

DECEMBER 2022



St. John Paul II Catholic School

4006-8th Avenue

Port Alberni, BC V9Y 4S4

Tel: 250-723-0637 Fax: 250-720-0379



Mission Statement

St. John Paul II Catholic School is a diverse and Inclusive faith-based learning community rooted in Scripture and the traditions of the Church. Our mission is to provide a safe and loving environment, which enables each child to develop spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically, intellectually, and artistically. We are called to celebrate and nurture the God-given talents of each student as we serve with excellence in the light of Christ.

DECEMBER 2022

Principal's Message



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy Advent to all of our families! December is such a busy time of year – preparing for the joy that comes on Christmas morning...baby Jesus! We also have a very busy month here at St.

John Paul II. Please take time to review the calendar, newsletter, and any class notices that come home – we don't want you to miss a thing!



This year we are so happy that we can perform in person our Christmas Musical, "Arrest These Merry Gentlemen". The students and staff are busy preparing to give you a fantastic show! Now that we are back in person, we are also back to renting the necessary sound and lighting equipment in order for us to provide our families with the best show possible. We have a modest budget, but will be asking for donations to help supplement the additional costs (\$1500). This is not a requirement as we know that this time of year is a very expensive one and we do not want to burden families with additional costs. But for those that can help, we greatly appreciate it!

Advent Prayer

God of All Comfort and Source of All Joy,
Send your Spirit to us in this holy season of Advent.

Grant that we may have the grace to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord Jesus at Christmas,
And strengthen our hope in his coming again.

Light our way and guide our steps to meet the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

Together in Christ,

Mrs. Warman



DECEMBER 2022

Holy Family/Notre Dame Mass Times

Saturdays at 5 pm
Sundays at 10 am
Everyone is welcome.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve at 5 pm & 8 pm
Christmas Day at 10 am
New Years Eve at 5 pm
New Years Day at 10 am



Fr. Michael Tran



SCHOOL MASS & Reconciliation

December 2nd school mass at
St. John Paul II
In the gym. 9:00—10:00 am
EVERYONE is WELCOME!



Vision Statement

St. John Paul II Catholic School believes in educating the whole child within a loving environment. Our curriculum integrates the approved BC Ministry of Education learning outcomes with Christian values grounded in the Catholic faith. We provide opportunities for students to develop their potential in all areas. We encourage students to discover their passions and talents while reaching for high standards and developing self-discipline. We foster respect and love for all of God's creation. At St. John Paul II, we "learn, serve, lead and succeed".

Values

We are committed to sharing the values Jesus modelled.

As a Catholic learning community, we value:

Love, Excellence, Relationships, Teamwork, Community,
Making a Difference, Well-being, Creativity, Faithfulness and Diversity.

DECEMBER 2022



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Celebrating birthdays this December are:

Abigail K., Jameson, Matthew A., Jonathan, Avery, Karston, Lyla, Annika, Kaiden, Rachel and Rose.
May God Bless you on your special day!

Holy Mackerels are special certificates which are presented to students who “have been caught doing good.” A copy of their certificate is then entered into our special fishing net. Six names are pulled each week at assembly and then those students are invited to pick a prize from the prize basket. It’s great fun and another way to celebrate our students’ kindness. The following students were awarded Holy Mackerels since our last newsletter. **Michael C., Azeen, Michael M., Lea, Ikjot, Joshua x2, Kartar, Hailey, Luke, Truen, Jack x2, Drayden, Parker, Mason D., Haddie, Lyla, Foster, Laila, Emma, Ariana x2, Matthew M., Mason F., Zoey W. x2, Hadden x2, Kyle x2, Grady, Annaka, Trey, Cody, and Emmrick. Well Done!**



Good News Call of the Day!

