



Upcoming Events

May 6 – School Council meeting, 7 p.m.

May 12 - PAT's begin

May 16 – School Closure, no classes

May 19– Victoria Day, no classes

June 3 – Outdoor mass 1:00 p.m. All students and parents are invited. See Mr. Tonita's message for further information.

June 6 - Athletic Awards 1:40 pm.

June 12 – First of the diploma exams

June 16 – Last day of classes

June Exams: The final exam schedule can be assessed on our website.

Before writing any exam, please hand in textbooks at the library. All textbooks and all library materials are due at that time.

A Message from the Principal

As we approach the beginning of May, Graduation is on the minds of many. Over 70 students will graduate from John Paul II Catholic High School. This year's celebration is broken into three parts. On Saturday May 10th the celebration commences as we gather at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton for the Banquet and Dance. It is always a joyous occasion as students and their invited guests come together to celebrate their years in school. The more formal event, our Commencement ceremony will take place on Sunday June 22nd at the Dow Centennial Centre in Fort Saskatchewan at 7:30 p.m. It is here that students will receive their diplomas. This day begins with the graduation mass at Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church at 4:00. While the Commencement Ceremony is a ticketed event, the general public is invited to join us for mass that day.

Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII Become Saints

It is with great joy that the church marked the canonization of Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII on Sunday April 27th in Rome. Only seven times in the history of the church has a pope become a saint.

Let us pray for the intercession of St. John Paul II to keep our students safe as they continue to journey through their high school year.

Registration Process Continues

John Paul II is accepting applications from new students who wish to enrol at John Paul II in the fall. While students from Our Lady of Angels Catholic School are automatically enrolled at John Paul II, students from outside of the system must make an appointment with the principal in order to enroll. Please feel free to contact the school at 780 992-0889.

S Trip Raises Concerns

Grade 11 students may be coming home with pamphlets for a trip called S Trip. Please note that this is NOT a school sponsored activity and is not endorsed by the school or the division. While the school will undertake various field trips each year, we do so with the utmost concern for our students in mind. All school sponsored activities have been reviewed by the school and the district to ensure that safety of our students is paramount. The S Trip does not fall into this category. It is operated by an independent organization. As a non-sanctioned activity, students are not covered by the District's insurance. Hence any liability that may result in the event of an accident is solely the responsibility of the student and parent.

We encourage students and parents to do some independent research prior to signing on to this trip as many reports have suggested that students are placing themselves at significant risk from participation in this event.

Three Fort Saskatchewan Catholic Schools to hold Joint Outdoor Mass

On Tuesday June 3rd, the three Catholic Schools in Fort Saskatchewan will come together to celebrate mass with Archbishop Richard Smith to mark the canonization of St. John XXIII and St. John Paul II.

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Mass will take place at 10:00 in Legacy park at the band shell. Students, parents and staff along with member of Our Lady of Angels Parish are invited to join us for this auspicious occasion.

Athletic Awards Ceremony

The John Paul II Athletic Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday June 6th at 1:45 p.m. All parents are invited to attend.

Final Day of Classes

The final day of classes for this semester will be held on Monday June 16th. Please see the exam schedule for dates and times.

Edmonton Regional Skills Competition

Once again Matthew Yaworski competed in the Edmonton Regional Skills Competition. Congratulations, Matthew! Keep up the good work!

GRAD 2014

Please check our website regularly for information regarding graduation. Please call Mrs. Melnyk at school if you have any questions.

HARBOUR POOL NEWS

Want to try out your aquatic abilities? Enroll in the following to help develop your love of water & helping others...

