



## Upcoming Events

**Dec. 11-12** – Sr. Girls' Basketball Tournament  
**Dec. 20** – Drama/Musical Production, 7 p.m. at the Shell Theatre  
**Dec. 22** - Advent Mass, 9:30 a.m. at St JP 2  
**Dec. 23** – last day of classes  
Christmas Break  
**Jan. 9** – Classes resume  
**Jan. 16** – English 30-1, 30-2, Diploma Exam Part A  
**Jan. 17** – Social Studies 30-1/30-2 Dip Exam Part A  
**Jan. 19** – Term 1 Last day of Classes  
**Jan. 20-28** – Exams, Exams, EXAMS!  
**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

Advent is a very special time in the liturgical year and one of my favourite times of the year. It is during Advent that we prepare for the coming of our Lord, Jesus. Remaining steadfast in our preparation is often a challenge as we are bombarded with messages of commercialism in the media and the marketplace pushing us to buy, buy, buy before Christmas. Nevertheless, we should remain mindful of the true meaning of Advent and Christmas. As we move through the weeks of Advent and 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 12, 2016.**

### ST JP II DRAMA



The St. John Paul II Fine Art's program would like to invite you to travel back in time with us to view our production, 'Ahead By A Century' on December 20th at The Shell Theatre, Fort Saskatchewan. From Charlie Chaplin, to Jimi Hendrix, Spice girls and Friends we are looking forward to entertaining you with our favorite songs and skits throughout the decades. Tickets will go on sale December 1st on [showtix4u.com](http://showtix4u.com).

We Hope to see you all there!



### GRAD UPDATE

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



Grad 2017 – Banquet and dance at the Shaw Conference Centre on Saturday, May 13, 2017. Grad mass on Friday, June 16, 5 p.m. followed by commencement exercises at 7 p.m. at the Shell Theatre. Check the grad information on our website information and updates.

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

Grad photographs will take place Jan. 16-18. Booking will soon be available.1. Booking dates will soon be available.

If you have specific questions regarding graduation, please call 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.

### MARMOT BASIN SKI TRIP, FEB. 22-24, 2017

The ski trip planned for Marmot Basin is full. However, a waiting list has been started. If anyone is interested form are available in the office, or speak to Ms Zaleschuk or Mrs. Cross.

### JAPAN STUDENT EXCHANGE

Every two years some of our students get to host Japanese students and in turn, take a trip to Japan where they are hosted. The group that went to Japan this past summer had a fantastic trip! For more information contact Ms. Zaleschuk.



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. If you would like to receive the weekly updates sent each week by Mr. Tymko, please check the box that says we have permission to do so. If you need a paper copy of the forms, please call the school. Thanks again, Mrs. Raiwet.

### 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.

## ***PATRIOT SPORTS***

### SR. BOYS BASKETBALL

Mr. Keats, Mr. Kozitski and Mr. Hrynkow would like to thank everyone who tried out and congratulate the roster of the 2016-2017 St. JP II Patriots Senior Men's Basketball Team. Our players for this year are Neil Annang, Will Kelly, Kurt Sanchez, Victor Sokolowski, Morgan Bonneville, Raphael Alvarez, Riley Groten, Kohl Guenette, Alex Curtis, Mikey Guy, Jack Rainault, Jordan Stang, and Aiden Schlesinger.

We have a busy December coming up, starting with The Fort High Sting Cup on December 2 & 3. For regular season schedule, please visit the Athletics tab of our school website.

### SR. GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Patriots are looking forward to an exciting season with a new group of girls! This year we have Katelyn Nixon, Brooklyn Grainger, Emily Bartz, Megan Nixon, Rhianna Zazula, Sarah Van Hecke, Natalie Smadis, Danielle Ouellet, Krysta Krauskopf, Gaddiel Kamuanya, Moriah Bonneville, and Talia Mullen

playing for us. The team starts their season with an exhibition game at home on Wednesday November 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 with regular season games starting on December 5<sup>th</sup>. We will host our Senior Girls tournament on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> so please come on out to support the team!

