



St. Patrick's Elementary School December Updates

www.spev.ca @spe.vancouver

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29 Grade 7 & Kinder Musical Recording	30 K-7 Musical Recording - wear costumes PEC meeting	1 K-7 Musical Recording Wear Christmas colors	2 Gr. 2 Parent meeting 7p.m. Shamrock Hall	3 8:15 a.m. mass for grades 6 & 7
6	7	8 Grade 4 & 5 Music Field trip	9 Grade 6 & 7 Music Field trip	10 Late start for students 10:30 a.m. Students may wear onesies or comfy clothes (non-uniform) movie & hot chocolate in the gym
13	14 Confessions for grades 3-7	15 School Mass 9:30 a.m. led by grade 4. Christmas Musical Concert distributed	16 Misa de Gallo Mass 7:00 p.m.	17 8:15 a.m. mass for grades 4 & 5 12 noon dismissal for Christmas holidays
20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve
3	4 School Reopens	5	6 Grade 7 skiing field trip. Whole school Mass K-6 at 9:30 a.m. led by grade 3	7 8:15 a.m. mass for grades 2 & 3

Sunday December 5th – Grade 2 Rite of Enrollment mass 9:00 a.m.

Saturday December 26th - Christmas

St. Patrick's Elementary School acknowledges that we are gathered, learn and work on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish people, including the territories of the Squamish, Musquem and Tstsleil Wututh Nation.

Jesus, our Hope of the nations, God's righteousness revealed, our Light of the world, May God bless you this Christmas! Merry Christmas



A Note from the PEC

Are you a St Pat's Parishioner? Are you passionate about your child's education and the betterment of our school? Do you want an active voice in shaping your child's experience at the school? We are looking for volunteers who are interested in serving on the PEC for the 2022/23 school year. This is an exciting opportunity for qualified candidates to demonstrate their leadership skills and contribute to the successful operation of our beloved school. Has it been a challenge to fulfill your participation hours each year? Serving on the PEC automatically fulfills your participation requirement! If you're interested in learning more, please contact our Chairperson Kristen Carlos at this PEC email: participation@spev.ca

Referral Incentive Program

Often when new students come to St. Patrick's Elementary School, they end up telling us that it was a family member or a friend that referred them to us. The power of your referrals is something SPEV wants to recognize and is introducing a new program to do so. The referral form and notice can be found on the school website under the REGISTRATION tab.

The PEC have decided to approve an additional option for girls to wear school approved pants as part of their school uniform. More information will be provided in the new year as to where families can purchase the school approved pants and when this will begin. Until then, girls are required to wear the school tunics or kilts. Thank you to the students who voiced their opinions and worked towards change.

REMINDERS

UNIFORM REMINDERS: All articles of clothing, as well as shoes and school bags, need to be clearly labelled with your child's name. St. Patrick's cannot accept responsibility for lost items. Please check the identification labels on your children's clothing regularly throughout the school year to verify that they have not faded, fallen off and are legible. Please return any items that do not belong to your child to the school office immediately.

Beginning in the new year, staff will be informing families of any school uniform and or gym uniform in-fractures. Please familiarize yourselves with the uniform policy which can be found in the parent handbook on the school website.

Please note the following regarding **gym uniform**.

Students are permitted to wear the black school spirit wear sweatpants over their gym shorts. The sweatpants became part of the school gym uniform at the beginning of this school year. If families are still awaiting the arrival of black sweatpants, students are asked to wear plain black (no labels/or branded) sweatpants.

Girls should not be wearing black leggings under their gym shorts. Students are required to wear their gym shorts during their 30–45-minute gym class. After their gym class, students may put their black sweatpants back on, over their gym shorts.

Please ensure that over the Christmas break students are prepared for gym class with their shorts and black sweatpants only. Our uniform is a sense of pride and shows our team spirit. We must work together to continue building this team spirit.



Please take note of the following two pieces of information regarding Covid-19: International Travel Requirements and Vaccinations for Children Age 5-11.

International Travel Requirements

The federal government continues to outline requirements for people travelling internationally, including to the United States and Mexico:

- Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school until a minimum 14 days after arrival, as part of federal requirements.
- Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption.
- Individuals qualified as fully vaccinated travellers are exempt from quarantine and from Day-8 testing.
- Specific information is also available on COVID-19 requirements for fully vaccinated travellers and unvaccinated children less than 12 years of age.

