



St. Joseph the Worker School Newsletter

December 3, 2023



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our December begins with the excitement and anticipation of Jesus' birth, we have much to be thankful for in our community. After two years of fundraising we blessed and opened our newly installed play structure. On behalf of the students I thank you for making this possible. Please enjoy this structure with your children after school and after mass! I also thank you for your generous donation of food last week and the toys you have already brought. As we focus on the virtue of Charity with your children, these generous donations are examples of families living our Catholic virtues each and every day. As we approach our annual Seniors & Grandparents Mass and Tea, I also thank you in advance for your generous support of this event.

This week we welcome the CISVA, followed by the Ministry of Education to our school. We are excited to share all the good works and our Catholic faith lived out in and outside our classrooms. Please feel free to say hello to our guests during Welcome Wednesday.

Mrs. Withers and Ms. Nevada have been working with your children on our annual Advent concert. We are looking forward to being in the church this year and the opportunity to utilise the amazing sound and audiovisual equipment. We will be sending more information home as we get closer to the 20th.

As our winter athletics programming begins, we are still looking for coaches! If you are interested in coaching please contact me directly (abernett@stjosephtheworker.ca).

May God bless you and your families,

Mrs. Andrea Bennett, Principal



Blessing and Opening of our New Play Structure - Thank you for your generosity to make this possible

November Events

St. Vincent De Paul Food Drive

Thank you for your generous support of our food drive. We will also be contributing funds from our final pizza lunch of 2023 so any additional food can be purchased for the hampers.

Volleyball Recognition

Congratulations to our grade 4, 5 and 6 boys on a great season with lots of learning and growing in our skills

Our grade 7 boys made it to the CISVA championships for the second year in a row. Although they did not come home with a medal, they had a great experience and a great season overall.

Thank you to Mrs. Pereira-Li, Mrs. Lui, Mrs. Soriano, Mr. Withers, Mr. Lorenz & Mr. Girard for all their coaching and refereeing this season.



Growing in Our Virtues Assembly #3

In our third assembly we recognized students who displayed the virtue of HOPE. The recognized students received a beautiful prayer card with a prayer from St. Maximilian Kolbe. Our next virtue of focus is CHARITY. Thank you for supporting your children as they grow in the Virtues

CBC Music Class Challenge Contest

Please Go to YouTube and search for: **cbc st joseph the worker** to see our submitted videos. The students were very excited and enthusiastic about participating in this contest. Winners will be announced December 5th! Thank you to Mrs. Withers for bringing this opportunity to our students.

Alumni News & Opportunities

Volunteers:

If you know any alumni interested in volunteering at the school please have them contact me via email.

In the News:

Patrick Metcalfe, a St. Joseph the Worker alumnus (2011) was featured in the Vancouver Province. Congratulations to Patrick!

Former Whitecap Patrick Metcalfe finds his feet — and a trophy — playing abroad



News From Our Parish

Season of Joy

December 11th - Parish Centre from 6 – 9 pm

Activities for all ages, including Food, Crafts and a Live Nativity.

December 16th – Following the 5:30 PM Mass – Light Up Richmond Kick-off
Join us for the lighting of the property, smokies and Chilli will be served
after Mass.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23 @5:30 p.m. (Simbang Gabi)

Sunday, December 24 @8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m. (No 1 p.m.
Mass on Christmas Eve)

Christmas Masses

Sunday, December 24 @5 p.m. (children's) 7:30 p.m., 11 p.m.

Monday, December 25 @8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.(children's), 11:15
a.m., 1 p.m.

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 30 @5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 31 @8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1 p.m.

New Years Day – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Sunday, December 31 @5:30 p.m.

Monday, January 1 @9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1 p.m.

PEC Events & News

PEC Fundraiser Event - Supporting our Tuition Assistance Program

Thank you for your support of our Mr. Cooper Pies sale. This raised \$250 for our Tuition Assistance Fund. Special thanks to Ms. Kimi Nomura Schwab for all her work coordinating this project.

27th Annual Guardians Gala - An Enchanted Garden - February 3, 2024

Please stay tuned for information coming home in your child's backpack as well as via email from your class parent. We depend on 100% participation from our school community to make this event a success. Please see the event [website](#) for ticket sales and all things Gala! Looking forward to this amazing fundraising event in February.

Kindergarten Registration

Please fill out this [GOOGLE FORM](#) to let us know if you have a child entering Kindergarten in 2024. Once we have your information we will send home our application package before Christmas. Our Open House is scheduled for January 17th. Once we know how many siblings will be entering Kindergarten we know how many spots are available for other families to join our community.

December School Events

Toy Drive - December 4th - 8th

- ❖ Please consider bringing in a new unwrapped toy for our annual toy drive all this week in support of our Parish outreach program.

Advent Reconciliation - December 5th, 6th & 7th

- ❖ Students in grades 3-7 will be visiting the church over these 3 days to participate in the sacrament of reconciliation as we enter the Advent Season and prepare for the birth of our Saviour.

