



St. Joseph the Worker October 2017 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had a successful and event-filled start to the 2017-2018 academic year. Many of us were able to take in our annual Parish Mission, which featured the sage words of Terry Hershey. Terry offered us a moment or two of respite to our frenetic days, in order to reflect on where our “porch swing”, or sanctuary can be found. Being able to reflect on people and places of respite can have a huge impact on our general outlook on life.

Looking back upon the month of September, we can reflect with pride upon a successfully completed Terry Fox Spirit Day (well done to our Grade 1 class for sharing Terry’s message so well!), in addition to a well-attended Meet the Teacher Meeting on September 14. The Meet the Teacher evening was a great opportunity for the school community to come together for information sharing and it was wonderful to be able to exchange summer stories and adventures with so many of our school parents.

From the school programming side of things, our school’s many activities are in full swing. Volleyball games for Grades 5-7 have begun, the Cross-Country Club has been practicing for three weeks already, and our Cross Country **Salmon Run** is just around the corner. Also – please keep the date open for our annual Guardians Gala – the theme this year is: **White Christmas**. It will be held on November 25 and is shaping up to be an amazing evening of fun and fundraising.

I encourage every school family to read up on our various school activities contained in the October Newsletter. And - in the spirit of our upcoming Thanksgiving long weekend, I wish to offer a prayer of thankfulness for the dedicated and reflective Christian community we have at St. Joe’s. God has blessed us in abundance in many different ways!

God Bless,

Paul Fraser

It's time for Winter Uniforms!

A reminder that after the upcoming Thanksgiving weekend, all students must wear their winter uniforms. Please refer to your Parent Handbook for uniform details and information on uniform change dates.

Cross Country 2017 - Salmon Run October 6th

After many weeks of training, the St. Joe's Cross Country running team will be competing in our 7th Annual Salmon Run: a cross country competition with St. Paul's at Garry Point Park on **Friday, October 6**. Students participating need to be driven from the school (12:30pm departure time) and arrive at Garry Point by 12:45pm. After the warm-up and opening prayer, the races begin at 12:50pm and we should wrap up our last race by 2:45pm.



October Living Rosary - October 18th

October is dedicated to Our Lady. The school will be holding a Living Rosary on Wednesday, October 18 at 9am in the school gym. Grades 6 and 7 will be facilitating the Living Rosary. Students are welcome to bring their own rosary to pray with and the extended school community, as always, is welcome to attend.

Photo Retake Day - October 18th (Important Info)

St. Joe's will be holding its photo re-take day on **Tuesday, October 24**. If you wish to have a retake done for your child, please contact Mrs. Lorenz at the school office to have your name added to the list. Although students are asked to bring in their form with "retake" indicated, many of these forms don't get handed in and remain in backpacks. A quick call to the school ensures that your child's name will make it on the list!

Professional Development Day - October 20th

A reminder that school will be closed on Friday, October 20 as our staff attends various professional development workshops during the day. Classes will resume on Monday, October 23.

Parish Fall Fair - Saturday, October 21st

Our Parish Fall Fair is coming soon! Keep an eye out for the "School Basket" letter, that outlines what each class is asked to donate. The baskets have always been a popular part of the Fair, so thank you for your generosity.

Please join us on **Saturday, October 21 from 10am-4pm** for fun, great food, silent auctions, and super entertainment.

OktoberFest at St. Joe's! - Saturday, October 28

St. Joe's Knights of Columbus is sponsoring and hosting an "Oktober Fest" German celebration on Saturday, October 28. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children. Please see details of the event, including ticket sales and entertainment line-up, on the posters outside the school.

Parent-Teacher Conferences - November 2nd

Term 1 Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled this year for Thursday, November 2 from 10am-7pm. A form requesting the best time of day for your 10-minute private conference will be sent home in the next week. When you receive the request form in your youngest child's backpack, please fill it in and return it to the school as soon as possible to ensure your request can be accommodated.



Scholastic Book Fair 2017

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held during our Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 2. Many thanks in advance to all who are planning on visiting and purchasing items from the Book Fair!



Hallowe'en at St. Joe's!

We're having a Hallowe'en dress-up celebration at St. Joe's! On Tuesday, October 31, **students will come to school in dress-down clothes**, with their **costume gear in a labeled bag**. After lunch, students will transform into their costumes and then at 2pm (after classroom activities), they will partake in school-wide activities in the gym. More exciting details on this day will be shared later on in the month. Parents are more than welcome to attend the 2pm afternoon gym activities!

Kindergarten parents – please wait for the notice from your Kindergarten teachers on extra Hallowe'en costume instructions.

**** PARENTS PLEASE NOTE ****

No violent or gory costumes are permitted. As well – no weapons are allowed to be part of any costumes (sorry, pirates – no swords or pistols!) Please make sure you go through this costume criteria with your child(ren) prior to October 31 in order to avoid upset students on the day.

Earthquake Preparedness

The CISVA is participating in the province-wide "BC Shakeout" practice on Thursday, October 19. Our P-Wave system, installed and fully functional for all CISVA schools, will also be tested on this day. For more information on preparedness, please see City of Richmond website at: <http://www.richmond.ca/safety/prepare/notify-me>

White Christmas Guardians Gala - November 25th

Please plan on joining us for our Guardians Gala, with a timeless Winter theme! Invitations will be sent out and the Gala team is already busy planning the evening. It will be held again in the beautiful Westin Wall Centre in Richmond. We count on all school families to get involved with this important fundraiser (in one way or another) for it to be a big success!