

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



Dear Parents,

A heartfelt thank you to our school community for making this year's Walkathon such a wonderful success! It was a joy-filled day of fun, spirit, and teamwork, and I am especially grateful to our dedicated volunteers whose time and energy helped everything run so smoothly. A special thank you to **Christine and Mike Chow**, who once again coordinated this year's event, and whose leadership and hard work made the day possible. We are truly blessed to share such a vibrant and supportive community!

Yours in faith,

Maureen Griffin  
Principal



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

***Synchronous, face-to-face, physical interactions and rituals are a deep, ancient, and underappreciated part of human evolution.***

~ Jonathan Haidt, The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness.



**St. Francis of Assisi Pet Blessing** – Tomorrow at 3:00 pm on the grass field (or covered area if it's raining). Families are welcome to bring their pets for a blessing on the grass field after school. All pets must be contained (leash, crate, cage, tank, etc.) in order to participate. Participating pets must be brought to the property only at dismissal time, and parents/guardians are responsible for their own pets.

**Assembly** – Tomorrow. Gr. 7 & Kinder to lead.

**Hot Lunch** – Tomorrow – Fukuroku; Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> – Yummy Pizza

**Walkathon Money Due** – Tuesday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**School Spirit Day!** – Wed. Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. New this year, we will have **Spirit Days (dress down days)** where students can come out of uniform, dressed according to the theme of the day. Students may come out of uniform wearing their **favourite colour** on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. No donation collected.

**School Mass** – Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>. Gr. 1 to lead

**Garry Point Fun Run** – Friday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. For Gr. 2 to 7 Cross Country team members.

**Volleyball Schedules** – See online calendar and Seesaw.

**No School** – Monday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanksgiving.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences** – Friday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. More details to come.

**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.

**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 xʷməθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam), and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nations.

