

Christine Ong

To: all.families@stpaulschool.ca
Cc: staff@stpaulschool.ca; St. Paul Parish Richmond
Subject: Thursday Letter



Dear Parents,

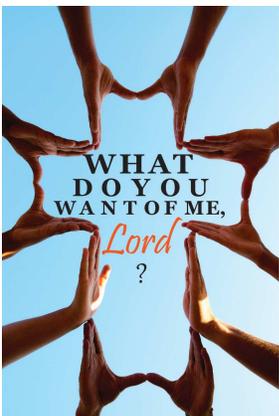
What a beautiful first school mass this morning in our new church! The Kindergarten students led a reverent and joy-filled celebration, and Msgr. Luterbach highlighted his homily with a touching Mother's Day reflection. The celebration concluded with Mr. Kelly giving the students an example of what a church organ can really do! Thank you to those family members who joined us for this lovely first school celebration.

We also keep in our prayers our Gr. 2 students who will be receiving the sacrament of First Holy Communion this Saturday with their families at the 5:00 pm Mass. They will then celebrate their Solemn Communion next Saturday, May 18th, also at the 5:00 pm Mass.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all the mothers, grandmothers, step mothers and mother figures of our school community a joyful and blessed Mother's Day.

Yours in faith,

Maureen Moorehead
Principal



"The love of a mother is the veil of a softer light between the heart and the heavenly Father." Samuel Taylor Coleridge



Parent Education Evening this Monday – Stress, Anxiety and our Children – Has your child ever experienced stress? Of course they have, as it is a normal part of life and can at times be a productive response to stimuli. Learning how to recognize escalating stress and anxiety in your child, and how best to support it and equip your child with the skills to self-manage is the best way to help your child lead a resilient and joyful life. Join us on **May 13th in the school gym** for a free parent education evening with Clinical Counselor PJ Lewis as he talks about resiliency and joy in our children. **7:00 – 8:30 pm in the gym**. Please see flyer attached for more information.

Assembly Tomorrow – Gr. 7 & 3 to lead. Join us for our first assembly since before Lent! Prayer, Badminton recognition, a wheel spin, and a presentation for our Dress Down day on Monday. 9:00 am in the gym.

Dress Down Day – this Monday, May 13th. In support of Kalipay Negrense Foundation in the Philippines. This campaign, called Rebuilding Recovered Treasures, provides a home for children who are homeless for reasons such as slave labour, child trafficking, abuse, abandonment, and more. John Estrada, older brother to Bradley, Luke, and Alison, is currently volunteering there and St. Paul School is offering our support to help build a new facility. **Please bring \$2 to be out of uniform..** There is no theme for dressing down, however, ***in this warm weather please remember modesty – no spaghetti straps or shorts that are shorter than school gym shorts please. Thank you.***

Next Hot lunch Serving – Mon. May 13th.

Gr. 6 & 7 Girls to Queen of Peace Monastery – Monday, May 13th.

Gr. 1 to Britannia Heritage Shipyards – Tuesday, May 14th.

Vancouver College Track Meet – Thursday, May 16th. See PE blog for details.

First Holy Communion – Celebration with family. This Saturday at 5 pm Mass.

Next Friday Assembly – May 17th. Gr. 6 & K. 9:00 am in the gym.

Track and Field - See PE blog for details.

Parking during Track and Field Season – If you are going to be spending time at the school during the day, we ask that for the next three months you please park your car closer to the north end of the parking lot, (where the staff parking is) so the PE classes can use the south end of the parking lot (where the grass field is) for Track and Field drills. Thank you.



Dress Shoes only for uniform – It has been noted that some students are wearing black running shoes with their uniform. A reminder that uniform shoes, according to our uniform policy, must be **“Dress shoes with good support. No running shoes, no sandals, no heels.”** Thank you.

“Old” Uniform ends as of June 2019: When we moved to our new uniform company in 2017, Top Marks, it was communicated to all parents that there would be a two year grace period where students could wear the “old” St. Paul uniform (sweaters with yellow arm bands and polo shirts with old school crest.) **A reminder that as of Sept. 2019, ALL students in Gr. K to 6** will be required to wear the “new” Top Marks uniform. **(Please note this does NOT apply to tunics and kilts as the old and new are similar enough.)** The ONLY class permitted to wear the “old” uniform next year will be the Gr. 7 class (this year’s Gr. 6 students.) ALL OTHER students will be expected to wear the “new” uniform. **We give you this reminder now so you can think ahead for any new uniform pieces that need to be acquired for next September.**

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

