



February, 2025
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February Newsletter

A message from our Principal, Mr. Michael Schultz

Dear Parents,

It was wonderful to come back from Christmas Break and have such a wonderful, busy January. I love seeing the enthusiasm of the students as they participate in the activities here at the school. In particular, for the last two years Beach Day has been a highlight for me. It is a fun way for us to dance away our winter blues while raising money for a good cause. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise more than \$700 for local archdiocesan charities, which is amazing! I am also looking forward to seeing all of you here for our Student Led Conferences, where our students have the opportunity to share their learning with you here in the school.

There are a number of reasons to look forward to a positive February. Our Coding Club and STEM clubs have started up, providing an opportunity for our younger students to learn and participate in the life of our school in a different way. The week of February 10-14 is Catholic Schools week, where we celebrate the unique blessing that Catholic schools bring to our community. I want to take this opportunity to personally invite you to our "St. Joseph's Mass Takeover" on February 8th at 5:00PM at St. Joseph's Church. Our connection to the parish is very important, and I would love to see each and every family attend this mass. Even if you are not Catholic, this could be an excellent opportunity to learn more about what we are all about!

As always, thank you for all that you do to support our school community. Be assured of our prayers for you and your families.

Upcoming School Closures

Please keep these dates in mind, as some of the dates the school will be closed will not coincide with the public school calendar.

February	March	April
Catholic Educator's Conference Thursday, February 13 Friday, February 14	Early Dismissal Friday, March 14	Early Dismissal Thursday, April 17
Family Day Holiday Monday, February 17	Spring Break Monday, March 17 to Friday, March 28	Good Friday Monday, April 18
		Easter Monday Monday, April 21

School Mass | Saturday, February 8th at 5pm

You are all invited to join the staff and students at our family mass on **Saturday, February 8th at 500pm**. Rather than having a family mass every month, we will have one family mass for the year.

We ask that students be dressed in their school uniform. We will have several students read during the mass and assist in bringing up the Offertory. Our wonderful school choir will be singing during the mass as well.

We hope you and your family can join us on that day. The Parish is also holding a Lunar New Year Celebration that day, details are attached.

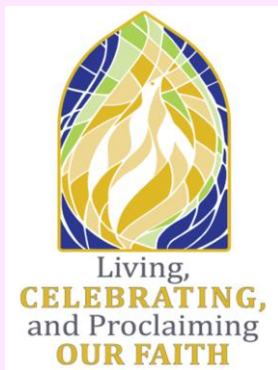
Colour Day | Wednesday, February 12th

Because Valentine's Day falls on one of our Catholic Educator's Conference days, we will be celebrating on Wednesday, February 12th. With a minimum donation of \$2.00, the students may wear Valentine colours (red, pink, purple, white) instead of their uniforms.

We will donate the money we raise to Holy Childhood Foundation. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Catholic Schools Week

The week of February 10th – 14th is Catholic Schools Week. During that week, we will spend time talking to the students about the gift of our school, and each student will complete an activity to reflect upon and celebrate St. Joseph's. We recognize the sacrifices that you make to send your children to our school, and we are so grateful to you for entrusting your children to us every day.



Reminders

Cold Weather

As we experienced during the Christmas holiday, our weather is quite variable. Please make sure that your children are dressed appropriately for any kind of weather. They need to have warm coats, boots, hats and gloves to be prepared for anything. Sweaters and hoodies are not warm enough to wear outside. The students will continue to play outside at the recess and lunch breaks, except in the event of extreme cold or heavy rain, so please ensure that they come to school with appropriate clothing. Also, during this time, the roads may become very slippery. As our school is surrounded by hills, we suggest that you park away from the school and walk your children onto the school grounds. Thank you for helping everyone in our community to remain safe.

Beach Day Fundraiser

Thank you so much for your generosity! Together we raised \$747!

The students had a blast at the dance party and loved their lunch!

Volunteer Drivers

If you are volunteering to drive for your child's class or for a game, please ensure that the office has a copy of your insurance and license. There is a form that needs to be signed as well.

Catholic Educator's Conference | No School

The staff will attend the annual conference on Thursday, February 13th and Friday, February 14th.

The school will be CLOSED on those days as we gather with all our colleagues from the other Catholic schools to celebrate our community and to expand our knowledge and understanding in the field of education.

Family Day | No School

The school will be CLOSED on Monday, February 17th for the provincial Family Day. School will resume as usual on Tuesday, February 18th.

Pink Shirt Day | Wednesday, February 26th

St. Joseph's School community will stand up against bullying, as part of the province-wide initiative on Wednesday, February 26th.

The students will wear pink clothes to indicate their willingness to prevent bullying from entering our school. If your child does not have pink, they can wear some other bright coloured clothing. There is no charge for this day.

Bake Sale | Wednesday, February 26, 2025

We will be having a bake sale on Wednesday, February 26th. If you would like to bake for this fun occasion please contact Sandra Brasil at 604.783.2361. Cash only.

Re-registration packages and Kindergarten Registration

Re-registration packages will be sent home on February 18th, and MUST be returned by Friday, February 28th. **Please note that each registration for kindergarten to grade 4 will be charged \$50 for school supplies at the time of registration. Grade 5-7 will be given a list of supplies needed.**

We ask that you drop off your forms to Mrs. Laxamana and Mrs. Symington between the hours of 8am to 5pm. This will allow us to check your forms and take your payment immediately and finish the process quickly. Forms received after February 28th will be charged a \$50 late fee.

Re-registration forms MUST be submitted by a parent ONLY.

Students MAY NOT submit forms/payment. Forms will be sent back home with them.

Income tax forms will be sent home with your child's re-registration package.

Our school system has been able to issue Income Tax receipts for the religious portion of tuition paid since 1998. This income tax receipt is to be claimed as a charitable donation on your income tax return. To do so, please enter the amount of the tax receipt on line 34900 (Charitable Donations) of your income tax return.

Participation and Fundraising Goals

Statements will be coming home next week to show your participation and fundraising totals so far. Please note that the statements will be up to date as of January 31. You will have until the end of May 2025 to complete the hours and fundraising, at which time a bill will be sent for immediate payment if there is a balance owing. Please make sure your hours are up to date on the onVolunteers website.