

June 2015 NEWSLETTER

Happy Father's Day

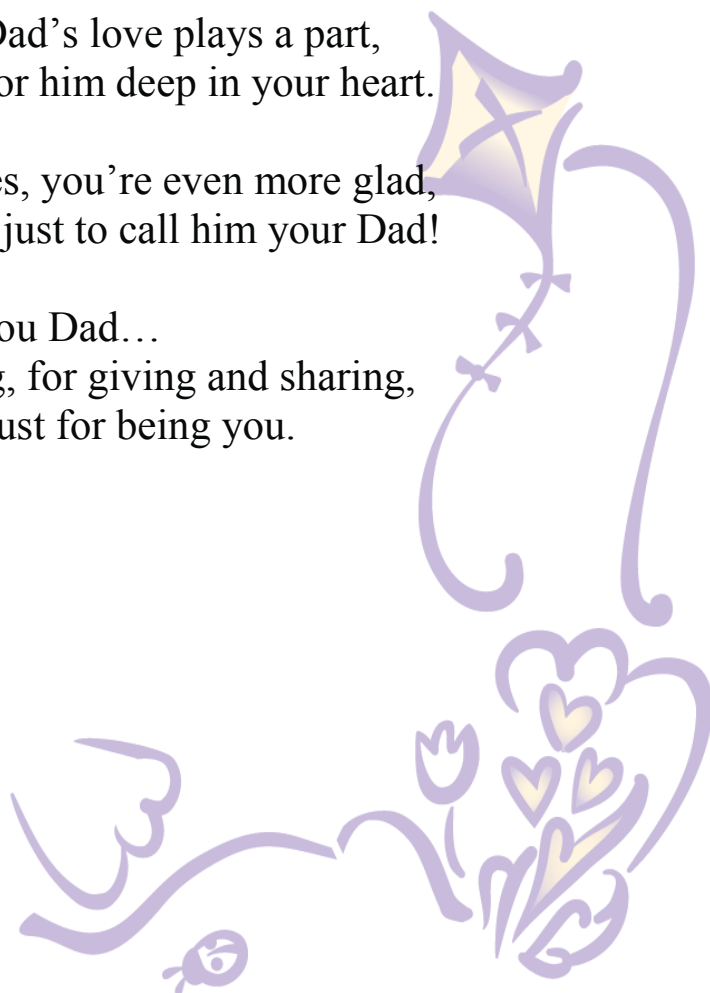
A Dad is a person who is loving and kind.
And often he knows what you have on your mind.
He's someone who listens, suggests and defends,
A Dad can be one of your very best friends!

He's proud of your triumphs, but when things go wrong,
A Dad can be patient and helpful and strong.

In all that you do, a Dad's love plays a part,
There's always a place for him deep in your heart.

And each year that passes, you're even more glad,
More grateful and proud just to call him your Dad!

Thank you Dad...
For listening and caring, for giving and sharing,
But especially, just for being you.



Message from Administration

Dear God, thank you for the many blessings of this school year.

Thank you for the wonderful children you have entrusted to our care, who, with their individual gifts and collective spirit, have grown in their learning and living.

Thank you for our staff who time and time again show love, knowledge, intelligence, commitment, creativity and humor in their ways of being.

Thank you for our parents and families for their important faith, support and partnership.

Thank you for the grace-filled moments that happen here every day in many ways.

Thank you for the gift of those who are leaving us, the gift of those who are coming to us, and the gift of those who will continue to work for the community of St. Jerome School.

Bless us all with the joy and wonder of summer days. Amen

Jackie Flynn
Principal

Corinne Peacher
Assistant Principal

KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1-6 REGISTRATIONS FOR 2015-16

If you have a child, or know of anyone that has a child who is five years old on or before March 1, 2016, please come and register them at St. Jerome School for Kindergarten classes beginning September 2015. You are most welcome to come for a tour of our school and to visit our kindergarten classroom to see our students in action. Please phone the office at 780-479-5847. We have already received a number of kindergarten registrations for the 2015-16 school year and we look forward to working with you and your child.



