



St. Mary's School Newsletter | April 2022



www.stmary.bc.ca



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It was such a pleasure to see so many parents in the school at our Student-Led Conferences last Friday. We appreciate the positive comments, and witnessed your pride and joy as you listened to your children share their learning this term.

Please save the date: Tuesday, June 7 from 5:30-8:00pm. We are planning a combined Spring Concert and 90th Anniversary of the School Celebration.

Thank you to our community for supporting two important outreach fundraisers from our Out-of-Uniform Days: \$400 was sent to the Men's Hostel and \$850 to the Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis. We will continue our efforts to support children who have been orphaned from the War in Ukraine this month. Details to come.

Last Friday, Pope Francis apologized for the Church's role in residential schools. The Indigenous leaders from three delegations, Inuit, Metis and the Assembly of First Nations welcomed the apology and are looking forward to hearing from the Pope in Canada this summer. How wonderful that this happened during Lent, a time of reconciliation.

We're thrilled that we will be having our new playground equipment installed during that last two weeks of April. Funds raised from our Walkathon will go towards this project. On April 23 from 10-12, twenty families can join other Collingwood businesses and community organizations for a Joyce St. Clean up followed by a BBQ at the school. Please see flyer for more details. A reminder to purchase your 2022 Raffle Tickets in support of our new school development project! The Early Bird draw is April 11th! Our updated Communicable Disease Prevention Plan is on our website.

You are welcome to join us this Wednesday for the Grade 3 Mass at 9:30. Let us rejoice in the signs of new life and that God for his many gifts and celebrate God's love for us.

Yours sincerely,
Brenda Krivuzoff
Principal

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"I ask for God's forgiveness and I want to say with all my heart that I am sorry,"

- Pope Francis

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Before & After School Club April Link



Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 5 Gr.3-7 Reconciliation
- ◆ April 6 School Mass 9:30
- ◆ April 8 Readers Are Leaders in-house Competition 1pm
- ◆ April 11 Early Bird Online Raffle Draw
- ◆ April 14 Holy Thursday 12pm Early Dismissal
- ◆ April 15 Good Friday: School Closure
- ◆ April 17 Easter Sunday
- ◆ April 18 Easter Monday: School Closure
- ◆ April 22 Out of Uniform: Green Day
- ◆ April 27 Confirmation 7pm
- ◆ April 28 CISVA Spelling Bee 9:15
- ◆ April 28 Kinder, Gr.1, 6 & 7 Vaccination Clinic

Virtues In Practice

Helping Children Grow Closer to Jesus

This month in our "Virtues in Practice" program, we will focus on the virtue of "forgiveness" which means "pardoning those who offend you".

We all know that God offers us freedom from our sins. However, every time we pray the Our Father, we place a condition on God's mercy towards us. We say, "Father, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." God's mercy cannot penetrate our hearts as long as we have not forgiven those who have sinned against us. We cannot love the God we cannot see if we do not love the brother or sister that we can see. It is in forgiving others that we experience true freedom from the bondage of sin. Forgiving others does not mean that we approve of their behaviour or do not want their actions to have consequences. It means that we let go of bitterness in our hearts and pray for God to show mercy to those who have wronged us.

"Lord Jesus, is there anyone I need to forgive? Please increase in me the virtue of **forgiveness**: help me to pardon those who have hurt me in any way. Teach me to trust that you will bring good out of evil and to recognize that a lack of forgiveness will only hurt me more. Cleanse my soul from bitterness and resentment and fill it with your amazing love and grace. Amen."

The goal of Catholic Education is heaven, but knowledge alone will not get us there! This program, "Virtues in Practice", is helping our students to live out their faith in their everyday lives.

Participating in the Synod

Pope Francis wants to hear from all people about their hopes and dreams for the Church and the world. As parents of children in a Catholic school, you are a vital part of the Church family and your voice matters. You're invited to dream about the future of the Church: would you take a moment to send in your thoughts on one of five questions? Visit the [synod site](#) of the Vancouver Archdiocese or go directly to the [Individual submission Form](#).

