

ST. JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY

December 2024 Newsletter

This December we begin Advent and our preparation for the birth of our Saviour. This Holy season provides us the opportunity to prepare our hearts and draw closer to Jesus and the Holy Family through prayer, reconciliation, works of charity and acts of love and care for those in our community. Our students and staff will be celebrating the first three weeks of Advent together with three distinct weeks of giving detailed below on our student council/campus ministry page. We are also looking forward to the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe mass and evening prayer service and celebrations. We hope to see all of our families together for this beautiful celebration.

We recognize that the Christmas season can be especially difficult for some members of our school community who are experiencing financial challenges. We have recently received funding as part of a provincial government initiative "Feeding Futures". Our school has received a financial allotment for the purchase of food cards. Families experiencing need and hardship during this time can reach out to stjohnpaul2academy.com or in person to the office. This is fully confidential. Any family in need will reach out. We have much to share in this newsletter. The final month of school for 2024. May God continue to bless our community. Thank you to our supporters.



December 11th - Parent/Student/Teacher Meetings (see next page for details)

December 12th - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass, prayer service, dinner & festivities (see parent association page for more details)

December 13th - Snow Ball Dance

December 14th - Society Board AGM
(see Society Board page)

December 16th -19th -
Student Council Advent
& Christmas Activities

December 20th - School Closed

January 6th - School Resumes



Please remember to bring in your refundables every Friday to support our Grad Class (don't forget to save up your holiday containers)

November Events

Rick's Hearts

Grade 12 students and our Outreach and Advocacy team supported Rick's Heart Foundation by making 50 hearts. These pink and purple hearts serve as a reminder of all those people; young and old who lost their lives to addiction. The students went to Diefenbaker Park in Tsawwassen and decorated a large 12 ft tree. If you have the opportunity to drive past the park, admire the lights and take a moment to remember those who lost their lives to addiction.



Open House &
2025 Applications Now Open

On November 21st we welcomed over 250 guests to our gym to share about our school and new campus for 2025. Please share the application information with your friends and family as we look forward to September 2025



- November 22nd: Portal opens
- January 17th: Application deadline
- January 27-31 & February 3-7: Interviews (in-person/Zoom)
- February 28th: Decisions made and offers sent
- March 12th/15th: Deadline to accept offers
- April 15th: Apple Financial opens (due May 15th)

WANT TO KNOW MORE?





PRE-REGISTRATION

Parent/Student/Teacher Meetings - December 11th
11:00 am - 4:00 pm & 5:00pm - 7:30 pm



Making life easier, one application at a time

School Appointments – Parent Instructions

1. Go to our school appointments [web site](https://sjp2academy.schoolappointments.com/?action=login-form) for your school.
<https://sjp2academy.schoolappointments.com/?action=login-form>
2. Register for an account by clicking the "REGISTER" menu tab and filling in the on-line form. Choose a user id and password for yourself and then click the "Register Now" button.
3. Add your children into the system by clicking the "Add a Student" button. Click the "Insert New" button to add more children.
4. Click the "date" icon beside each child's name to schedule appointments. Select the staff you wish to book appointments with and the "View Calendars" button. Use the "Ctrl" or "Command" key to select multiple staff to view at the same time.
5. Click on available time slots to book your appointments to make your bookings.

PORTAL is **OPEN**: Dec. 4 at noon

PORTAL is **CLOSED**: Dec. 10 at noon

Students are expected
to attend meetings with
their parents



Campus Ministry & Student Council

Advent Weeks of Giving - all info in advisory google classroom pages

Week 1



Week 2

DIAPER DRIVE



Week 3

Hamper Drive

This year our advisory classes are joining together to sponsor a family through Star of the Sea Parish. Each advisory class will be signing up to bring specific items from the family's wish list - please ask your child(ren) what they have committed to bring/donate. Together we can make this Christmas season a time of celebration and joy for a family in our greater community.

Food donations along with grocery gift cards are greatly appreciated along with the gift list items.

Athletics

Volleyball

This year's volleyball season was filled with excitement and memorable moments!

Our **Gr 8 Boys** made it to the playoffs, but despite their earnest efforts, they were ultimately unable to advance to the finals.

Our **Gr 8 Girls** team did make it all the way to the **FINALS** and placed 2nd in South Surrey! Way to go girls! We can't wait to see what your next several years hold as you enter the JR Division.
Thank you Coach Walters 🏐

The **Sr Boys** Volleyball Team competed in the Tier 1A Banner Game and narrowly missed claiming the top spot. However, they bounced back in spectacular fashion, defeating one of the top three teams in their tier in the province at a later tournament!
Way to go Coach Dela Cruz! ⭐

Basketball

This year, our Grade 8 Boys team will proudly represent us as our sole basketball team, and we couldn't be more excited for them. The boys are gearing up to compete in the upcoming Tier 2 league, and we can't wait to cheer them on through countless practices and thrilling games in the months ahead. Good luck Coach Dela Cruz! The boys will compete in their first tournament in January at Delta Secondary.