National Lifeguard (NL)

May 23 – June 1

Fri 5 – 9pm & Sat/Sun 9am – 5pm

To register contact Harbour Pool @ (780) 992-6162 or view us on-line @ www.fortsask.ca

Leadership News

We Are the Change

We have started a chapter of Free the Children at John Paul II called We Are the Change. This is a group of students who will be working to effect sustainable change in their world through a variety of local, national and international campaigns. On April 17, a number of our students participated in the We Are Silent campaign to represent the over 57 million children around the world who have no voice. Together

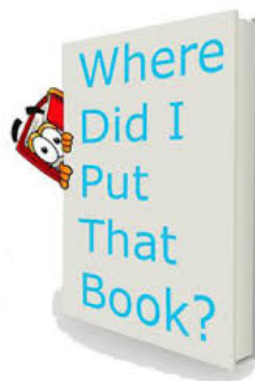
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they raised over \$600.00 for Free the Children. Watch our Twitter(@JPIITheChange) and Instagram (wearethechangejpji) for updates on our future campaigns.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Elk Island Catholic Schools is accepting applications for Casual Caretakers in Fort Saskatchewan. We offer you the opportunity to work in a faith-based, collaborative environment where everyone's skills, knowledge and attributes are respected. Come and join a great team! These positions are on-call as-needed basis with a salary of \$22.51 per hour. Please visit our website at www.eics.ab.ca for further details.

LIBRARY NEWS



There are still many, many, many textbooks outstanding from semester one. Can the 55 students PLEASE check your lockers, vehicles and homes for these books. No further textbooks will be signed out to these people until their accounts are cleared (either return the book or pay the

replacement cost).

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT



Family vegetable farm looking to employ summer students. Great atmosphere! Work outdoors! Contact janelle@riverbendgardens.ca or check the website <http://riverbendgardens.ca>

Salt and Light

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Spring time is here (hopefully to stay) and even though it may have seemed winter would never end it did. This tends to make our days feel just a bit more hopeful. We have traveled with Jesus through Lent to the Cross and now celebrate his Resurrection. Though it may already seem that Easter is a bit of a fading (and a little snow-encrusted) memory, the Church calls us faithful to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection for 50

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days. All this comes after the preparatory 40 days of Lent.

I am not much of a math wizard, but even I can tell that this says something – Easter must be more important. We are an Easter people. Even though we may go through dark (or snowy?) times, times of renewal, and times of trial - we are reminded that that is not all we are. In a sense, we don't stay "stuck" in Lent – in preparation. We are called to be people who live out the joy of Easter. Why? Because Jesus conquered sin and overcame death that you and I might live. This is worth celebrating for at least 50 days ☺

In many ways these 50 days of Easter we now celebrate are another new beginning. We sense this newness intuitively all around both in nature and in ourselves. We have gone through Lent – prepared our hearts, and now move forward with our eyes fixed on Jesus.

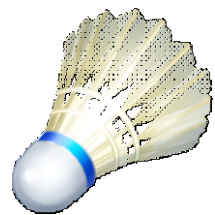
Here at JP2 we will soon celebrate our Grade 12's graduation - supporting them, praying for them, and encouraging them as they prepare to embark on their own new beginning. For each of them this time brings equal doses of excitement and apprehension. In the coming weeks, take time to pray for our graduates who are standing on the verge of this new beginning. May Christ direct their hearts and minds and help them to meet the challenges they will face with faith. May they continue to learn to see Christ in everyone they meet, and may they continue to be Christ's hands and feet to the world. And, may we always support them as parents, teachers, and community members – both School and Church.

May the joy of the risen Jesus fill our school, our church, our homes, and our hearts.

Easter Blessings,

Mr. Scott Walker, School Chaplain

SENIOR BADMINTON



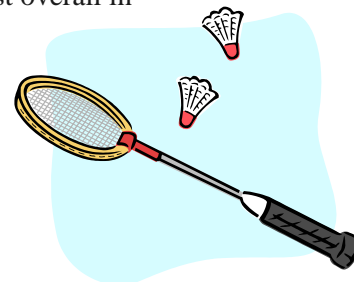
The Senior High Badminton team played a strong season and were very competitive in every game they played, finishing in fourth place which guaranteed us a playoff spot for Edmonton Metro League play. Facing the much bigger school of Strathcona Composite, our team played valiantly, pushing three of the matches to a third set - but ultimately coming up short. In zones play in Edmonton, again, our team played very well and progressed in most cases up to a third and fourth game in this elimination style tournament. Well done Senior Badminton! You are truly Patriots!

