



## ***St. Helen's School Newsletter December 2018***

*Principal : Mr. Waldemar Sambor*

*Vice Principal : Ms. Dawn Currie*



Dear Parents,

Sunday, December 2nd marks the beginning of Advent and our preparation for the birth of Christ. Our community is blessed with lots of talents and gifts and I invite you to make this season one of peace and sharing. 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. Helen's is of the highest quality since it is based on Catholic faith and values.

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

Sincerely in Christ,  
Waldemar Sambor  
*Principal*

### ***Monthly Highlights***

- 5 Report Cards Go Home
- 6 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 7 Whole School Mass (5A)
- 11 Primary & Intermediate  
Choirs at Brentwood Mall (1pm)
- 14 Primary & Intermediate  
Choirs at Seton Villa (1pm)
- 14 Whole School Mass (4B)
- 19 Christmas Concert Matinee  
(1pm)
- 20 Christmas Concert Matinee &  
Evening (1:00pm/7:00pm)
- 21 Last day of school—Dismissal  
at 12:00pm
- 24 Choir at 4pm Mass



# *Searchers* Community



## *Parish News*

### Jesse Tree:

Starting with this Sundays' masses, please take home one of the ornaments decorating the Jesse Tree at the back of the Church. Needed are items of food, gift certificates, and gifts for children. Please have all Christmas presents in, unwrapped, no later than Sunday, December 16th. Gifts can also be dropped off at the Rectory during the week.

### Christmas Hamper:

The St. Helen's Food Bank volunteers are asking for your support to assist 50 families during this Christmas Season. We would love it if students could bring their donations to Mass over the next couple weekends. Once again we are asking you and the students of St Helen's School to help us with the most need items: Pasta, sauces, juices, canned meat, fish, ham, canned fruit, canned soups and cereals, etc.

We believe this will be one way to show compassion and sympathy for another who are having a misfortune. Please have students drop off their donations at Sunday Mass or the Parish office.

We know that **one item or more for each student** will be more than appreciated to let us go through this Christmas season.

### Confessions:

To prepare the children for Christmas, we will have Reconciliation services for Grades 3 to 7 between the week of December 4-7th. When we receive the sacrament of Reconciliation we show our desire to welcome the Lord with purified hearts.

### Christmas Concert Schedule:

- \* **Wed., Dec. 19th— Matinee at 1:00 p.m.**
- \* **Thurs., Dec. 20th — Matinee at 1:00 p.m. & Evening at 7:00 p.m.**

Students are asked to come to school dressed in their costumes on **Wednesday, December 19th** for our matinee and **Thursday, December 20th** for our matinee and evening performances. Two tickets per family will be sent home and may be used for either the matinee or evening performance. Each additional ticket will cost \$5.00 and may be purchased at the school office or at the door.

# Searchers Updates

## Report Card Format:

This first term, we are providing a module for Gr. 7's and 6's only, with the idea that eventually all parents will be able to view report cards online in the near future. New reporting is compatible with the new curriculum from the Ministry and requirements from the CISVA and also provides links to the overviews of each subject for parents to preview.

## Parent Teacher Interviews:

Reports cards will be sent home with students on **Wednesday, December 5th** and parent-teacher interviews will be taking place the following day on **Thursday, December 6th**. Book your appointments online starting November 26th.

*Children are not required to wear their school uniform. Please be on time. If your appointment is delayed, please knock on the classroom door so that everyone's schedule can be maintained. Thank you for using our online registration!*

## FSA

Grade 4 & 7 students took their FSA's at the beginning of October and the results will be sent home with their Report cards individually to each family. As well, an explanation on FSA components. The main purpose of FSA's is to provide system level information on student performance and provide districts and schools with information on student performance. These exams are separate from students marks on their report cards.

*Thank you everyone for attending the 2018 Science Inventors Challenge! Our students were successful in demonstrating creativity, innovation, scientific process and communication skills with the various projects they presented.*

## Marijuana Safety & Prevention

Please view this link

<https://cannabis.gov.bc.ca/>

Information from the workshop is attached in the email which will provide parents with prevention information as well as effects that it has on our children.

## Electronic Devices Policy

Students are not permitted to use their cell phone during school hours, in or out of the classroom, including hallways and washrooms. Students may use their cell phone **only** during non-instructional time with a teacher's permission.

