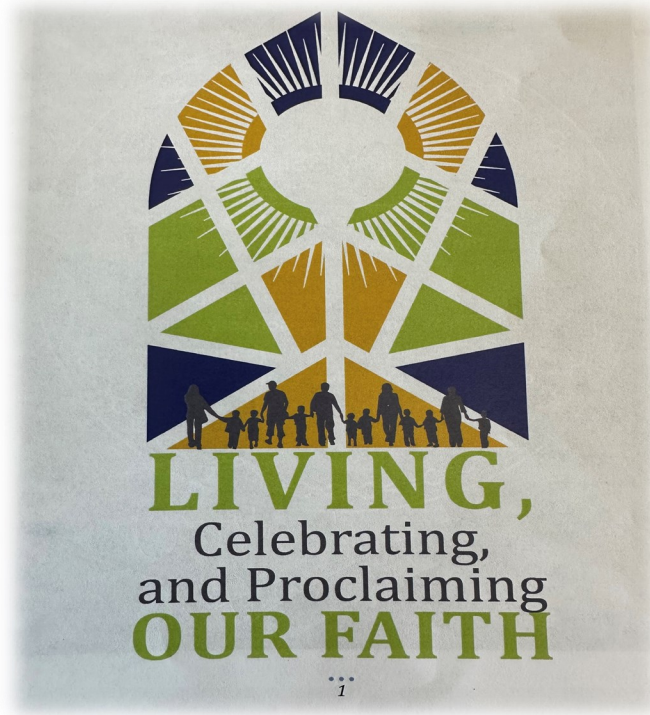


St. Helen's School Newsletter

September 2023

Principal: Waldemar Sambor
Vice Principal: Anthony Canosa



Dear Parents,

A century ago, in September 1923, our school began its journey, thanks to the devoted efforts of the Sisters of Charity from Halifax. As we stand on the threshold of this significant milestone, we're thrilled to announce our forthcoming celebration - the St Helen's Centennial Gala November 10 a tribute to the all past and present Community members .

On the first day of this academic year, each child will be presented with a commemorative T-shirt, bearing the images of our three cherished school buildings. These include the original edifice from 1923 that ignited the spark of knowledge, the second building from 1948 which has gracefully retired, and the promising West Wing, our beacon into the next century.

The West Wing, a testament to our aspirations, represents not just the future of our school, but the dawning of a new era in education. While our current modular classrooms offer temporary shelter, they are stepping stones towards realizing our ultimate goal - the construction of the East Wing. This accomplishment will finalize the project we embarked upon a few years ago, solidifying the legacy of our West Wing.

As the Principal, I am filled with gratitude for your unwavering support and patience. Our journey towards a brighter future is a collective effort, and we are profoundly grateful for your partnership. Together, we shall continue to build, inspire, and illuminate the path for generations to come.

See the old school demolition link below

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMY4rF3zr0xA1xm0uk69ZmDptz-i8wT_DzceUVX7HXRjUHJK-YrSV-AX_zqPn66QQ?key=RDZTQmZaa09WNUVweUlhNXRhbUdWMMhSZIZ6bDln

