

# FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Feb 2-17: Uniform Thought Exchange is open (<https://tejoin.com/scroll/534173969>)

Feb 3-4: Sr. Girls' Basketball Tournament @ SAA

**Feb 5: Catholic Schools Week begins with Masses - lets see all our kiddos in uniform!! (10:30 Holy Family ad 11:30am Sacred Heart)**

Feb 6: GRADE 1 – Skating

Feb 6 - 10: Catholic Schools celebrations at SAA

Feb 9: Grade 11 & 12 Formal Dance

Feb 13 & 14: Talent Show Auditions (Details below)

Feb 13: Swim Club Practice 3:15pm at TCC

Feb 13: KINDERGARTEN – Rivercity Gymnastics

Feb 14: SAPA Meeting – 6:30pm via Zoom (Email [sapa@st-anns.ca](mailto:sapa@st-anns.ca) for the link to join)

Feb 16: Elementary Pizza Day – **No Munch-a-lunch today**

Feb 16, 17 & 18: Sr. Girls Basketball @ Okanagans

Feb 17: **NO SCHOOL – Pro D Day**

Feb 20: **NO SCHOOL – STAT (Family Day)**

Feb 21: Grad Photo RE-TAKES

Feb 21: Elementary Student Led Conferences (Details to follow)

Feb 22: Ash Wednesday and first day of Lent

Feb 22: Pink Shirt Day

Feb 23, 24 & 25: Sr. Boys Basketball @ Okanagans

Feb 23: GRADE 4 – Rivercity Gymnastics

Feb 24: NON-UNIFORM DAY – Dress down for Heart & Stroke: Red and white

Feb 24: GRADE 1 – Rivercity Gymnastics

Feb 24: Elementary Assembly @ 1:30pm

Feb 27: KINDERGARTEN – Rivercity Gymnastics

Feb 27: Swim Club Practice 3:15pm at TCC

Feb 27: SAPA Spring Raffle Tickets due (all sold and unsold need to be turned in)

Feb 28: NON-UNIFORM DAY – House Spirit Day

Feb 28: Local School Committee Meeting @ 6:00pm - To be confirmed

## MARCH CALENDAR

MAR 1: Early Dismissal

MAR 1-4: Sr Girls Basketball Provincials

MAR 3: Dress Down Day  
MAR 3: GRADE 1 – Rivercity Gymnastics  
MAR 3: SAPA Spring Raffle Draw  
MAR 6 &7: Talent Show rehearsals Starting at 3:00pm  
MAR 7: SAPA Meeting at 6:30pm please email [SAPA@St-anns.ca](mailto:SAPA@St-anns.ca) for details  
MAR 8: In Person Talent Show  
MAR 8: Used Uniform Sale  
MAR 8-11: Sr Boys Basketball Provincials  
MAR 9: Elementary Pizza Day – **No Munch-a-lunch today**  
MAR 9: GRADE 4 – Rivercity Gymnastics  
MAR 10: NON-UNIFORM DAY – Crusaderwear  
MAR 13: GRADE 6 – Rivercity Gymnastics  
MAR 14: SAPA Meeting at 6:30pm please email [SAPA@St-anns.ca](mailto:SAPA@St-anns.ca) for details  
MAR 15: SAA Players will be performing a Matinee and an Evening show  
MAR 15: GRADE 5 – Rivercity Gymnastics  
MAR 17: Report Cards go home  
MAR 17: Early Dismissal  
MAR 18-April 2 Spring Break

### **A Note from Principal Niwa:**

Our first Thought Exchange, regarding the Canteen, was very insightful. As soon as I go over those results with Mrs. Lorraine, we will make them more broadly available.

Our next Thought Exchange will be regarding our uniform. Every school that raises this topic seems to have a lively discussion. To be sure we're capturing the ideas of all members of our community, we've created another Thought Exchange.

