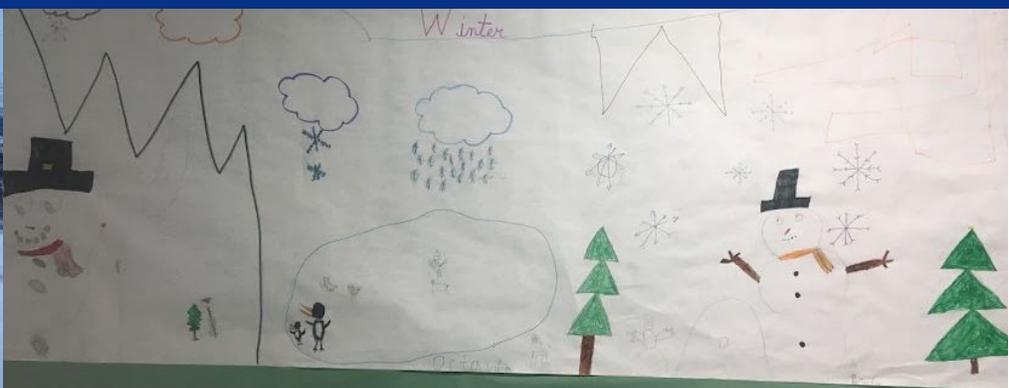




# St. Joseph's Catholic School



## NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, 11 January 2022

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Dear families,

Happy new year! After a delayed start, it's great to welcome everyone back this week and see so many smiles. The positive energy of having our community together was missed. Many kids I chatted with shared they were happy to be back which is so encouraging. In optimism, I pray 2022 will be a great year for all of us!

In hope,  
Hayden

### PARENT SUPPORT GROUP:

The next Parent Support Group (PSG) meeting will be held tomorrow

**Wednesday, 12 January, 7pm** on

[Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 993 0595 5212 |

Passcode: PSG

**Chair:** Julie Chaplin | **VP:** Jen Moyle

| **Treasurer:** Seonaid Davis |

**Secretary:** Monica Howard | **Hot**

**Lunch Coordinator:** Angela Souter |

**Council Liaison:** vacant. For more

info, please contact Julie Chaplin @

(250) 877-8271 or any of the other

members.



### CHURCH:

**Mass at 9am on Sunday** In person with restriction and streamed on [Facebook](#). Check Flocknote for more info and updates. Drive through communion is occurring.

**Weekday Masses:** paused temporarily

**Flocknote:** To get on Flocknote text SMITHERS to 514-900-0130

**Alpha** is a short course exploring the questions of life, meaning and faith. It's offered online at this time. The next round will begin on Wednesday, 26 January. Click [here](#) to learn a little more about the course.

**Private adoration** is welcome at St Joseph's during office hours (Wednesday - Friday 10am -2pm)



**Contact us:** 250 847 9414 | <http://stjosephsschool.ca/> | [stj@cispg.ca](mailto:stj@cispg.ca) | [Facebook](#)



We thank God that we are blessed to be working, playing and learning in beautiful Smithers, BC on the unceded traditional territory of the Gitdumden clan of the Wet'suwet'en.

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## NEW THIS WEEK

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### Hot lunch this week 🌭

Hot lunch this week: Hot Dogs! Two hot dogs + a cookie. If your child wants only one hot dog, please send \$3 cash to make things simpler (also includes a cookie).

### Kindergarten admissions start this week 🏠

The kindergarten admission process starts this Thursday at 9am online with an expression of interest to request an admission appointment. Please go to [schoolinterviews.ca](https://schoolinterviews.ca) and use the code **stjkn**. See page 3 for more info!

### Junior curling 🏒

Curling for ages 6 to 17, every Thursday after school starting at 2:30 at the Smithers Curling Club, 4216 3rd Avenue. All you need is clean footwear; brooms and instruction will be provided. Give it a try. Free!! (Due to no newsletter last week, we missed the first session.)

### Middle Years Development Instrument 📄

The [Middle Years Development Instrument](#) (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire completed by children in Grades 4 through 7. MDI results are summarised into maps and reports the school can use to inform our work. Learning how children are currently faring helps us plan and make decisions, especially around supports and services. A form for those who wish for their child to opt out of this survey is going home this week.

