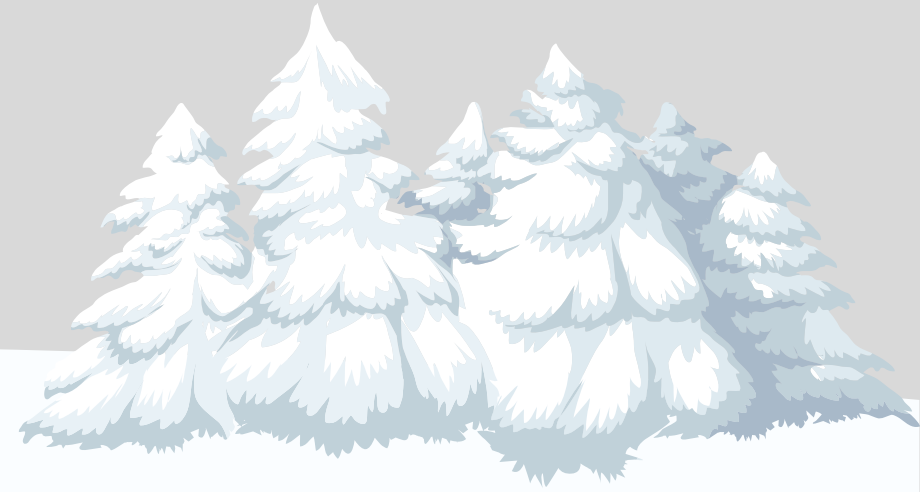
- ❄ Snow forts and tunnels can collapse and suffocate a child
- ❄ When children are outside, they often do not realize how cold they are becoming
- ❄ Bright sun during the winter can cause a sunburn



What Parents Can Do:

- ❄ Signs of frost nip are slight pain and whitening of the affected area e.g. tips of the ears turn white. Warm the affected area by breathing on it or warming it with your hands but do not rub. Do not apply snow or water.
- ❄ Supervise children when they play outside.
- ❄ Choose play areas with warm shelters nearby.
- ❄ Provide children with a neck warmer instead of a scarf to prevent strangulation on playground equipment.

It Is Not Cool to Be Cold



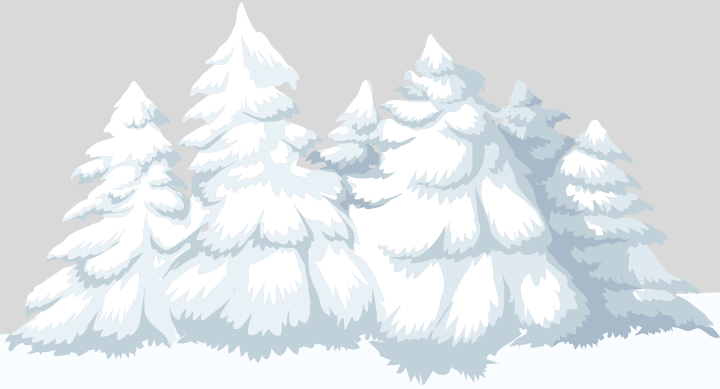
What Kids Can Do:

- ❄ If you feel pain in your fingers, toes, ears, cheeks, nose or chin, get inside to warm up.
- ❄ Dress in layers. If you get too warm take off one layer at a time.
- ❄ Wear sunscreen on exposed skin on sunny days.
- ❄ Don't put your tongue on cold metal

