



## St. Helen's School Newsletter | February 2024

Principal Waldemar Sambor  
Vice Principal Anthony Canosa

### **NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents,

Registration packages for the 2024/2025 school year were e-mailed to all returning in-school families at the end of January along with their tax receipts & student verification forms. Our AGM will take place on February 7th at 7:00pm on Zoom. Please [click here](#) to join the meeting on Zoom. Thank you to all our families who have registered for the 2024-2025 school year.

We thank you for choosing St. Helen's for your child(ren), and wish you all a joyous Family Day holiday.

Sincerely in Christ,

Waldemar Sambor  
Principal



Grade 6A snowshoeing.





## CALENDAR .....

FEBRUARY 2ND - GRANDPARENTS TEA (GRADE 3 ONLY)  
- MASS BY GRADE 3(PARENTS WELCOMED)  
- SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY PRESENTATION FOR GR. 4-7 @2:00 PM  
[CLICK HERE](#) TO LEARN MORE AND [HERE](#)

FEBRUARY 6TH- CUTOFF FOR ORDERING KRIPSY KREME DONUTS

FEBRUARY 7TH - AGM MEETING ON ZOOM, [CLICK HERE](#) TO JOIN @ 7 PM

FEBRUARY 8TH - NOTRE DAME PERFORMANCE @ 9 :00 AM

- REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR RETURNING STUDENTS @ 3:00 PM

FEBRUARY 12TH-16 TH- CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEEK

FEBRUARY 13TH - RED DAY(NON-UNIFORM DAY)

- KRISPY KREME DONUTS PICK-UP  
- PANCAKE BREAKFAST (PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL, PACK A SMALL LUNCH FOR YOUR CHILD )

FEBRUARY 14TH - ASH WEDNESDAY MASS @ 9:00 AM

FEBRUARY 15&16TH - NO SCHOOL (CATHOLIC CONFERENCE)

FEBRUARY 19TH & 20TH- NO SCHOOL (19TH FAMILY DAY)

FEBRUARY 20TH- CODE NINJA (GR.1 & 2)

FEBRUARY 22ND - NOTRE DAME CHOIR FESTIVAL @ NOTRE DAME(8 AM-12 PM BY BUS)  
- STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

FEBRUARY 21ST-CODE NINJA (GR. K, 6B&7)

FEBRUARY 26TH - CLASS PHOTO (FULL FORMAL UNIFORM) @BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM

FEBRUARY 28TH - PINK T-SHIRT DAY (ANTI-BULLYING DAY)  
- CODE NINJA (GR.3& 4A)

FEBRUARY 29TH- CODE NINJA (GR.4B, 5 & 6A)

PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) FOR FIELDTRIPS  
AND EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

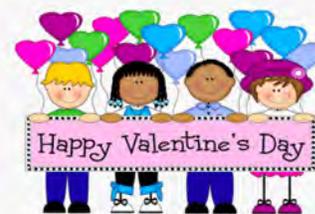




## SEARCHERS NEWS.....

### Valentine's cards/gifts

Our school will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Tuesday, February 13th. Students are welcome to wear red.. Due to Ash Wednesday, we will not be handing out Valentines on Wednesday, February 14th.

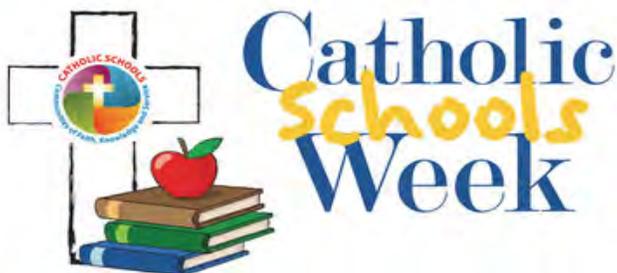


### Pancake Breakfast

On Tuesday, February 13th, St. Helen's School will be having its first annual pancake breakfast for Shrove Tuesday. Eating pancakes the day before Lent is an old tradition where families used up rich foods such as eggs, milk and sugar to prepare for fasting during the 40 days of Lent. All students will receive a pancake breakfast before recess. Please pack a small lunch for later.

