Ben Calf Robe St. Clare Catholic Elementary Junior High School

6227 119 AVE NW
Edmonton, AB T5W 4C4

P: 780 471-2360
F: 780 471-3104

E: BenCalfRobeStClare@ecsd.net
W: bencalfrobe-stclare.ecsd.net



Hours of Operation:

Doors Open - 8:31 am
Recess 10:10-10:25
Lunch 12:00 – 12:35pm
Dismissal - 3:05 pm

Early Dismissal
Every Thursday
at 12:05 pm

Ben Calf Robe St. Clare Catholic Elementary Junior High



November 2026

BCR Newsletter

Upcoming Important Dates

Nov 5 – Demonstration of Learning – 1:30-5:30

Nov 11 – Remembrance Day – No School

Nov 12-13 – Fall Break – No School

Nov 16 – Classes Resume

Nov 17 – Retakes Day – Morning Only

Dec 17 – Christmas Concert 1:30 PM

Dec 17 – Full Day of Classes

Dec 18 – Early Dismissal

Dec 21 - Jan 1 – Christmas Holidays

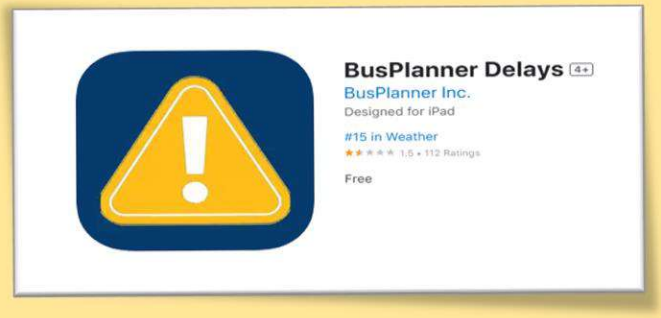
Jan 4 – Classes Resume

Tansi to all,

The month of October- has come and gone with plenty of learning taking place in each class here at BCR.
Halloween was celebrated with the students participating in Halloween activities in their respective classrooms. Thank you to the families who contributed with the kind donations of snacks, baked goods, and candy bags. Also, the Halloween Candy Sale was a success, and the BCR staff would like to say a huge thank you to all who contributed and purchased. The total sales made were $518.00.
November-Iyikopiwipisim has arrived. During the month of November, we will be taking the time to honor soldiers and veterans by paying respect to all those who served in the past, may have lost their lives, and continue to serve for the peace and freedom we have in Canada. This will be held on November 10 at 11 am. Lest we forget!
November has many important dates for all to be aware of. Demo of Learning is set for families on Thursday, November 5 from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm. Please join us to engage in conversation with your child's teacher(s) and to celebrate the learning thus far for this school year. **There will be a Fall Break on Wednesday, November 11-13 and students will not have classes during this time.** Classes will resume on Monday, November 16, 2026.
The BCR School Advisory Council (parent council) will also be meeting via a hybrid model once per month on Microsoft Teams, as well as in person in the Elders Room. Please join us for the School Advisory Council meeting set for Wednesday, November 4 at 5:30 pm. If you are interested in becoming a Classroom Rep, please reach out by contacting the office at 780-471-2360. We look forward to seeing you there.
Please note that school fees are implemented in the BCR school community. The school fees cover the costs of technology, license fees, and nutrition. The field trips that your child(ren) will be participating in have an additional cost which will be shared when your child(ren) attend the extended learning field trips. Please contact the office to make arrangements to ensure that your child(ren)'s school fees are paid. Student fees can be accessed at **www.bencalfrobe-stclare.ecsd.net**.
May you all stay safe and warm throughout November.
Ekosi,

Ms Thompson - Principal Mrs. Lastiwka - Assistant Principal Mr. Ulrich - Assistant Principal

Bus Planner Delays App



Receive notices when your bus is late.

Be alerted of delays 10 minutes or more with this app

- For Bus delays please visit www.ecsd.net/transportation
- Please apply online or contact the Office @ 780 471-2360 for bus changes.
- Bus times are subject to change weekly on WEDNESDAYS

PARENT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Please contact the office to join our exciting group of parents!

