École Our Lady of the Rosary School

4520 Ryders Ridge Boulevard Sylvan Lake, Alberta T4S 0E1 Phone: 403-343-2568

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August 25, 2025

Welcome Back! We hope this summer was filled with rest, joy, and special memories for your family. It is a blessing to gather once again as a school community and begin a new year of learning, growth, and faith.

Our Division theme for this year is: "Anchored in Faith, Guided by Grace, Uplifted by Hope, and Transformed by Love / Ancré dans la foi, guidé par la grâce, porté par l'espoir, transformé par l'amour." This year we will focus on being Guided by Grace—remembering that grace is God's precious gift, calling us to live with kindness, forgiveness, and love for one another.

We are committed to providing a safe, caring, and faith-filled environment where every child can thrive. A warm welcome to our new families—we are so glad you are here! We also look forward to reconnecting with returning families as we continue our shared journey of learning and growing in Christ.

Both our new and returning staff are eager to welcome students and families as we begin another wonderful year together. We also wish to share an administrative update: our vice principal, Mr. Peterman, has accepted a new role within Red Deer Catholic Schools. We are excited to welcome Mrs. Kelly Johannesson as our new vice principal. Our staff list can be found here: Staff Directory 25-26.

A Few Reminders as We Begin the School Year

- School Hours: Minor changes have been made to our hours and bell schedule. The updated schedule is available on our website: <u>ÉOLR School Hours 2025-26</u>. Please note that recess has been moved to the afternoon.
- Morning Arrival: Teachers greet their classes outside at their designated doors before bringing students inside. This routine helps students feel safe and welcomed while also reducing congestion in hallways and office areas.
- End of Day Dismissal: Students will exit through the same designated doors at the end of the day. If your child requires a different pick-up arrangement, please connect directly with their teacher. A map of the entry/exit doors by grade is provided below.

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On **Tuesday**, **August 26 at 1:30 PM**, teachers will send a welcome email to introduce themselves to your child and family. We also invite you to our **Meet the Staff** on **Wednesday**, **August 27 from 8:30–9:30 AM**. This is a great opportunity for students to get comfortable with their classroom, meet their teacher, drop off supplies, and begin settling into routines. Please use your child's designated entrance, as shown on the map, to help establish consistency from the first day.

We will begin the school year with a staggered entry to give teachers the chance to connect with students individually in a calm setting. The staggered entry schedule for grades 1-4 is as follows:

- Thursday, August 28 Last names A–L attend
- Friday, August 29 Last names M–Z attend
- Tuesday, September 2 All students attend together

Please note that <u>Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten classes follow a different staggered entry schedule</u>, which was sent to families by email in the spring.

We are so excited to begin this new school year at École Our Lady of the Rosary School. Thank you for being an important part of our community—we are grateful for your partnership and look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, and God's blessings.

Yours in Education,

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Andrea Gringhuis

Principal

Kelly Johannesson Vice-Principal

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