Please share your ideas at <https://tejoin.com/scroll/534173969>. This Exchange will be open until midnight on February 17<sup>th</sup> (two weeks from now).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Catholic Schools Week Updates!**

Catholic Schools Week is celebrated in Catholic Schools across the world. We are planning some great activities to celebrate how wonderful it is to attend a Catholic School. Please see the attached calendar for the week's schedule.

To start the week, all students are asked to please wear their **SAA School Uniform** to Mass on **Sunday, February 5, 2023** to open Catholic Schools Week. Masses will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 8:30 AM and 11:30 AM, as well as at Holy Family Parish at 10:30 AM.

We are very grateful to SAPA for providing funds to pay for the food that we will enjoy throughout the week! We will start our school days with a pancake breakfast, which is free of charge and will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings beginning at 7:45 AM in our school cafeteria.

As in past years, we are once again asking parents to help cover supervision duty for our dedicated teaching staff during Catholic Schools Week as a sign of our appreciation for all they do. (Due to confidentiality reasons, we cannot have parents cover supervision for our CEAs but we will show our appreciation for them in another way during this week).

Parent volunteers are needed to help with outside supervision (Elementary) and indoor supervision (High School) during the week. Parents are able to earn Parent Participation Hours for their supervision help during Catholic Schools Week.

If you have a current Criminal Record Check on file at the school office and would like to help out, please sign up on the attached documents found here:

[Elementary Supervision Sign-up](#)

[Highschool Supervision Sign-up](#)

Thanks in advance to our parent community for their support of Catholic Schools Week 2023!

**Theme Days:** Each day of Catholic Schools Week, there will be a different dress theme and students are invited to dress accordingly. School uniforms are not required to be worn during Catholic Schools Week; however, **students must adhere to our school dress code – no leggings, spaghetti straps, shirts with inappropriate sayings or innuendos, or skirts shorter than 4 inches above the knee, please.**

- **Monday – Blue & Gold/Crusader Wear** Students may wear our school colours: Blue & Gold
- **Tuesday – PJ Day.** Students are invited to wear their PJ's to school.
- **Wednesday – Class Theme** Each class will determine their own dress theme for the day.
- **Thursday – Jersey/Hat Day.** Students are invited to wear their favourite team jersey and hat
- **Friday – House Colours.** Students may wear their House team colour.

We look forward to a fun-filled week!  
The Catholic Schools Week Committee

## Talent Show Auditions (Feb 13-14)

### St. Ann's Academy Talent Show - March 8, 2023

The Talent Show will be in person in the gym on Wednesday, March 8, 2023.

**Auditions:** Audition sign-up sheets will be available from Monday, January 30 until Friday, February 3. (All students must have all necessary pieces of their acts when they come to audition - costume, music, a copy of the lyrics, etc.)

High School:

- High School auditions will be made by appointment. Please see Mr. Cuzzetto.

Elementary:

- Monday, February 13th at 2:45 pm (K-3 auditions) in the elementary music room
- Tuesday, February 14th at 2:45 pm (4-7 auditions) in the elementary music room

(Parents, to avoid congestion in the parking lot, please park in visitor parking no earlier than 3:00, and your children will come out to you as they finish their auditions. Please meet them outside the front doors of the school building.)

**Rehearsals:**

Rehearsals will take place in the gym starting at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 6 (Act One acts) and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7 (Act Two acts).

### To: Participants/Parents

In preparing for the audition, please keep in mind the following points:

1. Each participant is allowed to be involved in only one act of no more than 4 minutes in length. Although, exceptions may be made for accompaniment.
2. No repeats for solo instrumental performances at the intermediate to senior level.
3. No lip-sync acts.
4. Vocal performances: Absolutely No Lyrics will be allowed on accompanying music - even during auditions. In the past, dubbing has not proven successful. You must have an instrumental backup only with a recorded or live accompaniment.
5. No technological accompaniment with piano performances. You must use the school piano/keyboard provided.
6. If your dance music has lyrics, or you are singing a song, you must provide a copy of your lyrics during the audition. All lyrics must be appropriate for Kindergarten to Grade 12.
7. Auditions must be performed in the costume you will be wearing on the day of the Talent Show. If you have no particular costume, mass dress must be worn.