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## REMINDERS

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### Witsuwit'en word of the month

January's phrase is: **kwis sili'** (kwah sullay) which means he has a cold. December's word was: **yis** which means snow. November's word is: **'Ats deondzin?** (pronounced ants deriden) means 'how is it outside?' October's word "Had'ih" (pronounced ha-dee), which means hello!

### Updated covid protocols and what to do when sick 🤧

Please note the summarised covid protocols poster on page 6 which reflect the changes shared last week. If you're child is unwell, please use this [website](#) to determine next steps. Information from the CDC for those who test positive can be found [here](#).

### Air purifier fundraiser 🌬️

Please see the note on page 4 regarding a fundraising campaign to help us purchase air purifiers for classrooms. Thank you to Dr Kate Niethammer for leading and organising this! We have the air purifiers on site thanks to Kate for loaning the funds to purchase them -- donations are still needed nonetheless to help repay the generous loan. To date, we have raised over \$18 000 towards our goal of \$25 000. Many, many thanks to all those who have generously donated so far! The initiative was featured in Smither Interior News last month. Click [here](#) to read that article.

### Picking up your child(ren) 🚗

If you are picking your child up for an appointment, or any other reason, please come to the front doors OR call from the parking lot and let Terry/Arlene know you are there and waiting. For younger children we'd prefer the former.

### Bus fees 🚌

Fees are now overdue. Cost for one child is \$250.00, for two or more \$310.00. You can pay cash or cheque at the office, e-transfer to [stietransfers@cispg.ca](mailto:stietransfers@cispg.ca) or contact the bookkeeper at [bookkeeperstj@cispg.ca](mailto:bookkeeperstj@cispg.ca) if you would like it added to your pre-authorized debit.

### School photo retakes 📷

Retakes are scheduled for Thursday, 27 January, 2022, starting at 9:00 a.m.



St  
Joseph's  
School



## 2022-2023 KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION

St Joseph's School is a loving and caring learning community committed to academic excellence and fostering the growth of the whole child. Our work is infused by the teachings of Jesus Christ. The smaller size of our school nurtures a strong sense of community. Our dedicated staff and parents collaborate to inspire the growth of all children so they can become their best selves.

### Some of the things that make our school shine:

- ✓ Religious education that focuses on Christian values
- ✓ A very experienced team of educators dedicated to helping all children learn and be well prepared on their learning journey
- ✓ A school culture that encourages learners to be safe, helpful, accountable, respectful and polite
- ✓ Use of the BC Ministry of Education's K – 7 Curriculum
- ✓ French instruction for grades K – 7 taught by specialist teachers
- ✓ Music instruction from K-7 taught by a specialist teacher
- ✓ Extracurricular sports and activities
- ✓ Delicious healthy hot lunch on Fridays
- ✓ A high staff to learner ratio
- ✓ After school care program (optional and open to everyone)
- ✓ School bus service (operated by SD54)

### Admission priority:

If interest exceeds space, the following criteria are used to determine priority status:

1. Parish families who are practising Catholics and siblings of children already enrolled at St Joseph's
2. Children who attended in St Joseph's Preschool
3. Everyone on a first come, first serve basis

### Admissions process:

1. We warmly invite you to start the application process for a spot in our kindergarten starting **on 13 January 2022 at 9am** by expressing interest and requesting an admissions appointment at:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.ca/code> using the code **stjkn**

2. After the request for an admissions appointment has been received, families will be invited to meet and complete applications. Appointments will be made based on the order that requests were received on the website and the priority status of the application.
3. After meeting with families and review of applications, offers of admission will be made based on capacity. Those who accept offers of admissions will be registered for the 2022-2023 school year

# AIR PURIFIER FUNDRAISER

Dear parents, teachers, staff, students, relatives and caregivers of St Joe's students,

The COVID pandemic continues to affect our lives in ways most of us would never have imagined and it will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

There have been many things that have been learned over the last 2 years about mitigating the spread of COVID and all respiratory viruses and the layers of protection that help. I am sure you are all aware of handwashing, staying home if sick, wearing a mask and getting vaccinated to protect yourself and others. The next step that has been shown to be very effective at preventing spread of respiratory viruses is adequate air flow and filtration.

