



St. Joseph the Worker June 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In less than one short month, we will bid each other 'adieu' for the summer. The month ahead is jam-packed full of activities and end-of-year traditions. Please review your June calendar that went home today.

This Tuesday, our Grade 7 class will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. As a Christian community, it is our hope to send out these young ladies and men into the world on a "mission" to spread a message of love and joy, just as Jesus did with his disciples after he ascended to Heaven (celebrated this Sunday). This is also an opportunity for each of us to renew and reflect on our mission as we model to our children what they will ultimately take with them as they embark on their mission to be loving, joyful and forgiving people.

One of May's highlights was our wonderful Parent Appreciation Tea, held on May 22. It was a great opportunity for the staff of St. Joe's to say "thank-you" to you, our parents and guardians, for your ongoing support, both academically and beyond. Special thanks goes out to our Miss Nevada for putting together such an amazing afternoon musical program. We work hard for your children and very much appreciate the support and encouragement that is overwhelmingly felt within our school community.

As we step into the final month of our school year, I share a loving reminder that, in an often-overwhelming world, it is easy to live disconnected from our hearts. I encourage all of us to be courageous and be vulnerable in order to be open to God's Grace. We are all a little broken (or even – a lot broken), but that's okay. Our faith tells us that it is from our brokenness that we love and become healers. It is from our brokenness that we risk, and pay attention, that we fall down and get back up and are forgiven.

May each one of us discover this freedom in our daily journeys. God never promised us an easy life. But He did promise that He would always be there at our side at every point.

God Bless,

Paul Fraser, Principal

Walkathon 2019 Update -We Did It!!!

We've had a great final push to get our pledges in. The Walkathon Committee is pleased to announce that we not only reached but surpassed our Walkathon Pledge goal of \$33,000. In total, we managed to raise just over \$35,000! Well done and many thanks to so many of our school families who got out there to actively fundraise or were able to generously donate privately. Every single pledge that came in helped us to reach our goal and purchase materials for our children.

A special thank-you goes out to Erinn Bryan and Jen Altman for their excellent organization and coordination skills.

Track and Field Meets- Important Dates to Note



There are two remaining Track and Field events in June. Please make note of the dates:

CISVA Meet (Day 2): Wednesday, June 5 @ Swangard Stadium (selected students)
Track and Field Assembly Friday, June 7 @ St. Joe's Gym (9:00-9:30am)

Neat Uniform Fit Day

Friday, June 14 is Neat Uniform's Fit Day. From 12 noon to 6pm, the staff of Neat Uniforms will be set up in the front entrance of the school building to assist families in sizing and ordering uniforms for the upcoming school year. Pop on by after our Fun Day to do your sizing and get ready for next year's uniform needs.

Farewell To Our Dear Mrs. Ebert

Along with celebrations, we sometimes have to bid farewell to special staff members. After teaching at St. Joe's for 30 (THIRTY!) years, Mrs. Ebert has made the difficult but exciting decision to retire this June! We will have a special farewell assembly for her (TBA) and we know we will see her for many upcoming visits (and maybe even some classroom time!) during the upcoming school year. We will miss you, Mrs. Ebert!

A French Au Reviour (and a "Bonjour"!)

Another staffing change is occurring in our newly formed French department. After 18 months of lovingly supporting our children in learning the French Language, our Mme. King is having to step away from the part time position. We thank her for instilling the love of the French language to our children and hope to see her again soon.

Continuing in the footsteps of Mme. King, we are pleased to announce that our own Mlle. Mendoza (a French Immersion graduate!) will be stepping into the position of French teacher for the upcoming year. She has been working closely with Mme. King and is excited to keep the French programming alive and vibrant in our school. Merci, Mlle. Mendoza!

May Spirit Day - Fundraiser Results

We had a successful May Spirit Day on May 28. The students managed to raise \$364 for “The Door Is Open” Downtown Vancouver Eastside Support Center. The funds raised will go towards all the good work that they do in helping the homeless and marginalized in our own city.

Outer Space Fun Day - June 14

Our annual Fun Day is coming on Friday, June 14. Students will arrive at the regular time of 8:50am and then, after being arranged in their family groups, will start a rotation of fun activities that the Grade 7 class has created for them. Our Fun Day theme this year is: “Outer Space. A hot dog lunch is waiting for all families. Dismissal will be at 12:15pm. Let’s pray for sunny weather!

2019-2020 Parish Education Committee

Our new PEC has been announced! Clayton Ablett, Resina Beckett and Sean O’Brien have been acclaimed to the Parish Education Committee for a 2-year term. These members will join Vince Uy, Sabrina Chiu, Ray Bianchin, Gabriel Labrador, Monica Sagastume and Ricardo Hernandez on the PEC for 2019-2020 school year. Thank you to all the candidates for standing for election to the PEC.

Professional Day June 17-school closed

A reminder that on Monday, June 17 the school will be closed for a staff-wide Planning Day. Classes will resume on Tuesday, June 18.

Library Books Due Next Week

We will start to collect all our library books starting the week of June 10. All library books should be returned to the school by June 14. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Our Principal for a Day is Caitlyn Lui!

On Tuesday, June 18, Mr. Fraser will step aside from his role of Principal and welcome Miss Caitlyn Lui into the role for a day! We warmly welcome Miss Lui and look forward to hearing what exciting plans she has in store for the day.

Our Secretary for a Day is Isaac Chen!

On Monday, June 10 Mr. Chen will be taking over the office from Mrs. Lorenz. Please make sure you drop by to wish him well as he keeps Mr. Fraser on his toes, answers the phone, prepares notices, and makes various school announcements.

End of Year Mass and Assembly

Please join us on Thursday, June 27 for our end-of-year mass at 9:05am, followed by our year-end slideshow compilation at 11:00am. Copies of the video compilation will be available for purchase after the assembly.

Report Cards Out - June 27

Report Cards will be issued on Thursday, June 27 at the 12:00 noon dismissal.

Curious About Becoming a Catholic?

St. Joseph the Worker Parish is hosting two drop in information sessions over the summer, July 18th and August 15th, to provide the opportunity to come and meet the RCIA Team and learn more about what the RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*) process is. For both dates, we will meet at 7:30pm in the Church Hall. For those that are interested in attending the RCIA process, we will be forming an inquiry group this coming September to discuss and answer any questions you might have about what Catholics are all about. It is a very informal group, and there is no obligation. If you'd like to join us for any of these dates, or would like more information, please contact Lisa Phillips at 604-275-2064 or by email: stjw.rcia@rcav.org

Vacation Bible School - Coming this July (and Registration is now OPEN!!)

Vacation Bible School will be held from **Monday, July 8th to Friday, July 12th at St. Joseph the Worker Elementary School** and is open to children in Preschool to Grade 6. We are excited to introduce that this years VBS theme is Athens!

Program hours will be held from 9:00am to 3:00pm. We will also have an optional after program care for families who are unable to pick up their child/children at the end of program hours. **The after program care will be held from 3:00pm to 6:00pm at St. Joseph the Worker Elementary School.** Please note that the after-program care will be an **additional charge** to the registration fee.

Registration deadline is **July 5th!** Please hand in completed forms to the parish or school office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mae Que at maequlee@gmail.com