



JEAN VANIER
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2019-2020



We Love

because He first loved us

1 John 4:19

Love - First, Last and Always

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 2019-2020

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: _____

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

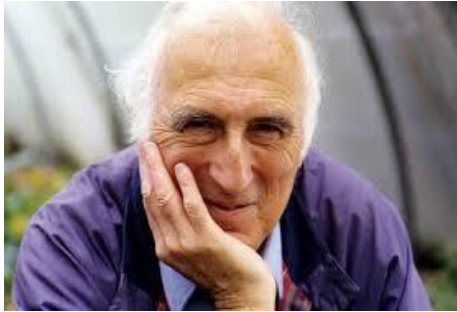


Welcome to Jean Vanier Catholic School! We are very grateful for the opportunity to share in your child's faith and learning journey. Together, we share the blessing and responsibility of helping our children grow into faith-filled and responsible citizens who celebrate their gifts and skills with our 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 skills and building independence.**
- **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.**

Our School's Namesake: Jean Vanier



Jean Vanier Catholic School was founded in 1973. It was named after Jean Vanier, the founder of L'Arche communities. Based on his message of love and care for others, the school strives to live out its' mission by reaching out to all children

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's Patron Saint: Saint Nicholas



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, the sick, the afflicted, the suffering, and disabled people. St. Nicholas day is venerated in Roman tradition on December 6 and in Ukrainian tradition on December 19.

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.



Alberta Project Promoting
active Living & healthy Eating

Important Dates:

2019

August 28-30

September 2

September 3

October 11

October 14

November 11- 15

November 29

December 23 - January 3

Opening Days for Staff

Labour Day – No School

First Day for students

PD Day – No School

Thanksgiving Day – No School

Fall break: School Closed

PD Day - No School

Christmas Break



2020

January 6

February 6-7

February 14

February 17

March 6

March 27 - April 3

April 6

April 10

April 13

May 15

May 18

June 26

June 29

Classes Resume

Teachers' Convention – No School

PD Day – No School

Family Day – No School

PD Day-No School

Spring Break – No School

Classes resume following Spring Break

Good Friday - No School

Easter Monday - No School

PD Day – No School

Victoria Day – No School

Last Day of Classes/ Report Cards Out

PD Day - Staff only



Agenda Guidelines: Building Organizational Skills and Independence

In order for the student agenda books to work successfully, we require the cooperation 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. - 11:35 a.m.
Afternoon: 12:16 p.m. - 3:13 p.m.

First Wednesday Early Dismissal: 2:13 p.m.

Early Dismissal days for 2019-2020 are:

September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4, January 8, February 5, March 4, April 8, May 6, June 3

Kindergarten Start and Dismissal:

Full days	8:35 a.m. - 3:13 p.m
First Wednesday:	8:35 a.m. - 2:13 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 at www.jv.eics.ab for additional information

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:

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success - both in school and in life.

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.

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. School Assemblies:

We gather as a school community where we pray, celebrate, move, and share upcoming information. Please come out and join us whenever you can. Dates and times of assemblies are posted on a weekly communication corner. It's a GREAT way to celebrate together!

9. Lunch:

As an "APPLE" School, we encourage both parents and students to pack a healthy lunch. Students will eat lunch in their classrooms, with adult supervisors circulating to help children, as needed. Children are expected:

- to eat lunch and act in a safe, respectful and responsible manner.

10. Student Transportation:

Please see District guidelines for transportation information: www.eics.ab.ca/transportation

11. Parish information

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Parish

13 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park, AB.

Phone: 780-467-5470

Website: www.olph.ca

Pastor : Rev. Jim Corrigan

St. Sophia Ukrainian Catholic Parish

15 Main Blvd (Madonna School), Sherwood Park, AB

Phone: 780-464-4177

Website: <http://stsophiaparish.com/>

Pastor: Father Rendy Yackimec

12. 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.

13. 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, Seesaw, 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

14. 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:

- February 2020
- June 2020

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, Seesaw, 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 2019
- March 2020

15. Homework:

Within our home-school partnership you can expect for homework to be 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 and supporting literacy and numeracy.

LITERACY:

Regularly read books at their level or a little easier (e.g. Home Reading) and practice both reading and spelling the weekly words from the teacher.

The following strategies can be used with any level of reading:

1. **Check for Understanding** – Who and what did I read about
2. **Re-Read** – Back up and reread if what was read doesn't make sense or was forgotten
3. **Make Connections** – This reminds me of...?
4. **Ask Questions** – "I wonder...?" Often, simply looking at the cover and reading the title sparks these "I wonder..." questions!
5. **"Wow!"** – As you read, be aware of "Wow I never knew..." moments
6. **Picture Power** – Do not cover up illustrations. Pictures can give information that sometimes words do not.
7. **Story Clues** – When faced with a tricky word, skip it. Read to the end of the sentence, then return to the tricky word. This extra information helps figure out the tricky word!

Be creative and silly! Try playing rhyming and sound games, such as I Spy ("I spy something that rhymes with *blue*" or I spy something that rhymes with "hat").

NUMERACY:

Numeracy is the ability to apply "math" in everyday life! How can you develop your child's number sense?

- Play games together! Dice, cards, and dominos, as well as strategy and board games are perfect.
- Look for opportunities to count, skip count and estimate in everyday situations.
- Build spatial awareness with lego, blanket forts, sand castles, puzzles, and more.
- Help your child become more fluent with basic math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) based on grade level.

16. Parental Involvement:

Parent Advisory Council – PAC

(Email: jvpac1009@gmail.com)

At JV School, we have a PAC made up of parents, teachers, and the school administration. This council:

- advises the school administration,
- supports school through various activities and initiatives,

All parents are encouraged to be involved. Meeting dates and times are posted in the weekly communication corner.

Bilingual Ukrainian Catholic Parents Society - BUCPS

(Website: www.spukrprogram.ca)

BUCPS, as a parent group has a mandate to promote the Ukrainian bilingual program with Elk Island Catholic Schools through:

- Supporting Ukrainian culture, language, faith and traditions.
- Fundraising to enhance educational opportunities for students in the program.

All parents with children in the program are encouraged to be involved. Meeting dates and times are posted in the weekly communication corner.

Volunteers

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

17. 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 to lead and serve like Jesus. We have had four leadership teams; 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, faith 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!**