



Grade 8 Retreat (with Fr. Guy and Mrs. Jansen)



## April Newsletter 2021

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## Principal's Message

Dear SJP II A Supporters,

Happy Easter to everyone and thank you for your ongoing support for our SJP II Academy community. Amidst all the present-day concerns and challenges associated with the current pandemic, we have managed, by the grace of God, to remain consistently healthy and fortunate to provide our staff and students with a positive learning environment both in and outside the classroom.

As noted in this newsletter, there are so many exciting things taking place in the school thanks in no small way to the wonderful efforts of the staff who have gone over and above the call of duty this past year. Behind the scenes, there is much going on with the building of our new campus and I want to thank our President, Mike Donelson, and our Foundation Board Chair, Troy Van Vliet for their efforts in making our dream of a new high school in the South Surrey area come closer to fruition

We are moving full steam ahead in our plans for the 2021-22 school year and will be welcoming a full class of Gr. 8 students along with the hiring of an additional Math / Science teacher and Educational Assistants to complement our Learning Resource Dept.

We want to say thank you and all of God's blessings to Fr. Guy who has served so well as our school Chaplain the past two years and has recently be reassigned to St. Mary's in Chilliwack. We look forward with open arms to our new Chaplain which will be assigned to us in June via the Archbishop's office.

God bless,

*Mich DesLauriers*

Mr. Michel DesLauriers, Principal

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### Virtual Information Night

Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm

RSVP: [skelly@sjp2academy.com](mailto:skelly@sjp2academy.com)

#### Re-registration for 2021-2022

Please submit to the office

#### Mother's Day Mass

May 6<sup>th</sup> -Live Streamed

#### Entrance Scholarship Winners:

It is with great joy that we announce the five winners of the 2021-22 Entrance Scholarships for Saint John Paul II Academy:

Mia Beliveau  
Mia Borkowski  
Callum Parsons  
Carys Prout  
Samantha Wood

The school community congratulates our winners, and we look forward to meeting the entire new Grade 8 class in September!

# Celebrating our Faith!!!

## Campus Ministry

Each day of Holy Week this year was noticeably different compared to any other regular school day for the students at Saint John Paul II Academy. As we approached Good Friday and the Easter long weekend, students assembled each day for prayer and reflection. On Monday, students participated in the Living Rosary as they meditated upon the Sorrowful Mysteries, and on Tuesday, Fr. Guy celebrated Holy Mass in the school's gym. On Wednesday, students led a reflection on the Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross, and on Holy Thursday, the staff led the Stations of the Cross for everyone. As we prepared to embrace the cross of Christ in the Paschal mystery, a mini chapel with candle votives was set up in a quiet corner of the school. Overall, students were given multiple opportunities to meaningfully embrace the truest meaning of Totus Tuus as demonstrated by Jesus who was completely dependent upon His heavenly Father and submitted to His Father's will throughout His earthly life, even till His last breath.



School Prayer Corner



Prayer Service: Jesus' Seven Last Words

## Retreats: Grade 8, 9, 10

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, every student was given the opportunity to take time outside of their regular academic schedule to reflect on how the spirit of God is at work in their lives. Students participated in a one-day **themed** retreat with their peers in their grade. In Grade 8, we discussed how **togetherness**, bonding, and being included was important for Jesus when he sat around the dinner table with his disciples, just as it is important for us to be together and bond with others when we eat with them. In Grade 9, we discussed how Christ **accepted** the situation he was in, the pain he was going to suffer, and the people who were putting him to death. Students reflected on how the Eucharist is a gift of Jesus' love through which we remember His death and resurrection, and together, we accept them as one Church (the Body of Christ). Keeping in mind our Catholic schools' theme this year, "Walk with Jesus, Our Living Hope", the Grade 10 retreat was a time for reflection on how to **Thrive with the Virtues!** Students were encouraged to stay committed, grow in holiness, serve and be faithful in, and to their commitments by practicing the virtues. Each of the three days included the celebration of Holy Mass with the class, time spent in Holy Adoration with the benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, along with time for reconciliation. Students found the day fruitful and meaningful as they enthusiastically took part in each activity. We thank Fr. Guy for spending each of the three retreat days with us to help facilitate and connect with the students.