School parent council involvement helps you stay connected with the school and allows you to gain a broader perspective of how you can play a supportive role. You can also network and make connections with other parents, business partners in your community and agencies that share a common goal of student achievement.

Meetings are Hybrid Meetings at 5:30 PM, Teams Link to be sent that day to your email.

November 4, 2026
December 2, 2026
January 6, 2027
February 3, 2027
March 3, 2027
April 2027 - TBD if needed
May 5, 2027
June 2, 2027



Wednesday – Friday, November 11-13
NO SCHOOL

School Fees Are Due

Please pay fees online through your Powerschool account with debit/credit. Should you choose to pay in person, the school accepts cash only. Fees include Nutrition, Agenda and Technology.

Thank you!

Please check The City of Edmonton for parking ban updates and snow-clearing information:

https://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/seasonal-parking-ban

NO CELL PHONES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY



click here for more info

Retakes Day!

Tuesday, November 17

Morning Only

Please call to book an appointment prior to your arrival if you wish to see:

MS. THOMPSON – PRINCIPAL
MRS. LASTIWKA – ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Mr. ULRICH –ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
MS. KATE – FAMILY SCHOOL LIASON WORKER
MS. ANGELA – FAMILY SCHOOL LIASON WORKER
CONSTABLE ANNE – SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER
MS. ANDRUSIAK/MRS. NORTON – OFFICE STAFF
OR
ANY OF OUR VALUED STAFF

IMPORTANT

DAILY CHANGES TO PICKING UP CHILDREN

Parents/Guardians wanting to change how their children are picked up are required to **call the school one hour prior to the end of the day**.
This allows us to notify the teacher, the bus driver, the end of the day in-school supervisors and the front door supervisors.
Your child's safety is important to us!

BEN CALF ROBE / ST. CLARE ELEMENTARY/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

A warm hello to our school families

A message from your School Counselling Therapist



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Tân'si — Hello!

My name is **Jahnavel Sanchez**, and I am honoured to join the team at Ben Calf Robe - St. Clare Catholic Elementary/Junior High School as a Mental Health Therapist.

I approach my work as a therapist with cultural humility and a commitment to continuous learning from Indigenous Ways of Knowing. As part of my journey toward decolonizing my practice, I strive to embrace a Two-Eyed Seeing approach that honours and brings together the strengths of Indigenous and Western ways of knowing. As Mi'kmaq Elder Albert Marshall explains:

"Two-Eyed Seeing refers to learning to see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous ways of knowing and from the other eye with the strengths of Western ways of knowing and to using both of these eyes together."

At the heart of my work is a simple belief: **when children and youth feel safe, connected, understood, and supported, they are better able to learn, grow, and thrive.**

I hope to support students in developing self-awareness, emotional regulation, communication, problem-solving, resilience, and self-advocacy—skills that can help them both at school and throughout their lives.

My hope is that every student knows there is a safe place for them at school — a place where they can be heard, supported, encouraged, and reminded of their strengths.

"I belong. I matter. I am heard. I am supported.
I am capable of learning, growing, and becoming who I am meant to be."

I look forward to walking alongside the students and families throughout the year.

All my relations,

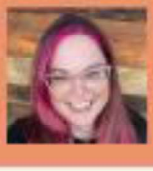
Jahnavel Sanchez

Mental Health Therapist

KINDERGARTEN IN ECSD - NOVEMBER 2026



KATHLEEN RUFF
Kindergarten Programming Consultant
kathleen.ruff@ecsd.net



COURTNEY CREGAN
Kindergarten Programming Consultant
courtney.cregan@ecsd.net

TAKEAWAYS

1. Métis Week 2026 is November 16-21. Rupertsland has some Kindergarten resources to best share the Métis story in Alberta. The presentation links have some particularly wonderful photos and questions you can use for whole group discussions.

2. The Shepherd on the Search is on it's way to your school! If you didn't get a chance to learn with us at Division Focused PD on Thursday, October 22, 2026, your resource is being sent through IMC. Take a look at the slide deck to understand how we are using this resource in Kindergarten this year and how it supports Optimal Learning.