We acknowledge our students for positive behaviour with a “Good News Call” from the principal to you the parents. Staff have recognized our top 10 values that we would like to focus on at St. John Paul II. These are: showing love, teamwork, well-being of others and/or self, respecting diversity, demonstrating excellence, building community, being creative, demonstrating positive relationships, making a difference, and being faithful.

DECEMBER 2022

SCHOOL MASS
Fri., Dec. 2, 2022
9:00 – 10:00 am

Parents are welcome to join us
in the gym for Mass.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Thurs., Dec. 15, 2022

“Arrest These
Merry Gentlemen.”
Afternoon Show at 1:00 pm
Evening Show at 6:30 pm
Students must be at the
evening show by 6:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS ATTIRE DAY
& EARLY DISMISSAL
Fri., Dec. 16, 2022

Student can come to school
dressed in Christmas Attire.
Students are dismissed at
Noon. Christmas Holidays
begin.

Fri., Dec. 2	School Mass & Reconciliation at St. John Paul II 9:00 – 10:00 am
Fri., Dec. 2	Movie Day – Primary 10:30 – 11:55 am- Intermediate 1 – 2:55 pm
Wed., Dec. 7	Winter Wonderland Skate at 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Wed., Dec. 7	Early Dismissal at 2:00 pm
Fri., Dec. 9	Christmas Shopping Day at St. John Paul II
Fri., Dec. 9	Report Cards sent home
Wed., Dec. 14	Christmas Concert Rehearsal
Thurs., Dec. 15	Christmas Concert Afternoon 1:00 pm & Evening 6:30 pm performances
Fri., Dec. 16	Christmas Attire Day & Early Dismissal at Noon
Sat. Dec. 24	Christmas Eve
Sun. Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Mon., Dec. 26	Boxing Day
Sat., Dec. 31	New Years Eve
Sun. Jan. 1	New Year’s Day
Tues., Jan. 3	School reopens at 8:40 am – 3:00 pm
Wed., Jan. 4	Early Dismissal at 2:00 pm
Mon., Jan. 9	Parent Support Group Meeting at 5:30 pm
Fri., Jan. 13	School Mass at St. John Paul II at 9 – 10:00 am
Mon., Jan. 16	Pro D Day – NO SCHOOL
Wed., Jan. 18	School Council Meeting at 6:00 pm
Fri., Jan. 27	Spirit – Pajama Day – Hot Lunch Day

DECEMBER 2022

ADVENT WREATH

An Advent Wreath is often used in homes for family prayer in the evenings during the four weeks prior to Christmas. The wreath's components and what they symbolize are listed below.

Round wreath with no beginning or end reminds us that God's love is everlasting.

Four candles represent the thousands of years that people waited for their Saviour.

Three purple candles remind us of loyalty and penance.

One pink candle reminds us of love and joy. It is during the 3rd week.

Green boughs remind us of hope and life everlasting.

Candle light reminds us of Jesus, the light of the world.



ST. JOHN PAUL II GIVING TREE

Toiletries for Our
Community



On Nov. 28th our pre-Christmas drive to gather, hats, toques, gloves, socks, scarves and toiletries for the needy begins. Our goal is to cover the Giving Christmas Tree and fill the tote in main hallway out side of the school office before the Christmas break. (Dec. 16th) Please send only new items. All contributions will be shared with the needy in our local community. Thank you for your generosity and kindness.



WINTER WONDERLAND

Our Fabulous Parents Support Group is treating the entire school to a Winter Wonderland Skate on Wednesday, Dec. 7th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Helmets are a necessity and students are encouraged to bring their own if they have one. The arena will also have some helmets available for us and rental skates are also free of charge. All parents and siblings are welcome. Sorry no strollers are allowed on the ice. Don't forget your gloves!



DECEMBER 2022

MOVIE DAY



Our St. John Paul II Leadership Team is hosting a Christmas movie Day Fundraiser on **Friday, Dec. 2nd in the gym**. There will be 2 movies, the **Primary movie** will be from **10:30 – 11:55 am** and the **Intermediate movie** will be from **1:00 – 2:55 pm**.

