

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Dec 1-3: Sr. Boys Volleyball Provincials

Dec 2: Dress down for SPCA (Animal prints & Pictures) – **NON-UNIFORM DAY**

Dec 7: KINDERGARTEN - Skating

Dec 7: **EARLY DISMISSAL** - K-3@12:00, 4-7@12:10, 8-12@12:30; bus departs @12:45

Dec 8: Full School Mass (**MASS DRESS REQUIRED for ALL STUDENTS**) **ALL are welcome to attend! Please join us for this special celebration!**

Dec 8: Elementary Pizza Day – **No Munch-a-lunch today**

Dec 8: HIGH SCHOOL – Gingerbread and Movie Night @ 6:30pm

Dec 9: Crusaderwear – **NON-UNIFORM DAY**

Dec 12: **Hamper items due!**

Dec 12: GRADE 3 - Skating

Dec 12: Coffee House @ 6:30pm (Details to follow)

Dec 13: SAPA Meeting – 6:30pm via Zoom (Email sapa@st-anns.ca for the link to join)

Dec 14-16: Jr & Sr Boys and Girls Fulton Cup @ TRU

Dec 14: K-7 Christmas Concert @ 1:00 & 6:00 (PLEASE NOTE CORRECTION OF DATE)

Dec 16: Full School Assembly, **Early Dismissal** & Report cards go home

Dec 19 – Jan 2: CHRISTMAS BREAK

Jan 3: First day back from Christmas Break

UPCOMING EVENTS

EARLY DISMISSAL – Wednesday, December 7th

A friendly reminder that Wednesday is an Early Dismissal Day. Students in grades K-3 will be dismissed at 12:00, grades 4-7 at 12:10 and grades 8-12 at 12:30. Please remember to come to the LATER pick up time if you have students in different grades. Buses depart at 12:45.

FULL SCHOOL MASS – Thursday, December 8th @ 9:35am

All students will be attending mass here in the SAA Gymnasium on Thursday. We are asking parents to **help us, by ensuring that your son or daughter is in proper mass attire (button down mass shirts for boys and girls, including ties for boys)**. Elementary and high school ties are available for purchase at the office at any time: Elementary ties \$20; High School ties \$25. For some time now we were lending out clothing at the office for those who had forgotten mass dress but there has been a

huge increase in demand for this and it is no longer feasible for us to do that. We simply cannot outfit 30+ students for every mass day. **On mass days, if students are not in mass dress, they will be calling home to have proper mass dress brought to the school.** We recognize that this is a huge inconvenience to families so we are asking for your cooperation ahead of time to ensure that we don't have to ask you to do this.

PLEASE JOIN US for this last mass of the 2022 year! We would love to see as many parents and family members as possible to share in this special celebration.

ELEMENTARY PIZZA DAY – Thursday, December 8th

A friendly reminder that our next Elementary Pizza Day is coming up this week. Pizza needed to be pre-ordered at the beginning of the year to participate in this program. Please note that there will be **NO MUNCH-A-LUNCH on this day** so if your child isn't receiving pizza you will need to pack a lunch for him or her.

HIGH SCHOOL GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST & MOVIE Thursday, December 8th from 6:30-9:00 in the SAA Gymnasium

This is an upcoming activity for students in Grades 8-12. Students will be building Gingerbread houses for the 'Gingerbread House Concert' and then there will be a movie shown in the gym. Students can wear their comfy clothes and bring a pillow for the movie! Tickets for this event needed to be purchased by TODAY so if your student doesn't already have a ticket, they will not be able to attend.

CRUSADERWEAR DAYS – Friday, December 9th

Our next Crusaderwear Day is coming up on Friday, December 9th. This is a day when students can display their Crusader pride by wearing their SAA t-shirts and hoodies with athletic bottoms. GO CRUSADERS GO!

CHRISTMAS COFFEE HOUSE - Monday, December 12th @ 6:30pm

- Enjoy performances by our talented high school band and choir.
- Doors will open at 6:15 and seating is first come, first serve.
- Admission is by donation at the door.
- There will also be a silent auction and desserts, coffee, tea and juice will also be served.

Come out and support our High School Music Department and enjoy a casual evening of great entertainment!

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS – Monday, December 12th

Each grade at SAA has been assigned a hamper and the list of items needed for your hamper should have been emailed to you by your son or daughter's teacher. Please have these items in to the school by **Monday, December 12th**, as the hampers will be delivered that week.

ELEMENTARY K-7 CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Wednesday, December 14 @ 1:00pm & 6:00pm

- Please note the correction of the date of the K-7 Christmas Concert. The correct date is December 14th and there will be two performances; **an afternoon performance @ 1:00 (doors will open at 12:40) and an evening performance @ 6:00 (doors will open at 5:30)**

SAA STORE - The upcoming dates and times of store hours are as follows: **Monday, December 6th, Monday, January 9th and Monday, January 23rd from 2-3:00.** The store will be set up right inside the main doors, just outside the front office. This is a chance to pick up your SAA Crusader wear! We also have House Shirts in stock now, so if your son or daughter has lost or outgrown his or her house shirt, a new one can be purchased through the store or the front office for \$12. Please note that the SAA Store does not sell uniform items.

LOST & FOUND - All lost and found items are set up on tables in the high school and elementary hallways. If your child/children are missing any items, please have them check these lost and found tables. If you are in the school for the upcoming coffee house, Christmas concert or to drop off/pick up your kids please have a look at the tables to claim any lost items.

All unclaimed items will be packed up on December 16th and given to charity.

LIBRARY NEWS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Scholastic Fall Book Fair. A total of just over \$4400 in sales was made which earns our Library 60% in rewards! Thank you very much to the volunteers who helped throughout the week making the Book Fair a HUGE success!! Can't wait to see you all at the next Scholastic Book Fair which will take place in the Spring. Dates and details coming in the new year.

