



# St. Joseph the Worker School Newsletter

March 4, 2024



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach spring break we have much to be thankful for in the past month. We began the month with our Hip Hop dance week and finale attended by well over 200 family members. Our Guardians Gala was a great success due to your support and the dedication of our Gala team. On behalf of the students, we thank you for your generous support of this annual event. In our final celebration before Lent our annual pancake breakfast was a huge success. Together with the Knights of Columbus, we fed 250 plates of pancakes and raised almost \$600 for the Franciscan Missionary Union.

As we celebrated Catholic schools week we spent time reflecting on the blessing of our school and the gift of Catholic education.

This beautiful collage is just one example. Upon our return from spring break, we will enter Holy Week. As we prepare our hearts and minds for the final journey of Lent, we look forward to the celebration of the Resurrection. Please hold in your prayers our school families and students who are in the final preparation for baptism and initiation into our faith. We look forward to celebrating the Sacraments with them at the Easter Vigil mass.

Finally, I would like to extend my best wishes and congratulations to Mr. Jamie Withers who was recently appointed as acting Principal for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Withers and I will be working together over the next few months to ensure a smooth transition for everyone.

May God bless you and your families,

Mrs. Andrea Bennett, Principal



## February Events

### Skiing

We were able to reschedule our missed ski days for February 26th and March 7th. Thank you for your patience - this has been a crazy weather year for sure! Thank you to our parents and staff who chaperoned.

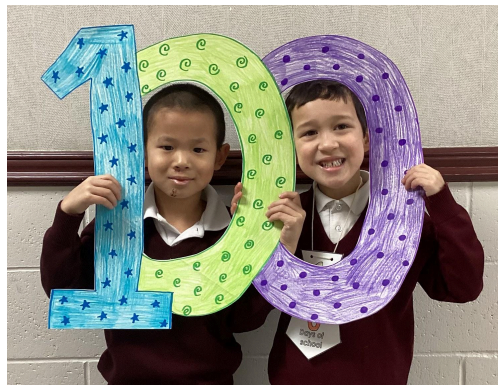
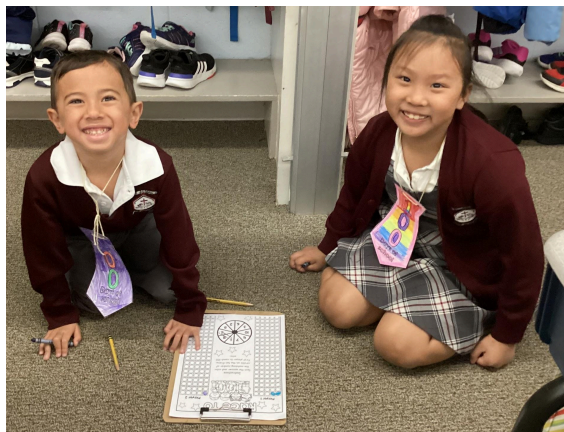
### Growing in Our Virtues Assembly

Our students focused on the virtue of Prudence during the months of January and part of February. We looked to St. Joseph and an example for us. Thank you to Father Joseph who joined us for our assembly. We also acknowledge the good work of our PEER Helpers who served the school community for the first half of the year. They all received a certificate of appreciation and we welcomed the next group of grade 6 & 7 newly trained PEER Helpers.



## 100 Days of School

On February 22nd our Kindergarten, grade 1 & 2 classes celebrated their 100th day of school. This event is celebrated yearly. Here are some pictures of the day.



## News From Our Parish

**Stations of the Cross** will be every Friday through Lent (Starts Feb 16<sup>th</sup>)

There will be a special Stations of the Cross for children on Good Friday at 10:00 AM followed by the Hunger Lunch

**Sunday Supper** - March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Our speakers are from Development & Peace. Jeremy Laurier, the D&P Animator, and a Solidarity Worker from Indonesia, Karno Batiran, will be our main speaker.

