



Upcoming Events

Dec. 11-12 – Sr. Girls' Basketball Tournament
Dec. 16 - Advent Mass, 9 a.m. at OLA Church
Dec. 18 – last day of classes
Christmas Break
Jan. 4 – Classes resume
Jan. 13 – English 30-1, 30-2, Diploma Exam Part A
Jan. 14 – Social Studies 30-1/30-2 Dip Exam Part A
Jan. 18 – Term 1 Last day of Classes
Jan. 19-28 – Exams, Exams, EXAMS!
Jan. 29 – Parent School Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
Feb. 1 – First day of Term 2

The complete exam schedule and instructions are attached at the end of the newsletter. Please note when your student is writing his or her exams.

A Message from the Principal

“Prepare the way for the Lord” – Isaiah 40:3

I love the season of Advent. It is such a special time as we prepare for the coming of our Lord, Jesus. So often this is a challenge as we are pulled into the commercial aspects of this season. Nonetheless, I believe we must remain steadfast in our preparation for the coming of the light of our Lord that will dispel the darkness. As we proceed through the weeks of Advent and as we light the candles of Hope, Faith, Joy, and Peace, let us prepare our hearts fully to welcome Jesus.

Steve Tymko
Principal



St. John Paul II Catholic School is a peanut-aware school. Please refrain from sending these foods in lunches and snacks.
Thanks.

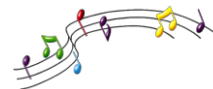
School Fees

If you have not paid school fees yet, they are due. We accept cash, cheques, visa, mastercard, debit cards and fees can also be paid on-line using PowerSchool. If you don't have a copy of your invoice, please contact Mrs. Roth or check your PowerSchool account. (Mrs. Roth works Monday to Thursday.) If you feel you may qualify for hardship fee waivers, please apply at <http://www.eics.ab.ca/index.phy/parents-students/school-fees/fee-waiver-program> The deadline is **December 11, 2015.**

ST JP II DRAMA



On November 24 the Fine Arts department at St. JP2 came together to create a collaborative performance that has never been attempted at St. JP2. The Choir, Musical Theatre, Guitar, and Drama students of grade 9 and 10, created a Broadway themed performance that kept the audience both engaged and energized. The students worked extremely hard in the months leading up to their performances, both inside and outside of class time, in order to perfect their pieces. The directors, Ms Jenkins and Ms Cava, are extremely proud of the artistry and confidence that these young performers displayed, and are excited for the possibilities and growth that the next few years will show. An immense thank you goes out to the ST. JP2 staff, students, families, and greater community for their support throughout the entire preparation process and for their attendance and positivity at the show itself! We are blessed to work within a community that supports the Arts and, primarily, its students!



If you had the pleasure of enjoying our winter variety show, please mark June 2nd, 2016 in your calendars for our Drama 20/30 production!
(Check the photos on page 5.)

GRAD UPDATE

Please see Grad Info in the Quicklinks tab on the <http://stjp2.eics.ab.ca> website.



The grad mass and commencement exercises will be held on June 18 – mass at OLA church and cap and gown at the Shell theatre. Check the grad information on our website for exact times.

GRAD RINGS: Reminder that if you would still like to purchase a Grad ring from Josten's, proceed to www.jostens.com and you can create your ring from that website.

Grad photographs will take place Jan. 18-20. PLEASE GO TO <http://lifetouch.ca/northernalberta> and scroll down to

1. *How to make an appointment* and choose St. John Paul II Catholic School.
2. ***Your sitting fees for your photographs have already been paid.
3. Please SELECT SESSION. (There is only one option- Photo Sitting (20 min)).
4. On the right side of the page, please follow Step 1-5. Brochures with this information will be here soon. Any questions, please call or email Ms. Zaleschuk.

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate from St. John Paul II, students must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled at St. John Paul II Catholic School during the present year;
- Have successfully completed Religion 35 or be enrolled in and passing Religion at mid-term in semester II;
- Have met all Alberta High School Diploma Requirements with a minimum of 100 credits;
- Have attendance and achievement which reflects a reasonable opportunity to successfully complete grade 12 course work.
- All outstanding school fees must be paid.

If you are unsure about your grad requirements, please check with Ms. Labrecque.

LAKE LOUISE SKI TRIP, FEB. 24-26, 2016

The trip is now full and a waiting list has been started. You may pay any balances owing to Mrs. Roth in the office. See Ms Zaleschuk or Ms Jenkins for any questions.

JAPAN EXCHANGE 2016

Ms Zaleschuk is currently in need of a host family who would be so kind as to offer their home to two Japanese boys for one week. The days would be April 24 – 29, 2016. (The boys would depart the morning of April 29.) If you would love to do this please email Ms Zaleschuk at elaanz@eics.ab.ca or phone 780-992-0889.

