



St. Joseph the Worker School Newsletter

January 5, 2024



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the end of our Christmas celebration with the Epiphany on January 7th, I wish you a very Happy New Year! Our December was filled with many blessings including our beautiful Advent concert and our Seniors Tea. Many families also enjoyed the Reason for the Season festivities and Light up Richmond.

Our CISVA and Ministry of Education visit and evaluations were very positive and I will be sharing the positive feedback about our school once I receive the final reports from each.

I am so very happy that I am now able to share this good news...our beloved Mr. Girard is now home and resting after a successful heart surgery on December 21st. We continue to pray for his recovery and look forward to welcoming him back to school after his full recovery. His classes will be covered by three wonderful substitute teachers; Ms. De Faye, Mr. McFarland, and Mr. Choo. We are very grateful for their willingness to cover our PE classes so our students can continue to grow and develop in their physical skills and teamwork.

January is action filled with our Open House, ski program, and basketball games & tournaments. We look forward to another year together to learn and grow as a faith community.

May God bless you and your families,

Mrs. Andrea Bernett, Principal

December Events

Seniors and Grandparents Tea

Thank you for your generous support of our Seniors Tea. Many of our grade 7 students joined the seniors for tea and lunch and many of our guests remarked on how wonderful and polite our students are. We thank our grade 7 students for helping host our guests and the primary & intermediate choirs, band and our Kindergarten class for sharing some musical talent.

Advent Concert

It was a beautiful night in our church filled with the singing and playing of music by our students, families and parents. Thank you to everyone who made this possible, our staff, parent volunteers, parish staff and Father Pierre.

Growing in Our Virtues Assembly #4

In our fourth assembly we continued to focus on the virtue of CHARITY. Thank you to all the families who supported the food and toy drive that was an integral part of the parish Christmas hamper program.



News From Our Parish

Epiphany Breakfast

Bring yourselves, and your friends, to a complimentary Epiphany Breakfast after all Sunday morning Masses! Donations welcome!

Study Group

A listening circle around the book, "Listening to Indigenous Voices" is starting up on Tuesday, January 16th. Register by contacting the Parish Office.

Adult Faith

The Search and What's the Word continues.. Contact the Parish office for more info.

PEC Events & News

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

Please see the event [website](#) for ticket sales and all things Gala! Looking forward to this amazing fundraising event in February.

Your Gala Committee has been hard at work over the last few months to put together our best Gala yet! In December, we started to receive donations from vendors across Richmond and continue to receive more items - these will go up on our Silent Auction.

We also engaged ticket holders to start putting together the Seating Plan - so now is the time to purchase your tickets! Click on the below to get to our ClickBid site - enter your phone number to get started, then fill out your information when prompted. Once your account is set up, you can see the various items on the auction site, which includes the tickets for sale. Gala is not just about fundraising, it's about celebrating what makes our school so special: this Community! We look forward to seeing everyone at Gala, so please purchase your tickets as soon as possible so we can



complete the Seating Plan. And keep an eye out for messages about auction items, raffles and more! If you have any questions at all, please email Rob at fundraising.sjw@gmail.com

Open House - Wednesday, January 17th

Please let your friends and family know about our Open House. We will have our grade 7 students doing tours as well as a formal presentation for all interested families. We will also hand out the 2024 application package.

January School Events

Wednesday, January 10th

- ❖ Welcome Wednesday
- ❖ Hot lunch
- ❖ 2 pm dismissal

Thursday, January 11th - Gr 5/6/7 skiing

- ❖ The Grade 5, 6 and 7 ski/snowboard is at Cypress Mountain. It has been a mild winter so far, but cooler weather and snow is in the forecast for the mountains. Thank you to all parents who volunteered to help with the program. The supervisor schedule was emailed to all families prior to Christmas. An information and safety session for students will be held during class time early next week. An email will also be sent out prior to the first day with reminders and instructions. We look forward to a great program!

Wednesday, January 17th

- ❖ Open House 7pm

Thursday, January 18th - Gr 5/6/7 skiing

Friday, January 19th

- ❖ Spirit Day - Dress down in support of The Door is Open

Monday, January 22nd - No School

Wednesday, January 24th

- ❖ Hot lunch

Thursday, January 25th - Gr 5/6/7 skiing

Wednesday, January 31st

- ❖ 2pm Dismissal

Athletics & Extra Curriculars

Athletics Updates

Basketball seasons are all underway. A few reminders:

- Please ensure you complete all the permission forms that are sent home and return to the school in a timely manner
- All players should be at all practices to ensure they are prepared for games and as part of their commitment to their team - if your son or daughter will be absent please contact your coach/teacher sponsor as soon as possible

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.

