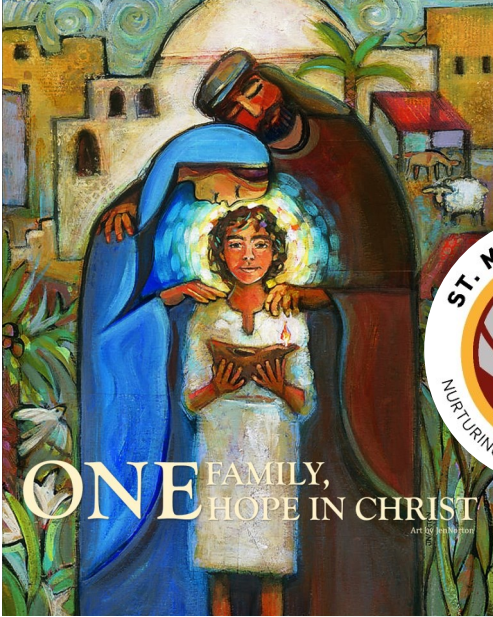


St. Mary's School Newsletter | October 2021



www.stmary.bc.ca



Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are asking that you keep Mrs. Hodut's family in your prayers. Mrs. Hodut is an Educational Assistant at St. Mary's and her husband is in serious condition in the hospital. Please pray for this family and for the doctors and health care workers caring for him so that he may return home as soon as possible. Thank you.

We appreciate your attention to our health and safety protocols to keep our school operating safely. Our updated exposure control plan is posted on our website.

I am grateful for the efforts of all families with our annual Walkathon fundraising campaign toward the purchase of a new big toy for the playground. Refer to more details in this newsletter. More information will be coming about our apple sales. We are expecting several cases of fresh apples from Summerland early next week. They make a healthy and nutritious snack for kids and adults.

With gratitude and blessings to all our families—Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours sincerely,
Brenda Krivuzoff
Principal



“ How marvelous it would be if, at the end of the day each of us could say; today I have performed an act of charity towards others!
- Pope Francis ”

#wearesaints

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[Before and After School Club
October Registration Link](#)



Upcoming Events

- ◆ October 5 Photo Day (individual only)
- ◆ October 6 CISVA Cross-Country Meet (Swangard Stadium)
- ◆ October 8, Walkathon 9:00-12:00; Early Dismissal at noon, No ASC
- ◆ October 11, Thanksgiving No School, No Club
- ◆ Oct. 20 School Mass 9:30am Parents are welcome
- ◆ Oct. 22 Provincial Pro-D No School, No Club
- ◆ Oct. 29 Halloween Out-of-Uniform \$2 to participate; details to come next week

#wearesaints

Saints' Orange Shirt Day

On Sept. 29, our Grade 2 and Grade 4 students led a school-wide candle-lit prayer service to honor the children who died at Canada's Residential Schools and the survivors still struggling from the loss of loved ones, their language, and culture. By wearing orange shirts this day, our students support a movement of reconciliation and hope. Donations supported the Indian Residential School Survivor Society.



Tulips and daffodils were planted as a sign of our commitment to reconciliation.



The children painted and strung wooden hearts to display in the school.



For more information on how the archdiocese observed National Truth and Reconciliation Day visit <https://bccatholic.ca/news/catholic-van/archdiocese-observes-national-truth-and-reconciliation-day>



Virtues In Practice

Helping Children Grow Closer to Jesus

This month in our “Virtues in Practice” program, we will focus on the virtue of “charity”. We usually use that word for giving to the poor, but the fuller definition is “loving God with all our heart, mind and strength, and loving others as ourselves.”

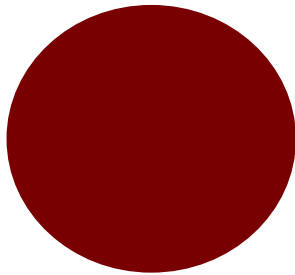
“Mother Mary, in this month dedicated to you and the holy rosary, please teach us how to love our heavenly Father above all things.”

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



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

Available for FREE download at www.nashvilledominican.org
 Questions? VirtuesProgram@op-tn.org



Year of
Charity
 COMMUNITY

“I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.”
 —John 13:34

“Beloved, let us love one another . . . The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”
 —1 Jn 4:7-8

CHARITY is loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength, and your neighbor as yourself. Through the theological virtue of charity we place God above all things and recognize that what we do to the least of our brothers, we do unto Him.

THE YEAR OF CHARITY offers an opportunity to commit to making God our priority and to love not only people across the globe—but the people right next to us.

