

We are all God's Masterpiece



“For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.” Ephesians 2:10

Jean Vanier Catholic School



*“Every child, every person
needs to know that they are a source of joy; every child, every
person, needs to be celebrated”. -Jean Vanier*

Student Agenda 2018-2019

109 Georgian Way, Sherwood Park, AB T8A 3K9
Telephone: (780) 467-3633 **Fax:** (780) 467-1584
Website: www.jv.eics.ab.ca

Principal: Mr. Gordon Marshall
Assistant Principal: Mrs. Barb Rafuse

This agenda belongs to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Postal Code: _____ **Phone:** _____

Grade: _____ **Homeroom Teacher:** _____



At Jean Vanier Catholic School, we:

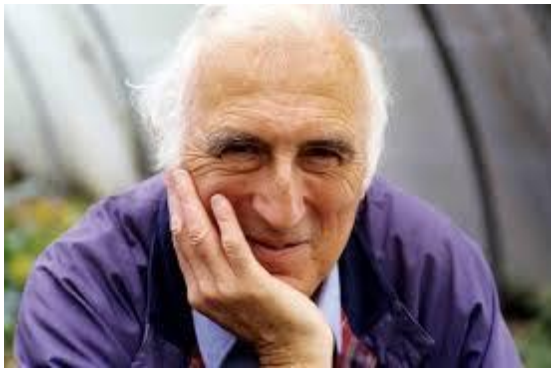
- *commit to the faith formation of all staff and students*
- *provide quality learning environments for all*
- *embrace and celebrate both English and Ukrainian programs*
- *explore opportunities for students that honour and develop their emerging gifts, skills, and talents*

Welcome Students and Parents of Jean Vanier Catholic School

Welcome to Jean Vanier Catholic School! We are very grateful for the opportunity to share in your child's faith and learning journey. Together, we share the blessing and responsibility of helping our children grow into faith-filled and responsible citizens who celebrate their gifts and skills with our world. Our dedicated staff will strive to bring out each child's potential and assist them to grow academically, socially, emotionally, spiritually, and physically.

The student agenda book has been assembled to clarify for parents and students the programs and expectations of JV School. This agenda is designed to assist students in developing **organizational** and **self-management skills**. We ask that parents reinforce their child's use of this book and show a genuine interest in the school activities. Parents are encouraged to use the agenda as **one** of the means of communicating with the teacher on a regular basis.

Jean Vanier Catholic School



Jean Vanier Catholic School opened in 1974. It was named in honour of Jean Vanier, the founder of the L'Arche movement, and the son of former Governor General of Canada, George Vanier.

In 1964 Jean Vanier, a philosophy teacher and theological student, decided to share a home in the village of Trosly-Breuil, north of Paris France, with two mentally challenged men. In welcoming them, he wanted to give them a home where they could live in dignity and grow in every spiritual and

human dimension. At that time it was not foreseen that a worldwide movement would develop from the tiny home that he had christened L'Arche, or "the ARK". L'Arche is now a network of more than one hundred communities in thirty countries inhabited by people with disabilities and their caregivers. Their goal is to achieve ***a sense of community and dignity*** not possible within an institution. Today, we continue to welcome and celebrate our connection with L'Arche, welcoming and inviting our friends from L'Arche as often as possible to our school community.

Jean Vanier Catholic School is an English and Ukrainian Bilingual Pre-k - 4 elementary school within Elk Island Catholic School District. All students learn and grow together in our inclusive classroom environments. Our Learning Support teams are committed to providing quality learning environments for all; including any of our students who require additional support, accommodations, and programming for their learning needs.

Our school also houses Happy Day Childcare (780-912-1167) offers before and after childcare at the school as well.

Our School's Patron Saint: Saint Nicholas



In our 2015-2016 school year, our school community chose **Saint Nicholas** as our school's Patron Saint. St. Nicholas, also known as the Bishop of Myra, is well known for his patronage of children, sick, afflicted, suffering, and disabled people. He is a prompt healer and a true consoler.

St. Nicholas day is venerated in Roman tradition on December 6 and in Ukrainian tradition on December 19. Every year at Jean Vanier all of our students are blessed with a special visit from Saint Nicholas in December. Our students can identify and connect their compassionate care, prayer, and love with our namesake, Jean Vanier and our school Saint, Saint Nicholas. Both, sharing and modelling a love of humanity and compassion for all.

We are an APPLE School (Alberta **P**roject **P**romoting active **L**iving and healthy **E**ating):



APPLE Schools aim to make the healthy choice the easy choice by changing the school environments. Apple Schools create and sustain supportive physical and social environments that foster lifelong health and learning. Home, school, and community work together to improve a child's health. Our school staff and families are committed to supporting a healthy and active environment for our students.

