

Bulletin #1

September 1, 2016

Welcome Back!

A warm welcome back to all students and families! I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer holiday and took the opportunity to spend time with family and friends. On behalf of the entire staff, I would like to welcome you to St. Pius X Elementary School for what promises to be an exciting and enriching school year. I especially welcome all new families to our school community and wish you the very best in your new start. I look forward to spending my 30th year in Catholic education.

With every September comes an opportunity to reflect on last year and set new goals and challenges for the coming year. It is my hope that each member of our school community think about how we can connect, care and contribute to make the 2016-2017 school year meaningful and fulfilling.

Fabio Battisti

Principal

First Day of School: September 6, 2016

Tuesday, September 6th is our first day of school. Students will be in session from 8:50 a.m.-11:00 a.m. on this day and all students are expected to be in full school uniform. On Wednesday, September 7th, students in Grades 1-7 will be in session from 8:50 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The Kindergarten schedule for the first week of school has been sent out by our Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Brassington.

The Archdiocesan school-wide theme for the 2016-2017 school year is “Care for Our Common Home”. This theme will be reflected in the classrooms and throughout the school. With Christ as our teacher, we will learn and grow in a living tradition of faith and wisdom, we shall be transformed into authentic witnesses of His love.

2016- 2017 St. Pius X Staff

Principal:	Mr. F. Battisti
Vice Principal/Kindergarten:	Mrs. T. Brassington
Grade 1:	Mrs. S. Wilkinson
Grade 2:	Mme. M. Byrne
Grade 3:	Mrs. L. Nejedly/Mrs. C. Taddei
Grade 4:	Mrs. K. O’Flynn
Grade 5:	Mr. J. O’Flynn
Grade 6:	Ms. A. Leavy

Grade 7:	Mr. J. Pascua
Learning Assistance:	Mrs. K. Simpson/Mrs. J. Sorochan
French/Library:	Miss. M. Bota
Computers:	Mr. F. Perrotta
Music:	Ms. J. Blicq
Teacher Aide:	Ms. J. Arcari
Teacher Aide:	Mrs. E. Iuele
Teacher Aide:	Mrs. R. Westlake
Teacher Aide:	Ms. S. Barrett
Secretary:	Mrs. A. Revel

School Schedule/Hours of Instruction

Regular attendance and prompt arrival at school is important if your child is to gain full benefit from the school program. If your child is going to be late or away for any reason, please call the school office at (604) 929-0345 before 8:45 a.m. to confirm his/her absence or tardiness. If we do not hear from you, we will call home to ensure your child's safety. A written note explaining your child's absence is required when your child returns to school. **Please make sure that arriving to school on time is a priority from the very first day!**

SPX Bell Schedule

8:50 a.m.	School begins
10:30 -10:45 a.m.	Recess
12:00 -12:30 p.m.	Lunch Recess (Students play first)
12:30 -12:45 p.m.	Lunch (Students eat lunch)
12:45 p.m.	Afternoon classes begin
3:00 p.m.	Dismissal

St. Pius X School Uniform

All students at St. Pius X School are required to have their full uniform at all times. All uniform items are to be purchased through our uniform supplier, Cambridge & Company. All school items, especially uniforms, **MUST** be clearly **marked with your child's FULL NAME** as many students share the same first name, or initials. If you are purchasing new school shoes for children who require orthotics, please ensure the orthotics fit regulation school shoes. (Please refer to the "School Uniform Policy" in the Parent Handbook).

