



November 2025 | Vol 9 | Issue 3

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Messages



Administrators' Message

We are very pleased to welcome our students and staff back to school following the recent strike and lockout.

We recognize that the past days have been challenging for families, and we sincerely thank you for your patience, understanding, and support during this difficult time.

Teachers have been ordered to return to work. You may not realize that most of the monetary gains teachers make through the imposed four-year contract will be offset by lost wages during job action. Teachers were willing to make this sacrifice in hopes of creating better learning conditions for students. It is important to acknowledge, however, that many of the concerns that led to the job action remain unresolved. We continue to pray for meaningful dialogue and progress, trusting that all parties will work toward solutions that uphold the dignity and well-being of our students, staff, and school communities.

We have received several questions from families regarding academic progress and extracurricular activities. At this time, the Government of Alberta has not indicated that time lost during job action will be made up. With this in mind, timetables and the school calendar will remain unchanged. As always, our dedicated staff will do all they can to ensure that students are able to access the curriculum effectively, so that learning continues without interruption.



Administrators' Message

Extracurricular activities and field trips are made possible through the generosity and commitment of school staff who volunteer their time to coach, supervise, and lead student experiences beyond the classroom. This includes activities such as sports teams, clubs, band trips, concerts and many other events. Our teachers care deeply about their students and have expressed their willingness to continue to give of their personal time in order to provide students with these important opportunities for growth and connection.

As we return to our regular routines, our focus remains firmly on our students—their learning, safety, and well-being. We are grateful for the unwavering dedication of our teachers and support staff, and for the trust our families place in us each day. In the spirit of our Catholic faith, we are reminded of our call to serve one another with compassion, patience, and hope.

Thank you to our families for continuing to walk with us in faith and partnership.

Terry Volk
Principal

John Edwards
Assistant Principal

Joe Estephan
Assistant Principal



Chief Superintendent Anderson's Message



Please visit <https://www.ecsd.net/chief-superintendents-message> to read Chief Superintendent Anderson's monthly message.

IB Coordinators' Message



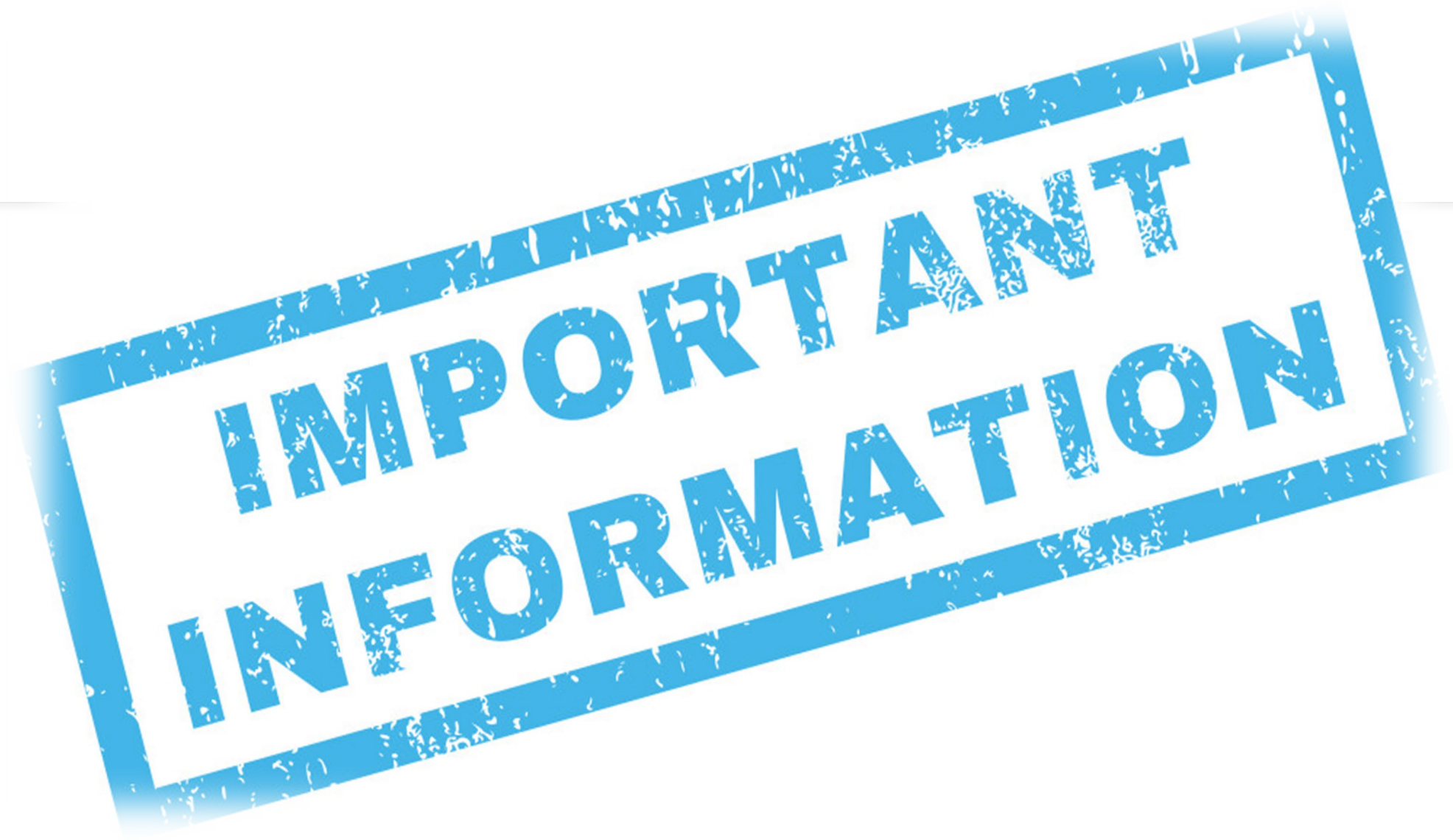
Our IB Coordinators invite you to follow our school on social media to stay updated on all the exciting happenings in our PYP and MYP classrooms and school community. This is a great way to learn about events, achievements, and to gain insight into how the IB programs are implemented at Bishop David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

