



## St. Helen's School Newsletter February 2018

Principal : Mr. Waldemar Sambor  
Vice Principal : Ms. Dawn Currie



Dear Parents,

St. Helen's School provides opportunities for personal excellence in educational academic and extra-curricular activities. Programs include: Leadership, Athletics, Fine Arts, Technology, Enrichment and Student Support. With our philosophy of educating the whole child, the spiritual development of the children is integrated into all areas of the curriculum.

**Registration packages for the 2018/2019 school year have been distributed to all returning in-school families at the end of January, prior to our February 6th Annual General Meeting. Due to our reduction in enrolment, we cannot extend the registration process. All parents must register on Feb 6th or sooner if you are going to be out of town. If you have not registered, your spot will be given to the new families.**

We will soon be entering the liturgical season of Lent. As we journey through this special season, let us find ways in which we can give of ourselves in the service of others. Whether it is through participation in a Lenten liturgy at the school, a special Lenten family project, weekly celebration in our parish community, prayers offered at home, or quiet time spent listening to God speaking in our hearts, the season of Lent provides us with many opportunities to let God enter more fully into our lives.

Sincerely in Christ,

Waldemar Sambor  
Principal

### Monthly Highlights

2nd	Grandparents Tea
6th	AGM (Annual General Meeting)
6th	<b>Non-Uniform Day</b> (Multi Colour Day/ Bring toonie)
8th	<b>No School</b>
9th	<b>No School</b> (FISA Conference for Staff)
12th	<b>No School</b> - Family Day
13th	<b>Non-Uniform Day</b> (Red/Pink Day for Valentine's)
14th	Ash Wednesday— <b>Wear Full Uniform</b>
17th	Hollywood in the Heights Pub Night
22nd	Student Led Conferences (4-6 pm)
27th	<b>Non-Uniform Day</b> (Wear Pink for Anti Bullying Day)

*\*Please refer to our [online calendar](#) for further events & information. You may also download our [school app](#).*

# Searchers News

## February 8th and 9th

The Catholic Educators' Conference (CEC) is held each year to provide opportunity for the spiritual and professional growth of Catholic educators, for the development of Christian community, and to provide leadership in the development of a dynamic, evangelistic school system.

### Some CEC 2018 Highlights

Our **two-day conference** will once again be held at the Pan Pacific Vancouver Hotel and Convention Centre in downtown Vancouver.

**DAY ONE** will begin with Morning Mass and then an opportunity to listen to our Opening General Session speaker Fr. Rob Galea, a gifted singer/songwriter from Australia. After a break and a visit to our vendors, attendees can select from among three breakout sessions – which include: Amy Burvall, Lee Watanabe Crockett, Roy Henry Vickers, and Doug Lauson.

**DAY TWO**, following Morning Prayer, is our 2<sup>nd</sup> **General Session speaker, Sr. Mary Medeline Todd. Following the break several speakers will be featured in 'Edtalk' style presentations. Our day will end as we gather once again to listen to our Closing General Session speaker.**

## Student Led Conferences

Prior to reports cards being sent home on Thursday, March 8th, your child will have the opportunity to communicate their learning to you, the parents at the Student Led-Conferences on Thursday, February 22nd, 4pm – 6 pm. The focus will be on Core Competencies.

**More Details to follow at a later date (online registration)**

### Student Benefits

- Accountability for their learning
- Students learn to evaluate their own progress
- Students gain greater commitment to school work and learning
- Builds self-confidence and self esteem
- Encourages student/parent communication
- Builds communication and critical thinking skills
- Allows students to become actively involved

### Parent Benefits

- Increases the amount of information given to parents
- Learn more about their child's learning and skills
- An opportunity to help their child set positive goals
- Active participant in their child's learning

## Catholic Schools Week

Feb. 5th-Feb. 9th

*This annual event was started as a means of recognizing the importance of Catholic Education. Our school offers us many opportunities to explore our talents – spiritually, academically, through fine arts, athletics, reading programs, computer classes, field trips, and leadership opportunities.*

*We will be kicking off Catholic Schools week by starting the mornings with daily prayers as a whole school over the P.A. system. Multicultural Day is planned for February 6th. We will be dressing in our cultural clothes or colours and bring donations to support the RCAF. St. Helens students will be involved in the parish masses this week.*

*We thank you for your continuing support of Catholic Education at St. Helen's School.*

## Safer Schools Workshop

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Safer Schools Workshop on Monday, Jan 22nd. We had an amazing attendance!

Our Gr. 4-7 students also attended this workshop with different content.

Here is the link for parents to access some resources that were mentioned in the presentation: <https://saferschoolstogether.com/parent-resources/>

Game Montage: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6nWhufvk50&feature=youtu.be>



# Searchers News



## Grandparents Tea

Friday, Feb 2nd

## School Registration & Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, February 6th

All registrations must be submitted to the school by the evening of Feb 6th

## Multi Colour Non Uniform Day

Tuesday, February 6th

Non-Uniform day. Multi colour is the theme (bring a toonie and participate)

## Non Uniform Day (Wear RED or PINK for Valentine's)

Tuesday, February 13th

## Ash Wednesday

Wed, Feb 14th

Children must come to school in their full uniform as there will be Mass this day

## Pub Night Fundraiser

Saturday, Feb 17th

Looking forward to a fun evening at our 'Hollywood in the Heights' Fundraiser

## Pink Day

Tuesday, February 27th

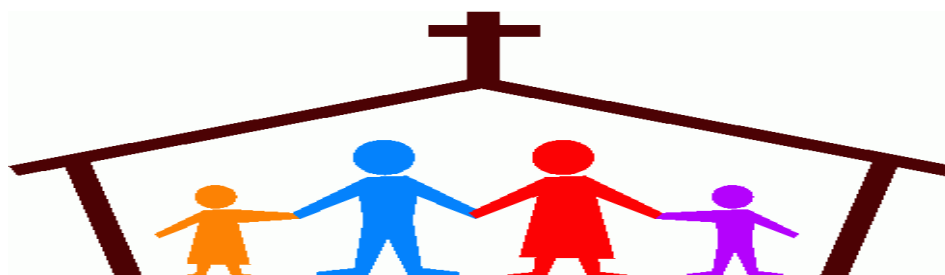
As part of the anti-bulling prevention program we are organizing Pink Day for all our students.

