



Newsletter

NEWS

Information for St. Mary's Academy parents and friends

August 2014

President's Message

Mrs. Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77)



As we prepare to officially launch our 2014-2015 school year, I want to extend an especially warm welcome to all new families joining our SMA community. In some ways, we are starting on this new journey together! I look forward to meeting you at the **Welcome Breakfast** on Wednesday, September 3 when you drop off your daughters for their orientation; you are invited to stay for coffee and refreshments and to meet some staff members and other parents. To all our returning families, I

sincerely hope you all had a chance to enjoy quality time with family and friends over the summer.

I encourage you all to familiarize yourselves with our school website where you will find pertinent information to start the year.

In August, we said goodbye to Mrs. Mary Ross, who was hired in October 2011 and worked in both the Advancement and the Director's Office. We wish her and her husband many blessings as they retire to Vancouver Island.

We welcome back to our teaching faculty Mrs. Christine Rewniak and Ms. Maria Marasco. Mrs. Rewniak has been at home with her two children, but has continued to coach our volleyball teams for 18 years. Ms. Marasco has taught at St. Ignatius for several years, where she has been instrumental in developing a French language program. We also welcome four new faculty members: our Principal Mrs. Josie Audino, Miss

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Michelle Allard who will teach our Con Fuoco and Con Spiritu choirs, our term Resource teacher Ms. Lisa Barkman-Hobbs, and Mrs. Melanie Moroz who will teach sciences.

Wishing God's choicest blessings to all!

Principal's Message

Mrs. Josie Audino



Welcome/Bienvenue. I hope you have all had a wonderful summer. As the new Principal of St. Mary's Academy I thank all previous Staff, in particular, Sister Susan Wikeem and Mrs. Connie Yunyk for all their hard work and dedication over the last number of years. Our school enjoys an excellent reputation and I look forward to upholding and carrying on the tradition. I am confident

that with everyone's cooperation it will be a very rewarding year filled with many successes.

Each year our school embraces a theme and this year the theme is **People of Service**. "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." 1 Peter 4:10

Following is important information for your reference:

August 25 - 29

- Grade 7 Sports Camp

September 2

- Administration Day

September 3

- Orientation for new Students

September 4

- First Day of Classes (Day 1). Mass will be celebrated at 2:00 p.m. Students will be dismissed at the end of the Mass. Parents are welcome.

September 11

- Picture Day
- Parent Information Evening: 7:00 p.m

September 18

- Walk for Cancer (Grades 7 and 8 at SMA and Grades 9-12 at SPHS). More information to follow.

September 26

- Professional Development Day – no classes for students.

I look forward to meeting you and working with your daughter(s).



August 2014



School Opening

New Students

New student orientation takes place on **Wednesday, September 3, 2014.**

9:00 a.m. - All new students meet in Alumnae Hall.

9:15 a.m. - Students meet with their homeroom teachers until 10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. - School Orientation Tours take place with SMA's "In the Navy" Ambassador Team.

11:00 a.m. - Dismissal
Note that uniforms are *not* required for Orientation morning.

All Students

Classes begin for all students on **Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.**

Homeroom lists will be posted at school entrances and on classroom doors. Students are to proceed directly to their homeroom for 8:30 a.m. for opening exercises, locker

distribution, timetable and agenda distribution.

Full winter or summer uniform is required.

Bring school supplies.

The cafeteria will open on Thursday, September 4.

Welcome Breakfast for New Parents

SMA welcomes new parents!

While your daughter is participating in the new student orientation on September 3rd, please join SMA administrators and faculty in the Sheila Chipman Atrium, commencing at 8:15 AM (enter through Alumnae Hall doors).

This is an opportunity to meet other parents and enjoy refreshments. Parking is available in Lot B.

Important General Information

Administration

Mrs. Josie Audino is responsible for all activities and academic programs for students in Grades 11 and 12.

Mrs. Carol-Ann Swayzie is responsible for all activities and academic programs for students in Grades 9 and 10.

Mrs. Michelle Klus is responsible for all activities and academic programs in Grades 7 and 8.

School Calendar

A calendar of major events is available on the SMA website. The calendar outlines important dates including **two major assessment periods in December/January and June.** All students are expected to be present during the assessment periods. A doctor's certificate is required to verify illness or absence during the assessment periods. Parents are asked **NOT** to book holidays or time away from school during these periods. If a student misses a mid-year assessment it will affect the value of their final mark.

School-wide Retreat/Rally (Retrally), Reflection Days and Liturgies

These are important, mandatory community-building events for all students. Kindly become familiar with the school calendar and do not make any appointments on these dates.

Student Timetables, Student Agendas, Lockers and Locks

These will be distributed during the first homeroom period on Thursday, September 4, 2014. The agenda includes the school calendar, general school information, policies and procedures, and student information.

Textbooks

On the first day of classes, subject teachers issue numbered textbooks to each student. Each assigned textbook is the responsibility of the student to whom it is assigned. In June 2015, students are responsible for returning assigned textbooks in accordance with the following procedures:

Non-exam courses: to the subject teacher at the last class.

Exam courses: prior to the final exam in a designated classroom.

Students who do not return textbooks as indicated or who have damaged or lost textbooks must pay the replacement cost and a \$25.00 fine by June 25, 2015.