Tuesday/Wednesday December 5th & 6th

- ❖ We will be welcoming the CISVA evaluation team to our school. Your children may mention visitors in their classrooms. This team is composed of 2 principals from the CISVA along with members of the CISVA head office. Leading this visit is Mrs. Nicole Regush, Assistant Superintendent.
- ❖ We are looking forward to this visit and sharing with the team all the wonderful things happening at our school.

Wednesday, December 6th - Welcome Wednesday

Wednesday, December 13th

- ❖ Hot lunch
- ❖ 2pm Dismissal

Wednesday, December 20th

- ❖ Seniors & Grandparents Healing mass - 9am, Tea will follow in the gym immediately following the mass (**please ensure you have received and read the email from your class parent with sign up instructions**)
- ❖ Advent Concert - 7pm. This year we will have one concert in the church. More information will be sent out regarding drop off times and logistics for this special event.

Thursday, December 21st

- ❖ Advent School Mass 9:00 am
- ❖ Christmas-ize your uniform day
- ❖ Pizza lunch
- ❖ Office closes at 4pm for the Christmas break

Friday, December 22nd - No School

Monday, January 8th - School Back in Session

Athletics & Extra Curriculars

Athletics Updates

Basketball - seasons will begin shortly!

Please see my note in the introduction of this newsletter as we are still looking for coaches before we can send out information about teams/practices.

Important Reminders

Criminal Record Checks (CRC's)

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing a safe environment for all students and community members, we require our parent volunteers to complete the following CRC check. This includes volunteer roles that involve student interaction; driving students to and from school events/games, any school day volunteering, coaching etc. I strongly suggest you complete this process so if the opportunity arises for you to volunteer you will not be delayed or prevented from doing so. Please use the following link to complete this process and notify Laura that you have submitted your check. Results come directly to the parish and we are notified.

As part of the criminal record check application, your identity will be verified electronically by the Ministry of Justice using your BC Services Card.

1. Log on to <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck/>
2. Use our Access Code: **G8HC368U38**
3. Complete the on-line criminal record check application.
4. **If your application is successfully submitted, you will get a confirmation service request number. Please email the service request number to Laura**

Carandang pa.stjw@rcav.org. The result will be emailed to us within 3-4 weeks, and you should receive a confirmation email.

5. **If the system could not complete your request, or you are unable to verify your identity using your BC Services Card:**

1. Apply a second time as you may be successful on your second attempt.
2. If after your second attempt the system could not complete your request, you may receive a return email with a "Criminal Record Check" form that can be mailed. **Please do not use this form**. Contact Laura Carandang to arrange to complete and sign a form in the Parish Office which we will submit on your behalf.
3. Once I have received and submitted your Criminal Record Check form, the results will be e-mailed to us within 3-4 weeks.

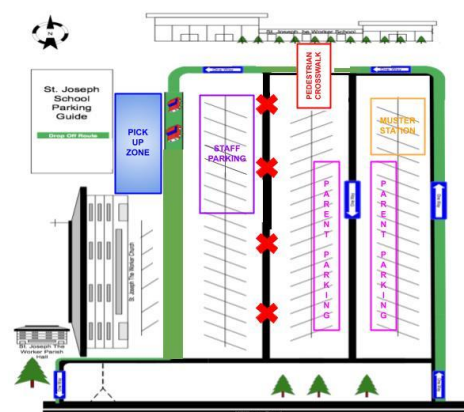
2023 TRAFFIC SAFETY PROCEDURES

MORNING = DROP-OFF ONLY

- When entering the parking lot, please slow your vehicle down to 10km/h
- For morning drop-off, proceed all the way to the orange-coned "drop off zones"
- **Please DO NOT** drop your child(ren) off against the school; please drive up to the zones
- Drop off can be anytime from 8:30-8:45 am. Students head directly into their classrooms. Parents are asked to please stay in their cars unless they have a meeting or are volunteering at the school.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP:

- When entering the parking lot, please slow your vehicle down to 10km/h
- Pick-up time is 2:50pm for ALL STUDENTS
- If parking please park cars in the two designated parking rows and escort child(ren) to your parked car.
- If picking up in the zone, proceed all the way to the orange-coned "pick-up" zone. Student crossing guards will direct pedestrians and allow traffic to flow through when it is deemed safe. Please watch for their signs.
- The first THREE cars at the pick-up zone can load



up students (not just the front car)

- **When departing the parking lot, please travel at a safe speed of 10 km/h and watch for other cars.**
- **IF YOUR CHILD(REN) ARE NOT READY TO ENTER YOUR VEHICLE DURING AFTERNOON PICK-UP, PLEASE CIRCLE AROUND, OR PARK YOUR VEHICLE AND PICK THEM UP BY HAND. DO NOT HONK YOUR HORN AT YOUR CHILD IN THE PICK-UP ZONE.**
- **Thank you in advance for your cooperation on following all of these important procedures.**