

# Principal's Message...

Hello parents and guardians.

February is promising to be a very exciting and busy month. As a Catholic school, we will be celebrating a number of important events this month. On Tuesday, February 13, we will be observing Shrove Tuesday. I'd like to thank our PAC members in advance for the pancake breakfast they will be serving our students that morning. We will also be hosting school liturgies on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Please note that we will be observing Valentine's Day on February 13, rather than February 14 in order to keep the focus of February 14 on Ash Wednesday.

During the month of February, we are celebrating Indigenous Languages Month. This month, our Indigenous Language Committee will be working tirelessly to promote the use of indigenous languages in our school and classrooms through a series of special events and activities. February also marks Black History Month. We were incredibly fortunate to receive a wide selection of texts written by African Canadian/American authors to add to our classroom libraries. A huge thank you to the Black Advocacy Coalition (BAC upNorth) for their generosity!

Our school sports programs will also be busy during February. A number of our students will be competing in the Aboriginal Sport Circle Traditional Sports Championship here in Yellowknife from February 2-3. During the following week, many of our grade 6 and 7 boys and girls will be competing in Jr. Cager which is also be held here in Yellowknife. The Jr. Cager tournament runs from February 8-11. If you have the time, I would highly encourage you to check out both of these events! As always, please reach out at any time if you have any questions or concerns.

God bless,

**Paul Kelly** 

# Tehruary News

#### P.A.C. Update

The Parent Advisory Committee will be serving up pancakes to classes on February 13 for Shrove Tuesday! If you are available to volunteer bright and early (7AM), please reach out!

The next PAC meeting will be on February 8 @ 6:30pm in the staffroom!

Contact Allyson at esjs.pac@ycs.nt.ca for info and to join this year's P.A.C.! We look forward to hearing from you!



The Yellowknife Co-op is accepting donations at the tills for the YKCares program. YKCares is completely volunteer run, and all money goes directly towards the cost of food. The food is used to make weekend food kits for students for several schools (including ESJS) to take home on Fridays.

As Valentine's Day
falls on Ash
Wednesday, we will be
celebrating
Valentine's Day on
Feb. 13th.

#### **Upcoming Dates** Feb 9 & 23- Pizza Day Feb 8- Spirit Day (Wear School Colours) Feb 13- Shrove Tuesday Feb 15- Picture Day Retakes Feb 18- ESJS Spirit Wear **Store Closes** Feb 24- JK OPEN HOUSE Feb 27- PAC Purdys Store Closes Feb 28- Pink Shirt Day Mar 11-22- March Break-No School Feb 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29-Half Day



### YCS Notes February 2024

#### Superintendent's Message

As we step into the month of February, I am thrilled to share more of the wonderful things happening in our schools. We begin the month preparing to observe Ash Wednesday. This is a time for reflection and spiritual renewal. As we embark on this journey, may it serve as a reminder of our shared commitment to kindness, compassion, and service within our school family.

February is also a month for rich cultural celebration. We honor and recognize Indigenous Languages Month. Our schools will be participating in a number of language based activities and challenges. Keep an eye on our socials for more details. Additionally, we will proudly celebrate Black History Month, acknowledging the contributions and achievements of Black people throughout history. Our commitment to inclusivity and understanding is reflected in the diverse stories and experiences we share in our classrooms and schools.

It's also Cager month! Get ready to cheer on our Wolves, Huskies, and Irish as they show-up and give their best in the Cager Tournaments! We love the excitement and pride with which our students wear their school colours and cheer each other on. Good luck teams!

Our leadership teams will be working with Cale Birk once again this month to review our Observable Impact model and Team Impact Plans developed by our STIP collaborative teams. We continue to collect evidence of how our priorities are being implemented in our classrooms.

It's that time of the year again. Registration. Do you have a little one ready to embark on their educational journey? Junior Kindergarten registration is now open! We can't wait to welcome your littles into our school family and look forward to supporting their light to shine. We also offer a supportive environment for our students beyond the regular school day for those families that are looking for child care. Registration for our Out-of-School Care Program is now open. This program offers a safe and enriching space for students to thrive. Details are available in the newsletter for your convenience.

Lastly, as we approach Valentine's Day, let us remember the power of love and compassion, and use it as a guiding light, inspiring acts of kindness and appreciation throughout our school

"And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

#### Find Us



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5124 - 49th Street Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P4



**Simone Gessler** Superintendent

reading the Board **Highlights** HERE





**Board Chair** 

mark.

issue.



