

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



Dear Parents,

As we approach our final Friday before Christmas break, I want to thank our students, families, and staff for the many ways you have contributed to the life of our school during this Advent season. Amid all the activities, we have taken time to pray, to give generously, and to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus. May the days ahead be filled with peace, rest, and joyful moments with family and loved ones.

On behalf of the entire staff, I wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas, and every good wish for a New Year filled with hope, faith, and our never-ending mission to go forward *Proclaiming our Faith*.

Yours in faith,

Maureen Griffin
Principal



“The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord.”

– Henri Nouwen



Message from Ms. Boily - To the St. Paul School community.

I want to thank all of you for your kindness and caring felt through your love, your prayers, your gifts and your donations ... It's made all of what's happening right now much more bearable and filled these challenging moments with bubbles of hope and joy. Thank you, thank you, thank you, from the bottom of my heart, and Thommy's !!! You are all definitely family to me and to my son. To all our relations, mashi cho !!!!

First day back to school – Monday, January 5th.

New Parent Information Night – Tues. Jan. 6th. 7:00 pm. This meeting is for new families who wish to register their child at St. Paul's school for the 2026/27 school year.

School Mass – Thurs. Jan. 8th. 9:15 AM. Gr. 7 to lead.

Hot Lunch – Fri., Jan. 9th - Fukuroku. Mon. Jan. 12th – Yummy pizza.

Assembly – Jan. 16th. Gr. 5 & 1 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.

2025-2026 Calendar – If you are looking for professional days, dates for school holidays, etc., our online calendar is updated to June 2026. The calendar can be accessed through the school website at www.stpaulschool.ca.. The calendar can be accessed through the school website *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) 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 xʷməθkʷəy̅əm (Musqueam), and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nations.