A league schedule and standings can be found on the Metro Athletics website.  
<http://metroathletics.ca/>

### JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

The 2016-2017 edition of the St.JPII Junior Boys Basketball team opened their season with tryouts on the 23, 25, and 28th of November. More than 22 boys participated and challenged for the 12 spots on the active roster. After several grueling days of competition and endless running, the dust settled and 14 student athletes remained:

Kaydon Comerford, Arneth David, Caleb George, Gage Guenther, Tim Linton, Tyler McQueen, Spencer Meikle, Joshua Morallo, Josh Nix, Alexander Ouellette, Benjamin Ramirez, Tyler Smith, Nolan Starko, and Ted Wozney.

This year's team is vastly different than years past. Gone are the large body players that pounded teams in the paint and ruled the boards. These have been replaced with smaller, speedier play-makers. Look forward to fast, furious, and exciting basketball for the Junior Boys Team.

GO PATRIOTS!!!

Coach, Mr. Reader.

### JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL

Try-outs for the junior girls' team will continue on Wednesday from 3:15 to 4:45 and again on Friday morning from 7:00 am to 8:00 am.

### SR BOYS VOLLEYBALL

The senior boys had an up and down season this year finishing in 6th place in league play but playing some really good volleyball taking some of the top teams to the fifth set. They finished off the season losing in the zone final against JH Picard. The team hopes to build from this season's successes and is optimistic for next season having 10 returning players that will be eligible to be on the team. A special thanks to Graham Czibere who helped coach and devoted much of his time to helping the boys improve their skills and become better volleyball players.

Any athletes interested in playing club volleyball should see Mr. Gau or  
visit <http://www.volleyballalberta.ca/node/40>.

### ATHLETICS

St. JPII has launched a new athletics website for parents and athletes to view. It will be linked on the athletics page but you can also access it from the following link: <https://sites.google.com/eics.ab.ca/patriotsathletics>  
The site will include pictures, policies and procedures, calendars/schedules and important links.

### JR BOYS VOLLEYBALL

The boys started the season slowly with a 6th place finish in the EIPS season starting tournament. They then worked hard throughout the season improving their volleyball skills. They eventually took home a gold medal in the Fort Christian tournament and a bronze medal in the Fort High Nano tournament. They entered playoffs with a 6-0 record in 1st place in the league. They beat Lamont in 5 sets in the semi-final game and went on to play Fort Christian in the championship game. The boys were able to defeat Fort Christian in 4 sets and brought home the gold from the EIPS League play. Good work, boys! Hopefully some of the players will go on to play on the senior boys' team next year.

### ST JP II CURLING

Our St JP II curling team this year consists of Emily Bartz, Shaylin Sharpe, Michael Barbour, Bryce Stilborn and Duncan McCallum. The curling team currently has a record of 3-2 with two weeks left in the regular season. Playoffs begin on Tuesday, December 13.



*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.LT*

### Happy Advent 2016!

Welcome to the start of the beginning of the liturgical year of the Church. Below, please find a blessing prayer, some information on the meaning of the Advent candles, and some resources to guide you and your family as you journey through Advent towards the celebration of Christmas.

### Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Lord, Our God, We praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ.  
He is Emmanuel, God with us, the hope of all people.  
He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us.  
He is the Savior of every nation.  
Loving God,  
Let Your blessing be upon us as we light the candles of our Advent wreath.  
May the wreath be a sign of Christ's love and promise of salvation.  
As we journey through the season of Advent,  
Help us to prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's birth.  
Amen.

The first candle we light is the candle of Hope – the hope of the savior coming into the world some 2000 years ago, and who comes to our hearts in a new way this Advent. Some call the first candle the Prophecy candle, for it reminds us that Jesus' coming into the world was foretold hundreds of years before He was born. The purple color represents Christ's royalty – he is the King of Kings.

We light a second purple candle, the candle of peace, in the second week of Advent as we remember the peace that Jesus can bring into our lives if we but let him. We also remember upon lighting this second candle to work for peace and to pray for peace in our world.

In the third week of Advent, following Gaudete (literally "joy-filled") Sunday, we light a pink candle – for pink is the color of joy in the Church. It reminds us that though preparation and waiting can be difficult, they can be punctuated with the deep and lasting Joy that Jesus places in our hearts.

