

**Christine Ong**

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



Dear Parents,

Here at St. Paul's we love to have fun at Halloween. Traditionally, the day is filled with costumes, an assembly, an exciting staff costume reveal in the covered area in the morning, treats to share, and activities to enjoy. While our day will look different tomorrow, we will still have fun, while keeping in mind where the secular holiday of Halloween comes from.

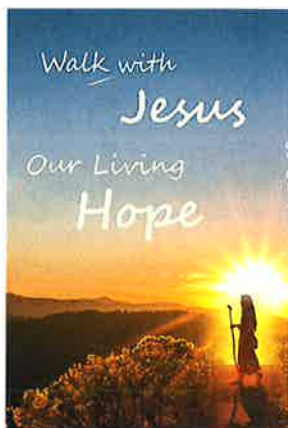
The root word of Halloween - "hallow" - means "holy." The suffix "een" is an abbreviation of "evening." It refers to the Eve of All Hallows, the night before the Christian holy day that honours saintly people of the past. All Saints' Day, which is on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, is a celebration of the communion of saints, those people we believe are in heaven, through good works and God's grace.

Most of us think that saints are declared at the time of their canonization, when in fact, we all have the potential to be saints at birth; it is how we live our life that determines our destiny. Loving God with all your heart and being kind to one another are just the beginning. If we parents can be that role model to our children, then we are certainly on the right path.

Happy Halloween!

Yours in faith,

Maureen Moorehead  
Principal



***“For the Lord takes delight in his people, He crowns the humble with Salvation.” Psalm 149:4***



**No food/items from home to share tomorrow** – Just a reminder to please **not send** any Halloween food or items to give out to classmates tomorrow. Thank you for your cooperation as we continue to limit the level of risk we introduce into our school cohorts.

**Halloween at St. Paul's** – Tomorrow! Students are 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.

**Interim Reports** – Coming home tomorrow.

**Lifetouch Orders Due** – Monday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please put your orders through their on-line ordering site (**mylifetouch.ca**).

**Lifetouch Photo retake day** – Tuesday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>.

**No school Wednesday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>** - Remembrance Day.



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](http://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.



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*Psalm 149:4***