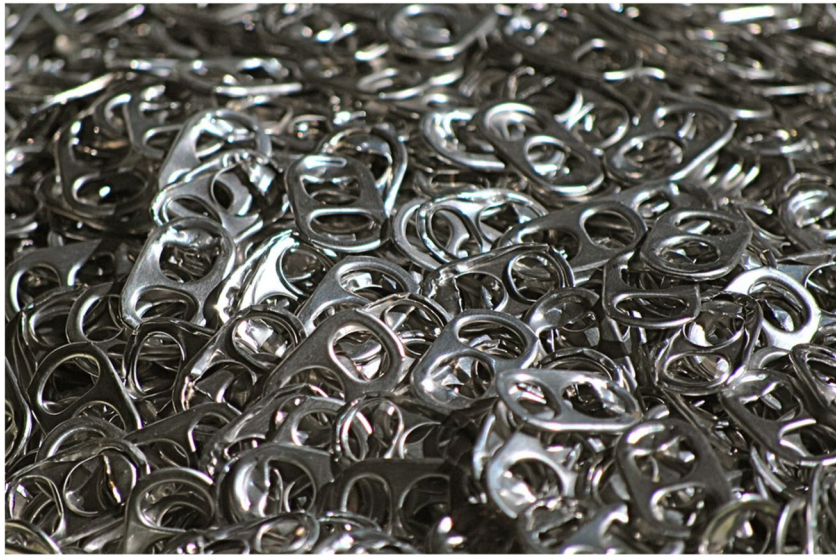
If you can only remember one thing:

- ❄ Most of our body heat is lost through our heads, so always wear a hat or toque in cold weather.

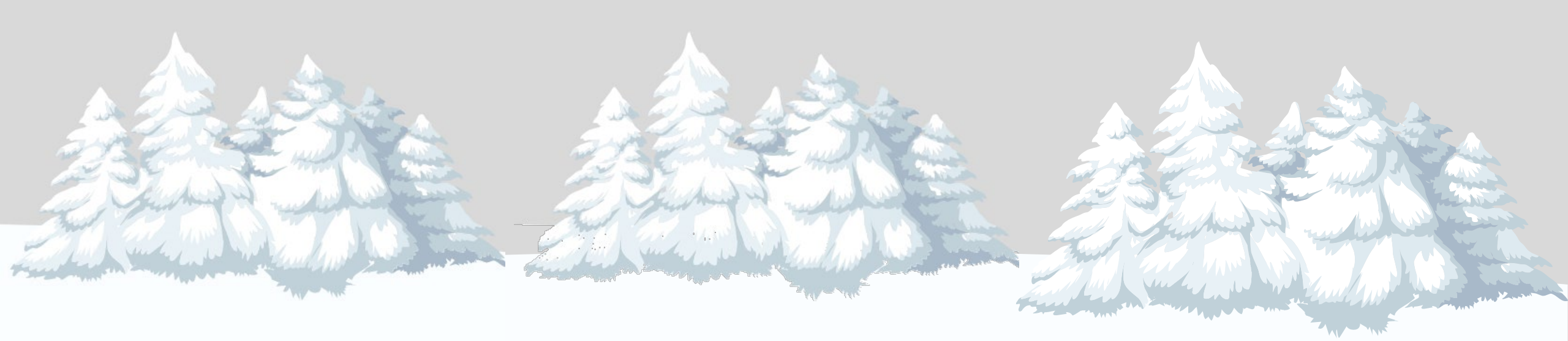




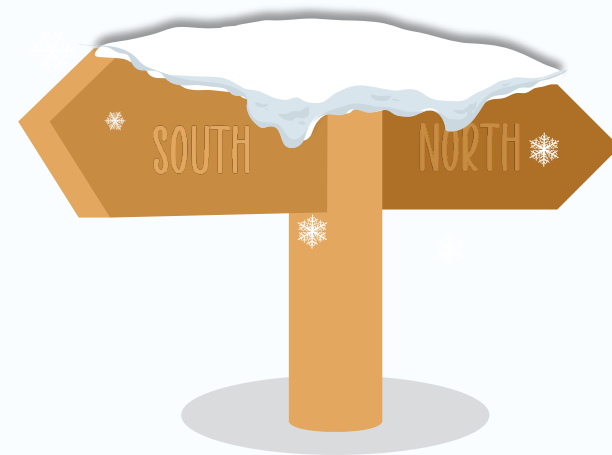
Pull Tabs for Wheelchairs



Don't know what to do with pull tabs from drink cans? Collect them and bring them to school! We are pleased to support the Knights of Columbus pull tab campaign. The aluminum in the pull tabs is used toward providing wheelchairs for people who need them. As you can imagine, it takes thousands upon thousands of pull tabs to make just one wheelchair... so please drop them off whenever you can.

