

FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- Feb 8: SAPA Meeting – 6:30pm via Zoom (Email sapa@st-anns.ca for the link to join)
- Feb 9: **EARLY DISMISSAL** – K-3@12:00, 4-7@12:10, 8-12@12:30; bus departs @12:45
- Feb 10: **No Full School Mass –**Cancelled****
- Feb 11: **DRESS DOWN for CHARITY** - Heart & Stroke – RED/WHITE ****NEW****
- Feb 14 & 15: Talent Show Auditions (See details below)
- Feb 16: Science Fair – Grades 5, 8 & 9
- Feb 17: Elementary Pizza Day
- Feb 18: **NO SCHOOL** – Pro D Day
- Feb 21: **NO SCHOOL** – Family Day (STAT Holiday)
- Feb 22: Local School Committee Meeting – 6:00pm (Email officeadmin@st-anns.ca for Zoom link to join)
- Feb 22: Episode 4 of ‘The Search’, via Zoom with the Faith Development Team
- Feb 23: **Pink Shirt Day**
- Feb 25: **Crusaderwear**
- Feb 28: Talent Show Recording

MARCH CALENDAR

- Mar 2: **EARLY DISMISSAL** - K-3@12:00, 4-7@12:10, 8-12@12:30; bus departs @12:45
- Mar 4: **DRESS DOWN for CHARITY** (dress down theme to follow)
- Mar 9: Talent Show will be shared virtually
- Mar 11: **CRUSADERWEAR**, Last Day before Spring Break & Report Cards go home
- Mar 14-25: SPRING BREAK**
- Mar 28: First Day Back from Spring Break
- Mar 29: Local School Committee (LSC) Meeting -6:00pm (Email officeadmin@st-anns.ca for Zoom link to join)

FROM THE FAITH CORNER

SAA FAITH DEVELOPMENT TEAM – The Faith Development Team of SAAs invites

you to join them on the FOURTH Tuesday of the month, via ZOOM, as they continue the 7-part series 'The Search'. The Search is a groundbreaking series that tackles the key questions of every human heart: "Why are we here?", "What's life all about?", "What happens when we die?" In this series, Chris Stefanick and experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence. Whether you're a practiced inquirer or a jaded skeptic, 'The Search' will speak to you. You may be reassured by some parts and challenged by others. Either way, you'll find a lot here to think about! Email officeadmin@st-anns.ca for the Zoom link to **join us for the fourth session, on Tuesday, February 25th**. Note that it is not necessary to do all parts of the series...join us for one or for all! Please find below, the link to *all* of the sessions if you would like to view it at your own convenience.

<https://www.augustineinstitute.org/program-categories/the-search>

1st HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

If your son or daughter is in Grade 2 or Grade 7 and he or she is planning to receive First Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, please ensure that Fr. Derrick is aware of your wishes and that you have contacted him at frderrickc@gmail.com. Please keep these students in your prayers as they journey this year to prepare to receive these sacraments. This is a very special time for these students and their families!

NEWS FROM THE SAA OFFICE

ATTENDANCE – REMINDER FOR 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.

TAX RECEIPTS - Tax receipts for both tuition and Walkathon are being sent home this week. They will be given to the youngest sibling in each family so please check you children's agendas later this week.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

If you have lost your school photo proofs or would simply like to place an online order, here are the instructions to do so:

-Go to **my.lifetouch.ca** and select the button that says "**Start Using Student ID**"

-Then enter our school information: Kamloops, BC, St. Ann's Academy

-Then enter the student information: Student Name, Student # and select

Parent/Guardian (NOTE: the office can provide you with your child's student # if you don't have it) This will then show you the digital version of your child's proofs and from there you can look through the items and packages to place an order.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Several St. Ann's families have kindly donated a number of gently used uniform items over the past few months and our pile is getting pretty big! We would love to have someone help us organize it so if you have a few hours to spare and would like to help out, please email Arlene at **attendance@st-anns.ca**.

WATER BOTTLES

Please remember to send your children to school with their own water refillable water bottle. It has become a bit of a habit that students come to the office to request cups for water. Although we will continue to provide them if absolutely necessary, we would like to minimize how many cups we are giving out each day. Thank you!!!

