

Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a joy it was to see the children and many parents yesterday! Our school theme, "One Family, One Hope In Christ," celebrates the joy of family, whether relational, school, or church family. We are part of each others' mosaic and are blessed to learn and work in a faith environment. Students are taught many different forms of prayer at home and school: traditional prayers like Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be; repetitious prayers such as the rosary; and spontaneous prayers among others. The most powerful action we can make during these challenging times is prayer. Prayer gives us hope and unites our family, which brings us closer to Christ. We are committed to providing your children with an excellent faith-based Catholic education. Our teaching team works hard to ensure our programs and clubs offer students diverse hands-on learning experiences. We are proud to be a caring, safe and welcoming community. Have a great year, and please let us know if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,
Brenda Krivuzoff
Principal



“ Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!

- Pope Francis



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Kindergarten Gradual Entry – Sept. 7-17
- ◆ School Opening Blessing – Sept. 10 at 10:00 – Parents are welcome
- ◆ School Mass – Sept. 15 at 10am – Parents are welcome
- ◆ Virtual Meet the Teacher meetings for all grades; Week of Sept. 13-17
- ◆ Kindergarten Parent Meet & Greet Sept. 17 at 1-2pm
- ◆ SMS Invitational Cross Country Meet – Sept. 28
- ◆ Out-of-Uniform Sept. 29: Orange Shirt Day \$2 to participate
- ◆ National Day for Truth & Reconciliation - School Closure Sept. 30

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Virtues In Practice

Helping Children Grow Closer to Jesus

This year, St. Mary's will adopt "Virtues in Practice", a program for children in Kindergarten through Grade Seven to grow closer to Jesus by imitating His life and virtues. The whole school will focus on the same virtue each month. The overall theme for the year is "Charity" (loving God with all our heart, and loving others as ourselves). In September, we will begin with the virtue of "Friendship", which is defined as "sharing a mutual love that seeks the good of the other".

The goal of Catholic Education is heaven, but knowledge alone will not get us there!

"Virtues in Practice" will help our students to live out their faith in their everyday lives.



*Virtues
in Practice*



*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.



Community Connections

Staff Retreat - August 31, 2021

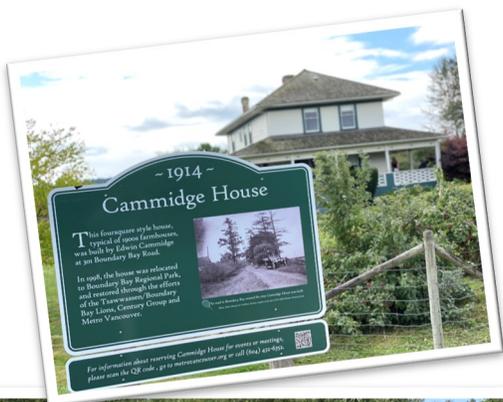
This year, our CISVA theme, 'One Family, One Hope in Christ,' explores our relationships and interactions that contribute to all of our life's mosaics.' Our experiences shape us and others.

Our Staff had the opportunity to reconnect and reflect on our lives related to the CISVA theme at our new venue Cammidge House in Boundary Bay.



We had an opportunity to write affirming words about each other as a way to honour and show gratitude towards one another.

We had time for prayer and individual reflection on questions about our vocation during a walk through the labyrinth or Centennial beach.

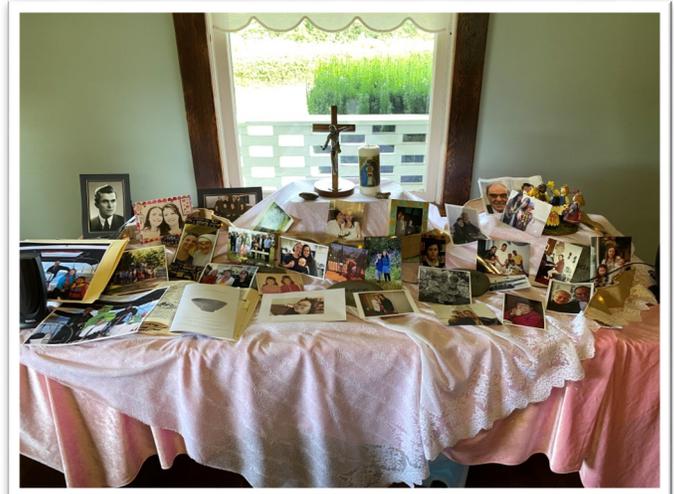


Enjoying the opportunity to play together too (spike ball, bocce, frisbee golf and croquet)



Community Connections

Staff Retreat - August 31, 2021



The Staff brought a photo of someone who has contributed to their mosaic. We shared our stories of how this person has impacted our vocation to work with children.



Mrs. Maier, Mrs. Kozak, and Mrs. Moffatt



Ms. Umali, Mrs. Scodeller, and Mrs. Stokovac



Mr. Quick and Mrs. Ryznar



Ms. Eisner and Mrs. Hodut



Mr. Mogatas and Ms. Simmons



Community Connections

St. Mary's Directors' Team

We have an amazing group of leaders who support Administration in the decisions for our school community. Their expertise covers all aspects of our programs and extracurricular opportunities.

(back row: Mr. Mogatas: IT Director; Mrs. Vukasovic: Vice-Principal; Mrs. Ryznar: Music Director; Mrs. Kozak: Athletic Director)

(front row: Ms. Krivuzoff: Principal; Mrs. Maier: Faith Development Director; Mrs. Moffatt: Primary Curriculum Director; Ms. Simmons: Intermediate Curriculum Director)



The mentors are looking forward to representing the school and planning fun activities that everyone can enjoy. They are eager to contribute to school activities and prayers.