Sincerely in Christ,
Waldemar Sambor

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TEACHERS, & E.A

Principal	Mr. Waldemar Sambor	wsambor@cisva.bc.ca
Grade KA	Mrs. Deanna Canosa	dcanosa@shschool.ca
Grade KB	Mrs. Christina Devlin	cdevlin@shschool.ca
Grade 1A	Mrs. Debbie Jussinoja	djussinoja@shschool.ca
Grade 1B	Mrs. Melina Ivanovic	mivanovic@shschool.ca
Grade 2A/Curriculum Director	Mrs. Sandra Drlje	sdrlje@shschool.ca
Grade 2B	Mrs. Angela Rakic	arakic@shschool.ca
Grade 3A	Miss. Corrina Ialungo	cialungo@shschool.ca
Grade 3B	Mrs. Donna Perrotta	dperrotta@shschool.ca
	Mrs. Claudia Martinelli	cmartinelli@shschool.ca
Grade 4A	Mrs. Jackie Kenny	jkenny@shschool.ca
Grade 4B	Miss. Sydney Martins	smartins@shschool.ca
Grade 5	Mr. Anthony Belmonte	anthony.belmonte@shschool.ca
Grade 6A	Mrs. Antonella Zaharija	azaharija@shschool.ca
Grade 6B/Vice Principal	Mr. Anthony Canosa	acanosa@shschool.ca
Grade 7	Mrs. Lindsay Mincieli	lmincieli@shschool.ca
Library	Mrs. Linda Zen	lzen@shschool.ca
LAC/Special Ed Director	Mrs. Teresa Utini	tutini@shschool.ca
P.E./Athletic Director	Mr. Enrico Perrotta	eperrotta@shschool.ca
Music/Fine Arts Director	Miss. Jasmine Bean	jbean@shschool.ca
French	Mrs. Donata Vitucci	dvitucci@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Annarita Elm	aelm@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Linda Zen	lzen@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Mac Santalucia	msantalucia@shschool.ca
E.A.	Ms. Rosa Bastone	rbastone@shschool.ca
E.A.	Miss. Erica Busto	erica.busto@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Gina Zivkovic	gzivkovic@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mrs. Anastasia Zdravkovic	azdravkovic@shschool.ca
E.A.	Miss. Jenna Mobilio	jenna.mobilio@shschool.ca
E.A.	Mr. Nick Belmonte, Mrs. Katelyn Grippo, Miss. Alessia Giammaria, Miss. Nicola Ricci , Miss. Vanessa Paccani,	

SUPPORT STAFF

Office Manager	Ms. Nancy Ginnetti	office.shel@cisva.bc.ca
Secretary	Miss. Laura Paulyn	secretary@shschool.ca
Bookkeeper	Mrs. Linda Spitale	lspitalehs@hotmail.com
Payroll	Mrs. Karen Paulyn	kpaulyn@shschool.ca
Maintenance	Mr. Paul Mobilio, Llyod Villota	office.shel@cisva.bc.ca

Note: Please note all staff emails are posted on the school website.

Teacher emails are for general communication purposes. This form of communication is **not** a replacement for parent-teacher conferences. **For all absentee notes, please submit the absentee form on our school app by 9 am.**

PEC MEMBERS 2023/2024

Mr. Gavin D'Souza	Chairperson	Mrs. Misty Troisi	Participation
Mrs. Stefania Bogdanovic	Vice Chairperson	Mr. Chris Cheung	Participation
Mr. Nick Corea	Treasurer	Ms. Monica Alvarez	Maintenance
Ms. Lana Piovesan	Secretary	Fr. Alessandro Lovato	Pastor

September News & Calendar

- SEPT 5 —FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (*FULL DAY FOR ALL. NO UNIFORM, BUS OR HOT LUNCH FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL*)
- SEPT 6-8 —GRADES 4-7 LEAVE FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION (more info to come)
- SEPT 11 —FULL UNIFORM & BUS BEGINS
- SEPT 14 —INDIVIDUAL PICTURE DAY *WEAR FULL UNIFORM*
- SEPT 15 —WHOLE SCHOOL MASS (6B) PARENTS ARE WELCOME
- SEPT 22 —TERRY FOX RUN *WEAR GYM STRIP*
- SEPT 26 —ST. MARY'S X COUNTRY MEET (MORE INFO TO COME)
- SEPT 29 —ORANGE SHIRT DAY *WEAR ORANGE T-SHIRT WITH UNIFORM*

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS

Congratulations to Rosa Bastone who was married over the summer.

Congratulations to Llyod Villota who was married over the summer.

Congratulations to Laura De Fazio on the arrival of her new baby girl, Sydney.

SUMMER MAINTENANCE

Our old school was demolished and now we are in the process of installing the six modular classrooms.

Our Gym floors were revarnished.

We had our West Wing re-painted and deep cleaned.

The first level of the Church was also deep cleaned.

SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE HOURS

8:00 am—Supervision

8:55 am— Morning bell

10:15-10:30 am—Primary recess

10:30-10:45 am—Intermediate recess

12:00- 12:45 pm- Primary lunch

12:30-1:15 pm—Intermediate lunch

3:00 pm—Dismissal bell

3:20 pm—Supervision ends

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ST. HELEN'S SCHOOL APP

Our school app, which can be downloaded onto your smartphone, gives parents and students access to information regarding the upcoming school year. To submit an absentee letter on the app click the '**School Info**' tab then '**Absence Form**', pick your child's grade, fill form and submit. Please note that all notes must be submitted by 9 am daily.

