



Newsletter

NEWS

Information for St. Mary's Academy parents and friends

June 2014

Director's Message

Sister Susan Wikeem



For one last time I have the opportunity to say **thank you** to SMA parents who play such an important role in the education of their daughters. Teachers count

on your active cooperation to help students achieve academic success and personal growth. You do not disappoint. Parents also play an important role in the life of the school as volunteers. We need you to supervise field trips, judge events, drive athletes, coach teams, run canteens, sew costumes, build sets, and chaperone dances. We also need you to raise extra money, to assist with hospitality, and to staff the Tartan Shop and the Corner Store. Thank you to the faithful,

hardworking Parents' Guild and thank you to volunteers who are so generous with their time and talents.

I feel privileged to have worked my whole life in a ministry that I am passionate about - Catholic education - where learning and life and faith meet. I have been blessed with colleagues - administrators and staff - who worked along side me and who claimed, and toiled to further our mission of forming young women, spirit, mind and body, so that each student reaches her full potential as an individual created in God's image. It has been an awesome responsibility and a wonderful profession. For me the experience has been rewarding and life-giving.

I will be in the office until July 31st while Mrs. Yunyk is on vacation. She begins her new role as President on August 1st. Our new Principal, Mrs. Audino, begins August 18th.

Good-bye and God bless.



Principal's Message

Mrs. Connie Yunyk



It is with mixed emotions that I write my final message as Principal of St. Mary's Academy. In my nine years as Principal, I have been showered with

many wonderful blessings and opportunities through my work with students, faculty, staff, parents and of course the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. I embark on the next chapter of my SMA story as President with enthusiasm, conviction and commitment and look forward to working with this school community to keep the flame burning bright!

Our call this year has been to be a people of

COMMUNITY! As this school year draws to a close, I would like to congratulate all students whose gifts and talents have enriched our collective school experience. You have all been examples of hearts ablaze and poised to share in all aspects of our school life, both in and out of the classroom. I value and appreciate your abundant love and pride for our school, ever-present throughout the school year!

To faculty and staff members not returning in September, I thank you sincerely for your commitment to our mission at SMA. My life has been forever blessed by knowing you and walking with you on this journey.

With a heavy heart, I say goodbye to the Class of 2014. I am proud of each of you and thank you for enriching my life by your generosity of spirit! You will make a difference as you carry high the torch in whatever you choose to do.

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I wish all students and their families a safe, restful and re-creative summer break.

God Bless and enjoy your summer!



June 2014

Campus Ministry

Ms. Michelle Garlinski

CHANGE is all around! We had an interesting *Staff Professional Development* session last month and the facilitator reminded us that we can't choose the changes but we can choose how we process the transitions through them. How true!

We say, "see you later" to several staff and students. We let go of another year and all the significant moments we encountered along the way. In campus Ministry we said a BIG thank you to our *Co-chairs Taylor Martin and Kasen Neufeld* for their tireless efforts, determination and commitment to

sharing the mission and message of Jesus in new and innovative ways. And we say hello to our *new Co-Chairs Morgan Steeves and Fiona Vowell* who will be blazing new trails as we have co-chairs from different grades and we expand our leadership approaches.

We are excited that five grade 10 and 11 students will be participating in the *Youth-Leader* program June 30-July 4, with Ms. Mandrick accompanying them.

We tried very hard to live as *People of Community* in authentic and fun ways this year and we look forward to our theme for next year where we can truly embrace our gifts and share them with others as *People of Service*.

The Archdiocese of Winnipeg Family Day

Friday, August 22, 2014

6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Scotiabank Stage/Festival Park at the Forks

Join friends in faith, fun and a relaxing night of praising God, celebrating the Church and enjoying performances by various groups from throughout the Archdiocese.

There are plenty of opportunities for volunteering. Anyone interested please contact youth@archwinnipeg.ca or call 204-452-2227, ext. 273.

YOUTH in PHILANTHROPY

Mission Statement: Girls clad in plaid, working to create positive change through philanthropic contributions in our community

Mrs. Allison Challes

Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) at SMA, in cooperation with the Winnipeg Foundation has once again had a very busy and successful year.