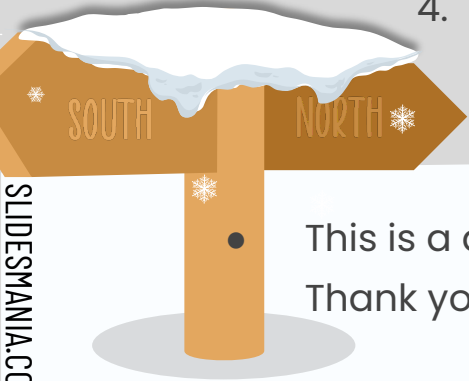


Communication



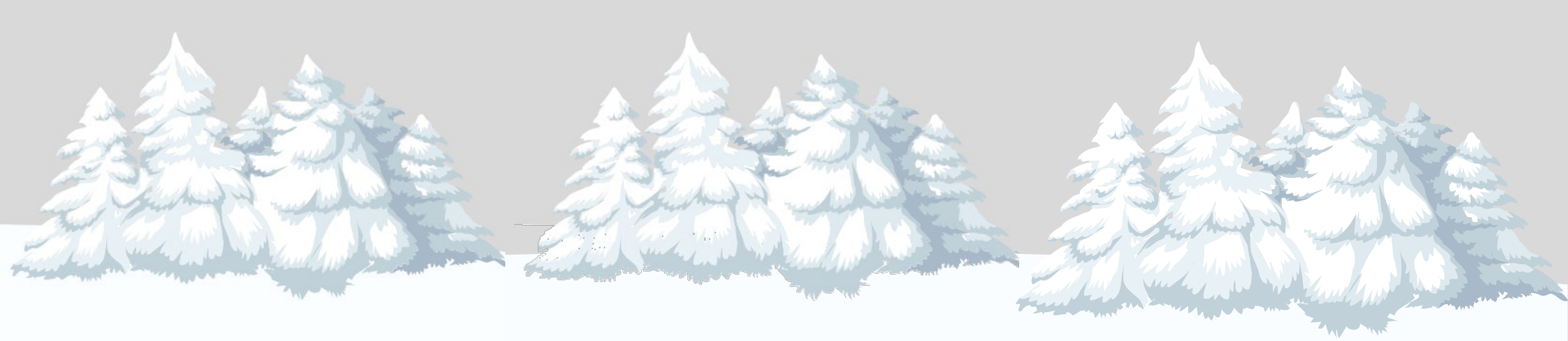
Entering Absence Information

- With the sheer number of students at our school, it can take a few hours for office staff to go through phone messages regarding student absences. This sometimes results in call-outs, even though parents have left messages, simply because staff have not had the chance to listen to all of the messages before the call-outs begin.
- Parents, please help us by entering attendance information for your children directly in PowerSchool:
 1. Open PowerSchool,
 2. Select "School Messenger" from the icons on the left,
 3. Click the calendar at the top for attendance,
 4. Click to report an absence.

