

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



Dear Parents,

Next week we recognize two feast days in our liturgical calendar. Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints' Day. On All Saints' Day, we celebrate all the saints, especially those that have no other feast day or may be known only to God. A Saint is one who, with the goal of pleasing God, does his ordinary duties extraordinarily well. It might sound unattainable, but we can all be Saints if we live our lives in devotion to God.

All Souls' Day is the day after All Saints' Day. On this special day, we remember loved ones and friends that have passed away. The feast day is based on a centuries-old celebration called the Festival of the Dead, in which families set out a meal for these loved ones to show they are still remembered. We have all lost dear friends and family and this is a special time to remember and pray for and with them. We are all in this Communion of Saints together!

Yours in faith,

Maureen Griffin  
Principal



*To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.*

~Thomas Campbell



## Mark your Calendars

**No School** – Tomorrow. Professional Day.

**Hot Lunch** – Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – Yummy Pasta. **Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Fukuroku.

**School Mass** - Thursday Nov. 2nd. 9:15 am. Gr. 5 to lead.

**Assembly** - Friday, Nov. 3rd. Gr. 2 & 4 to lead. 9:00 am in the gym.

**Dress Down Day - Oct. 31st.** Students are welcome to come to school in a Halloween costume. If they prefer not to wear a costume, they can wear orange and/or black.

**If your child will wear a costume, we ask 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, etc.); fully participate in all class activities (including PE and recess times); and see and hear clearly.
- **We will have a costume parade in the gym at 9:15 am.** Parents are welcome.

**No School** – Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> (Professional Day) and Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> (Remembrance Day holiday).

**Remembrance Day Assembly** – Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 in the gym. Led by Gr. 6.

**Feeding Futures School Snack Program** - if you missed the information regarding our school snack program, please see the email that was sent on Oct. 10th from Ms. Griffin.

**Volleyball Schedule** - see PE blog.

**Please use the Crosswalk** - If you park on the church side of the front parking lot, please ensure you cross at the **designated crosswalk** to make your way to the covered area. Between the drop off lane and parishioners leaving after Mass lets out, it can be a very busy traffic area.

**Follow us on Instagram!** - st.paul.school.richmond.

**2023/2024 School Calendar Updated** - This year's online calendar has been updated. If you are looking for professional days, dates for school holidays, etc., our online calendar is updated to June 2024. The calendar can be accessed through the school website at [www.stpaulschool.com](http://www.stpaulschool.com).

**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.

