



# St. Patrick's School

## NOVEMBER 4, 2009

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### November Calendar

**Nov. 6 9:15 am Whole School Mass—Bring food for the Food bank**

**10 9:30 am Primary Students' Mass**

**11 Remembrance Day—NO SCHOOL**

**16 Gymnastics Starts**

**16 Hot Lunch order for Dec. go home**

**17 9:30 am Intermediate Students' Mass**

**18 Hot Lunch Day**

**27 7:00 pm PEC Meeting**

**Driver's Insurance:** Parents, please remember that if you are planning on driving for any class fieldtrips or sporting events, we must have a copy of your current ICBC insurance documents as well as a photocopy of a valid driver's license.

**RC Challenge:** Remember, the next tournament is in Vancouver at Corpus Christi on Saturday November 14. Come and support The *Super Saints*, the *Faithful Archangels* and the *Golden Blossoms of Mary* as well as the *Angels and the Saint*.

**First Friday Mass:** Please note there will be a change of time for the school mass on November 6: **Mass will begin at 9:15.** Please come worship the Lord with us!

**Liturgy Choir** Remember you have practices on Thursday mornings at 8:15. Thanks for giving your time to this, in order to make our masses more beautiful.

**Thank You:** to Cassidy and Alexandra Lachance who contributed to our new *Legacy of Literature* campaign by each donating one new book to our school library. Your support is greatly appreciated and we are grateful for your decision to encourage others to read by making our library a more interesting place!

**Holy Childhood Thanks You** . . . for your donation of a toonie on Crazy Hair Day. We generated \$217.00.

**Library News:** Starting on November 18, pre-school aged siblings of St. Patrick's students are invited to our library for a story-reading experience from 9:00 until 9:30. Parents, of course, are welcome to stay.

**Principal's Message** I encourage you to continue working together with us in the development of our children. Recently I came across something written by Stephen Covey, author of 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. He adapted them to be suitable for children. Here's how it translates: **1. Be proactive.** I am a responsible person. I take initiative. I choose my actions, attitudes, and moods. I do not blame others for my wrong actions. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.

**2. Begin with the end in mind.** I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my family and school, and have something to contribute. **3. Put first things first.** I spend my time on things that are most important. This means I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule, and achieve my goals. I am disciplined and organized.

**4. Think win-win.** I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want. I make deposits in others' emotional bank accounts. When conflicts arise, I look for third alternatives. I look for ways to be a good citizen. **5. Seek first to understand, then to be understood.** I listen to other people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints. I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas. I look people in the eyes when talking. **6. Synergize.** I value other people's strengths and learn from them. I work well in groups, even with people who are different from me. I seek out other people's ideas to solve problems because I know that by teaming with others we can create better solutions than any one of us can alone. I am humble. **7. Sharpen the saw.** I take care of my body by eating right, exercising and getting sleep. I spend time with family and friends. I learn in lots of ways and lots of places, not just at school. I take time to find meaningful ways to help others.

*Hope this is good food for thought.*

**H1N1 Information:** Last week, we had an average of 11% of our student population away for medical reasons, and no lab-confirmed cases of this flu, although we are getting reports that some doctors are making a diagnosis based on observations alone. This week so far, we have had approximately 21% of our students missing. Please continue to work with your children to educate them about basic hygiene practices such as coughing and sneezing into their elbows, washing their hands with soap and water, and avoiding touching their eyes, nose or mouth with their hands. As well, if your child shows signs of illness, please help us all by keeping him/her at home until improvement is shown. Note that you can get information regularly at [www.gov.bc.ca/h1n1](http://www.gov.bc.ca/h1n1). This is a government site that is updated on Tuesdays. There have been no reported cases at our school. We are being extra vigilant about hand washing and have hand sanitizers in all classrooms. As well, surfaces that are commonly touched (such as door knobs and exit bars on the doors to the playground) are being regularly wiped down with disposable towels.