In the final week of Advent, we light the final purple Candle which is a candle of Love. It reminds us that God loves each of us so very much that he lovingly sent his only Son in such a vulnerable way that we might know the depth of his love and care for us. It also reminds us of the fullness of love expressed in Jesus becoming human on that first Christmas. On Christmas, some light a final white candle, known as the Christ candle – a beacon of light that shines on the celebration of this most joyous of days!

This day and each day this week, I invite you to share a daily advent reflection with your family. If you are interested here are some resources (though many good ones can be found besides these):

I particularly like Bishop Robert Barron's Daily advent reflections found here: <http://adventreflections.com/sign-up-advent> -you simply sign up and the reflections are sent to your email – it is a nice daily reminder to pray ☺

You can also use the Ignatian weekly prayer found here which is quite good – or one of the many others available: <http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent>

Advent blessings,  
Mr. Scott Walker,  
School Chaplain





## Thanksgiving

A huge shout out to St. JP2 Leadership for creating yet another successful Thanksgiving Lunch to our school and community members! This was no small feat as 12 turkeys and 2 large hams fed almost 400 participants. A huge THANK YOU goes to A Bun-dance Bakery, Safeway, and McDonalds for your donations to help make this lunch a possibility!



## Trick or Eat

This year's campaign had us collecting 1000 lbs of food and almost \$700 in monetary donations! All food items were delivered to the Food Bank and all monetary donations went to Meal Exchange Canada. Thank you Fort Saskatchewan for your continued support ending hunger in our community!

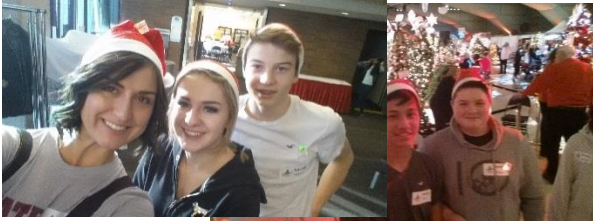


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## **Festival of Trees**

This year 14 Peer Mentor students got into the holiday spirit by volunteering at the Festival of Trees in Edmonton at the Shaw Conference Center. Their help and dedication to the event was greatly appreciated! Peer Mentors, thank you for making our school great!



## **Day of Service**

The grade 12 Day of service this year was on Nov 28. Seventy staff and students were helping in the city of Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan. A huge thank you goes to Families First, Entrust, Kids Kottage, Edmonton Humane Society, Catholic Social Services, Bissell Centre, Edmonton Food Bank, Mustard Seed, and Elizabeth Fry Society, for accommodating our staff and students! Everyone had a great time and we truly learned what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus.







A group of nine grade twelve students had the opportunity to partner with Entrust, an incredible organization that provides support and care for youth and adults with disabilities. Our students and the clients from Entrust had an absolute blast sharing in some fun at Jump Park. Our students gained some valuable insight into getting to know someone with a disability and most importantly were able to share in some great conversation and in the common language of fun. We are very proud of the group who spent time with Entrust and saw first hand how mutually beneficial a partnership like this can be. ~Mrs. Balla



At Kids Kottage we learned about the emergency services they provide to the city of Edmonton for kids aged 0-11. This is an organization that ensures that neglect and abuse is prevented in the household with emergency care and home follow ups! Our five young men helped Kids Kottage by winterizing the courtyard, organizing their stock, cleaning the outdoor space, creating information cards, and sanitizing toys. I am so proud of our boys for their hard work and dedication, as well as for representing the school so well! Gloria, from Kids Kottage, was over the moon for the amount of work we did! ~Ms. Warchol

