



January Newsletter

IMPORTANT - Cold Weather

With the weather getting colder we would like to take a moment to remind our families about our Cold Weather Guidelines (page 23 of our [Parent Handbook](#)). We have noticed several elementary students who are not dressed for the weather and strongly suggest that parents help their students dress in weather appropriate clothing, including but not limited to: **warm coat, gloves/mittens, head/ear coverings, boots, and waterproof snow pants as needed.**

News From the SAA Office

St. Ann's Academy Homecoming Get your tickets!! We would like to sell out the event!

We are holding our first-ever St. Ann's Academy Homecoming on Saturday, February 10th, 2024. St. Ann's Academy is hoping to strengthen our SAA community with alumni events throughout the year to create opportunities for alumni to reconnect and keep our school spirit alive and well.

We are hoping to see anyone who has attended, graduated, taught, or had children attend St. Ann's Academy. This includes current members of our school community! Our school has been incredibly fortunate to have had so many wonderful people walk through the halls for so many years and we are hoping to see as many of those faces as we can again.

It will be an evening full of fun, reconnection with old friends, and live entertainment. A night where you can enjoy the company of friends and indulge in our delicious appetizers, charcuterie, and desserts, all while sipping on your favorite beverage.

The Grade 12 seniors will be offering tours of the school, so you can see the things that have changed and the things that remain the same. Our live entertainment will keep you on your feet, dancing the night away. You might even be the lucky winner of one of our many door prizes! Or you can take your chances with our 50/50 draws or bid on some amazing items at our silent auction.

This is a night you won't want to miss! So gather your friends, family, and loved ones, and join us for an unforgettable evening filled with connection, fun, and entertainment.

Click on the link to reserve your tickets now! <https://buytickets.at/stannsacademy/1059761>

Please Join Us At The First
*St. Ann's Academy
Homecoming*

Saturday, February, 10th 2024

Doors Open at 6:30 pm
and Dance to follow
Silent auction and 50/50

St. Ann's Academy Gymnasium
205 Columbia St, Kamloops, B.C.

\$50 per person (19+ only)

Scan the QR Code to reserve your tickets:

Is your child needing volunteer service hours for their religion class?

St. Ann's Academy Homecoming is in need of volunteers for:

- School tours
- Coat Check
- Kitchen/table bussing

Reference letters available upon request for our volunteers!

For more information email advancement@st-anns.ca

Feeding our Futures grant

From the [Ministry of Education](#): "More children and youth will have access to healthy meals and snacks at school through the Province's new Feeding Futures funding, which invests in building and expanding local school food programs."

"As busy parents deal with global inflation, school food programs can help reduce the pressure on their wallets while tackling student hunger," said Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care. "Working with local schools to make sure our kids are fed and ready to learn will make a real difference for families and communities."

St. Ann's Academy has received a grant from the Ministry of Education **with the intention of assisting low income families who need help to reduce the challenges of rising food costs**. If you would like to self-identify as needing assistance, please fill out the survey found [here](#).

BUSES

If your child needs to ride the bus occasionally, they **MUST** have a bus pass from the school office. Bus passes are \$7.50 and must be shown to the driver. Unfortunately, the student will not be permitted to ride the bus that day unless they have a ticket.

If you pay monthly please note that your January payment is now due.

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. Within the description, please label as: **Family Name, Description of Payment**. The email address for e-transfers is payments@st-anns.ca

Breakfast for the Needy

We are offering the Breakfast for the Needy program again this year as part of our campus ministry. This will be SAA's 7th year participating in this program! It is a great way for our students and families to engage and support those in need in our community. While students do most of the cooking and cleaning, we are in need of parent volunteers to assist with the program. The breakfast is hosted the third Tuesday of each month from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. Come for an hour or stay for the whole event! Thank you for all your support in advance. - Ms.Spina

Breakfast for the Needy Volunteer Date

February 20

May 21

April 16

June 18

Drama Production

We are once again revving up for the annual St. Ann's Players Drama Production. Students have been rehearsing since the middle of November and the performance dates are set for Wednesday, March 13 and Thursday, March 14 - the week before spring break. In the meantime we are hoping the SAA community might, once again, be able to help us in our search for a few pieces of furniture and props:

- old fashioned love seat or 3-seat sofa - borrow or take off your hands forever;
- 1 or 2 old fashioned arm chairs;
- 1 rectangular living room table;
- 3 square or circular end tables;
- tall artificial plants in planters;
- "soldier-like" figurines;

If you might have any of the above items please email Mr. Beliveau at kbeliveau@st-anns.ca before bringing the items to school.

