



ST. ANN'S ACADEMY
ESTABLISHED 1880

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- Oct 1: School Photos (**Mass Dress required**)
- Oct 1: HS PLC Meetings
- Oct. 1: Food Drive begins (see details below)
- Oct 2: Elementary Cross Country Meet (3-4:30PM, Centennial Park, Westsyde)
- Oct 3: **Early Dismissal** (Elementary at 12:00 PM, HS at 12:30 PM, busses leave at 12:45 PM)
- Oct 4: Elementary PLC Meetings
- Oct. 5 – Orders due for the SAPA Apple Fundraiser
- Oct 5: **SAA Walkathon - Dismissal at 1:00 PM**, busses leave at 1:15 PM (see details below)
- Oct 8: Happy Thanksgiving (**NO SCHOOL**)
- Oct 9: Elem Mass 9AM @ SHC **Mass Dress required**. Parents welcome to attend.
- Oct 9: SAPA Meeting 6:30 PM
- Oct 10: Elementary Cross Country Championships (Dallas Elementary, 3:00 PM)
- Oct 11: HS Mass 9AM @ SHC **Mass Dress required**. Parents welcome to attend.
- Oct 12: Dress Down Day for grades K-10 (see details below)
- Oct 12: WITS anti-bullying presentations for Primary grades
- Oct. 12: Elementary Assembly @ 12:50 PM SAA Gym. Parents welcome to attend.
- Oct 12: Gr 8 Girls Volleyball Tournament (SAA Gym)
- Oct 15 & 16: Gr 12 Physics Trip (Seattle)
- Oct 15: HS PLC Meetings
- Oct 16: Kindergarten Parent Math Workshop 8:15-10:15 AM (details will be sent home soon)
- Oct 16: First Communion Parent Meeting 7:00 PM (Grade 2 classroom)
- Oct 18: Elem PLC Meetings
- Oct 18 & 19: Senior Boys Soccer (Okanagan's)
- Oct 19 & 22: Pro D for teaching staff (**NO SCHOOL**)
- Oct 20: Senior Girls Volleyball Tournament (SAA Gym)
- Oct 22: School Council Mtg 6:00PM
- Oct 23: Elementary Baking Club 3:00-4:00 PM (for those registered)
- Oct 24: Elementary Art Club 3:00-4:00 PM (for those registered)
- Oct 24-26: Grade 12 Retreat (Harper Mountain)
- Oct 26: Crusader Wear Day grades K-10 (see details below)
- Oct 26: Gr. 1 Parent Literacy Workshop 8:15-10:15 AM (details will be sent home soon)
- Oct 26: Elementary Harvest Dance (5:00-8:00PM SAA Gym) – see details below
- Oct 26 & 27: Senior Boys Volleyball at TRU
- Oct 28: First Communion Enrollment Mass 8:30 AM SHC
- Oct 31: Orange & Black Day (see details below)
- Oct 31: Walkathon Final Assembly (1:25PM SAA Gym)

K-12 NEWS

STAFFING UPDATE – ELEMENTARY MUSIC POSITION

We wanted to let you know that we are advertising online and in our local newspaper to fill the elementary music teacher vacancy. We have received applications and will be conducting interviews before Thanksgiving. We hope to quickly find a suitable candidate so we can resume the level of programming we wish to provide our students. All music instruments that have been pre-ordered will be given out to students once we have hired for the position. We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD DRIVE

The annual St. Vincent De Paul food drive will be taking place at St Ann's Academy from October 1st to October 12th. High school students please drop your food donation in front of the school office. Elementary students will be collecting food in their individual classrooms. This event is organized by our grade 12 students. Thank-you for your support!

SAPA FALL FUNDRAISER – DAVIDSON ORCHARDS

Our St. Ann's Parents' Association (SAPA) is organizing the apple fall fundraiser with Davidson Orchards again this year. All funds raised go to support student extracurricular events and other SAPA initiatives to enhance our school community. Information about the apple fundraiser from Davidson Orchards was sent home **Monday, September 17th**. Thanks in advance for your support! All orders are due in to office by **Friday, October 5th**.

SAA WEEKLY—FREQUENCY

In an effort to streamline communication, we plan on sending home the SAA Weekly (school communication email) twice monthly. We will send the SAA Weekly home on the first Friday of each month, with a Mid-Month Newsletter in the middle of each month. Of course, you will continue to receive emails as more pressing topics come up during the school year. Clear and effective communication is very important to us.

