

St. Helen's School

November 2022

Principal: Waldemar Sambor

Vice Principal: Anthony Canosa



Dear Parents,

Our students and teachers have now completed the first two months of the school year. We have enjoyed a very busy and productive start with a wide range of activities that compliment our classroom and extra-curricular activities. Events and activities such as our school masses and prayer services, walk-a-thon, fieldtrips, choir, outdoor education, Terry Fox, student council, and various athletic programs are just a few of the opportunities that have helped engage the students in experiential learning and friendship building. I would also like to thank our grad committee and PAC for fundraising and bringing community spirit to our school. Thank you to all our parents who helped support our Halloween fundraiser.

All Saints Day (Nov. 1st) & All Souls Day (Nov. 2nd) remind us of our relationship with those no longer living on this earth.

On Thursday, November 10th, St. Helen's students will lead us in prayer at a special Remembrance day assembly. On these days we remember, celebrate, and pray for those living in Heaven and for those souls destined for Heaven. This year's theme is "No Stone Left Alone". The Gr. 6 class will honor our fallen soldiers by visiting their cemetery in Vancouver on November 2nd. During this month of November, let us also remember all members of our Canadian military, past and present, for whom we owe our gratitude and freedom.

Every Monday, our primary and intermediate teachers have been reviewing content from Sunday Masses. Please be sure to attend Mass regularly in order for our students to complete their Mass homework.

Sincerely in Christ,
Waldemar Sambor
Principal

November Calendar

OCT 31—FALL FIESTA ASSEMBLY—PARENTS WELCOME!

NOV 1—ALL SAINTS DAY MASS (GR.5B) PARENTS WELCOME!

NOV 10—REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY (GR.2)

NOV 11—NO SCHOOL—REMEMBRANCE DAY

NOV 16—GRAD LUNCH FUNDRAISER

NOV 25—NO SCHOOL—PRO D DAY

NOV 28—ADVENT PARALIT (GR. 3A)



Halloween Costume Guidance

With the annual Halloween costume day approaching, I am writing to make you aware of some of the discussions and guidance we will be providing to students regarding their Halloween costumes for Monday, October 31st. As you are likely aware, students are permitted to wear a "cool for school" costume.

In order to show respect for our diverse student population, we will be discussing the way in which costumes can, inadvertently, hurt or humiliate others. We also view this as an opportunity to highlight the way in which current global issues impact costume choices as this can negatively infringe upon our school values related to multiculturalism, inclusivity, safety, respect, and tolerance.

Some questions that students and parents might consider as they are making costume choices:

- Does the costume represent a stereotype such as "terrorist"?
- Does it show a lack of respect for the pandemic and people that have become sick?
- Does it involve changing the colour of their skin?
- Does it allude to a culture that is not the child's own, such as a kimono, a turban, or a feather headdress?
- Does it "mock" transgender people?
- Does it show a lack of respect for deceased military or police personnel?
- Is the costume so gory (fake blood or realistic wounds) that it could scare younger students?
- Is it based on "tragic or violent historical moments," such as "slave" or "cowboy" and Indian "role play, or the Holocaust?"

We will also review with students that it would be highly insensitive to arrive at school with a fake gun or weapon as part of their Halloween costumes. We feel it is important to review this explicitly (no guns/weapons) with students as some of them might not necessarily make the connection themselves.

We feel that this is a great opportunity for parents and professionals to engage in age-appropriate open conversation with our children and youth about these issues.

We would appreciate your help by providing a consistent message at home and ensuring that your child's costume meets these guidelines.

Our joint efforts to make our students increasingly aware of and sensitive to local, national, and world events are important for promoting empathy and respect for others. If you have any questions contact: *Primary* Mrs. Drlje sdrlje@shschool.ca and *Intermediate* Ms. Jazz jbean@shschool.ca

Searchers Information

WALK-A-THON

If you have not already done so, please contribute towards our walkathon by donating online. You may also submit your walk-a-thon pledge form as they are due November 1st. Proceeds from this event will go towards Outdoor Education/ Building Fund. Our goal is 100% participation so please contribute as best as you can.

BE READY FOR COOL WEATHER!

We are blessed to live in one of the most beautiful coastal rainforests on the planet! As we have entered the glorious months of autumn, please remember to send your children to school with warm jackets, hats, gloves and boots (with school shoes packed in their backpacks). Be sure to label all articles of clothing!



THANK YOU!