We look forward to inviting the community to Agatha Christie's AND THEN THERE WERE NONE this March!

Worksafe Video Contest

This is a reminder that the WorkSafeBC 2024 Student Safety Video Contest is underway and open until April 4, 2024. There is \$10,000 in prize money up for grabs, to be shared by students and their schools/youth organizations. Your assistance in helping to spread word of the contest is very much appreciated!

Here are some important points about this year's contest:

- The contest website, including full details, rules, and the contest entry form is at www.worksafebc.com/studentvideocontest
- The theme of this year's contest, **Staying focused at work**, asks students to create a short video on how distractions on the job can result in accidents. It asks youth to think about what they need to stay focused at work and what their employers can do to help.
- Contest is open to students in grades 8-12
- There are four \$2,500 cash prizes to be shared by the students and their school/youth organization sponsors
- Prizes are funded by contest sponsors Actsafe, London Drugs, Seaspan, and by WorkSafeBC
- There is an additional prize furnished by Actsafe: The Actsafe Aspiring Filmmaker Award, plus an opportunity for one winning video to be recognized by the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety and compete in the national contest hosted by them as well.
- There are two categories for entries: grade 8-10 and grade 11-12
- Entries can be live action, documentary-style, animation, stop motion...whatever creative style your students can imagine!
- Entries are to be submitted by the teacher or youth organization sponsor
- **Contest deadline is 5 pm, Thursday, April 4, 2024**
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Athletics

Basketball season is in full swing! Parents and students please check out the [High School Athletics Website](#) for practice and game times.

Navigate the top tabs for the Athletics Calendar, tournament information, league game information for each team, Crusaders In the News and much more.

Library

UNPLUG & PLAY FAMILY LITERACY WEEK 2024

The 13th annual Interior Savings Unplug and Play Family Literacy Week is taking place from January 20th to 28th, 2024.

This exciting event promotes the message of finding a healthy balance between active family time and recreational screen time. Many free activities, events, and take-home kits will be offered by community partners throughout the week for families to enjoy.

Elementary students will be bringing home Unplug & Play Student Challenges which includes all the information about Unplug & Play Week. Students are encouraged to reduce recreational screen time for the week and reflect on their experience. Students who hand in their Unplug and Play Challenges by Friday, February 2nd will be entered in a draw to win prizes!

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 7th, 2024. Thank you for your generosity!

From the Faith Corner

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.

Our Faith Reps this year are:

Malwina Tomczyk (K)

Stephanie & Simon Feeley (Elementary)

Carmel Hukulak (Elementary)

Samantha Cooper (Elementary)

April Johnson (High School)

Andy Cyr (High School)

Danielle Sykes (High School)

Steve & Cheryl Frith (High School)

JOIN US! Parents, students, and Staff are invited to join us on **Tuesday mornings from 8-8:25 am in the Chapel** as we pray intentionally for our St Ann's community. Come for a minute, or stay the whole time - all are welcome!

Don't know where the Chapel is? Ask our friendly office staff, or try these directions: straight past the cafeteria, over the walkway, down the stairs and through the doorway straight ahead, then left down the hallway to the second-last door on your right! (We'll be praying you find the way 😊)

If you have any questions about events or opportunities, please contact the office, or email fdt@st-anns.ca.

Yearbook

Do you have photos of events around our school that you would like to share with the yearbook team? You can submit them online at hjeshare.com. If you'd like to frequently contribute, you can also download the HJ eShare app! Use our school code, stanns2024, to login and start sharing your photos. Remember to look out for your shots in our next yearbook!

Student Setup/Cleanup Crew Opportunities

High school students who are interested in joining our student setup/cleanup crew are encouraged to email Mrs. Daley (kdaley@st-anns.ca) for an application. This setup/cleanup crew position involves both setting up and cleaning up for the various events that occur in our school. Students may be required to work morning, evening and weekends. Students will be paid via stipend upon the completion of the event at the office.

Important Calendar Dates

January Highlights:

- Jan 18-19: Grade 7 Ski Trip
- Jan 19: Crusader Wear
- Jan 21: SAA is hosting Mass at Holy Family Parish - All SAA Students in attendance please wear your uniform and show your Crusader Spirit!
- Jan 25: Full School Mass - MASS DRESS REQUIRED
- Jan 26: Pro-Day