



## St. Helen's School Newsletter | January 2024

Principal Waldemar Sambor  
Vice Principal Anthony Canosa

### **NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents,

I hope that your preparation during the Advent season for Christmas were filled with treasured moments of joy, with the warmth of family and friends. I want to express my sincere appreciation for the steadfast support you've extended to our students and teachers during this special time. Your encouragement has undeniably had a positive impact.

As we embark on the new term, our dedication to academic excellence, physical well-being, and the arts remains unwavering. Despite the dynamic pace of life in an elementary school, let us always make an effort to relish the precious moments and acknowledge the blessings bestowed upon us by God.

May the approaching Christmas be characterized by sustained growth in knowledge and a deepening of our faith and love for Jesus. I extend heartfelt wishes for abundant blessings and prosperity to you and your family during this Christmas season.

Merry and Blessed Christmas,

Sincerely in Christ,  
Waldemar Sambor  
Principal

Our students celebrating Advent



St. Helens School spreading joy and giving back at the beloved 36th annual Christmas Wish Breakfast. Our staff joined thousands of locals at the Pan Pacific Hotel for a festive morning with Bonhomme, carol choir and live TV broadcasts. Staff donated new unwrapped toys to families in need throughout the Lower Mainland.





# CALENDAR

**Please see below for Mass Schedule at St. Helen's Parish**

Dec 24th - 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM, 4:00 PM and 12:00 AM (4th week of Advent)  
 Dec 25th - 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM  
 Dec 31st - 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM (Holy Family)  
 Jan 1st - 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM (Holy Mother of God)



Please note times of Christmas Concert:  
 Wednesday, December 20th @ 1pm  
 Thursday, December 21st @ 1pm & 7pm  
 (must arrive at 6:30 pm)

LIVING OUR FAITH

JAN 8TH-FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL

JAN 12TH- MASS BY GRADE 6A (PARENTS ARE WELCOME)@ 9 AM

JAN 17TH- GRAD LUNCH PIZZA(ORDER BY JAN 10TH)

JAN 18TH- NOTRE DAME OPEN HOUSE @ 5:30 PM

JAN 19TH- GRAD PHOTO FOR GR K & 7

JAN 24TH- NOTRE DAME ENTRANCE EXAM @9:30AM -12PM

FOR FIELDS TRIPS AND OTHER DETAILS ON OUR CALENDAR [CLICK HERE](#)

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO [GRADE 7 AT THE VANCOUVER MUSEUM](#) PLEASE

CLICK OUR GRADE 1 [CLASS AT SCIENCE WORLD](#)

PLEASE CLICK TO TO SEE OUR [GRADE 5 CLASS AT BRITANNIA MINES](#)

PLEASE CLICK TO SEE OUR [GRADE 4 CLASS AT THE VANCOUVER](#)

MUSEUM

We are in the process of getting ready for our 2024-2025 Registration which will take place on February 7th during our AGM by Zoom. If you already know that you will not be returning next school year, please e-mail the office as soon as possible. Please see the table below for the 2024/2025 tuition cost. Note this does not include : Registration fee(\$150/per family), Capital fee (\$250/per family), and Activity & Technology fee (\$300/per student).

2024/2025	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
One Child	\$421.00	\$566.00	\$723.00
Two Children	\$826.00	\$1101.00	\$1378.00
Three Children	\$1104.00	\$1523.00	\$1892.00



## SEARCHER NEWS

We would like congratulate Maeve Seo in 6A for Winning second place in the Remembrance Day Contest.



Our grade 1B class dress down in Christmas colours/ Christmas sweater.



Our grade 7 class participating in Christmas dress down.





## Searchers Information .....

We had over 70 families donate to the Food Bank.



Strings practice.



LIVING OUR FAITH

Our choir singing at Seton Villa.





## Searchers Personal Best .....

KA: Isabella Lee, Ivano Mincieli  
KB: London Grauer, Natalie Ballarin, Maja Cirjak  
1A: Aria Peta, Samia Kugel  
1B: Amelia Woo, Weston Hu, Alessio Cappellano  
2A: Anna Gonzalez Gonzalez, Jamie Huang, Lorenzo Piovesan  
2B: Sophie Cosgrave, Matias Timmins, Eliana Utini  
3A: Rafaela Salles Barbosa, Mateo Piovesan  
3B: Alaya Arora, Hanna Bobeldijk, Amedo Canosa  
4A: Olivia Ontiveros, Tang Wu  
4B: Stefano Delli-Santi, Olivia Matrundola  
5: Cees Bobeldijk, Valentina Hirvonen, Aria Yen  
6A: Mila Crudo, Alexis Ross, Ryder Ruic  
6B: Sean Yi, Isla Wong, Marko Arbulic  
7: Eli Luketic, Holiday Lee, Kabir Bharadwaj

### Student & Family Affordability Special Purpose Grant

The purpose of this grant is to make life more affordable for BC families who are temporarily facing financial challenges and short-term assistance with the current cost of living. With this grant, St. Helen's School has decided to provide gift cards to Safeway for low-income families.

Please e-mail Mr. Sambor directly at [wsambor@cisva.bc.ca](mailto:wsambor@cisva.bc.ca) if you are facing financial challenges at the present time and you would like to receive a gift card to Safeway. We are depending on the honour system so that low-income families in need can receive some financial aid. The rest of the funds will provide lunches for low-income families and lunches for the rest of the school. Please email no later than December 21st by noon.





## Searcher News .....

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On behalf of the Ministry of Education and Child Care, we are sharing the survey information below to help inform the Province's ChildCareBC initiatives:

This is a friendly reminder to complete the 2023 School-Aged Child Care Demand Parent Survey by December 20 to help inform the Province's planning for future expansion of school age child care. Thank you to the parents who have already completed this survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

While we know school-aged child care is a vital service families rely on to ensure their children have a quality, affordable, and inclusive place to be during a parent's full work day, we do not yet have regional or provincial data to understand the demand.

By completing this survey, you can help the Province to better understand your community's needs for school-aged child care. The survey will take 10-15 minutes and the results will help inform future ChildCareBC initiatives.

To complete the survey, please [click here](#)

<https://www.awinfosys.com/surveyfull3/minofed/main/SchoolAgeParents.asp?SchoolNumber=1021>

Please do not share the link with anyone else.

If you have any questions, please contact [ChildCareBC.Engagement@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ChildCareBC.Engagement@gov.bc.ca). If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the web survey provider (AWIS) at [support@awinfosys.com](mailto:support@awinfosys.com).

If you have already completed the survey, thank you and please disregard this note.

We greatly appreciate your input and thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,  
Ministry of Education and Child Care