If your child arrives late to school after 9 am, it is the parents responsibility to check them into the office and walk their child to the church basement.

This will directly notify both the office staff and teacher of your child's absence.

EDU-PAC SCHOOL SUPPLIES

In an effort to ensure that all students are prepared for the school year, we have purchased school supplies for all students from Edu-Pac in bulk. No further supplies are necessary from parents. This program was implemented to help our parents during these difficult times.

PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT **REMINDER SEPTEMBER TUITION WILL COME OUT FRIDAY**

Tuition payments made through the pre-authorized debit service must be kept updated. If your chequing account changes please notify the office asap.

HEADLICE

With the end of summer vacation and the start to the new school year, we would like parents to take a pro-active approach this year to head lice. Please examine your child's hair today and on a regular basis. If head lice is found, please start treatment immediately and notify the school office.

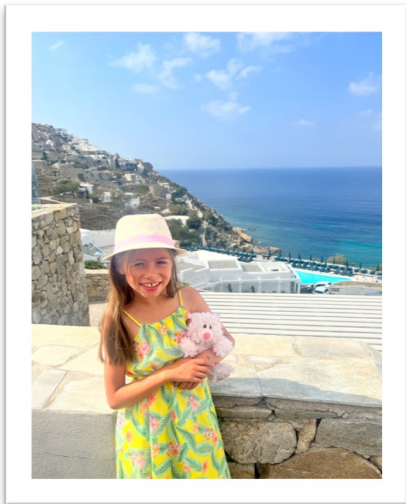
REMINDERS

- ◆ No lunch drop offs during school hours.
- ◆ Please ensure to communicate with your child before school regarding playdates and pickups. Please do not contact the school to pass along messages to your children unless it is an emergency.

Sammy Searcher Travels

Sammy the searcher is a St. Helen's school mascot and students who are willing to travel with Sammy and share their experiences are welcome to do that.

Olivia



Santino and Kosta

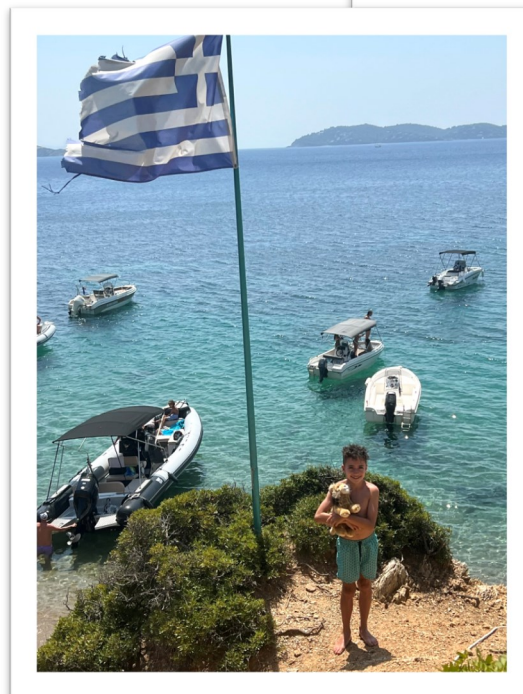


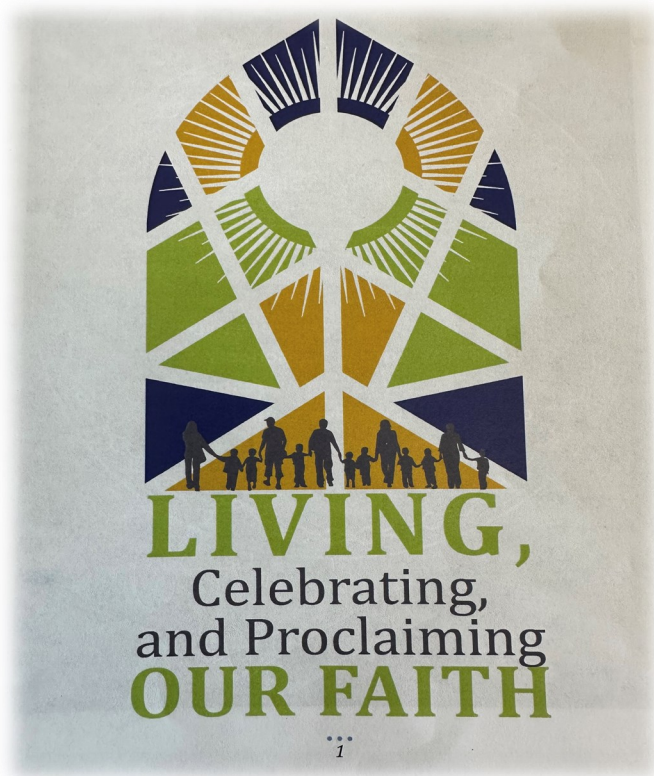
Tiago in Grade 5 below is with
Grad 1986: Robert Coelho
Grad 2017: Elora Coelho, Isabella Holzer and Stella Unti
Grad 2018: Adriano Pizzolato
Grad 2020: Cassia Coelho, Chiara Holzer
Grad 2023: Martina Holzer, Marta Pizzolato
Plus former PEC members Angela Coelho and Marco Holzer