For latest updates and reminders, please follow us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/stannskamloops/>



WALKATHON INFORMATION

On Monday, September 17, your child received a St. Ann's Academy Walkathon pledge sheet. The Walkathon will take place on **Friday, October 5**. ***Students can continue to collect pledges after the Walkathon up until our Final Walkathon Assembly on October 31.*** This event is our major school fundraiser and the funds collected this year will support initiatives that have been determined from student input. Last year, thanks to your generous support, we were able to meet the request of students and installed two additional drinking fountains and tables for outdoor eating on the upper field. We are very appreciative of the generous donations from our families and the Kamloops community in support of our school.

Early Daily Draws

Students may start to bring in money and pledges on **Tuesday, October 9**. Your child will be entered into a random daily draw once for every \$25 that he/she collects in pledges. In order to be entered into the daily draws, the money and pledge forms must be turned into the main office by 9:00 AM each day. Elementary students may turn in their money and pledge forms to their classroom teachers while high school students may bring it directly to the office. Daily draw prizes this year include gift cards to

Subway, Aberdeen Mall and Starbucks. All money brought in prior to and including October 9th will be included in the **first draw**. On the morning of October 10, the students will receive from their classroom or homeroom teachers one draw ticket(s) for each \$25 they collect. They have until 2:00 pm that day to enter their tickets into the draw barrel (which can be found at the main office). Early draws will take place on October 10, 11, 12, 15 and 16.

We will continue to collect money up until October 31 but to be entered in the final Walkathon prize draws, funds must be in by October 26. Money turned in after October 26 will **not** go towards additional tickets for daily draws or towards class averages for fundraising amounts.

If your child collects \$100 or more in pledges, he/she will receive a special SAA t-shirt.

Elementary students should be supervised when collecting pledges door-to-door to ensure safety at all times.

All money and pledge forms must be returned to the school on or before Friday, October 26 to ensure that students are entered into the draw for final prizes which will be drawn at our Final Walkathon Assembly on October 31.

Our goal this year is to raise \$30,000. We appreciate your support of this major school fundraiser.

Unused pledge forms must be returned to the school.

[Walkathon Volunteers Needed for October 5, 2018](#)

Are you looking for some Parent Participation hours? We need your help!

We are in need of parent volunteers to help supervise at the various check-in stations along the Walkathon route. Parent volunteers are also needed to assist in the lunch preparations in the canteen. **If you are able to volunteer, please contact Ms. Spina at dspina@st-anns.ca**

Please note that all parent volunteers who help out at St. Ann's Academy **must have a current Criminal Record Check on file at the school office**. If you need more information, please contact our main office.

We thank our parent volunteers for their help in supporting this school event!

2017-2018 SAA YEARBOOKS

The 2017-2018 school yearbooks have arrived and we are very excited to share them with our school community. Special thanks to Mrs. Bruneau, Ms. Reiswig and the yearbook team for the many hours they devoted to creating such an amazing keepsake!

Each family will receive one complimentary yearbook. Yearbooks will be sent home Tuesday, September 18th with the youngest child in each family. If you wish to purchase additional yearbooks, please contact Ms. Reiswig at mreiswig@st-anns.ca. The cost to purchase additional yearbooks is \$45.00.

CRUSADER WEAR DAY – K-10 (Non-Uniform Day)

Once a month, all students have the opportunity to participate in 'Crusader Wear Day'. Students are encouraged to wear SAA Crusader shirts and/or pants to show off their school spirit. SAA Physical Education gym strip (in Elementary) may be worn during the warmer weather on Crusader Wear Day. Students may prefer to wear regular school uniform on these days instead of Crusader Wear. Our next Crusader Wear Day of the year will be held on **Friday, October 26th**. *Students are reminded to dress in accordance with our school dress code on non-uniform days.*

DRESS DOWN DAY FOR CHARITY – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12 (Grades K-10)

Thanks to your generous support of the Terry Fox Run held last week, **\$479.00** will be donated to The Terry Fox Foundation. Our next Dress Down Day For Charity will be held on **Friday, October 12**. Students are invited to wear a Sport Jersey and/or red instead of the school uniform, and bring in a loonie or toonie in support of **JumpStart**. **Jumpstart** is a registered charity that helps kids from financially disadvantaged families participate in organized sports and physical activity. Thank you for your support.

TOP MARKS UNIFORM – CUSTOMER SERVICE DATES

Top Marks Customer Service dates are as follows:
Tuesday October 9th, and Tuesday October 23rd. All Customer Service events take place in the SAA Meeting Room from 2:00-3:30 PM. All students in grades K-10 should now be in Top Marks uniforms. Any old SAA uniforms can be dropped off at the school office by end of the day October 11th for donation. These uniforms will be sent to either Tanzania or Nicaragua, thank-you for your donation!

LOOKING FOR BILLET FAMILIES FOR NET RETREAT MEMBERS/ VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for three billet homes to host NET Retreat Team members. There are 7 team members in total (4 ladies, 3 men). The ladies will stay in groups of two while the men will need to all stay in one home together. The team will be arriving on Thursday November 22nd in the evening and will be leaving on Friday November 30th. Please visit: <https://www.bc.netcanada.ca/hosthomes> for further information regarding hosting and resources for the host families, thank-you in advance for your support!