Jean Vanier Staff for 2018-2019:

Principal:	Mr. Gordon Marshall
Assistant Principal:	Mrs. Barb Rafuse
Family Wellness Worker:	Ms. Krista Matheson
Pre-Kindergarten	(TBA)
Kindergarten (English):	Mrs. Katie Nestorowich
Kindergarten (Ukrainian Tues/Thur):	Pani Irene Sombyk
Kindergarten (English Mon/Wed):	Mrs. Irene Sombyk
Grade 1 English:	Mrs. Ronda Stychyshyn
Grade 1 English:	Mrs. Joclyn Beliveau
Grade 1 Ukrainian:	Pani Erin Dziwenko
Grade 2 English:	Mrs. Courtney Allen
Grade 2 English:	Mrs. Elena Weir
Grade 2 Ukrainian:	Pani Lesia Lesoway
Grade 3 English:	Mrs. Kalin Spooner
Grade 3 English:	Mrs. Gail Rockwell
Grade 3 Ukrainian:	Pani Tara Malko
Grade 4 Team:	Mrs. Lindsay LeBel
	Mrs. Barb Rafuse
	Pani Oksana Cokan
French:	Mrs. Lindsay LeBel
Music English:	Mr. Larry Grudzinski
Music Ukrainian:	Pani Oksana Cokan
Collaborative Response Coordinator:	Mrs. Agnes Wiunow
Learning Coach:	Mrs. Barb Rafuse
ELL Facilitator:	Mrs. Barb Rafuse

Tech Lead:
Ukrainian Liason:
Apple School Health Champion:

Pani Lesia Lesoway
Pani Oksana Cokan
Panna Annalise Howe

Librarian:
Secretary:
Educational Assistants:

Mrs. Aubin Nixon
Mrs. Simone Dubuc
TBD

Important Dates:

2018

August 29-31	Opening Days for Staff
September 3	Labour Day – No School
September 4	First Day for students
September 21	PD Day- No School
October 5	PD Day – No School
October 8	Thanksgiving Day – No School
November 12- 16	Fall break: School Closed
December 24 - January 4	Christmas Break



2019

January 7	Classes Resume
January 31	PD Day – No School
February 7-8	Teachers' Convention – No School
February 15	PD Day – No School
February 18	Family Day – No School
March 8	PD Day-No School
March 22 -29	Spring Break – No School
April 1	Classes resume following Spring Break
April 19	Good Friday - No School
April 22	Easter Monday - No School
May 17	PD Day – No School
May 20	Victoria Day – No School
June 27	Last Day of Classes/ Report Cards Out
June 28	PD Day – No School



Agenda Guidelines: Building Organizational Skills

In order for the student agenda books to work successfully, we require the co-operation of all stakeholders: students, parents, and staff to take an active part in implementing them.

Student Responsibilities

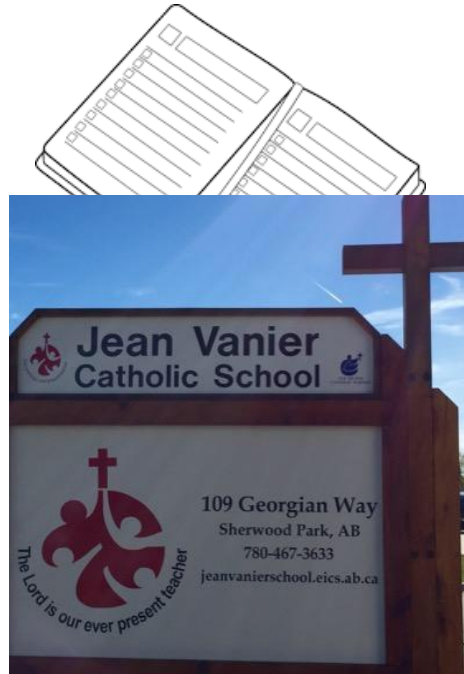
- Make a home plan for a daily routine for unpacking and sharing your agenda.
- Make sure learning news and tasks are written in agenda books.
- Take agenda book home daily.
- Complete any home tasks, gather materials, or share information as required.
- Ask the teacher for clarification if you don't understand the homework or information.
- Make sure the agenda book is returned the next day.

Parent Responsibilities

- Together, with your child, make a plan for a daily routine for unpacking and sharing the agenda.
- Read through the introductory pages of this booklet.
- Check the agenda daily for communication, information, and home tasks.
- Initial the book each night **when students have completed** their tasks.
- Assist your child as necessary.
- Have a discussion with your child if the agenda book is not coming home, and then contact your child's teacher.
- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher.

Teacher Responsibilities

- Set a daily routine for agenda practice; when, where, why, how.
- Make sure information, tasks, and any communication is updated daily and students are given an opportunity to use their agenda for organization and sharing their learner with their families.
- Check books for parent signature.
- Contact parents if, after discussion with the student, there are any challenges with using and bringing the agenda to and from school.