Hanna and Cees



Mattias





2023/24 School Year Theme ***Living, Celebrating, and Proclaiming*** ***Our Faith***

Green represents growth and renewal. This section symbolizes the idea that living the faith is an ongoing process of growth and development. Blue represents trust and faithfulness. This section symbolizes the importance trust and faithfulness in living the Catholic faith. Gold represents wisdom and holiness. This section symbolizes the goal of living the Catholic faith – to become wise and holy people who reflect the love of God in the world. Overall, this logo conveys the message that living the Catholic faith is a journey of growth, trust, and wisdom and that the Catholic school community is united in this journey.

The 2023-24 Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA) School Year Theme is “Living, Celebrating, and Proclaiming Our Faith.” This theme conveys the message that living the Catholic faith is a journey of growth, trust and wisdom, and that the Catholic school community is united in the journey. There are fifty-one CISVA and affiliate schools that are gathering this week to celebrate Mass with Archbishop Miller, and explore the new theme. The idea is to focus on the first verb “Living” (Our Faith), in 2023-24, with “Celebrating” and “Proclaiming” in each of the subsequent years. May our theme be one that inspires, challenges us and encourages us to deepen our faith, to grow in knowledge and understanding, and to continue to build a sense of community and belonging within our school and parish communities.

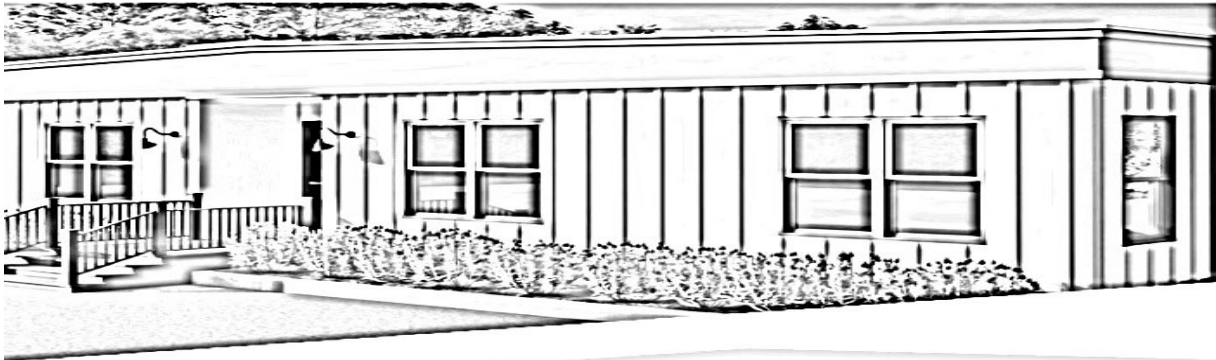
TEACHER GETTING READY AT SQUAMISH FARM FOR THE CENTENNIAL YEAR



Modular Classrooms Preview

"We are excited to share a sneak peek of our upcoming classroom module, a project we plan to initiate as soon as we receive the necessary permits from the City of Burnaby. Given the current volume of applications, we understand the city is facing a high demand.

Our commitment to the well-being of children is unwavering, and we believe it's vital to prioritize their needs. Together, we can create a positive impact for the community and the children we serve."