Currently, St Joe's classrooms are increasing air flow in their classrooms by keeping the windows open and, although this is good and has worked well thus far, it is not a perfect system. St Joe's does not have a central ventilation system. They have a modern central boiler and radiators for heating and are using the windows, the hood for the ovens in the kitchen and a few bathroom fans, to help air circulation. The cost of the recommended upgraded ventilation system was \$800 000 in 2013, this is presumably more expensive now and is not within the school's budget.

I have, therefore, spearheaded the purchasing and fundraising for stand-alone air purification systems for each of the classrooms.

The IQAir HealthPro Plus systems technology traps ultrafine particles down to 0.003 microns - 10 times smaller than a virus! This also filters pollen, dust and dander making the classrooms better for children with allergies and asthma, as well as preventing the spread of all viruses, creating a safer place for everyone in the school. You can find more information here <https://www.iqair.com/ca/room-air-purifiers/healthpro-series>

I would like to stress that the addition of these systems **WILL NOT REPLACE ANY OF THE LAYERS OF PROTECTION CURRENTLY IN PLACE** at this time, and are recommended as an **ADDITIONAL** layer for now and into the future.

The cost of the systems will be \$25,000.00 plus for purchasing, materials and labour for mounting the units in the gymnasium. The filters would need to be replaced every 4 years. I have been in contact with Mr Drygas and this is much more than what the school has for COVID spending this year, but that himself and the school council are fully supportive of these units and the fundraising needed.

**I am writing to you at this time to ask you to consider donating to this important cause for the safety of our children, teachers and staff.**

The donations can be made out to St Joseph's School (in the form of cheques, cash or pre-authorised debit) and you will be issued a tax receipt.

I would also like to say that like the prevention of COVID 19, every little effort helps, so please don't feel that your family needs to contribute a lot or at all if it is not possible. Of course, every contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dr Kate Niethammer



# Recreational Gymnastics

## JANUARY TO MARCH BREAK

### Tiny Tumblers Drop-In

Ages 6 months - 5 years

**FRIDAYS**  
9:30 - 10:30 AM



\$5 Single Pass  
Gym BC Insurance  
Required  
Insurance valid from  
September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022)

### big bear, little bear

AGES 1 TO 4  
AND AN ADULT

**Thursdays**  
\$120 (8 weeks)  
10 AM - 10:45 AM

**Saturdays**  
\$120 (8 weeks)  
10 AM - 10:45 AM

**GYM BC INSURANCE  
IS REQUIRED**

\$50 Gym BC Insurance  
Required  
Insurance is valid from  
September 1, 2021 to  
August 31, 2022



SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY! [www.smithersgymnastics.com](http://www.smithersgymnastics.com)  
Closed Statutory Holidays & Saturday, February 19

### Active Start

AGES 3 TO 5  
CLASS AVAILABLE FOR  
INDIVIDUALLY PREVIOUSLY

**Thursdays**  
\$150 (10 weeks)  
11 AM - 11:45 AM

**Saturdays**  
\$120 (8 weeks)  
11 AM - 11:45 AM OR

**GYM BC INSURANCE  
IS REQUIRED**

\$50 Gym BC Insurance Required  
Insurance is valid from  
September 1, 2021 to  
August 31, 2022



SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY! [www.smithersgymnastics.com](http://www.smithersgymnastics.com)  
Closed Statutory Holidays & Saturday, February 19, 2022

JANUARY 3 TO MARCH 11

AGES 5 to 10

**MONDAYS**  
\$135 (9 Weeks)  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**THURSDAYS**  
\$150 (10 Weeks)  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**SATURDAYS**  
\$120 (8 weeks)  
1:15 PM - 2:15 PM

**GYM BC INSURANCE  
IS REQUIRED**

\$50 Gym BC Insurance Required  
Insurance is valid from  
September 1, 2021 to  
August 31, 2022

