



St. John XXIII Catholic School

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Dear SJXXIII Families,

I'm hoping that this email finds you well. With just under one final week left before our school re-opens to Hybrid Learning, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your patience and support throughout this journey. The challenge of transforming all of our homes into fully remote classrooms has not been an easy one; but has been successful thanks to your partnership and support.

February is always a fun, engaging, and exciting month at SJXXIII. Le Carnaval Week, for instance, was a tremendous success as our students participated in special theme days, Loto, a Smartie Gras, and so much more. We thank our wonderful and creative French team for keeping the Carnaval tradition alive in our learning community.

During February, we continue to celebrate Black History Month, reminding us all of the importance in acknowledging the significant and transformative contributions the Black community has made within our society. Teachers will continue to engage their students, not only during this month but throughout the school year, by recognizing the strengths, achievements and legacy of the Black community. Next week, we are thrilled to welcome Aubrey Clarke, motivational speaker, visionary, and author, to SJXXIII.

During February, students will also celebrate Chinese Lunar New Year. We hope that this new year brings good health, prosperity, laughter, and love to the whole of our St. John XXIII community.

On February 14th, we will celebrate the feast of St. Valentine. We commemorate the feast by celebrating our love for our parents, siblings and friends. Through our words and actions, may we continue to grow in love with God, our neighbours and ourselves. We also, on the 15th, celebrate Family Day. Please plan some great quality family time and have fun together!

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated on February 17th; a virtual collaboration by Father John and our grade 3 FI and 3/4 students. We recognize and reflect on our desire for greater freedom and fulfillment in our relationship with God and one another, as a family and community. During Lent, we are called to open our hearts to the Father so that we may live with God. The hope is that this will be accompanied by prayer, penance and works of charity.

Preparing for Returning to School

As we prepare for our return to school on Tuesday, February 16th, please ensure your child returns their school device, if one was borrowed, as well as any books or resources they brought home prior to the Christmas break. More specific information on the re-entry plan was sent out centrally from the board this afternoon. It has also been attached for your reference.

Have a wonderful week and thank you again for your ongoing support.

With great appreciation,

C. D'Agostini, Principal