

September
2019

MONSIGNOR
FEE



PERSON
Catholic Elementary/Junior High



Principal's Message



On behalf of the staff of Monsignor Fee Otterson Elementary/Junior High School, I would like to welcome you back to another amazing school year.

This is our 10th year and we are ready to celebrate together all that we stand for and believe in. We are dedicated to the legacy of Monsignor Fee Otterson who taught us in our very first year that **“love is central to all we do for one another.”** He dreamed of a school where everyone belonged, **“Every Child, Every Day, No Exceptions.”**

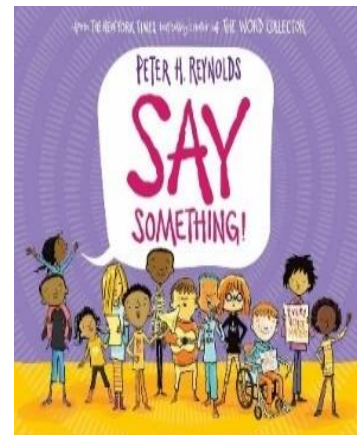
This year, we have chosen the book “Say Something” written and illustrated by Peter Reynolds. Opening up the cover of the book, we see the magic in the words, “The World Needs Your Voice.” Students and staff explored the possibilities embedded in this message.

This is a story for everyone, at any age who has ever worked to Say Something to make the world a better place.

This year at Monsignor Fee Otterson we recognize that every voice matters. In the words of Peter Reynolds:

“Your voice can
inspire, heal, and transform.
Your voice can change the world.

Are you ready
to say something?”



We thank you our parent community for welcoming us back into the lives of your children. What an honor it is for us to be part of their educational journey. We Belong...

Every Child, Every Day, No Exceptions

Principal,
Marie Whelan



Partners in Technology & Innovative Learning

1834 Rutherford Rd. SW • Edmonton AB • T6W 0N5 • tel: 780 430-8015 • fax: 780 433.8052 • www.monsignorfecotterson.ecsd.net

Principal: Mrs. Marie Whelan Assistant Principal: Lily Kucy Assistant Principal: Mike Pagacz



Monsignor Fee Otterson Staff

2019-2020

Principal: Marie Whelan

Assistant Principals: Lily Kucy / Mike Pagacz



Kindergarten – Ms. Saccomani	
Grade 1 - Mrs. Curley/Mrs. Lemire Grade 1 - Miss. Hopkyns Grade 1 - Miss Poniewozik	Grade 6 – Mr. McCann Grade 6 – Mr. Johnson Grade 6 – Mrs. Woldanski Grade 6 - Mrs. Patry
Grade 2 - Mrs. Rodrigues Grade 2 - Miss. Shinkaruk Grade 2 - Mrs. Merryfield	Grade 7 – Mr. Banco Grade 7 - Mrs. Velikonja
Grade 3 – Mrs. Bondy Grade 3 - Mrs. Mazur Grade 3 – Mrs. Michaud/ Mrs. Murphy Grade 3 - Mrs. Hay/Mrs. Deering	Grade 8 – Mrs. Fehr Grade 8 – Miss. Obrien Grade 8 – Mr. Hormazabal
Grade 4 – Mrs. Stephens Grade 4 - Mrs. Walker/ Mrs. Siewert Grade 4 – Mrs. Chalifoux	Grade 9 – Mr. Diachuk Grade 9 – Mr. Somkuti Grade 9 – Miss. Ward
Grade 5 – Mrs. Proudlove Grade 5 – Miss. Creelman Grade 5 – Mrs. Turner Grade 5 – Mrs. Corsaro/Mrs. Dolynchuk	Nature/Outdoor Ed – Miss. Turner ELL Support Teacher – Mrs. Ramler Teacher/Counsellor – Mr. Brophy Literacy Support – Mrs. Fetter
Learning Coach – Mrs. Sweetland Empowering Readers Literacy – Mrs. Lekness Makerspace Innovation Coach – Mr. Jones	Elementary Art – Mr. Oberst JR High Art – Mrs. Draudson Music – Mrs. Pecson/Mrs. Cote Band – Mrs. Fehr
Educational Assistant – Mrs. Maraweera Educational Assistant – Mrs. Egan Educational Assistant – Mr. Sipat Educational Assistant – Ms. King Educational Assistant – Mrs. Zaps	TABT - Miss McCagherty TABT – Miss Fedyniak TAOT – Miss Helmele Administrative Support: Mrs. Schmitz Administrative Support – Mrs. Hynek
Head Custodian – Mr. Dela Rama Senior Custodian – Mr. Varghese Custodian – Mrs. Ladouceur / Mr. Estabillo	Librarian – Mrs. Hussain We welcome five student teachers from Concordia University

