

NOVEMBER 2020 MID-MONTH NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR

Nov 19/20: Parent/Teacher Conferences (please see below for details)

Nov 19: Early dismissal for parent/teacher conferences from 1-7pm (Grades K-3 dismissed @ 12:10 and parents are asked to be here by 12:15, Grades 4-7 dismissed @ 12:20 and parents are asked to be here by 12:25, Grades 8-12 dismissed @ 12:30 and parents are asked to be here by 12:35. Buses depart @ 12:45.)

Nov 20: No school for parent/teacher conferences from 8:30am to noon

Nov 24: School Committee meeting at 6pm via zoom (if interested, email school.council@st-anns.ca for the link)

Nov 26: Mass – students please wear Mass attire

Nov 27: Crusaderwear Day - students are invited to wear SAA apparel

Dec 2: Early Dismissal (Grades K-3 dismissed @ 12:10 and parents are asked to be here by 12:15, Grades 4-7 dismissed @ 12:20 and parents are asked to be here by 12:25, Grades 8-12 dismissed @ 12:30 and parents are asked to be here by 12:35. Buses depart @ 12:45.)

MESSAGE FROM FATHER DERRICK

Fr Derrick invites everyone, parents and students, to grow deeper in their spiritual life. Please watch this 3-minute video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pBf3MexGaQw&list=PLbySyZb7Qwlke85VpgVSg3BcZJuSaXSRy>

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences for elementary and high school parents will take place on Thursday, November 19th (beginning at 1pm and ending at 7pm) and Friday, November 20th (beginning at 8:30am and ending at noon).

There will be an early dismissal for students on Thursday, November 19th and no school for students on Friday, November 20th. Families should have received the link to book appointments this past Friday

(https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/St_Ann_s_Academy). Interviews will take place via Zoom or phone call. If you are not able to schedule a meeting during the offered times, please contact your child's teacher via email about meeting virtually or by phone at a different time.

SAA FUNDRAISER COURTESY OF COLUMBO LODGE

COLOMBO CARES is working in conjunction with the St. Ann's Parent Association (SAPA) on November 18, 2020! We are selling the Colombo Lodge's famous pasta with tomato meat sauce accompanied with chicken for you to enjoy.

We encourage you to share a meal together with your family, friends, or co-workers, it is the Italian way, while at the same time, supporting SAPA in this fundraiser! A portion for 2 is \$24.95 plus applicable taxes and fees. Please order ahead of time as pre-planning is required for delicious made from scratch meals. There are three easy ways to order:

1. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/copy-of-colombo-cares-take-home-dinner-november-18-tickets-127217022539>

2. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1504190249766764>

3. Call the Colombo Lodge at 250-374-4914 and order over the phone!

Let's work hard to make this an easy fundraiser with one big benefit!

LIBRARY NEWS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: A very big THANK YOU to everyone who bought books online and supported the Library during the fall virtual Book Fair! **A total of 198 books were sold which earns our Library 20% of sales in new resources!** Keep your eyes and ears open for the next Scholastic Book Fair which will take place in the Spring.

PICTURE ORDERS

Students are welcome to bring their Lifetouch picture orders to the office. We will be sending the order to Lifetouch at the end of the week. The other option for parents is to order online by following the instructions on the envelope within the Lifetouch picture package.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: SAA STORE

We are looking for someone who is interested in helping with the SAA Store. Might this opportunity appeal to you? It involves sorting and selling SAA apparel to our families. It's also a great opportunity to get to know people within the SAA community. The store days and hours could be discussed, based on your schedule. Please email attendance@st-anns.ca if you are interested.

GIVING TREE

We are looking for someone who might be willing to donate an artificial 5+ foot Christmas tree to be used during the Advent season for the toques, mittens, socks, etcetera which will be given to needy.

COVID-19

We all have an important role in maintaining a safe and healthy school. As such, we want to commend our students who are doing a great job of being advocates for disease prevention by sanitizing often and wearing a mask! A friendly reminder that we wear masks for many reasons, including:

1. HUMILITY - We don't always know if we have COVID, as it is clear that people can spread the disease before they have symptoms.
2. KINDNESS - We don't know if the person we are near has a child battling cancer, or cares for their elderly Mom, as examples. While we might be fine, they might not.
3. COMMUNITY - We want our community to thrive, businesses to stay open, employees to stay healthy. Doing our part to stop the spread of Covid helps us all!

We would also like to ask students to have two reusable masks when coming to school every day. Although the school has a supply of masks for emergencies, we've gone through about 2000 single use masks already this year. Not only is there a financial cost, but there is also the environment cost. Thanks for your support with this.

SAA FAITH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

The SAA Faith Development Team was formed in December 2017, in response to an identified need to develop the faith life of our school community - not only our students and staff, but our families as well. The current Faith Development Team is made up of several dedicated parents, the School Principal, the School Pastor, and a School Religion Department Staff member. The Faith Development Team is supporting a group of parent Faith Reps, who will act as contact persons for either Primary, Intermediate, or High School grades, both for teachers and for parents of children in those grades. If you have any questions about the Catholic faith, these Faith Reps are your go-to people!

The Faith Development Team's mission is to help all people navigate the challenges of their daily lives by recognizing and sharing the great love and mercy the Lord has for us, and to support each other in becoming who God intended us to be. This year's projects include establishing a presence in the school community, so that parents, students and staff know who we are and what we do, spiritual development for our parent Faith Reps, and regular communication with SAA families to deepen your relationship with Christ.

Meet our Faith Development Team and your Parent Faith Reps in this short video: https://youtu.be/PcqQtznhx_I

We look forward to connecting with you!

Chair: Danielle Sykes

fdt@st-anns.ca

PARENT PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Some parents have been asking about SAA's Parent Participation Program (PPP). They've been wondering how to meet the 20 minimum hours. Some parents have been wondering if the hours would be forgiven as they were last year. With the uncertainty that COVID is causing, it is too early to determine whether circumstances will allow parents to volunteer. Having to put everyone's safety first, SAA will not put students, parents, or staff in a position that may expose anyone to harm. Also with the intent of the PPP being to draw our community together, keeping these funds even if opportunities can't happen would be antithetical to our purpose. As we did last year, if COVID prevents parents from volunteering, the \$300 cheque will be returned; however, it is too early to make that determination.