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Principal: Mr. Waldemar Sambor
Vice Principal: Ms. Dawn Currie

St. Helen's School

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E-mail: office.shel@cisva.bc.ca

Website: www.sthelensschool.ca

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2017/18 school year. Pope Francis wrote a TED talk on "Why the only future worth building includes everyone" which goes hand in hand with this year's CISVA school theme "Care for Everyone in Our Common Home". He wrote "The Revolution of tenderness. And what is tenderness? Is it the love that comes and becomes real. It is a movement that starts from our heart and reaches the eyes, the ears and the hands. Tenderness means to use our eyes to see the other, our ears to hear the other, to listen to the children, the poor, those who are afraid of the future. To listen also to the silent cry of our common home, of our sick and polluted earth. Tenderness means to use our hands and our heart to comfort the other, to take care of those in need".

This year, we will continue to pray and deepen our faith and try to do our best to respond to Pope Francis' appeal. Pope Francis said, "The earth is essentially a shared inheritance, whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone." Our contribution can make a difference if everyone can do his or her part. He also highlighted ecological education and spirituality stating, "We need to change and develop new convictions, attitudes and forms of life, including a new lifestyle. This requires not only individual conversation, but also a community of networks to solve the complex situation facing our world today. Essential to this is a spirituality that can motivate us to a more passionate concern for the protection of our world."

Together at St. Helen's we will seek to build a better world.

Sincerely in Christ,

Waldemar Sambor
Principal

Looking forward to
working with this
amazing team for our
2017/2018 School year!



September Highlights

- 5th School Opens 9am
12:00 Dismissal
- 6-8th Outdoor Education (Gr. 4-7)
- 7th Camp Mass (Lake Evans)
- 11-14th Book Fair
- 13th Individual Picture Day
- 14th Open House (7pm)
- 15th Terry Fox Run (1:15 pm)
- 22nd Whole School Mass
- 27th Walk-a-thon (Dismissal
1pm)

**Please refer to our online calendar for further events & information. You may also download our school app.*



STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

Principal	Mr. Waldemar Sambor	wsambor@cisva.bc.ca
Grade K	Mrs. Deanna Canosa	dcanosa@sthelensschool.ca
	Mrs. Claudia Martinelli	cmartinelli@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 1	Mrs. Gillian Holland	gholland@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 2A	Mrs. Angela Rakic	arakic@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 2B	Mrs. Sandra Drlje	sdrlje@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 3A	Mrs. Donna Perrotta	dperrotta@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 3B	Mrs. Debbie Jussinoja	djussinoja@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 4A	Mrs. Jackie Kenny	jkenny@shschool.ca
Grade 4B	Ms. Gema Chavez	gchavez@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 5A	Ms. Raffaella Caffo	rcaffo@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 5B/Vice Principal	Ms. Dawn Currie	dcurrie@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 6A	Mrs. Maria Salituro	msalituro@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 6B	Ms. Antonella Audia	aaudia@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 7A	Mr. Anthony Canosa	acanosa@sthelensschool.ca
Grade 7B	Mrs. Lindsay Mincieli	lmincieli@sthelensschool.ca
Library	Mrs. Jadranka Erlic	jerlic@sthelensschool.ca
LAC	Mrs. Teresa Utini	tutini@sthelensschool.ca
	Mr. Robert Pisanu	rpisanu@sthelensschool.ca
French/Counselor	Ms. Sarah Ruggier	sruggier@sthelensschool.ca
P.E.	Mr. Enrico Perrotta	eperrotta@sthelensschool.ca
Music/Band	Mrs. Melina Ivanovic	mivanovic@sthelensschool.ca
E.A.	Miss Tina Perizzolo	tperizzolo@sthelensschool.ca
E.A.	Miss Erin Callaway	ecallaway@sthelensschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Annarita Elm	aelm@sthelensschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Linda Zen	lzen@sthelensschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Immacolata Santalucia	msantalucia@sthelensschool.ca
E.A.	Miss. Kaitlyn Reilly	kreilly@sthelensschool.ca
E.A.	Miss. Daniella Trevisan	office.shel@cisva.bc.ca
T.A.	Anthony Belmonte, Erica Busto, Tianna Carioti, Jessica Spitale & Nicholas Marzitelli.	

