



St. Michael's School Newsletter

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OUR VIRTUE FOCUS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY – ACCEPTANCE

During the month of May we will focus on the virtue of acceptance. The virtue of **ACCEPTANCE** means we accept ourselves and others just the way we are. God created all of us in His image, and God does not make mistakes. Being part of God's family means that we love and welcome everyone just the way Jesus did. Sometimes we find ourselves in situations where it is easier to follow the crowd than to stand up for what we know is right. However, Jesus wants us to accept everyone even when it is hard.

An accepting person...

- † sees the positive traits in all people even if she/he disagrees with them
- † is friendly and open to all God's people, regardless of age, beliefs, gender, culture or ability
- † avoids judging or stereotyping others
- † understands that there may be more than one way to do things
- † sticks up for the "underdog".

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually a member of it". -- 1 Cor. 12:26-27

MONTH OF MARY

The month of May is dedicated in a special way to Mary, the Mother of God. During this time of global uncertainty and pandemic, you are encouraged to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home, whether individually or as a family. Let us pray to Our Blessed Mother for health in mind and body, and for patient endurance in time of suffering.

LOST AND FOUND

We have a LARGE quantity of lost and found items. We have SO many items that we can open our own clothing store! On **Thursday, May 20th** and **Friday, May 21st**, at drop off and pick up times, a table will be placed outside, in the parking lot fire lanes with the items. Please take a look and reclaim anything that belongs to your child.



HOT LUNCH!

The Parent Association has moved our Hot Lunch program online. This year we know the students and parents have greatly missed our lunch program and so have we!

Exciting news!

We will be offering a pizza lunch on **Fun Day, Thursday June 10!**
Please go to <https://sme.hotlunches.net/> to register and place your order.

Fun Day Lunch

On-line Registration & ordering will begin **May 12 2021.**

1. Go to sme.hotlunches.net
2. Click the "**REGISTER**" menu at the top right to sign up.
3. Enter your name, email address and phone, your email address will be your user id that you will use for access to the hot lunches application. Enter a password and then enter it again to verify that it is correct.
4. Once registered, you will be logged into the website
5. Please add your students by clicking on the "**STUDENTS**" button below or the "**PROFILE**" menu tab in order to proceed. Once your students have been added to the system you will be able to place lunch orders immediately by clicking the "Order" button below each child's name.

IT'S THAT EASY!

Payments methods:

- Etransfer to sme.parentassociation@gmail.com.
- Cash and cheques submit directly to the school.
- Credit card on lunch website.

Payment instructions are on the lunch site. We ask that you input your order online and submit payment. You can simply print your 'Remittance Form' and fill out payment method if submitting through the school.

As in past years, you may place an order using paper order forms. Please email the PA for a paper copy.

All orders and payments must be received by June 1 when ordering closes.

Not participating in hot lunch? Walkathon pledges can also be accepted through our site.
Still have questions, email us at sme.parentassociation@gmail.com.

SPEEDING

A reminder to parents to *slow down at the morning drop off*. Parents arriving late (after 8:45am) are driving in too fast. Once you have entered the school parking lot, going faster will not save you any time at this point. **The drop off zone will now be closed at 8:45am.** By this time in the morning parents have plenty of parking spaces to stop and allow their child to exit safely.

ST. MICHAEL'S STAFF CHANGES 2021-2022

WE SAY GOODBYE

*This June, after over 35 years of dedicated service to the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA), **Mr. Paul Roder**, our Athletic Director and PE teacher, is setting his sights on a well-deserved retirement. All of us here will miss Mr. Roder and will never forget his committed and faithful service to Catholic education.*

*We say good-bye to **Mrs. Rosie Bird**, our school secretary. After 5 years of very devoted and affectionate service, Mrs. Bird has decided to join her husband, Brian, in retirement. We thank Mrs. Bird for her incredible work ethic and dedication to the school.*

*We also say good-bye to **Mr. Don Patzer**, our maintenance employee. After 11 years of extraordinary service to the school, Mr. Patzer will be retiring at the end of June. Mr. Patzer has been an amazing member of our staff, the unsung hero of the school whose selflessness and generosity has been admirable.*

We say good-bye to **Mrs. Lisa Benes**, who will be leaving us in June. We thank Mrs. Benes for her wonderful contributions to our primary learning resource department. We wish her all of God's blessings as she moves on to other adventures in her life.

