



December 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 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:

High School Coffee House

On Monday, December 18th, SAA's High School Coffee House will be taking place in the St. Ann's Academy gymnasium. Please note that you DO NOT need to RSVP for this event and that admission is by donation only. Join us for some wonderful entertainment provided by our very talented high school students!

Early Dismissal - Friday, December 22, 2023

On Friday, **ALL** students will be dismissed at 12 pm. Please be mindful that this will lead to a busy parking lot and road congestion. As high school students tend to take a few minutes longer than elementary students to gather their items and exit the school building, we ask that **high school parents do not arrive until 12:10 pm**. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we try to make this dismissal process as smooth as possible.

Owyn McInnis Memorial Scholarship - Crusader Dress Down for Donations

Thank you to our SAA parents, students and staff! On December 8th, our community came together to raise \$1,235.15 for the Owyn McInnis Memorial Scholarship. - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:7

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 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 December 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

Library

HOLIDAY REMINDER

Just like we all like to be together with the ones we love over the holidays, our books like to be all back together to share the holidays! Please ensure all your child's school library books are returned to Mrs. Sucro ASAP.

Athletics

Basketball season is starting! 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.

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 Dates

December 19

February 20

May 21

January 16

April 16

June 18

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!

From the Faith Corner

DID YOU KNOW? On behalf of the CISKD, every student at St Ann's has been granted access to Hallow, an app with tons of great content to help you pray. When you first sign in to the app, enter your child's GAFE email address for full access! (eg. If your child's name was Barry Quincey, their GAFE address would be barryquincey.gafe@st-anns.ca). ***The Hallow App has many wonderful resources for Advent.*** Here are four suggestions to get you started:

[Advent Pray25](#) is a daily reflection that prepares us for the birth of Jesus through reflections on writings by CS Lewis. Liam Neeson and Johnathan Roumie narrate, and each session is approximately 10 minutes long.

[St. Andrew's Novena](#) is the same Novena that the students at SAA are praying each day. Choose the 1-minute option or the 7-minute option to fit into your daily schedule.

Check out **Advent and Christmas Music** on the Hallow App for a variety of songs and styles including easy listening instrumental, chant, contemporary, and many more.

Search, "Advent Music" in the App or go directly to "Hilltops + Starlight:"

<https://hallow.app.link/ICqVRLNwqFb>

A personal family favourite is the [Sleep Rosary](#). I play this 45-minute session each night outside my children's rooms to help them get to sleep. You can choose to have soothing music or other background sounds in addition to the Rosary text. Fall asleep to the Rosary and let your Guardian Angel finish it for you while you sleep!

Important Calendar Dates

December Highlights:

- Dec 18: High School Coffeehouse evening Doors at 6:00pm and Entertainment at 6:30pm
- Dec 19: Grad Photos
- Dec 20: SAPA Meeting to discuss Spring Raffle
- Dec 21: Full School Mass - Mass Dress required for ALL Students
- Dec 22: Early Dismissal
Red & Green Day
Report Card Day
Last day before Christmas Break

January Highlights:

- Jan 8: School Resumes Promptly at 8:25am
- Jan 11: Elementary Pizza Day for those who pre-ordered
- Jan 12: Dress Down Day for Jump Start - wear your athletic wear and/or jersey and bring your toonie

Have a Blessed and Restful Christmas Season! We will see you on Monday January 8, 2024.