This year the focus of YIP was: *Many communities one heart.*

YIP visited and granted money to the following charities:

Hospitality House Refugee Ministry:

\$1000

Manitoba Forestry Association: \$1000

Parkinson Society: \$1000

Teen Clinic Drop In Centre: \$1000

Winnipeg Inner City Missions: \$1000

Annual Special Project

YIP's special project involved helping the Children's Hospital Guild of Manitoba with their Sew-4-Kids program. Our YIP girls stayed after school on Friday evenings throughout the winter to sew flannel pajama bottoms for children receiving chemotherapy. Many thanks to Ms. Sichewski for her help with this project.



Pictured above, l-r: Christie MacLennan, Elena Basford, Katy Scammell, Rachel Becker, Mrs. Challes, Su Lim, Chaeyoon Jeong, Rebecca Bae, Tiffany Fernando, JaeYeon Park. Missing from photo: Maia Idzikowski.

Pictured to the left: YIP members at October 2013 conference with Mrs. Challes.



June 2014

Athletics

Mr. Demetro Danyluk

Track and Field

Congratulations to all SMA track and field athletes for your outstanding efforts! Everyone put out their best when attending practice and this transferred to all the outdoor meets that we competed in this year. A few of our athletes performed exceptionally well at the Athletics Manitoba Junior High Championship and at the Manitoba High School Athletic Association Championship.

Results from AMJH Championship:

- **Meagan Gillis:** silver in 100m, 4th in 300m.
- **Sarah Dennehy:** 8th in 100m, 5th in 300m.

- **Victoria Bird:** 4th in High Jump.
- **Tristan Chambers:** 6th in 300m.
- **Adrienne Beaumont:** 8th in 800m.
- **Coco Koltek:** 7th in 1200m.
- **Olivia Klus:** Bronze in Long Jump.
- **Amanda Dillion, Meagan Gillis, Sarah Dennehy and Maya Blatt:** Gold in Grade 7 Medley Relay.
- **Coco Koltek, Tristan Chambers, Sophia Partyka and Charlotte White:** 5th in Grade 8 Medley Relay.

Results from the MHSAA championship:

- **Sierra Sutherland:** 5th in 1500m.
- **Amanda Ludlow, Linnéa Cox, Megan Wrublowsky and Sierra Sutherland (Tiffany Fernando):** Silver in Junior Varsity Medley Relay.
- **Amanda Ludlow, Linnéa Cox, Megan Wrublowsky and Sierra Sutherland (Tiffany Fernando):** Bronze in Junior Varsity 4x400m Relay.

- **Belinda Guerra, Anna Zrinyi, Alyssa Willison, Melissa Indome (Megan DaCosta):** 8th in Varsity Medley Relay.
- **Belinda Guerra, Anna Zrinyi, Alyssa Willison, Milissa Indome (Megan DaCosta):** 4th in Varsity 4x400m Relay.
- **Ebun Oladele, Anna Zryini, Alyssa Willison, Melissa Indome (Megan DaCosta):** 8th in Varsity 4x100m Relay.

Thank you to all parents in getting your daughters to all those early morning practices.

Next Season

We are now preparing for the upcoming cross country season, all interested students please contact Mr. Danyluk: ddanyluk@stmarysacademy.mb.ca.

SMA Math Inquiry Symposium

Mrs. Janet Zonneveld

On May the 15, 2014 the grade 7 and 8 students participated in a day of discovery wherein 20 professionals from a wide variety career fields shared math as a language of change and creativity. Some of the professionals showed how math is used traditionally in the work place while others explained that math is all about logic, organization and decision-making. Probably the most important thing the presenters shared with our students was the passion they have for their chosen careers.

The students appreciated the presenters and the real diversity of professions at the symposium which included:

- Art: Lauren Gowler
- Architecture: Zephyra Vun
- Law: Sandra Phillips
- Computer coding: Aaron Levine, Gerri Acorn, Al Marshall, Lauren Slusky and Ananda Subramaniam.
- High arctic climate research: Brian Horton
- Restaurant management: Alfina Grande
- Music: Lorne Hess

- Agriculture: Jessica Brady
- Medicine: Bernadette Mandrick
- Actuarial finance: Michael Etkin
- Population modeling: Jane MacDonald
- Insurance: Tony Buccini
- Sport organization: Janet McMahon
- Hockey statistics: Mary Ross
- Educational advancement: Diane McGowan
- Cartography: Douglas Whitworth

Each presenter brought a 'hands on' activity to share with students. Many activities were in the form of a mathematical problem solving challenge the students tackled both individually and in groups.

