

ST. JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY

February 2025 Newsletter

Dear Families & Supporters,

As we navigate all the winter weather this week we thank you for your patience! Our students finished January with our Assessment week that also included opportunities for our elective and PE classes to go off campus and explore the community; visiting a museum, skating, swimming and golf. We are very thankful to the PA for their financial support of these activities. We have also been welcoming many perspective students into our school for in person interviews and I have been visiting our local Catholic elementary schools to meet with our incoming grade 8 applicants. We look forward to welcoming new families and students to our community in September. Our new and expanding student population also comes with the hiring of new staff and implementing new programs. Thank you to everyone who has been spreading the news about our school to friends and family. Our application portal is still open and we will continue to interview students and families over the next few months. You will also be receiving a re- registration package via email from Mrs. Kelly in March.

May God continue to bless you and your families,
Mrs. Andrea Prout-Bernett
Principal

Upcoming February Events

February 6

- School Mass at 9:45 am with Father Donnelly
- grade 12 parent meeting - 6pm

February 12th - Report Cards Home

February 13th & 14th - Catholic Educator Days (*school closed*)

February 17th - Family Day (*school closed*)

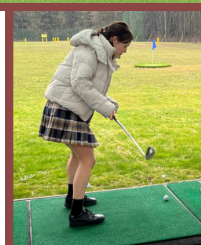
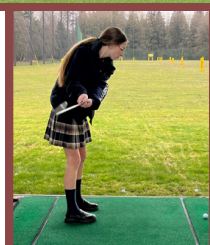
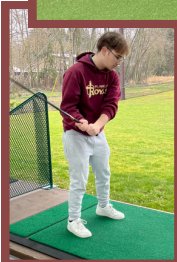
February 20th & 21st - Grade 10, 11 & 12 Retreat

February 28th - PA Pub Night (*see page 4*)

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

January Events

PE FIELD TRIPS



Campus Ministry & Student Council

Our **Outreach & Advocacy Team** continues to live out our Catholic values through service and compassion, with those in need. Every Wednesday, our dedicated team of five core students, one parent, and two teachers gathers to make and deliver sandwiches to members of our community. Along with a sandwich, we share hot chocolate and small candy bags, offering not only food but also kindness and human connection, which for some is a greater gift than the hot chocolate or the sandwich.

Through this initiative, we are reminded of Christ's call to serve the most vulnerable and to see the face of Jesus in everyone we meet. We like to call them by name and spend a few minutes chatting. The simple act of handing someone a sandwich becomes a moment of hope and dignity—a chance to listen, to smile, and to remind others that they are not forgotten.

Lent will begin on March 4th and this will mark the third anniversary of when we started this initiative. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference.

Thank you for your support in helping us live out the Gospel message of love and service.

Student Council

In December, student Council organised a very successful “Snowball” which was well attended by SJP2 students and outside guests. The gym was transformed into a beautiful winter themed space. Students had a great time and are already looking forward to “The Spring Fling.” At the dance, we provided pizza, chicken and salad dinner along with sparkling juice in champagne flutes. Students sat with their friends and enjoyed the meal, and afterwards everyone joined in festive dancing, Just Dance, line dancing, and other games. The dance was a great success and ticket sales covered all expenses. \$5 from every ticket went to a hamper for the family that the school supported over the Christmas season.

In the month of January the Student Council has been meeting to plan a games afternoon, and donations, in celebration of Valentine's day and Anti-bullying awareness. We have been organizing candy grams and planning games for February 12th.



Athletics

Gr 8 Boys Basketball !

Congratulations to our Grade 8 Boys team that proudly represented SJP2 this year. The boys enjoyed a 2-day tournament at South Delta and a series of league games in the South Surrey Secondary Athletic Association.

Big thanks to Coach Dela Cruz!



STAY TUNED FOR SPRING SPORTS!



Gr 6/7 Basketball Tournaments

Thank you to the schools that participated in our annual Gr 6/7 Basketball Tournaments in January. Congratulations to the following teams on their First Place finish! 🏆

Gr 6 Girls: **OLGC**

Gr 6 Boys: **St. Catherine's**



Parent Association News

Mental Health and Substance Use Resource for Parents

The Ministry of Education and Child Care, in partnership with adolescent clinical psychologist Dr. Hayley Watson from Open Parachute, will host three, free virtual sessions for parents, guardians and caregivers that will focus on practical skills you can teach your child and youth (ages 0-19) to prevent substance use and mental health needs. These sessions will build on a previous presentation that focused on practical conversation tools for discussing substance use prevention with your children/youth. The last session is not a prerequisite for this session. Go to: openparachute.ca to register.