### Doughnut Grad Fundraiser

Reminder: Order your doughnuts for Valentines Day and Fat Tuesday on <https://munchalunch.com/schools/sthelens/> . ALL ORDERS DUE BY FEBRUARY 6TH. Doughnuts will be handed out on February 13th.



Catholic Schools Week runs from February 12th to 16th. Our Student Leadership club is planning activities for students at school this week. The week will culminate with our staff attending our Catholic Educators' Conference on Feb. 15th & 16th, with over 1800 other educators across the province this year. The school will be making a special basket with thank you cards for the parish for using the parish facilities. We will also have bible quizzes.

### Lent

Please see the message below from the conference of Bishops.



The concept of a "Technology Sabbath," as proposed in the Pastoral Letter, reminds us of the need to balance our digital engagement with real-life interactions and spiritual reflection. This balance is vital for nurturing a healthy spiritual life and cultivating genuine relationships within our communities. The popularity among many faithful of giving up social media for Lent testifies to the desire for this balance.

St. Helens's School staff and students are encouraged to give, up during Lent, three hours everyday of social medias and electronics.



# Sammy the Searcher .....

Ryder Ruic, 6A enjoying dirt biking in the snow!



Hanan (4B) and Cornelis (5) Bobeldijk taking Sammy to Hawaii!



Our grade 6A snowshoeing. [Click here](#) to see more photos!



We would like to thank Mrs. Kenny and Joseph Lacuna for running the Rubik and Chess club. At St. Helen's, we strive to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities to cater to the diverse interest of our students. From basketball to chess and Rubik's Cube club, we aim to provide opportunities for every student to explore their passions.



LIVING OUR FAITH



## Searchers Personal Best .....



- KA: Ella Baruffa, Alessandro Zornio
- KB: Jackson Hall, Sophia Mamertino
- 1A: Maddie Alviar, Avril Creixams-Diaz, Marcus Teoh
- 1B: Mila Calderon, Daniel Jeon
- 2A: Cassidy Hou, Elyse Lacuna, Lincoln Sandhu
- 2B: Santino Corea, Elissa Tabako, Yanis He
- 3A: Jakob Cheung, Tim Dae
- 3B: Tiffany Chiang, Maks Drlje, Jayden Hall
- 4A: Starlight Park, Vanessa Chedid
- 4B: Alyssa Utini, Nicole Lopez
- 5: Mattias Cirillo, Adriano Cremona, Giordano Canosa
- 6A: Chiara Cioffi, Mason Piovesan, Rico Viridi
- 6B: Anthony Kim, Laura Zhou, Dante Zhou
- 7: Nello Bosa, Michael Kram, Oscar Parris

[Click here](#) to see more photos of the Grade 4 class @Science World



[Click here](#) to see more photos from the basketball tournament.





# Searcher News .....

This coding program has been provided by one of our parents, Min Pak.

## About Code Ninjas

**SAMSUNG x CODE NINJAS**  
**Galaxy Builders**  
**Code Your Own Galaxy**

Samsung x Code Ninjas developed a fun and engaging app called Galaxy Builders and turned it into a workshop where children aged 5 to 14 can learn to code and build their own planets! There's a junior and advanced mode for different experience levels and ages.

The above photos and videos are from previous Code Ninjas x Samsung Partnerships and is not for distribution unless permission has been provided by Mosaic Sales Solutions.

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As our future generation of leaders, CODE NINJAS believe that there's never been a more exciting time to advance our culture – starting with our youngest ones. Every kid deserves the chance to unlock their innate, unlimited capacity to learn, and coding helps nurture key skills such as teamwork, problem solving, and critical thinking.

In collaboration with CODE NINJAS, Samsung Electronics Canada has introduced 'Galaxy Builders,' an interactive learning experience designed to inspire coding interest among young Canadians.

Using the CODE NINJAS curriculum catered for youth, the activations will be equipped with Samsung Galaxy Tab S8 Ultra, Galaxy Z Fold4 and Galaxy S23 Ultra devices.

Participants in the program have the opportunity to construct their own personalized constellations using code through an easy-to-use software app. This app enables them to customize various parameters, including the number of stars, colors, planets, and the rate of pulsation.

We are excited to collaborate with Samsung Canada to offer seamless coding experiences, introducing a broader audience of young individuals to valuable skill sets. Furthermore, we are particularly enthusiastic about representing this initiative to St. Helen's.



