



# St. Patrick's School

## FEBRUARY 3, 2010

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### February Calendar

- February 5 - 9:15 am Whole School Mass /  
Bring donations for food bank  
6 - 6:30 pm TRIVIA NIGHT  
8 - Color Day - wear RED for the Olympics  
8 - Hot Lunch orders go home for March  
9 - Hunger Lunch  
10 - Hot Lunch Day - Captain High Liner  
Fish & Chips.  
12 - Last day to order Summer Uniforms  
15 - 26 - Olympic Break - NO SCHOOL  
17 - Ash Wednesday - Lent starts

### March Calendar

- March 1 - School reopens at 8:45 am  
1 - Reading Link Challenge—Gr. 4 & 5

**Paint the Town Red!** On Monday, February 8 the **Olympic Torch** relay is coming to Maple Ridge! The community has events planned in the Memorial Peace Park in Maple Ridge that you and your family may wish to participate in, starting at 6:15 am. Festivities in both locations will include an official ceremony, entertainment, an unveiling from Spirit of Wood, hot beverages and a continental breakfast. Everything should wrap up by 8:30, but we are lucky enough to have a parent in our community who will be carrying the torch and bringing a replica right into our own school. Mr. Chris Diersch will be making two presentations to the intermediate and primary students about his experience and the students will be able to see the torch up close and personal, as well as ask questions. Feel free to listen in. Students are asked to **wear red** to school this day, in solidarity with the rest of our community, as a way of showing personal pride in our Canadian nationality.

**Helping Hands for Haiti** – Please know that we have intentions to support our brothers and sisters in Haiti, and all our classes are praying for them daily. We plan to have a jeans day in March when students can bring in a donation of a toonie. It is hoped you would encourage your children to sacrifice part of their allowance, or to do extra chores to help around the house for which they could get paid. We appreciate all your current generosity in giving to this cause through your parish.

**Special thanks:** goes to Paris Hansen and his helpers in Grade Three. Paris brought graffiti remover to school and dedicated time with his classmates during lunch playtime to removing some paint off our recycling container! Thanks for setting a great example of how to care for our school environment!

**Tax receipts are here! Please come to the office and collect yours. There are only a few left to pick up, please check to see if you have yours.**

We recently came across a great website that you may be interested in checking out to access free events taking place during the Olympics. <http://www.citycaucus.com/2010freevenues>

**Hunger Lunch** This year, our students will not be in school on Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. We would still like to give them the opportunity to participate in a Hunger Lunch, and plan to hold this event on Tuesday, February 9 at 11:45. Students are asked to donate an amount that would be the equivalent to what they would spend for a hot lunch, and the proceeds would be donated to the Holy Childhood organization, which does a great job of promoting children helping children in countries less well off than our own. The service will be a prayerful exposure to thinking of others, being grateful for what we have been blessed with, and uniting in worship around a common theme. Parents are welcome to join us.

### **February's Hot Lunch:**

We wish to thank Captain High Liner for providing us with our February hot lunch of English Fish & Chips.



**2010/2011 Registration:** We are still looking to increase our enrollment for next year. The best advertisement is always word-of-mouth, so if you are proud to send your child to St. Pat's, tell your friends and neighbours! If you are able to convince a family to enroll in our school, we will reward you with a \$200 Smart Card of your choice as a way of showing our appreciation. Please talk to your PEC members if you'd like more information, and thanks for your help.

**Scholastic Book Fair:** Mark your calendars! On March 31 you will be able to purchase books and other materials for your children at our book fair. Proceeds from the sales will go towards increasing our own collection. Prices are usually great. There is no pressure to purchase, but we hope you can take advantage of this opportunity that has not been available here for a number of years. Note that this is the same day as our Student Led Conferences, for your shopping convenience. (Parents who are interested in helping out should contact Mrs. Sandra Diersch, who is coordinating the scheduling.)



**Help Us Help Others:** As we have been doing since last year, the first mass of the month is one in which we make an effort to collect food for the local foodbank. Please consider sending in a non-perishable food item. Additionally, we have learned of the need for board games, books and toiletries/cosmetics for our brothers and sisters in the Downtown Eastside, who are helped by Catholic Charities. If you can find it in your heart to give even more generously, know that your offerings are received with great amounts of gratitude by the recipients!



**Library News:** Pre-school aged siblings of St. Patrick's students are invited to our library on Wednesday mornings for a story-reading experience from **11:15 until 11:40**. Parents, of course, are welcome to stay.

**Liturgy Choir:** Once again, you have practices on Thursday mornings at **8:00**. (Please remember that it is critical to the quality of the practice that singers arrive on time, as new material cannot be learned and perfected in only fifteen minutes per week, nor can we learn to sing in parts. Thanks for your attention to this matter.)

## Laity View challenges schools to help Haiti

Destiny and Milana Orchard wants kids in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows to clean out their closets to help families devastated by the earthquake in Haiti.

The sisters are hoping to help fill four containers with basic items like summer clothing, shoes, towels, bedding, toiletries and toys that will be shipped by the Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Canada to the Caribbean nation.

Classmates at Laity View elementary have already accepted the siblings' challenge, so now they are hoping other schools join in.

• Donations can be dropped off at Laity View (21023 - 123rd Avenue in Maple Ridge) until Feb. 26. To learn more about the Compassionate Relief Containers, visit [www.crowarehouse.ca](http://www.crowarehouse.ca).

### **FEBRUARY 12, 2010 LAST DAY TO ORDER SUMMER UNIFORMS**

**Get your order in now! We may not be able to supply your child with summer uniform later. We only carry a small amount of stock!**

**Check your child's summer uniform to make sure it still fits.**

**Students will begin wearing Summer uniform after Easter on April 6th.**