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JUNIOR BADMINTON

Congratulations to all of the JP2 junior badminton players who competed in the EICS district final tournament. JP2 finished 1st overall in standings and we are anxiously awaiting our trophy! A huge congrats to Andrea Buban for taking first place for girls singles.

As well, another huge congrats to Rhianna Zazula and Stacey Mearns for finishing first in girls doubles!



TRACK AND FIELD

The next major upcoming sport is track and field.

Please see Ms. Eddie if you have an interest. Senior track and field students, please see Mr. Stecyk.



EUROPE TRIP PHOTOS

See the next page for the complete write-up.



Europe Trip 2014 - Italy and France

Spring break slowly rolled around, which meant that the beginning of a wonderful cultural journey had finally begun. March 27th was the day that 18 excited students, as well as three chaperones had eagerly been waiting for. For us students, many had waited an entire year for the day of departure to arrive, so the excitement to travel and discover Italy and France was at an all-time high. However, the excitement slowly faded with the 5am meeting time at the Edmonton International Airport, and even more so after our 5 hour layover in the Toronto Airport. We continued on a long, tiring 8 and a half hour flight to Frankfurt, Germany, followed with another layover that gave us just enough time to freshen up causing the excitement level to lower once again. Finally the time to catch our last flight to Rome had arrived. The tired, heavy eyes that were previously impatiently waiting, searching for coffee and a place to lie down at the airports, filled with anticipation and enthusiasm once again. The extremely long flights, airplane food and layovers were finally over, we made it and it was definitely worth it.

Our first destination was in Rome, where we caught a bus that took us to a restaurant to eat dinner and shop around before the long bus ride to our hotel located just outside of Rome. The evening at the hotel was mostly spent unpacking and a 'boys only' poker night. The time change took its toll on most of us which led to an early bed time.

A guided tour of Vatican City was scheduled for the next morning. The beautiful artwork and history behind the Vatican left our minds full of new knowledge. From there, we headed to the Coliseum and the Roman Forum to tour the ruins of Rome. The rest of the day was spent shopping, where most of us first experienced the delicious taste of gelato. That evening we visited the famous Trevi Fountain finishing the night off with 'Rome by Night', which gave us a different perspective on the beautiful attractions.

The next morning we traveled to the city covered by molten lava, Pompeii. We discovered that the eruption of [Mount Vesuvius](#) destroyed Pompeii and its people. The day was spent walking around, soaking up the sun, enjoying the culture, learning about the remains of the city and experiencing the exceptional landscape. That day we also learned that Italian vendors don't hold back when giving compliments.

Our next destination was Florence; however, first we stopped to experience the small town of San Gimignano- which was one of the highlights of the entire trip. From the outstanding food to the breathtaking views, this small town captivated us and stole our hearts. Afterwards we traveled to Sienna where some of the boys discovered an eerie torture museum. Finally we continued on to our eventual arrival in Florence.

The next morning was one that everyone appreciated - a sleep-in day! After a guided tour of Florence the majority of the day was free time. There were many options that could have been fulfilled during this time, climbing the Duomo, seeing the Statue of David, chariot rides, cartoonist sketches and, of course, hours of shopping.

Traveling to Nice was the next stop on the trip, first stopping in Lucca where we enjoyed the opportunity to tour the town on bikes (another favorite experience.) Continuing our journey, we experienced the Leaning Tower of Pisa and a baptism.