**Board Vice Chair** 

All Trustees were in attendance.



Coding, 3D Printing, and Green Screen creations.







Todd Slack

Trustees went in-camera to discuss items of a sensitive nature including a labour issue and a legal

Superintendent Gessler introduced Jennifer Genge, the Technology and Innovation Specialist (TIS)

for Yellowknife Catholic Schools. Jennifer presented her technology report, sharing she has been

with YCS since 1997. Jennifer highlighted some of her roles and responsibilities as the TIS which

Robotics Roadshow, Hour of Code, Options at ESJS and running the Makerspace areas, and leading

Techsperts at all three schools. Jennifer also offers continuous support to all staff regarding the

use of technology in the classroom. Some technologies that were highlighted in this presentation

were Google Read and Write, Google Sites, Book Creator, Seesaw, Virtual Reality, Figma, Wordle,

Superintendent Gessler brought attention to Rohma Athar, a former student of ESPHS, as she

received the Minister's Medal for Academic Achievement for her Biology 30 departmental exam

include organizing and implementing sessions and workshops for staff and students: Learning

Together Tuesdays, Professional Development Days, ESPHS Culture Day, Internet Safety Day,



Steven Voytilla

**Board Highlights** 

**JANUARY 2024** 









Board of Trustees: Tina Schauerte, Susan Waddell, Christine Lewandowski, Gerri Whiteford, Todd Slack, Melanie Williams, Steven Voytilla Senior Administration: Simone Gessler, Superintendent/CEO; Pat Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent of Learning; Mahesh Adhikary Assistant Superintendent of Business







## PAG Fundraiser

Fill your Easter baskets with the chocolate that everyone loves! ALL funds raised go towards student activities hosted by the Parent Advisory Committee! Some past events you may remember are Christmas Sock Day, Christmas Turkey Lunch, Shrove Tuesday and hot dog lunches!

Last day to order is February 27!

Campaign #: 58918

## The ESJS Spirit Wear Store is now OPEN!

Start shopping here!

The deadline to order is February 18!



The deadline to order is February 27, 2024

What you need:

\* Campaign number: 58918

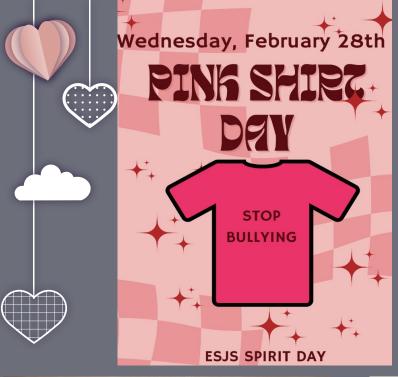
\* Campaign link:

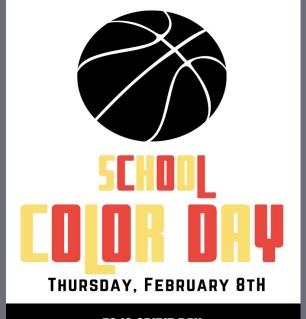
https://fundraising.purdys.com/1782087-115694

The PAC thanks you for your continued support!

















### SHROVE TUESDAY

What is Shrove Tuesday?

Shrove Tuesday (also known as Pancake Day) is the last day before the period that Christians call Lent. It is traditional on this day to eat pancakes.



## Picture Retakes

LifeTouch will be back on February 15! Please let your teacher know if you will be needing school photo retakes done!





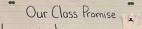




# January @ EDJD

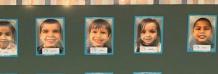






We promise to

- be kind and nice
- ·Share in our classroom
- be helpful
- be respectful to each other and our classroom
- · be friends
- · try our best
- · have a great time
- · show love to eachother!















Principal: Paul Kelly

Assistant Principals: Michèle Thoms & Travis Maurice Front Office Staff: Debbie Emeneau & Erica Robinson Superintendent of YCS: Simone Gessler (766-7400) St. Patrick's Parish: Fr. Marek Pisarek OMI (444-8700)

Ph: (867) 920-2112

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Learning and Growing in the Spirit/Dans un même Esprit, apprenons et grandissons ensemble

