



Upcoming Events

- Oct. 29** – Annual Awards Evening, 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 4 – Early dismissal (2:06)
Nov. 5 – Parent/Teacher Interviews, 3:30-9:00 p.m.
Nov. 9-13 – No Classes
Nov. 16 – Photo retakes (pick up info in the office)
Nov. 21, 22 – Catholic Education Weekend

A Message from the Principal

It has been an excellent start to a new school year! We continue to be fortunate to have publically funded Catholic schools in this province where we can provide a Christ-centered environment where we can educate our young people in their faith and in the desire to serve the Lord.

We have seen some exciting changes at St. JP II this year that are off to a great start. The biggest change comes with our modified schedule. Our twice weekly flex blocks have been a huge success. This time allows students to get personalized instruction, extra help, targeted learning experiences, and a chance to fit homework time into the school day. Our feedback from students, parents, and staff has been positive and it seems we discover new things to do during “flex” weekly. This altered timetable also allows staff time to collaborate and construct better learning opportunities for their students. We will continue to monitor this initiative and alter it if necessary as we collect data.

Our cafeteria remains open and offers daily specials along with the regular menu. Joann offers great food at great prices. Please see our website for the current menu. Please support this enterprise.

While off to a bumpy start this year, we continue to have a School Resource Officer (SRO). While Cst. Janice Schoepp shares her time between the schools and we continue to have her as a presence within our schools on a regular basis. We continue to be thrilled to have her and firmly believe her work will reduce youth crime and help to keep our young people safe.

Parent/Teacher Interviews are being held on November 5th from 3:30-9:00pm. Report cards will be given out at interviews. Please attend. To book an appointment, please go to www.schoolinterviews.ca event code BZUDT.

We are striving to make St. JP II the best school it can be. If you have any questions or concerns or, more importantly, wish to let us know what we are doing well, please don't hesitate to let me know.

God Bless,
Steve Tymko, Principal

School Fees

School fees 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 Thursdays.) If you feel you may qualify for hardship fee waivers, please apply at <http://www.elcs.ab.ca/index.php/parents-students/school-fees/fee-waiver-program> The deadline for the waiver program application is **December 11, 2015.**

ST. JP II ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

St. John Paul II is excited to announce the creation of an environmental club here at the school. We are looking for more interested students who would like to join this club and help us to grow into a group that can hopefully make a difference at our school and in the community. Our mandate (which is still being developed) is to create and maintain a more effective recycling and waste program with particular attention to our school parking lot, apply for grants and funding to improve the school's environmental footprint, and to allow club members to attend conferences and retreats on environmental issues, and to increase education and awareness around the school and in the community on environmental issues. If any students are interested in joining, please join us at our next meeting. We meet every Wednesday at the beginning of lunch in room 203. Hope to see you there!

October 23, 2015

As part of our fundraising efforts, we will be running a recycling program called Think Recycle. We ask that all St. JP II families would consider donating any used cell phone, laptops and / or printer ink cartridges. By collecting and recycling your old cell phones, smart phones, laptop computers & original HP, Brother, Lexmark, Dell and Canon printer cartridges, you're helping to teach our students about the importance and value of recycling. You can help by simply dropping off your items at the school (in Mr. Keats' room #203).

We recommend that you erase any private information from items prior to dropping them off. If you are unable to do this, Think Recycle will ensure that any information left on devices is wiped clean.

On behalf of the St. JP II Environmental Club, we look forward to your donation. If you would like more information, please contact Mr. Keats at cameronk@eics.ab.ca.

DRAMA

The St. John Paul II Fine Arts Club would like to invite you to our winter performance, **Lights, Camera, Broadway!**

Lights, Camera, Broadway is a variety show which will include all students enrolled in Drama 9 and 10, Musical Theatre, Guitar 9 and Choir 9. Work will also be showcased in the Shell Lobby from Art 9,10,20,30, Photography 9 and Comm Tech 9 classes. The show will showcase the talents and efforts of over 60 Patriots. Come out to The Shell Theatre on November 23 at 7:00 p.m. to enjoy the show!

Tickets are \$10 and are available by calling [1-866-967-8167](tel:1-866-967-8167) or at ShowTix4U.com. You don't want to miss this one!

Please e-mail nicolaj@eics.ab.ca if you have any further questions or inquiries.