Vaccinations for Children Age 5-11

Health Canada has announced the approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for children age 5 to 11. BCCDC has information on COVID-19 vaccination for ages 5 to 11, including that all approved vaccines have gone through rigorous review and approval to ensure they are safe and effective. Any child between five and 11 years old can receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Parents can register their child in the Get Vaccinated system to be notified of when their child can get vaccinated. The vaccines are free and children do not need BC Care Cards to receive them.

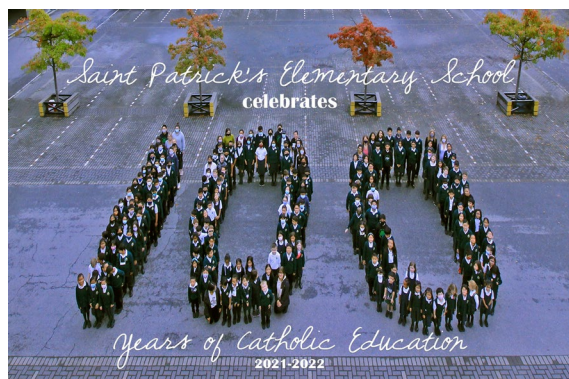
Please see the attachments for additional information.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

The 12 Days of SPEV Christmas campaign

Please follow us on Instagram @spev.vancouver to see the specifically chosen groups who have come together to collect designated items for local charities.

Every item that a student/family donates will earn them a chance to win a one-of-a-kind SPEV Nutcracker in our school wide draw! This one-of-a-kind SPEV Nutcracker is very special as it is the actual Nutcracker that will be featured in our school Christmas Play. Thank you for all your support!



REMINDER Calendar Date Change:

Please note, Wednesday, February 16 2022 will be a 12:00 noon dismissal due to a Staff Professional Development Opportunity.

SPEV turns 100:

Follow us on Instagram @spev100years to see how we will be celebrating this milestone.

November was busy...Thank you for your support!

Remembrance Day Service

Thank you to the staff and the students for presenting a meaningful, reverent and touching Remembrance Day assembly. Our assembly is available to be viewed from the student's Google Classrooms or from the school website.



Extra-curricular Volleyball

Congratulations to all our teams and staff coaches for a fantastic volleyball season. We are proud of the student's commitment to attend practices (with some early mornings), practice the learned skills, and work on building their confidence, school spirit and team work. Congratulations to the entire Celtic Volleyball team!

Our grade 7 boy's team competed at the CISVA tournament and won. Congratulations Boys, and thank you for bringing the trophy home. Grade 7 Boys team: Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Pineda and Ms. Retuta.

Grade 6-7 Girls team: Ms. Laureles and Ms. Kinsella

Grade 5 team: Mrs. Gaspar and Ms. Regula



First Nations Storyteller

Late in November all students listened carefully to Kung Jaadee (Roberta Kennedy) telling of Skwxwú7mesh legends. Kung Jaadee is from the Xaayda (Haida), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) First Nations. She is a professional storyteller, educator and published author. The legends she'll shared with us included Siwash Rock; the Two-Headed Sea Serpent; Two Sisters (The Lions mountains); and how the Squamish People Came To Be. Thank you for sharing this time with us and teaching the students to hug and love themselves daily.

Parent, Student and Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all our families for attending and following the procedures at the in-person three-way conferences. We hope that you were able to gain a deeper insight into your child's learning and who they personally are as learners. Semester One Student Learning Progress cards will be distributed on January 31st 2022. Please look out for them in your child's bag. Student led conferences are scheduled for the Spring.

Santa Photos

Thank you to Ms. Laureles and Mrs. Natola who designed the beautiful backdrops and were our photographers for the day. We were so happy to see that Santa arrived to spend the day with us. We are already looking forward to see if Santa will visit us again next year.



Red Cross Flood Relief

Dear St. Patrick's Elementary School, The people of British Columbia are once again facing an extreme weather emergency on a massive scale. A severe storm has resulted in flooding, landslides, mudslides, power outages and other incidents across the Southern Coastal and Interior regions of the province.

Your generous donation of \$950.00 will help our teams provide emergency support to those who have been forced to flee their homes in the face of this devastation. Thank you for your generosity and compassion.

May God bless you this Christmas Season!

Mrs. Diane Sorochnik, Principal



ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Student Referral Incentive Program Form

The St. Patrick's Elementary School Vancouver (SPEV) Student Referral Incentive Program awards a currently registered SPEV family with a \$200 tuition credit for each new student who is referred to the school, is successfully accepted into the school and attends SPEV for the full academic school year. Refer a family that enrolls two students and receive a \$400 tuition credit; refer a family that enrolls three students and receive a \$600 tuition credit.