Collingwood Morning Star Breakfast Program

The Morning Star Breakfast Program is run by Collingwood Neighbourhood House. Every Saturday morning between 60 to 80 homeless people come in off the streets to have a hot shower and some breakfast. We are asking families to donate non-perishable breakfast items like: cereal, oats, pancake mix, power bars, peanut butter, jam, honey, canned food, tea, coffee and hot chocolate. These food items are much appreciated and will help give those in our community a healthy nutritious meal. Your child(ren) can bring these items to school. We will be collecting until Friday, October 15th. This is also one way for staff and students to practice the virtue of Charity. Thank you for your ongoing support!



Saints' Athletics

St. Mary's Cross Country Meet Sept. 28, 2021

Congratulations to all the athletes who participated in our annual Cross Country Meet. We had a beautiful sunny day for our meet and enjoyed hosting other CISVA schools. A huge thank you to all the coaching staff and volunteers who made this year's event such a success!



St. Mary's Staff celebrating a successful and safe meet!



Saints' Athletics



Community Connections

Parent Participation

Currently all positions for Groundskeeping and Library volunteering have been filled. If you fall in any of the below categories, you are requested to apply for volunteer positions as they are posted on the volunteer portal to accumulate the required 40 volunteer hours for this school year.

- ◆ have indicated your interest for Playground/Groundskeeping/Library and have not secured a position yet
- ◆ are not currently part of any other regular volunteering like PREP, Liturgy, PEC, Fundraising, PSG, Coaching
- ◆ have opted for Full Participation but not selected any specific volunteering option on the Participation form

For any questions or information regarding School Participation, please email the new Participation Coordinator **Alfred Liu** at smsaints.parent@liucrown.com

Walkathon Fundraising

Our Walkathon is this Friday! Please let the office know today or tomorrow at the latest if your child raised \$150 or more to receive a free t-shirt they can wear for the Walkathon.

All volunteers are now asked to wait outside and join the classes when they leave the gym in 2 groups. (K, 1, 6 & 7s at 9:20) then, (2, 3, 4, and 5s at 9:40).

Please continue to fundraise beyond Friday by asking friends, co-workers and family to pledge your children. They still have a chance to win the t-shirt and great prizes. We are looking forward to replacing the big toy on the east side of the playground, it is going to take a huge effort from our entire community for this to happen. Current and future generations of students will enjoy it for years to come! Pledge forms and cheques are due Monday, Oct. 18th!



Receive a Walkathon t-shirt until Oct. 18th with \$150 raised in pledges.



Student Network

Ambassadors Chosen

Congratulations to all the Ambassadors who will be working with our Mentors this year.

- G1 Alexander Ferreira; KC Estrada
- G2M Abigail Muir; Elijah Saberola
- G2MB Makayla Irving; Anson Ni
- G3 Amber Wright; Alfred Javines
- G4 Mia Jose; Jayden Noytay
- G5L Jonathan Saculsan; Mika Albania
- G5SR Ashriel Carisma; Caleb San Juan
- G6 Daine Ines; Reggie Merrill
- G7P Selena Quilatan; Hailey Marfori
- G7Q Naila Booker; Mahira Pararajasingam



Kindergarten thankful hands. I am thankful for the world.
I am thankful for my family.

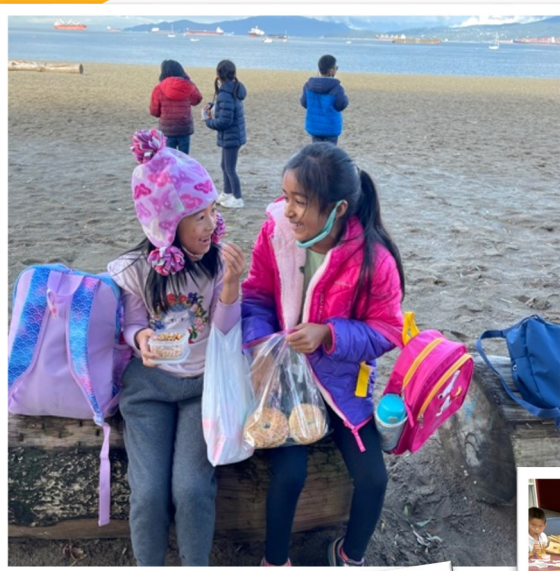


World Changers



Grade 2 classes did a 2-part ocean awareness workshop/ field trip last week with YouthToSea, a youth organization representing Ocean Wise. They started with an in-class lesson on the importance of plankton and the ocean food chain, then painted rocks they brought to Kits Beach. The rocks were placed under a tree near the beach to raise ocean awareness.





Primary New Student Lunch with the Principal (below)



Grade 1 & 6 buddy field trip to Cates Park

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

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