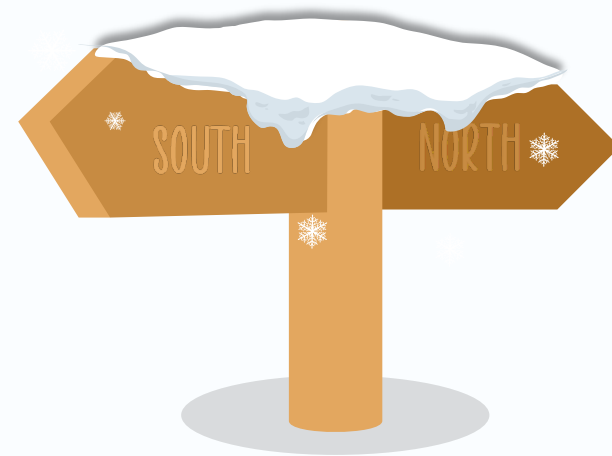


- This is a quick and easy way to let the school know that your child will be away.
Thank you!

Facebook: Bishop David Motiuk School ECSD



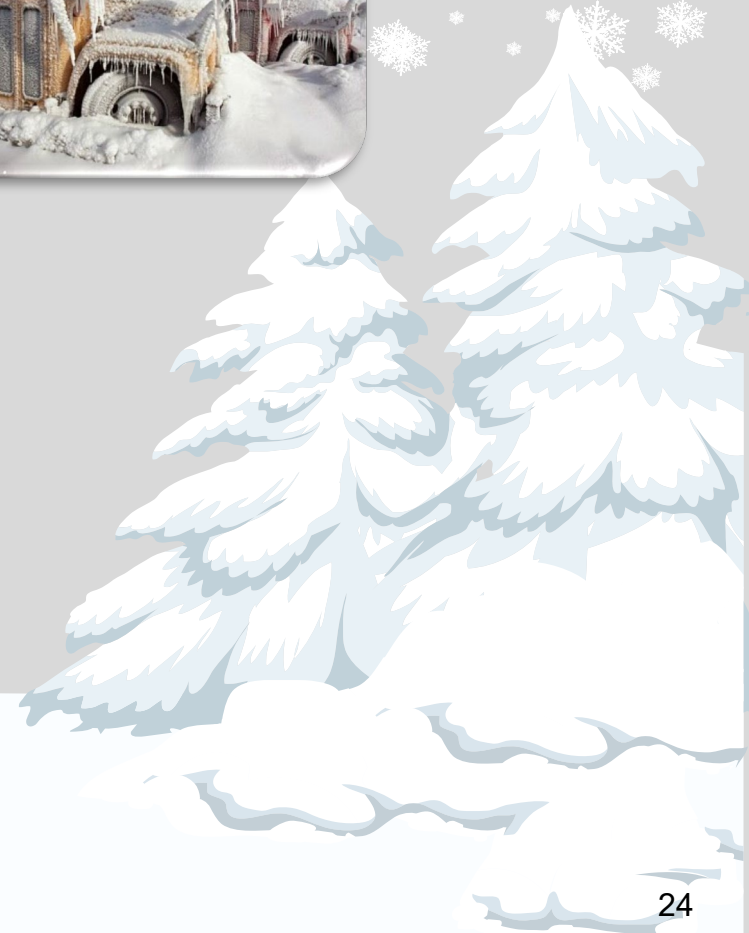
Transportation



Bus Service in Severe Weather Conditions

When the temperature outside reaches -20 with the windchill or colder, students are kept inside. If they arrive in the morning prior to the start of supervision at 8:20, then they are to enter through the main doors and wait in the foyer until supervision begins. At that time, they will make their way to classrooms. Recess will also be indoors.

Our transportation system has an excellent record for service. However, given the possible extremes of Edmonton weather and the potential for unexpected mechanical difficulties, it is impossible to guarantee buses will run on time or at all. A route can take 50% longer in adverse weather conditions. Parents are advised that if a bus does not arrive within twenty minutes of its scheduled time, they are to assume the bus is not coming. Parents must ensure that their child knows to return home or to a pre-selected location. Parents must then make alternate arrangements to get their child to school.