**January 2017 Exam Schedule** If you have any exam conflicts, please see your teachers to make alternate arrangements.

Date	Time	Exam	Room	Supervisors
Mon. Jan. 16	9:00-12:00	English 30-1 Part A Diploma	Library	Tymko
	9:00-12:00	English 30-2 Part A Diploma	132	R. Gau
	9:00-3:00	Extra Time/ Isolation space	Library	EAs
Tue. Jan. 17	9:00-12:00	Social 30-1 Part A Diploma	Library	Franklin
Thur. Jan. 19	9:00-11:00	Language Arts 9 PAT Part A	Library(Comartin)	Tymko/Comartin/Deg
			Library(Cava)	Tymko/Comartin/Deg
			132(Degenhardt)	Franklin
	9:00-1:00	Extra Time/ Isolation space		
Fri. Jan. 20	9:00-11:30	Math 20-1	Gym	Keats
	9:00-11:30	Math 20-3	Gym	Panich
	9:00-11:30	Math 30-3	Gym	Gau M.
	9:00-11:30	English 10-1 Part A	Library	Ellenwood
	9:00-11:30	Social 10-2 Part A	132	Segberg
	9:00-3:00	Extra Time/ Isolation space	Library	EAs/R. Gau
	1:00-3:00	Religion 25	Gym	Warchol
	1:00-3:00	Religion 35	Gym	Romanowski/Balla
	1:00-3:00	Social 10-1 Part A	Library	Robert
	1:00-3:00	English 10-2 Part A	203	Degenhardt
	1:00-3:00	Social 9 Review Session	206	Segberg
Mon. Jan. 23	9:00-12:00	English 30-1 Part B Diploma	Gym	Wisniewski
	9:00-12:00	English 30-2 Part B Diploma	Gym	Labrecque
	9:00-10:20	Social 9 PAT	Gym	Cross
	9:00-11:30	English 20-1 Part A	201	Cava
	9:00-11:30	Social 20-1 Part A	202	Romanowski
	9:00-11:30	Social 20-2 Part A	132	Robert
	9:00-3:00	Extra Time/ Isolation space	Library	EAs/Reader
	1:00-3:00	Math 10C	Gym	Lemmens/Gau M./Keats
	1:00-3:00	Science 9 Review Session	202	Kozitsky
Tue. Jan. 24	9:00-11:30	Social 30-1 Part B Diploma	Gym	Balla
	9:00-10:15	Science 9 PAT	Gym	Ellenwood
	9:00-11:30	English 10-1 Part B	Gym	Reader
	9:00-11:30	English 10-2 Part B	Gym	
	9:00-3:00	Extra Time/ Isolation space	Library	EAs/Warchol
	1:00-3:30	Social 10-1 Part B	Gym	Robert
	1:00-3:00	Social 10-2 Part B	Gym	Lemmens
	1:00-3:00	Biology 20	Gym	Cava



Tue. Jan. 24	1:00-3:00	Math 9 Review Session	203	Keats
			202	Kozitsky
			207	Panich
Wed. Jan. 25	9:00-12:00	Math 30-1 Diploma	Gym	Warchol
	9:00-12:00	Math 30-2 Diploma	Gym	Panich
	9:00-10:30	Math 9 PAT	Gym	Reader
	9:00-3:00	Extra Time/ Isolation space	Library	EAs/Balla
	1:00-3:30	English 20-1 Part B	Gym	Cross
	1:00-3:30	Social 20-1 Part B	Gym	Wisniewski
	1:00-3:30	Social 20-2 Part B	Gym	Zaleschuk
	1:00-3:00	LA 9 Review Session	201	Cava
			206	Comartin
			208	Degenhardt
Thur. Jan. 26	9:00-12:00	Biology 30 Diploma	Gym	Labrecque
	9:00-10:15	Language Arts 9 PAT Part B	Gym	Lemmens
	9:00-11:30	Chemistry 20	Gym	Segberg
	9:00-3:00	Extra Time/ Isolation space	Library	EAs/Zaleschuk
	1:00-3:00	Religion 15	Gym	Cross/Gau R./Comartin
Fri. Jan. 27	9:00-12:00	Chemistry 30 Diploma	Gym	
	9:00-11:30	Science 10	Gym	Zaleschuk/Kozitsky
Mon. Jan. 30	9:00-12:00	Physics 30 Diploma	Gym	Balla/Wisniewski

### **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, **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.
- **Please leave unnecessary items in lockers during exam writing time.**
- 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.