100 Voices at St. Jerome!

We will be having a 100 Voices program at St. Jerome Science Academy for the 2015-16 school year. This is a program for 3 ½ - 4 ½ year old children, a program where children lead the way. Inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach to education, 100 Voices is a program committed to the creation of a learning environment that enhances and facilitates a child's way of thinking through the combination of all the expressive, communicative and cognitive languages. In keeping with our 21st century learning environment at St. Jerome, it will provide a learning space which explores the interests of the child and their natural curiosity. We invite you to come and speak with us in the office should you have any further questions and wish to register your child for the 2015-16 school year!

Shalom Expo

On the afternoon of April 8th, teachers gathered their students to kick-off our Project Based Learning (PBL) projects. Project ideas were based on student interest and reflected the district theme of Shalom. Each class worked throughout the month of April on their projects. On May 7th, St. Jerome hosted its 2nd Shalom Expo for experts, community members, peers, and family to be an audience for student presentations!



Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea



We love our moms and were so happy to spend some time with them during our Mother's Day Tea. It was a great sight to see the library filled with our lovely mothers and other special guests. The kindergarten team would like to say a big thank to our kindergarten moms for everything you do every day!

Denim Day

On May 12th, we celebrated the 18th annual National Denim Day to benefit the CURE Foundation for breast cancer. This day helps raise money and awareness all across Canada. Our students raised \$83.05 through their efforts. Thank you for your support.

Language Art Part A Provincial Achievement Test (PAT)



Grade 6's wrote their first of 5 PAT's on Wednesday May 13th. This was the Language Arts Part A. They did a great job and will be preparing and studying hard for the remaining 4 exams, which will take place in June.

Run 4 Change

The run was a great success! The Start2Finish [Run4Change](#) is a national initiative that addresses the two most critical issues facing Canadian children and youth today – obesity/physical inactivity and child poverty. Run4Change has been endorsed by running retailers and businesses across the country, as well as by a number of school boards such as the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, the Edmonton Catholic School Board, the Calgary Board of Education, and the Halifax Regional School Board. Hundreds of elementary and secondary schools within these regions and across the nation participate. Thank you for your contributions. Thanks to your generous support we raised \$95.05!



Zumba Extravaganza Showcase

On Friday, May 22nd, students from all grades gathered in the gym to participate in the St Jerome Zumba Showcase. Under the direction of No More Excuses instructor, Cheryl, students have spent time over the last 2 months learning basic Zumba dance moves and practicing routines to different world beats and songs. Through Zumba, we have learned that sweating is the body's way of saying 'thank you'. Students and parents in the audience were treated to a showcase of lively music and choreographed moves that had students actively participating in exciting dance and fun exercise. Each class chose their own song to showcase to the school and guests and took pride in practicing their dance to share with the audience during the Showcase. We look forward to continuing to move our bodies and practice our dance through Zumba.



Living Rosary



The month of May is when Catholics honor Mary the mother of Jesus and our mother, in a special way. And so, we turn to Mary today by praying the Rosary, knowing that she listens to all her children's prayers. When we were baptized, we became one with Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary. With Jesus, we look to Mary as our Mother, and God as our Father. We ask Mary to teach us and help us by her prayers to live as God's children. During the Living Rosary celebration we prayed the Rosary together with Sister Anne.

Grade 6 AMA Patrol Picnic

On June 6th the grade 6 patrollers will be rewarded for their hard work of safely crossing students and families for this school year by being taken to the patrol picnic at Fort Edmonton Park!



School Council News

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the library. This will be a social with food and drinks. We ask you to RSVP to stjeromeparentcouncil@gmail.com. Please join us in meeting the needs of your children. This will be a parent only event and there will be no child care available due to it being a social event/meeting. We appreciate your understanding in this regard.



May PAWS Leadership Meeting

On Friday, May 29th, from 12:30-1:00, 2-3 students from each grade attended our May PAWS Leader meeting. These students were selected on the basis of various leadership qualities displayed during the month of May. These ranged from being a good helper, being respectful to those around them and including others in their play. They received a certificate from their teacher and were able to bring it home following the meeting. Students shared with Mrs. Flynn & Mrs. Peacher why they were selected, what they loved about St. Jerome School and suggestions they had for making it even better. Students enjoyed chocolate milk and cookies as a special treat. It is our hope that all students will have had an opportunity to partake in this special recognition by the year end.