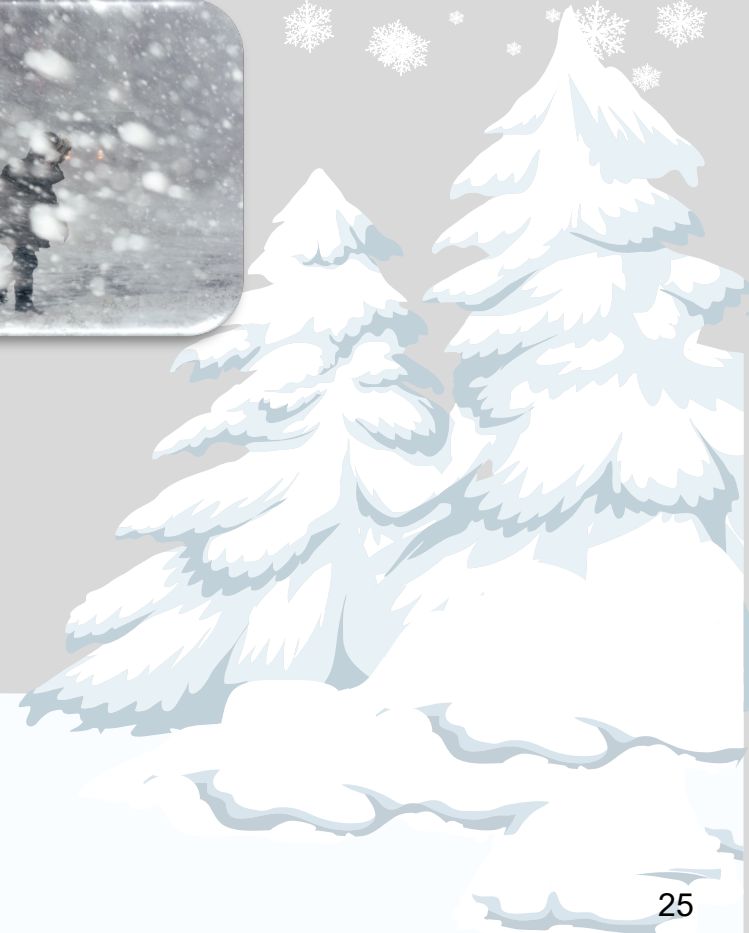
Bus Service in Severe Weather Conditions

Parents should also ensure that:

- ❄ children are supervised at the bus stop
- ❄ children have a place to go in the event the bus does not arrive
- ❄ children have alternate arrangements for getting to school should the bus not arrive
- ❄ children are suitably clothed to withstand weather extremes

Transportation Services normal operational procedures for delayed transportation also apply in severe weather conditions. The Carrier is responsible for notifying the School and the Transportation Services office when a route is running late.

Parents then have access to 3 different resources (by calling either the school, the Transportation Services office, or directly contacting the carrier) to get an update on the status of a particular route.



Cancellation of Yellow Bus Service for All Programs



RADIO STATIONS		
880 CHED	UP! 99.3 FM	95.7 CRUZ FM
CISN FM 103.9	HOT 107 FM	The Bear 100.3 FM
THE CHUCK FM 92.5	AM 930 The Light CJCA	SONIC 102.9 FM
INews 880 AM	SHINE 105.9 FM	104.9 VIRGIN Radio FM
Kiss FM 91.7	TSN 1260	CBC
CHFA (CBC Fr.)	CFCW 840	CAPITAL FM 96.3
K97 97.3	102.3 NOW! Radio	
TV STATIONS		
CITYTV	CTV Edmonton	GLOBAL Edmonton
CBC TV		
Every effort will be made to have messages broadcast commencing no later than 6:30 a.m		