Admission is FREE

Juice Box \$1

Candy bags \$2

Popcorn \$3

or Get the Bundle that includes all 3 items for \$5

Please bring your water bottle!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POSTER CONTEST

St. John Paul II students have been invited to participate in the Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest. Forms were sent home with students who wished to participate. Our students will use their talents to create meaningful poster about the true meaning of Christmas. **All poster entries must be submitted by Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022.**



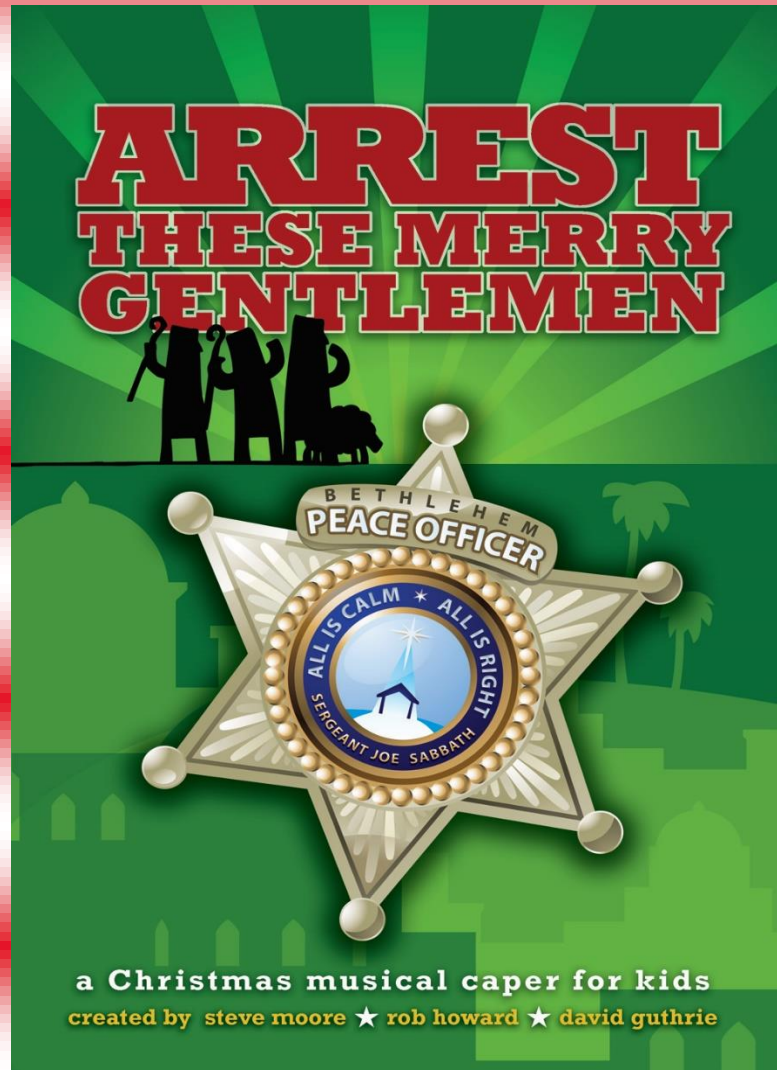
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DAY

One of our traditions at St. John Paul II is to provide a Christmas Shopping Day for the students. The Parents Support group will organize the day. **We need donations of new or gently used small items for the students to purchase.** Ideas include candy dishes or cups filled with candies, knick-knacks, coffee/tea cups, ties, costume jewelry, ornaments, potholders, tools, puzzles, games and so on. Tables labeled from \$.0.25 - \$2.00 will be set up in the gym. Starting with the youngest, children “shop” for Christmas gifts for their families. Our senior students act as cashiers and help the younger students with their purchases. Students then take their gifts back to the classroom and wrap them, ready for giving at Christmas. There is much joy and excitement as the children choose and wrap their secret gifts. **Donations can be dropped off at the school starting on Monday, Dec. 5th until Thurs., Dec. 8th. Thank you for your anticipated help.**



