

Nurturing the Heart, Mind and Spirit



St. Mary's School Newsletter | December

www.stmary.bc.ca

Principal's Message



Dear Parents,

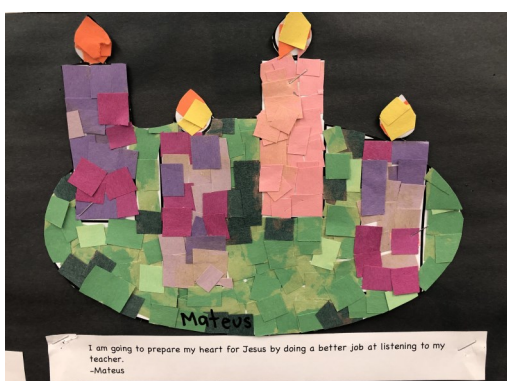
Monday, December 2 marked the beginning of the liturgical season of Advent and our preparation for the birth of Christ. I came across a downloadable adult Advent calendar to share to help busy parents and staff keep the season holy. (see attachment)

Our community is blessed with numerous talents and gifts and I invite you to make this season one of peace and sharing. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Christmas concert. Let us continue to work together to serve others. I have been continually impressed with the dedication and devotion of both the faculty and parents to Catholic Education. It takes a special commitment to send your children to a Catholic School. It is my firm belief that the education your child receives at St. Mary's is of the highest quality since it is based on Catholic faith and values.

On behalf of the entire staff I would like to extend all our families the love, joy and peace that comes with this season, as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

Sincerely,

Brenda Krivuzoff
Principal



KMB Advent Wreaths

Parent/Teacher Interviews are **tomorrow, Friday, December 6th**. If you haven't already done so, please sign up using the **On-volunteer website**. <http://stms.van.onvolunteers.com/>

Conference times are **8:30-5:45pm** on a first-come, first-serve basis.

There is no regular school on this day and children do not attend the interview.



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Book Fair Dec.3-6
- ◆ Poinsettia pick-up Dec.5 3-4pm
- ◆ Parent Teacher Conference Dec.6 8:30-6pm
- ◆ Living Rosary (church) Dec.7 After 5pm Mass
- ◆ Gr.3-7 Reconciliation Dec.10 9:15-11:00
- ◆ Out of Uniform Dec.12 (Concert Outfits)
- ◆ Christmas Concert (gym)Dec.12 Matinee 10:45-11:45 & Evening 7-8:00pm
- ◆ Gr.7 Outdoor Ed. Dec.16-19
- ◆ School Mass Dec.18 9:30
- ◆ Last Day before Christmas Vacation Dec. 20 12:00 Early Dismissal
- ◆ School Re-opens Monday, Jan. 6

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND THE BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB DECEMBER REGISTRATION LINK IS BELOW

<https://forms.gle/HZc9X8UozET7cHcm8>



Gr. 1 Snow Globes

Please download our School App on iTunes or Google Play Store



I Can Lead

Christmas Concert

Our Christmas Concert entitled **Praise Him With Cymbals!** will take place on **Thursday, December 12** with performances at 10:45 am and 7:00 pm in the school gym. All students from Kindergarten to Gr. 7 will be featured in this concert and families are invited and encouraged to attend. **The students will dress in their favourite Christmas Colours or Christmas outfit for both performances.** Thursday, Dec. 12 will be an out-of-uniform day as the students will be dressed in their concert clothes. The Grade 5 class will host a 50/50 draw at the 7:00 pm concert to raise funds for their trip to Victoria in May. The students are all very excited to share their musical talents with you and to spread some Christmas joy. We hope to see you there!

Here is some important information for all students and families:

Matinee Performance: Thursday Dec.12 10:45 in the school Gym. We encourage families with small children and grandparents to attend this earlier performance as the evening performance will have very limited seating.

Evening Performance: Thursday Dec. 12 7:00 pm in the school Gym. Doors open at 6:30. There will be free admission, but we encourage you to participate in our 50/50 fundraiser draw.

Students should be dropped off at the school at 6:30 pm on Thursday evening (wearing their concert clothes). They will go to their classrooms and will be under teacher supervision until the end of the show. Please do not leave the concert early to pick up your child. You must wait until the performance is completely over before picking up your children. Please make use of both front and back parking lots on Thursday evening. Finally, we ask that you limit the attendees from your family at the 7:00 performance to no more than two people. Thank you for your consideration.