Note: Grades A & B remained the same as last year.

SUPPORT STAFF

Office Manager	Ms. Nancy Ginnetti	office.shel@cisva.bc.ca
Secretary	Mrs. Laura DeFazio	secretary@sthelensschool.ca
Bookkeeper	Mrs. Linda Spitale	lspitale@sthelensschool.ca
Secretary/Payroll	Mrs. Lesley Roed	lroed@sthelensschool.ca
Maintenance	Mr. Tony Merandi & Mr. Paul Mobilio	office.shel@cisva.bc.ca

Note: Please note all staff emails are posted on the school website.

Teacher email is for general communication purposes. This form of communication is **not** a replacement for parent-teacher conferences. **Support staff** email can be used for absentee notes, field trip permission or other items relevant to the office staff.

PEC MEMBERS 2017 / 2018

Ms. Gerardina Trasolini	Chair	Mrs. Lidija Bosa	Participation
Mr. Frederico Gimenez	Vice-Chair	Mr. David Jacobucci	Participation
Mr. Bryce Clark	Treasurer	Mr. Marco Holzer	Maintenance
Mrs. Angela Coelho	Secretary	Fr. Leonardo Rocha	Pastor



BACK-TO-SCHOOL INFORMATION

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

Students are expected to arrive punctually, attend regularly, and behave appropriately by:

- ⊙ Preparing for lessons and having the appropriate books, materials and assignments ready for class,
- ⊙ Showing consideration for others: the rights of peers, staff and visitors,
- ⊙ Making a sincere, concentrated effort to do well in studies,
- ⊙ Wearing the correct uniform at all times,
- ⊙ Bringing a written note signed by a parent/guardian explaining the lack of uniform or incomplete assignments,
- ⊙ Respecting and complying with school regulations,
- ⊙ Participating attentively in all religious observances.

In addition to the above, a pleasant co-operative attitude is expected of each student. This is to be shown both to peers and staff. We believe that the display of good manners reflects proper home training including "Please" and "Thank you" "Excuse me", "I'm Sorry", and other such expressions. Gestures and behavior should also show proper manners. Consistent courtesy will encourage mutual respect and continue to build a caring community.

INTERMEDIATE OUTDOOR EDUCATION—Sept 6-8th:

Students from Grades 4 to 7 will be attending Outdoor School starting Wednesday, September 6th. Please refer to Mr. Perrotta's letter which will be sent out by email. Students are required to bring a binder, pen and pencil to camp this year. Camp pictures will be on the website at approximately 10:00 p.m. on Thursday evening.

CAMP LETTERS—Parents who wish to send letters to their child at camp should have them at the school office by 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 6th.

SCHOOL UNIFORM—Sept. 11th:

Students are expected to be in full uniform by Monday, September 11th. Students may wear the summer uniform. Please remember shoes must be **black** or **navy blue** and the height of the heel must not exceed 3.5 cm or 1.5 inches. September 5th to 8th is a non uniform week, students may wear appropriate summer clothes. The policy regarding Hair Colour/Haircuts and Accessories will be in effect from September 6th (including all intermediate students going to Camp).

We understand that Neat Uniforms has backorders so please ensure that your children wear similar colors to our St. Helen's uniform until your uniform arrives. (please see the attachment).

Used Uniforms - If you have any used uniform pieces in good condition that you wish to donate, please bring your donation to the school office.

SCHOOL BUS—Sept. 11th:

Our bus service will begin on Monday, September 11th. (\$35.00 monthly one way, \$40.00 monthly round trip) **As we are now planning the Bus Route**, please advise the office no later than the 1st day of school if your child will be taking the bus. You will receive a letter regarding bus stops and pick up times.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL INFORMATION

LIBRARY BOOK FAIR—Sept 11th to 14th:

Once again we will be hosting a “Scholastic Book Fair” - September 11th –14th. This is a great opportunity to see the latest and most popular children’s books and could be a great chance to stock up on birthday and Christmas presents. More information to follow at a later date.

INDIVIDUAL PICTURES—Sept. 13th

Wednesday, September 13th. Students are required to be in full uniform with sweaters.

