

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



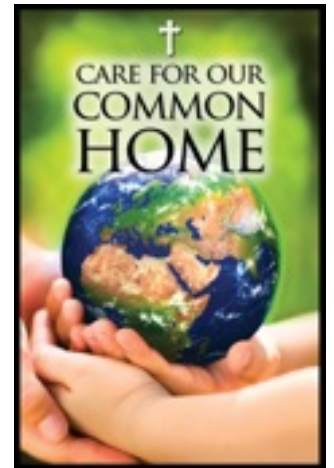
Welcome back to a new school year, St. Augustine students and families, and a special welcome to all our new families joining us for the first time! It is our honour to serve each and everyone of you!

I hope you all enjoyed a restful and fun-filled summer! The teachers, staff, and I can't wait to hear of all your summer adventures. We have all been busy over the last several weeks preparing the school and classrooms for your return.

I cannot wait to finally officially meet all of you as the new principal, starting with your children on the first day of school. Thank you to all the families whom I have already had the pleasure of meeting for extending such a warm

welcome to me and for helping me with my transition. You have already made me feel at home. I am excited to get to know all of you and to serve you. I look forward to the upcoming academic year, knowing it will be filled with many successes by students, parents, and teachers and staff alike. Most importantly, we take on the upcoming year in communion as we continue to mould the minds and spirits of our children.

This year's theme for all Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese is "*Care For Our Common Home*" This year, let us celebrate and rejoice in what we are called to do as disciples of our faith by seeing Jesus in the world around us and the people around us, and by sharing Him with everyone around us! Let us all commit to our call to the care of our "common home" — in our school, in our homes, and in our lives.



God Bless,

Mr. Yaptinchay

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEACHERS AND STAFF!

A warm welcome to Ms. Angelica Agregado and Ms. Sara Wynne, our new Grade 1 teachers! A special welcome also to Ms. Rebecca Kelly and Ms. Mirella Gastaldo, new Educational Assistants and members of our Learning Assistance Team.

We are so very excited to have you join the St. Augustine family and share your wonderful talents with us!

SCHOOL WEBSITE NEWS

Be on the lookout for new features coming soon to our school website!

A reminder to visit the [school website](#) regularly and frequently. It will be a valuable reference point for school events, important dates, weekly updates, reporting student absence, parent participation portal, and other key resources.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Thank you for keeping a close watch on our [St. Augustine Parent Participation Portal](#).

Every hour that you have or will commit especially this school year is so very much appreciated. New opportunities and updates are posted frequently. Thank you for being so generous in giving of your time and energy.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

MORNING DROP-OFF

Please, consider walking, riding the bus, or biking to school. The same procedures for drop-off and pick-up will apply as in June. If driving, pull up to the drop off zone on W. 8th Avenue, allow your children to exit your care and carefully drive away. From W. 8th Ave., you may also drive north through the lane way to drop off at the top of the lane, exiting on W. 7th Ave. Supervision begins at 8:00, and the first bell rings at 8:30.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Parking along Arbutus between 7th and 8th Ave. is 2-hour parking. W. 7th Ave. has no parking at the east end of the block. A bike lane is installed along 7th Ave. Watch where you park; tickets will continue to be issued if drivers park illegally. Please, drive very slowly in and around the school.

NOON DISMISSAL

All children will be dismissed at 12:00pm the first day of school and will be waiting for you on 8th Avenue under the supervision of staff and parent volunteers.

Please, be on time.

FORMS AND HANDOUTS

On the first day of school, your children will be receiving a package of notices/info that require your immediate attention. These forms are time-sensitive, particularly the Walking and Park Visit Permission Form. This form must be immediately signed because children cannot leave the school property without your signed permission. Other forms in this package include the September Calendar, the Year Calendar, Volunteer Driver Form, Hot Lunch Information, Meet-the-Teacher Evening information, and Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-up. Thank you for respecting the deadlines attached to these forms.

KINDERGARTEN GRADUAL ENTRY

All Kindergarten families received an email earlier this week outlining the schedule for the first day and week of school. If you did not receive it, please, email the office [here](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

SEP. 6 - 9: KINDERGARTEN GRADUAL ENTRY

SEP. 6: FIRST DAY OF AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

SEP. 7: FIRST SCHOOL MASS

Our first school mass is Wednesday, September 7 prepared by the Grade 7 class. Students are expected to be in full school uniform. Kindergarten students will not attend this first mass due to gradual entry. Parents, families, and friends are invited to join us for this Opening Mass of the school year.

