

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

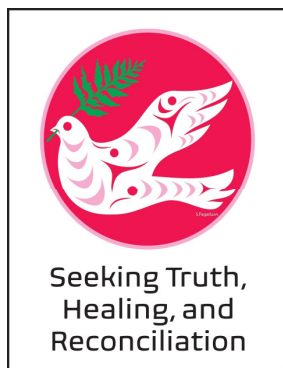


Dear Parents,

This morning in our school Mass, Father Smith spoke to us about St. Marguerite Bourgeoys. St. Marguerite was a French nun who came to Canada in 1658 and opened a girls' school in a stable on Montreal Island. St. Marguerite also recruited French and Canadian women as teachers, and organized boarding schools for girls in Montreal and Indigenous girls on the Sulpician reserve of La Montagne. St. Marguerite is the founder of the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, and was the first female saint to be canonized in Canada. As an educator, her story is fascinating, and it is extremely humbling to read of her dedication to the education and care of young girls.

Like Mary, St. Marguerite *"never excused herself from any journey when it entailed the glory of God or a work of charity."*  
(The writings of Marguerite Bourgeoys p. 82)

Maureen Moorehead  
Principal



***"When the heart is open to the sun of grace, we see flowers blossom in their fragrance; these are seen to have profited by the word of God."*** St. Marguerite Bourgeoys



**Daily Health Check** – Families are reminded to perform a daily health check each morning before coming to school. You can find the health check link [here](#).

**Black Excellence Day Tomorrow** – A reminder that students may come out of uniform tomorrow, wearing black.

**Gr. 2 Parent Meeting for Sacrament Preparation** – Wed. Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 in the gym.

**School Assembly** – Wed. Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1:15 pm. Gr. 7 & Kindergarten to lead.

**Gr. 5 & 6 to Grouse Mountain** - Wednesday, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>.

**School Mass** – Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. Gr. 5 to lead. 9:15 AM

**Hot Lunch Serving** – Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. White Spot

**2023-2024 Kinder Registration for Siblings** – Thursday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> – Submission strictly from 8:30am to 3:30pm.

**No School** – Friday Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>. Professional Day.

**If your child will be away** – A reminder to please email the office and the teacher if your child is sick. This needs to be done each day your child is away, and please email before 8:30 AM. Thank you.

**Late Arrivals to School** – Please note that **instruction in the classroom begins at 8:45 AM.** We have a number of students arriving late to school on a daily basis, so we ask our families to make an effort to have your child arrive to school in time to be settled in the classroom by 8:45 and ready to learn. Thank you.

**Rainy Days** – Like last year, we will continue with students going outside for recess, **regardless of inclement weather.** A reminder to ensure your child is dressed for the possibility of wet weather every day, as they go outside for recess rain or shine. Extra socks are handy to have in the backpack.



**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](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** – 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 Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish) Nations.*

