

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- Feb 2-17: Uniform Thought Exchange is open (<https://tejoin.com/scroll/534173969>)
- 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 21: Local School Committee Meeting @ 6:00pm
- 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 27: Parent session - ERASE (see details below)
- Feb 28: NON-UNIFORM DAY – House Spirit Day

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 3 & 4: High School Wake-a-thon (Details sent via email to HS parents)
- MAR 6 & 7: Talent Show rehearsals Starting at 3:00pm
- MAR 7: SAPA Meeting at 6:30pm please email SAPA@St-anns.ca for details
- MAR 8: In Person Talent Show
- MAR 8: Parent session - ERASE (see details below)
- MAR 8-11: Sr Boys Basketball Provincials
- MAR 9: Reconciliations – For students
- 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 for details
MAR 15: SAA Players will be performing a Matinee and an Evening show
MAR 15: GRADE 5 – Rivercity Gymnastics
MAR 16: SAA Players will be performing an Evening show
MAR 17: Report Cards go home
MAR 17: Early Dismissal
MAR 18-April 2 Spring Break

Our spring season of High School Athletics kicks off after Spring Break Be sure to check out the details below.

A Note from Principal Niwa:

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 17th (two weeks from now).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Elementary Student-led Conferences (Feb 21)

On Tuesday, February 21st from 2:45-3:45 pm, the elementary classes will be conducting Student Led Conferences. Parents are invited into the school to allow your son/daughter to show you some of the classwork they have completed and discuss aspects of school they have been involved in so far this year. Your children have been working very hard in their classrooms and will be very proud to host you and discuss their accomplishments. We encourage all parents to attend with their child. These conferences are an opportunity for you to visit with your child in their classroom for approximately 15 minutes or so, and are not intended as a formal meeting with the teacher. If you have questions about your child's academic progress or other questions for the classroom teacher, please set up a separate appointment time with the teacher.

ERASE Parent Sessions (Feb 27 & March 8)

ERASE, the provincial organization to help eliminate bullying, is providing two online learning sessions (Feb. 27 and Mar. 8) for parents/caring adults focused on Establishing Respectful Relationships and Consent. These sessions are best suited for parents/caring adults of students in Grade 8 and above. [If you're interested, please register online.](#)

Talent Show (March 8)

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

Students will be told by the end next week (Feb 24) if they will be participating in the Talent Show. They will also be told whether they will be in the first or second act so that parents can plan to attend on March 8.

Rehearsals:

Rehearsals for Act 1 will take place after school (3:00 p.m) on Monday, March 6, and rehearsals for Act 2 will be after school (3:00 p.m) on Tuesday, March 7.

Fawlty Towers Updates!

The Fawlty Towers team would like to thank all of the parents and families who have so kindly offered furniture, props, and clothing to our production. We are particularly grateful to the families of Jolie Ta and Tim Xie in Grade 10 who have kindly offered us four tables from their Chinese restaurant, The Lotus Inn. We nearly have everything we need, but are still looking for a suitable "front counter" for our hotel - something taller than your average desk or table where our hotel guests would check in and check out after a weekend getaway on the "English Riviera." If you could help us find a front counter please contact Mr. Beliveau at kbeliveau@st-anns.ca.

Just a reminder that entrance is by donation at the door only - tickets will not be sold in advance. We hope to build up our furniture and prop supply and purchase some storage cupboards for our growing programme. Doors open at 7:00 pm for both March 15 and March 16 with the show underway by 7:30 pm.

RAFFLE UPDATE

We have sold 112 books so far! Thank you for the excellent effort in our first week of sales. The winner of the \$100 early return draw is the family of Jack Weeres in grade 5. Congratulations Jack! If you have sold what you can, now is the time to return the unsold tickets as we still have families who are asking for more tickets to sell. Once again thank you for supporting student activities. **All tickets need to be returned by Monday, February 27th (sold AND unsold).**

CISKD Golf Tournament - May 12, 2023

For the first time in a long time, the CISKD will be hosting a golf tournament! Time to dust off those clubs, stretch out those muscles, hit the driving range, and gather some friends. Tournament is on May 12th. Registration is open. Please [click here](#) for more information.

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.

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

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!

GRIEF to GRACE RETREAT - Through a retreat program facilitated by mental health professionals and centered on Jesus Christ, Grief to Grace helps those who have endured physical, emotional, sexual, and/or spiritual abuse find healing. The next retreat is May 23 – 27, 2023 in Kelowna. For more information, please email griegtograncelowna@gmail.com or make a confidential call to 250-808-6403.

NEWS FROM THE SAA OFFICE

PAYMENTS by E-TRANSFER

Please note that when paying by e-transfer, **you can combine amounts** and send just one e-transfer. There is no need to send 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

While we prefer e-transfer, please send one e-transfer per family for all items and label as: **Family Name, Description of Payment**
It is okay to combine all fees for field trips, 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 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.

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 and your email will come to all of us here in the office.

ATHLETICS

We are preparing for our spring season of High School Athletics, which kicks off after Spring Break, and we are hoping to fill a few more coaching/leadership positions to support our High School Athletes in badminton and golf. To help you make a decision, here is some information about each sport:

BADMINTON

-Season: mid-March to May 2023

-Practices: once/twice a week at SAA

-Games: Drop-in once a week at participating schools (last year there was a rookie, junior and senior league)

-Our SAA badminton team has usually been about development and less competitive but if the interest is there, we can become more competitive

-Tournaments: Local tournament advertised and players can attend that are available

-West Zone Championship: Seniors - usually 1st week of May, Juniors - usually 2nd week of May

-Okanagan's: potential dates mid-May

-Provincials - 1st week of June

GOLF

-Season: April - May 2023

-Teams: Split teams in 2 - Junior (gr 8-10) & Senior (gr 11-12)

-Practices: Twice a week - 1 x driving range, 1 x round of golf @ Kamloops golf courses

-From the practices throughout April and May - a team of 5 players is created to participate in the Senior and/or Junior West Zone championships

-West Zone Championship: usually 2nd week of May - Last year we sent 1 teams of 5 players (grade 9-12) to the west zone championships

-Okanagan's: usually 3rd week of May

-Provincials: usually last week of May

Please respond to Mrs. Mallais at cmallais@st-anns.ca if this is something you are interested in.