Failure to adhere to any of the above requirements will automatically disqualify your performance from the Talent Show. These requirements must be met on the day of the audition. No exceptions.

If you know ahead of time that you will not be available on the days of the auditions, please attach a note to the sign-up form explaining your conflict. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Talent Show Committee

## Fawlty Towers Request

Who has started their spring cleaning early this year? Have a few large items that you are not quite sure what to do with? Have you considered offering them to our SAA Players?

The SAA Players is very excited to present three episodes of the famed British TV comedy, FAWLTY TOWERS, **March 15 and 16, 2023**. As we continue our rehearsal season we are starting to look for larger props and furniture items and we want to begin with our own community before having to shop at local thrift stores. If you might have any of the following items please contact Kevin Beliveau at [kbeliveau@st-anns.ca](mailto:kbeliveau@st-anns.ca) as soon as possible:

- hotel "front counter" - maybe 5-6 feet long, 4 feet high
- 4 small cafe-type tables
- 8 restaurant-type chairs
- 4 small table clothes (for above)
- a hutch or sidetable or wall buffet to set dishes
- 2 round "vase" tables
- 6 misc. old suitcases
- 1 vintage carpet - about 6 feet by 2 feet
- 1 vintage carpet - about 12 feet by 2 feet
- 1 foldable single-bed on wheels
- 2 bedside tables
- 1 wheelchair

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Elementary Birthday Book Club

Elementary students are encouraged to be a part of 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 is open at lunch for High School students, 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](mailto:acosta@st-anns.ca).

## **We Need Your Help!**

**SUPERVISION FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK** - Parent volunteers are needed to help with outside supervision (Elementary) and indoor supervision (High School) during the week. Parents are able to earn Parent Participation Hours for their supervision help during Catholic Schools Week.

If you have a current Criminal Record Check on file at the school office and would like to help out, please sign up on the attached documents found here:

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[Highschool Supervision Sign-up](#)

# **FROM THE FAITH CORNER**

**GIFTS & CLOTHING for SACRAMENTS** – St. Joseph’s Christian Book & Gift Supply Store carries an assortment of faith-based books and gifts but did you know that you can also order First Communion and Confirmation dresses and attire from them? Visit the store in person at 256 Nicola St, across from the Cathedral, or call Garry and Marcella at (778) 471-6100.

## **LINK TO HALLOW APP – Free!!!**

Here is the link for parents to try Hallow for free: [hallow.com/ciskd/stannacademy](https://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](mailto: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**

### **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](mailto:payments@st-anns.ca)

While we prefer etransfer please send one etransfer per family for all items and label as: **Family Name, Description of Payment** (eg: Wallace, Munch a lunch February and CSW). It is okay to combine all fees for fieldtrips, Munch a Lunch, Catholic Schools Week, athletic fees, etc.

### **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](mailto: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.

**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](http://st-anns.ca))
- email [attendance@st-anns.ca](mailto:attendance@st-anns.ca)
- call the school office at 250-372-5452 (ext 118)

**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.

**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.

**LOST & FOUND** – Are you missing something? Have your kids checked our Lost and Found? Parents, be sure to check both elementary and high school lost and founds when you are in the school!

Please feel free to direct general office questions to [officestaff@st-anns.ca](mailto:officestaff@st-anns.ca) and your email will come to all of us here in the office.

## **ATHLETICS**

**ATHLETICS PAGE on [www.st-anns.ca](http://www.st-anns.ca)** - If you haven't had a chance to view this page, I strongly encourage you to do so! Mrs. Mallais has spent a lot of hours adding and updating "all things athletic" to that page! You can find practice times for all teams, tournament schedules, photos of athletic events, 'Crusaders in the News' and much more! Check it out!