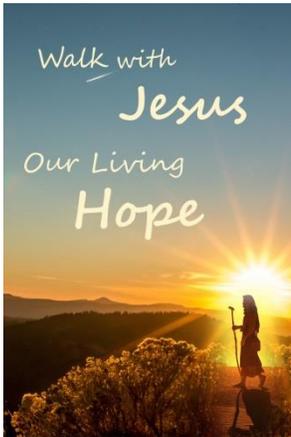


June, 2021
Volume 10, Issue 9

June Newsletter



Walk with
Jesus in the
hope for the
future

For surely I
know the
plans I have
for you, says
the Lord,
plans for your
welfare and
not for harm,
to give you a
future with
hope.

Jeremiah
29:11

Dear Parents,

We have made it to the final month of the school year! It has been a difficult year for everyone; however, we have been so blessed to have had in-school learning for the entire year. In many provinces across Canada, schools have not been so fortunate, and we are so grateful to have been able to greet your children every day and to teach them in the optimal way. All I can say at this point in the year is thank you. You have supported us and helped us to manage all of the ups and downs of this year: maintaining social distancing to the extreme by staying out of the school building;

following the strict safety guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Education; managing our last-minute changes and requests; missing out on our usual celebrations, or attending virtually; equipping your children for open classroom windows and rainy outdoor recesses. Most importantly, you have been so careful with your children's health, keeping them at home if they were not well and following through with the public health requirements. We would not have been able to navigate the pandemic and remain safe without your care and attention. I know

that our requirements have not been easy, but you have always supported them, for the good of everyone in our community. I know that I speak for the entire staff when I express my gratitude to you for all that you have done for our community this year. We wish you a safe, healthy and relaxing summer and pray that God will bring all of us back in September to a more normal routine, where we can experience the true spirit of our wonderful St. Joseph's community once again. May God bless you and all of your families this summer.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who supported our Sports Jersey Day on May 31. Together, we raised \$370 for the Vancouver Food Bank. Many families in need will benefit from your generosity.

Important Dates:

June 2nd – Orange Day Confirmation

June 7th – **NO SCHOOL for students**
Professional Development Day

June 10th – All Library Books due

June 13th – 19th – Neat Uniforms Focus Week for St. Joseph's

June 14^h - 18th – Sports Day Week
June 18th – Noon dismissal

June 18th – School Accounts must be up to date

June 25th – 1pm dismissal

July 4th - Creative Packs due

June 29th – **11:00am DISMISSAL**

Google Reviews

In our efforts to advertise our school, we ask that you consider writing a Google review. You simply need to log into Google account, and search for St. Joseph's School. Find

the reviews area (next to the star rating in your search results, or under St. Joseph's School in the sidebar in Google search) and click on the blue font that says "WRITE A REVIEW." Select a

star rating and write a comment.

We will be doing a gift card draw for everyone who submits a review in June! Thank you for helping us to spread the word about St. Joseph's.

Orange Day

As we remember the souls of the 215 children who were found at the Kamloops residential school and all of those who have been hurt at residential schools, we will have Orange Day here at St. Joseph's on

Wednesday, June 2. Orange is the colour associated with truth and reconciliation and we will demonstrate our support and commitment to that goal on Wednesday. Instead of their uniforms, the

students are asked to wear orange clothing in the spirit of remembrance and compassion for all who have been affected by these tragedies. There will be no charge for this day of awareness and reflection.

Sacraments

Congratulations to our students in grades two and three who received their First Reconciliation and First Communion on Saturday. Thank you to Father Martin for the beautiful ceremony. The children were glowing with joy!

We are looking forward to our celebration of Confirmation on Wednesday, June 2. We will welcome Bishop Emeritus David Monroe to confer the sacrament on our grade seven students at 7:00 that evening. The Mass will be livestreamed for all of you at home to take part in this important step in the faith lives of our students.

June 7

Professional Development Day

Please be reminded that Monday, June 7 will be a professional development day for the teachers. There will be no classes for students on that day and the school office will be closed.

Learning Commons News

All library books are due back by Thursday, June 10. Please ensure that all books are returned by that date.

Enjoy your summer holidays and please remember to read every day with your child. Visit the Public library!

Sports Day and Picnic Day

This year, we are not able to hold our usual Sports Day. However, we are permitted to hold the event for the students within their cohorts. Therefore, we will have several Sports Days during the week of June 14, when the students will spend a morning or an afternoon at Clark Park playing some games and having fun together.

We have not set out the specific days yet, as we want to consult the weather forecast first. More information will follow soon! We will not be able to have our annual Picnic Day this year either. However, each class will choose a day this month to go to the park to eat their lunches and enjoy one another's company outdoors.