**Walkathon Update!** So far we've collected **\$9,379**. We are \$621 away from \$10 000. If the 29 families who have not contributed yet would reconsider and sacrifice \$21.41 each, our school could hit that target. *Please think about helping out this year. Together we're better.* (As you may know, Grade Two received a mini-prize for bringing in all their money first and Grades Three and Five will win the grand prize of a bowling trip.)

### **Help Us Help Others – Please!**

The sisters of the Atonement are desperate for winter clothing and blankets to distribute to the people who come to them for help at this time of year. Please bring any donations you can make to the school next week – adult-sized only please – and Mrs. Rasmussen will bring them downtown. Thanks for your ongoing consideration of others, as we *come* and *worship the Lord* together.

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.

**Athletes in Kind:** Students who like to *run*, or who want to get in better shape and *pray* at the same time got involved in a new initiative spear-headed by one of our parents: April Migneault. Registration is ongoing, so it's not too late to join. Students run 1-3 km once a week on our school grounds, and have their distance and attendance documented each week. As they run, they are invited to think of a child who CAN'T run because of being too sick, and needing care in the hospital. (The school will try and make contact with some families who are willing to make their stories known to our students; it always helps to put a face to a name when you're praying.) Runners will receive a promotional item after they reach every 25 km. Each time they run, the students are asked to bring a suggested donation of 25 cents to one loonie (perhaps part of their allowance, or from doing extra chores at home), and these proceeds will be donated to the Oncology/Haematology Department at Children's Hospital. Any parents who want to run are welcome to join us; we are running after school on Wednesdays for about 30 minutes. For more information, including testimonials, feel free to visit [www.athletesinkind.com](http://www.athletesinkind.com).

**Library News:** Consider contributing to our new *Legacy of Literature!* The objective of Campaign L.O.L. is for the families of the children of St. Patrick's School to make a donation of a favourite new book to the library as a gift for a child's birthday. We will make a dedication to the child on the inside flap of the book. Your gift of literacy will last a lifetime. What better way to celebrate your birthday than by sharing your favourite book with your friends. They will be able to check out that book at any time. It will be interesting as children move on, and are no longer at our school, to see how their book donation will still be read by our newcomers. Imagine one day reading a book that was donated by famous Olympic runner Isaac Wadhvani, or world class scientist Dr. Mikaela Smart. At the end of every month, we will place in this newsletter, which books were donated and by whom, as well as what day the child's birthday was. *Campaign LOL: celebrating your birthday for years to come.*

**It's time to mark your calendars!!**  
**On Saturday, February 6, 2010 St. Patrick's will host their**  
**16th Annual Trivia Night!**

Each year the event proves to be fun-filled and exciting.  
This year will be no different!



To make our 2010 Trivia Night a success we need the help of our parents and community. We're looking for donations for both our silent and live auction, plus prizes for various games.



We're also looking for unopened bottles of varying shapes, sizes and varieties for the bottle game (**no homemade wine or other homemade items please**). Please watch the expiry date of donated items.

Like past years, all donations will be acknowledged in our local and school paper and on our website. We're also offering various sponsorship and donation levels. They are as follows:

- **Gold Level** - Donations valued at \$700 and over will receive two free tickets to the event, verbal acknowledgement during the evening, advertising space in the programme and a tax receipt.
- **Silver Level** - Donations valued at \$400 and over will receive advertising space in the programme and a tax receipt.
- **Bronze Level** - Donations valued at \$100 and over will receive a tax receipt.

We're also in need of volunteers to help out prior to and during the event. Jobs include, donation collection, call backs, bartender, ticket sales etc. If interested please call ?????



Tickets will be on sale in early December and make fantastic stocking stuffers and gifts! Ticket are \$25 each or \$225 for a table (10 per table), that's one free ticket with each table purchase!

Mark those calendars, called your friends and get your teams ready!  
The countdown beings!

**2010/2011 School Registration**

We will be sending out the School Registration earlier this year than in the past.

The registration packages will be sending them home in January, 2010

**Our registration blitz will be one day only on February 5th**

**Mark your calendars!**

Please check you cheque book now to ensure that you will have enough cheques for all your fees.

You will **not** need to reissue the \$100.00 undated Parent Participation Cheques unless you have changed banks.