



April 2026 Newsletter

Administrators' Message

April 8, 2026

Dear St. Richard Families,

After journeying through Lent, Easter reminds us of God's unfailing love, the power of the resurrection, and the call to bring light, compassion, and kindness into our daily lives.

With the anticipated arrival of spring, we will soon be surrounded by signs of new beginnings. Longer days, warmer weather, and the beauty of God's creation coming into bloom.

Spring offers us countless opportunities to connect classroom learning with real world experiences and God's beautiful creation.

Families can extend this learning at home through simple, meaningful activities that inspire creativity and STEM thinking. Consider:

- Going on a nature walk and collecting items to sort, classify, or use for art and design
- Keeping a spring observation journal to track weather, plant growth, or animal sightings
- Planting seeds together and discussing what plants need to grow, connecting science with responsibility and care

These activities help children see learning as something joyful and interconnected, both at school and at home.

Later this month we will have our Spring Concert. Our students have been working hard to prepare an evening that will showcase their talents, creativity, and joy through music and performance.

As we move forward through the 50 days of the Easter season, may our hearts remain open to hope, renewal, and gratitude. Thank you for your continued partnership, encouragement, and trust as we work together to support our students in faith, learning, and community.

Blessings to you all!

Alannah Muirhead
Principal

Michel Gagnon
Acting Assistant Principal

Parent Council News

Our next parent council meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 16 at 6:30pm** in the library. We invite all parents and guardians to join us at our meetings.

Healthy Hunger

Parent Council is once again offering families the opportunity to order lunch for their children through Healthy Hunger. Thank you to Holly Karch for organizing this for our families.



The poster features a green background with orange starburst accents. At the top, the words "Healthy Hunger" are written in a large, green, playful font, with a carrot graphic integrated into the letter 'H'. Below this, a red banner reads "MONTHLY HOT LUNCHES". Underneath, in orange text, it says "PRE-ORDER FOR ENTIRE YEAR OPTION AVAILABLE". The central text reads "LOGIN TO ORDER TODAY" followed by the website "healthyhunger.ca". To the left of the text are logos for Pizza Hut, Boston Pizza, Subway, Tim Hortons, and DQ. To the right is a graphic of a hand holding a megaphone. A numbered list of five steps is provided: 1. LOGIN OR REGISTER ACCOUNT, 2. ADD STUDENT, 3. FILL ALL INFORMATION (MAKE SURE TO SELECT CHILD'S SCHOOL AND GRADE), 4. ADD STUDENT, 5. ORDER UPCOMING LUNCHES. At the bottom, it says "Questions? Contact strichardparentassociation@gmail.com".

Healthy Hunger Dates for 2025/26

April 17 - Popeye's
May 8 Rice Bowl Deluxe
June 12 Dairy Queen

Please note all orders are due at 11:59 pm the Sunday before the order is delivered.

Volunteers are needed to help deliver the orders to the classroom. If you can help, please email strichardparentassociation@gmail.com

STEM in Action

Our Student STEM Learner Profile journals have been introduced to various classes! These journals will be a place for students to document their STEM learning journeys and collect stickers as they demonstrate each STEM competency.

We'll begin with the "Investigator" competency, which includes looking for evidence, asking questions and critical thinking. Students can work toward earning all three Investigator stickers by showing these key learner profile skills throughout their activities.

Happy investigating!

Easter Mass

In conjunction with the other STEM schools in the Division, we will be attending mass at St. Joseph Basilica on Friday, April 10. Mass starts at 10:00 am and we will be leaving the school promptly at 9:00 am to ensure we arrive on time. Any students arriving after 9:00 am will stay at the school and supervision will be provided for them. Parents are invited to join us. Please note you will need to provide your own transportation to the basilica.

Class Pictures

Class pictures are scheduled for Friday, April 17. Please note, this is the whole class picture and not individual photos.

T-Shirt Celebration

Our next T-Shirt celebration is on Monday, April 20 at 8:30 AM in the gym.

Spring Concert

Our Spring concert will be held on the evening of Wednesday, April 22. The concert will begin at 6:15 pm and students are asked to be in their classroom by 6:00pm. Doors to the gym will be opened at 6:00pm. There will be a two (2) ticket limit per family. Tickets will be sent home with oldest and only students on Friday April 17.

Kindergarten students are asked to wear a green shirt and grades 1 -6 are asked to wear either a blue or green shirt. We kindly ask that the shirts do not have a logo on them.

There will be a dress rehearsal on the afternoon of April 22. We invite grandparents, and other extended family to attend the dress rehearsal in the afternoon due to our limited space.

Bottle Drive

Parent Council will be holding a bottle drive in May. Please consider donating your bottles and cans. The date is being finalized and will be shared when it is confirmed.

STEM Zoo Night

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, June 4. St. Richard along with the other Division STEM schools will be having STEM Night at the Zoo. Details are being finalized and will be sent out when completed.

Supervision After School/Playing in the Park

As the weather begins to warm up, students may want to linger at the playground after school. Please note that supervision ends approximately 10 minutes after the bell rings. If you allow your child to stay after school, please note there is no supervision. It is recommended that all students go straight home from school and check in with their families first and get parental permission to return and play at the park.

Parking and Drop Off

A reminder that the staff parking lot is for staff parking only and **should not** be used for student drop-offs. Street parking is available, and we ask that families use the sidewalks to walk around the perimeter of the school. We are seeing increased drop-offs in the staff parking lot and with staff arriving at various times throughout the morning this is a potential safety hazard. Also, please observe all posted signs for bus parking and use marked crosswalks for crossing the street. The safety of all our students and families is paramount.

School Fees

We have a number of outstanding school fees, transportation fees and field trip fees. Fee payments can be made online. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please contact the office to speak with Mrs. Muirhead to discuss how we can support you.

PAT Dates

A reminder that grade six students will be writing Provincial Achievement Tests in all four core subjects (language arts, math, science and social).

The administration dates are as follows:

- May 22– English Language Arts, Part A
- June 4 – English Language Arts, Part B
- June 11 – Social Studies
- June 12 – Science
- June 15 – Math, Part A
- June 18 – Math, Part B

Mark Your Calendars

April 10 – Easter Mass at the Basilica 10:00am
April 12 - Healthy Hunger orders due at 11:59pm
April 16 – Parent Council at 6:30pm in the library
April 17 – Class Pictures
Hot Lunch Day
April 20 – T-Shirt Celebration at 8:30 am
April 22 – Spring concert 6:15 pm
April 24 – St. Richard Feast Day