

ST. HELEN'S NEWSLETTER

December 2020



Principal : Waldemar Sambor

Vice Principal : Anthony Canosa

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Dear Parents,

Sunday, November 29th 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 hope that comes
with this season, as we celebrate the
birth of Christ*

Sincerely in Christ,
Waldemar Sambor
Principal

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

November 29th– Advent Begins

December 4th– No School—Pro D Day

December 9th– Report Cards

December 10th– Parent Teacher Interviews

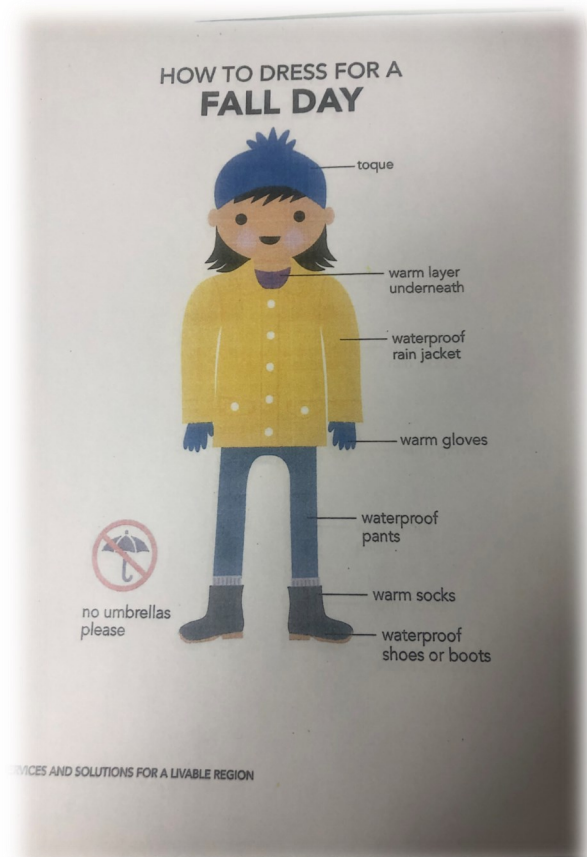
December 17th – Christmas Concert (*One show online 7 pm*)

December 18th—Last Day of School

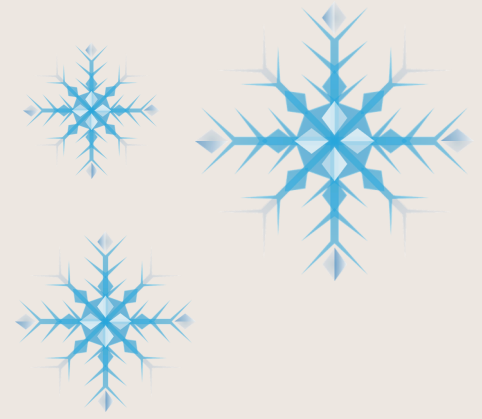


HOW TO DRESS FOR THE SEASON

Thank you to all the parents who have dressed their children appropriately for the weather. Here is a great example of how children should be dressed for school.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



KINDERGARTEN INTERVIEWS

Kindergarten interviews will be on December 8th and 9th . Please note that siblings do not need to be interviewed. Applications are available on the School Website.

IN CASE OF SNOW

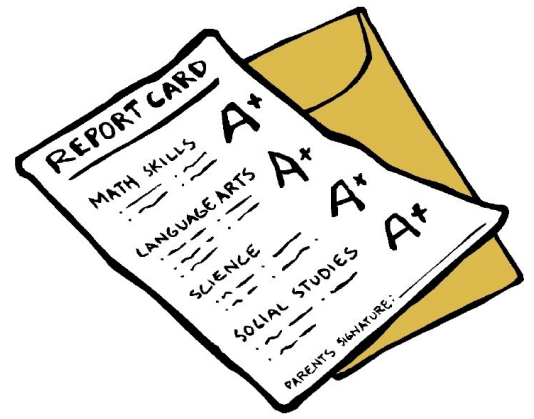
In the event of severe snowfall, St. Helen's school may be closed and the St. Helen's bus may be cancelled. It is important that parents visit the school website & download our school App. Going forward, school closures will be announced on the CKNW 980 radio station as well. It is the parents decision to bring their child to school. We encourage you to do what is best for the safety of you and your family in these types of conditions.

ST. HELEN'S PARISH Flock Note Invitation

Since the church is not open at the present time, bulletins are no longer being distributed after Mass. You will receive an email through flocknote with updated information regarding Parish Mass schedules and church bulletins. Since access to information at the present time is limited, I hope you appreciate this service.