Key takeaways for participants during this session:

- Learn the factors that lead to substance use and mental health needs from a trauma-informed lens
- Focus on prevention rather than intervention/response

Applies to parents, guardians and caregivers of all age groups (youth aged 0-5, 6-10, and 11-18)
Learn ways that these skills can be applied to yourself and the rest of your family to support the mental health of parents, guardians and caregivers.

Participants must register in advance. Session dates are:

February 20, 6:00-7:30 pm PST

February 25, 6:00-7:30 pm PST

February 26, 6:00-7:30 pm PST

JOIN US FOR PUB NIGHT!

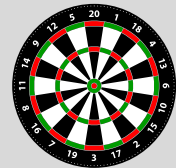
Please join us on **Feb 28th** for a fun get together! The PA will be hosting a Pub Night at the Bennet Craft Kitchen. We will have 50/50 tickets for sale as well the night of the event.

Details:

Date - **Feb 28th** from **6:30pm** onwards

Tickets - **\$36** (includes meal, 1 drink and gratuity)

Location - **The Bennet Craft Kitchen** 187 176th street South Surrey



Tickets will be for sale at the school's front desk and on Friday's at 2:45pm at the school's parking lot. (Square or cash)

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 ptreasurer@sjp2academy.com

Secretary - Samantha Watts pasecretary@sjp2academy.com

St. John Paul II Foundation News

Join us on May 15th!



SAINT JOHN PAUL II

ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION



We are thrilled to announce the inaugural 2025 SJPII Golf Tournament, hosted by the SJPII Alumni Association on Thursday, May 15th, 2025, at the esteemed Tsawwassen Springs. This exciting event is open to all alumni, parents, and friends of Saint John Paul II Academy.

The tournament presents a unique opportunity for sponsors to enjoy a memorable day of golf, network with distinguished guests, and indulge in a delightful reception dinner. We invite local businesses, whether they already have or are interested in building a relationship with our Academy, to participate as sponsors.

Proceeds from the event will support the Saint John Paul II Alumni financial assistance program and bursaries for students, as well as the enhancement of our athletic programs.

If you have any questions or need more information, please don't hesitate to contact silveria@sjp2foundation.com.

We look forward to your involvement and support in making our golf tournament a great success.

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT**

silveria@sjp2foundation.com



St. John Paul II Foundation News



TSAWWASSEN SPRINGS

Thanks to our Sponsors

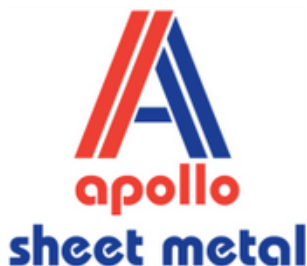


SAINT JOHN PAUL II

ALUMNI
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Legacy Family Office



St. John Paul II Society News

- The Society Board welcomes Daniel Roa Cole as Board member. Daniel fills a vacancy for one of the four parent representatives on the Society Board. Daniel and his wife Fern are longstanding active members of our growing school community, and parents of students Issa and Torin Cole.
- The Society Board is preparing the Vision, Mission, and Values statement for Saint John Paul II Academy. Inspired by Saint John Paul II, guided by Father Donnelly and with Board member Mark Watson facilitating the process, the mission statement will clearly define the school's purpose of providing an education rooted in Catholic values, with a focus on the spiritual, intellectual, and moral formation of students. The statement will be announced shortly by the Society Board.
- In response to interest from parents, the Society Board will be considering how elements of Catholic liberal education might become part of the educational focus at Saint John Paul II Academy:
<https://www.ncregister.com/news/rediscovering-catholic-liberal-education>
- In preparation for the 2025-26 school year with the anticipated growth in enrolment, Treasurer Theo Vanden Hoven is working on the budgeting process to include planning for several new staff positions. A subcommittee of the Society Board will be working closely with Principal Bernett through the hiring process.
- Board member Leslie Roque is in discussions with the Parent Association regarding implementing a future volunteer hour program.

Members of the SJP2 Academy Society Board of Directors: Archbishop's

Appointees: Stuart Donald, Father L. Donnelly , Leslie Roque, Jose Vargas

(Secretary); Parent Community: Daniel Cole, Julia Dee,, Joseph King (Chair),

Darren Watt (Vice Chair); School Supporters: Bill Regan, Theo Vandenhoven

(Treasurer), Mark Watson, David Wilkie; Ex Officio: Troy Van Vliet.