At lunch the presenters accompanied by teachers and administration had the

opportunity to discuss the present math related needs of the work place. It was a fascinating discussion which touched on the skills young graduates need to succeed. An often repeated theme was the need for estimation skills and mental math abilities in the work place.

The day was a great success! Many thanks to all of the staff who participated in the supervision, pre-symposium planning and making the presenters feel welcome in the SMA community.

Finally, a huge thanks to the presenters who freely gave of their time, expertise and passion to help our students understand how they can use their math skills to make a difference.



Presenters at the Math Inquiry Symposium (some people are missing from the photo)

June 2014

Vow of Silence

Ms. Stephanie Zirino

On April 17, 2014 people all over the world remained silent in honour of those whose voices have not been heard. St. Mary's Academy joined in on this venture as girls from grades 7-12 participated in this cause. Faculty and students wore red in solidarity and took a stand against injustice occurring all over the world.

This cause became a very important mission for the class of 7-3. The girls began brainstorming ideas for social justice in the fall of 2013. They agreed it was imperative to help those whose voices had been taken from them. After many discussions, we felt that there were many women and children who had been victims of injustice here in Winnipeg. It was decided that the class would host a campaign to help support those who had been silenced through abuse and violence. Each week, the girls spent time making

posters, creating brochures and going door to door asking for pledges. All of the money raised would be donated to *Osborne House Inc.*, a local safe-house for women and children.

On April 17, the class stayed silent. They honoured those women whose voices have been ignored. They stayed quiet for the women whose choices were taken away

from them. They raised money in hopes that our local women will continue to have hope in a better future.

On May 13, 2014, the 7-3 class presented Ms. Marlene Bertrand with a cheque for \$1500 to go towards snacks, clothing and other essentials for those whose lives have been touched by *Osborne House Inc.*

Well done ladies, way to hold high the torch!



Grade 7-3 with Ms. Marlene Bertrand and Ms. Stephanie Zirino

French Department

Mme Marie Desaulniers

The French Department had a very productive 2013-2014 year!

Montréal-Québec Trip

Thirty students accompanied by Mme Desaulniers, Mme Grande and Mlle Prystanski enjoyed a wonderful trip to Montréal-Québec in February 2014. Tobogganing, dog-sledding, snowshoeing, tubing, visiting an authentic sugar shack, attending mass at Ste-Anne-de-Beaupre Basilica, seeing St. Joseph's Oratory, Mother Marie-Rose Centre in Longueuil and exploring an ice hotel were some of the many activities that were experienced by this very fortunate group of French students.

"La Semaine française" was celebrated in February by singing Voyageur songs and playing French games.

The Grades 10-12 Basic and Advanced

French students also enjoyed a field trip in April to St. Boniface to see "Statu Quo", a French theatre production for young people.

Emily Anderson participated in the "Jours par Excellence" at the University of St. Boniface in April. This is an enrichment program offered by the University which enables motivated high school students to study in different subject areas at the post-secondary level.

Congratulations to Milena Audino, Selina Audino, Elena Basford, Linnea Cox, Anya Ingram, Bethany Kolisniak and Emily Prenovault who represented St. Mary's Academy at the Provincial Concours D'Art Oratoire at the Université de St. Boniface. Both Selina Audino and Anya Ingram placed first in their categories. Melina Audino placed second in her category and both Linnea Cox and Emily Prenovault placed third in their categories.

Elena Basford placed third in the impromptu category and won Provincial Gold at the Grade 11/12 français category. She represented Manitoba at the National Level of competition in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island! This is the third time that St. Mary's Academy has had a French student represent Manitoba at the National Level of the Concours.

Congratulations to the 42S AP French students who wrote their French language exam in May. Bravo les filles!