OPEN HOUSE—Thursday Sept. 14th:

7:00 p.m. Meeting in the church for prayer and the Commissioning of teachers

7:20 p.m. Teachers meet with parents in the classroom.

Students who will be attending with their parents will be supervised in the gym.



GRADE 6 IMMUNIZATIONS—Oct 26th & May 2nd:

Will be taking place on Thursday, Oct. 26th and Wednesday, May 2nd. Forms will be going home early October, please make arrangements now to see your doctor if needed for updated immunization information.

ST. HELEN'S SCHOOL APP:

Our school app, which can be downloaded onto your smartphone, gives parents and students access to information regarding the upcoming school year. To submit an absentee letter on the app click the ‘School Info’ tab then ‘Absence Form’ , pick your child’s grade, fill form and submit. **This will directly notify both the office staff and teacher of your child’s absence.**

PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT: Tuition payments made through the pre-authorized debit service must be kept updated. If your chequing account changes please notify the office asap.

WALKATHON: Wednesday, September 27th. More information to follow at a later date.

FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY: Friday, October 27th. More information to follow at a later date.

**Please note that dates for Communion have been confirmed and they are as follows:
Communion Rehearsal April 26th at 7:00pm and Communion April 29th at 3:00pm.**



Nutrition, Health & Wellness

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM:

Starts on Wednesday, September 13th. We will accept cheques up until Monday, September 11th. (\$120.00 full year). All lunches will be accompanied by a healthy snack and a drink.

SEPTEMBER HOTLUNCH:

Calendar will be updated with September's hotlunch menu.

MUNCH A LUNCH:

Will be starting on September 18th. More details on ordering will be emailed soon.

LATE OR ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL:

We ask for your cooperation in calling the school **by 9:00 AM** if your child is going to be late or absent from school. It is important that your children arrive to school on time so that they begin the day with everyone in their class on time for morning prayer. If your child has been absent, please use our **St.Helen's app** or send an email to the school Secretary at secretary@sthelensschool.ca. **Notes are required by the Ministry of Education.**

- ♦ ***PLEASE ADVISE THE SCHOOL OFFICE OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, EMAIL, EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS, AND/OR CHEQUING ACCOUNT INFORMATION THAT HAVE CHANGED SINCE REGISTRATION.***

HEADLICE:

With the end of summer vacation and the start to the new school year, we would like parents to take a pro-active approach this year to head lice. Please examine your child's hair today and on a regular basis. If head lice is found, please start treatment immediately and notify the school office. Please click the Fraser Health link below for the latest information and treatment options.

http://www.fraserhealth.ca/your_health/school_health/head-lice/head_lice



GRATITUDE & CONGRATULATIONS

THANK YOU:

- ♦ To all the parents who came during the summer to help us with the maintenance of our school.
- ♦ To the Maintenance Participation Group and all of our staff for preparing their classrooms and common learning areas during the summer for the new school year.

WELCOME:

- ♦ Welcome back from maternity leave Mrs. Teresa Utini.
- ♦ A big welcome to our new teachers Ms. Antonella Audia, Ms. Raffaella Caffo, Ms. Gema Chavez, Mrs. Melina Ivanovic, Mrs. Jackie Kenny, and Mrs. Lindsay Mincieli.

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS :

- ♦ Congratulations to Laura, our school secretary, on her new marriage which took place at St. Francis of Assisi this summer.



SUMMER MAINTENANCE

I would like to thank all the volunteers and Mr. Mobilio for co-ordinating maintenance during the summer.

- We changed the floors in four classrooms in the main building
- We painted the playground and fixed all the cracks and holes which occurred after our harsh winter.
- Library was given a face lift
- The front of the school was painted and fresh stucco was replaced with old stucco to stop any leaking.
- Painting was also done in the West Wing and Learning Center.
- Entire school was cleaned and floors were waxed.
- Purchased new resources such as google chrombooks for grade 6 and 7 And upgraded technology for primary grades.

I would like to thank this opportunity to thank all teachers who worked many hours during their summer break to organize their classrooms. When you have a chance, please visit our classrooms and thank our teachers for their hard work. We have a fantastic year ahead of us and again, I am counting on your continuous support to educate our students.