CANTEEN – The canteen menus are available on the SAA Website as well as on the SAA Calendar. Watch for the March menu to be added soon!

ELEMENTARY PIZZA DAYS

Our upcoming elementary pizza day is **Thursday, February 17th**. Please note that even if you haven't ordered pizza yet for the upcoming months you are still able to do so. Only those students who have pre-ordered will receive pizza on those days. Your son or daughter should have brought home a monthly order form from their classroom teacher but below is the link to also print more forms, for your convenience. The canteen will be closed for grade K-7 on these 2 days so if you have not ordered pizza for your child, please pack them a lunch from home. **Also, the elementary pizza day which had to be canceled in December has been rescheduled to Thursday, June 2nd.**

<https://st-anns.ca/wp-content/uploads/Monthly-Elementary-Pizza-Order-Form.pdf>

ELEMENTARY MUSIC ROOM UPDATE

Many changes have happened in the Elementary Music Room in the past few weeks. Our room has had a makeover and resources have been brought in to ensure that SAA Elementary students get the best music program possible, such as hand drums and world music instruments on loan to us by the [Kamloops Music Collective](#). Thank you Kamloops Music Collective for supporting our music program and we appreciate your contributions to our growing music program and for all the work you do in our community! Thank you also to Mrs. Durno, our Elementary music teacher, for making this happen! We'd like to share a photo of some of these changes. The grade 6s you see are volunteer chalk artists who are sharing their talents to spruce up the storage closet and door. This is so great!



**A new beginning for 1
Elementary Music Ro**

FYI: From the Canadian Centre for Child Protection

Online Dangers: Cyberbullying and Online Child Sexual Exploitation

Expert panel: What parents and caregivers need to know

As a parent or caregiver, there's a lot to learn when it comes to how young people interact online. This panel discussion will tackle some of the most difficult topics youth, parents, and caregivers face today — cyberbullying and online child sexual exploitation. Our panel of experts will define the issues, tell you what to look out for, and give advice on how to talk to your kids about these topics. They'll also answer any questions you may have, so you have the tools you need to have open and supportive conversations about this serious issue.

Join us on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 (SESSION TONIGHT!)

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM EST

Register here: <https://proofexperiences.swoogo.com/onlinedangers/registration>

This is a virtual event (see email confirmation for link to join).

You must be registered to access the live virtual event session.

You are welcome to share this panel with parents and caregivers in your community. This session will be recorded so parents can still register to view the panel, even if they cannot attend that evening. There is also the opportunity to submit questions directly.

We are also hoping to develop a recorded session that can be shared with parents and caregivers, and used to facilitate further discussions. If this is something you would be interested in, please let me know and I can contact you when this is available.

In addition to this, we have a variety of free resources both for parents and for educators:

For parents/caregivers

- [Parenting Tweens and Teens in the Digital World](#) – This booklet includes information for parents and caregivers on current trends and online risks such as self/peer exploitation, online luring and cyberbullying.
- [ProtectKidsOnline.ca](#) – This website is designed to assist parents and caregivers in protecting their children online and reducing their risk of victimization with information about the ever-changing online interests of young people, the potential risks they face, and proactive strategies to help keep families safe while online. We also have a [postcard](#) that can be handed out.

For use with children/youth

- [Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Lessons](#) – This free electronic lesson bundle comes with 1 lesson per grade for kindergarten to Grade 8. The lessons address safe and unsafe secrets, personal boundaries, consent, healthy/safe relationships, safety considerations for electronic devices, as well as how to get help from a safe grown-up.
- [Online Safety Lessons](#) – This free electronic lesson bundle comes with 1 lesson per grade for Grades 3 to 8. The lessons address what to do when you see something “weird” online, the risks of sharing photos/videos, healthy and unhealthy relationships, consent, and how to get help.
- [ZoeandMolly.ca](#) – An interactive series that gives children in Grades 3 and 4 an opportunity to have some fun while exploring what it means to be safe while playing games online.

- We also have a variety of activity books for ages 4-17 available for download or in print format on our website: <https://protectchildren.ca/en/order/products/free-resources/>