Important Upcoming Athletics Dates

Fri Jan 17 Gr 6 Boys Basketball Tournament

Fri Jan 24 Gr 6 Girls Basketball Tournament

@ St. John Paul II Academy

Games start at 9:30am



Jan 23-24 Gr 8 Boys Pacer Classic Basketball Tournament

@ Delta Secondary

Games starting at 1:30pm

Parent Association News

Our **Purdy's campaign** is now closed. Thank you so much to everyone who participated! We raised over \$500 for our school!! Chocolates will be ready for pick up at the school entrance on Dec 5th and 6th at pick-up time.



Please join us for our **Celebration of the “Virgen de Guadalupe” and Christmas dinner (potluck)** on Thursday, Dec 12th. The procession starts at 4:45 pm from the Star of the Sea Church (Church adjacent to the school), followed by Piñatas, Games, Prizes, Music, Potluck and a Jolly Good Fun!!!.

Please sign up here if you are coming:

- <https://forms.gle/27iPytcMhqihTrKf8>

And here if you are planning on bringing any dishes:

- volunteersignup.org/R8KKQ

Save the date! At the end of February, we will be getting together for a social **Pub Night!!** More info to come closer to the date.

Next Meeting

PA Meeting Dec 11th at 7:30pm

Need to reach us?

You can email any of us with suggestions, requests, information, or whatever comes to mind! parentassociation@sjp2academy.com

President - Silvia Cardenas papresident@sjp2academy.com

Treasurer - Piotr Manjusz patreasurer@sjp2academy.com

Secretary - Samantha Watts pasecretary@sjp2academy.com

St. John Paul II Foundation News



Dear Saint John Paul II Academy Community,

As we gather to celebrate the joyous season of Christmas, the Foundation extends its warmest greetings to each of you. This sacred time reminds us of the profound love and hope brought into the world through the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

May the light of Christ fill your hearts and homes with peace, joy, and love. Let us embrace the spirit of giving and compassion, reflecting the teachings of our faith in all that we do. As a community, we are blessed to share in the journey of faith and education, inspired by the legacy of Saint John Paul II.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with grace and abundant blessings.

In Christ's love,

Saint John Paul II Foundation Board



St. John Paul II Society News

The St. John Paul II Academy Society is the governing body for the operation of the school and is a separate legal entity from the Foundation

Happy Advent from the Saint John Paul II Academy Society Board!

Tuition Rates for 2025-26 School Year

The Society Board has established the tuition rates for the upcoming 2025-26 school year. A modest increase in tuition is necessary to account for:

- Inflation
- Rising operational costs
- Preparation for the move to the new, permanent school campus in 2025

The provincial government funds independent schools at just 50% of the rate of public schools. In the absence of a provincial tuition voucher program, a tuition fee is necessary to cover operational expenses and ensure students receive the highest quality Catholic education possible.

Commitment to Accessibility

The Saint John Paul II Academy Society Board is firmly committed to ensuring that every Catholic student who wishes to attend the academy can do so, regardless of their family's financial circumstances.

Tuition Assistance

- Funding assistance is provided through a bursary program
- Funding is sourced from donors and fundraising events (such as the recent golf tournament and gala)
- Families can apply for tuition assistance through the online Apple Financial portal
- Contact Susan Kelly at the school office for application details

Application Process

1. Apply through Apple Financial (AFS)
2. AFS conducts a confidential financial evaluation
3. A recommendation is provided to the school

Additional Tuition Considerations

- Applicants do not need to be Catholic
- A tuition discount is provided for Catholic families
- An additional discount is offered for families with multiple students attending the school

Upcoming Annual General Meeting

Date: December 14, 2024 **Time:** 10 am **Location:** Saint John Paul II Academy

All interested parties are welcome to attend.

Vision and Mission

The Society Board is currently finalizing and approving the school's vision, mission, and values.

Drawing inspiration from Saint Pope John Paul II's statement, "It is of utmost importance that the Church's institutions be genuinely Catholic," the board plans to:

- Enshrine this vision into the school's mission
- Integrate the vision into policies and procedures
- Ensure the academy remains true to its founding principle of providing an authentic Catholic education

The Society Board wishes everyone a blessed Advent season, a joyous Christmas, and a relaxing break with family and friends.