## Spring Break

The last day of school before Spring Break is March 9th

School will re-open on March 26th

This Saturday and Sunday Feb 3rd and 4th , our St. Helens students will be distributing colorful brochures to the members of our Parish to inform them about our school programs and activities. Next week starts our Catholic Schools week which is a great opportunity to thank the Parish and provide them with information about our school.





# Searchers News

We have taken extra steps to make sure students get a safe and healthy hot lunch.  
We do have a rodent issue which is common in this area. We need to work together to ensure :

## Hot Lunch Parents:

- All food will be stored in a closed plastic container (with a lid). Even if the food has not been opened and is still closed and sealed.
  - Before using any appliances, food or pans, it will be checked to make sure they are clean and washed.

## School follow up:

- The school has informed our regular contracted pest control company, and they have addressed this issue.
- Paul and Tony have cleaned up the storage beside the gym and removed food that was not stored properly and recycled it.
  - The stove and entire kitchen was cleaned by a professional company.
  - Additional plastic containers were purchased by the school.

The Parish also notified the Health Authorities and mentioned the above areas of improvement.

Thank you for handling this situation very professionally and providing the best hot lunch possible under those difficult circumstances.

**A big thank you to Lidiya and our Hot Lunch Moms for all their work to organize the kitchen. If parents chose to pull out from the Hot Lunch program, please contact the office so that a refund will be provided to you.**

Let's work together to make this a better environment.



Today we said goodbye to 20 international students who spent three weeks here at our school from Korea for a cultural exchange program. Both our students and international students learned from one another and developed friendships.

# *Searchers Athletics*

## *Searcher Basketball Pride*



Thank you to all our players, coaches, refs and scorekeepers for another amazing Searcher Basketball Tournament! Congratulations to both senior teams: Our grade 7 boys won the championship and girls had great participation! Presently, all our teams are preparing for tournaments and working hard. Thank you to our coaches

Mr. Perrotta, Ms.Chavez, Mr. Canosa, and Mrs. Drlje





# *Searchers Community*

***The national flag of Canada was inaugurated on February 15, 1965. The anniversary of this date is officially called the "National Flag of Canada Day", which is often shortened to "Flag Day".***



## *Background*

The Royal Union Flag, which is also the flag of the United Kingdom, was used as the official flag of Canada until 1965. Various designs of the Canadian Red Ensign were used between 1868 and 1965 but Canada's Parliament never officially adopted them. The National Flag of Canada's current design results from a period of discussion, debate and political maneuvering in the early 1960s.

George F.G. Stanley designed the current flag, which is inspired by the Royal Military College of Canada's flag. The multi-party parliamentary committee formed to select a new flag unanimously chose the design on October 29, 1964. The House of Commons passed the design on December 15, 1964. Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed the new flag on January 28, 1965, and it was inaugurated on February 15 in the same year.

## *Symbols*

The most important Flag Day symbol is the national flag of Canada. This consists of two vertical red sections separated by a white section, with an image of a red maple leaf on the white section. The whole flag is twice as wide as it is high and each of the two red rectangles is twice as high as it is wide. The white section in the middle is a perfect square. However, the size of the maple leaf is not officially specified. The Ministry of Canadian Heritage issues instructions on the type of red ink to be used for making flags or printing images of them.

The image of the red maple leaf is not only used on flags, but also on Canadian postage stamps. It is also portrayed on pins and has even been marked out in red and white flowers along highways. Since 1973, the Parliamentary Flag Program has operated to promote and encourage Canadians to express pride in their national symbol.

*From:*

*<http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/canada/national-flag-of-canada-day>*



# *Searchers* Excellence

*The following students are recognized for their efforts in the published class work:*



## **K**

Eliah Landingin  
Liam Lepore  
Isla Wong

## **1**

Marcus Naruki-Chew  
Mikayla Gimenez  
Justin Plomp

## **2A**

Katarina Boal  
Ana Erlic  
Ellie Perizzolo

## **2B**

Dario Aiello  
Monique Guilbault

## **3A**

Moukthika Devarapalli  
Taylor Ross  
Alisha Zhao

## **3B**

Annie Kwok  
Sophia Santorelli  
Justin Wong

## **4A**

Jake Banicevic  
Keanna Oulovsky  
Alessandro Troisi

## **4B**

Luka Mrsic  
Mila Perrotta  
Marina Shaback

## **5A**

Rachel Kung  
Anna Lee  
Romano Unti

## **5B**

Anastasia Kalpidis  
Luca Silveri  
CiCi Xu

## **6A**

Daniella Gargiulo  
Marco Simpson

## **6B**

Almira Agustin

## **7A**

Sebastian Cirotto  
Leah Perizzolo  
Xavier Ram

## **7B**

Ava Hayre  
Ryan Moretto

*"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." ~ Maya Angelou*





Please click the link to view photos from our [Gr.7 Skiing](#)

## St. Helen's School

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