



St. Helen's School Newsletter | Oct 2025

Principal Waldemar Sambor
Vice Principal Anthony Belmonte
Vice Principal Anthony Canosa

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful beginning to the school year!

We opened with the commissioning of our teachers, who have promised to emphasize faith and integrate it across every subject. Soon after, our Grade 4–7 students took part in environmental studies, outdoor activities, including canoeing, paddle boarding, swimming, and hiking. A highlight was our Grade 7 class showing tremendous courage and determination as they climbed the Chief in Squamish, a memorable achievement they will carry forward in their role as school leaders.

This year's staff retreat, also held in Squamish, focused on ongoing planning, data analysis, and student engagement across all core subjects. Together, we developed our new Continuous Improvement (CI) Plan, which will guide us in reflecting on data, setting goals, and analyzing progress regularly.

As a school, we continue to grow in our learning about First Nations traditions, while also prioritizing student voice, individualized learning, and providing additional support for students in need. We are committed to careful analysis of assessment results, including Canadian Achievement Tests, provincial exams, and other measures, as we strive for excellence.

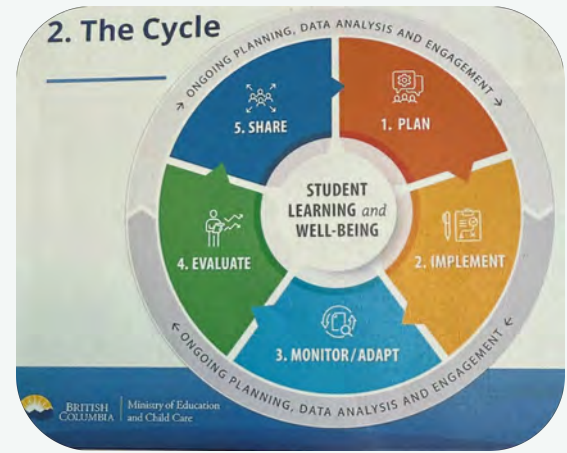
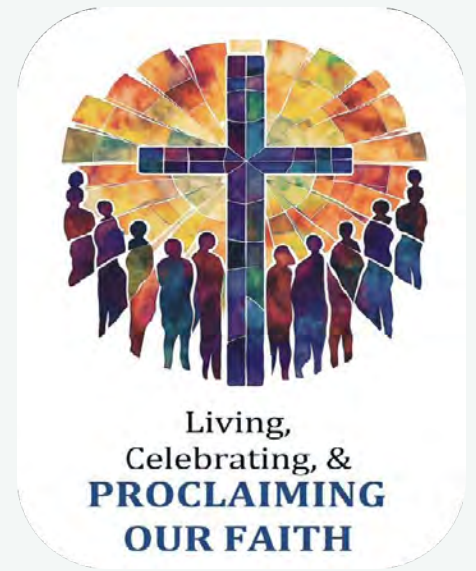
Please see a snapshot of our academic achievement over the past five years below. It reflects our core mission: to deliver an excellent curriculum enriched by hands-on learning experiences and meaningful field trips for every grade.

Thank you for your continued support and for being such valued partners in your child's education.

During my seven-day pilgrimage, together with 10 principals from the Archdiocese of Vancouver, we walked nearly 200 kilometres along the Portuguese Coastal Route from the seaside town of Oia to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, home to the shrine of St. James. Along the way, we not only covered distance but also deepened our calling as spiritual leaders in Catholic education.

<https://bccatholic.ca/news/catholic-van/refreshing-the-soul-camino-pilgrimage-renews-catholic-school-leaders-in-hope>

Sincerely in Christ,
Waldemar Sambor
Principal



St. Helen's School – Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) Summary

Literacy Results

Grade 4: Five-year average of 88.2% (On Track/Exceeding) (Independent Avg. 89.9%, Province: 79.9%). Grade 7: Five-year average of 95.0% (Independent Avg. 90.4%, Province: 74.9%). Participation rates consistently strong (often above 80%). Overall: St. Helen's students perform significantly above provincial averages, and slightly higher than other independent schools.

Numeracy Results

Grade 4: Five-year average of 93.2% (On Track/Exceeding) (Independent Avg. 89.6%, Province: 71.9%). Grade 7: Five-year average of 97.5% (Independent Avg. 93.4%, Province: 84.8%). Successful years with results at or near 100%. Overall: St. Helen's is excelling, often far ahead of provincial results, and solidly outperforming the independent sector averages.