Bus Planner Delays App

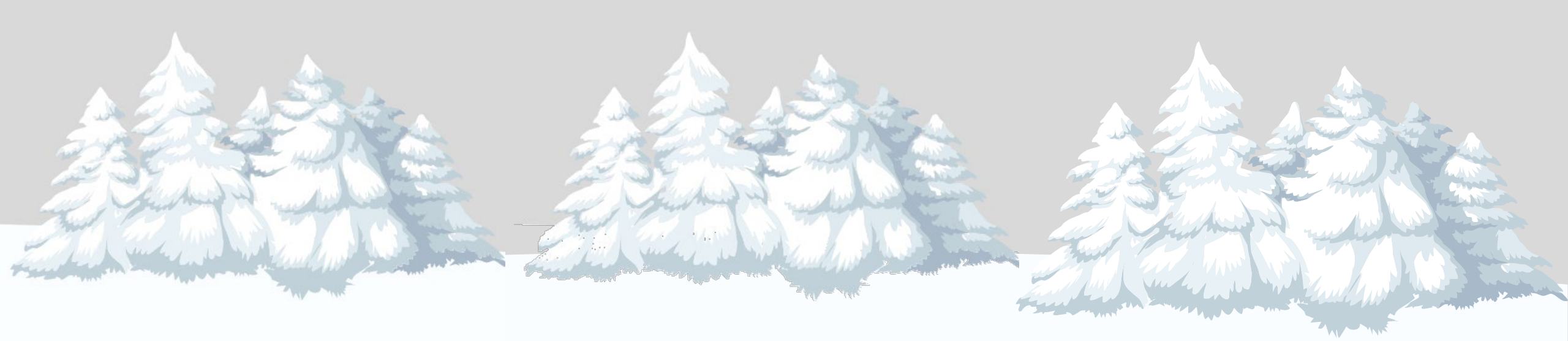
Please stay up to date with your children's transportation. The BusPlanner Delays mobile app is free and easy to use. It helps mobile users view notifications more quickly and easily. Just like the BusPlanner Web Delays & Cancellations page, the app will display:

- Delay and cancellation notices for specific routes or runs
- General notices for all subscribers.

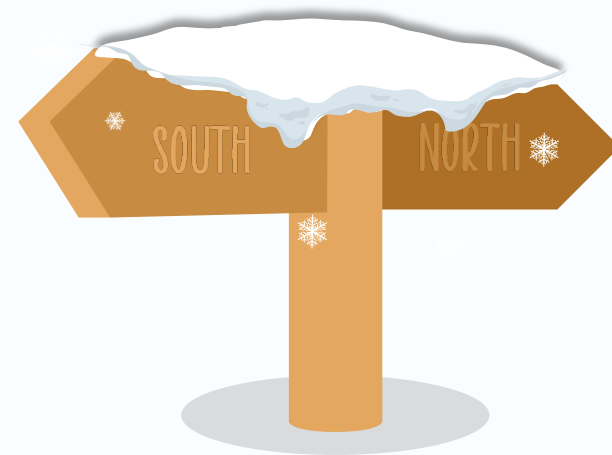
Users can download and access the BusPlanner Delays App via the Apple or Android app stores.

Please note that our school office will not be emailing or sending text messages to families regarding bus delays since the school receives the same notifications as parents through the BusPlanner App.