SEP. 15: MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

Our annual Meet-the-Teacher Evening is scheduled for **Thursday, September 15 starting in the gym at 7:00pm.** At 7:30,pm parents are asked to proceed to your child’s classroom for a 30 minute presentation by

the teacher. A second session will be offered at 8:00pm, which will also last 30 minutes. This is a mandatory meeting, and we ask that at least one parent be present.

SEP. 16: PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

There will be no classes on Friday, September 16 to allow for all-day pre-scheduled Parent-Teacher Conferences. Conferences are set for 10 minutes each and are a time for parents and teachers to meet and discuss the upcoming year. Please, make sure to fill out the conference sign-up form included in the package on the first day of school and return it by September 9.

SEP. 19-20: IEP MEETINGS

SEP. 22: IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

SEP.30: PRO-D (NO SCHOOL)

FYI

WALKATHON (OCT.7):

Our main fundraiser for the year is ready to kick off! Walkathon forms will be available soon with important information and the Walkathon Pledge

Package! Our goals this year include optimizing and addressing needs in the playground and courtyard space as well as outfitting the Learning Commons with a projector system. Stay tuned!

SCHOOL UNIFORMS:

A reminder that full school uniforms are expected to be worn at all times during the school day. Please, refer to the [Parent Handbook](#) on the school website for a

complete description of the uniform and the expectations around its use. Our uniform is an important way in which we demonstrate school pride.

COACH'S CORNER

St. Augustine Lions are getting ready to roar this fall!

Volleyball

Students in Grades 5 through 7 will be practicing for and competing in the CISVA volleyball leagues. Game and practice schedules will be finalized following completion of registration. Hopefully several of our teams will be able to compete at the championships at the Harry Jerome Sports Center in Burnaby. Girls' playoffs are November 8, and boys' are November 22. As we work hard and play our best in the league, equal emphasis goes into the virtues that come from competition: commitment, diligence, humility, respect, and courage, to name but a few.

Running

Our Running Club will be getting into high gear for September and October. The emphasis of Running Club is for students of all ability levels to have a chance to: develop cardiovascular and muscular endurance, experience setting, remaining committed to, and achieving goals, persevere through challenges, experience the satisfaction of growing stronger, maintain and improve fitness levels to support other sports activities, and to support teammates of all ability levels. There will be opportunities for some Club members to compete at the CISVA Cross Country Championships on October 5. Further details about dates and registration are forthcoming.

The coaching staff are looking forward to another season of supporting the development of physical and emotional strength and health this fall.

Go Lions, Go!

OUR SCHOOL DAY

LUNCHESES: Please, ensure recess snack and lunch food is included in your child's pack each day. As the city has new disposal regulations, all children will be bringing home whatever is left from their lunches. We can accept recycle items and garbage only. All food/ related items must be taken home.

HOT LUNCH: We will begin our Hot Lunch program the second week of school. Hot Lunch providers will contact you the first week of school. Please, be sure to read the Hot Lunch form distributed the first day of school for more information.

BACKPACKS: We are again asking that students do NOT bring rolling backpacks. Lockers for our Grade 2-7 students do not have space for such large items.

EDU-PAC: EDU-PAC school supplies have been delivered and are ready to go.

SCHOOL BREAKS:

10:30-10:45 morning recess

12:15-1:00 lunch

EARLY DISMISSAL

A reminder that it is 2pm Early Dismissal every Wednesday.

SPECIALIST TEACHING DAYS:

French: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (morning only)

PE: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

Music*: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

*Stay tuned for a memo about choir and band from Mr. Arntzen.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The St. Augustine After School Club is full, and all registrations have been confirmed. The club will begin Tuesday, September 6. Thank you to Ms. Faherty for the use of her Kindergarten space as one of the classroom spaces for club this year. So much planning and preparation have gone into ensuring the continued success and service provided by the After School Club. A reminder that students need to be picked up no later than 5:45pm. Remember also to bring in your forms for Pro-D and half-days by Tuesday, September 6.