Stations of the Cross

### Quick Facts

- The Numeracy Assessment is a new provincial assessment and a graduation requirement for students on the 2018 Graduation Program (all students except for this year's Grade 12s).
- Students will write the assessment during their graduation years (Grades 10-12) at the most appropriate time for them. The assessment sessions start in January 2018.
- Unlike the retired Mathematics 10 Provincial Exams, the Numeracy Assessment is not tied to a specific math course. Rather, it evaluates a student's numeracy skills developed over the course of their education.
- Results will be reported using a four-category proficiency scale and will appear on a student's transcript as a number, representing one of the four categories (emerging-developing-proficient-extending).
- Students will have two opportunities to rewrite during their graduation years should they wish to increase their proficiency. Results will appear on StudentTranscript, and their best outcome will be recorded on their final transcript.
- The Numeracy Assessment typically requires two hours to complete; however, students may use a third hour if they require the extra time.

### What do the proficiency scale categories look like?

Proficiency Scale	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
	The student demonstrates an understanding of the underlying concepts and competencies relevant to the essential learning.	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the underlying concepts and competencies relevant to the essential learning.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the underlying concepts and competencies relevant to the essential learning.	The student demonstrates an sophisticated understanding of the underlying concepts and competencies relevant to the essential learning.

### Will results affect entrance into post-secondary institutions?

It is possible post-secondary institutions may use results as value-added information when determining admission requirements. Institutions are currently in the process of reviewing their admission processes to align with changes to the K-12 education system. Employers may also be interested in a student's assessment results, as evidence of their achievement in numeracy.

NEW!

## Graduation Numeracy Assessment

Information for Parents  
December 2017

**More questions? Try the Curriculum website for more information on the Graduation Numeracy Assessment, including a sample assessment and collaborative-learning videos.**

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Education  
www.curriculum.bc.ca



## Grade 10 Graduation Literacy Assessment

# Numeracy and Literacy Assessment

The Grade 10 class recently received their marks for their Numeracy and Literacy assessments from the Ministry of Education which were completed at the end of January, and the staff at Saint John Paul II Academy congratulate each of these students on successfully meeting the requirements. Overall, we are very proud of the students for representing our new school very well (another "first") with strong standings as some even achieved TOP MARKS!

# Amazing News

## Pink Shirt Day

Every year our school participates by wearing pink on Pink Shirt Day. The day is dedicated to promoting anti-bullying in our school community. As a school that is comprised of a diverse group of staff and students, it is important that we encourage each other to create an inclusive environment for everyone at SJP2. Our students wore their pink shirts proudly that day which is a testament to our school motto "Enter to learn. Leave to serve". We teach students to accept everyone and we hope that these values that we instill in them stay with them when they graduate from SJP2.



Our Students in Pink Shirts



## Student Council

The Student Council is currently planning two fundraisers for the end of the year. The first fundraiser will be for Student Council, around the Victoria Day holiday. We are thinking of a Sports Day and are just working out the details to make an enjoyable day for all. The money Student Council will make shall go to buy supplies for our second fundraiser in June, just before school ends. This second fundraiser will be for Chalice, raising money to help build a fence for our sponsor school in Africa. Please stay tuned for more information!

## School Clubs

The latest offering from the Vocations Club (aka The Happiness Club) was the hosting of a 'St. Patrick's Day Help & Hockey' get-together during Spring Break. We set up tables on their sides in the gym to create a huge 'rink', and played a fun and competitive two and half hours of hockey. Why Saint Patrick's day? It's a little known fact that before the Maple Leafs, Toronto had an NHL team called the St. Patricks - who actually won the Stanley Cup in 1922. Plus, St. Patrick is an amazing Catholic evangelist!



Test Tables and Chairs in Room 102B



## Test Classroom

A set of new modular desks and chairs have been installed as a test classroom at SJPII! This is called flexible seating, and the students can move around to the desk configuration that works best for them for different subject areas. All of our students will be using these desks in various configurations/pods over the next couple of months. We have the intention of using a similar style for our new school, and can't wait to hear all of the feedback!

