

Christine Ong

To: all.families@stpaulschool.ca
Cc: staff@stpaulschool.ca; Parish St. Paul (Richmond)
Subject: Thursday Letter
Attachments: Learning Conferences Day (10-2020).pdf

Importance: High



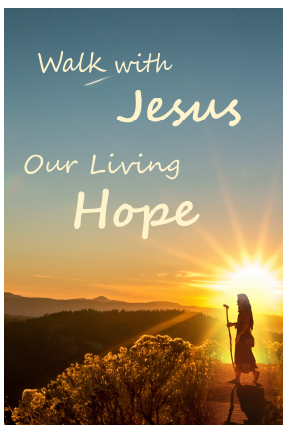
Dear Parents,

The temperatures have cooled, the leaves are turning, and October is definitely here. Hard to believe we've only been in school for five weeks, as it feels like much longer. I was listening to a story on the radio the other day about "pandemic fatigue" and how society in general is beginning to soften their rigorous observance of the health and safety protocols in place by the provincial health authority. Understandably, this change of lifestyle has put a strain on every aspect of our daily lives, and it can be tempting to grow frustrated with it and relax our safe behaviour routines. I am happy to say that I have not observed this relaxing of routines in our St. Paul community by either our school staff, the kids, or our families. That being said, we did have a conversation in our staff meeting yesterday about making sure we "stay the course" with respect to the measures we have in place, and I ask that our students and families do the same. Please continue with the daily health assessments of your children each day before they come to school, please follow the provincial health orders for physical distancing and gathering, please wash your hands regularly, and please stay home when sick.

I can't guarantee that we will not have a COVID-19 exposure in our community, but we will certainly provide the best defense if we work together and make our community as safe as we can.

Yours in faith,

Maureen Moorehead
Principal



"I will walk by faith even when I can not see."
-2 Corinthians 5:7



Join one million children around the world to pray the Rosary! With October being the month of the Rosary, we invite any families who are interested this Sunday at 9:00 am to join children around the world to pray the Rosary for peace, and an end to the pandemic. Click here for more details: <https://acninternational.org/millionkidspraying/en/>

Traffic Safety – Thank you for helping to make the drop off/pick up procedure efficient and smooth. One safety request – please make sure your child is at least 6 feet away from the car before pulling away at drop off. Also, a few students are exiting the car without their masks already on - please ensure your child is masked before the car comes to a stop. Thank you.

Temporary Transition Learners – The first formal return to in-person learning date was this past Tuesday, Oct. 13th, however many of our families have already returned. If you wish your child to begin in-person learning at school, please email your child's teacher. As always, your child is welcome to return at any time (you don't need to wait until the final Nov. 16th date). Just email your child's classroom teacher when you are ready for your child to return.

Learning Conferences – The opportunity for parents to meet with teachers to discuss student progress will take place in person over two time periods this year – Thursday Oct. 22nd from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm, and Friday Oct. 23rd from 8:00 am to 11:30 am. (**Students will be dismissed at noon on Oct. 22nd**, and there will be **no classes on Oct. 23rd**.) Please see email sent home last Friday with details on how to sign up for your time slot(s). **Booking starts tomorrow at 9am.** See attachment.

Halloween at St. Paul's – On Friday Oct. 30th students will be welcome to come out of uniform and dress in either a Halloween costume, or wear orange and/or black. **Please bring a \$2.00 donation for our sponsor child Thomas in Ghana.** When considering a costume for school, please keep in mind the following:

- **We are a Catholic community**, therefore costumes must be modest, respectful of others, and free of offensive language.
- **We are focused on student safety and peace of mind**, therefore: no weapons or replica weapons of any kind (guns, swords, knives, chains, etc.); no blood or slime; no witches, ghosts, goblins, zombies, or scary monsters.
- **We are a learning community**, therefore students must be able to sit at their desk comfortably and consider the space of others (no big hats or wide wings); fully participate in all class activities (including PE and recess times); and see and hear clearly. Covid face masks will still be expected upon arrival and at dismissal.

Fukuroku Hot Lunch Serving – Tomorrow.



Exciting News! We are excited to share that Mrs. Teodosio and her husband are expecting their first child in February 2021. One (1) spot taken for Kindergarten 2026!



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.

Planning the school year? – If you are looking for professional days, dates for school holidays, etc., our online calendar is updated to June 2021. The calendar can be accessed through the school web site at www.stpaulschool.ca.

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 – A reminder that birthday celebrations (treats, give-aways and gifts) are NOT permitted until further notice.