Grade 6 Leads Stations of the Cross

The Grade 6 class led our Stations of the Cross in the form of a tableau. It was a prayerful way to remind us of our Lenten journey in preparation for Christ's resurrection.



Virtues
in Practice



Helping children grow closer to Jesus
by imitating the virtues of the saints!

Forgiveness

Pardoning those who
offend you.



Community Connections

Spirit Day 2022 - Into the Wilderness!



Hundreds of Grade 7 students and chaperones returned to Spirit Day in person at the Chandos Pattison Auditorium March 5.



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The theme, Into the Wilderness, based on Jesus being led by the Spirit into the wilderness in the Gospel of Luke helped students as they begin their journey of adult faith in confirmation. The presenters kept the students engaged with opportunities to sing and pray, and Archbishop Miller's message of encouragement and survival tips have them excited to be confirmed on April 27 at 7:00pm.



Ukraine Fundraiser



Mr. and Mrs. Kozak singing during Ash Wednesday Mass



During our Ash Wednesday Mass the students wore blue and yellow to show their support for the people of Ukraine as they survive through the war. Thank you to Mr. Kozak who came to the mass and sang a Ukraine hymn with Mrs. Kozak during communion. Also seen is Mrs. Bevacqua, Mrs. Kozak and Mrs. Caldwell adorning their traditional Ukrainian blouses.



Curriculum Updates



Coho Salmon Update! Our salmon in Kindergarten are now at the fry stage and are well into feeding. Fry are distinguished by their black stripes and their developed mouths. We will continue to raise them for a few more weeks until they are a little bit stronger and resilient before we release them in Beaver Lake in Stanley Park.

Grade Two students enjoying an in-class field trip with the Burnaby Art Gallery. We Explored the world of landscapes.



Congratulations to Grade 6 girls Samantha, Noelle, and Andi and Nyah in Grade 4 for being shortlisted in the **Polar Expressions Writing contest**. Polar Expressions is a Canadian publishing company that hosts an annual poetry and short story contest for students K through 12. Final winners will be announced in June and published in the company's anthology. Congratulations, writers!

The Grade Two classes started swimming lessons this week at Renfrew Park Community Centre. We had a blast splashing in the water.



Both Grade 5 STEAM classes made mouse trap cars. They competed to see whose car travelled the greatest distance in the straightest line. Congratulations to Rhia and Ashriel for creating the most successful car in 5SR, and in second place was Caleb and Angelo. Artiman and Leo from 5L made the most successful car overall, travelling over 20 metres, and in second place from 5L was Gerry and Jibril. Well done everyone.



Outdoor Classrooms

The Grade 4 class went on a snowshoeing adventure where they visited a First Nations Celebration Hall, learned about the local wildlife and their surrounding habitats.



St. Mary's Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Finalists who did an incredible job spelling some challenging words this year at our school spelling bee. Overall there were 60 students involved in the program this year! Amazing effort SAINTS!

Keith (7P) 1st Place

Mahira (7Q) & Hailey (7P) tied 2nd Place

Vivianne (G4) 3rd Place

Finalists: Christopher (G4), Nyah (G4), Swanik (G4)

Aoife (G5L), Binh (G5SR), Hannah (G5L), Leonardo (G5SR), Ria (G5SR)

Daine (G6), Kaithlynne (G6), Noelle (G6), Samantha (G6), MJ (G7Q)