Summary Statement

St. Helen's students **well above provincial standards** in both Literacy and Numeracy. Numeracy is particularly outstanding, with results often at or near 100%. Compared with other independent schools, St. Helen's consistently ranks among the top performers.



Saint Helen's School



sthelensschool



<https://www.sthelensschool.ca/>

MONTH AT A GLANCE

OCT 1	CISVA CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP
OCT 2	FANTUAN LUNCH PROGRAM BEGINS
OCT 7	BLESSING OF THE PETS @ 9:15 AM (GR. 4A)
OCT 10	WALK A THON (PIZZA LUNCH PROVIDED)
OCT 13	NO SCHOOL (THANKSGIVING)
OCT 15	GRAD LUNCH (TBD)
OCT 16	WHOLE SCHOOL MASS/FULL FORMAL UNIFORM (GR.6)
OCT 24	NO SCHOOL (PRO D DAY)/HALLOWEEN FAMILY NIGHT (MORE INFO TO COME)
OCT 27-31	SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
OCT 31	FALL FIESTA (CHILDREN CAN WEAR HALLOWEEN COSTUMES TO SCHOOL)

HALLOWEEN COSTUME REMINDER

We are excited to have students dress in costumes for school on October 31st, and need your help to ensure a fun and safe celebration reflecting our Catholic values. Please help us by choosing costumes that are appropriate.

We ask families to avoid:

- masks that fully cover the face
- blood or gore
- costumes representing stereotypes or other cultures
- any kind of weapon

Please ensure your child's costume meets these guidelines. Thank you for supporting a respectful and joyful celebration for all our students.

ST. HELEN'S CWL CRAFT MARKET

Crafters and makers needed for the St Helen's Christmas Craft Market. If you have not already signed up, we have some spaces left for vendors. Tables are a reasonable \$45 for the one day market on Saturday November 15th, 10:00-4:00. If you are interested or know of someone who may, be please have them contact Maria Belanic at craftmarketsh@gmail.com

Parents: if you need participation hours, we need your help too. We will need extra hands for decorating, set up and take down, advertising and other jobs on Saturday, Nov 15th. Volunteer shifts are 2 hours per volunteer. If you can help please contact Patti at pattisuggan@shaw.ca



Left: Orange Day Assembly

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/9cbuj3qByHGnVDns6>



Please reference the P.E strip examples above

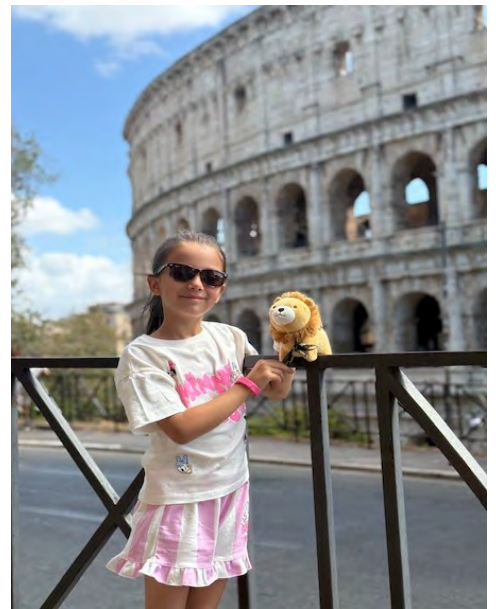
SEARCHERS NEWS



Mathew Guilbault at the Royal Tyrell in Alberta



Cadence Ho with Sammy in Asia



Daisy Baianu with Sammy in Romania & Italy

PERSONAL BEST

KA- Cayden Li, Diana Papian
KB- Emme Alviar, Ajax Chiachurski, Anthony Mamertino
1- Lena Min, Alessia Katsionis, Milan Mrsic
2A- Angelina Cappellano, Daniel Hogan, Sophia Oliveira Tributino
2B- Maja Cirjak, Ally Fung, Jiashu Wu
3A- Fabiana Alvarez Cruz, Luke Poniz
3B- Rashad Amisi, Ella Mrsic, Mila Calderon
4A- Jackson Piovesan, Maria Hogan, Gia Baruffa
4B- Analisa Macera, Enzo Caballero, Sophie Cosgrave
5A- Ashely Fischer, Emilia Meneses
5B- Chloe An, Kyle La, Logan Zhou
6A- Riccardo Fortugno, Grace Ge
6B- Julianna Tempesta, Michael Hogan, Ethan Zamprogno
7- Gyuwon Lee, Neal Tang



Above: CISVA Cross Country Championship & Terry Fox Run!

Updated school photos can be viewed on our website here
<https://www.sthelensschool.ca/photos-2025-2026.php>