SALT AND LIGHT

“PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!”

When the Church celebrates *the liturgy of Advent* each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating [John the Baptist’s] birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: “He must increase, but I must decrease” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #524)

Even though we have not yet had much snow, it is still “beginning to look a lot like Christmas!” Signs are everywhere – decorations on houses, festive music playing on the radio, and the growing cheer of the season in people’s hearts. It is no accident that this time of year is so exciting. We remember the Nativity story of our Savior Jesus come into the world as a vulnerable baby. What a surprising and beautiful way for God to meet us in our humanity and, ultimately, to redeem us!

This past Sunday, November 29th marked the first Sunday of Advent. So begins the New Liturgical Year of the Church and with it, our preparations for Christmas. This week we light the first purple candle, a candle of HOPE. It reminds us that we are people of hope who are called to bring the hope Jesus inspires in us to others. How fitting then, that Pope Francis has declared this the YEAR OF MERCY! A whole year focused on bringing mercy and hope to a broken and troubled world. What a privilege.

Advent is also, first and foremost, a time of preparation. The purple color that dominates the season of Advent is royal and reminds us of Jesus our King to be sure – but it is also a color of repentance. This means that Advent is uniquely a time to prepare our hearts to receive the joy that Jesus brings. Just as Mary and Joseph prepared the manger (which literally means “to eat” in French) where animals once ate, to be a fitting place for baby Jesus, we are to prepare the manger of our hearts. Just as they swept out the mess, we do the same, sweeping out all of the negatives that would distract us from Jesus at this busy time of year. Just as they put in soft, fresh hay for padding and comfort, we look to have in our hearts compassion, mercy and love.

May this Advent be one in which we truly prepare our hearts to experience the fullness of the joy of the season. May God bless you and your loved ones this Advent. Advent blessings,
Mr. Scott Walker, School Chaplain

PROJECT BUSINESS

This month, Mr. Romanowski's grade 9 social class is proud to bring you Project Business, a four day small business expo, happening every lunch hour from Monday to Thursday, Dec. 14-17th.

Students will be selling original products and providing services they will develop over the month of December. Watch for posters and listen for ads in the upcoming weeks!

LIBRARY AND STUDENT CENTRE NEWS



Our school libraries are no longer just a place to borrow books, but a Learning Commons, where students and teachers have access to physical and virtual landscapes. The Library area is down stairs while the Student Centre is in the loft area.

Have you ever tried to access our “JP II Library” webpage. Check it out.....there are soooo many links at your fingertips. You are able to check out what is available not only in our library but what is available for “Interlibrary loan” from the other libraries in the division. You will also find many, many links at the bottom of our page that you may access either from school or home to help you locate items or information. You may access atlases, almanacs, online reference items (encyclopedias, author sites, opposing viewpoints, culturgrams, recipes, etc), exambank, other libraries, magazines and newspaper sites.

The Student Centre area is available to students all day long where you may use a computer or do school work or tests. Mrs. Mykytiuk is on hand to assist you if necessary.

Mrs. Sutton would also like to thank the 8 people that brought in subscriptions through our QSP magazine program in October. Tyler Nix and Emma Rockwell were our top sales people this year and received prizes for their efforts.

There are still many, many textbooks that were not returned in June so please take a minute to bring them back so they are available for others to use.

HARBOUR POOL

Lifesaving Society National Lifeguard (16+ years)

December 4-13

Friday 5-9 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

National Lifeguard builds on the skills and knowledge taught in the prerequisite certifications to develop a sound understanding of lifeguard principles, good judgement, and a mature, responsible attitude towards the role of a lifeguard.

Questions?? Call Kayla Dow, 780-992-6166



SR. BOYS BASKETBALL

Congratulations the following students on being selected for the senior boys' basketball team: Brandon McKay, Matt Bennett, Mason Franchuk, Nicholas Kolla, Will Winkler, Morgan Bonneville, Neil Annang, Ben Kellogg, Kurt Sanchez, Raphael Alvarez, Victor Sokolowski, Will Kelly. Thank you to all who came to tryout.

The team begins the season by playing in the Fort High Tournament, on Dec. 4,5. They play at 2:15 on Friday in our gym. Come and cheer the boys on! The JP II tournament will be on Jan. 8, 9.

Coaches, Mr. Keats and Mr. Segberg

SR. GIRLS BASKETBALL

The senior girls' team consists of Rhianna Zazula, Hayley Reich, Megan Nixon, Kaitlyn Krauskopf, Courtney McKay, Chandler Grainger, Stacey Mearns, Emily Bartz, Talia Mullen, Danielle Ouellet, Gaddiel Kamuanya, and Brooklyn Grainger.