School Site Safety App

Many parents choose to drive their children to school. ECSD has launched a School Site Safety application to assist parents in parking safely in the area around the school. To access the app, please click on the School Site Safety icon on our website or visit [School Site Safety](#). Rather than simply dropping off their children, many parents choose to park, walk with their children to school, then wait with them until the doors open. These parents are asked to park safely, either on the street or in the neighbourhood, taking care not to block driveways. Students who are not accompanied by a parent are asked to cross the street at the controlled crossing at the corner of Webber Greens Drive and Lewis Greens Drive rather than at the crosswalk on 93 Avenue, or at the crosswalk with flashing pedestrian lights at the north entrance to the school.

There are many, many vehicles in the area at drop off and pick up times. Please recognize this, be patient, and understand that it may take up to a half hour to navigate traffic in the area at peak times.

Thank you for your attention to these important safety considerations.



Bus Planner Delays App

Now that the weather is getting colder, parents may wish to download the bus planner delays app to check on the status of their child's yellow bus each day. The bus planner delays app will alert parents to any bus delays.

Please visit

<https://www.ecsd.net/yellow-bus-delays>
for instructions.





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.

Division & BDM Calendars

The division publishes a printable yearly calendar with upcoming holidays and important dates. This is useful information for families planning holidays or activities.

[2025-2026 Division Calendar](#)

The school also publishes a calendar that is posted to our website:

<https://bishopdavidmotiuk.ecsd.net/calendar>





UPCOMING EVENTS

School Council Meeting



Our next School Council meeting is on Thursday, November 13 at 6:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the Learning Commons. This is a hybrid meeting. Those who would like to join through Teams are invited to email [Mr. Edwards](#) for a link to the meeting.

Remembrance Day Ceremony



In November, we recognize those brave Canadians who fought for freedom in the wars. Our Remembrance Day ceremony will be on Friday, November 7 at 9:00 AM. Some classes will be present in the gymnasium, and the event will be livestreamed to the rest. Poppies will be distributed to all students. Donations to the poppy fund will be gratefully accepted. Monies raised through the poppy fund go to support our veterans. We will also be collecting food items for the Veterans Association Food Bank starting later in November. Thank you to Mrs. Carignan, Mrs. Manji, Ms. Pagé, and Ms. Barnett who volunteered their time to plan our Remembrance Day ceremony.

Remembrance Day Weekend/Fall Break

Please remember that the Remembrance Day Long Weekend/Fall Break for students is **Monday, November 10 through Wednesday, November 12**. There is no school for students on these days. Classes resume on Thursday, November 13.

We hope that families are able to take part in local ceremonies recognizing our veterans and their sacrifices on Remembrance Day.



Student-Led Conferences

Our student-led conferences for students in Grades 1-9 will take place in the afternoon and early evening on Thursday, November 27. Conferences for Kindergarten parents will take place throughout the day on Thursday, November 27. Discussions during student-led conferences will focus on student achievement to date with evidence of learning from projects and assignments students have completed to this point in the school year.