DECEMBER 2022

ST. JOHN PAUL II PRESENTS



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Our annual Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, Dec. 15th with two shows, a afternoon performance at 1:00 pm and evening performance at 6:30 pm. Students are expected to arrive at school by 6:00 pm for the evening concert. There will also be a dress rehearsal on Wednesday, Dec. 14th for those unable to attend either of the Thursday's shows. The dress rehearsal will start at 10:30 am. Come out and enjoy our Musical Play.

The costs to rent the necessary sound equipment has gone up and we are looking to help cover the additional \$1500. We will be taking donations at the door. Your financial support is greatly appreciated, but is not a requirement. Thank you in advance!

DECEMBER 2022

BASKETBALL



Grade 4 & 5 Basketball program is well under way. Practice days are on Monday's from 12:00 – 12:30 pm and all our game days are on Wednesdays. A schedule was sent home on November 9th to students who are a part of our school basketball team. Our season opening game was on November 16th with a win against E. J. Dunn Elementary. On November 23rd we played Wood Elementary and on November 30th we went up against Maquinna Elementary. Our next scheduled game is on December 7th against Haahuupayak Elementary. Our Grade 4 & 5 Basketball season will wrap up with a Tournament on December 9th. Details will be sent home. Parents are welcome to come and cheer on our St. JP II Jaguar team!



CURLING

Our curling program is underway and the students are having fun!

Div. 4 will be curling on the following Thursdays from 10:30 – 11:30 am. **Nov. 17, Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and Dec. 8th.**

Div. 5 will be curling on the following Tuesdays from 1:30 – 2:30 pm **Nov. 22, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6th.**

This is a great opportunity for the students to learn a new sport that is often only played by adults.

Thank you to all of our Volunteer Parent Drivers!!

DECEMBER 2022

SPORTS



**DISTRICT WRESTLING TOURNAMENT
RESULTS NOV. 4, 2022**

Congratulations to our St. John Paul II Wrestlers who competed in the District Wrestling Tournament on Friday, November 4, 2022. Despite only fielding 6 wrestlers against schools that brought upwards of 50, all of our competitors placed in the top three of their respective divisions. Our wrestlers represented themselves and their school with dignity, sportsmanship, and a fierce competitive spirit. Well done, Jaguars! As always, you've done yourselves (and your coach, Mr. Brooks) proud!

Cuan: 2nd place

Griffin: 1st place

Hunter: 3rd place

Isaiah: 2nd place

Zoey: 2nd place

Elliott: 2nd place

DECEMBER 2022



Our Parent Support Group would like to thank everyone for the tremendous turnout of our Fall Gin Tasting Fundraiser. It was a wonderful, fun and delicious evening. We are so grateful for the continuing support of our school community. We raised \$8600.00!! Thank you to our St. John Paul II Community!! Our next meeting is January 9, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

Our next School Council Meeting is on January 18, 2023 at 6:00 pm.



St. John Paul II has teamed up with Mabel's Labels so you can easily label all of your child(ren)s belongings. This is a great way to make sure all of your child(ren)s valuables come home. By ordering through our school's page you pay the same price, but 20% of the value of your order goes to support our school!! These labels are fully customizable and are great for school clothing, sports gear, shoes, bags, water bottles and more! They have a new reusable clothing stamp too! Machine washable and Dishwasher safe. Fun designs and No Shipping Fees! To find our school's fundraising page click on the link here:

<http://campaigns.mabelslables.com> and find our School's name under the Select Your School/Organization Sign. Click on the Select v and scroll down to find John Paul II Catholic School PSG (Port Alberni).

DECEMBER 2022

Grocery Gift Cards Fundraiser

Mrs. Pinto has graciously volunteered to sell GROCERY CARDS on Monday and Tuesday mornings between 8:30 am - 9:00 am and afternoons between 2:45 pm - 3:15 pm.

