

Christine Ong

To: all.families@stpaulschool.ca
Cc: staff@stpaulschool.ca; St. Paul Parish Richmond
Subject: Thursday Letter
Attachments: St. Paul School Holiday Food Drive.pdf; Richmond-Food-Bank-Most Needed Items 2018 (003).pdf

Importance: High



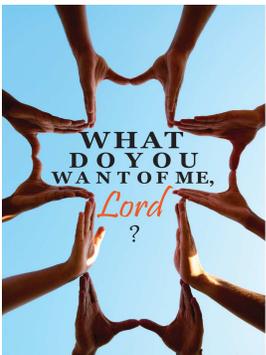
Dear Parents,

We are coming to the second of the four Sundays that make up the Advent Season. A time for us to prepare for all the traditions of Christmas, gifts, trees, lights and time away from school. It is also the time to prepare for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, with prayer, fasting, penance and giving. Christmas brings hope and joy to all of us.

Today our Gr. 3 class led the school Mass celebrating the Feast of St. Nicholas. Good ol' Saint Nicholas, a Bishop and Saint from the year 350 A.D. who spent his life giving to the poor and needy. Why do we celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas on December 6th? To recognize his actions, his giving to the needy. Our theme for the year "What do you want of me, Lord?" is really what Christmas is all about. God gave us His only Son and we celebrate the season with hope and joy that we too can be like St. Nicholas as he knew "It is better to give than to receive."

Yours in faith,

Maureen Moorehead
Principal



"In Advent we discover the beauty of all being on a journey... across the paths of time." Pope Francis



Pick Up/Drop Off Lane NOW OPEN – If you need to PARK your car, please continue to only use the BACK lot. **Front lot is open for Pick-Up/Drop-off only.** Students must be able to exit the car by themselves while **parents STAY in the driver's seat.** This helps the line move faster. Thank you.

Interim Reports Coming Home Tomorrow – A reminder that the first INTERIM report is coming home tomorrow. Enclosed with your child's report is a detailed explanation of the contents and purpose of an interim report. The first *Communicating Student Learning progress report* (traditional report card) will come home at the end of January.

Assembly tomorrow – Gr. 4 & 1 to lead. 9:00 am in the gym.

Next School Assembly – Dec. 14th. Grade 6 & K to lead.

Hot Lunch Serving – Monday, Dec. 10th.



Artificial Christmas Trees Needed! – We are in need of 6 to 7 artificial, undecorated Christmas trees as props for our Christmas concert. (It's okay if it has lights attached, it just won't be plugged in). If you have one you can lend us just until the play on Dec. 18th, please contact Ms. Carroll (mcarroll@stpaulschool.ca) or Ms. Boily at mboily@stpaulschool.ca) Thank you.

St. Paul School Holiday Food Drive – Support **The Richmond Food Bank.** Bring your non-perishable canned food items between **Monday, Dec. 10th to Wednesday, Dec. 12th.** See attachments for more details.

Gr. 7 Destination Imagination Bake Sale – **Wednesday, Dec. 19th 2:00 pm in the Parish Centre.** Help support our Gr. 7 DI team as they prepare their service challenge for this year's DI competition. Funds raised will go towards putting together care packages for individuals in need.



Want to receive important school-related text messages? If you haven't yet signed up for the Remind app to receive important time-sensitive messages to your phone, then please text the message "@mmoorehead" to 289-204-2271 and you will be subscribed. You can also download the Remind app to your phone. No private information is shared within the group, and communication is one-way (for announcements only).

Planning the school year? – If you are looking for professional days, dates for school holidays, etc., our online calendar is updated to June 2019. The calendar can be accessed through the school web site at www.stpaulschool.com.

When Parents Have Concerns – If at any time you have a concern regarding your child, a school event, a staff member, or an incident that happened, we ask that you **please come and speak with your child's teacher**. The only way that concerns can be effectively resolved is through open communication between home and school, resulting in accurate information being shared, and an informed understanding of your concern.

When your Child is Sick – In anticipation of cold and flu season, we'd like to remind parents to be prudent when it comes to deciding when to keep your child home, or when to send him/her to school if he/she has just recovered from being ill. **Some basic guidelines are as follows:** **24 hours** after temperature returns to normal, or after gastrointestinal illness (**vomiting/diarrhea**); contagious infections such as suspected **pink eye or strep throat**; unexplained **skin rash**; **severe cough and cold** symptoms. Exercising proper hand washing techniques is also crucial to helping prevent the spread of viruses. This will go a long way to keep our student and staff population happy and at school.

Birthday Celebrations – If you wish to have your child share a special treat with the class on his/her birthday, you are welcome to send **a small allergen-free treat** that the teacher can hand out at the end of the day. We now have **30 students** who carry Epi-Pens for food-related allergies, so all treats must be free of allergens according to our school policy on anaphylaxis. Please help us keep all our students safe.

