



Mid-January Newsletter

St. Ann's Academy Community, have you bought your tickets for the Homecoming yet? They are selling fast!!

**ST. ANN'S ACADEMY
HOMECOMING**

St. Ann's Academy is very proud to present our alumnus Paul Filek as our headliner for our first-ever Homecoming!

Paul is Vancouver's premier musician specializing in creating an incredible one-man band experience!! He brings a fresh and energetic vibe to the stage, delivering unforgettable performances playing music from across the decades.

Saturday, February, 10th 2024

Doors Open at 6:30 pm
and Dance to follow

Silent auction, 50/50, delicious
appetizers, desserts and beverages

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

\$50 per person (19+ only)

Scan the QR Code to reserve your tickets:

This is an event for **ALL** members of our community to come together to enjoy a night of great entertainment. It is an opportunity to foster and develop old and new social connections and strengthen our community ties.

The evening is sure to be a lot of fun. Our alumnus **Paul Filek**, is an incredible performer from Vancouver and will keep your feet on the dance floor throughout the night! **Uptown Chefs** will be catering delicious appetizers and we will be serving beverages to go along with them. You can also try your luck with the 50/50 draws or by bidding on the wonderful locally donated items in our silent auction.

This is an evening you don't want to miss. Come out and meet our larger St. Ann's Community and enjoy all that we have in store for the night. <https://buytickets.at/stannsacademy/1059761>

News From the SAA Office

NEW: Opportunities for Parent Participation Hours

St. Ann's Academy Homecoming on Saturday February 10 is in need of volunteers!

- Do you have kitchen/bussing experience? We need your help!
- Would you like to serve drinks? We need your help!
- Are you a night owl? We need parent volunteers to help us clean up after the event!
- Are you interested in helping everyone come in and feel welcomed? We need greeters and ticket takers!
- We could also use parents to help our students with coat check!

Is your child needing volunteer service hours for their religion class? St. Ann's Academy Homecoming is also in need of student volunteers for:

- School tours
- Coat Check
- Kitchen/table bussing

Reference letters available upon request for our volunteers! For more information email, please email Mrs. DaSilva at advancement@st-anns.ca

NEW: Blazer's Hockey Game Tickets

St. Ann's Academy, in conjunction with OLPH, have partnered with the Kamloops Blazers to present a community building event on the Family Day holiday. Watch your email on Monday for more details!

NEW: Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week is approaching once again. It is a week recognized each year to celebrate the impact of Catholic education. All across the world, schools are celebrating the gift of Catholic education through prayer, service, excellence, and community. This year, St Ann's Academy will be celebrating February 4th to 10th. Please come out and [join us for our celebrations!](#)

[Elementary Supervision](#)

[Highschool Supervision](#)

NEW: SAA Information Sessions

Kindergarten Information Session

We will be hosting an information evening for parents on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30pm in our Kindergarten room for any families who may want to learn more about our Kindergarten program here at St Ann's! Please feel free to forward [this invitation](#) to any families who you know who may be interested!

Grade 8 Information Session

We will be hosting an Information evening for parents on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30pm for any families who may want to learn more about our High School programs here at St Ann's! Please feel free to forward [this invitation](#) to any families who you know who may be interested!

Feeding our Futures Grant

“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.”

The Province's new *Feeding Futures* funding grant invests in building and expanding local school food programs. 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](#). Please note all information provided is confidential.

Bussing Services

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. **Please note the South Shore bus run is at capacity, and no bus passes will be issued.**

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

NEW: Swim Club

Mrs. Blower is pleased to announce that our Intermediate swim club is returning for 2024! Anyone in grades 4-7 who is able to swim 2 laps (50 m) unassisted in the deep end is welcome to join. Please note these are not swimming lessons. Practices will be Mondays from 3:15pm- 4:00pm. Parents are responsible for getting their student(s) to the pool.

Find out more [here](#) or fill out the permission form [here](#).

NEW: From SAPA

The St. Ann's Parent Association (SAPA), the **St Ann's Academy Parent Support Group (PSG)**, is **meeting virtually on Monday, January 29th at 6:30pm to continue our discussions and efforts in organizing the 2024 SAA Spring Raffle.** The Spring Raffle is the largest fundraiser that is held and contributes the majority of the funds that are provided to enhance the extra curricular experiences of the students at St Ann's (Both Elementary and High School Students).

SAPA Meeting Time: Jan 29, 2024 06:30 PM Vancouver Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/96422614221?pwd=ZFBVbVhKTHVPdE41b3Vib1E1WjRMdz09>

Meeting ID: 964 2261 4221 Passcode: 557149

Traditionally the Spring Raffle has helped reduce the cost to parents/guardians for their children to attend field trips, sporting events, and musical trips. Without these raffle funds the costs for students to attend these events will increase. Over the last few years the funds contributed to reduce these costs total in the tens of thousands of dollars.

Did you also know that the hours spent **attending the The St. Ann's Parent Association (SAPA), the St Ann's Academy Parent Support Group (PSG)'s monthly meeting count towards your volunteer hours?** If you contribute additional time then those hours further add up and hopefully match or equal the hours that are needed to reach.

Many hands usually equals light work and the Parent Support Group is looking for willing and able parents and guardians to assist in organizing and running the 2024 Spring Raffle. We have approximately 6 meetings left this year and we hope to see as many parents and guardians who can attend.

Breakfast for the Needy

As part of the SAA Campus Ministry, high school students under the supervision of Ms. Spina offer the Breakfast for the Needy program. The breakfast is hosted the third Tuesday of each month from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. This program is a great way for students and families to engage and support those in need in our community. While students do the cooking and cleaning, we are in need of parent volunteers to assist and support them. Come for an hour or stay for the whole event! Thank you for all your support in advance. - Ms.Spina

Upcoming Dates

- February 20
- April 16
- May 21
- 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!

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.

Student Hiring Opportunity

SAA is looking for motivated, self-directed, responsible high school students for the paid position of the student setup/cleanup crew! The setup/cleanup crew position involves both setting up and dismantling for various events held within 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. Please email Mrs. Daley (kdaley@st-anns.ca) with your expression of interest and resume.

Yearbook - Looking for Photos

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

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)

PRAYER REQUEST

The Grade 9 and 11 Classes will have a spiritual retreat on February 12 & 13. Please join us in praying for our staff, students, volunteers, and retreat leaders, that this would be a time of encountering Jesus, and that it would bear much spiritual fruit!

“Heavenly Father, thank you for loving us. We ask you to bless all those involved in the student retreat, and to send your Spirit to transform hearts and lives, drawing us ever closer to you in Love. Thank you for all you have done, are doing, and will do. Amen”

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.

Important Calendar Dates

January Highlights:

Jan 26: CISKD Pro-Day - Classes not in session

Jan 29: SAPA Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/96422614221?pwd=ZfVbBbVhKTHVPdE41b3Vib1E1WjRMdz09>

Jan 30: Local School Committee 6-8pm

February Highlights:

Feb 2: Crusader Wear Day!

Feb 4: Catholic Schools Week starts - Wear your uniform to Mass

Feb 4-10: Catholic Schools Week - Schedule [here](#)

Feb 6: Kindergarten and Grade 8 Parent Information Session

Feb 14: Ash Wednesday, Full School Mass **Mass Dress Required for all Students**

Feb 15: Elementary Pizza Day for students who have preordered

Feb 19: Family Day - School Closed

Family Day Blazer Event details to follow