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized for their leadership during the month of May:

Kindergarten- Nana A & Lai Lai W

Grade One- Haylee B & Psyon Z

Grade Two- Aluel B, Austin M & Saphryn Z

Grade Two/Three- Logan W, Amshu B & Xaine W

Grade Three/Four- Alex R, Yuot M & Ayari C M

Grade Five- Zach L & Leah B

Grade Six- Azwam G, Karena G & Ulises P



“Good, better, best – never let it rest; until your good is better, and your better is best” – St. Jerome

St. Jerome Idol



Spring is here and so it is once again time to share our gifts and talents! Students have been hard at work practicing their singing, dancing, instrumental and rhythmic ribbon dancing. St. Jerome Idol will take place Wednesday, June 10, 2015 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Students are given opportunities to practice their acts during recess times, however, practice at home is strongly encouraged. We look forward to celebrating all of our many fine arts talents with the St. Jerome community!

Parent Appreciation

For your generous support on School Council, your devoted time to classroom activities/fieldtrips, and for your countless hours making St. Jerome a place of vibrant learning...

The staff of St. Jerome Science Academy invite you to a coffee and a special treat served right to your vehicle!

The staff will be serving coffee to parents as they are dropping off their children to school.



**JUNE 11, 2015 between 8:15-8:45 A.M.
(Along 34 Street and 107 Avenue)**

We hope not to miss anyone! As there will be many vehicles and bodies moving around, please either wave, honk, or come up to a staff member if we happen to miss you. We appreciate all that you do for our students!

Junior Achievement

Throughout the month of June, Junior Achievement will be coming into the grade ¾ class to take the students through: needs of their community/jobs in their community/the money circle and tools and technology. This is another wonderful opportunity for our students to make real world connections with the support of experts in the community.



Father's Day Celebration



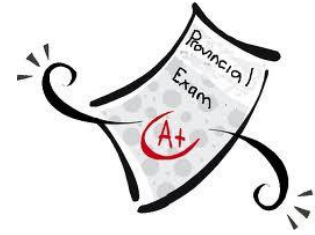
Kindergarten fathers are invited to St. Jerome on Friday, June 19th to celebrate everything that you do! Please come at 4:00 to share in our fun!

Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT's)

The Grade 6's will write their remaining PAT's on the following days:
- Wednesday, June 17th: English Language Arts PAT Part B from 9:00-10:00 A. M
- Thursday, June 18th: Math PAT from 9:00-10:15 A. M

- Friday June 19th: Science PAT from 9:00-10:00 A. M
- Monday, June 22nd: Social PAT from 9:00-10:00 A. M

It is very important that your child come well rested and on time.



Aboriginal Awareness Day

On the afternoon of June 19th, we will have staff from ECSD Aboriginal Learning come to spend time with our students making a link for them between our school theme book for the year *If You Plant a Seed* and the Aboriginal culture. This will be a wonderful culmination to our theme book for the 2014 15 school year.



Camp Warwa

Grade 6's will be headed out to Camp Warwa June 23-24. Through outdoor skills and activities, Camp Warwa encourages challenge, fun, and a healthy lifestyle. They believe living in a group and community setting out-of-doors creates an ideal atmosphere for people to learn about themselves and others in a manner which fosters a harmonious relationship with the natural environment. We are so very excited. A generous thank you for everyone who contributed to the fundraising efforts to make this trip a possibility!



June 25th Year End Celebration/Grade 6 Farewell



On June 25th at 9:45 we will have our whole school year end celebration where we will bid farewell to our grade 6's and celebrate our journey as an entire school community. From 11-12:30, the grade 6 students and their families are invited to gather and celebrate the grade 6's educational journey thus far. A potluck type lunch is being planned for the grade 6's while a hot lunch will be provided for all students K-5. Please keep an eye out for additional information coming home.

