



St. Matthew's Elementary School

16065 88th Avenue Surrey, BC V4N 1G3
Telephone: 604-589-7545 Fax: 604-589-7113

NEWSLETTER

February 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Can you believe that we are already half way through the second term of the school year! Students have been busy in all sorts of activities in the past few weeks; in particular our basketball teams have been quite active hosting home games and travelling to tournaments. Our coaches, parents and students have all worked hard to have a successful season. The month of February will be a busy one for the school as you can see in the *Upcoming Dates of Note*. Let us ask God to give us the strength to make the best of this month!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart. Mark 12:30

UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE

Friday, February 3, 2017	School Assembly - Grade 1 9:00 am	<i>School Gym</i>
Friday, February 3, 2017	Ski trip to Whistler/Blackcomb 5:20 am	<i>Meet in the School Gym</i>
Saturday, February 4, 2017	Grade 2 - Sacrament of Reconciliation 9:45 am	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
Sunday, February 5, 2017	Catholic Schools Week Mass 10:30 am	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
Thursday, February 9, 2017	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Staff at Catholic Educators' Conference	
Friday, February 10, 2017	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Staff at Catholic Educators' Conference	
Monday, February 13, 2017	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Family Day Holiday	
Tuesday, February 14, 2017 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	School Resumes 8:40 am-2:50 pm	



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Friday, February 17, 2017	School Mass (Grade 6) 9:00 am	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
Friday, February 17, 2017	5 for the Road Fundraising Concert 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)	<i>School Gym</i>
Sunday, February 19, 2017	Pancake Breakfast <i>After the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses</i>	<i>School Gym</i>
Tuesday, February 21, 2017	PEC Meeting 5:00 pm	<i>School Library</i>
Wednesday, February 22, 2017	Non-Uniform Day/Anti-Bullying Day <i>Wear pink or purple and bring a loonie or toonie for Tessa Beauchamp fund</i>	
Wednesday, February 22, 2017	Grade 7 Student, Parent, Sponsor Meeting 6:30 pm	<i>Jubilee Hall</i>
Friday, February 24, 2017	School Mass - Grade 5 9:00 am	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
Tuesday, February 28, 2017	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Lunch for all students	<i>School Gym</i>
Wednesday, March 1, 2017	Ash Wednesday Mass 9:00 am - Lent Begins	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
Thursday, March 2, 2017	St. Matthew's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 6:00 pm	<i>School Gym</i>

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - MARCH 2, 2017

St. Matthew's Elementary Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 6:00 pm**. This is a mandatory meeting where all school families are expected to have at least one parent



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represented at the meeting - important information about the 2017-2018 school year will be presented as well as re-registration forms will be given out. Re-registration forms can only be picked up by the parent/guardian of the child(ren) currently registered in the school. Please mark your calendars accordingly. Thank you.

FIVE FOR THE ROAD - FUNDRAISING CONCERT - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2017

Do you want to have a GREAT time while supporting a worthy cause? Then join us on Friday, February 17, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the school gym for the local sensation: *5 for the Road*. *5 for the Road* is a local band who sing and play hits from the 70s, and 80s! Tickets are just \$10.00 each and all proceeds will go towards the purchasing of risers for our future school performances. Tickets will be made available at the school office during 8:15 am and 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday. A limited number are available so, buy now so you won't be disappointed! Thank you for your support.

REMINDERS

- Please note that school ends each day at 2:50 pm and that parents/guardians are expected to arrive on time to pick up their children. In the past few weeks several students have been picked up significantly late. Out of courtesy for staff members we would ask that caregivers do their utmost to ensure they are not late in picking up their children. Thank you.
- Due to the risk for infection, and injury as well as allergy concerns, and to ensure the safety of our children and all members of the school community: all animals and pets of all shapes and sizes are not permitted on school property and during all school related events, without the written permission from the school principal. Service animals are, of course, permitted as needed. Thank you for your cooperation.

PARENT PARTICIPATION PROGRAM (PPP) - DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF HOURS MARCH 15, 2017

Families: please ensure that you have updated your PPP hours **on-line**, as the deadline for submission of hours for the first half of the school year is on Wednesday, March 15, 2017. Please remember that tracking PPP hours is a **2 step process**:

- (1) Family members need to sign in/log their hours at the school office using the binder provided and,
- (2) Families **also need to** go to the St. Matthew's website and log their hours on-line
- (3) A special note to those families who are on *Special Events* teams and whose hours will not start until the second half the year: your hours will be fulfilled once the school year ends, so you will not be charged for having completed 0 hours as of March 15

HEALTHY LUNCH PROGRAM

Term 2 hot lunch service is well underway; all families that have not yet submitted payment, kindly do so promptly.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Thank you to all who came out to last Sunday's event! Our next breakfast will be on Sunday, February 19 after the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses.



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HOLY CROSS CHEER CRAFT FAIR

The Varsity Cheerleaders at Holy Cross Regional High will be hosting a Valentine's themed Craft Fair on Saturday, February 4th, from 11:30 am -3:00 pm. This fundraiser is to help the team raise money for their trip to California, where they will compete, in the coming weeks. We would like to invite all families to come and enjoy the event. There will be lots of sweets for sale as the Cheerleaders will have their own bake sale. We also encourage you to buy your Valentine's Day gifts for your loved ones as the Cheerleaders will be selling teddy bears, chocolates and cards, as well as goody bags. Families can also purchase raffle tickets for \$5.00 a bunch to try to win one of our 4 big Valentine's themed 'gift baskets for her', as well as shop at the 15+ vendors who will be selling their products. Thank you!

THANK YOU - OUTDOOR EDUCATION BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all the families and parishioners who dropped off bottles for our bottle drive over the January 7, 2017 weekend. We raised over \$400! A special thank you to all the Grade 6 parents who helped organize and sort bottles during the drive, as well as a big thank you to the Knights of Columbus who gave great assistance in making the bottle drive a success. Start saving your cans, juice boxes and bottles for our next fundraising bottle drive on: **Friday, April 7, 2017!**

LOST AND FOUND

There are quite a large number of: water bottles, school sweaters, pants and shirts, shoes, boots, gloves, toques, jackets etc. in the Lost and Found bin. These items need to be claimed and taken home. A reminder to parents, please label your children's containers and clothing in order to help us return the lost items to their rightful owner.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our students from Grade 7 along with the students from St. Matthew's Parish PREP program will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation from His Grace, Archbishop Michael Miller on Sunday, May 28, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

The Confirmation Rehearsal will take place on Wednesday, May 24 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the church. Each student, their sponsor and at least one parent, must attend the rehearsal. Please be sure to mark your calendars now for these two very important dates.

Sincerely in Christ,

Deborah Welsh





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