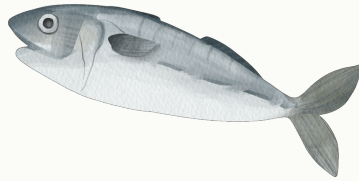


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Holy Mackerels

Holy Mackerels are special certificates which are presented to students who "have been caught doing good". The students take the original home to share with their parents and a copy of their certificate is made and then entered into our special fishing net. Six names are drawn each week at the assembly and then those students are invited to pick a prize from the prize basket. It is great fun and another way to celebrate our students kindness. The following students were awarded Holy Mackerels since our last newsletter:

Rhys, Finley E., Iza, Levi, Michael M., Jaap, Michael C., Colt, Karston, Emily L. x2, Markhan, Haddie, Eva x3, Jack, Veera, Luan, Truen, Olivia Dm., Owen, Russell Zoey.

Reminder

The cold and rainy winter weather is here. Please ensure that your students are dressed appropriately for the weather, including a warm winter coat with a hood or toque, gloves, scarf, boots, and an umbrella. We will be going outside to play, so it's important to be prepared. Additionally, kindly send an extra pair of dry socks and pants in your student's backpack. Thank you!



We have **brand new winter coats available** in the office for anyone needing one. There is a range of sizes and colors. These were made possible through a joint donation from the Knights of Columbus, in Victoria and Port Alberni. Please stop in and take a look if you are interested.

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Catholic Schools Week

Catholic schools week in the province is celebrated from February 4 – 10, 2024. This year's theme is: Living, Celebrating, and Proclaiming Our Faith. Through various events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, and our communities.

Sunday February 2nd 10:00am Holy Family Notre Dame Parish 10 am Mass.

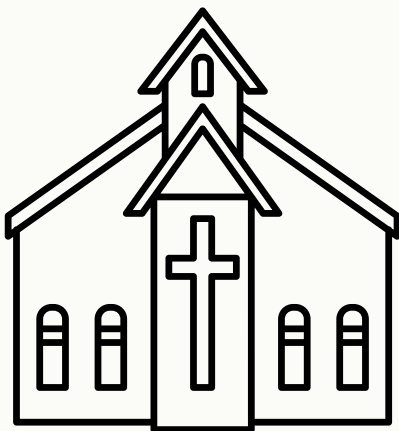
Monday February 3rd Face-to-Face Ministries school retreat day This is always a highlight of the week for students. F2F brings upbeat music, lights, games, prayers and talks.

Tuesday February 4th 1:30pm St. JP2 Got Talent Our little school has so much talent and this is the day students get to show it! Registration forms will come home the week before. Families are welcome to come watch and cheer on this amazing talent show.

Wednesday February 5th St. JP2 Olympics Every one is an Olympian today! students will be given their team colors ahead of time, and will move through different stations in friendly competitions. Knights of Columbus Free-Throw.

Thursday February 6th Are You Smarter Than Your Teacher? Students get to test their trivia skills against the teachers. This is a fun game show style quiz game who will win this year??

Friday February 7th Island Catholic Schools PRO DAY



Holy Family Notre Dame Parish

4731 Burke Rd. Port Alberni

Children's Liturgy of the word 9:45-10:30 Bring your children each Sunday through the 2nd office door to the Upstairs Kitchen in time for a 9:45 start to our weekly Faith Formation class; children will rejoin their families at Mass during the Offertory (approx. 10:30 am)

Sunday Mass 10:00am

Coffee and goodies 11:00-12:30 Join us for a time of fellowship following the Sunday mass; coffee, tea, and goodies will be provided by the Hospitality Ministry.

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 pm

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HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

Birthdays

Celebrating a January Birthday **Ikjot, Kora, Michael C. Benjamin Mac. Makayla, Mason F., Nathan, Austin, Weston W., Josephine, Arjun, Eugene, & Ms. Langlois,**

Upcoming Events

January 15th	PSG meeting at 6pm
January 17th	Early dismissal at 2pm
January 20th	PRO DAY NO SCHOOL
January 22nd	School Council meeting at 6pm
January 24th	Pajama Spirit Day & MOVIE AFTERNOON & Hot lunch Early dismissal at 2pm
January 31st	Early dismissal at 2pm
February 2nd	Start of Catholic Schools Week
February 3rd	Face-to-Face Ministries
February 4th	St.JP2's Got Talent @ 1:30
February 5th	St.JP2 Olympics! Knights Free Throw
February 6th	Are You Smarter?
February 7th	ICS PRO DAY NO SCHOOL



PAJAMA
DAY



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A look back at December



Students at the school rock
and gem show



Santa visit



Red and Green Day



Port Alberni Legion members
awarding JP2 finalists poster
& literary contests awards.



Our Christmas Musical
'We Knead a Little
Christmas'



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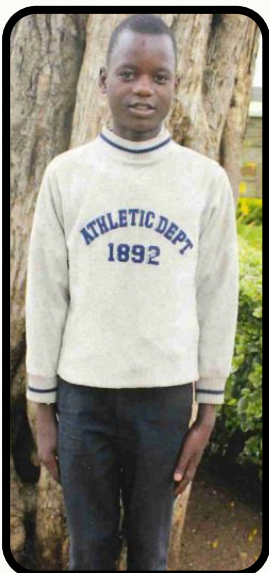
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Foster Children Update

On Spirit Days, students have the opportunity to come to school without wearing their uniforms. To participate, students are asked to contribute a small donation of \$1-\$2. The funds raised on these days go directly toward our sponsorship of two foster children, Phineas and Lidia. You can learn more about them here.



Lidia is 21 years old and lives in Sucre, Bolivia, in South America. She is currently in her third year of university, working toward a career as an executive secretary. In her free time, Lidia enjoys going for walks, and volleyball is her favorite sport. We have had the privilege of sponsoring Lidia for the past 13 years. Thanks to your donations from Spirit Days, we've been able to provide her with school supplies, medical care, and essential items for her home. With the support, her family was able to purchase windows, wood for a floor, a bed, and just last year, a laptop to help Lidia with her studies. Every year, Lidia sends us a heartfelt letter and a Christmas card. Lidia and her family are incredibly grateful for the assistance we've been able to offer.



Phineas is 16 years old and lives in Mikinduri, Kenya. He is currently attending Secondary School, where his favorite subjects are Integrated Science, Mathematics, and Social Studies. Phineas enjoys playing soccer, swimming, and reading. Phineas dreams of becoming a pilot one day. We have had the privilege of sponsoring Phineas for the past 6 years. Thanks to the donations collected on Spirit Days, we've been able to provide him with school supplies and medical care. Additionally, the funds have helped his family purchase a goat and a cow, which provide milk and food for them. Phineas and his family are incredibly grateful for the support they have received, and are truly thankful for everything our school has made possible.