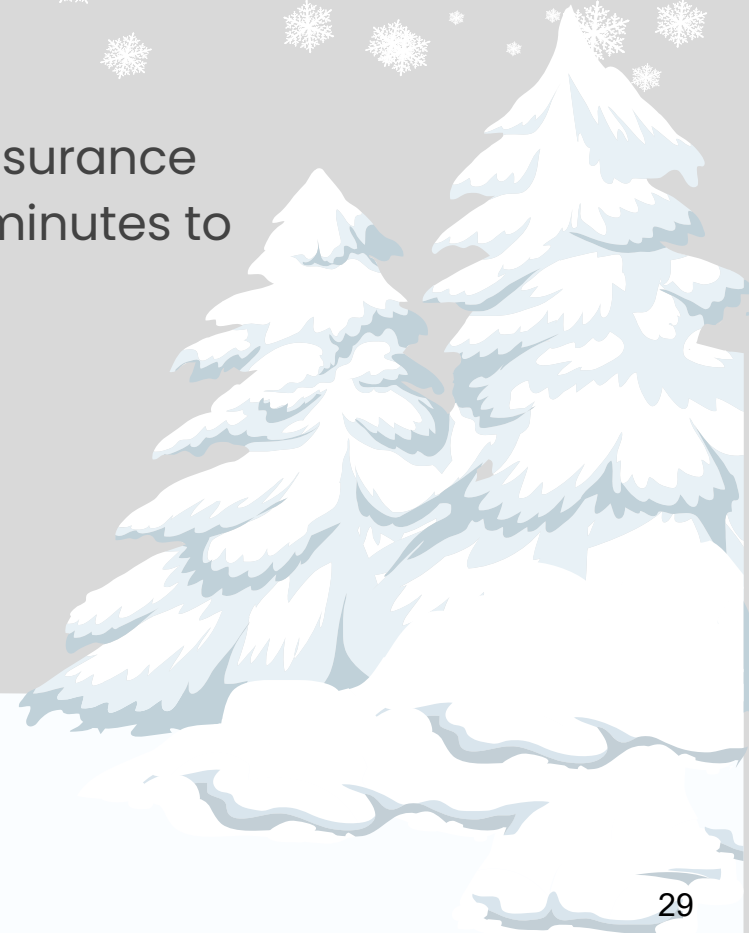


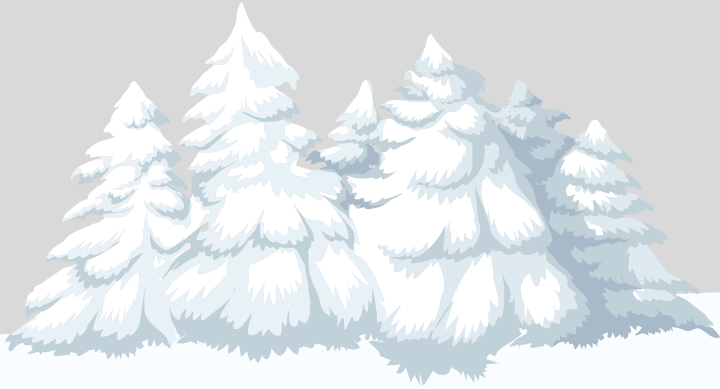
Upcoming Events



Assurance Surveys

- ❄ The division is once again asking for parent feedback. Assurance surveys will be sent home in January. Please take a few minutes to complete the surveys. Thank you!