Hours of Operation

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday		Kindergarten
1 st bell	8:10am	Morning Class 8:15-10:50 am
Classes begin	8:15am	Afternoon Class 11:40 – 2:55pm
Morning Recess	10:00 – 10:15am	Thursday: Morning students ONLY (8:15-10:55am)
Lunch	11:45am – 12:05pm	No kindergarten for afternoon program 
Lunch Recess	12:05 – 12:25pm	
Afternoon Recess	2:00 – 2:15pm	
Regular Dismissal at 2:55 pm		
THURSDAY EARLY DISMISSAL 11:53 (Elem)/11:45 (JH)		

Holidays To Mark On Your Calendar



Thursday, October 14 th	Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL
Monday, November 11 th	Remembrance Day NO SCHOOL
December, 20 nd -January 6 th	Christmas Break



Tuesday, February 4 th	Faith Development Day NO SCHOOL
Monday, February 17 th	Family Day NO SCHOOL
Thursday, February 27 th	Teachers Convention NO SCHOOL
Friday, February 28 th	Teachers Convention NO SCHOOL
March 20 th - March 27 th	Spring Break
Friday, April 10 th	Good Friday
Monday, April 13 th	Easter Monday
Monday, May 18 th	Victoria Day NO SCHOOL
Friday, June 26 th	Last Day of School- HALF DAY



Our Monthly Newsletter will be posted to our website

<http://www.monsignorfeeotterson.ecsd.net/>



Student Safety Procedures

In the weeks ahead, the children and staff will be practicing fire drills and emergency procedures to ensure the safety of all within our school community. Staff will be aware of when these initial drills are taking place so that they can prepare the children of all ages within our school setting.

All staff are highly knowledgeable of these procedures.

To further assist us with school safety, we are asking parents who are volunteering to check in at the office during school hours. We invite you to wear a volunteer badge. Thank you for your cooperation.



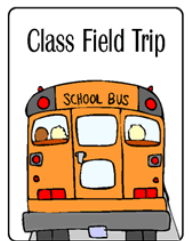
Enrollment & Classroom Organization

Monsignor Fee Otterson classes are up and running!

Each class grouping is comprised of students with various abilities, interests and strengths. This rich mix of students fosters an inclusive learning environment and creates an atmosphere which nurtures the development of all children. Please take time to read your child's classroom newsletter to gain insight into the engaging, challenging *and* creative learning experiences your child will be a part of in the days and weeks ahead!

Fieldtrips

A number of supplementary experiences are provided to our students across the school year. These opportunities enable children to explore curriculum and deepen their understanding of the world around them beyond the walls of the classroom. Parents and guardians will be provided written notification in advance of all field trips. A completed permission slip signed by the parent or guardian needs to be returned before a student may participate in the field trip. The methods of payment this year will include the standard cash & cheque; however, **we prefer online payments** through your PowerSchool account. No child will be denied participation in field trip experiences due to lack of funds if the situation is brought to the attention of the principal prior to the scheduled event. Confidentiality will be honoured.



Curriculum Information

“What did you do at school today?”

Resources to help answer your questions about your child's education:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning/>

Edmonton Catholic School District Web site www.ecsd.net

Absentee Check/Attendance



Regular attendance is directly related to success in school. Please ensure that your child arrives on time so that they can be welcomed into the classroom learning experiences taking place each day. Students who arrive late are asked to report to the office to check-in.

Parents and guardians are required to contact the school if a child will be late or absent. Please notify the school office at 780-430-8015 and leave a message if all lines are busy. If we have not heard from home when a student is absent, we contact parents, guardians or the designated emergency contact numbers to ensure the student is safe. Please ensure that any changes to personal contact information are reported to the office in order to keep our records up-to-date.

Students who have appointments and must leave the school prior to dismissal are asked to make certain the teacher is informed as well as the office staff.

