

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



The Lenten Season is just around the corner. With Christmas behind us, we look ahead as a school community to the beginning of Lent at the end of this month. We have the CISVA Catholic Educators' Conference February 8 and 9 combined to make an extended long weekend with BC Family Day, February 12.

What will we do in preparation for Lent during these days off and, indeed, the entire month of February, the month of "love", to CARE FOR EVERYONE IN OUR COMMON HOME, our year theme? What have you done personally to bring people closer to God so far this year? What have you done to deepen your faith and bring Christ into your families and among your friends? Practical ways of proclaiming Jesus to others include living a life of witness through daily prayer, reading the Bible, performing charitable acts, and regularly celebrating the Sacraments (Reconciliation and the Eucharist). Attending mass and a simple offer to say a prayer for someone are great ways also. As we prepare for Lent and Easter, let each of us (students, parents, and teachers) work intentionally towards deepening our faith by bringing each other closer to Christ at school, at home, and in our communities, all of which make up essential parts of our common home.

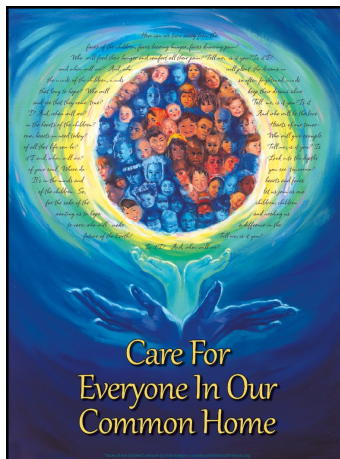
Mr. Yaptinchay

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' WEEK AT ST. AUGUSTINE SCHOOL

The second week of February is officially the CISVA Catholic Schools' Week during which time we will be celebrating our Catholic Schools system.

We will start the celebrations with our SAS Food Bank Drive from January 29 to Feb. 2. Stay tuned for details. We will continue with SAS Blue, White, and Yellow Spirit Day on February 6. Students are asked to bring a toonie (\$2) or more to school to donate to the charities supported by our Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver (RCAV), an annual initiative begun three years ago with the El Camino Pilgrimage by all our CISVA schools to raise funds for our local Catholic charities. Thank you for supporting those in need in our

own backyard. Then, on Feb. 28, we will dress in PINK for Anti-bullying Day to show that bullying prevention is of utmost importance at SAS.



SAS VALENTINE'S THANK YOU TEA (FEBRUARY 7)

On Feb. 7, we will have our SAS Valentine's Thank You Tea to show

our gratitude to all our parents and families for all they do to support our school. Here is the schedule for the day:

- 8:45 - 9:15m Grade 1A and Grade 2S
- 9:15 - 9:45am KS and Grade 5
- 9:45 - 10:15am KF and Grade 1K
- 10:30 - 11:00am Grade 4
- 11:00 - 11:30pm Grade 3 & Grade 2C
- 11:30 - 12:00 Grade 6 and Grade 7

N.B. The Thank You Tea is on February 7 and not on Valentine's Day because of the proximity to the Catholic Educators' Conference and BC Family Day.



LITERATURE DRESS-UP/ FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Friday, January 26 was our second "Literature Dress-Up and Family Literacy Day" at St. Augustine School! As part of our literacy initiatives, all students were asked to dress-up as his/her favourite author or character from a book. In addition, the Learning Commons was open to all families one hour before school, and families were invited to read together, play board games, engage in storytelling activities and take part in an 'Escape Room' type of game based on

authors, children's literature, and wordplay. The day was an incredible celebration and helped raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in literacy-related



activities as a family!

SPIRIT DAY FOR CHARITY (NO UNIFORM DAY)

Wear our school colours (blue, white and/or yellow) on Tuesday, February 6. PLEASE, BRING A

TOONIE for the RCAV Catholic Charities.

PEC AGM & RE-REGISTRATION EVENING (Feb 22)

Re-registration packages will be distributed the first couple of weeks of February and you are asked to return your completed package at our PEC AGM and Re-registration evening on Thursday, February 22 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Included in the agenda for the evening is a special presentation by the Faith & Foundation Team. Also, **NEW THIS YEAR**, we will have a Parent Pub

Night immediately after the AGM hosted by the school and Parish Refugee Committee. Stay tuned for more details. Please, make arrangements so that one or both parents can attend. As in previous years, this will be a mandatory parent meeting. All parents are asked to be in attendance.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Tax receipts are printed during the month of February and will be sent home with Re-registration Packages.



NO SCHOOL! Catholic Educators' Conference, and BC Family Day

Don't forget that there is NO SCHOOL on the following dates: February 8, 9, and February 12.

ASH WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 14)

Join us for our **ASH WEDNESDAY** Mass at 9:15am Wednesday, February 14 to mark the beginning of Lent, a season of almsgiving, fasting, and prayer.

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

THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS AT THE TEMPLE



On February 2, the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day. The Feast of the Presentation commemorates when Mary and Joseph took Jesus to Jerusalem because every firstborn child was to be dedicated to the Lord. Once in the temple, Jesus was purified by the prayer of Simeon, in the presence of Anna the prophetess. Simeon, upon seeing the Messiah, gave thanks to the Lord, singing a hymn now called the *Nunc Dimittis*:

*Lord, now you let your servant go in peace,
your word has been fulfilled:
My own eyes have seen the salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.*