Advent Prayer Service



On Wednesday the Grade 4 class led a memorable Advent service in our church to celebrate the first week of Advent. Every Grade 4 student contributed and participated so beautifully that it inspired all that were present. They ended the celebration with singing an Advent song that reminded us all that this is truly a season of hope and waiting.



I Can Be Active Like A Saint

A big congratulations to the Saints' volleyball teams and coaches for a season of great learning. With over 35 games and tournaments, the athletes in Grades 5-7 had many opportunities to play and faced challenges with determination, grace, resilience and teamwork. St. Mary's was proud to have the Grade 6 boys, Mrs. Vukasovic, student scorekeepers, and supportive parents represent us at the finals at Harry Jerome. Many players finished the season with a love of the sport, which is a primary aim of a quality program.

Basketball practices are now under way. There will be some adaptations made to practices and P.E. classes during Book Fair and Christmas Concert week. Coaches will notify players and parents of arrangements.

The temperatures are dropping, but the sun continues to shine. As the outdoor environment is ideal for health and wellness, P.E. classes may take place outdoors. It would be helpful if students could keep a sweatshirt or long-sleeved t-shirt and possibly track pants or leggings in their gym bags.

We have almost 100% of students in proper P.E. uniform (black shorts and SMSaints shirts). If you are still using the grey shorts or old t-shirt, please order the updated uniform at: <https://neatuniforms.ca/>. I recommend the student labels for all athletic apparel, water bottles, and school uniforms. Here are the order options:

<http://www.oliverslabels.com/SMSaints>

<https://mabelslabels.com/support-a-fundraiser/>

www.StMarys.lovablelabels.ca

Thanks to you all for your support, and wishing you a healthy, active, and restful Christmas break.





I Can Build Community

Scholastic Book Fair 'Arctic Adventure'

There are only 2 days left of the book fair! Come and pick a few books while they last!

We encourage you to stop by the Christmas Wish List display when you first arrive. Each teacher filled in their "book wish list".

Shopping Hours

December 5: 3:00 - 4:00 pm

December 6: 9:00am - 5:00pm

The Golden ticket was found by Mervin Espinosa in Gr.7 Congrats!

Remember all purchases benefit our library and classrooms.

A special thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Booker and Ms. Balderas for the props, artwork and helping with the set design. Thank you to Mrs. Hodut, Mrs. Cagliuso and Ms. Eisner for the games and to all our book fair volunteers including Ms. Vukasovic.



Baby Wilfred Ng visits the book fair!



Student Council leads our book fair kick off on Monday. Thank you to Mrs. Arnold for organizing the prayer and skit.

Ms. Krivuzoff & Ms. Grgic





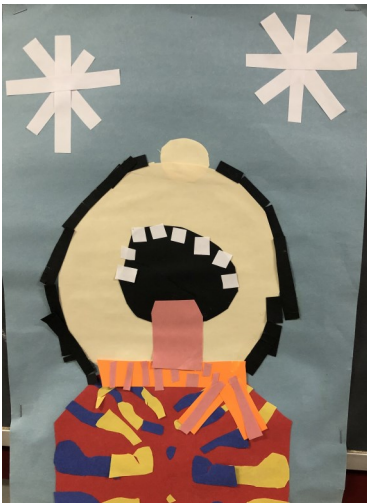
I Can Build Community

Poinsettia Fundraiser

The poinsettias, succulents, wreathes and indoor planters will be arriving today **Thursday December 5**, for pick up **behind the school between 3-4pm**.



If you didn't get a chance to order your poinsettia there will be extras for \$15. Please email Heather at ham.muir@gmail.com to reserve your plant! Must be available to pick it up Thursday. Thank you again for your continued support.



Gr. 3P Catching Snowflakes



Gr. 6 Spiral Galaxies

Purdy's Christmas Fundraiser Prize Update

Congratulations to Grade 1 and Grade 4 class for achieving the highest sales for our school.

Each student in grade 1 was awarded a Hedgehog Plushy Toy.

Grade 4 students were awarded a Chocolate Santa Lollipop and/or Certified Nut Free Milk Chocolate Bars.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this year's St Mary's School Christmas Fundraiser with Purdy's Chocolates. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!



KV Snowman



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