Student Transportation



Our yellow buses *are* up and running and on time. Bus *passes* are available the *office* for purchase at a cost of \$33.50 for Elementary and \$56.50 for Junior High. ETS bus passes are also available for the same price. Students will not be able to bring notes asking to ride on a different bus since the safety of our students is always a priority.

*All students who ride the yellow school bus must have a **monthly bus pass**.*

Busing Students KG - Grade 1: District transportation policy requires that an adult/guardian is available to receive all Kindergarten and Grade 1 students at the scheduled drop-off location and time.

If there is no adult at the stop the child will be brought back to the attending school.



Safety Over Convenience

We want to make you aware of our focus on "safety" for all students during the drop-off and pickup times as a new school year begins. It is important for all families to help with the following:

*There is no drop-off or pick up in the bus zone in front of the school.

*The turn-around can be accessed once the buses have left.

The turn-a-round is not a parking area. We do have parent parking spaces if you need to park. Our staff parking lot is completely full and we ask parents not to park there. We feel it is important to bring this forward as we work together to ensure all students are safe.





Let's Be Good Neighbours

We are very thankful our school is part of the wonderful community of Rutherford. It is very important to us that we are all being good neighbours and showing kindness to one another.

Some ways that we can be good neighbours include:

- ♥ **Practicing parking etiquette:** if you park your vehicle, be sure not to block anyone's access, or make them have to pull out of a very tight spot. This is especially important for our homes across the street from our school.
- ♥ **Respecting personal/private property:** if you [or your child(ren)] are walking to school or if you are waiting for your child(ren) to come out of school, please be aware of our neighbours private property and please stay on the sidewalks.
- ♥ **Being courteous, polite and friendly:** don't hesitate to say "hello" or give a friendly wave if you happen to see one of our community members out and about.

Thank you for loving and respecting our neighbourhood

Neighbourhood

Edmonton Catholic Schools Information Regarding School Emergencies

At the Edmonton Catholic School District the safety of our students is always our first priority and students are well supervised when they are on school property. When situations occur that warrant emergency procedures to ensure the safety of all students, we will provide parents with accurate and up to date information. One way to keep parents informed about an emergency and the safety procedures that have been put into place is by posting the information on the school website.

Information will be posted and updated as required when a school is experiencing an emergency.

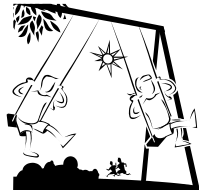


If there is an emergency situation at the school where your child(ren) attend, check the school website to stay informed and receive timely information. We also need to keep phone lines available at the school during an emergency, so we ask that you do not call the school. This will enable the staff at the school to keep in touch with emergency providers and District personnel.

Thank you for your support and help in ensuring our students remain safe



Otter Park



Our beautiful playground is well loved! The students and children in our community are continuing to enjoy it!





Medical Alert Information



Please ensure that you have communicated to the school office about any **medical conditions or severe allergies** that your child may have. If your child requires medication to be given at school or your child self-administers their medication, a form is required. Please come into the office and fill out a current medical alert form as soon as possible to ensure we have the most up to date information.

Please note that a doctor's signature is required on the form before any medication can be given/taken (self-administered) at school. We thank you for ensuring your child's safety and well-being!

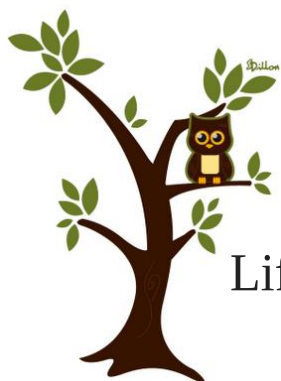
Also, please assist us in keeping our school population healthy by keeping sick children at home. Should a child become ill while at school, parents or guardians will be notified and will be asked to pick up their child.



School Registration Fees



The 2019/2020 School Registration Fees support the operational decisions made and we are dependent on this financial support to carry out the educational goals set for the school year. The methods of payment include the standard **cash, cheque and preferably online payments** through your PowerSchool account. We would appreciate **school fees** being paid by **October 18th**. We appreciate your attention to this request.



