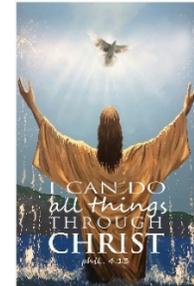


St. Patrick's Elementary School

Newsletter

February 2020

2850 Quebec St. Vancouver



UPCOMING EVENTS

Every Wednesday is a 2:30 p.m. dismissal due to staff meeting. Please pick your children up promptly.

Every Friday school begins at 8:15 a.m. with a school mass. Please be prompt to celebrate the Eucharist.

Grades 4-7 Parent Evening February 5th 2020

Let's talk! How to talk to your kids about challenging subjects

On Wed Feb 5 our guest speaker Sue Dvorak will share her professional and personal experience, and teach parents how to deal with some of the challenges in today's culture. How to transmit your values to your children as their guide in life. How to apply your beliefs in the particular situations that your children will face as they grow up. How to deal with: puberty, sexuality, technology & social media, relationships, and teen culture.

STAY INFORMED

Please refer to our school website www.spev.ca for newsletters, calendars and classroom bulletins.

Dear Parents,

2020-2021 Registration: The registration period for new students entering our kindergarten class for the 2020-2021 school year has now concluded. Parents will be contacted to set up meetings with the pastor and principal within the week.

If you know of any friends or families potentially interested in enrolling their children in St. Patrick's Elementary School please encourage them to visit the school website or call the office. We would be happy to speak with them and discuss any available spaces remaining in our fantastic school!

Re-registration for 2020-2021 School Year: We anticipate the new Re-registration Packages for the 2020-2021 school year will be completed in the near future. We will provide more information when they are completed in the next few weeks.

After-School Care Program Registration for 2020-2021 School Year: Information and forms will be uploaded and available on the school website. If you are interested, we invite you to explore our great program and the services we can offer your family.

Pre-school registration for 2020-2021 School Year: Please see our website for an application form. We encourage you to act quickly, as spaces are limited!

This last month was a busy time for our school and staff especially from the demands of our extra curricular athletic program and schedule. The entire staff is working hard towards making all of our extra curricular programs a success. However, there are limits to what we can do and maintain. Over the past month, we have experienced major shortages in referees and parent drivers. These shortages are causing us concern over the future of all athletic programs. High levels of success cannot be sustained with only the staff and a handful of parent helpers. We need your help!

1. The Athletic Commission (CISVA) has ruled that basketball games will be forfeited if we are unable to provide a referee for our game. Please check your schedule to see if you can help, parent helpers are desperately needed!
2. Parent Drivers are required! Relying and using staff members to drive your children to and from school is quickly becoming unsustainable and is a practice that Saint Patrick's school is working towards distancing ourselves from. The mounting pressure on our staff to complete every aspect of the extra curricular program is an overwhelming factor and help is needed. If parents are unable to drive their children to and from the games the potential result will be that you children may not be able to attend that game.
3. Students must be picked up promptly from their game/practice or club. Failure to do so will result in a suspension from participating with that team or club.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

As the basketball season is in full swing, I ask that parents please read the CISVA Athletics policy below as several issues have occurred over the last month during games.

Spectators are a major factor in the athletic program! It is the spectators that must teach by example: a respect for the rules of the game, a respect for officials and opponents, self control, self-discipline, patience with those less talented, a willingness to put others forward, and a tendency to affirm others.

A spectator at a CISVA athletic event is a representative of the school and must act in accordance with the CISVA policies.

1. Exhibit exemplary behaviour at all times.
2. Maintain and exhibit poise, self-discipline, and restraint during and after the contest.
3. Conduct himself/herself in such a manner that attention is drawn not to themselves, but to the participants playing the game.
4. Regulate actions at all times so as to be a credit to the team they support, knowing the school receives the praise or blame for spectator conduct, since the spectator represents the school in much the same manner as the athlete.
5. Support all reasonable moves to improve good sportsmanship.
6. Treat the visiting teams and spectators with respect.
7. Avoid actions which will offend any individual athlete.
8. Accept the judgment of the coach.
9. Respect the property of the school.
10. Display good sportsmanship by acting graciously in victory and defeat.
11. Appreciate the good play of both teams.
12. Show sympathy for an injured player.
13. Regard the officials with respect.
14. Direct energy to encouraging the team rather than belittling the officials.
15. Believe that the officials are fair and accept their decisions as final.
16. Consider it a privilege and duty to encourage everyone to live up to the spirit of the rules of fair play and sportsmanship.
17. Realize that privileges are invariably associated with great responsibilities and those who are spectators have great responsibilities.