PARENT COUNCIL 2015-16

Chairperson, Annalise Yuzda
Vice Chair, Tamara Guenette
Secretary - Laura Balanko
Treasurer - Jeff Morgan

The next parent council meeting will be held on November 30, at 7 p.m. in the staff room.

GRADUATION 2016

Please visit the St. JP II website homepage to see important information regarding graduation.

Attn: Grad's 2015: Do you know someone who graduated in June 2015? The commencement ceremonies "handshake" photos are in. If you have not picked your sup, you may come to the school and see Ms. Zaleschuk (M,W,T, after 10 a.m., Tuesdays, Fridays, after 10:30 a.m.

JAPANESE EXCHANGE 2016

Would you love to have two Japanese students in your home for two weeks in April? Would you then love to travel to Japan and stay in a Japanese home with a school friend, for two weeks in July? This is the exchange for you! I am looking for families who are willing to billet students and students who also want to billet and travel. Planning is underway for the Third Japanese Exchange in April and July 2016. Please see more information on the school home page under STUDENT, CLUBS & ACTIVITIES, Japan 2016, for more information. You may also contact Ms. Zaleschuk at elaanz@eics.ab.ca.

SKI TRIP TO LAKE LOUISE, FEB. 24-26

Paperwork will be coming in the next week! Listen for announcements! See Ms Zaleschuk for any questions at this time.

HATS OFF TO CHASE BOUWMAN!

Recently, the Bouwman family competed in a crazy "long" and tough spartan race in Kamloops called the "Beast." Our Chase Bouwman, a grade 10 student, ran 26 kilometres over 35 obstacles in cool, rainy and sometimes snowy weather! It was a gruelling 6 hour run for Chase but he made it! Third in the world in his age category!! Congratulations, Chase, we're all proud of you!!



October 23, 2015

S-TRIP – WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Just a reminder to parents that the S-Trip is **not** a school sponsored or supported field trip. This is a trip arranged by an outside agency with **no** connection to the school or the school board and has only limited, peer supervision. If your child is interested in S-Trip, we caution you to please research it thoroughly.

St. JP II offers several travel opportunities through the year that meet supervision and insurance requirements of our school district. These trips are safe for your children and are educational. We are currently sponsoring a **Europe Trip** during spring break, the **annual ski trip**, and the **Yamate Exchange program to Japan**. Please contact the school for more information on any of these trips.

KUDOS TO GABRIELLA SANTANA!

Congratulations to one of our grade 10 students, Gabriella Santana, who won a prestigious award from the Fort Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce on October 21. She won the Future Entrepreneur Award for her pink lemonade sales supporting Girl Power.



SALT AND LIGHT

On October 22nd, we celebrate the Feast Day of St. John Paul II - in fact, the entire Catholic Church celebrates in a special way of the life of St. John Paul II and the fact that he, along with the communion of saints, intercedes (prays) for us! We reviewed a bit about the life of St. John Paul II - the tragedy that befell him - how his mother died when he was 8 years old and how his brother and sister also died

while he was quite young. We also looked to his triumphs - becoming a priest secretly during the Nazi occupation of Poland, his role in the downfall of communism in Poland, World Youth Day, and his amazing forgiveness of the man who tried to assassinate him. I would encourage you all to learn more about our holy and amazing patron saint!

Here is a special prayer that we prayed on the Feast Day of our namesake, St. John Paul II, I invite you to use this prayer as well!

St. John Paul II, grant us your blessing! Bless the church that you loved and served and guided, courageously leading it along the paths of the world in order to bring Jesus to everyone and everyone to Jesus. Bless the young, whom you had such great care for. Help them dream again, help them look up high again to find the light that illuminates the paths of life here on earth.

May you bless each family! Those together, and especially those broken and hurting. With your prayer, may you protect and restore families.

Pray for our governments and for each of us that we may truly value life in all its richness and beauty from conception until natural death.

Pray for the whole world, which is still marked by tensions, wars and injustice. You tackled war and oppression by invoking dialogue and planting the seeds of love: pray for us so that we may be tireless sowers of peace. Pray for our leaders that they will seek true justice and peace for all.