If you would like to order cards and pick them up at the office, please complete the form [st-john-paul-ii-grocery-card-order-form.pdf \(pmdms.com\)](#) and email it to the office cgogo@cisdv.bc.ca You can pick them up at the office.

GROCERY GIFT CARDS

Anyone can participate: Families, grandparents parishioners, friends and relatives.

No cost to you! Purchase the store cards at Face value in denominations of \$50 or \$100.



On Sale Thursdays and Fridays before and after school in the school office

HOW IT BENEFITS OUR SCHOOL

Buying grocery cards directly from St. John Paul II from Save-On-Foods Buy-Low-Foods and No Frills helps us generate thousands of dollars for our school.

No Frills – 4% for every \$100 spent

Save-On-Foods – 6% for every \$100 spent

Buy-Low-Foods – 10% for every \$100 spent



DECEMBER 2022



Dear Families, an email was sent out regarding Flipgive. Please have a look at the email, and if you haven't already done so already, join our Flipgive group.

To get started, simply go to the "FlipGive" website or download the free app. Create an account for yourself, and then join the St. JP II Catholic School team. Join our team now by clicking here: <https://flipgive.app.link/teams/join...> If you are prompted for a join code, enter this code MCMSMZ. Then, before you make your next online purchase, go to the "FlipGive" website or app, find and select your vendor which will take you directly to their website, then make your purchase as you normally would have. That's it! If you have any questions, please check out the "FlipGive" website, FlipGive.com. It has some great explanations of the process, and will allow you to see which vendors participate and how much of your purchase will go back to the school.

There are many, many common online retailers to shop from, including Amazon, Starbucks, Walmart, Old Navy/Gap, SportChek, Lululemon, Indigo, Staples, Home Depot, Sephora, as well as the opportunity to purchase gift cards. There is no cost, it's simply allowing us the opportunity to receive a donation to our St. JP II team.

TILL RECEIPTS FUNDRAISER

Buy Low, Save On Foods and Quality Foods
Buy Groceries, Keep Receipts, Hand them into the school.



Every year we collect grocery receipts from these special grocery stores. The receipts are counted and returned to these stores. In return, the stores give us grocery certificates that can be used to buy groceries. These certificates are used for our hot lunch program, emergency student lunch basket and various other student and family functions throughout the year. It's a win/win because you support the school when you buy groceries; the school benefits with an easy fundraiser, and the stores get your business. Thank you to all of our wonderful counting volunteers!

RECYCLING BOTTLES & CANS

Another easy fundraiser is the driverless bottle drive program. Bring your recyclable bottles and cans to the school. Mr. Ryan faithfully sorts and counts these and then take them to the bottle depot. You can also drop them off at the depot yourself and notify the employees that your return is to be donated to St. John Paul II. Please note that tin cans, milk cartons and glass jars are not accepted at the bottle depot. We would like to thank Mr. Tom Ryan and all those who donate their bottles and cans for their continued support for our school.



DECEMBER 2022



WEATHER

The cold and wet weather has arrived. Please be sure your child(ren) are dressed appropriately (Hat, a rain coat, boots and umbrella) for weather conditions. We do go outside to play. Also, an extra pair or dry socks and pants in your child(ren)'s backpack is a good idea! In case of inclement weather, severe power outage or a possible school closure, please listen to 93.3 FM (The Peak) before 7:30 am. We have an automated phone-messaging program called the Bright Arrow System in place and we will do our best to contact you if the school is closed.

Please be sure that our secretary, Ms. Gogo, has your most current email, phone and cell numbers. Thank you!

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

School Uniforms are ordered through Cambridge Uniforms. To order please go to www.cambridgeuniforms.com
Our School code is RCF965.



For more great pictures go check us out on our Facebook page. You can locate us at John Paul II Catholic School, Mini Miracles Family Centre.