LIFETOUCH & SHUTTERFLY

New for this fall: Free Shutterfly 8 x 8 photo book if you order your SAA school photos online. SAA families who purchase their school photos on <https://my.lifetouch.ca/> will receive a FREE Shutterfly photo book. You can expect to receive your school photo order packages in 2-3 weeks.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry night will be taking place for all St Ann's grade 11 & 12 students starting October 14th at 4:00PM at St Ann's Academy. Following youth ministry night will be a 6:00PM Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The night will wrap up with a Pizza Dinner in the church hall! Please come out and take part in this fantastic event!

PPP HOURS

All families are required to do 20 volunteer hours to fulfill their family commitment to St Ann's Academy as outlined in the Parent Participation Program document signed at the beginning of the school year. Please ensure that you have a valid criminal record check on file at the office before volunteering, thank-you for your continued support!

PRAYER BOX

We invite you to place your prayer intentions into the prayer box located in the front entrance of the school in front of the Crucifix. Every Sunday a Priest will pray over the prayer box. Intentions will be kept private within the locked box. Our grade 10 students together with the Faith Development Team have taken on this initiative, thank-you for your support of their fantastic project!

ELEMENTARY NEWS

ELEMENTARY ART CLUB (Grade K-7)

Information was emailed to elementary parents on Friday, Sept. 28. Space is very limited - so if your child is interested in joining the Elementary Art Club, please submit registration form to the office as soon as possible. Forms can be found on the School Website under 'General Information', then 'SAA Newsletter and Student Forms'. Registration deadline is October 12.

ELEMENTARY BAKING CLUB (Grade K-7)

Information was emailed to elementary parents on Friday, Sept. 28. Space is very limited - so if your child is interested in joining the Elementary Baking Club, please submit registration form to the office as soon as possible. Forms can be found on the School Website under 'General Information', then 'SAA Newsletter and Student Forms'. Registration deadline is October 12.

WALKATHON DISMISSAL TIME – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

Elementary students will be dismissed from classes at **1:00 PM** on Friday, October 5, but parents may choose to sign-out their child earlier that day depending on when the class returns from the Walkathon (return times to the school vary by grade level due to varying distances being walked). Parents are asked to please sign-out their child with the classroom teacher directly. Supervision will be provided on the lower field from 1:00 to 1:15 PM. **Parents must pick up their child(ren) by 1:15 PM on Friday, October 5 as there is no supervision provided after that time.** SAA School buses will depart at **1:15 PM** on Friday, October 5.

PLC MEETINGS

Elementary teachers will have the opportunity to meet as part of a Professional Learning Community (PLC) again this school year. PLC meetings will take place one or two Thursdays each month from **8:00 to 8:45 AM**. The next PLC meeting of the year will be held on Thursday, October 4th. Future elementary PLC meetings are noted on the school calendar. Students will be supervised outside on the lower playground until 8:40 AM to allow teachers the opportunity to meet, collaborate, and plan for ways to improve student learning. Supervision will be provided by other elementary staff members and the vice principal during this time. *If you do not wish for your child to go outside in the morning, please plan on arriving at school at 8:40 on PLC days.*

RISING STARS CHOIR – Grades 4-7

Any student in grades 4 to 7 who wish to join the elementary school choir (Rising Stars choir) are asked to please attend the next rehearsal on **Tuesday, October 2** at 8:00 AM in the Elementary Music Room. Please note that the regular rehearsal time will be held every Tuesday from 8 AM to 8:25 AM. Students should not arrive before 8:00 AM as there is no supervision provided before that time. Please contact Mrs. Langevin, our Kindergarten teacher who has offered to help with the choir during the transition time as we look to fill our Elementary Music position, if you have any questions. You can reach Mrs. Langevin at mlangevin@st-anns.ca

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING – GRADES 3-7

Upcoming Cross Country Meets are as follows:

- Tuesday, October 2 @ Westsyde Centennial Park (hosted by Arthur Stevenson)
- Wednesday, October 10 @ Dallas Elementary (District Championships)

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Pearce at dpearce@st-anns.ca or Mrs. Mayne at imayne@st-anns.ca

ELEMENTARY VOLLEYBALL – GRADES 4-7

Elementary volleyball season will be beginning soon and is open to all students in Grades 4-7. All tier wills be playing **Triple Ball** again this year. Games take place after school hours and teams will play against other schools in Kamloops. Practices can happen after school for some teams, while other teams will practice before school or at lunch. All students interested in playing school volleyball must attend the try-outs or let Mr. Pearce know if they can't attend due to special circumstances. *Every effort will be made to ensure that all students who wish to play elementary volleyball are placed on a team.*

Important Dates & Info:

Monday, October 1 – **BOYS** Volleyball try-outs from 3:00 to 4:00 PM (SAA gym)

There will be no more try-outs for the Girls teams. Team lists will be posted on Wednesday, October 3.

