



## St. Joseph the Worker School February 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Guardians,

When January comes to an end, our devoted staff often shake their collective heads in disbelief at how fast the first half of the school year has already sped by. We then brace ourselves what we have learned to be an even FASTER final half of the year, as June will be upon us all before we know it!

This week we have been celebrating BC Catholic Schools' Week. New for this year, we started our week on Sunday, with an integrated 1pm mass. It was a great experience and the best piece of feedback was: why don't we do this more often?! The answer to this great question is - we will!

We had the opportunity from February 5-9 to reflect on what makes St. Joe's so unique, and to celebrate being part of the 46 schools that make up the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese. We came together to pray as a school, we shared in some fun with Bingo and Volleyball games, and we snuck in a hot chocolate morning on Wednesday.

With Speech Arts, basketball games, "100 Day", school (re) registration/AGM, and our annual Catholic Educators' Conference all contained in the month of February, we are in for another busy month. Unbelievably, Lent is just around the corner and our annual Shrove Tuesday breakfast will be served by our staff on Tuesday February 13, followed by our Hunger Lunch on Ash Wednesday (February 14). We know that some of our wonderful parents, because of their work schedules, are not able to break away to be present at some of the daytime events that occur at St. Joe's, so please connect with another school family to see if your child(ren) can "adopt" other families for the pancake breakfast celebration. Every year, we seem to increase the number of pancakes made. We're hoping this year represents another increase!

Yours in Christ,

Paul Fraser, Principal

### Results for January's Spirit Day

We are pleased to be sending a cheque for \$352 for Crisis Support in Richmond. Many thanks to all the students who made the extra effort to earn their toonie through allowance or special chores around the house!



## Tuesday Pancake Breakfast

Please join us on Tuesday, February 13 for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast. From 8am to 8:45am, staff will be serving up hot pancakes, fruit salad, coffee and juice to our entire school community! Please ensure that either a parent or guardian accompanies all students who attend the breakfast.



## PEC Family Movie Night

On **Friday, February 16** come and join us with your blankets and chairs for a fun evening of movie fun. In the spirit of Chinese New Year, we will be showing ***Kung Fu Panda*** on the “big screen”. Doors open at 6:45pm and the movie starts at 7pm sharp. We’ll see you there!



## St. Joseph the Worker PEC AGM - Coming February 27!

Our annual Parish Education Committee AGM is fast approaching. On Tuesday, February 27 at 7:30pm, all school families must have at least one family parent or guardian attend the meeting (held in the church) where PEC annual reports are presented, new school-relevant information is disseminated, and re-registration packages are picked up. Included in the evening is an informative workshop on Inquiry Based Learning and what can be done to support this at home.



## Pink Shirt Day/ Spirit Day - February 28

In our constant goal to create and sustain a school environment that is free of bullying, St. Joe’s will have a Pink Shirt Bullying Awareness Day on Wednesday, February 28. All students, as part of our Spirit Dress-Down Day, are encouraged to include pink shirts as part of their clothing choice that day.



## Speech Arts for 2018

Grades 1-3 students are participating in our School Speech Arts Presentations and a smaller group of students from each category will represent the school at our Tri-School Speech Arts Festival. Here is the “save the date” event summary:

St. Joe's School presentation dates: Primary – Thursday, March 1 (am only)  
Grade 7: - Thursday, March 1 (pm only)

Tri-School Speech Arts Dates: Primary (@ St. Paul's) -Tuesday, March 6 (am only)  
Grade 7 (@ St. Paul's) -Tuesday, March 6 (afternoon)

### **Our Next Pro-D Day - March 9**

As stated in our yearly calendar, St. Joe's will be holding a Professional Development Day on Friday, March 9. Staff will be continuing their exploration of Inquiry Based Teaching with Misty Patterson.

The last day of class for students will be Thursday, March 8. Interim reports will be sent home with students on this day.