

Christine Ong

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



Dear Parents,

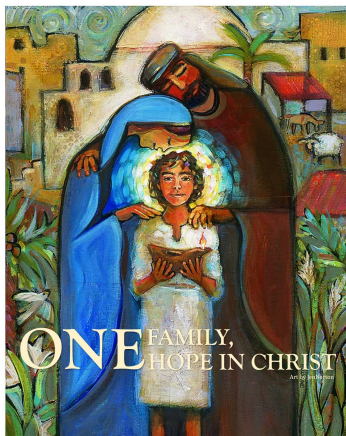
This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. Having spent most of my teaching career in a primary classroom, I found Advent to be the most joyous liturgical season to share with children. With a busy calendar full of family, personal, and professional obligations each December, it is very easy to become distracted, and ultimately off course, with what is meant to be a time of patient waiting and preparation. Sharing and celebrating Advent with young children allows the frenetic pace to subside, and our hearts to be filled with the true spirit of the liturgical season. Each Sunday of Advent provides a different focus to help centre us and keep us focused on the message of the Advent season; we look forward to welcoming this beautiful message with wide-open hearts.

The staff of St. Paul School wishes all our families the same opportunity to find joy in preparing for the celebration of His birth, and anticipation of His return.

Be ready and watchful, for the light of the world has come, and will surely come again.

Yours in faith,

Maureen Moorehead
Principal



"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness, and thus to open doors of hope." Pope Benedict XVI



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.**

Fukuroku Hot Lunch Serving – Friday, Dec. 3rd.

Hot Lunch Forms– Due Thursday, Dec. 2, at 9am. Orders are for January to March 2022.

School Mass – Dec. 2nd. Gr. 5 to lead. 9:00 am.

Volleyball – our volleyball season has come to an end this week. Many thanks to our athletes for their commitment and sportsmanship, and to our coaches – Mrs. Mallari, Ms. Moorehead, Mr. Graham, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Guevara, Ms. Carroll, and Ms. Wu.

Follow us on Twitter! @StPaulSchoolRmd. With limited access for parents to school activities, we are doing our best to post daily happenings of life during the school day. Check in and see what goes on around school! Tweets from today show photos of the blessing of our classroom Advent wreaths in Mass this morning.

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.**

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 xʷməθkʷəʔəm (Musqueam), and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nations.