The girls will also be playing in the Fort High tournament this weekend. They will be playing at 12:30 in our gym and would love to have your cheers!
Coach: Ms Balla Assistant Coach: Ms McCallum

JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

Tryouts began last Tuesday and Thursday with 20 athletes competing for 12 spots. On Friday, the team was picked and attended their first meeting as team over lunch to work through the roles, responsibilities, philosophy, and structure that will carry the group through the season.

The boys first tournament is December 10-12 (more details to come), and the season begins later in December (again, more details to come).

Congratulations to the 13 boys who make up the 2015-2016 St. JP II Patriots Junior Boys Basketball team: Diego Alvarez, Cole Bridges, Cordell Coleman, Austin Dyky, Justin Frazier, Coltin Geiger, Riley Groten, Kohl Guenette, Devin McIntosh, Jack Rainault, Aiden Schlesinger, Jorden Stang, Mack Whelan.

JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thank you to all the girls who came to try out for the team this year. Congratulations to those who made the team: Bekka Pratch, Daelynn Reinhart, Darcie Kondas, Findley Stelmack, Gwynne McMaster, Katelyn Nixon, Krysta Krauskopf, Kyrie Connors, Moriah Bonneville, Natalie Smadis, Sarah Van Hecke, Vanessa Verbitsky, and red shirts, Akayla Montague, Makayla Pomerantz. Have a great season, girls!

Coach, Ms Degenhardt Assistant coaches Luke Degenhardt, Mrs. Tully, Ms Cava

ST JP II CURLING

The St. JP II curling team, Rebecca Bartz, Shaylin Sharpe, Emily Bartz, Talia Mullen and Michael Barbour, are doing very well in the Metro High School Curling League this year. They are undefeated and will now compete in Division 1 league finals! Way to go, curlers!! The play-off games are on December 9, 15, 16.

CELL PHONE USE

Cell phones are marvellous conveniences; however, Parents, please, please refrain from calling or texting your son or daughter during class time. Thank you for your cooperation.



*May peace be in our hearts and homes this Advent and Christmas season and always.
Best wishes to all from staff at
St. John Paul II Catholic School.*

Thank you very much to all the parents who have filled out the verification forms on line through PowerSchool. This is something we have to do every year. There are still many who have yet to do so and it would be most helpful if you could fill out the forms on PowerSchool. I will be sending paper forms home next week. If you have already completed the forms on-line and I accidentally send home a paper copy for you, just ignore it. Thanks again, Mrs. Raiwet.



January 2016 Exam Schedule

If you have any exam conflicts, please see your teachers to make alternate arrangements.

Exam Schedule, January 2016				
Date	Time	Exam	Room	Supervisors
Wed., Jan. 13	9:00-12:00	English 30-1 Part A Diploma	Library	Tymko
Wed., Jan. 13	9:00-12:00	English 30-2 Part A Diploma	132	Melnyk
Wed., Jan. 13	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	Tymko/Mykytiuk
Thurs., Jan. 14	9:00-12:00	Social Studies 30-1 Part A Diploma	Library	R. Gau
Thurs., Jan. 14	9:00-11:30	Social Studies 30-2 Part A Diploma	Library	R. Gau
Thurs., Jan. 14	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	R. Gau/Mykytiuk
Jan. 18 - Last Day of Classes				
Tues., Jan. 19	9:00-11:30	English 10-1 Part A	201	Cava
Tues., Jan. 19	9:00-11:30	English 10-2 Part A	132	Ellenwood
Tues., Jan. 19	9:00-11:30	English 20-1 Part A	205	Degenhardt
Tues., Jan. 19	9:00-12:00	English 30-1 Part B Diploma	Gym	Tymko
Tues., Jan. 19	9:00-12:00	English 30-2 Part B Diploma	Gym	Balla
Tues., Jan. 19	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	M. Gau/Labrecque
Tues., Jan. 19	1:00-3:00	Language Arts 9 Review Session	201	Cava
Wed., Jan 20	9:00-11:00	English Language Arts 9 Part A PAT	132	Jenkins
Wed., Jan 20	9:00-11:00	Mathematics 10C	Gym	Keats
Wed., Jan 20	9:00-11:30	Social Studies 20-1 Part A	205	Robert
Wed., Jan 20	9:00-11:30	Social Studies 20-2 Part A	201	Reader
Wed., Jan 20	9:00-11:30	Social Studies 30-1 Part B Diploma	Gym	Melnyk
Wed., Jan 20	9:00-11:30	Social Studies 30-2 Part B Diploma	Gym	Melnyk
Wed., Jan 20	9:00-2:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	Wisniewski/Stolk
Wed., Jan 20	1:00-3:00	Religion 9	Gym	Tully/Robert
Thurs., Jan. 21	9:00-11:00	Social Studies 9 Review Session	201	Romanowski
Thurs., Jan. 21	9:00-11:30	English 10-1 Part B	Gym	Cava
Thurs., Jan. 21	9:00-11:30	English 10-2 Part B	Gym	Ellenwood
Thurs., Jan. 21	9:00-11:30	English 20-1 Part B	Gym	Degenhardt
Thurs., Jan. 21	9:00-11:00	Mathematics 30-3	Gym	Panich