### parkour

beginner to intermediate



SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY! [www.smithersgymnastics.com](http://www.smithersgymnastics.com)  
Closed Statutory Holidays & Saturday, February 19

JANUARY 3 TO MARCH 11

AGES 5 to 12

**SATURDAYS**  
\$120 (8 weeks)  
12 - 1 PM

Participants will  
be separated into  
Cangym skill level groups

**GYM BC INSURANCE  
IS REQUIRED**

\$50 Gym BC Insurance Required  
Insurance is valid from  
September 1, 2021 to  
August 31, 2022

### cangym

beginner to advanced gymnastics skills



SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY! [www.smithersgymnastics.com](http://www.smithersgymnastics.com)  
Closed Statutory Holidays & Saturday, February 19

JANUARY 3 TO MARCH 11

### senior parkour

AGES 10 to 17

**WEDNESDAYS**

\$150 (10 weeks)  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**GYM BC INSURANCE  
IS REQUIRED**

\$50 Gym BC Insurance Required  
Insurance is valid from  
September 1, 2021 to  
August 31, 2022



SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY!  
[www.smithersgymnastics.com](http://www.smithersgymnastics.com)  
Closed Statutory Holidays

# JANUARY 3 TO MARCH 11

## 8 OR 10 WEEK SESSIONS

## SIGN UP ONLINE:

## WWW.SMITHERSGYMNASTICS.COM

### GYM BC INSURANCE IS REQUIRED

### \$50/PERSON & VALID

### UNTIL AUGUST 31, 2022



# ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

4054 Broadway Ave (Box 454) Smithers, BC V0J 2N0  
250 847 9414 stj@cispg.ca stjosephsschool.ca  
One family, one hope in Christ!



## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROTOCOLS

*Updated January 2022*



### **Daily Health Checks**

Everyone entering the school is asked to have completed [daily health checks](#) available from the BCCDC to monitor for any symptoms. Parents are responsible for monitoring their children.



### **Masks**

Masks are required for all visitors, staff, and learners in K-12. \*Some [exemptions](#) apply. Adults are encouraged to wear masks outside on school grounds.



### **School Entry/Exit**

Classes will continue to line up outside with their grade and enter/exit with their teachers as various doors like last year. Thank you for continuing to drop your child off outside the school building and not inside.

### **Visiting**

Visitors are welcome into our school for essential purposes. Thank you for checking in at the office and filling out your name on the visitor's log. Appointments and conducting business by phone or email is encouraged. Please limit your visit to areas required for the purpose of your visit (e.g. school office for drop-off/pick-up of items, classroom for an appointment or volunteering, kitchen for hot lunch etc).



### **Physical distancing**

2 m physical distancing is no longer required. Please avoid crowding and respect the personal pace of others and their preference. Classes will enter one at a time.



### **Illness**

Students/staff should stay home when sick. See the K-12 Health Check app, call 811 or your doctor for specific guidance and information about when to return to school. Students who become ill while at school will be kept comfortable and supervised while waiting for their parent/guardian to come and pick them up.



### **Cleaning**

Staff and contractors will continue to clean high-touch surfaces regularly.



### **Hand Hygiene**

All entering will use proper hand hygiene by washing their hands where sinks are available. Hand sanitizer will also be available throughout the school.



### **Vaccinations**

For more information, please go to the [Northern Health website](#)



### **Gatherings**

Whole-school and staff gatherings are paused and will take place virtually

# JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> PSG meeting on Zoom	<b>13</b> Kindergarten admissions starts	<b>14</b> Hot Lunch: Hot Dogs!	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Mass at 9am	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Hot Lunch: Pizza (gr. 7 fundraiser)	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Mass at 9am	<b>24</b> Catholic schools week	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Photo retakes	<b>28</b> Hot Lunch: Grilled Cheese	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Mass at 9am	<b>21</b>	<b>Feb. 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Hot Lunch: Mac & Cheese	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Mass at 9am	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Hot Lunch: Poutine	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Mass at 9am	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> Flag spirit day	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Hot Lunch: Pizza (gr. 7 fundraiser)	<b>18</b> <b>Pro-d day</b>	<b>19</b>