# Searcher News.....



## Golf Tournament and Modular Classrooms

St. Helen's will be having our annual Golf tournament on Friday, May 10th, 2024. We need volunteers to help sponsor this event. Please contact the school if you wish to help out. We would like to thank our Golf chairperson, Kevin Lee, and our school liason Mr. Perrotta for helping to make this event possible.

This event will go towards the modular classrooms. Please see below for update on modular classrooms.

## Modular Classroom Update

The City of Burnaby has approved application in January for a development Variance Permit (DVP#23-07) to facilitate the construction of six new St. Helen's Elementary School portables. Myself and our chairperson, Derek Bosa, attended the last City of Burnaby council meeting. We are now in the process of getting building permits and ordering modular classrooms. We are excited by this great news! See timeline below.

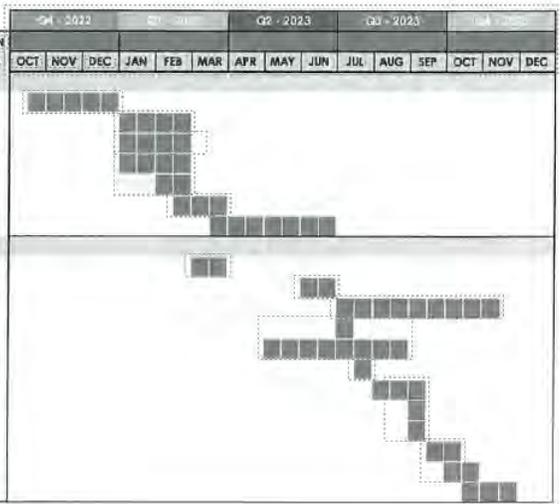


### PLANNING STAGE PROJECT SCHEDULE STH

PROJECT TITLE	St. Helen's School - Modular Project
PROJECT TEAM	Crystal Roche
COMPANY NAME	Westbourne Projects Ltd.
DATE	Tuesday, January 3, 2023

THK - Thinkspace
STH - St. Helen's
WPL - Westbourne Projects
EDF - Edifice Construction

TASK ID	TASK TITLE	TASK OWNER	START DATE	DUE DATE	DURATION IN DAYS
1	<b>Project Conception &amp; Initiation</b>				
1.2	Site Planning & City Consultation	THK/WPL	11-14-22	12-30-22	46
1.3	Obtain consultant input as required	THK/WPL	01-04-23	02-15-23	42
1.4	Locate Services/Utilities	EDF/WPL	01-04-23	02-15-23	42
1.5	Review and refine project budget	EDF	01-04-23	02-15-23	42
1.6	PPA/BP Drawings/IT/FC Pack/Tender Portables	THK/WPL	01-04-23	02-15-23	42
1.7	PPA Application to City of Burnaby	THK	02-17-23	03-31-23	42
1.8	BP Application to City of Burnaby (staged for demo)	THK	03-01-23	06-30-23	121
2	<b>Construction</b>				
2.1	Hazmat removal & demolition (Target start Spring Break)	EDF	03-11-23	04-01-23	21
2.2	Tender Period & Award	EDF	06-01-23	06-30-23	29
2.3	Construction (civil, portable install, ramps etc.)	EDF	07-01-23	11-21-23	143
2.4	Mobilize	EDF	07-04-23	07-07-23	3
2.5	Order Portables - Min 16 weeks	WPL/STH	05-01-23	08-31-23	122
2.6	Site Clearing & Site Prep	EDF	07-10-23	07-22-23	12
2.7	Servicing & Inspections	EDF	07-24-23	09-02-23	40
2.8	Portable Installation	TBD	09-05-23	09-09-23	4
2.9	Service Connections	EDF	09-11-23	09-23-23	12
2.10	Portable skirting, stairs & ramps, landscaping	EDF	09-25-23	10-07-23	12
2.11	Testing & Occupancy	EDF	10-09-23	10-31-23	22
3	<b>Move-in</b>	STH	10-23-23	11-30-23	38



<sup>1</sup>All construction scheduling to be confirmed by construction manager;  
<sup>2</sup>Construction manager to recommend optimal tender dates