## Academics

In Math, our Grade 8s are completing a unit on the Pythagorean Theorem and perfect squares. This will include a Math project called the Pythagorean Spiral. Our Grade 9s are entering the world of polynomials. It's all about coefficients, exponents, and combining like terms. Grade 10's are completing a unit on simple trigonometry ratios. They will soon be designing and building their own Barbie zip line! As always, I encourage all our students to stay on top of the assigned problems and work through all solutions.

In Science, we are nearing the midway point of Physics. Our Grade 8s have learned all about the Electromagnetic Spectrum. Our Grade 9s have completed an introduction to the various types of Energy - and will now start a unit on circuits. Our Grade 10s are learning to calculate kinetic and potential energy. Physics, as a discipline, is all about the properties of matter and energy. It is a very broad subject that allows for many, many questions and useful discussions in our classroom!

The school's newest club is the Royals Flying Club (RFC). It was started because of my enthusiasm for aviation history, fortunately shared by the 10 students who signed up to be the first members. Our opening event was a movie night: we set up the big screen, had popcorn, drinks, and snacks and enjoyed the epic film, Dunkirk. It was fun and educational to learn something about that aspect of the history of flight - and that's the point of the RFC - to enjoy and explore history, flight, and the men and women who were involved over the years.



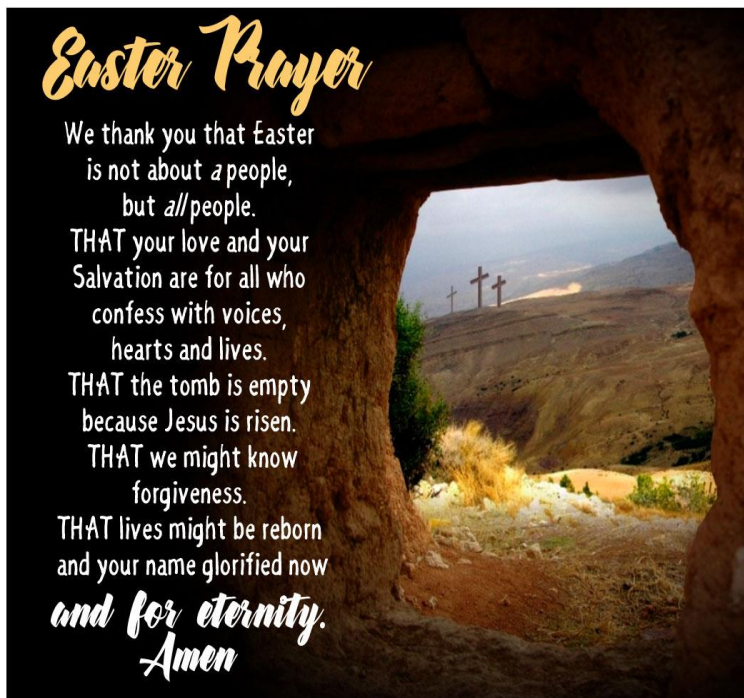
# Extra-Curricular

## Two on two Tournament

As a basketball program, we do everything we can to give our players fun and unique experiences. This year, due to popular demand by our student population, SJPII continued our basketball program past January to mid-April with an Elite Two-on-Two round-robin tournament! All grades, and co-ed, eligible students had to have played on the basketball team this year, and are now competing on Thursdays after school. It is a fun and relaxed camaraderie that helps to continue building our basketball skills in the off-season.

## Ultimate

Every sport we have offered this year has been met with enthusiasm by the students. Ultimate is the same. Thirty-one students signed up, practices began in the gym and eventually moved to Coast Meridian Park, a three team roster was set up, and league play began. It's an amazing sport, combining some of the best elements from other games. In addition to that, it is 'self-refereed' and the Spirit of the Game is a unique aspect that is an integral part. That does not make it less competitive; it is very competitive, with impressive athleticism and sportsmanship from the players as well. It's our third year playing it as a school, and it continues to be popular with the students.



## Go forth

Catholic communities also sprung into action this Easter, finding ways to share hope and joy with neighbours. St. John Paul II Academy students packaged 300 goodie bags with cookies (baked by the Helpers of St. Ann and St. Joachim) for the homeless.



Easter cookies packaged by students of Saint John Paul II Academy.

Picture and article courtesy of BC Catholic (April 7, 2021 Online Issue)



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# We are Royals !!!