To qualify, the "referring family" must fill out this form and have the new, prospective family present it upon initial contact with the school. The form must be completed and signed when they first make contact with the school. The prospective family should be instructed to bring the completed form to the school office.

Referring Family Information

Contact Person 1

First Name and Last Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Contact Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

E-mail Address: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Please select the description that applies to you: ☐ SPEV teacher ☐ SPEV staff ☐ SPEV family

Contact Person 2

First Name and Last Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Contact Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

E-mail Address: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Please select the description that best applies to you: ☐ SPEV teacher ☐ SPEV staff ☐ SPEV family

Child 1 First Name and Last Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Current Grade Level: [Choose an item.](#)

Child 2 First Name and Last Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Current Grade Level: [Choose an item.](#)

Child 3 First Name and Last Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Current Grade Level: [Choose an item.](#)

Referred/New Family Information

Is the referred/new Family a St. Patrick's parishioner? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do they have a child already attending SPEV school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did they have a child (or children) previously enrolled at the SPEV school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do they have a child (or children) currently attending St. Patrick's preschool? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Note that if the answer is yes in any of the questions, you are ineligible to participate in the program. Form must not be provided to the referred family.

Parent 1 First Name and Last Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Parent 1 Contact Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Parent 1 E-mail Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Parent 2 First Name and Last Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Parent 2 Contact Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Parent 2 E-mail Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Child 1 First Name and Last Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Grade Level that the referred/new family is planning to enroll their child in the next school year: Choose an item.

Child 2 First Name and Last Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Grade Level that the referred/new family is planning to enroll their child in the next school year: Choose an item.

Child 3 First Name and Last Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Grade Level that the referred/new family is planning to enroll their child in the next school year: Choose an item.

Referring Family Confirmation

I/We understand the eligibility requirements of the Student Referral Program and that this form will be subject for review and approval according to the program's policy. I/We confirm the information we filled-out in this form is current and accurate. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Referring Family Signature
(At least one parent signature)

Click or tap to enter a date.

Date Signed by Referring Family

SCHOOL OFFICE USE ONLY. Please do not fill out this part.

1. School Year that the child/ren of the referred family is/are officially enrolled to SPEV: _____
2. Did the child (or children) of the referred/new family complete the full academic/school year (September – June)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If the answer is yes, please complete the next set of questions.
3. Did the child (or children) of the referring family complete the full academic/school year (September – June)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Is the referring family currently employed by SPEV? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Amount of Tuition Fee Credit
☐ \$200 (for 1 referred child)
☐ \$400 (for 2 referred children)
☐ \$600 (for 3 or more referred children)
☐ \$_____ (for ___ referred children). Select and complete if more than 3 children were referred.

6. Form of credit for referring family
☐ Tuition credit

Please indicate which month and school year the tuition credit will be applied to: (i.e. January SY2022-2023):

- _____
☐ Incentive cheque - graduating out of the school
☐ Incentive cheque (applicable for teachers and staff – except for principal)

Approved by

Diane Sorochnik, SPEV Principal

Click or tap to enter a date.

Date approved by the Principal



ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

REFERRAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Often when new students come to St. Patrick's Elementary (SPEV), they end up telling us that it was a family member or a friend that referred them to us. The power of your referrals is something SPEV wants to reward and is introducing a new program to do so.

The **St. Patrick's Elementary School Vancouver (SPEV) Student Referral Incentive Program** awards a currently registered SPEV family with a **\$200 tuition credit** for each new student who is referred to the school, is successfully accepted into the school and attends SPEV for the full academic school year. Refer a family that enrolls two students and receive a \$400 tuition credit; refer a family that enrolls three students and receive a \$600 tuition credit.

The rules of the referral program are outlined below:

- The Student Referral Incentive Program applies to current SPEV families, teachers and staff (excluding Principal).
- To be eligible for the referral incentive, the "referring" family must have at least 1 child currently enrolled & attending the school. Eligible teachers and staff must be currently employed by the school.
- The "referring" family will receive a tuition credit as outlined above if the new "referred" family is successfully accepted into the school according to standard enrollment criteria and completes a full academic year at the school.
- The "referring" family must also remain enrolled for the entire academic year.
- The "referred" family must be a new family to the school. This means that a "referred" family cannot include the following: St. Patrick's parishioners, families with a child already attending the school, families that have had a child (or children) previously enrolled at the school, families that are currently attending St. Patrick's preschool.
- There is no limit to the number of students that can be referred.
- The tuition credit incentive will be applied to the last payment of the school year. Families who paid their tuition in full will receive the credit on the next year's tuition or will receive an incentive cheque if they are graduating out of the school. Teachers and staff (excluding the principal) making referrals will receive an incentive cheque equal to the amount of the tuition credit.
- To qualify, the "referring family" must fill out the Referral Incentive Program form and have the new, prospective family present it upon initial contact with the school. The form must be completed and signed when they first make contact with the school. The prospective family should be instructed to bring the completed form to the school office.
- Newly referred families who enroll after December and also re-register for the following academic school year will result in the tuition credit award being applied to the following school year provided that the "referred" family remains enrolled for the entire academic year.
- Failure to submit the completed Referral Incentive Program form will make the "referring" family ineligible for the incentive.
- This program does not apply to referrals into the Preschool.
- Interpretation of program parameters is at the discretion of the Principal and Pastor.