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STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT: SEE BODY OF THE E-MAIL

Students are expected to arrive punctually, attend regularly, and behave appropriately by:

- Preparing for lessons and having the appropriate books, materials and assignments ready for class,
- Showing consideration for others: the rights of peers, staff and visitors,
- Making a sincere, concentrated effort to do well in studies,
- Wearing the correct uniform at all times,
- Respecting and complying with school regulations,
- Participating attentively in all religious observances.

In addition to the above, a pleasant co-operative attitude is expected of each student. This is to be shown both to peers and staff. We believe that the display of good manners reflects proper home training including "Please" and "Thank you", "Excuse me", "I'm Sorry", and other such expressions. Gestures and behavior should also show proper manners. Consistent courtesy will encourage mutual respect and continue to build a caring community.

INTERMEDIATE OUTDOOR EDUCATION SCHEDULE : GR.4-7

Parents are able to attend the Mass on Thursday, Sept 7th at 4:00 pm. Enjoy a BBQ sausage/ bun/salad/water event after Mass for all attendees. *Donations from visitors are greatly appreciated

Students from Grades 4 to 7 will be attending Outdoor Education starting Wednesday, September 6th. Please ensure that students are at school by 7:00 am.

Wednesday, Sept 6th —Gr. 7 Camp Summit & Wednesday, Sept 6th—Gr. 4's -6's Evans Lake

Students will return on Friday, September 8th between 3-3:30 pm

As part of a cherished tradition at St. Helen's School, parents are invited to write letters to students attending outdoor education.

- Please submit your letters to the office by Wednesday between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.
- Letters will be delivered to students following the Thursday Mass.

SCHOOL UNIFORM BEGINS SEPT 11TH

Students are expected to be in full uniform by Monday, September 11th. Students may wear the summer uniform until Thanksgiving long weekend. Please remember shoes must be **black** or **navy blue** and the height of the heel must not exceed 3.5 cm or 1.5 inches. September 5th-8th is a non uniform week, students may wear appropriate summer clothes. The policy regarding hair color/haircuts and accessories will be in effect from September 5th (including all intermediate students going to Camp).

During P.E days, students in Gr. K-3 are permitted to wear their St. Helen's Gym strip. Please note that during Mass Fridays (once a month) students are expected to be in their full formal uniform. Teachers will provide a changing facility for students to change if they need to.

We understand that McCarthy Uniforms can have backorders so please ensure that your children wear similar colours to our St. Helen's uniform until your uniform arrives.

Used Uniforms - If you have any used uniform pieces in good condition that you wish to donate, please bring your donation to the school office.

SCHOOL BUS & MORNING SUPERVISION:

Our bus service will begin on **Monday, September 11th** (\$60.00 monthly one way, \$70.00 monthly round trip). You will receive an e-mail regarding the finalized pick up and drop off times. We do our best to accommodate everyone but our time is limited to one hour on the road. **Finalized bus schedules will be sent out during the first week of September to all the bus families.**

SUPERVISION

Before school : begins at **8am**.

Afterschool: ends at **3:20pm**.



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LATE OR ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is absent or late from school, you need to submit a note through our School App by 9:00 am.

It is important that your children arrive to school on time so that they begin the day with everyone in their class for morning prayer. **Notes and reasons are required by the Ministry of Education.**

- ◆ Please advise the school office of any change of address, phone numbers, email, chequing account information or emergency contact information that has changed since registration by emailing the office or by phone

604-299-2234

DROP OFF AND PICK UP LOCATIONS

*****See attached for updated drop off and pick-up outline*****

Gr. 6 & 7:

- ◆ will use Southside of the West Wing Building (Pandora Street)



Gr. 5 & 4A:

- ◆ will use the West Parking lot to be picked up from



Gr. K-2:

- ◆ will be dropped off on Triumph Street in front of the Church



-Gr. 3A/B & 4B:

will be dropped off on Ingleton

(*Not in the BUS area)

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

8:55 am Bell Rings, all students will line up at their designated area by grade and proceed to the Church .

Parents are welcome in the Church but must sit without their child in the back.

Full day of school , end at 3 pm . Bring water bottle, snack and lunch.

FRIDAY SCHOOL MASSES

The liturgy is a wonderful way to come together as a faith and learning community and give thanks to God for our many blessings. We welcome you to join us for Mass once a month on Friday's (when we are in session) at 9:15 am in the Church.

See school Calendar for days and events.