Fun Day

Let's celebrate another fun filled year at St. Jerome, with our annual Fun Day!!! Fun filled activities will be set up in and around the school for students to enjoy on June 25 from 1-3. Please remember to bring a change of clothes, bottle of water, and sunscreen for some fun in the sun.



Robotics Club

Robotics Club has been meeting on Mondays at lunch recess and after school to learn how to program robots using Lego Mindstorm Robot Construction Sets. Members of the Robotics Club have been practicing basic skills of programming and beginning to learn more advanced commands for their programmable intelligent brick which then controls the robot. Once perfected, these skills are being used to work on specific programming challenges that test what the students have learned in a fun and engaging way. Students are learning how to program sensors to make their robots, walk, maneuver, move and eventually, talk.



Gardening Club



With the arrival of warmer weather, St. Jerome Green Thumb Gardening Club has been busy at work, planning, weeding, planting, watering and learning about gardening. Green Thumbers meet on Tuesdays and Fridays to work in the gardens in front of the school. We have been learning about types of plants that grow well in our climate as well as those that don't. The needs of plants have been discussed and students have spent time writing about gardens and plants in their journals. One highlight was rubbing the leaves of our plants and smelling the scent left behind on our fingers. We look forward to harvesting our vegetables in September for our Feast of St. Jerome soup.

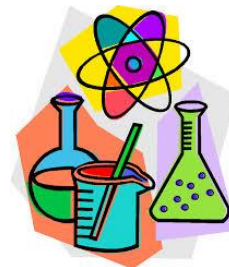
Science News

We welcome any parents who would like to come in as speakers. We are open to any and all suggestions on continuing to enrich/expand our Science Academy. Please come and speak to your child's teacher and/ or administration about your ideas!

During the month of May, our Extra Special Science Activities included:

- ❖ Curriculum Specific Science Walks

- ❖ Grade 1 visit to Telus World of Science
- ❖ Grade 2 Science Carousel presentations to the entire school
- ❖ Grade 2/3 Alberta Science Network presentation on Animal Lifecycles
- ❖ Grade 3/4 Alberta Science Network presentation on Animal Lifecycles
- ❖ Grade 3/4 Lets Talk Science presentation on Animal Lifecycles
- ❖ Grade 3/4 Alberta Science Network presentation on Plant Growth and Changes
- ❖ Grade 6 visit to the Aviation Museum
- ❖ Grade 6 visit from the Bennett Centre
- ❖ Grade 6 Let's Talk Science presentation on Aerodynamics



Free Footie Soccer Program



Our 2 Free Footie teams have been practicing and playing hard this season. Thank you to all who came out to support our St. Jerome Lions. We could not have done it without the wonderful Free Footie organization, who provided us with jersey's, shorts, socks, shin pads, soccer balls, and refs. We are so very fortunate to have the opportunity to play soccer and represent St. Jerome! It is always wonderful to see such good sportsmanship and enthusiasm. Our grade 3/4 and grade 5/6 teams are excited to be participating in the Free Footie year end tournament on June 23 from 10:30-4:30!!! All games will be played between our St. Jerome and Rundle fields.

Lost and Found

The items remaining in the Lost and Found will be set out on tables the week of June 22nd-26th. Any remaining items, including anything left in the boot room areas, will be given to charity.



Final Day of School and Report Cards



Our final day of classes for students for this school year is Friday, June 26th at 11:53 AM. A reminder that Thursday, June 25th will be a full day of school for students. The final report cards will be given to our students on the last day of school.

There will be a draw for a prize for students who return their Feedback Form to Mrs. Flynn by June 13th! Congratulations to Myla S who won the May Draw!

We would appreciate any feedback you may have about our school. Please have your child return this portion of the newsletter to their homeroom teacher.



St. Jerome June Feedback Form

Name of student(s) attending St. Jerome School:

Parent/Guardian Name

2 Stars (positive things you've noticed) and a Wish (possible area for improvement):



Life of Grace...Journey of

Shalom

June 2015

!

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

This beautiful scripture passage unfolds as God tells Moses the words that should be used to bless his people. It is a perfect passage for us to reflect upon as we send forth our graduating class of 2015. We feel truly blessed to have shared in the Catholic educational journey of these young people and wish them God's blessings as they venture forth towards new frontiers!