Mme Grande

A huge "Merci beaucoup" to Mme Grande who will be retiring from the French Department this year. Mme Grande has been a very enthusiastic, hard-working Advanced French teacher at SMA. We truly appreciate all that she has done, especially in preparing the students for the Concours and for the AP French exam. We wish her a very happy retirement.

June 2014

Mission Club

Ms. Teresa Uruski

We are COMMUNITY

With a heart full of gratitude, a very big thank you to all of you who have given of your time and your financial support. Through your sharing we have helped our sisters and brothers in our global community.

A special thank you to our Mission Reps and Members who were there to lend a helping hand throughout the year and to our Mission Executive Team Members who planned and assisted with managing the various fundraising projects.

May you all be blessed for your generosity and willingness to be part of Community. Together, we have made our world a better place.

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.



Drama Dept.

Ms. Laura Davey

A big congratulations goes out to the Senior High Drama Students who have all completed their final Performance Exams for the year. The grade nine students performed scenes from The Diary of Anne Frank in March, the grade ten students performed a variety of scenes from several

genres ranging from children's theatre, to drama, the grade eleven students wrote and performed a collective creation entitled The Teen Commandments: What it means to be a teenager in 2014 and the grade twelve students performed the play The Adventures of Rose Red (Snow White's Less-Famous Sister). Many hours of work and preparation went into these final performances. Congratulations, ladies!

Looking ahead

Looking ahead to next year, the Drama Department will be actively seeking parental volunteers to help with our major school production of *Shrek: The Musical*. We will be needing parents to help with many areas. If you are able to volunteer your time, please contact Ms. Davey at ldavey@stmarysacademy.mb.ca or Ms. MacKinnon at mmackinnon@stmarysacademy.mb.ca. Enjoy your

Parents' Guild

Mrs. Kathleen Reid

The SMA Parents' Guild would like to *welcome* the following parents to the Executive: Kristi Cumming as President, Candace Partyka as 1st Vice-President, Pam Knysh as 2nd Vice-President in charge of volunteer coordination.

Thank-You to all our volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year to make the school a special place for our girls.

If you would like to volunteer we need to know who you are, and what you would like to help with. Please go to www.stmarysacademy.mb.ca, click on the tab 'parents', and then click on the postcard "Build the Guild."

Grade 11 Parents

Please look for white shoes and gloves at this time of year, while they are available in stores. This is in anticipation of grad class photos in February (when these items will not be readily available). Email Mrs. Vivian Epp at vepp@stmarysacademy.mb.ca should you have questions.

Staff News

At the end of June the school community will say *goodbye and thank you* to a number of staff members.

Mrs. Jeannine Pistawka is leaving after sixteen years to begin a new phase in her career - Principal at St. Ignatius School. Mr. Matthew Paschak will return to school in the fall, entering the faculty of medicine.

Choir teacher Mrs. Laura Jane Boville plans to stay home after the birth of her third child this summer.

Mr. Ian Campbell who was responsible for liturgical music this year will not return in the fall due to scheduling conflicts.

Ms. Jessica Dyck-Lyons will be on MAT leave returning for the 2015-16 school year.

Retirements

Mrs. Andrea Cibinel will retire after 15 years as SMA's Director of Alumnae Relations & Special Events.

Mrs. Alfina Grande will retire after teaching French at SMA for 7 years. You will find her at Mona Lisa.

Dates To Note

June 2014

- 20 Grad Dinner and Dance
- 23 Convocation Mandatory Rehearsal: 9 a.m.
- 24 Convocation: 2 p.m.
- 25 Textbook Return Deadline
- 19-25 Volleyball Tryouts
- 26 Report Card Distribution
- 27 Administration Day

August 2014

- 19 School Office Opens
- 25-29 Grade 7 Pre-season Training Camp

September 2014

- 2-3 Uniform Sale: 5-7 p.m.
- 3 New Student Orientation: 9-11 a.m.
- 4 First Day of Classes
- 4 Opening Mass: 2 p.m. in Alumnae Hall

Around the Academy



The graduating class of 2014. Congratulations Grads!



The Adventures of Rose Red: Grade 12 Drama performance



SMA Ringette Team



Leadership Council Carnival



Athletic Banquet featuring keynote speaker Jill Officer



Sister Susan's Retirement Celebration



Sister Susan's Retirement Celebration