The Alviar family provided refreshments for the St. Helen's Community. What a wonderful way of serving and taking care of each other.



Kindergarten Applications

Welcome to
Kindergarten!

Kindergarten applications are now being accepted. If you have a sibling born in 2018 and going into Kindergarten 2023/2024 school year, please fill out an application form on our school website and submit with your child's birth and baptism certificates.

Please e-mail it to Mrs. DeFazio at secretary@shschool.ca

The following students were recognized for their kindness this past week and received a bag of popcorn. These students are:

Mateo Iorio—2B, Tang Wu—3A, Sean Kim—3A, Gianluca Tinaburri—3A,
Malia Quashie—3B, Alessandra Bogdanovich—4, Anastazja Szelag—7A
Sebastian Artuso—7B, Robert Jelic—7B, Ella Green—7B



[Pumpkin Patch K Class](#)

Searchers History

Only 10 months left!

Are you a St Helen's alumni or do you know someone who is? We want to reconnect with you and all those that have attended St. Helen's. We have our Centennial Celebrations upcoming and lots of great things happening at St Helen's. Fill out this form and get yourself on our alumni email list. [SHS Alumni Form](#)

(A page from our Centennial book which will be published)



The \$6000 construction expense was donated by Mr. Justice Kelly, who requested that the Church and school be called St. Helen's in memory of his daughter, Helen. On August 11, 1912, St. Helen's Church was blessed on sacred ground.

Our Centennial brings an amazing opportunity for community and individuals coming together to be part of the next 100 years. We can show support by financially supporting our school or becoming a major donor like Mr. Kelly. If you would like to be recognized in our book, please let the office know before the end of November.

TENTS FOR SALE!

We have three marquee tents for sale. The reason we are selling them is because they will be replaced by portables. St. Helen's school will be keeping one for events such as Family Night, year end BBQ etc.

- They were used for 2 months only
 - size 20x20 feet
- with windows and 4 walls
 - \$4000 per tent

If you are interested or know anyone who is interested in purchasing one, please call the school office at 604 299-2234 or email office.shel@cisva.bc.ca asap.



Searchers History

"To whom it may concern,

In the spring I heard of your celebration for the 100th year of St. Helen's school.

My husband and I were both students there as well as our siblings. My husband, Ken, started there in grade 3 and was there until he finished grade 8 in 1958.

I started there in grade 5 in 1955 and finished grade 8 in 1959. The Sisters of Charity of Halifax taught us. The nuns that taught me were Sister Ann Cornelia, Sister Catherine Josephine and Sister Ann Teresa.

My husband's aunt belonged to that order. She was Sister Marion Bernadette later called Sister Bernadette McCarville. Sister Bernadette probably attended St. Helen's.

Her parents Emmett & Blanche McCarville built a home at 3790 Eton Street in 1924 and it is still there. Her brothers, Frances and Fred, have been students there as well.

Frank was born in 1912, Fred in 1914 and Bernadette in 1916. My husband, Ken, is a son of Fred.

I submitted a photo for a laugh or two and perhaps a tear or two. Ken and I have been married for 56 years. We have six children, 11 grandchildren and 2 great grandsons. Ken was a teacher for 33 years.

Blessings to all working on this project!

Sincerely,

Anna May McCarvill"



Harry Matiash and his brother were both killed in a plane crash a month or two after this picture was taken. There were seven boys in Grade 8 so all six were his pallbearers. Harry is located in the top row, sixth from the left.

Anna May McCarvill—Front row second from the left

Ken McCarvill—Second row from the top, sixth from the left

***Searchers** Personal Best*



1A

**Aaron Shen
James Tan**

KA

**Sofia Barbaro
Juan Lancheros
Aria Peta**

KB

**Thinuth Fernando
Inara Soni**

1B

**Sophie Cosgrave
Christian Grauer**

2A

**Alaya Arora
Nico Bastante
Mateo Piovesan**

2B

**Hanna Bobeldijk
Jongyoon Lee**

3A

**Maxine Lee
Ethan Huang**

3B

**Maia Chouinard
Ben Lacuna**

4

**Milania Russo
Tathya Parmar
Valentina Hirvonen**

5A

**Hannah Carolo
Isaac Carlos**

5B

**Nicolas Marando
Marko Arbulic**

6

**Eli Luketic
Ella Chung**

7A

**Elessia Cioffi
Michael Poldrugo
Isla Bosa**

7B

**Daniel Elm
Joanna Chung
Monique Guilbault**