At the May 26 Public Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved an interim budget. Please visit our website at <https://www.ecsd.net/News/Pages/Interim-Balanced-Operating-Budget-for-2015-16.aspx> for more details. This budget will be revisited in the fall when the new provincial government tables their budget. We are optimistic that there will be good support for the education of our children.

Edmonton Catholic Schools is committed to using the LIFE Framework as a guideline for the creation and operation of student groups that are comprehensive in their approach to inclusion and open to the exploration, in a Catholic context, of a variety of issues including bullying, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, discrimination, justice, and respectful relationships and language. The LIFE Framework is the result of a provincial collaboration of Catholic school jurisdictions. Each of our schools may be organizing LIFE Framework/Diversity groups. They will keep their communities informed as these groups are established by placing notices in their newsletters.

The Alberta Teachers' Association has published an issue of *The Learning Team* that centres on resiliency in children. It is an excellent resource for parents and educators. You can find this and previous issues of the publication on the ATA website or by clicking [here](#).

Through *Transform: Christ-centred Learning for Today and Tomorrow*, teachers in all schools shared their stories of transformation on our fourth Transform Thursday afternoon which was dedicated to district-wide professional learning about innovative teaching practice. School communities continue to share within the District and beyond and their stories are currently available on our public website in the section: [Transform Stories-In-Action](#). School stories also continue to be added to Alberta Education's [Inspiration in Action website](#). We have had a tremendous year of continuing to move towards more student-centred practices in our classrooms and look forward to continuing our journey next year.

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Young Canadians in a Wired World, Phase III: Trends and Recommendations is the final report in a series of nine from the *Young Canadian in a Wired World: Phase III* study. The *Trends and Recommendations* report brings together the findings from interviews with children, teens, parents and teachers and a national survey of students in grades 4 to 11, which took place between 2012 and 2013. It offers recommendations for parents, teachers and policy makers to support young people in meeting the challenges of growing up in the digital age. It also includes an analysis of students' top 50 favorite websites and profiles of students' online activities organized by grade. To access this report, visit <http://mediasmarts.ca/research-policy/young-canadians-wired-world-phase-iii-trends-recommendations> or visit <http://mediasmarts.ca> and scroll through the top articles.

As we celebrate all of the people in our lives who have filled the role of father, grandfather, or mentor, let us take a moment to pray for them and give thanks.

Heavenly Father,

Today we ask You to bless our earthly fathers
for the many times they reflected the love, strength, generosity, wisdom and mercy that You exemplify in
Your relationship with us, Your children.

We honor our fathers for putting our needs above their own convenience and comfort;
for teaching us to show courage and determination in the face of adversity;
for challenging us to move beyond self-limiting boundaries;
for modeling the qualities that would turn us into responsible, principled, caring adults.

We ask your blessing on those men who served
as father figures in our lives.

May the love and selflessness they showed us
be returned to them in all their relationships,
and help them to know that their influence
has changed us for the better.

We pray that our fathers who have passed into the next life
have been welcomed into Your loving embrace,
and that our family will one day be reunited in your heavenly kingdom.

Amen.

(Adapted from A Christopher Prayer for Father's Day)

I wish you all a blessed and rejuvenating summer filled with the goodness of God!

Sincerely,



Joan Carr
Superintendent

June 2015

Father's Day – Celebrating Families

We celebrate Father's Day in Canada each year on the third Sunday of June.

Father's Day is an important opportunity for us to take time to express our love and gratitude for our fathers, as well as for our grandfathers, godfathers, and the like.

One of my best Father's Day's card that I gave my dad when I was a young adult read: (on the cover) "Dad, when I think of the food you put on my table, the clothes on my back, and the roof over my head;" (open the card) "Why did I ever leave home?"

As I get older, I tend to appreciate my family more and more. My dad. My mom. (They're celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary this summer!) My sisters. My brother. And their families. I appreciate the memories of days gone by, and the memories that are still in the making, all filled with joy, hope and love, and yes, sadness and loss. They're all very precious. And I give thanks to God for them all.