STAFF CHANGES

Mrs. Ginny Del Rosario who is currently teaching Grade 3 will be taking over the role as Primary Learning Resource Teacher.

WE WELCOME

Please join me in welcoming the following staff members:

We have hired **Mrs. Jodie De Julius** as our Office Secretary. Mrs. De Julius is currently a part time secretary in one of our Catholic High Schools and has worked in our central school board office.

We have hired **Mr. Victor Oreta** as our school maintenance employee. Mr. Oreta has worked in maintenance at one of our parishes and has experience in general maintenance and construction.

We have hired **Mrs. Oleigue Faghaly** as our Athletic Director and PE teacher. Mrs. Faghaly has extensive experience in teaching physical education. She has a Bachelor's in Physical and Health Education and is certified in the International Baccalaureate in both the Middle and Primary Year Programmes.

We welcome back **Mrs. Andrea Finch** and **Mrs. Margaret Marquez** who are both returning from maternity leave. Mrs. Finch will return to co-teach Grade 6 and Mrs. Marquez will return as the Grade 3 teacher.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

AFTERSCHOOL CARE UPDATE

The PEC continues to follow-up with After-School care options for families. The SFU Childcare Society is planning to open an afterschool program in the building directly behind St. Michael's School. The program coordinator Jacqueline Ewonus **strongly advises** the families who are interested **to submit a waiting list application** and based on the requirement they will adjust their personnel to try and accommodate everyone. The expected opening date was October 1st, however construction work and renovation are still taking place.

LINK to the WAITLIST APPLICATION: <https://www.sfu.ca/childcare/enrollment.html>

The first priority for spaces will be given to the Burnaby District schools (as part of their agreement for the rights of using the structure), and the second priority is given to the surrounding community (i.e. St. Michael's).

All the info (fees, availability, enrollment process, etc.) and details can be found on their website <https://www.sfu.ca/childcare.html>, by phone 778-782-4569 or by email ccsinfo@sfu.ca

Enrollment & General Questions:

Office Assistant: Kathy Hart - Tel: 778.782.4569

Email: ccsinfo@sfu.ca

Email: kathyh@sfu.ca

3-5 Programs & School-Age Programs:

Program Director: Jacqueline Ewonus - Direct Tel: 778.782.5966

Email: jacqueline_ewonus@sfu.ca

Parent Participation Help needed in May

Please contact parent participation category managers or email participationhours@gmail.com to sign up!

- Maintenance
- Outdoor Learning Area

Parent Participation Hours Deadline Reminder

Please submit all participated Parent Participation Hours for the 2020-2021 School Year before/by **June 27th, 2021** on ParticipationHours.com.

Participation Hours website technical support and inquiry contact: participationhours@gmail.com

Outdoor Learning Area Update

Thank you in advance for all of those CLEAN caps and lids you have been collecting for our art project, however, we still need lots and lots more lids!

As noted at the beginning of April, you can now drop off your CLEAN lids/caps at the school. We have two bins clearly labelled and positioned beside the gym, just in front of Mr. Patzer's shop. Please don't send them into the school with your child; take a moment to drop them in the containers. Volunteers helping with the art project have sorted the colours out, and we will start creating some fun art for the chain link fence.



THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Hooray! It is nearly done and it looks great, we just need seating for the children!

We need:

- Log rounds for seating
- A volunteer to take away broken concrete pieces we discovered while planting- to the best of my knowledge Meadowlands Landscaping is the only location for disposal of broken concrete.

We have:

- Used wooden lattice (4'x8'), some of which can be re-purposed (again!) and some of which needs to be disposed of. If you would like some of the lattice and/or can help with the disposal of it please reach out to Anita Riddell.

Please email Anita Riddell at stmikesola@gmail.com

Thought of the week...

“Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the most tender of friends with souls who seek to please Him...Be not afraid then in your solitary conversations, to tell Him of your miseries, your fears, your worries, of those who are dear to you or your projects, and of your hopes. Do so with confidence and with an open heart.”

~St. Damien of Molokai