

Christine Ong

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



Dear Parents,

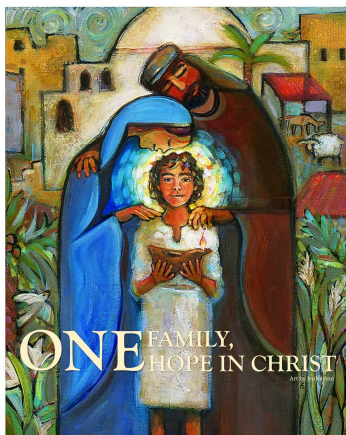
Here at St. Paul's we love to have fun at Halloween. Traditionally, the day is filled with costumes, an assembly, treats to bring home, and activities to enjoy. We look forward to the fun we will have tomorrow, while keeping in mind where the secular holiday of Halloween comes from.

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. 1st, 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.

Yours in faith,

Maureen Moorehead
Principal



"Everything should be done in love."
1 Corinthians 16:14



Dress Down Day – Tomorrow! Students may come in costumes, or wear orange and/or black. **If wearing a costume, please note the following:**

- **Covid face masks must be worn.**
- **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.

Parents Welcome at School Masses – Parents are now welcome to join us for school Masses on Thursday mornings at 9:00 am. Masks must be worn, and we ask parents to sit a few pews back from the students. ****Please note that this invitation does not apply to school assemblies, which continue to be students and staff only.****

Follow us on Twitter! @StPaulSchoolRmd. Check in and see what goes on around school!

Does your child arrive to school before 8:30 am? – Please note that school supervision **begins at 8:30 am** each day. **Any students who arrive before 8:30 am must have a parent/caregiver supervise them until the doors open at 8:30 am.**

Daily Health Check – Just a reminder that parents/caregivers are to be administering a daily health check assessment to each child before they come to school every morning. **We ask parents to download the BC K-12 Health Check app through your app store, which is specifically for school-aged students. This is to be done at home each morning before coming to school.**

Sweaters for school Masses – a reminder that students are expected to wear their sweater for school Mass, which means they must be sure to have their sweater **EVERY Thursday.**



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 website 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 – 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.

St. Paul School acknowledges that the land on which we work, learn, and play is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nations.

