

# ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY

## NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents...

Can you remember the good old days, or are they only the good old days because we don't really remember them?

Memories often tell wonderful stories about who we are; as well as about some of the special people, places and times in our lives. Some memories may not be as beautiful as others, but each must be meaningful or we wouldn't remember them.

The 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month is traditionally known and commemorated as Remembrance Day. It is set aside to honour those who have given their lives in service to their country. In more recent times, it is a time to reflect and to give thanks. It is a time to pray for world peace. One of Britain's Prime Ministers, Neville Chamberlain, is remembered for his *infamous* quote "Peace in our time" and then World War II happened. Even today, he would be wrong.

Nonetheless, we continue to live in hope that someday, somehow, all mankind will cry out together; and there will be peace!

We also remember the lives of the saints, and our own ancestors during the month of November. We celebrate All Saints' Day on November 1<sup>st</sup> and All Souls' Day on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The lives of the saints are wonderful examples of God's call for each of us to be witnesses of faith. God's promise of eternal peace calls us to pray for all those who have gone before us; that they may be granted eternal rest through Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Saviour.

Remember Christ's own words when he first stood amongst the Apostles after his resurrection; "Peace be with you." May our memories of those who have touched our lives in so many good ways give us the encouragement to be *signs of the cross*; examples of Christian witness and service for our children. And may our constant prayer be that each in their turn will become a *sign of the cross* for others in this world. In this way we pray that all of us will find the peace we truly long for in the loving arms of God.



### **Friday Mass – 8:15am**

We celebrate Holy Mass every Friday at 8:15am. Please be advised that your child is **expected to be on time**. We claim the time element from these masses as part of your tuition tax receipts; and as such are morally and legally bound to have the children present. School is scheduled to begin at 8:15 am on Fridays and your child should be on time. Please note that absence from Friday morning masses will be reflected in your child's Report Card.

**Wednesday Dismissal – 2:30pm**. Parents are reminded that Wednesday dismissal is scheduled for 2:30pm to facilitate staff meetings. Afterschool supervision is scheduled for 30 minutes (until 3pm). It is expected that all students will be picked up by that time. Staff are not available to look after children who have not been picked up.

**Student Safety** – To help ensure the safety of our children, we ask that all parents and visitors entering the school at any time of day enter through the main doors on Quebec Street and report to the office. We also ask that you follow the instructions of our traffic supervisors when driving onto the property as well as when exiting. We do not encourage parents to drop off or pick up their children in other than designated areas. The front entrance on Quebec St. is not a drop-off or pick-up site. If parents need to park to come into the school, we ask that you use the parking area and not Quebec St. We need to insure that we respect posted traffic signs that allow the Fire hall to easily access the roadway in emergency situations.

**Walkathon** – Congratulations St. Patrick's on a super effort towards meeting our goal! We have raised over \$25,000.00. This is a reflection of tremendous effort and support. Congratulations and thanks to all those who worked hard to help their children with pledges and assisted our students along the walk to Queen Elizabeth Park and back. A wonderful example of our *Celtic Heart* that makes us proud! Special thanks again to our police escort at the busy corners.

- This year's top fundraiser was Samantha Arbas. Sam won an Apple Watch.
- 20 kids earned pizza lunch with Deacon Mike this year.

**Entertainment Books** – Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser

### **Wednesday, October 31st – Halloween Carnival**

Our Halloween carnival is a wonderful community celebration and an opportunity for our children to help children in developing nations through the missionary activities of the Holy Childhood Association (HCA) and Chalice. This year we hope to also raise enough money to sponsor a boy and girl through Chalice. Students in Grades 4 through 7 have been challenged to use their imagination and creativity to surprise us with costumes that reflect our school theme; What Do You Want of Me, Lord?



**Friday, November 9, 2018 – Remembrance Day Assembly at 11:00 am.**

Parents are welcome to join us if their schedules permit. As part of this celebration we will also wear *red and white* in honour of our country's flag.

**Remembrance Day Holiday – Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. No School.**

Please remember to remember on Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>...wear a poppy and do something special with your children; even if it's a moment of silence at 11a.m. The Canadian television stations (CBC, CTV, Global...) will all have special Remembrance Day programming in the morning. If you've never taken your kids to the ceremonies at Victory Square (Cenotaph) in Vancouver, it would also be something good to consider.

**Friday, November 23, 2018 – Professional Development day. No School**



**Wednesday, November 28, 2018 - Report Cards** will be distributed to parents from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. If work schedules make it difficult to pick up your child's report card on the 28<sup>th</sup>, it will be available before school on Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

**The first report cards are distributed to the parent(s) only.**

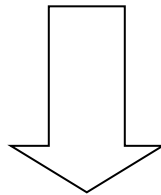
If your child's teacher has indicated that they would like to meet with you to review your child's progress, they will schedule an appointment with you at that time. We hope that all parent-teacher interviews can be completed before Christmas holidays.



**Mark your calendars!**

**This year's Christmas Concert is scheduled for Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.  
Christmas Holidays ...December 21, 2018 (Dismissal 1pm) to January 7, 2019  
(School Re-opens 8:45 am).**

**STAY UP TO DATE**



**Check out the website & school calendar @ [WWW.SPEV.CA](http://WWW.SPEV.CA)**

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