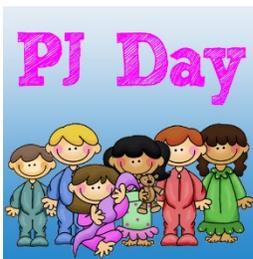
Thank you for your on-going contribution towards our athletic programs. It takes many to build our great teams.



THANK YOU

to Mr. Fernando and to the dads who helped shovel snow during our January winter wonderland. It sure was an exciting time for our students.

FEBRUARY FUNDRAISING



Wednesday, February 12th 2020

Wear Your PJs to school.

\$2.00 donation for the Archbishop's Charities



Wednesday, February 26th 2020

Wear your pink shirt to school for anti-bullying day.



Shrove Tuesday, February 25th 2020

Pancakes and Hot Chocolate

\$3.00 to participate. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 a.m.

Happy Valentine's Day and May God bless you!

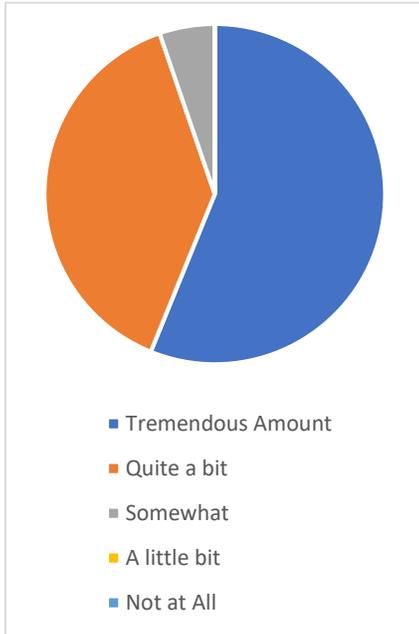
Diane Sorochnik, Principal

SCHOOL SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to the 57 families that participated in the school survey. All the results have been noted providing us with greater insights to the needs and wishes of our community. Your feedback is valued and only positive growth can come when we communicate and work together. Below you will see some of the results as well as some additional information to three of the most asked questions.

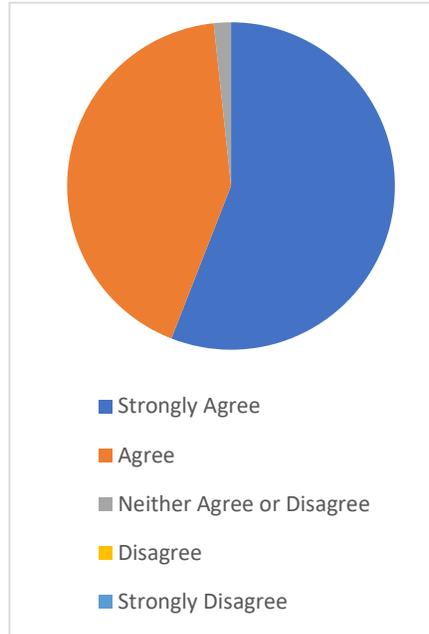
Question 1.

To what extent do you believe your child(ren) enjoy going to St. Patrick's Elementary School?



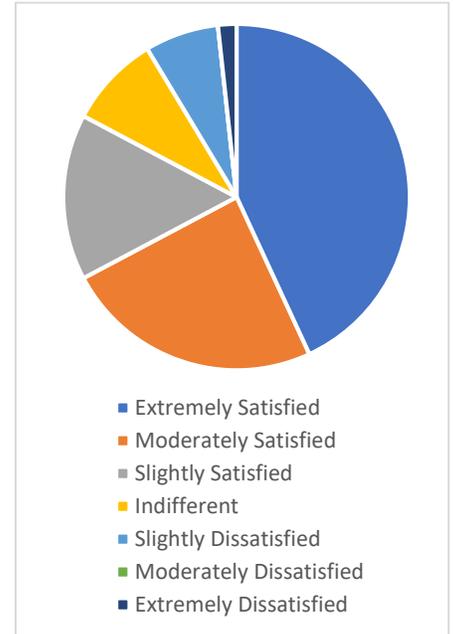
Question 3.

St. Patrick's Elementary School helps to foster the spiritual growth and development of your child(ren)?



Question 6.

How would you rate your satisfaction with the extra curricular programs?



Question 14: "Thoughts on how we can continue to improve in different aspects of our school"

I would like to take this time to touch on a few comments as there may be some confusion centering around these items.

The playground and re-opening before and after school and regular access for students

- Re-opening the playground Before School. The school took steps earlier this year to close the playground to students due to the lack of supervision. Without adequate supervision, re-opening this space was not possible. This requires support from parents to sign up for Supervision Duties in the Parent Participation Program. Without parent volunteers who are regular and consistent, an extension of the staff re-opening the playground is not possible. Supervision is a team effort and the responsibility cannot just fall on the staff; we need parent help.
- Re-opening the playground after school. While it is understood that students had access to this area in previous years, it is important to note that from 3:00 pm onwards access to the playground shifts from the school to the After-School Care Program. Therefore, the playground can only be accessed by the students who are registered in and supervised by the After-School Care Program. Families who wish for their children to access this area must be enrolled in the After-School Care Program.
- The playground area is dedicated to the school during regular school hours. Teachers regularly access the playground allowing their students to engage in physical activity and leisure time outside. Students are supervised by staff during these times.

