

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



Dear Parents,

As we celebrate the feasts of **All Saints' Day (November 1)** and **All Souls' Day (November 2)** this weekend, we are reminded of the deep connection we share with the Communion of Saints, and with all the faithful departed whom we lovingly remember and pray for. These days invite us to reflect on our call to holiness and to offer prayers for those who have gone before us. Families are encouraged to attend Mass together, pray for loved ones who have died, and take a moment to thank God for the countless saints who continue to guide us every day on our journey of faith. As we honour these special days, we also remember that our students are *saints in training*, growing each day in faith, kindness, and love as they follow Christ's example.

Yours in faith,

Maureen Griffin  
Principal



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

*“ Like young trees exposed to wind, children who are routinely exposed to small risks grow up to become adults who can handle much larger risks without panicking.”*

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



**Halloween Dress Down Day** - If your child will wear a costume tomorrow, 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.

*\*If your child does not want to wear a costume, they may come dressed in orange and/or black.*

**Staff Emergency Drill practice with Gr. 7 students** – Wednesday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. 2:00 to 3:30 pm.

**School Mass** – Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. Gr. 6 to lead.

**Remembrance Day Assembly** – Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. 10:45 AM. Gr. 5 & 1 to lead.

**Hot Lunch** – Tomorrow - Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> – Triple O's. Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Yummy Pasta. Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> – Fukuroku.

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

**No school** – Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> (Professional Day) and Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> (Remembrance Day)

**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.

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