**Holy Thursday** - Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm

**Good Friday**

- ❖ 10:00 am Seven Last Words
- ❖ 10: 00 am Children's Stations of the Cross
- ❖ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm Hunger Lunch
- ❖ 1pm, 4pm & 7pm Passion of the Lord (Good Friday Service)
- ❖ Holy Saturday - Vigil
- ❖ Easter Sunday - regular Mass times

Mark your calendars for this Year's VBS July 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 3:00 PM \$225/child. Registration will open next week – here is the link <https://vbspro.events/p/events/53022b>

## PEC Events & School News

**Walkathon T-Shirt Design Contest - Please check with your child for the notice sent home**

**Sexuality & Your Child - April 15th - 7:00 pm (mark you calendars!)**

We will welcome Sister John Mary, Franciscan Sister of the Eucharist, for our annual parent night. Sister John Mary is the associate director of ministries and outreach at the RCAV and led our staff retreat in 2022. This is a mandatory event for all parents and at least one parent from every family must attend. More information to follow from your classroom teacher.

**Guardian Summer Returns 🎉 - July 2nd - 5th**

We are happy to announce that our staff has once again agreed to run camps. Save the date for this first week of July. Teachers are busy working on the details of the camps. The cost will be \$225 which includes pizza lunch on the last day of camp. Registration forms will be sent home via google form after spring break.

Camps will be as follows:

Introduction to Kindergarten - Mrs. Whitlock & Miss Ramirez

Grade 1-3 Camp - Mrs. Withers & Miss Castrillo

Grade 4-5 Camp - Mr. Lorenz

Grade 6-7 Camp - Mr. Withers & Miss Nevada

## March School Events

**Wednesday, March 6th**

- ❖ Welcome Wednesday

**Friday, March 8th**

- ❖ Mass 9 am

**Saturday, March 9th - Sunday, March 24th**

- ❖ Spring break - school and office closed
- ❖ Classes resume March 25th

**Wednesday, March 27th**

- ❖ Living our Faith Assembly
- ❖ Hot Lunch
- ❖ 2pm dismissal

**Thursday, March 28th - Holy Thursday**

- ❖ School retreat after lunch
- ❖ 3pm dismissal

**Friday, March 29th - Monday, April 1st - School Closed for Easter**

## **Athletics & Extra Curriculars**

### **Athletics Update**

**Basketball seasons are almost finished...thank you to everyone who stepped up this season while Mr. G was on his medical leave.** All of our teams had a great learning experience and improved.

*Special congratulation to Priscilla Hernandez who placed 1st in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest this past weekend at St. Pauls.*

#### **Grade 5 Girls**

The girls finished their season at the St. Bernadette's tournament this week. Weekly improvements to their basketball skills were evident due to hard work and practice. Thank you to Mrs. Lam and Mr. Hernandez for coaching and introducing the girls to basketball this season.

#### **Grade 5 Boys**

The boys finished their season with an exciting silver place finish at the St. Bernadette's tournament. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Lenahan and Mrs. Pereira-Li for coaching and introducing the boys to basketball this season!

#### **Grade 6 Girls**

The girls finished their season with a first round playoff loss at home. It was a close game to the finish. The girls went undefeated in league play this season. Thank you to Mrs. Melissa Lui for coaching and her children for scorekeeping!

#### **Grade 6 boys**

The boys worked hard to improve their skills and scoring all season long. Thank you to Mr. Lorenz for coaching the team this year!

#### **Grade 7 Boys**

Last week our boys competed in the London Stevenston tournament and will finish the season this week playing in the Hugh Boyd tournament. Thank you to Mr. Roberto Manzano & his son Mehkai. We thank them for giving back as alumni!

## Grade 7 Girls

This week our girls will finish the season playing in the Hugh Boyd tournament. Thank you to Mr. Gabe Lee for coaching & Mrs. Foran & Mrs. Tien for supporting the team. We also thank Mr. Lee for his coaching and help with referees this year.

## Girls Soccer & Track & Field Seasons

Information for Grades 4-7 girls soccer and Grades 3-7 Track will be home shortly (track info after spring break). Seasons of play for both begin after spring break.

## 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](mailto: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.