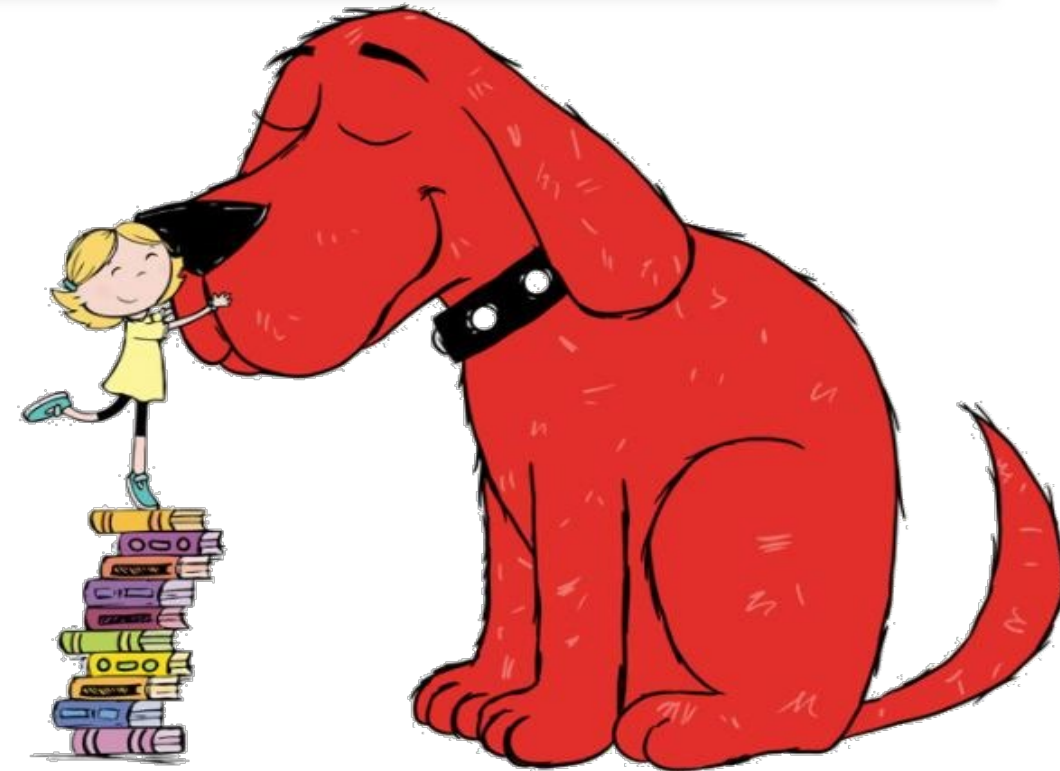
Conferences will run from 12:30 to 4:00 PM and from 4:45 to 6:45 PM. Our online [Conference Booking Manager](#) will be open from 9:30 AM on Friday, November 21 until 3:00 PM on Wednesday, November 26. Parents who have used the Conference Booking Manager in the past may simply log in to book conferences. For parents who are using the Conference Booking Manager for the first time, simply click on the link above and register to create an account.

Please note that teachers have a short dinner break on conference day. Parents are asked to respect their time and make sure not to keep teachers in classrooms into the dinner break time or past 6:45 PM. Thank you!



BDM Book Fair

- Get ready, readers! The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be at **Bishop David Motiuk** from **Monday, November 24 to Thursday, November 27!**
- The book fair is a great way for students to discover exciting new stories, favourite series, and all the latest must-reads. Each class will visit the fair during school hours, so your child will have a chance to explore and find books that spark their imagination!
- When you shop at the book fair, you're not only encouraging your child's love of reading — you're also helping our school earn new books and resources for our classrooms and library.
- Thank you for supporting our readers and our school. We can't wait to see you at the book fair!



Dream Builders Challenge

Throughout the months of November and December, students from Bishop David Motiuk and other schools throughout the Edmonton Catholic School Division will be involved in the Dream Builders Challenge, supporting the Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation's Dreams for Kids campaign. The goal of the Dream Builders Challenge is to support students and families in need in our schools.

A number of students and families in our school have received help from the Foundation when they found themselves in crisis situations. The Foundation also supports snack and breakfast programs in nearby Catholic schools.

Families accessing supports through the Foundation often receive help very quickly. Please visit the following pages on the ECS Foundation's website for a more in-depth look at what the Foundation does:

<https://www.ecsfoundation.ca/>



Dream Builders Movie Afternoon

In the afternoon on Friday, November 28, we will have our annual movie afternoon, where students watch a movie and are treated to a soft drink or juice and chips in exchange for a suggested \$5.00 donation to the Foundation.

Parents planning to make larger donations and wishing to have an income tax receipt are asked to make their donation directly on the ECS Foundation website: <https://www.ecsfoundation.ca/>. To make your donation, simply click on the “Donate Now” button in the top right-hand corner of the page. Please click on the “I would like to dedicate this donation” box and indicate your child’s school name in the “Tribute Name” box, so that the amount of your donation is added to our school’s total for tracking purposes (a total of all donations submitted will be communicated to us).