12th Annual Christmas Tree Chipping for the Kids

Sunday, January 9, 2022
10am to 4pm

at Kingsgate Mall
370 East Broadway
Upper East Side Parking Lot

Bring your tree and a donation
and we will warm you up
with **FREE** hot chocolate
and cookies!



Your donation goes to the
Mt Pleasant Elementary School PAC to purchase
school jerseys and banners for our sports teams

We thank our community partners and sponsors



arbutus tree service



connect@mpbla.ca

www.mountpleasantbla.com

COVID-19

Vaccination for children

5-11 years old

What are the benefits to getting children vaccinated against COVID-19?

While most children who get COVID-19 have a minor illness, a small number get very sick. Some children may continue to have health issues for long periods of time after the initial illness. Children are also able to pass on COVID-19 to other people in their families and communities.

Vaccinating children helps keep them safe as well as others around them – especially older adults, younger children and infants, and those with illnesses.

COVID-19 vaccine approval process for children

There is a very **strict process** to test and approve vaccines in Canada. These vaccines work and are safe for children aged 5-11.

Who is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine for children?

This vaccine is for any child between 5 and 11 years. If your child is 4 years old, you will not be able to get them vaccinated until after their 5th birthday. The vaccines are free and your children do not need BC Care Cards to receive them.



How can I explain how the COVID-19 vaccination works to my children?

Explain that the vaccine helps make sure they don't get sick by quickly fighting off the virus that causes COVID-19. The vaccine is so powerful that it even helps to protect the people around them, including their family and friends. **Kids Boost Immunity** has videos that explain more.

Who can provide consent for children to be vaccinated?



Parents/guardians, (including foster parents and prospective adoptive parents) and other custodial caregivers (for example, a grandparent who is raising the child).

Only one parent or legal guardian is required to give consent. The process for collecting consent may be different depending on the immunization clinic you attend.

Can children get the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other vaccinations?

Yes. The COVID-19 vaccine can be given at the same time as other childhood vaccinations, including the flu shot.

These support techniques apply to other childhood vaccinations. Check if your child is up-to-date with their vaccines at children's immunizations schedules. Arrange with your healthcare provider to have any missed vaccinations given as soon as possible.

Before the appointment

- Children should be told about the injection close to the actual day of the vaccine. For school-age children, one day before may be appropriate.
- Encourage your child to ask questions. It's important they understand what will happen at the appointment and feel comfortable. HealthLink BC has more information on preparing children for vaccines: <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/immunization-experience-child>



- Try the **CARD system** to help your child find their preferred way to prepare for the vaccine:
 - Comfort
 - Ask
 - Relax
 - Distract
- There are simple breathing techniques that young children can learn to keep calm. Children can practise **breathing exercises** by pretending they are blowing bubbles. A team from BC Children's Hospital has developed a game to help children practise belly breathing which is proven to manage anxiety. Access it at respiire.com/COVID-19.html

On the day of the appointment

- Some people find **numbing creams or patches** help. You can buy these without a prescription at most pharmacies. Apply them an hour before the appointment.
- Do not focus your child's attention on the needle with comments like "It'll be over soon, and you'll be okay," as this can increase stress. Instead, try distracting them with puzzles or chatting, and breathing techniques.
- Healthcare providers at immunization clinics are trained to work with children and can help you to support your child.



For more information on COVID-19 vaccination for children, including how to register your child, visit

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/vaccines-children>

After the appointment

- There are some common side effects such as pain, redness and itchiness at the injection site. These will pass quickly. Serious side effects are very rare, but if you notice any health changes contact 811 or your healthcare provider.
 - One very rare side effect is myocarditis, or inflammation of the heart muscle. Most cases are mild and treated with rest and improve quickly. COVID-19 disease can also cause myocarditis and the risk of it from the disease is much higher than the risk from vaccination.
 - Symptoms to look out for:
 - Chest pain
 - Shortness of breath
 - Feeling of a rapid or abnormal heart rhythm
- If your child experiences these symptoms, seek medical help right away. Inform the healthcare provider that your child received a COVID-19 vaccine recently.
- COVID-19 vaccination has no impact on future fertility. There is no biological way for this to occur.