Wonderful You



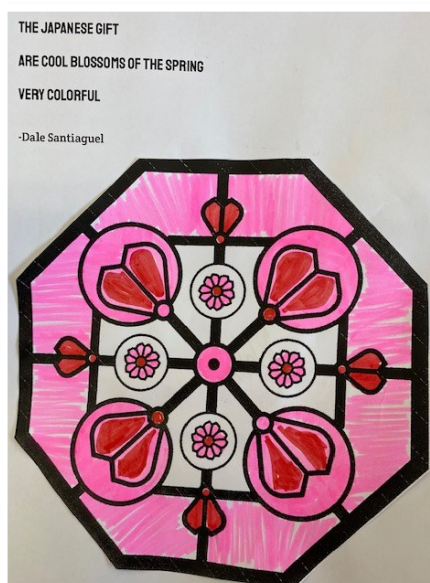
We have a new installation from our Anti Bullying Day! As you come into our school, focus on the first word you see and work toward that quality as your daily goal! The idea came from the book "Wonderful You" by Kate Jane Neal. It was read and recorded by Kristina in Grade 7 and her brother Pavao in Kindergarten. You can view the story on our youtube channel: <https://youtu.be/0vpMd8Nu1jI>



Kindergarten went for a short walk to see the cherry blossom trees in our neighborhood.



Grade 5SR Haikus



Saints Athletics

As the weather slowly warms up and the trees and flowers bloom, we increasingly venture outdoors for PHE class. Research increasingly validates that outdoor time in nature supports children's mental and physical health.

For the month ahead, our focus will be on coordination, cardiovascular endurance, and speed. The Primary students will continue to work with racquets and skipping ropes and will begin the fundamentals of track events. Intermediate students will learn about striking and fielding games, re-build their stamina and develop their speed during track training, and continue working on moving as a team through territorial games. During inclement weather, we will also focus on balance, strength and flexibility with our learning of fundamental gymnastics skills.

Our mission to develop every child's physical, mental, and spiritual health is in full swing! Hooray, SAINTS!



Kindergarten learning jump rope basics.



Grade 7 leaders support Grade 4 Intramural basketball as officials, coaches, and scorekeepers



Grade 5's heading back to school after an active class!



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Saints Fundraising

The Big 2022 Raffle

St Mary's School Parent Support Group. Buy your tickets below!



St Mary's New School Development Project

\$3,615 raised

56 donors

When

All ticket sales end at midnight on June 22, 2022!

Where

GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW!



The Big 2022 Raffle

Ticket Sales Start on Monday March 7th at 5:00 pm

All Ticket Sales End:

June 22, 2022 at midnight

Early Bird Draws:

11-Apr-2022 01:00 PM, Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 2W8

Main Draws:

24-Jun-2022 01:00 PM, St Mary's School, 5239 Joyce Street, Vancouver, BC V5R 3H2

[Buy Your Tickets Now!!](#)

This year's building Fund raffle is underway. Volunteers will now be available in the church foyer after all Masses to help you purchase your tickets.

The early bird draw is April 11. Ticket sales end on June 22 and the final draw date is June 24.

There are some fantastic prizes available! Get your tickets today!

Early Bird Draws:

Draw 1 \$100 Gift Card

Draw 2 \$100 Gift Card

Draw 3 \$250 Gift Card

Final Draw Third Prize \$1000

Final Draw Second Prize \$2000

Final Draw First Prize \$5000

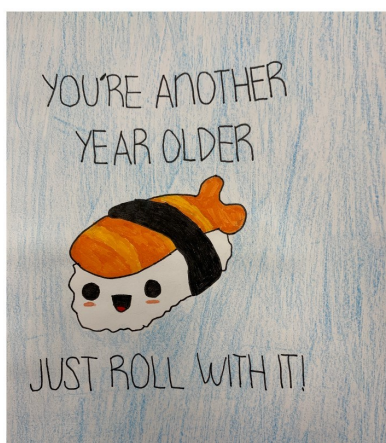
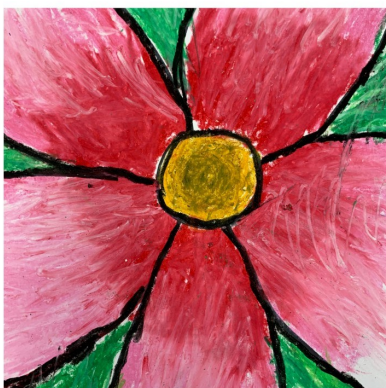
Out-of-Uniform Day is April 22



April 22nd is Earth Day! Let's Go Green! For our dress down theme we are encouraging everyone to wear as many shades of green as possible. Please bring a tooney on this day.

