

December 1, 2023

Dear Ecole Joe Clark Families,

What a great day at EJCS! Students and staff at Joe Clark set a goal to get 100 Bronco Tickets to earn a fun school wide activity. We worked hard in November, to earn Flash Light Buddy Reading and it was so fun! Nice to see our older students leading the younger ones and helping them to read. You can see some of the photos from the event on our Instagram page for Ecole Joe Clark School.

In case you aren't sure what a Bronco Ticket is... As a staff we have decided there was a need for a common approach to supporting positive student behavior at Joe Clark School. We are focusing on four concepts: Respect for Self, Respect for Others, Respect for Learning and Respect for Property. We are recognizing students who have shown leadership and respect in a variety of different ways. Some of the notable ways we have shown respect this month include:

- Taking turns on the playground, even when we want to be first!
- Showing kindness and caring towards a classmate
- Helping a student from another classroom fill their water bottle.
- Showing self-control in the classroom, hallways and at recess
- Picking up garbage or a mess when they happen
- Modelling good behavior for others and following classroom expectations
- Solving problems by talking through them rather than getting physical

These are only just a few of the ways students have stepped up! We also have some of our older students helping to identify students who are going above and beyond to make Joe Clark a great place to be! Each week, we draw from our Bronco Tickets, and share a picture of the Broncos of the Week in our daily morning announcements. At the end of each month, we will give out Bronco Stuffedies to a few students who consistently showed up as leaders in our school!

Our approach also includes referrals from staff for students who need more support with showing respect and caring to others. We deal with those referrals on a case-by-case basis and support students to reach their potential by building skills they may be struggling with. Our administration team follows up each day with students who may need support. This may look like a conversation with our students, spending some time planning to address behavior, or providing a place for them to work out an issue with a peer. In some cases, parent contact is also made if the behavior is repetitive or physical in nature.

This month, we had 133 Bronco Respect Tickets given out, and only 13 behavior referrals! This new procedure supports [FSD Student Code of Conduct and Progressive Discipline Policy](#). Each month we will set a new goal, and work towards a new school wide activity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out!

Jolene Becker and Corre Mahan

**Important Dates:**

- Friday December 1- Santa Claus Parade- watch for the EJCS staff float!
- Tuesday, December 5- First Popcorn Day of the year (info below)
- Friday December 15- NO SCHOOL- Divisional Professional Development
- Wednesday December 13- Jr. Kindergarten Christmas Concert 6pm
- Thursday December 21- 6-8pm ECJS Christmas Concert
- Friday December 22- 1pm- ECJS Christmas Concert Matinee
- Friday December 22- January 8- Christmas Break

**Christmas Concert Information:**

The EJCS Christmas concert will be held in the gym, to accommodate for the Trickster Theatre set up. **There will be no need to acquire tickets, it will be first come first serve.** Students will NOT be sitting with families for the evening show, they will be in their classrooms with teachers. Students will get to view the show during the matinee performance. We would ask that families be considerate about how many guests they bring. The matinee show on Friday is open to any families and their guests who would rather attend at that time.

**ECJS Christmas Performance Information:**

We are thrilled to be hosting an Artist in Residence weeklong drama program through [Trickster Theatre](#) for the week of December 18-22. We received a grant from Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) to allow for this unique fine arts experience for our students. Each K-5 classroom will get time with the artists every day during the week and prepare their classes part for the final showcase. The theme of our Concert/Showcase is "Gifts of the World"

We will have an evening showing on Dec 21 from 6-8pm which will be held in the ECJS gymnasium. As well as a December 22 matinee at 1pm.

We do need some volunteers to help with a variety of tasks to get our show up and running! Please check out the [ECJS Trickster Volunteer Sign Up](#) for details on how you can help!

**ECJS Drama Club**

Drama Club is back up and running again this year. Miss. Paulgaaard and Mrs. Rickert will be running the club this year. Our plan is to practice one day a week at lunch for the full time leading up to Christmas and then just lunch recess once a week after Christmas. Interested students brought home information regarding the club last week.

**Popcorn is Back!**

Starting December 5th, continuing every Tuesday, our leadership group will be selling popcorn at lunch recess. It is \$1.00 per bag, and students give their money to their teacher that Tuesday morning and then receive their popcorn at lunch. Money raised through this program, goes directly back to the students to support the various clubs that we have in the school.

### **ECJS Breakfast Program**

ECJS is exploring a Breakfast program which would be open to all students each morning from 8:30-9am. There would be a low prep breakfast prepared each day, that all students who needed it could access. To make this program work, we would need parent volunteers each day from 8:15 am to 9:00 am. Ideally, one or two parents per day. We would also have some grade 5 leaders assist with set up and clean up. If you would be interested in volunteering for a morning Breakfast program shift, please contact Mrs. Emily Vandebek via email [vandebek@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:vandebek@fsd38.ab.ca) We will let families know once we get our program rolling!