

St. John Paul II Catholic School

June 2015 Newsletter

It is hard to believe that another school year has come and gone. As you read this newsletter and review your child's report card, we have begun preparations for next year already. Over the past few weeks we have worked hard to create student timetables and schedules for everyone. These will be available on the registration days in August.

We Appreciate You and Value Your Contribution!

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank the people who work so hard to make John Paul II the great place that it is:

- Our Caretaking staff who work so hard to keep our school very clean;
- Our front office staff who meet and greet everyone who comes into the office, handle our financial matters, communicate marks with Alberta Learning and ensure that report cards and schedules go out on time;
- Our Educational Assistants who go above and beyond the call of duty to build a climate of success for our students;
- Our Teachers who continue to meet every challenge and ensure that quality education happens every day;
- Our Parent School Council, a small but dedicated group of parents, who support staff and students, providing an important voice for the parents and community of John Paul II;

Staff Changes

Staff leaving:

- Mrs. Lemmens will be taking a leave of absence to have her second child
- Ms. Zwicker will be taking a leave of absence to go back to school
- Mrs. Gavin will be leaving our school to pursue opportunities elsewhere
- Mr. Elkow will be leaving our school to pursue opportunities elsewhere

Joining our staff:

- Mr. Kim is joining our staff in our science department
- Ms. McCallum is joining our science and PE departments
- Mrs. Poulin is joining our science department
- Mr. Wisniewski is joining our CTS department as a construction/fabrication teacher

Diploma Results

Grade 12 Diploma Exam Results will be available mid-July. A letter should come outlining how to retrieve the marks on myPass: myPass.alberta.ca

Registration Dates

The school office will be open 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.- 3:30 p.m. for the 2015-16 school year business beginning August 21st. ***Students may come in to register on the following dates:***

- Grade 9 – Monday August 24 (9:00-11:30)
- Grade 12 – Monday August 24 (1:00-3:30)
- Grade 11 – Tuesday August 25 (9:00-11:30)
- Grade 10 – Tuesday August 25 (1:00-3:30)

New Students Welcome!

New students may register by making an appointment with Principal Steve Tymko beginning on August 21st. Students wishing to make timetable changes are to come during the registration times noted above.

First Day of Classes

Classes will commence on Monday August 31st for all students.

Textbook Caution Fee

Please be advised that a \$100.00 textbook caution fee is assessed upon initial registration at the school. Students who have lost or damaged books must settle that account with the school each year. Caution fee refund cheques will be mailed out to students who are not returning and whose books have all been returned. Caution Fee Refunds will be mailed out in the fall.

School Supply List

Pens/pencils

Lined paper, binders as needed (minimum 1 for each core subject)

Highlighter

Math: Calculator – **Grade 10-12 TI Nspire (preferred) or 84 Plus**

Grade 9 – any calculator with basic operations plus square root

Ruler, compass, protractor

Clean indoor pair of non-marking runners and a change of clothing for Physical Education

Meet the Staff Night

Date and time TBA

High School Redesign

St. JPIL is fortunate to be joining an Alberta Education high school initiative next school year. The initiative allows schools more freedom in the way high school is delivered to students and allows for more flexibility and personalization. While several of the changes we are making only affect teachers, changes to students are mostly to do with timetables and access to teachers. While we will still be semestered and still have 4 blocks per day, we are also building in two “flex blocks” each week – on Tuesday and Friday mornings. These will be 45 minutes each and will allow students unstructured time to get extra help, attend tutorials or seminars, finish homework and group work, or engage in activities around the school such as using the fitness centre, etc. It is our belief that this time will allow students a more personalized learning experience that they have more control over. On the flex block days, regular classes will be shortened slightly to allow time for the flex block. We will be creating a new section on our website and posting lists around the school to let students and parents know which teachers will be available on each flex block and specifics on what each teacher will be offering. Stay tuned for more information. Our revised timetable is below for your convenience.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Block 1 8:30-9:54	Block 1 8:30-9:44	Block 1 8:30-9:54	Block 1 8:30-9:54	Block 1 8:30-9:44
Break 9:54-9:59	Flex Time 9:44-10:29	Break 9:54-9:59	Break 9:54-9:59	Flex Time 9:44-10:29
Block 2 9:59-11:23	Block 2 10:29-11:43	Block 2 9:59-11:23	Block 2 9:59-11:23	Block 2 10:29-11:43
Lunch 11:23-12:13	Lunch 11:43-12:33	Lunch 11:23-12:13	Lunch 11:23-12:13	Lunch 11:43-12:33
Block 3 12:13-1:37	Block 3 12:33-1:47	Block 3 12:13-1:37	Block 3 12:13-1:37	Block 3 12:33-1:47
Break 1:37-1:42	Break 1:47-1:52	Break 1:37-1:42	Break 1:37-1:42	Break 1:47-1:52
Block 4 1:42-3:06	Block 4 1:52-3:06	Block 4 1:42-3:06	Block 4 1:42-3:06	Block 4 1:52-3:06

Final Word

To those of you who are leaving St. JPIL, especially our grads, we wish you the light of Christ as you set sail on a new journey. Please keep a special place in your heart for St. JPIL and know that you have truly made a difference to all of us here. For those of you returning in the fall, we wish you a warm and relaxing summer filled with the Peace of Christ.

Steve Tymko, Principal