You see, it was in my family, the first church, the domestic church, that the seeds of faith were first sown. My parents, by their word and example, carried on the mission of love entrusted to them by God, sharing that love among themselves and teaching their children to love God and neighbour.

It's in this context that I celebrate Father's Day this year in a special way, celebrating the gift that my family has been for me throughout the years, and for the gift they are to me today.

That's why Pope Francis' recent invitation to us and to the entire Church has taken on special meaning for me as of late. The pope invites us to pray for families as he prepares to gather with them from around the world this September in Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families (I'll be there!), then in October in Rome for the Papal Synod on the theme of the mission and vocation of families and their role in evangelization.

In preparation for these events, Pope Francis wrote:

"[This year] we will reflect in particular on the family, which is the fundamental cell of society. From the beginning the Creator blessed man and woman so that they might be fruitful and multiply, and so the family then is an image of the Holy Trinity in the world.

"Our reflections must keep before us the beauty of the family and marriage, the greatness of this human reality which is so simple and yet so rich, consisting of joys and hopes, of struggles and sufferings, as is the whole of life.

"We are called to acknowledge how beautiful, true, and good it is to start a family, to be a family today; and how indispensable the family is for the life of the world and for the future of humanity.

"We are called to make known God's magnificent plan for the family and to help spouses joyfully experience this plan in their lives, as well as accompany them amidst so many difficulties" (Remarks to the Extraordinary Consistory of Cardinals, February 20, 2014).

This Father's Day, join me in celebrating families and the great gift they are to the Church and to the world, by praying this special prayer for families by Pope Francis:

Prayer to the Holy Family

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again experience violence, rejection and division:
may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,
may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more
mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,
and its beauty in God's plan.*

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer. Amen.*






God bless!

Bishop David Motiuk
Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton

(Note: The Prayer to the Holy Family has no expiry date, and can be prayed throughout the year, alone or together with your family.)

June 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Assembly 9:15am	2 Gr 2: Swimming 10am Gr 2/3 & 3: Swimming 12pm Kinder & Gr 2: Muttart 1pm Free Footie game: 4pm vs St. Bernadette	3 Edmonton Public Library Presentation: K-3: 1:15pm 4-6: 2:00pm	4 Gr 5 Immunizations 10am: St. Nicholas Band Performance 	5 Gr 6: AMA Patrol Picnic	6
7	8 Gr ¾ U School Convocation Field Trip- 9am-3pm	9 Gr 2: Swimming 10am Gr 2/3 & 3: Swimming 12pm Free Footie Game 4pm 	10 St. Jerome Idol 1-3pm 6:30 PAC Meeting: All Welcome	11 Volunteer Appreciation 8:15-8:45am iThank you! 	12 Gr3-4 Muttart Conservatory 9am Gr 1: Wally School Presentation 9am	13
14	15	16 Gr 2: Swimming 10am Gr 2/3 & 3: Swimming 12pm Free Footie Game 4pm 	17 <u>Gr 6: PAT LA Part B 9am</u> Gr 3-4 Jr Achievement 10am Gr 2-3 Beverly Interpretive Center 12:30-3pm	18 <u>Gr 6: PAT Math 9 am</u> Gr 3-4 Jr Achievement 9am	19 <u>Gr 6: PAT Science 9am</u> Favorite Color Day PAWS Leader Mtg 12:30pm Aboriginal Awareness Day pm Kinder: Father's Day Kite Night 4pm	20
21 First Day of Summer 	22 Non-Uniform Week –all week <u>Gr 6: PAT Social 9am</u> 1pm: Science Carousels led by grade 1 students 	23 Gr 2: Swimming 10am Gr 2/3 & 3: Swimming 12pm Free Footie Tournament 10-4:30pm Gr 6: Camp Warwa →	24	25 Full Day of School Yearend Celebration 9:45am Gr 6 luncheon and farewell celebration: 11am-12:30pm Lunch provided by Parent Council for kinder-gr 5 Fun Day 1pm	26 Half Day of School Summer Break begins at 11:53am	27 Have a restful and safe summer holidays. 