Student Network

We are pleased to announce our five Grade 7 Mentors on this year's Student Network.

Introducing: Amberlina DeGraaf, Kristina Prtenjaca, Juri Matsuda, Keith Kavlekar and Joya Bevacqua

Mentors will demonstrate leadership skills and uphold the student Code of Conduct of Reverence, Respect and Responsibility. Their tasks include: lead prayers during assemblies and liturgies; lead school-wide daily prayer and announce birthdays over PA and distribute prizes; co-plan out-of-uniform days and student-led fundraisers; collect and count funds from student-led fundraisers; be a spokesperson on social media or in-person situations for the school; attend meetings as required; mentor and collaborate with Ambassadors from Grades 1-7.

Two Ambassadors will be elected/chosen from Grades 1-7 classes on Sept. 17 to be members of the Network. Ambassadors will support and help carry out the responsibilities of the Mentors and be a liaison between their classes and the network.



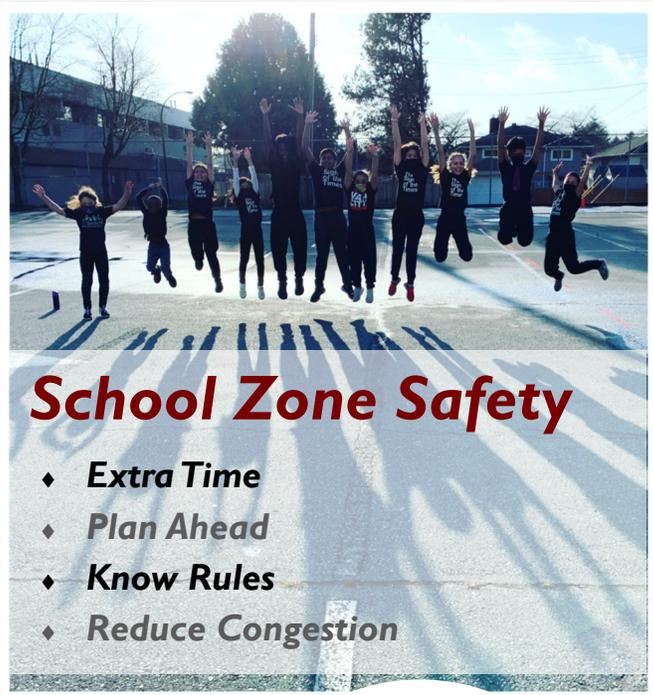
Saints' Health & Safety

Students in grades 4 to 12, staff, and visitors are required to wear masks while indoors.



Students in grades K to 3 are encouraged to wear masks while indoors.

Vancouver CoastalHealth



School Zone Safety

- ◆ Extra Time
- ◆ Plan Ahead
- ◆ Know Rules
- ◆ Reduce Congestion



Daily Health Check



PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THIS SITE IF YOU:

- ⊘ Have been told to isolate by Public Health or Canada Border Services Agency
- ⊘ Are displaying any of the following new or worsening symptoms
 - Fever (over 38°C)
 - Chills
 - Cough or worsening of chronic cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Loss of sense of smell or taste
 - Sore throat
 - Loss of appetite
 - Extreme fatigue or tiredness
 - Headache
 - Body aches
 - Nausea and vomiting
 - Diarrhea



Vancouver CoastalHealth

K-12 Health Check App



BCCDC Guide "When to get tested for COVID-19"





Saints' Athletics

Dear St. Mary's families,

For most of us, the health of our world, communities, families, and ourselves has never been more emphasized. I look forward to continuing our mission to nurture an environment that supports all of our students to be healthy, active, and happy.

Soon, you will receive information on co-curricular opportunities which enrich the goals of our Health and Physical Education program. Your support, understanding, and flexibility of accommodating dynamic Provincial Health Orders is appreciated.

For more information on the philosophy of the Athletics Program, please see the Parent Handbook http://stmary.bc.ca/pdfs/St.%20Mary's%20School%20Parent%20Handbook_v6-1.pdf (pg. 20-21). In line with the school's Mission Statement, every child must feel safe, accepted, and respected in our Athletics program.



Please review the following logistical information:

UNIFORM:

- ◆ Students wear PE uniform for the full day on PE days and days in which they have co-curricular athletic activities
- ◆ Shorts, t-shirt, track pants, and track jacket are required PE uniform
- ◆ Students can wear a combination of these items according to the weather or activities
- ◆ Kindergarten girls wear shorts under dresses on PE days
- ◆ Running shoes which fit properly and provide support for rigorous physical activity
- ◆ Long hair to be tied back
- ◆ No jewelry, including necklaces, bracelets, rings, dangling earrings, etc.

Should you have any questions, you can email me at:

dkozak@stmary.bc.ca

Have a wonderful year!

Coach Kozak

PE Schedule 2021-2022

Kindergarten (no PE uniform, athletic shoes required): Monday, Thursday, Friday

Grade 1: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Grade 2 Marino: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Grade 2 Moffatt/Bevacqua: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Grade 3: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Grade 4: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Grade 5 Lewis: Monday, Thursday, Friday

Grade 5 Stokovac/Ryznar: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

Grade 6: Monday, Tuesday, Friday

Grade 7 Quick: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Grade 7 Pascua: Monday, Thursday, Friday

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St. Mary's School

5239 Joyce St.

Vancouver, BC

V5R 4G8

T: 604.437.1312

F: 604.437.1193

Email: office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca

Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

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Instagram @smsaints604

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

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