COVID-19 vaccine superhero: Jesse's story



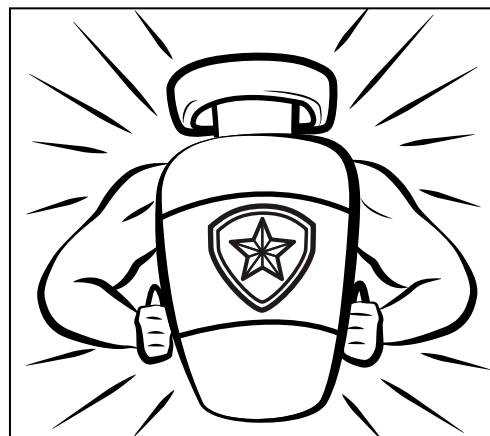
BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority



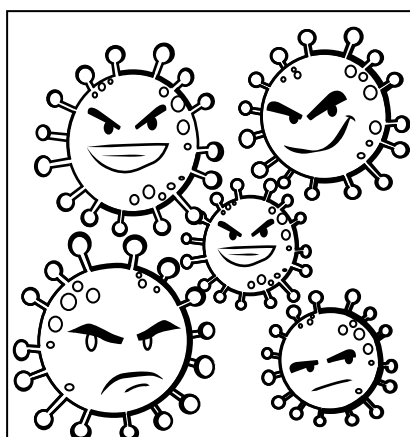
Jesse is going to get a COVID-19 vaccine and is a little nervous.



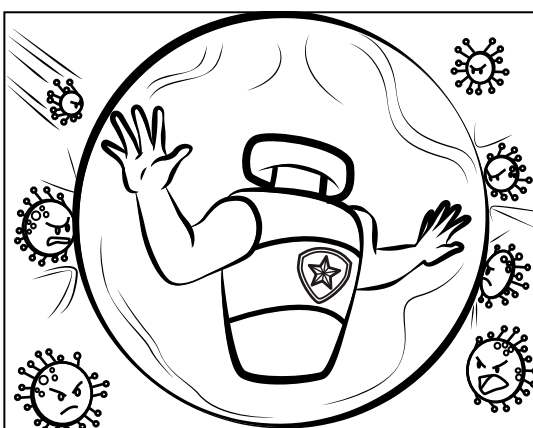
"Why do I need the COVID-19 vaccine?"



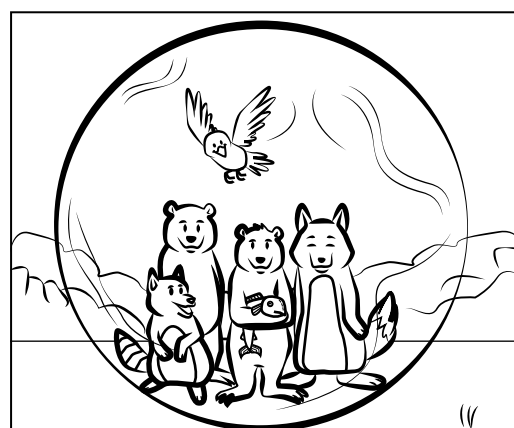
"Vaccines are like a very special kind of a superpower, Jesse!"



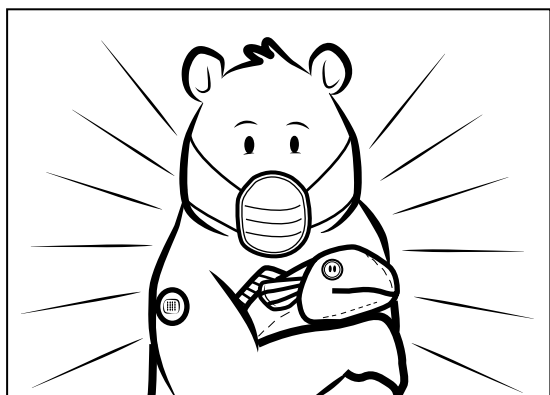
"COVID-19 is caused by a virus too tiny to see."



"The vaccine works like an invisible force field which protects you from this virus."



"The vaccine is so powerful, it even helps keep people around you safe."



Jesse brought a favourite toy and used belly breathing to feel calm. There was a tiny pinch on the arm and it was over. "That was easy!"



Jesse is now a COVID-19 vaccine superhero! They are helping to protect their community against the COVID-19 virus.