## Principals For A Day



Grace Lacoursiere (Gr. 2),  
Justin Plomp (Gr.2), &  
Jordan Plomp (Gr.5B)  
were our principals for a day  
on Monday, Nov 26th.

# *Searchers* News



## **Candy Drive**

A very big thank you to all the students who donated candy for our candy drive. We filled 17-10 KGS. Pales = 170 KGS which equaled 374 LBS!!! Your generosity is truly amazing and the candy from you will show so much love to kids that are suffering everyday. Thank you to our Student Leadership group and teachers for organizing the candy collection. Well done! This has been our largest collection ever! 50% of the donations were sent to our Missions Society and the reaming 50% to the Agape Ministry.

## **Kindergarten Applications for the 2019 2020 School Year**

- Available on the School Website
- May be picked up at the school office.
- **1st Stage Interviews** will take place at the beginning of December 2018
- **2nd Stage Interviews (if necessary)** will take place in February 2019

**Please note that we are in a high demand for kindergarten & other grades. Our PEC has implemented non refundable 1st Month Tuition, Activity, and Registration Fees for the 2019/2020 school year if you withdraw after the deadline. Deadlines are as follows:**

- **Kindergarten (new and siblings) deadline is Dec 17th, 2018.**
- **Grades 1-7 (new and siblings) deadline is Feb 6th, 2019.**

**We appreciate your cooperation and commitment to our school.**

## **School and Community Events**

Tuesday, December 11th : Primary & Intermediate Choirs to Brentwood Mall.

Friday, December 14th : Primary & Intermediate Choirs at Seton Villa.

## **Pub Night Fundraiser**

Our Pub Night Fundraiser is scheduled to take place on February 23rd, 2019. Please save the date and stay tuned for further details!



# *Searchers* News



## **Principal For A Day Journals**

The best part of the day being principal is that I get to send messages to the kids.—  
Grace Lacoursiere (Gr.2)

My favorite is speaking into the PA system—Justin Plomp (Gr.2)

The best part of being principal is making announcements on the mike. It is my favorite because when you speak, the whole school hears you.—Jordan Plomp (Gr.5B)

## **Extreme Weather & Snow Procedures**

In the event of severe snowfall, St. Helen's school may be closed and the St. Helen's bus may be cancelled or altered to the Snow Route. It is important that parents visit the school website at [www.sthelensschool.ca](http://www.sthelensschool.ca) and download our school app, and facebook. Going forward school closure will also be announced on the CKNW 980 radio station.

Parents must make the individual decisions as to the safety, and feasibility of sending your child to school. Parents are always encouraged to do what is in the best interest of their child and family in these types of conditions, as well as in health issues.

## **Gr.7 Science**

Congratulations to all the students and teachers for having a hands on science experiment and a special thank you to Mrs. Sachinidis for donating Gr.7 plant supplies and bringing a scientist to introduce terrariums to our students.



# ***Searchers*** Personal Best

*The following students are recognized for their efforts in the published class work:*



**K**

**Rachel Cheung  
Nico Chisani  
Mattias Cirillo**

**1**

**Emilia Damy  
Liam Lepore  
Olivia Picco  
Mason Piovesan**

**2**

**Jake Drlje  
Olivia Mrsic  
Matteo Tinaburri**

**3A**

**Marco Coltellaro  
Calista De Zen  
Eva Perrotta**

**3B**

**Alexander Cremona  
Monique Guilbault**

**4A**

**Victoria Marando  
Tomas Sablic Bastable  
Jenaya Wong**

**4B**

**Alexa Ferrari-Buttedahl  
Isla Lopez**

**5A**

**Gianni Bosa  
Giuseppe Gargiulo  
Ciaran Macdonald**

**5B**

**Caleb Parrotta  
Mila Perrotta**

**6A**

**Marco La Chimea  
Anna Lee  
Valentina Picariello**

**6B**

**Luka Banovic  
Bianca Campanile  
Jaiden Gill**

**7A**

**Danijela Erlic  
Alexa Malet- Veale**

**7B**

**Alessandra Della-Coletta  
Angelina Russo**



*"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." ~ Maya Angelou*





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