SCHOOL SURVEY RESULTS

Teacher communications of upcoming lessons

The staff prepares a monthly class newsletter which outlines the major events and learning goals for their class. This class newsletter includes a brief description of the topics being covered for that month. All class newsletters can be found on the school website www.spev.ca under the Primary or Intermediate table. Once you are there you can very quickly view or download the newsletter. Some teachers may choose to email this newsletter directly to parents.

More sports and extra curricular opportunities

The parent surveys revealed that extra curriculars are an area where there could either be some improvement or change. To tackle this item, first it is important to mention that extra curricular clubs require a staff commitment which typically take the form of a lead teacher, coach or sponsor. These clubs occur during recess and before and or after school which results in them giving up their personal time adding additional strain on all of their regular duties and family lives. Staff take on extra curriculars because they are passionate about education and are intrinsically motivated to provide a well-rounded educational experience. Here is a list of our current extra curricular clubs:

These the are active clubs for 2019-2020 school year.

Performance Choir (practice every Monday and Friday lunch recess for grades 3-7 all year)

Readers are Leaders (practice every Tuesday and Thursday recess for grades 3-7 in winter and spring)

Poetry Club (meets every Tuesday at lunch recess for grades 6-7 all year)

Liturgical Choir (practice every Wednesday lunch recess all year)

Alter Servers Club with parish

Drama for Musical (every lunch recess in December for grades 6-7)

Athletics

Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Track and Field

Practices before school beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Practice after school 3:00 p.m. approx. concluding by 5:00 p.m. with some practice at lunch recess.

We at Saint Patrick's Elementary School believe in the important value these clubs provide to the students. To not only maintain, but grow and develop clubs our staff needs the support of the parents and school community in this process. Each and everyone of you have special and unique gifts that can be used to help this process. We encourage you to email the school and tell us about the gifts that God has given you and we would be happy to discuss opportunities to let them shine.

Thank you to all the staff and parents for all that you do.

May God bless you!

Diane Sorochuk, Principal



Archdiocese of Vancouver
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

Dear Parents:

You are invited to attend the Archdiocesan program designed to support you in sharing the truth and meaning of human sexuality with your children. Young people today face many social, emotional, physical and spiritual challenges, especially in the area of human growth and development. Our Catholic schools have an obligation to assist you, as the *primary* educators of your children, particularly with faith and moral development. St. Patrick's Elementary School is committed to supporting you in communicating to your child the truth about sexuality as taught by the Catholic Church.

Your school will host a parent evening between 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 5th 2020 in the Shamrock Hall for parents of students in grades 4, 5, 6 and 7. You will hear about proven communication strategies and about the resources available to help you share with your child God's purpose for his or her life.

I encourage both parents to attend, as you both play a vital role in your child's physical and spiritual maturation as well as in his or her understanding of human sexuality in the light of God's plan.

With gratitude for your cooperation and invoking God's blessings on you and your family, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

✠ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver

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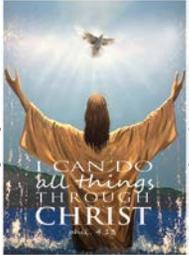
February 2020



St. Patrick's Elementary

2850 Quebec Street Vancouver B.C. V5T 3A9

(604) 879-4411

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	
					Student Led Conferences		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
			K-2 Workshop, 2:30 pm dismissal, Grade 4-7 Parent Meeting in Shamrock Hall 7:00 p.m.		8:15 am Mass 		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
	Catholic Educator's Week 		Casual Day Wear your PJs \$2.00 donation for the Archbishop Charities, Grade 7 workshop, 2:30 pm dismissal, Grade 7 Confirmation Workshop 7:00 p.m.,	Catholic Educator's Conference - NO CLASSES 	Catholic Educator's Conference - NO CLASSES - Happy Valentine's Day 		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
	Family Day Holiday 		2:30 pm dismissal		8:15 am Mass 	Grade 2 First Confessions 10:30 a.m.	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
	Class and Panorama Photos 	Shrove Tuesday \$3.00 pancake and hot chocolate 	Ash Wednesday, Anti bullying day Wear your pink shirt, 2:30 pm dismissal  		8:15 am Mass		
1	2	Notes					
	Speech Arts Individuals	February 12th Applications are due for St. Patrick's Regional High School					
		I Can Love God With All My Heart, Mind, Soul and Strength					