3. Still wondering what to do with your class to meaningfully discuss Remembrance Day? Thanks to our Teacher Working Group from October, the Loose Parts Poppies example got a glow up! Our newly titled "Weaving Connections" document was added to the end of the November Year Plans in English and in French. We have more curricular links, real classroom examples, and some assessment suggestions in English and in French.



QUOTE CORNER

"The concept of alphabet knowledge needs to go beyond just naming letters and their sounds. The mindset should embrace the foundational skills and recognize that if the experience develops foundational skills, it is supporting alphabet knowledge, even if it isn't an 'alphabet based' activity."

-Bergs, S. The Whole Child Alphabet: How Young Children Actually Develop Literacy. 2023. Exchange Press.



SLP CONNECTION

Did you miss the New to Story Champs session?
Watch the recording here!



A LEARNING RECAP - DIVISON FOCUSED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

REGISTER HERE

For PD on Thursday, January 15, 2027

On Thursday, October 22, 2026, 50 Kindergarten teachers came to the first Division Focused Professional Development session of the school year. We focused on how children experience faith integrated in multiple subject areas with playful opportunities such as loose parts, real-world items, and our new Shepherd on the Search resource. We discussed how children connect their learning and faith through songs, Bible stories, prayers, story cards, and posters from the Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ digital and paper resources. Each school received their Shepherd on the Search resource for their school to kick start their Advent journey at the end of November.







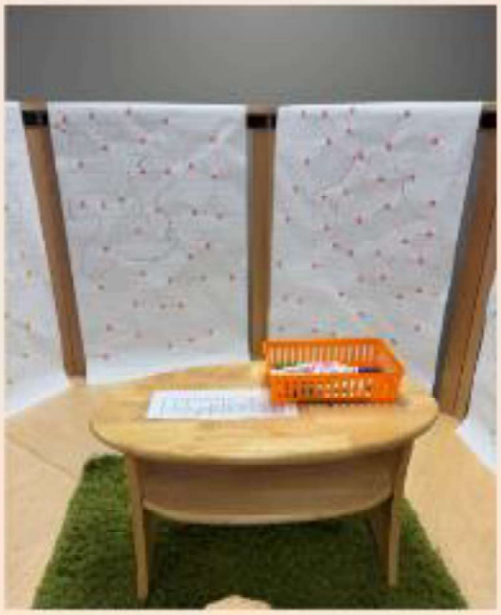

CIRCLE THE DOTS

Thank you to Charlotte Burrows from St. Vincent School for sharing how her children are using veritcal surfaces in the loft. A chart paper full of dots make with bingo daubers was hung vertically on the loft windows. Children were encouraged to use a marker to circle a group of dots of their choice. After circling, children counted the dots. Using a visual aid, children then wrote the corresponding numeral beside the group of dots.

MATH

Learning Outcome: Children investigate quantity to 10.

- Recognize a number of familiar objects as a quantity.
- Represent a quantity in different ways.
- Relate a numeral to a specific quantity.





NUMBERS TO 5 ON THE TUFF TRAY

Thank you to Amanda Lysak from St. Timothy School for demonstrating a creative way to use the tuff tray to work with numbers to 5. Many different materials were used to inspire children's mathematical thinking, including frame tray sets, dice, dominos, bingo chips, and number pebbles.

MATH

Learning Outcome: Children investigate quantity to 10.

- Identify a quantity in various groups or arrangements.
- Compose quantities within 10.
- Recognize various ways to make 5 and 10.

LONG AGO IN SOCIAL STUDIES

Thank you to Anika Coco from St. Teresa of Calcutta School for sharing how her class discusses the concept of "long ago" in Social Studies. Underneath the interactive whiteboard and to the left of the calendar, pictures of people and things from long ago are compared to modern times. For example, letters were the main form of communication long ago. Now, it is cell phones. Long ago, families had more people and wore different clothing. Now, families are smaller. Take a closer look at this activity on page 5 of the Kindergarten Social Studies Teacher Planning Guide.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

Learning Outcome: Children explore expressions of traditions, cultures, and histories.

- Share experiences with reference to time (long ago)