St. John Paul II, PRAY FOR US!
Blessings to you and your families!
Scott Walker, School Chaplain



October 23, 2015

SENIOR MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The Senior Patriots added five new players this year while retaining nine veterans to make a very strong squad. They started the season off on the right foot placing 3rd place in the Fort High tournament, losing out to two large schools from Edmonton. They then competed in the Percy Page tournament where they continued strong play against some of the bigger Edmonton schools. Although they did not place in the tournament, they had big wins against Ross Shephard and Lillian Osborne both schools with high school populations over 1000 students. This last weekend the Patriots hosted their own tournament where they failed to qualify for the final losing a close 3 game semi final to New Norway. They played great despite missing some key players. In league play the boys have an undefeated season going after their first five games of the year. Great job so far this season guys and good luck in zones and playoffs. This year's team consists of the following players: Mason Franchuk, Ben Hawryliw, Wyatt Lavallee, AJ Cuthill, Nicholas Kolla, Mark Field, Morgan Bonneville, Neil Annang, Fitz Galang, Beau Cox, Landon Lavallee, Braxton Shantz, Brayden Rocque and Scott Curtis.
Ryan Gau, Coach

SENIOR GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

The senior girls volleyball team is having a strong season so far! We have a great group of rookies that have strengthened our team and we have an awesome team of 12 committed and hard-working athletes. After a bronze medal finish in the Fort High Tournament in September, the team is gaining momentum and is fresh off a Gold medal victory in their home tournament. It was an exciting weekend of volleyball and the girls battled their way to the gold medal match and had a fantastic game in front of their home crowd! Congratulations ladies and good luck as you move forward in your season!

Coaches, Ms Balla, Ms McCallum

Reminder:

Parent/Teacher interviews
November 5, 3:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Please book an appointment with teachers of choice at www.schoolinterviews.ca event code BZUDT. Report cards will be available at the door of the gym.



update.

We will be having a Remembrance Day celebration; however, the date is to be determined. Please check our website for an



October 23, 2015



It was a grand day for our Terry Fox run on September 30. Students enjoyed running, or walking and chatting while raising funds for cancer research.



October 23, 2015



A huge thank you goes out to the Fort Saskatchewan Agrium Inc. who donated a \$1000 grant to the foods' program in April of 2015. The grant was spent for lab equipment, upgrades that are helping Mrs. Gau and St. JP2 students with their curriculum. For those who are curious about the on-goings with the lab, give Mrs. Gau or Mrs. Tully a visit!



JP2 is taking a bite out of hunger! This Halloween, organized groups of costumed youth will go door-to-door in the Fort Saskatchewan area to collect donations of non-perishable food items instead of candy. **Trick or Eat is Canada's largest youth-led food drive.**

100 per cent of the food collected will be donated to the Fort Saskatchewan Food Gatherers Society. There is also an online donation option for those who are not able to donate food to Trick or Eaters. Donations provide essential supports for food agencies to serve their clients with essential services that go beyond emergency food relief.

Register or donate online at www.trickoreat.com and search for our group: St. JP2 Fort Sask.

For those interested in joining please see Mrs. Tully or Ms. Degenhardt for permission forms. We will be having a kick-off party at 4:30pm at JP2 on Halloween (Oct 31). Students are also able to receive Service Hours for Religion by participating.



V O L L E Y B A L L

Junior Boys Volleyball is well into its season. We currently have 1 week left before we start our play offs! The boys are receiving much training and support through Assistant Coaches Morgan Bonneville, AJ Cuthill and Mason Franchuk. A huge shout out goes out to Coach Tully and Coach Degenhardt for their commitment and support of their team! Our team is made up of: Jack Holt (1), Coltin Geiger (2), Eric Morin (3), Jack Rainault (5), Matthew Cammock (6), Austin Dyky (7), Ewan King (8), Alex Curtis (9), Jordin Stang (10), Riley Groten (11), Liam Backer (12), and Bowen Phillips (13). Thank

October 23, 2015

you for your hard work and dedication! Please come out and support our boys at their Tournament Oct 23-24 at Fort High, Fort Elementary and Fort Christian. Our next home game is on Monday October 26 against Vegreville.



Grade 9 Recruiting Fair

On Friday October 23 during Flex (9:44-10:29), our Health 9 classes hosted a career fair. Over the last few weeks, the students have been researching various careers they may be interested in, what qualifications they may need, etc. and they have now taken on the role of "recruiters" for the job of their dreams. The students have been asked to prepare a booth, as well as a brochure to be handed out to the guests at the fair. We are very fortunate to have some special guests from the community attending our career fair, including members of City Council and reps from our local radio station.