Girls' Uniform

- * SPX Dark Green V-neck Sweater with logo
- * White Oxford Cloth SPX monogrammed shirt

- * SPX Plaid Kilt
- * Navy Knee High Socks
- * Black Dress Shoes (No stripes, logos or running shoes)
- * PE Strip: SPX grey t-shirt , SPX navy shorts, white socks, running shoes (non marking soles), SPX gym bag

Boys' Uniform

- * SPX Dark Green V-neck Sweater with logo
- * White Oxford Cloth SPX monogrammed shirt
- * Navy Dress Pants
- * Navy Socks
- * Black Dress Shoes (No stripes, logos or running shoes)
- * PE Strip: SPX grey t-shirt, SPX navy shorts, white socks, running shoes (non marking soles), SPX gym bag

Potluck Dinner for New Families

All new families and all Kindergarten families at St. Pius X are invited to a Potluck Dinner on Wednesday, September 7th at 5:30 p.m. in the school gym. Please contact Mrs. Joanna Cormack, a member of our Parent Standing Committee to confirm numbers attending by emailing her at cormack.joanna@gmail.com . Families with last names from A- L are asked to bring a main dish. Families with last names from M- Z are asked to bring a side dish. This is a great opportunity to meet other families. A short presentation will occur following the dinner.

Meet the Teachers/Curriculum Overview Night: Thursday, September 15th:

On Thursday, September 15th all parents are invited to come and meet the teachers/staff and PEC members and hear about the curriculum and goals for the school year. There will be a meeting in the gym for all parents (Kindergarten – Grade 7) from 7:00-7:25 p.m. which will be followed by two information sessions (7:30-7:55 p.m. and 8:00-8:25 p.m.) in the various classrooms. This is an important opportunity for you to learn how to support your children in their learning, as you hear about teacher expectations and class curriculum. The information sessions are for parents of children in Grades 1 to 7 only as the Kindergarten information session was already shared at the Kindergarten Spring Meeting.

Curriculum Overview Night Format

- 7:00 p.m. Meet the Teachers, Staff and PEC (School Gym)
- 7:30 p.m. Information Session 1 (Individual Classrooms Gr. 1-7 only)
- 8:00 p.m. Information Session 2 (Individual Classrooms Gr. 1-7 only)

PLEASE NOTE: These information sessions are not Parent/Teacher interviews.

Communication: Weekly Bulletins

In order to assist with the communication between home and school, a weekly bulletin will be published every Thursday. It is important that you read the bulletin in order to be informed about school policies and procedures as well as notable accomplishments and upcoming events. In an effort to be environmentally friendly and reduce the amount of paper distributed, the bulletin will be available on our school

website: www.saintpius.ca. Please subscribe on our school website to receive your copy. There will also be a few paper copies available at the school office for those families who wish to pick up a paper copy.

Pink Notices

A notice sent home on **PINK PAPER** requires your **IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**. Please read and sign these notices, as they must be returned by a **DUE DATE**, which is usually the following day. Some pink notices will come home with the eldest child in the family and may require a family payment. In this case, please fill out the individual form and send it back to the eldest child's teacher with the family payment by the due date.

Visitors in the School

Parents, guardians and volunteers are welcome at our school. However, in the interest of child safety and the promotion of student learning, **ALL VISITORS, including parents, grandparents, guardians and volunteers must report to the office first and sign in**. Our staff will provide approved visitors with the appropriate St. Pius X identification badge. **If dropping off an item for your child or for a staff member, please leave it with the office staff**. At the next class break, the item will be given to the child or teacher. We do not support the interruption of classes and the learning process, except in the case of an emergency. The above procedures will help us to maintain a safe and productive environment for our students. We thank you for your cooperation.

Medical Alerts

Ensuring a safe and healthy school environment is a responsibility shared by students, parents and staff. It is important that all members of the school community are aware of their role in promoting children's safety. Please notify the school if your child has any of the following: **A MEDICALLY DIAGNOSED health condition which may require emergency care at school, such as: anaphylaxis, diabetes, severe asthma, seizure disorder, blood clotting disorders or serious heart conditions**. (Please contact the school office to complete a Medical Alert Information Sheet). Please Note: Parents who already have a Medical Alert Information Sheet filed with the school office should **contact Mrs. Revel** to review and update it for the 2016-2017 school year.

Student Supervision

Teachers will be on hand to supervise students starting from 8:35 am until 3:15 pm each school day. **Students are NOT permitted to play around the Grotto and the surrounding bushes at any time and there is NO supervision on the primary playground in the morning**. If you will be late picking your child up after school, please notify the school office preferably before 2:55 p.m. at (604) 929-0345.