General Information

1. School Hours:

Morning: 8:35 a.m. – 11:36 a.m.

Afternoon: 12:16 p.m. - 3:14 p.m.

First Wednesday Early Dismissal: 2:14 p.m.

Early Dismissal days for 2018-2019 are:

September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5, January 9, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5

Kindergarten Start and Dismissal:	Morning:	8:38 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.
	Full days	8:38 a.m. – 3:14
	First Wednesday:	12:32 p.m. - 2:14 p.m.

2. School Office Hours:

Jean Vanier Office Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Monday to Friday.

3. School Website:

Check out our website for additional information. The address is: www.jv.eics.ab.ca

4. Emergency Numbers:

Please ensure that the school has an emergency telephone number updated through the data verification form on powerschool at the beginning of the school year. These are very important in the event that there is an urgent need that requires your notification. If there are any changes, please inform the school **immediately** to update your records.

5. Attendance and Punctuality:

Law requires students, unless exempted by the Minister of Education, to attend school regularly until the full age of sixteen. Regular attendance and punctuality is often directly related to success at school.

Parents are expected to inform the school either through a phone call or note, whenever a student is going to be absent. We are using a new APP called Safe Arrival to report student absence. You can download the App from Google Play, or the App Store. You are now able to report planned absences in advance. You are still able to call the office to report your child's absence. Information will be sent home in the fall. When a student is absent, and the parent has not contacted us, the school will phone home. This is done to ensure that children who leave home, arrive safely at school.

SAFE ARRIVAL



Student Absence Reporting

1-877-246-9970

<http://elkislandcs.schoolconnects.com>

Planned absences can be
reported in advance.



6. School Visitor Policy:

Parents and visitors are required to report to the office upon entering the school where they can sign in and obtain a visitor pass.

7. Communication:

Communication is an on-going process that involves all the key stakeholders; students, parents/guardians, staff, and administration. We use a variety of communication tools to share and celebrate the learning and important information from our school community. Phone calls, Meet the Staff, Emails, our weekly Communication Corner, website, agendas, Twitter,

Electronic Student learning portfolios, etc. Please stay informed and communicate any information, celebrations, and/or questions with our staff.

8. Monday Assemblies:

We gather as a school community most Monday mornings where we pray, celebrate, move, and share upcoming information. Please come out and join us whenever you can. It's a GREAT way to start our week together!

9. Footwear:

All students are required to have two pairs of shoes at school; one pair for inside and gym use, the other pair for outside use only. All students must wear shoes while inside the building. This helps promote a healthy lifestyle and makes the children aware that emergency drills can occur at any time. Flip-flops are not considered proper footwear for school.

10. Milk Program:

We offer a milk program at the school where parents can order milk to be delivered to their child once or twice a week at lunch. As you know, milk contributes to the development and maintenance of healthy bones and teeth. Order forms are sent home at the beginning of each month.

11. Lunch Promises:

As Healthy Champions, we encourage both parents and students to pack a healthy lunch. They will eat lunch in their classrooms, with adult supervisors circulating to help children, as needed. Children are expected to eat lunch and behave in a safe and responsible manner during the lunch period. Children who have frequent challenges with this expectation may be asked to eat their lunch in the office. Students go outside for the noon hour recess prior to having their lunch.



12. Student Transportation:

Please see District guidelines for transportation information:

www.eics.ab.ca/transportation

13. Playground Expectations:

Students are expected to:

- a) use school and playground equipment appropriately and safely.
- b) play safe games that will not harm or potentially endanger themselves or others.

- c) respect the rights of participants in organized games and not to disrupt the activity.
- d) gather and play in the designated playground area.
- e) follow the directions of the supervisors
- f) stay on school property unless excused by parents (e.g. note from parent or guardian) or through consultation with school personnel.
- g) **Buddy Bench:** We have a Buddy Bench at Jean Vanier. The concept of a Buddy Bench is that if you don't have someone to play with, you can sit on the Buddy Bench and someone can invite you to play.