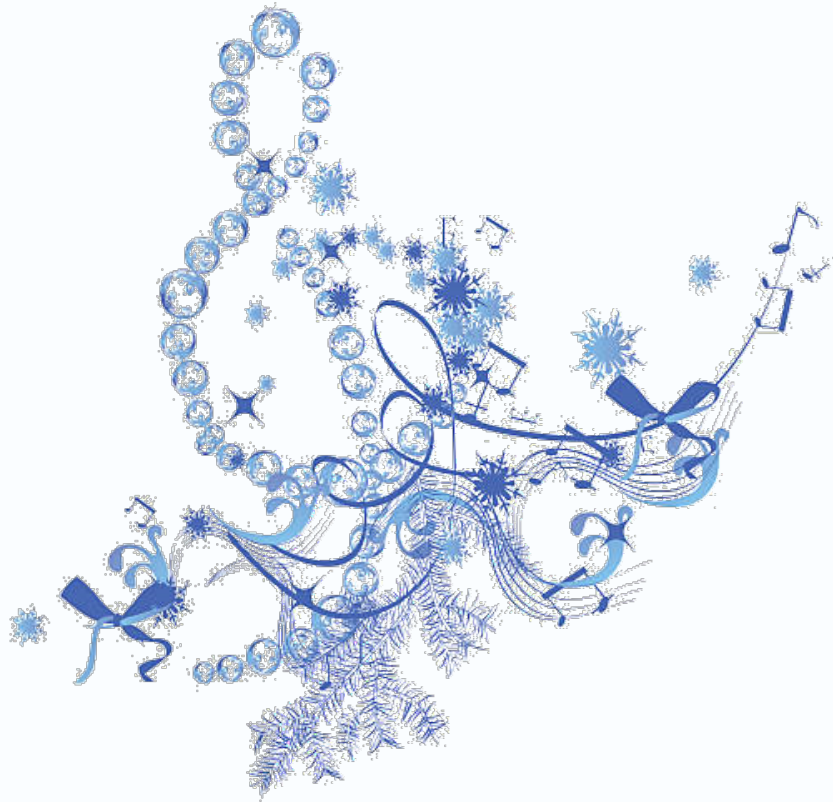


Bishop David's Birthday Celebration



January is a special month at BDM because we Bishop David's birthday! This year, our birthday celebration will be on Monday, January 19. The celebration will begin at 9:00 AM. Parents are welcome to join us as well. We are so blessed to have Bishop David as our patron. He is a very special part of our school community!

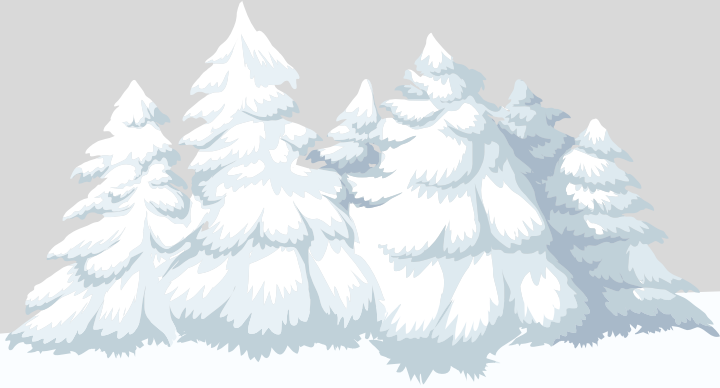
Winter Concert



Our grade six – nine music students will be performing live at our Winter Concert! The event will be on **Tuesday, January 27 at 7:00 PM, at West Meadows Baptist Church.**

Doors open at 6:30 pm.

We are looking forward to a wonderful evening!



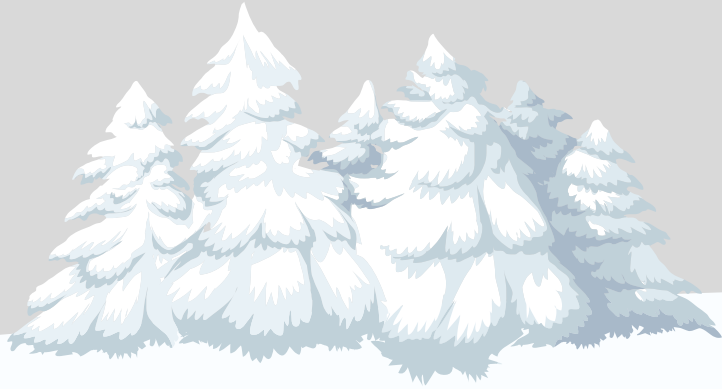
BDM Open House Information



Our Bishop David Motiuk Open House (K-9) is on Thursday, February 12 at 6:30 PM.

Our Open House includes a short general program followed by self-guided tours of the school. Information about kindergarten and International Baccalaureate Programmes will also be available.

Please visit the [Open House](#) page of our website for more information.



School Council Meeting



Our next School Council Meeting will be on **Wednesday, January 28 at 6:00 PM** in the Learning Commons. This will again be a hybrid meeting that is offered both in person and through Teams. Parents who would like a link to the Teams meeting are asked to email [Mr. Edwards](#).



Bishop David Motiuk Catholic Elementary and Junior High School

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