Life Touch®

SCHOOL
PORTRAITS

PHOTOGRAPHY FOR A LIFETIME®

SCHOOL PICTURES

Life Touch will be at Monsignor Fee Otterson

Tuesday October 15th, 2019

<http://lifetouch.ca/school-pictures>





EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Growing in the **SPIRIT**

Learning Services – Innovation Genesis Center 10537 – 44 Street, Edmonton, AB, T6A 1W1 780.638.6810

**INCLUSIVE EDUCATION
PROGRAM SUPPORT
Notification Letter**

2019 – 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Members of the Inclusive Education Multi-Disciplinary Team (Edmonton Catholic School District and/or Alberta Health Services staff) may be part of the learning team at your child's school. This team may include:

- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Mental Health Therapist
- Family School Liaison Worker
- Psychologist
- Emotional Behavioural Specialist
- Therapeutic Assistant in Speech-Language, Occupational Therapy, or Behavioural Therapy
- Board Certified Behaviour Analyst

Inclusive Education MDT staff will visit classrooms and work alongside teaching staff to plan and support all learners. The school will contact you, followed by a call from a member of this Team, if any specific assessments, individual or small group support is required for your child. Parents must provide informed consent if specific assessments and/or services are required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Lang
Director
Inclusive Education
Learning Services – Innovation

SACRAMENTS

Baptism



The **Sacrament of Baptism** (infants to age 7) is celebrated throughout the year and parent(s) prepare for this wonderful sacrament by registering for preparation classes and choosing a baptism date. Baptism dates fill up quickly, so please call 2 months in advance. To find out more, brochures are available in the school lobby, church entrance or visit our website at stm.caedm.ca.
Contact Shannon at 780 434 6313.

1st Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion



Drop in Registration for the 2019-2020 year **starts again on the 1st Saturday of every month** from October 2019 to February 2020. Space is limited so register early! See the green 1st Reconciliation & 1st Holy Communion brochures in your school lobby or church entrance. Contact: Monica Bober at 780 434 6313 ext. 227.

R.C.I.A. adapted for Children for children 8 – 15 years



Did you know the oldest person to have been baptized at **St. Thomas More Church** was 80 years old? **Do you have a child who would like to join the Catholic faith?** Hi... my name is Monica Bober and I'd love to talk to you about how I can **help your child (not baptized or baptized) prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and 1st Communion)** through the **R.C.I.A adapted for Children** process. Classes run Thursday nights from September 26th – May 21, 2020. To find out more, brochures are available in the school lobby, church entrance or call Monica at 780 434 6313 extension 227.
Contact

Confirmation



Our Confirmation program is for anyone who will be in Grade 7 – 12 in September 2019. Preparation classes will take place from September to November. Confirmation is the final stage after Baptism and Communion, to be FULLY initiated into the Catholic Church!
Do you still need to register? The first meeting date is also the last day to register: Sept 15th at 1:30 pm, or Sept 16th at 6:30 pm. Contact Sara Dmitri – Youth Evangelization Coordinator at the Parish Office youth@stmparish.com or 780-434-6313 ext. 223

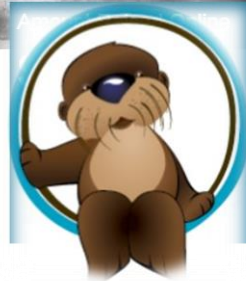
BRING YOUR TOONIES FOR TERRY

Be Like Terry!

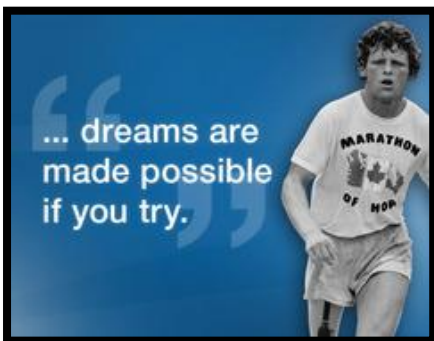


PLEASE SPONSOR

**MONSIGNOR FEE
OTTERSON SCHOOL -
EDMONTON, AB**



**THURS.
SEPT.
26TH
2019**



Please Visit our Online Support Page:

[Please Click Here to make an
Online Donation to our School](#)

We are proud to work with the Foundation towards Terry's vision of 'a world without cancer'. We also look forward to encouraging our students to 'Be like Terry' by fostering his values of determination, courage, perseverance and compassion.



Scholastic Book Fair
October 7th ~ 10th
Monsignor Fee Otterson Gym