14. Communicating Student Learning:

Report cards are only one piece of the communication system. It is a summary document that communicates student achievement that should have already been shared in some way. ***There should be no surprises for the student or parent.*** Alternate forms of communication may include:

- Feedback on student work
- Evidence of student learning: FreshGrade, Google Classroom, Writing portfolios, Portfolios, Growth as a Learner Booklets or checklists, etc.
- Three-way conferences
- Phone calls
- Emails
- Meetings
- Notes in agendas
- Student reflections
- Meet the Staff Night
- Celebrations of Learning, Faith Celebrations, Assemblies

15. Report Cards Issued:

Report cards are records of ***student performance on curriculum outcomes*** over a period of time. Report cards will be available on PowerSchool. These will be available:

- January 2019
- June 2019

Evidence of Learning:

Evidence of learning is a visual and/or oral history of student's learning over time. Evidence of learning may include feedback from; **observations, conversations, or products**. Over the course of the year, you will see a variety of EVL shared at Jean Vanier: **Fresh Grade, Portfolios (binders or duo tangs), Writing folders, Growth as a Learner booklets or sheets, Learning Open House & Celebrations, Conference assessment, etc.** Each of these pieces of evidence

share information about your child's learning progress based on professional observations, conversations, and products). Evidence of Learning and progress will be communicated to parents on a timely and on-going basis.

Evidence of Learning at Jean Vanier:

- is connected to student learning outcomes from the Alberta Program of Studies
- can initiate conversations between the school and home
- is student centered (students articulate their learning)
- demonstrates student growth over time (strengths, areas of growth, and next steps)

Three-way Conferences:

An opportunity for the *student, parent and teacher to engage in conversations* around the strengths, area of growth and next steps of the student. These three-way conferences will occur on:

- November 2018
- March 2019

16. Homework:

Definition: Homework is, “any task assigned by teachers intended for students to carry out during non-instructional hours”. Our students may be asked to engage in practice homework that reinforces skills and concepts taught during instruction time such as; *daily reading, basic math facts and skill building, review of material, and specialized support programs such as; Lexia*. There may be some situations, after sufficient class time has been given, that completion homework is sent home. These tasks will *be purposeful, meaningful*, and the student will be able to complete the task independently or with minimal support. The final areas of the home-school partnership you can expect for homework is engaging in conversations with your child about their learning and/or vocabulary exploration with new topics or gathering items/materials/information for project-based learning.

In designing homework tasks for students, Jean Vanier teachers will apply the following guiding principles:

- Ensure homework is purposeful and meaningful.
- Plan and differentiate assignments in order to ensure students are able to complete homework independently or with minimal support.
- Consider and be sensitive to the impact of homework on family life and balance the benefits of homework with respect for recognizing the importance of family time, the value of celebrating religious traditions, and the need to balance homework with other demands.
- Ensure students and parents are aware of and encouraged to use strategies for communicating challenges students may face in successfully completing homework.
- When working with older students, seek their input into the structure of homework that best supports their learning and success.

17. Parental Involvement:

Parent School Council – PSC

(Email: jvpac1009@gmail.com)

At JV School, we have a school advisory council made up of parents, teachers, and the school administration. This council advises the school administration, supports school procedures, plans activities, supports our divisional priorities, shares information, and fund-raisers to help support the various school programs and initiatives. There is an executive made up of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer who are elected. Classroom representatives are parents who sign up at the beginning of the school year, generally one per class, and are asked to attend the regular PSC meetings and provide representation of all grade levels. They may be asked to contact or phone other parents using class lists and phone numbers supplied for use in school fan outs, to seek volunteers, and so on. Meetings are advertised in the school communication and are open to all parents. Minutes are shared via our school website.

Bilingual Ukrainian Catholic Parents Society - B.U.C.P.S.

(Website: www.spukrprogram.ca)



The Bilingual Ukrainian Catholic Parents Society, also known as B.U.C.P.S., has been active in Sherwood Park since 1980. It resulted from a group of parents who wanted their children to have an opportunity to learn the Ukrainian language in their own community instead of having to go to an Edmonton school. As a parent group today, they recruit prospective parents with children entering kindergarten or Grade 1 to assist the teachers of the program with various tasks and cultural celebrations, and fundraise to provide funds to enhance the cultural aspects of the Bilingual Ukrainian Program. This council is very active and meets once a month. There is an executive made up of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer who are elected. Meetings are advertised in the school and B.U.C.P.S. newsletters and are open to all Bilingual Society parents. All B.U.C.P.S. parents are also P.S.C. members.

Volunteers

Jean Vanier has always been fortunate to have a large number of volunteers providing numerous services to our students, staff, and generally to the benefit of our total school. Should you wish to volunteer your services in some way, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the administration.

18. Grade 4 Leadership: Jean Vanier Joyful Leaders:

We are very proud of our commitment at Jean Vanier for providing opportunities for and developing leadership skills for our grade four students. Since September 2014, we have had five leadership teams made up of our grade four students; Faith Team, Healthy Living Team,

Ukrainian Team, School Spirit Team, and Young Citizen Team. Every grade four student is invited and encouraged to join a leadership team and share their passions and gifts with our school community.

**We look forward to an amazing school year,
thank-you for your continued support, God's
blessings always! Вітаємо! Хай Бог
благословить наш шкільний рік!**



JEAN VANIER
CATHOLIC SCHOOL