All the money collected will be forwarded to the Salvatorian Fathers at Holy Cross Parish in Burnaby who will then send it to their community in Poland. The order of Salvatorian Fathers is expecting children from an orphanage in Ukraine. Since there are no adequate kitchen facilities an alternate arrangement is being made to feed these children. The money entrusted to them will be entirely used to care for the Ukrainian refugees in Poland. #childrenhelpingchildren





Art Card Project

This week your child brought home their Art cards. Place your order by Sunday April 10th for delivery in time for Mother's Day!



Joyce Street Clean up Party

April 23rd, 2022, 10:00 - 12:00 P.m.



Meeting area St. Mary's School Parking lot 5239 Joyce Street

The area will include Joyce Street and surrounding areas. Returning to St. Mary's for a Hot Dog BBQ and Prize Draws.

Where you can sign up:

Collingwood Community
Policing Centre
604.717.2935

St. Mary's
School
604.437.1312

Collingwood
Neighbourhood House
604.435.0323

Collingwood
BIA
604.639.4403

The Collingwood Business Improvement Association is organizing a community clean-up block party for Joyce Street on Saturday, April 23, from 10:00am-12:00pm. Other community partners such as St. Mary's School and Parish, Collingwood Neighborhood House, Vancouver Community Police, and Adrian Dix's MLA office will also be participating. Each organization can register a group of volunteers to participate in the event. It is a way to build community spirit, cooperation, and pride in the Joyce-Collingwood neighborhood. Register with Onvolunteers early! The office will contact you to confirm the number of participants in your family attending and dietary preferences before April 20.



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St. Mary's School - Joyce



FOCUS WEEK

Monday, May 2nd 2022
To
Sunday, May 8th 2022

10%

REBATE VOUCHERS AND FREE SHIPPING
DURING YOUR SCHOOL FOCUS WEEK

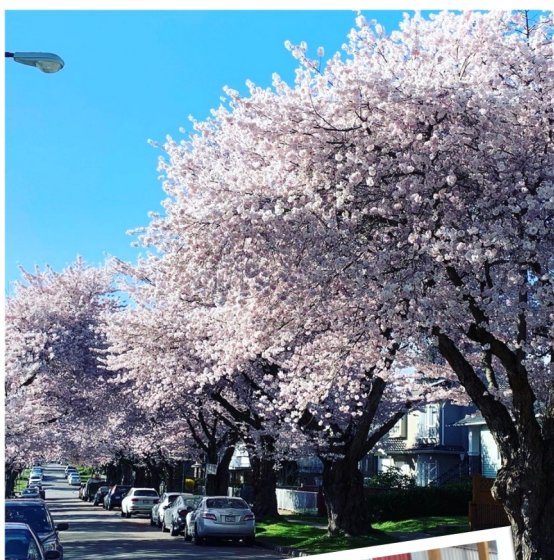
Shop in-store or Place your order at www.neatuniforms.ca

Business Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am to 5.00pm

Phone: 604-205-7560 or 604-205-7556 Toll-Free: 1-800-668-8261

Email: info@neatuniforms.ca





Do you have a great Cherry Blossom picture with your child in it? Post it on Social media and tag us @smsaints604 If you have an open profile we will report it and tag you in our stories!



St. Mary's School

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Grade 1 100th Day Celebration

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Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

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The Grade 5 classes held a mini "Festival du Voyageur" to celebrate French Canadian culture. Sugar pie and Red River jiggling we're enjoyed by all. Vive le festival! (above)

Please download our School App on iTunes or Google Play Store.

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