Please note that all of you have received a letter from our Father Lovato regarding donations to the Parish/Project Advance. In the present time, all the funds will stay in the Parish which needs your support now more than ever. Please contribute according to your means since our school is a part of the Parish and they have been supporting us annually in many ways.

Parent Teacher Interviews



Reports cards will published online through MyEducation BC on **Wednesday, December 9th**. You will receive an email directly from them with instructions on how to access your portal. Instructions are also listed on our website under 'Parent Information'. Parent-teacher interviews will be taking place the following day on **Thursday, December 10th online**. Book your appointments online starting December 3rd.

More information on this will be sent soon.

Online Report Cards

St. Helen's report cards will now be online for parents to view. You should be receiving an email directly from myeducation BC on how to access your account. We have also sent you some step by step instructions. You can also find these instructions on our website under 'Parent Information'. Please note that you will be able to access My Education BC but will not be able to view the report card until December 9th when they are released.

Cellphones

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





Calling all Grade 7 Students from
St. Helen's

Notre Dame Placement Exam

EXAM DATE: JANUARY 20, 2021

APPLICATIONS OPEN: DECEMBER 1, 2020

APPLICATION FEE: \$50

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: JANUARY 8, 2021

ON-LINE APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL
PRIOR TO WRITING THE PLACEMENT EXAM

For questions please contact:
scirillo@ndrs.org

*SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- MASKS WILL BE WORN FOR ENTIRETY OF EXAM
- SANITIZING UPON ENTRY
- STUDENTS WILL REMAIN WITHIN THEIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COHORTS/BUBBLES



Our Christmas concert will be taking place on December 17th at 7pm. This show will be partially online and partially live. Tickets will be by donation online through Chimp starting Dec 1st. Link will go live on Dec 1st on our school website. www.sthelensschool.ca

Tax receipts will automatically be issued after you donate.

Please be generous since 50% of ticket sales this year will be going towards operating expenses for our Parish.



I would like to take the time to share a wonderful story with you—some may call it a Christmas miracle which ties beautifully with our Christmas concert theme “when hope was born”. Kindness and generosity during this time of year is a beautiful thing and touches peoples hearts which helps generate peace especially during these difficult times of Covid19.

One of our families, who will rename anonymous, decided to pay tuition until the end of the year for another family in our community who is experiencing financial challenges at the present time. What a noble act of kindness, and I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I hope this will encourage us to all pay it forward in whatever way we can.

COMMUNITY NEWS

BC's provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, was asked last week whether she had given any thought to starting the winter break earlier. She said transmission rates are lower in schools than in other parts of the community and it's important for families and children to have in person learning, but health officials are looking at all of their options and the data. "We know that schools...are a reflection of what's happening in our community. So, we're looking at what are the measures that help us reduce risk in our communities and therefore protect our schools more," Henry said.

<https://apple.news/AiHFZxGOMT1mNY70rJNCvgw>



**No plans to extend
B.C. schools' winter
break due to COVID-19**

Vancouver Sun

A big congratulations to Ewan Sloan for achieving the Chief Scout's Award! It is awarded to a Scout who shows exemplary leadership, participates in volunteering to help their community and learns outdoor skills. It is worth 4 high school credits which is an indicator of the amount of work involved.



Congratulations to Damiano Pecile for making his MLS de-

Staff being trained by Fraser Health nurses on how to deal with emergency situations as well as reviewing policies from our PHO.



***SEARCHERS** PERSONAL BEST*



Grade KA

Ashley Fischer

Sasha Hilton-Carranza Salazar

Grade KB

Aiden Feng

Natalie Kooistra

Grade 1

Riccardo Fortugno

Benjamin Lacuna

Hudson Poersch

Grade 2

Valentina Hirvonen

Giordano Canosa

Xaviar Soligo

Grade 3A

Hannah Carolo

Chiara Cioffi

Rico Viridi

Grade 3B

George Chouinard

Luca Artuso

Grade 4

Hadley Barnard

Grace Lacoursiere

Marcus Naruki-Chew

Grade 5A

Michael Poldrugo

Isla Bosa

Grade 5B

Joanna Chung

Monique Guilbault

Grade 6A

Tomas Sablic Bastable

Andrea Saligumba

Grade 6B

Adrianna Loverro

Joseph Santorelli

Grade 7A

Abraham Xue

Jon Sartori

Grade 7B

Stefania Cirotto

Niko Viridi

