

ST. AUGUSTINE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



What a wonderful first month of school! I hope you share the same sentiment with me as September comes to a close and the “busy-ness” of the school year kicks in. Amidst the often hectic and full weeks ahead, let’s not forget this year’s Catholic Schools’ theme: “CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME!”

In this month of Thanksgiving, which is also the Month of the Rosary, as we work towards recognizing that all our joys come from God, let us begin to seek Him in all things and be grateful for all the blessings in our lives, not only in our homes but also in the common home that we share. Let us pray for those less privileged and be an example of Christian gratitude, service, and love and a source of joy for others.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

O God, when I have food,
 help me to remember the hungry;
 When I have work,
 help me to remember the jobless;
 When I have a home,
 help me to remember those who have no home at all;
 When I am without pain,
 help me to remember those who suffer,
 And, in remembering,
 help me to destroy my complacency,
 Bestir my compassion,
 and be concerned enough to help,
 By word and deed,
 those who cry out for what we take for granted.

Amen.



IN GRATITUDE

During this month of THANKSGIVING, it's most appropriate to express our immense gratitude to the entire community of St. Augustine's Parish and School for every big and small effort that has contributed to this time in our school's history. It has been a year since we moved into the new school, and there is much to celebrate and an equal number of exciting things to look forward to this coming school year.

We are all working hard – students, parents and staff alike - and we are all so extremely grateful to every member of the teaching and support staff for the incredible time, energy, and commitment that is taking place to meet expectations, requirements, and serve the needs of the students in their care. Thank you!

W A L K A T H O N



WALKATHON

We are less than a week away from our 2016 SAS Walkathon! As mentioned in our Walkathon pledge and information package, our Walkathon will be held this **Friday, October 7**. Students and parent walkers are asked to meet their teachers on the grass field next to the main parking lot at Kitsilano beach by the tennis courts no later than 8:45am. Some important points to note:

- Students must wear weather-appropriate clothing. Check the weather forecast.
- Although it may rain, rubber boots may not be the most comfortable footwear. Runners are a good option.

- We are walking rain or shine!
- We are trying to make it a “green” event again this year. Parents and students, please bring your own reusable water bottles.
- There will be a water station along the route
- Students are dismissed at the end of the walkathon only when they have signed out with their teacher. Parents, please, ensure you are back at the starting point by 11:00am for pick-up, and 10:30am for Kindergarten and Grade 1.
- We have a new ONLINE option for pledges. You can send the following link for our Walkathon

campaign to all your friends and family across North America: <http://bit.ly/2doqdas>

- Friends and family anywhere in Canada and the USA can now donate online. Tax receipts are emailed to you immediately for donations greater than \$5 (within Canada only).
- Please, also remember that you do not have to bring in your collected pledges prior to the Walkathon. Pledges are not due until **October 17**. This allows SAS families to see other friends and family during the Thanksgiving long weekend who might be interested in supporting our school fundraising endeavour.

ST. AUGUSTINE FALL CAMPAIGN

We continue to believe that our Faith is our greatest gift at St. Augustine School. We know we have a good school, but being a *great Catholic School is our central goal*. Thank you to all the parents who share this vision, and by their devotion and commitment to the Church, link their lives to our work here. For three weekends in the fall, students host roles as commentators, lectors, altar servers, greeters and ushers. We are so proud of them all and are grateful for their willingness to serve and be witnesses of Faith to our broader community in the Parish. Thank you to all the parents for their help practicing with the students, bringing them to mass early and to those who have offered their service as well. The Fall Campaign will run every weekend from October 21 to November 6.

Although students from grades 5 to 7 are pre-selected for specific roles, all students across all grades can contribute and support our Fall Campaign by wearing their school uniform to mass over these weekends as we continue to raise the necessary money needed to finance the completion of the third floor of our new school. We are so very blessed to be in the new building, but we are not yet done! Thank you for all you have contributed already and for your continued support of Catholic education at St. Augustine's!

KINDERGARTEN/ NEW PARENT EVENING (OCTOBER 12)

We will be hosting a follow-up Kindergarten and New Parents Evening & Social on **Wednesday, October 12**. Parents, thank you for filling out the online invitation which was sent out the first weekend of October. Deadline for registration is Friday, October 7. We hope many of you can join us.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S



HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

This year, our Hallowe'en Carnival fall on Monday, October 31. This annual event allows our students both to have fun as well as to think of the less fortunate at the same time. The money collected will be sent to the Holy Childhood Association, which supports children in the Third World. EVERYONE is invited to wear a costume to celebrate HALLOWE'EN, remembering to keep the costumes violence-free and school appropriate. (Thank you

in advance for ensuring your child adheres to this expectation). STAFF and PARENTS are also invited to 'dress up' --- please remember, in helping your child choose a costume, that they will be in it throughout the day – and that might mean simplifying what they wear to school. More details about the “carnival” will follow!

COACH'S CORNER

October is a very busy month with volleyball league play for grades 5, 6, & 7. The CISVA Cross Country Meet is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5. We have an amazing team of cross-country enthusiasts in our 5th year of competition! Practices and games for all teams are posted in the gym corridor and soon to be Athletics calendar on

our school website. Stay tuned!

On the P.E. front, running shoes with laces and a strong arch support will protect your child from foot and ankle problems now and in the future. If your children have long hair, please, ensure they bring a hair tie for PE.

IMPORTANT DATES

- OCT. 5 - CISVA Cross Country Meet
- OCT. 7-Walkathon
- OCT. 10 -THANKSGIVING: NO SCHOOL
- OCT. 12 - School Mass
- OCT. 18 - Individual Student Photo Day (full uniforms, please!)
- OCT. 31 - Halloween Carnival

L I T U R G I C A L C A L E N D A R

MONTH OF THE ROSARY

By tradition, the Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to a certain devotion. The month of October is dedicated to the holy rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7). The best way to celebrate the month is, of course, to pray the rosary, but these additional prayers can be incorporated into our daily prayers during this month, too.

ALL HALLOWS' EVE

Halloween or All Hallows' Eve is not a liturgical feast on the Catholic calendar, but the celebration has deep ties to the Liturgical Year. These three consecutive days — Halloween, All Saints Day and All Souls Day — illustrate the Communion of Saints. The Church Militant (those on earth, striving to get to heaven) pray for the Church Suffering (those souls in Purgatory) especially on All Souls Day and the month of November. We also rejoice and honor the Church Triumphant (the saints, canonized and uncanonized) in heaven. We also ask the Saints to intercede for us and for the souls in Purgatory.

