

OCTOBER 23, 2012

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of St. Augustine School:

With the end of October fast approaching, it's time to invite you into a number of stories that have occurred in the past month, and encourage your participation in upcoming events.

Front and centre:

A call for your active participation...

An All-Parent meeting is being held on **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 7:00 PM** as one of the initiatives to kick off our **Annual Fall Campaign** for the building of our new school. At this event, the Building committee will give a presentation featuring the sketches for our proposed phased project, and will share key details on phasing, type of building, costs and fundraising goals and objectives. **This is an amazing time** for our Parish and School and your presence is highly encouraged!

Another thing that the Campaign and Father Terry ask is that during our Fall Campaign (November 3 – 18) that **all students wear their full uniforms to weekend Masses**. In this way, the Parishioners can see how many of our children they are supporting by contributing to our Campaign...

Expressions of thanks:

I want to thank Mrs. Luttrell for short notes and notices that she emails all of you. If you are not receiving short messages from the office via email, please email the office at office@staugschool.ca to update you address.

We're into the heart of **Fall Sports' season**:

Volleyball is coming to a conclusion, Fall Running Club has closed, our first participation in the CISVA Cross Country Run was a big success for those that participated, and Primary Bowling has one more session at the Ridge Bowling Centre. **Thanks** to the parents and other students who come to cheer on our teams, parents who drive students when we play games at other catholic schools, to tracks or bowling alleys, and to the coaches and referees and student score keepers and lines' people for your time, encouragement and support.

Thank you also to everyone who came and supported the FALL FAIR at the school this weekend. We continue to see many parents offer their time for this big Parish event, and we particularly thank *Teresa Vaccaro* for her leadership in the event this year. Thank you for your donation. To the members of staff that put the toy room together, and worked throughout the day on Sunday, **THANK YOU!**



Your help or support is needed:

(This section is a repeat from year's past... and still applies. Please read carefully and honour our requests. Thank you.)

Student safety and security is very important. Just in case you are not aware, the school provides the following supervision of students during the school day:

- 8:10 – 8:40 One Teacher and One Parent
- 10:15 – 10:30 Recess: 3 Staff members, and 2 grade 7 peer mediators
- 12:00 – 12:35 Lunch Recess: 2 Staff members, one parent and 2 grade 7 peer mediators
- 3:00 – 3:20 One staff member and one parent

We do expect that parents will supervise their own children after school if you choose to let them play. We teachers are outside during this time to **ensure security at the gate**, and we want to ensure that everyone is aware of their own “after school” responsibilities:

- be on time to pick up your child.
- know that you are responsible after 3:00 if you choose to be here and let them play.
- if you witness a child acting in an unsafe manner, please either speak to him/her or direct the concern to the supervising staff member.
- exit through the gates at Arbutus and at 8th Avenue, not through the front door or expect your child to wait for you on the coach.
- All teachers are busy after 3:00 and we need everyone's support on this matter.

On Tuesday, the school will draw the **WALKATHON** “school prizes” – and we will be drawing for the school-prizes at our Assembly ... we'll send on an email letting your know the winners, and we are very pleased to share that our total as of today is **\$26,680.00**. Thank you to everyone who already contributed or helped a child collect their pledges! As the money that is donated is used to



increase our library collection, support our computer lab, enhance primary literacy resources and by sports equipment, it is imperative that all families support this event.

Thank you to all of you who contributed the yummy food at the bake sale table on the day of the WALK-ATHON. We are most grateful for **Nathalie Meyer's** leadership of this event. The food was delicious, and the support of the school so much appreciated!

For you to be aware:

With the continuing awareness of concussions, we will be alerting parents by phone when their children receive a bump on the head. It will be up to parents to ascertain whether further treatment is necessary. As always, if it is an urgent matter, the protocol from our parent handbook will be followed:

- “ • Student's immediate needs will be attended to.
- Parents will be contacted (in their place, their emergency contact person)
- If necessary, students will be taken by a staff member (or by ambulance in an emergency) to the local hospital.
- Children are always accompanied by school administration to emergency facilities while awaiting arrival of the parents.”

From our Dads...

On Wednesday nights, a group of school dads play soccer in the School gym. We start at 8:00 pm and go to around 9:30 pm. We play for fun and enjoyment, with a good time had by all. If you are interested in joining our group, please email Kevin Soulsbury at soulsbury@shaw.ca.

All Dads are welcome.

From the Vancouver Academy of Music...

The Vancouver Academy of Music is performing on November 18th its first concert for the season, and is offering free admissions to the first 25 students from St. Augustine's. These free tickets can be requested at our office. Others can be purchased through the Academy at 604-734-2301. We thank *Joseph Elworthy*, Executive Director and one of our parents, for this generous offer.

Please note the following **OCTOBER/NOVEMBER** items:

- **Carnival for the Missions**, October 31 – the whole school community dresses up!
- Monthly Mass, November 1, hosted by Grade 5
- **Spirit Day**, November 3 – all Grade 7's
- Fall Campaign for our New School, November 3 - 18, **all students wear uniforms to Masses**
- **ALL PARENT MEETING about the New School** – November 7, 7:00 PM in the gym
- **Extended long weekend** – November 9 – 12
- **Remembrance Day Assembly** - 11:30 – hosted by Grade 5

Blessings to all,



Principal