

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



Dear Parents,

Hello from the Sunshine Coast! The Gr. 7 class is having an awesome time at Outdoor Ed, and it is a privilege to spend this time with them. Camp provides our students with valuable learning beyond the classroom. It strengthens teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership skills while giving students the chance to connect with nature in meaningful ways. For some, this is their first time away from home. Through hands-on activities, our Gr. 7s build resilience, confidence, and independence, all while deepening friendships and creating lasting memories. And there's nothing better than celebrating Mass in the great outdoors!

Yours in faith,

Maureen Griffin  
Principal



Living,  
Celebrating, &  
**PROCLAIMING**  
**OUR FAITH**

***Experience, not information, is the key to emotional development.*** ~Jonathan Haidt. *The Anxious Generation*



**How much should my child raise for Walkathon?** - Our Walkathon total last year was **\$95,300**, and we're hoping to beat it this year! Averaged out over our 174 families, that would equal approximately **\$550 worth of pledges per family**. Students are encouraged to ask family members, relatives, family friends, and neighbours, all with parent permission and supervision. We can do this!

**Photo Day** - Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>

**School Mass** – Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> – Gr. 7 to lead

**Taking photos/video during school Masses** - We love when parents and grandparents join us for school Masses, however, to keep the focus on the sacredness of the Mass, **we kindly ask parents and grandparents not to take photos or video**. This allows everyone to remain fully present in the reverence of the Mass. It also helps protect the privacy of other students whose families may not wish for them to be photographed.

**Assembly** – Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. Gr. 4 & 2 to lead.

**Walkathon** – Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>. 12:15 dismissal.

**Orange Shirt Day** – Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. Students come out of uniform wearing orange in honour of National Truth and Reconciliation Day. (no donation needed as it has already been collected)

**No School** – **Tues. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>**. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

**Calendar Updated!** – The 2025/2026 school calendar is now updated with preliminary dates for professional days, dates for school holidays, etc. The calendar can be accessed through the school website at [www.stpaulschool.ca](http://www.stpaulschool.ca). \*Please note dates can change, so check often.

**Follow us on Instagram!** - [st.paul.school.richmond](https://www.instagram.com/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 xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nations.

