

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



Dear Parents,

What a fantastic community event this past Tuesday celebrating our Christmas concert performances, and the weeks of hard work from the students and staff. Thank you for bringing your Christmas spirit, your singing voices, and your patience for large crowds! There's nothing quite like the uplifted singing voices of 243 children to ignite a warm glow in your heart.

On behalf of our staff, I want to thank you for the many gifts, treats, and well-wishes that have come our way these past couple of weeks; your thoughtfulness is appreciated. Wishing all our families a most blessed Christmas, and a happy, healthy 2024. See you January 8th!

Yours in faith,

Maureen Griffin
Principal



Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight his paths. Mark 1:3



Reporting an Absence – a reminder that if your child will be away, please send an email to absent@stpaulschool.ca (as well as the teacher). **Please do NOT** email the office email address.

Noon Dismissal – Tomorrow.

Dress Down Day – tomorrow. Christmas sweater/colours.

Assembly – tomorrow. Gr. 2 & 4 to lead. 9:00 in the gym.

School Reopens – Monday, Jan. 8th.

School Mass – Jan. 11th. Gr. 7 to lead. 9:15 am in the church.

Assembly – Jan. 12th. Gr. 3 & 6 to lead. 9:00 am in the gym.

Hot Lunch – Jan. 12th – Fukuroku.

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](https://www.instagram.com/st.paul.school.richmond).

2023/2024 School Calendar - 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.

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.

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 xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), and Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish) Nations.