Elementary Birthday Book Club

Elementary students will be bringing home information about the SAA Birthday Book Club. All NEW book donations (valued under \$15.00 - please no board books) must be handed into the Library by Friday, June 9th, 2023. Thank you for your generosity!

High School Study Sessions

The Library will be open at lunch for High School students, starting Tuesday, Sept. 20th, on the following days:

Tuesdays - Grade 8's and 9's

Thursdays - Grade 10's, 11's, and 12's

Bring your lunch and enjoy a quiet place to work or study!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CANTEEN HELPERS - If you have an hour a day to spare around lunchtime to help deliver our elementary lunch meals to the classrooms, please email Mrs. Costa at acosta@st-anns.ca.

FROM THE FAITH CORNER

SEASON OF ADVENT – In the Catholic faith, we celebrate the holy season of Advent, a season of reflective preparation for the Nativity of Christ at Christmas. The season of Advent is a very special time of the year that sometimes gets lost in the bright lights of the Christmas season it precedes. To help keep the meaning of Christmas close to your heart, you may want to consider adding a faith-based activity to your spiritual life. To learn more about the season of Advent, please check out the link below:

<https://www.learnreligions.com/season-of-advent-catholic-church-542458>

LINK TO HALLOW APP – Free!!!

Here is the link for parents to try Hallow for free: hallow.com/ciskd/stannacademy

SAA FAITH DEVELOPMENT TEAM – The St. Ann's Faith Development Team is a small group of parents and staff who support the discovery and deepening of the Catholic Faith in our school community. We do this with the help of "Faith Reps", parents who are open to sharing and fostering our faith in the parent community, helping link other parents to school and parish resources. We also host faith-based activities within the school. If you are interested in a role with our Faith Development Team, please email fdt@st-anns.ca.

FAITH-BASED SERIES – The Faith Development Team will be hosting an evening event once a month. We will gather @ 7:00pm on the first Thursday of every month to watch a short faith-based series, followed by fellowship and conversation.

PRAYER SESSIONS– A member from the Faith Development Team will be in the school chapel on Tuesday mornings from 8-8:30am, leading prayer for our school community and families. All our welcome to join us!

NEWS FROM THE SAA OFFICE

PARKING at DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

We kindly ask that parents not park in the staff parking spots along the construction fence. These spots are quite a bit shorter because of the construction fence and that is why these stalls are not being used for staff.

PAYMENTS by E-TRANSFER

Please note that when paying by e-transfer, you can combine amounts and send just as one e-transfer. There is no need to send 4 separate e-transfers for different things. You just need to include who and what the payment is for in the message section. Email address for e-transfers is payments@st-anns.ca

MUNCH-A-LUNCH

Our high school students can order directly at the canteen, however our orders for elementary students are done through a program called, Munch-a-Lunch. Each month there is an “ordering window” to place your orders for the following month. We will try VERY hard to make sure that you know when these ordering windows are open. We will continue to send out reminder emails marked ***TIME SENSITIVE***. We sincerely apologize but we simply cannot accept late orders this year so we hope these additional methods are helpful to you. Please send payments for munch-a-lunch to payments@st-anns.ca and to indicate who and what it is for in the message section. Please also find the links below for your convenience.

NEW Parents - <https://munchalunch.com/schools/StAnns>

RETURNING Parents - <https://munchalunch.com/login>

NOTE: Munch-a-Lunch will not be available on Elementary Pizza Days.

ATTENDANCE - At the beginning of the new school year in September the start time for school was changed from 8:30 am to 8:25 am. This means students should be arriving at 8:20 am at the latest in order to be present in their classes by 8:25. If

students are arriving after 8:25 am they will need to stop by the office for a late slip so they are not marked absent. Thank you all for making this necessary adjustment in your schedules.

REPORTING A STUDENT ABSENCE - Thank you to our parents for diligently reporting their child's absence(s). Please note that it is very important for student absences to be reported and for students to check in at the office if they're coming late or leaving early. In the event of something such as a fire drill (or worse an actual fire!), we have to ensure that *every* student is accounted for. Your children's safety is important to us :) A friendly reminder that we have a number of ways to report a student's absence. Parents may:

- use the school app
- use the website attendance notification feature on the website (st-anns.ca)
- email attendance@st-anns.ca
- call the school office at 250-372-5452 (ext 118)

BUSES - A reminder that if your son or daughter only rides the bus occasionally, he or she **MUST** have a bus pass from the school office. The bus passes are \$3.50 and they must be shown to the driver or the student will not be permitted to ride the bus that day. Please also note that even if bus usage is only occasional, students must be pre-registered to ride that particular bus, as space is limited.

CANTEEN – The updated canteen menus are available on the SAA Website as well as on the SAA Calendar.

HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE SAA APP FROM THE APP STORE? Download it today for quick access to school information!

Please feel free to direct general office questions to officestaff@st-anns.ca and your email will come to all three of us here in the office.

ATHLETICS

ELEMENTARY ATHLETICS – Basketball season is upon us!! If your son or daughter was interested in playing basketball they should have already contacted Mr. Pearce and attended tryouts and first practices.

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS - SAA is extremely proud of our Sr. Boys and Girls Volleyball teams who participated in the provincial championships this past weekend! The girls finished with an incredible 6-1 record to finish 5th in the province. Their only loss was a 4 set match versus the 1st ranked team in the province. Unbelievable effort by all the girls, they played amazing!

The boys' team finished 11th and played the last couple games with only 7 players, due to sickness and injuries. They played well above their skill set and beat some really good teams. They finish with a 3-4 record.

GO CRUSADERS GO!!