

# St. Nicholas Weekly News

December 4th-8th, 2023

## Dear Families,

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is the time in which we prepare for the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We will be having weekly Advent assemblies (with our first beginning tomorrow). Family members are welcome to attend, please note these assemblies are approximately 10 minutes in length. Here are the dates and times of the assemblies:

- Monday, December 4th - 12:20pm (led by grade 3/4 Mrs. Spooner)
- Tuesday, December 12th - 12:20pm (led by Mrs. Beliveau)
- Monday, December 18th - 12:20pm (led by grade 4 Mrs. LeBel)
- Friday, December 22nd - 8:50am (led by grade 4 Ukrainian)

St. Nicholas will be visiting our school on Wednesday, December 6th. We will gather for an assembly at 10:00am, then he will make his way around to classes to deliver a gift for each student. Thank you to BUCPS and our School Council for sponsoring the gift bags for our students. Family members are invited to attend our assembly.

Our Christmas concert will take place on Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30pm at OLPH Parish. Families are invited to attend the Parish mass from 5:00pm-6:00pm. If you are not attending the Parish mass, we will not be able to enter the church until the mass is complete.

God Bless,

Peter Rachmistruk

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Principal

## Upcoming Important Dates:

- **December 3** - Advent begins
- **December 5** - School Council meeting at 6:00pm at St. Nicholas
- **December 6** - Early dismissal (2:14pm)/Spirit Day (Jersey Day)/St. Nicholas visit and assembly (10:00am)
- **December 12** - Hot Lunch (OPA)
- **December 13** - Advent Christmas concert 6:30pm at OLPH Parish
- **December 21** - Student Faith and Wellness Day at St. Nicholas
- **December 22** - Last day of classes (Christmas vacation)



- **January 8** - Classes resume

### **Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser**

- Thank you so much to everyone who participated in the St. Nicholas Purdy's Christmas fundraiser. With your support, we exceeded our goal and raised \$1,210! This will go towards the remaining cost of our Grade 4 leadership T-shirts as well as birthday books. Thank you again, St. Nicholas community!
- To ensure you get your delicious treats, we are looking for 5-6 volunteers who can help with sorting and packing on Wednesday, December 6 from 11:00am-1:00pm at St. Nicholas school. Please email [st.nicholaspac@gmail.com](mailto:st.nicholaspac@gmail.com) if you are able to volunteer.
- For those of you who ordered Purdy's products, order pickup will be at the school on Tues, December 12 from 2:00pm - 5:00pm. Additional reminder emails will be sent out closer to the date.

### **Information**

Our Grade 4 School Spirit team is planning some fun and festive days in December for our school:

- Wednesday, December 6th (Early dismissal-2:14pm) will be Jersey Day. Students are encouraged to wear jerseys/clothing that support a team or club.
- Friday (December 8 and 15) will be "Festive Fridays". Students will be able to wear Christmas items (ie. socks, hats, reindeer ears, Christmas sweaters) to celebrate the holidays.
- We are also doing a Christmas Food Bank drive and encourage students to bring in Food Bank items on Fridays in December.
- Finally, December 22nd will be "Comfy Christmas Day". Students can wear pyjamas or other cozy, comfy clothes...whatever comfy means to them.

### **Hot Lunch Information**

- Hot lunch for December will be OPA! and will be served on Tuesday, December 12th. Ordering will run until Thursday, December 7th. Please have payment sent in full via e-transfer to [st.nicholaspac@gmail.com](mailto:st.nicholaspac@gmail.com) by the order deadline of the end of day, Thursday, December 7th. If you have any questions, concerns, or trouble with the website or the ordering process, please feel free to reach out to me at [st.nicholaspac@gmail.com](mailto:st.nicholaspac@gmail.com)

### **Bilingual Ukrainian Catholic Parent Society (BUCPS)**

- Below you will find the link for our Christmas cookie fundraiser featuring the delicious Confetti Sweets Sugar Cookies. When you purchase a bag (or five) of Christmas cookies, you will be supporting the Ukrainian events our children participate in, as well as complete your Christmas baking. Win win! <https://formfacade.com/sm/TuBIMEAxP>
- Щоб підтримати українську двомовну програму в Шервуд Парку, батьківський комітет продає солодкі смачні різдвяні тісточки від Confetti Sweets! Можна зісти їх зараз або заморозити для святкових зустрічей. Можна замовити: <https://formfacade.com/sm/TuBIMEAxP>

### **Christmas Gift Basket Raffle**

- Thank you for the generous donations to our Christmas Baskets! The baskets have been assembled and are currently on display in the library until Friday, December 12th. Baskets will also be available to view on the St. Nicholas social media accounts, starting this Sunday!
- There will be 3 ways to purchase tickets this year: Ticket sales will go live on our hot lunch website, Hot Lunches Online ordering and payment processing for schools. Tickets are \$2 each and each ticket will be worth one entry into the basket of your choice. Multiple entries can be purchased per basket. Your total entries and purchase amount will be tabulated directly on the site and you will then send an e-transfer to [st.nicholaspac@gmail.com](mailto:st.nicholaspac@gmail.com) Online ticket sales will be available for purchase from Monday, December 4th to Friday, December 8th. Tickets are only sold within Alberta.

- Tickets for the baskets will also be available for sale on December 6th from 1:00pm-3:00pm and December 7th from 2:30pm-4:00pm in the library. Each ticket is \$2.00 and cash will be accepted during these 2 days.
- Tickets will be available for sale at the church prior to the start of the Advent Concert. This will be your last opportunity to purchase tickets. Again, each ticket is \$2.00 and cash will be accepted.
- Basket winners will be drawn at the church immediately following the Advent Concert on Wednesday, December 13th! Please note that it is an AGLC requirement for the basket winners to be present during the draw and basket pick up.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Please share the link and fundraiser with friends and family.

Merry Christmas,  
St. Nicholas Parent Advisory Council

### Faith Reflection

Dear Jesus, as we light the candle on our Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends, and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.

—

Peter Rachmistruk  
Principal



### St. Nicholas Catholic School

"Our Catholic School Family, embracing both English and Ukrainian Bilingual programs is dedicated to providing the best opportunities for learning while nurturing in our students' continuous personal growth."

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**St. Nicholas Catholic school**

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