

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



Dear Parents,

Next Wednesday is Pink Shirt Day in recognition of anti-bullying awareness. I have shared this in my principal's message before, but it is surely worth sharing each year. For those who aren't aware, Pink Day started in a high school in Nova Scotia, where a new Gr. 9 student was teased by a group of fellow students for wearing a pink t-shirt to school. Two Senior students, Travis Price and David Shepherd, as a result of witnessing the harassment, decided to do something about it. The two youths organized a protest consisting of purchasing 50 pink tank tops, and sending out a message to fellow students that night. The next morning, Travis and David stood in the front foyer of the school and handed out a pink shirt to the students as they arrived. When the bullied boy arrived and saw what was happening, his face spoke volumes.

Nationwide, the students of Canada are saying "no" to bullying, and all it took was for two young people to speak out and make a difference. We may be a humble little school in Richmond, but we are doing our part to make a difference as well.

Yours in faith,

Maureen Griffin  
Principal



Living,  
**CELEBRATING,**  
and Proclaiming  
**OUR FAITH**

***Wrong is wrong, even if everyone is doing it. Right is right, even if no one is doing it. ~St. Augustine***



**School Mass** – Thurs. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. 9:15 am. Gr. 6 to lead.

**Hot Lunch** – Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> – Fukuroku. Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> – Yummy Pasta. Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – Triple O's.

**Hot Lunch Orders** – Due , Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> @ 9am. Late orders will not be accepted.

**Dress Down Day** – Wed. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>. **Pink Shirt Day** for anti-bullying. Please bring a \$2 donation for Chalice.

**Assembly** – Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – Gr. 5 & 1 to lead. 9:00 am in the gym.

**2024/2025 School Calendar** - If you are looking for professional days, dates for school holidays, etc., our online calendar is updated to June 2025. The calendar can be accessed through the school website at [www.stpaulschool.ca](http://www.stpaulschool.ca).

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

**If your child will be away** – A reminder to please email the school ([absent@stpaulschool.ca](mailto:absent@stpaulschool.ca)) and the teacher if your child is sick. This needs to be done *each day your child is away*. *This also includes late arrivals and early pick-ups and please email before 8:30 AM*. Thank you.

**School Arrivals** – Please note that **classes begin at 8:45 AM**. Please 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.



**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.

**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 x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), and Sk̓w̓x̓w̓7mesh (Squamish) Nations.