Thank you for your support and for helping to make dreams come true for students and families in need in our school division!



PYP Christmas Concert

This year, our PYP Christmas Concert will take place on one night only:

Wednesday, December 3, 7:00 PM

West Meadows Baptist Church

Doors will open at 6:30 PM.

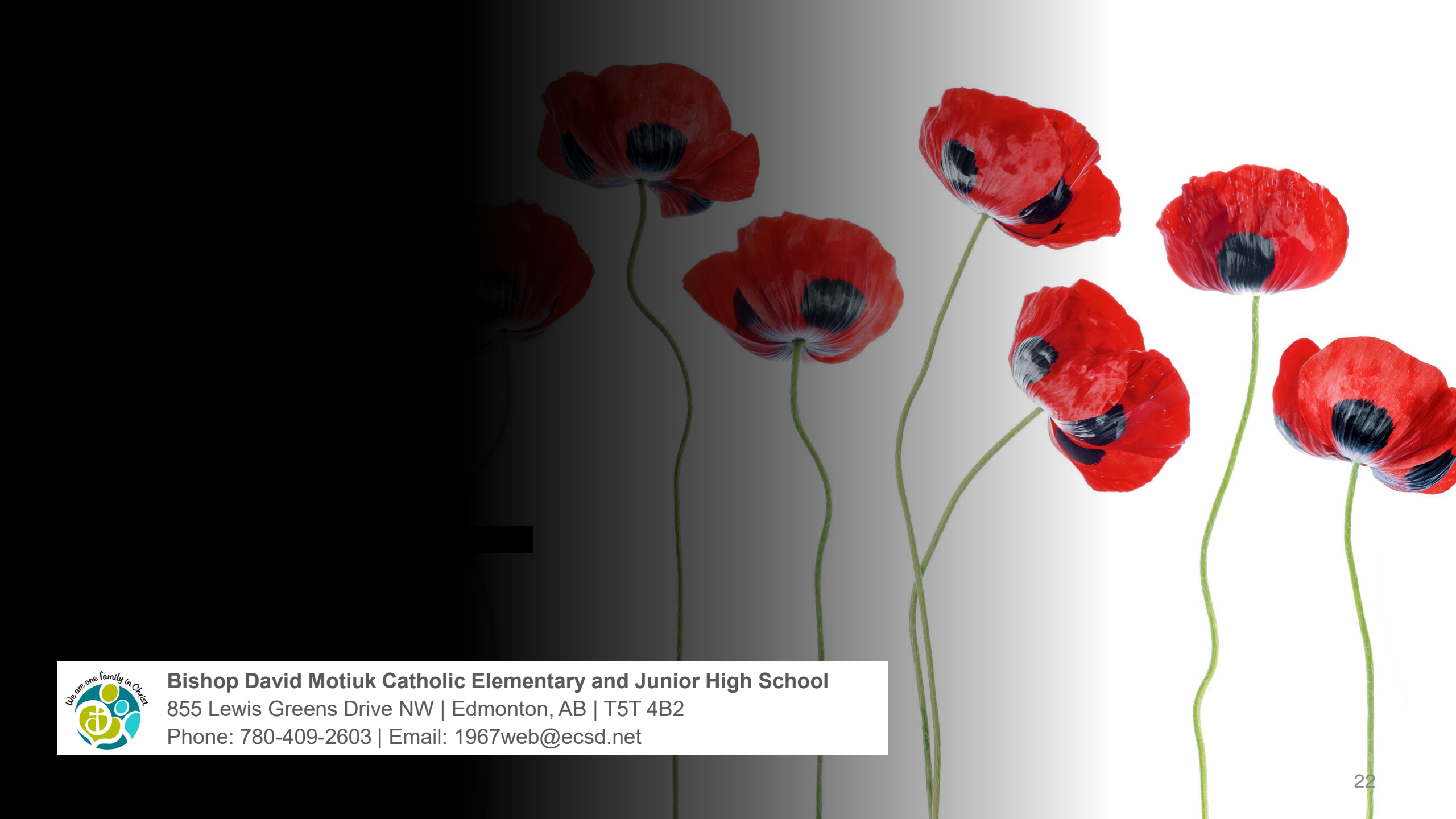
Please note: Each household will be issued two tickets for the concert.

Since the concert this year is on one night only, we do not have additional tickets available.

Family members who are not able to attend the evening performance are welcome to attend our dress rehearsal on concert day. Check our December newsletter for information about the time and place for the dress rehearsal.

We are very grateful to Ms. Barnett, Mrs. de Wee, Mrs. Sharrock-Wiggins, Mrs. Snihur, Mrs. Palomino, and all of our PYP teachers for volunteering their personal time so that a Christmas concert is possible. Although the concert takes place outside of the regular school day, this is our teachers' gift to parents and students during the holiday season.





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