



79 Old Boomer Road
Sylvan Lake, Alberta T4S 1Z4
Phone: 403-887-6371
Fax: 403-887-6373
www.ecolemotherteresa.ca

April 16, 2025

Dear Parents,

Each year in Grades 6 and 9, Provincial Achievement Tests are administered in May and June in a variety of core subjects. At Ecole Mother Teresa School, our students will write English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies and French Language Arts (French Immersion students) tests. These Provincial Achievement Tests assist our school as they help us to evaluate and determine if students are learning what they are expected to learn and assist us in monitoring and improving student learning aligned with the provincial program of studies.

These tests are an important component of our school improvement and are highly valued by our team to improve our daily instruction. Teachers and Grade Teams take time in professional development each year to analyze how their student achievement compares to schools across the province. They adapt their teaching and assessment practices to better deliver the curriculum as noted by the results of these tests. At Ecole Mother Teresa School, the Provincial Achievement Test scores are reported as a final exam mark as a part of the student's end-of-year report card.

We recognize that any test can cause anxiety for students. As a result, we work hard to ensure that the Provincial Achievement Tests are low-risk exams for students.

As a school, we do this by:

- Using the PAT as a final exam, rather than having an in-class final
- Setting the weightings for the Grade 6 and 9 PAT at 10% of a student's final grade
- Help our students prepare for these exams with many opportunities to complete practice exam questions before writing any exams
- Assisting our students with learning good test-taking strategies and techniques to help them feel more prepared for this exam
- Offering our students the same opportunities they have had all year for accommodations, if necessary
- Providing a comfortable and familiar classroom environment with snacks when students write their exams
- Ensuring staff share with students that the Provincial Achievement Tests are as much a tool for their learning as it is for the students

As parents, you can help your child by:

- Having the conversation that ‘their best’ is good enough and to reinforce *effort* rather than a definitive *final mark*.
- Remind your child that this is a low-risk exam and although doing their best is important, the exam is only worth 10% of their final grade for the whole year.
- Encourage your child to review in small manageable chunks of time. Being prepared for a final cumulative exam (PAT or not) is an important skill, as this is how final assessments are typically done from Grade 6 until post-secondary.
- Discuss the importance of establishing a schedule for review a few weeks before the exam. I’m sure many of us remember ‘cramming’ for exams the night before. We have an opportunity to help our students build good habits early on by allocating a small amount of time for review each evening leading up to the test.
- Being proud of how hard your child has worked this year and acknowledging this to them. Kids thrive on verbal praise and encouragement.
- Ensuring your child is getting enough rest and is up and not rushed on the morning of an exam. Having a good breakfast is also important to their concentration.

A PAT final exam schedule is shared below for your reference as well you will also find information and website links from Alberta Education related to Provincial Achievement Tests.

Quick Links for Parents:

[Provincial Achievement Test Overview](#)

[Grade 9 Parent Guide](#)

[Practice PAT Questions](#)

We thank you for your continued support and as always, if you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at the school. **Please see the PAT exam schedule on the next page and keep it handy for future reference, a full exam schedule for all grades and subjects will be shared with families at the beginning of May. This exam schedule will include Grade 6 Science and Grade 6 French Language Arts as they do not have provincial exams this year, only site based exams.**

Yours In Christ,
Erika Pottage

RDCRS May and June 2024 PAT Schedule

MAY Provincial EXAMS	Tuesday May 27, 2025	Wednesday May 28, 2025	Thursday May 29, 2025	Friday May 30, 2025
	Grade 9 FLA Part A Exam	Grade 6 ELA Part A Exam	Grade 9 ELA Part A Exam Grade 9 K & E ELA Part A Exam	Regular Classes
JUNE Provincial EXAMS	Tuesday June 10, 2025	Wednesday June 11, 2025	Thursday June 12, 2024	Friday June 13, 2025
	Regular Classes	Grade 9 FLA Part B Exam	Grade 6 and 9 ELA Part B Exam Grade 9 K & E ELA Part B Exam	Grade 6 and 9 Math Part A Exam
Monday June 16, 2025	Tuesday June 17, 2025	Wednesday June 18, 2025	Thursday June 19, 2025	Friday June 20, 2025
Regular Classes	Grade 6 and 9 Math Part B Exam Grade 9 K & E Math Part B Exam	Grade 6 and 9 Social Social Exam Grade 9 K & E Social Social Exam	Grade 9 Science Exam Grade 9 K & E Science Exam	Regular Classes
Monday June 23, 2025	Tuesday June 24, 2025	Wednesday June 25, 2025	Thursday June 26, 2025	
Regular classes	Regular classes	Regular classes	Last Day of classes	