Parking and Drop off Procedures

Please **ENTER** the school grounds from Mount Seymour Parkway and **EXIT** only onto Brockton. There will be **NO stopping or drop off in front of the school**. Parents who are escorting their child to the school should park in the designated parking areas and accompany them to the back entrance of the school. Please ensure that

you are driving slowly and being respectful of traffic supervisors at all times. Students are to remain outside on the school grounds until the 8:50 am bell. Please note that there is NO supervision on the primary playground in the morning.

Long Range Calendar

Attached is the school's TENTATIVE long range calendar for the 2016-2017 school year. Please keep it handy for easy reference and make any updates throughout the year. You will be notified of any changes to the calendar in our weekly bulletin. Staff at St. Pius X, meet on various days throughout the school year to engage in professional development and activities which support student learning. Please provide your daycare provider with the list of all Early Dismissal and Professional Days.

Student Agenda Books

All students in Grades One to Seven will be utilizing agendas to promote time management, organizational and communication skills. The agendas will be used by students to record items such as: daily homework, assignments, reminders and upcoming events. The agenda is also used to facilitate regular communication between parent and teacher regarding important information, such as: work habits, accomplishments, behaviour, and reasons for incomplete work, upcoming absences, or the need to meet for an interview. Please look over your child's agenda nightly as a means of tracking homework and keeping tabs on upcoming class activities.

Thank you to all parents who volunteer their time to help make St. Pius X the special school that it is! Your generosity of time, talent and service is greatly appreciated.

Good as New Uniform Sale

We will have the Good as New Uniform sale on Wednesday, September 7th. Look for the table outside the gym to purchase slightly used uniform items.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We will begin our Cross Country program (Students in Grades 2-7) and our Volleyball program (Grades 5-7 girls) during the first week of school. Our Soccer program (Grades 5-7 boys) will begin in the next few weeks. Permission slips and practice times will be forthcoming. We hope to see many students participate in these extra-curricular opportunities.

Grade Seven Concert Band

All students in Grade Seven are to have their band instruments for Wednesday, September 7th. If you would like to rent from Long and McQuade, please contact them directly.

GRADE ONE:

The Grade One class is currently looking for gently used games to be used during indoor recess (ie. Trouble, Sorry, Go Fish, Snakes and Ladders, etc.) They can be dropped off at the school office or to the Grade One classroom.

Thank you for your kind donations!
Mrs. Wilkinson

GRADE 4 STUDENTS:

“All Grade 4 students are reminded to bring their recorders for Wednesday, September 7th. Thank you, Ms. Blicq”

SPX SCHOOL NEWSLETTER YOUTH GROUP:

Dear Parents, SPX Parish will be starting YOUTH GROUP events for grade 6 & 7's every other Friday night beginning on September 9th. The events will run from 6:00 -8:00 p.m. and will be held in the SPX gym and/or parish meeting room. The kids will be introduced to numerous sports, games, team building exercises, prayer, and reflection. The events will have different themes related to the Catholic Calendar, and time of year. In order for these events to be held, a \$2.00 donation per event would be gratefully accepted. This Youth-group will be an excellent way to get your kids involved in the church/school community, and a great way to strengthen and build new friendships. Volunteer leaders will be Gr. 12 students from St. Thomas Aquinas High-school. Hope to see you there!! *This is a Parish Group activity, if you have any questions please contact macdonaldclai@gmail.com

CROSSING GUARD SCHEDULE: SEPTEMBER 6th – 9th:

Tuesday AM: Helene McLewin

Tuesday 11 am Dismissal: Cecilia Moschini

Wednesday AM: Ileana Torres

Wednesday PM: Carmen Grigoruta

Thursday AM: **Volunteer Needed**

Thursday PM: **Volunteer Needed**

Friday AM: Kathy Cole

Friday PM: Catalina Sanchez

YARD DUTY SCHEDULE: SEPT. 6TH-9TH:

Tuesday: **Noon Dismissal**

Friday: Roz Phipps

Wednesday: Susan Frank

Thursday: Sophia Kim