The **Tier 1 Boys** and **Tier 1 Girls** will practice on Thursday, October 4 from 3:00 to 4:00 PM.

Game days are as follows:

Tier 1 Boys and Tier 2 Boys –Tuesdays after school

Tier 1 Girls and Tier 2 Girls – Thursdays after school

Tier 3 Boys and Tier 3 Girls – Wednesdays after school

Practice days and times are to be determined once try-outs are completed and teams are formed. For more information, please contact the Elementary Athletic Director, Mr. Pearce, at dpearce@st-anns.ca

HALLOWEEN AT SAA – BLACK AND ORANGE DAY

Students are welcome to wear **black** and **orange** coloured clothing on Tuesday, October 31 instead of the regular school uniform. SAA students do not wear Halloween costumes to school but may choose to attend the Harvest Dance on October 26 and dress up in costumes for that event.

HARVEST DANCE – Friday, October 26th from 5:00 to 8:00 PM

Ms. Makse and the Grade Seven class are organizing a **Harvest Dance** for Elementary students. This is a family-friendly event and often parents dress up for the occasion as well. Elementary students do not wear Halloween costumes to school but instead wear **black** and **orange** clothing on October 31st to school. The Harvest Dance is always a highlight of the year, and students are permitted to wear Halloween costumes to this event. The event takes place Friday, October 26th from 5:00 to 8:00 PM in the school gym.

Cost for the dance is **\$3.00 per person or \$10.00 per family**. Students are encouraged to dress up in Halloween costumes for the Harvest Dance; however please be considerate of our Catholic beliefs when choosing your costumes (**no weapons; not gory in nature or against our school values**). Families can pre-order pizza for that evening, and order forms will be sent home after Thanksgiving from classroom teachers. Families are asked to please bring a nut-free snack to share.

Thank you for supporting this fundraiser for the Grade Seven class year-end field trip to Sunnybrae.

COMMUNITY NEWS

KAMLOOPS WORD WALK

Join the group from Words Alive Kamloops and The Society for the Written Arts in partnership with the Kamloops Museum and Archives/ TNRD Library System on October 19th from 11:00AM-3:00PM at the downtown Kamloops Library for a fun community event. Please see: www.WordsAliveKamloops.com/community-day for more information on this fantastic community event!

TEEN MINDFULNESS GROUP

Please see message below from the Kamloops YMCA-YWCA:

*“Our exciting new program is called the **Teen Mindfulness program!***

The Teen Mindfulness Group is a Y Mind program that supports teens ages 13 to 17 who are experiencing symptoms of anxiety to learn and practice healthy coping strategies to better manage stress and anxiety. Our groups provide an opportunity for teens to learn within a safe, comfortable, and fun environment, surrounded by other teens experiencing similar thoughts and feelings. The group meets weekly for six weeks and is run in a welcoming and supportive environment. Program facilitators are mental health practitioners and are skilled at teaching healthy coping skills based on evidence-based approaches of Mindfulness and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (a Cognitive - Behavioural approach). Participants engage in fun and creative activities to promote learning and artistic expression and have the opportunity to connect with others who are going through similar experiences, so they don't feel alone. Participants also enjoy a complimentary YMCA fitness membership for the duration of the program. Attendance at an information session and registration are required. Our first cycle of the Teen Mindfulness Program will have information sessions on October 3rd and October 10th from 6:30pm-8:00pm at 436 Battle street (brown house between the downtown Y and the Y parking lot), with the program beginning October 24th and running until November 28th from 6:30pm-8:00pm at 436 Battle Street.

*Our second cycle of **Mind Fit** (ages 13-19) will run this fall at the John Tod Y (150 Wood Street). The information sessions will be taking place on September 20th and September 27th from 3:30pm-5:30pm, with the program beginning October 11th and running until November 29th from 3:30pm-5:30pm.*

I've had a few questions about the differences between Mind Fit and the Teen Mindfulness program. Mind Fit is an 8-week program that runs for 2 hours each week with one hour being spent on physical activity. The Teen Mindfulness program is a 6-week program that runs for 1.5 hours each week and is art therapy based. Teens can apply to participate in multiple programs, however we don't recommend doing the programs at the same time. Instead we recommend taking one program per season and spreading them out throughout the year.”

Please contact Jenna Nickle at the Kamloops YMCA-YWCA via email for further information: jenna.nickle@kamloopsy.ca or phone 250-319-6648.