SMA Website: www.stmarysacademy.mb.ca

Check our website for the following information: 2014-2015 school calendar, school supply list, parking application, daily bulletin, newsletters, photos and current/relevant information and events.

Casual Employment at SMA

Parents interested in working casual hours at SMA's Reception desk, please contact Mrs. Connie Yunyk at cyunyk@stmarysacademy.mb.ca

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Coming Events

Opening Mass

Thursday, September 4 at 2:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. Parents welcome!

Grade 12 Reflection Day

Monday, September 8. This is a regularly scheduled school day at an off-site location and attendance is mandatory. Please note that the day will end at approximately 7:30 p.m. with Liturgy—parents are strongly encouraged to attend. More details will follow.

Parent Information Evening

Thursday, September 11 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. Parents will have the opportunity to meet teachers, the Administration team and members of the Parents' Guild.

Grade 9 Welcome Day

Friday, September 12. Workshops and activities are planned to facilitate the transition for all Grade 9 students. All students are strongly encouraged to stay to the end at 10:00 p.m. Specific details and permission forms will be distributed the first week of school.

Walk for Cancer

Thursday, September 18. SMA students will participate in the annual *Walk for Cancer*. A \$10 flat fee will be collected from each student for a donation and to defray costs for student-led activities. Further information will be provided to students in early September.

Service Learning Fair *new date

Thursday, October 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All students from grades 7 to 12 will attend the *Service Learning Fair*. Service organizations from around Winnipeg will be present in the school, educating students about the mission of their organization and where service opportunities are available.



Campus Ministry

Ms. Michelle Garlinski

It is great to be back for another school year! The Campus Ministry team (also known as **P.O.Ssibilities**) has been working through the summer to help our whole community be **People of Service** in the best way possible this coming year.

Our **Grade 12 Day of Reflection** - 3G Network: Given, Gifted and Giving - is September 8th and we remind parents to join us at 6:30 p.m. at Camp Assiniboia and

to please complete the consent form and return it by Sept 4 to homeroom teachers.

Mark your calendars as **Mother Marie Rose Week** is October 5-10, 2014. We highlight this woman of great faith and vision who founded the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) with many events, especially our RETRALLY. This year, back by popular demand is Val-Limar Jansen as she carries the theme, "So

you think you can SERVE" more deeply to our hearts and hands.

This year we celebrate with the SNJM community the 140th anniversary of the arrival of the first four Sisters to Manitoba, we do so with deep gratitude and joy. Here's to another great year ahead of us!

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. -1 Peter 4:10

Message from the SMA Parents' Guild

Parents' Guild Volunteers Needed

Sign-up online to volunteer for the 2014-2015 school year.

Go to stmarysacademy.mb.ca/home/parents and click on the **Build the Guild** icon to register yourself as a volunteer with the SMA Parents' Guild. You will also find a detailed description of the various activities

and events that the Parents' Guild undertakes throughout the school year.



Parents' Guild Meeting

The first Guild meeting for the 2014-15 school year takes place on Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m. in Durocher Library. All parents are welcome to attend.

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Christine Skublics Scholarships and Awards

Each year scholarships are given in memory of Mrs. Christine Skublics who was a teacher at St. Mary's Academy and our Principal from 1985-1990. The students awarded these scholarships have obtained the highest academic average for their particular grade level.

Recipients of the Christine Skublics Scholarships:

Grade 9

Kaitlyn Hanson

Grade 10

Melissa Coleman

Grade 11

Jae Yeon Park

Recipients of the Christine Skublics Award for second and third highest in each grade:

Grade 9

Sélina Audino & Linnéa Cox

Grade 10

Maia Idzikowski & Annemarie Goytan

Grade 11

Hannah Byczkowsky & Gabriela Karabin

Bob Ritchie Scholarship

The **Bob Ritchie Scholarship** is for Academic Achievement and Outstanding Involvement at SMA, as established by the Ritchie Family.

The award winner must be in Grade 11 and returning for Grade 12 in the fall, must be an honours student and must be involved in the school community.

Bob Ritchie Scholarship Recipient:

Su Hyun Lim

Alumnae Tea

The SMA Alumnae Association will hold its annual **Alumnae Tea** on **Sunday, September 28, 2014**. All former students, parents, families and friends of past and present student

are invited. Mass at 12:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall followed by Tea in the cafeteria until 3:30 p.m.

International Day

International Day takes place on **Sunday, November 2, 2014**. Mass takes place in Alumnae Hall at 10:30 a.m. and pavilions begin serving ethnic food at 11:30 a.m.

Private Music Lessons

If you are interested in private piano, music theory or beginner guitar lessons at St. Mary's Academy, please call Sister Josephine Chudzik at 204-284-3309.



TARTAN SHOP

Fall Uniform Sale

September 2 & 3, 2014
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Payment methods accepted are Cash or Cheques only.

Starting Friday, September 5, 2014 the Tartan Shop will be open on Fridays during the lunch hour.

SMA Corner Store

Hours of Operation

Open school days (except Tuesdays) from 12:30-1:30 p.m. starting September 16th.

The Corner Store sells a wide variety of SMA branded sportswear.

Cash or cheques are the only form of payment accepted.

The Corner Store accepts gently used uniforms, white shoes and gloves (for Convocation).

Merchandise available at Tartan Shop Sale

SMA sportswear will be available at the Tartan Shop Sale on September 2 & 3.