Unfortunately, we are not able to have parents attend either the Sports Day or the class picnics. Hopefully, we will be back to normal next year! Please note that **Friday, June 18 will be a 12:00 dismissal and Friday, June 25 will be a 1:00pm dismissal.** There will be no afterschool club on either of those days.

Maintenance

Any parents who are interested in getting a jump on their hours for the 2021-2022 school year are welcome to continue weeding and sweeping the grounds throughout the summer. Also, the planters and gardens need to be watered.

After School Club

Invoices will be sent home June 14th. From June 14- June 28. After School Club is cash only, paid daily upon pick-up \$5/hr. per child.

School Accounts Participation and Fundraising

Thank you to all of our families who took part in our participation and fundraising programs this year. Our staff is truly committed to the well-being of the students, but, without your financial and physical support, we would not be able to provide the variety of programs that we offer

here at St. Joseph's. Invoices will be sent out shortly for families who were unable to fulfill their participation and fundraising. All accounts must be paid in full by June 18th. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in settling your accounts as soon as possible.

Office Hours

St. Joseph's School's office will be closed from July 7th to August 23th.

Farewell

The time has come to bid our grade sevens good-bye and good luck as they move forward into high school. We thank them for the years of joy that they have brought to the St. Joseph's community, and for their leadership this year. We hope that they will bring the spirit of St. Joseph's with them wherever they go. Please keep our grade sevens in your prayers as they take this important step in their lives. May God bless them on their way. As in every year, we must say good-bye to some of our families: Micaella Bento-Romano, Kendon Cac, Antony Hoang, Tyson Japuncic, Minh-Han Nguyen, Patrick Pedrozo, Kiet Phan, Aryen Rajmohan, Lucas & Marcus Reis, Justin Somera, Timothy Truong and Lucas Wei who will be moving on to high school with their youngest children. We thank you for your commitment and support of our school throughout the years and we wish you God's blessings as you move into a new phase of your family life.

School Supplies

We encourage you to purchase your child's school supplies from Creative Children. You can order online at www.creativepacks.ca until July 4th to be entered in a draw to win \$500 cash! After July 4th orders will be charged a shipping fee. Look for St. Joseph's Vancouver and select your child's next year's grade. Their supplies will be waiting for them at school in September. Our classroom teachers ask that you shop early, to make sure your child has their supplies for the second day of school in September. If you need a new list please see Mrs. Oye.

Enrolment

We still have space in all grades for the next school year. If you know of someone who is looking for a quality Catholic education, please encourage them to contact the school office to pick up a registration package or to download one from our school website

saintjosephschool.ca. Remember that the referral of a family that results in a complete registration qualifies you for a 50% reduction in your tuition fees for the year (at the single child parishioner rate).

Uniform

Our school uniform has taken a beating this year. Because of the extra layering that was required for the students to remain warm in the classrooms, and the rainy-day clothing required, we have been very relaxed in our uniform expectations this year. However, as we resume a more normal existence next year, we need to regain our school pride in our uniforms and the regular expectations will be upheld. Please note in particular the following, as stated in our school uniform policy as laid out in our parent handbook:

- Shoes must be all black and must be regular, low-cut shoes. They must not have any colouring on them whatsoever. Running shoes are not permitted as part of the school uniform. Boots are not permitted, including short, ankle boots.
- Each student must have a school sweater. Hoodies (including St. Joseph's ones) may not be worn in the classrooms.
- The following items MUST be purchased at Neat Uniforms: shirts and blouses, pants, kilts, sweaters and skorts. You will be asked to replace non-uniform items.
- Coloured hair dye is not permitted.

Please ensure you have bought an adequate supply of navy blue socks; white socks are suitable for PE classes only. Neat Uniforms has set aside June 13th to June 19th to look after our school's needs.

Thank you for your support in helping our students to wear their uniforms with pride.

Staff Changes

We are excited to announce that Mrs. van der Kooi is expecting a baby and will be on maternity leave next year. Please keep her in your prayers as she and her husband await the arrival of their first child.

Next year, we will have a combined grade one and grade two class, which will be taught by Ms. O'Connell. Our grade four teachers will be Ms. Capolongo and Ms. Pham, who will share the classroom equally, just as they have been doing in grade two for the past number of years.

Looking Ahead to September

The first day of school will be on Tuesday, September 7 from 8:40am until 11:00am. We are planning to have our Meet the Teacher night on Wednesday, September 8. We do not know the level of restrictions that the Provincial Health Officer will have in place at that time, and so we cannot make firm plans about how meetings or Masses will take place. Those plans may not become firm until late August, but I will send you the appropriate information at that time, so that you will be prepared for September.