Thurs., Jan. 21	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	McCallum/Stolk
Fri., Jan. 22	9:00-10:20	Social Studies 9 PAT	Gym	Balla
Fri., Jan. 22	9:00-11:30	Social Studies 10-1 Part A	132 (Seg) 205 (Rom)	Reader Romanowski
Fri., Jan. 22	9:00-11:00	Social Studies 20-1 Part B	Gym	Jenkins
Fri., Jan. 22	9:00-11:00	Social Studies 20-2 Part B	Gym	Panich
Fri., Jan. 22	9:00-12:00	Biology 30 Diploma	Gym	R. Gau
Fri., Jan. 22	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	Labrecque/M. Gau
Fri., Jan. 22	1:00-3:00	Science 9 Review Session	202/206	McCallum/Poulin
Fri., Jan. 22	1:00-3:00	Religion 15	Gym	Tully
Fri., Jan. 22	1:00-3:00	Religion 25	Gym	Tully
Fri., Jan. 22	1:00-3:00	Religion 35	Gym	Walker
Mon., Jan. 25	9:00-10:15	Science 9 PAT	Gym	McCallum
Mon., Jan. 25	9:00-11:30	Social Studies 10-1 Part B	Gym	Segberg
Mon., Jan. 25	9:00-11:00	Mathematics 20-1	Gym	M. Gau
Mon., Jan. 25	9:00-11:00	Mathematics 20-3	Gym	Keats
Mon., Jan. 25	9:00-12:00	Mathematics 30-1/30-2 Diploma	Gym	R. Gau
Mon., Jan. 25	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	Zaleschuk/Tymko
Mon., Jan. 25	1:00-3:00	Mathematics 9 Review Session	201/205/ 207	Wis/Keats/Panich
Tues., Jan. 26	9:00-10:30	Mathematics 9 PAT	Gym	Wisniewski/Melnik
Tues., Jan. 26	9:00-11:00	Chemistry 20	Gym	Poulin
Tues., Jan. 26	9:00-11:00	Physics 20	Gym	Zaleschuk
Tues., Jan. 26	9:00-12:00	Physics 30 Diploma	Gym	
Tues., Jan. 26	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	Segberg/Walker
Wed., Jan. 27	9:00-10:15	English Language Arts 9 Part B PAT	Gym	R. Gau
Wed., Jan. 27	9:00-11:00	Science 10	Gym	Kim
Wed., Jan. 27	9:00-11:00	Biology 20	Gym	Poulin
Wed., Jan. 27	9:00-12:00	Chemistry 30 Diploma	Gym	
Wed., Jan. 27	9:00-3:00	Extra time/Isolation Space	Library	Reader/Balla
Thurs. Jan. 28	9:00-11:00	Science 20	208	Kim
Thurs. Jan. 28	9:00-12:00	Science 30 Diploma	208	

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES DURING FINAL EXAMS

To increase student success, and academic integrity, the following policies will be enforced:

- Be prepared and know when and where your final exams are.
- Check to make sure you have no conflicts with any of your other final exams.
- Study and get a good night's sleep!!
- Come early and **return class text books** and review study notes or relax before your exam.
- Make sure to have everything you need for the exam (pens, sharpened pencils, erasers, calculators, extra batteries, Kleenex etc.). **These will not be provided for you.** You may also want to bring a sweater in case the room is cold.
- Enter the gym 10 minutes before your exam starts (as soon as the gym doors open) and find your exam or class section.
- **You will not be permitted to enter with anything that is unnecessary to the writing of the exam.** This includes cell phones, hats, back packs, any drinks that do not have a screw top lid.
- There will be a designated room for any backpacks, hats, cellphones etc. that you can leave your belongings in while you write your exam.
- When you have found your exam please sit quietly and listen for instructions from your teachers as to what you need to do (name placement, label sticking, etc.)
- After prayer and once you have been given your cue to start, relax, stay focused, and do your best to answer all the questions to the best of your ability. Take your time and check your work when finished.
Conduct the exam in silence.
- Raise your hand to ask a question, use the washroom, or request additional supplies.
- When your exam is finished, check it over and raise your hand for the collection of the exam. If it is passed 1 hour you may be excused. If 1 hour is yet to pass, wait quietly in your desk. You may only leave once your exam has been picked up.
- Exit the gym quietly and through one of the men's change room doors. Please keep your voices down while in the hallways.
- Collect your materials that you dropped in the provided classroom and return any materials to the library that you still need to return. (Textbooks, library books, etc.)
- Have a great rest of your day and start preparing for your next exam.