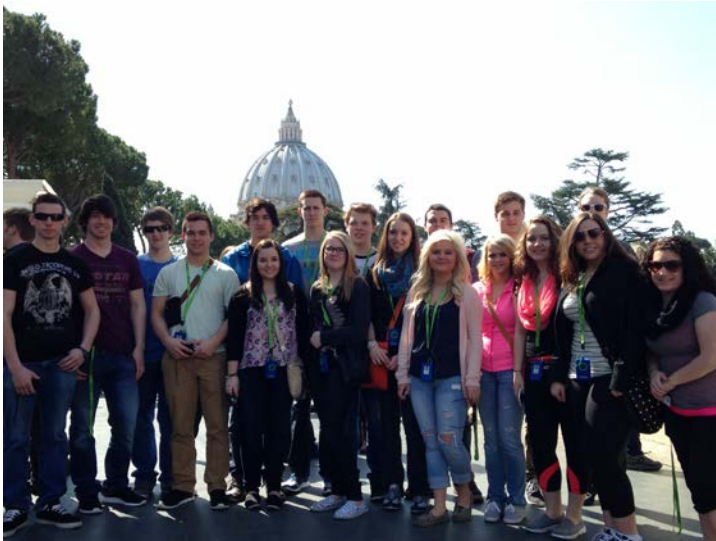
On our first 'cold' day we traveled to Monte Carlo in Monaco where we took a small train ride around the city. We were able to see one of the most popular casinos as well as watch the change of the armed guards. After that we experienced a perfume factory presentation and climbed to the village of Eze where the sights were absolutely beautiful. The ocean intrigued us to take pictures and while doing so, many memorable moments were created.

The next day was spent on a bullet train to Paris which was surprisingly comfortable. Once we arrived at our destination, we went to the Eiffel Tower where we were able to see the breathtaking view of the city from the top. Afterwards we went on a river cruise to experience 'Paris by Night.' After touring Paris as well as Versailles, we had free time to get any last minute shopping in. For supper we ate Flam, which was shockingly not disgusting! In order to fully experience Europe you have to try all the food - no matter how weird it may look.

On our final full day in Paris we went to the Louvre which contains many famous, outstanding artwork and sculptures such as the Mona Lisa and Venus de Milo. There are three things many of us learned during this day: keep calm if you get stuck on the metro all alone, Starbucks is a quick treat, and pickpockets are a real thing. We walked to the Notre Dame Cathedral, Love Lock Bridge and Montmartre, which is the only hill in Paris, to end off our last evening.

Eventually our wonderful trip had to end. For many of us, the Europe Trip of 2014 will be remembered as the best 12 days of our lives thus far. Not only did we experience the history and culture of Italy and France, we were able to create memories that will last a life time with people that we will never forget. We wouldn't have had such an amazing time without Mr. and Mrs. Gau as well as Ms. Balla. Thank you for such a great opportunity and for putting up with 18 crazy students for 12 days straight.

Jessica Cholin



Europe Trip 2015

Prague, Vienna, Budapest and Munich! The Spring Break 2015 Europe trip will be travelling to four of the most beautiful cities in Central Europe. This is a 10 day trip through Central Europe which includes professionally guided tours of the four historic cities, a visit to Neuschwanstein Castle and the Dachau Concentration Camp. Students interested in visiting these majestic locations are asked to see Ms. Labrecque or Ms. Zaleschuk.

Do you have questions like these:

- Who is Jesus and why did he die?
- How can I have faith?
- Why and how do I pray?
- How should I read the Bible?

JOIN US AT ALPHA!

- Alpha is a 7-week practical exploration of the Christian faith.
- Each session includes dessert, video talk and small group discussions.
- Alpha is absolutely **FREE** and all are welcome!

"This course definitely explained a lot around faith that I have never heard before." – Alpha @ OLPH Guest, Fall 2013

Alpha @ OLPH

May 1 – June 12, 2014

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual
Help Catholic Parish

13 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park

Spring 2014 Course Schedule

May 1	Thu	Who is Jesus?
May 8	Thu	Why did Jesus die?
May 15	Thu	How can I have faith?
May 22	Thu	Why and how do I pray?
May 29	Thu	Why and how do I read the Bible?
Jun 4	Wed	What about evil and does God heal today?
Jun 7	Sat	Alpha Day Away
Jun 12	Thu	What about the Church and telling others?

For more information or to register, contact: Alana at 780-922-8081, alaperle@telus.net or visit www.olph.ca



*No Stone
Unturned.*

