

OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Oct 4: SAA Store Open 2-3:00 (for purchase of Crusader wear)

Oct 5: EARLY DISMISSAL - K-3@12:00, 4-7@12:10, 8-12@12:30; bus departs@12:45

Oct 6-8: **NO SCHOOL** – CISKD Faith-based Retreat for Staff

Oct 11: **NO SCHOOL** – Happy Thanksgiving!

Oct 12: SAPA meeting – 6:30PM via Zoom (email sapa@st-anns.ca for the link to join)

Oct 13: Elementary Mass Via Zoom – Mass dress required

Oct 14: High School Mass – Mass dress required

Oct 15: Dress Down for Charity (Wear your **FALL COLOURS**)

Oct 18: SAA Store Open 2-3:00 (for purchase of Crusader wear)

Oct 20: PHOTO DAY– Mass dress required

Oct 21: Walk-A-Thon - HOT DOG DAY – Early Dismissal @12:30PM, bus departs@1PM (More Walk-a-Thon details below)

Oct 22/25: NO SCHOOL – Provincial & CISKD Professional Development Days

Oct 26: School Committee meeting – 6:00 PM via zoom (if you would like to attend, please email officeadmin@st-anns.ca for the zoom link)

Oct 27-29: Grade 12 Grad Retreat at Harper Mountain (for details email: officeadmin@st-anns.ca)

Oct 28: Elementary Pizza Day

Oct 29: CRUSADER WEAR – Wear your SAA Crusader wear with pride!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

STAFF RETREAT – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

All St. Ann's Academy staff members will be having a faith-based retreat October 6th-8th. As such, there will be NO SCHOOL for students on Wednesday, October 6th, Thursday, October 7th and Friday, October 8th. Enjoy your long weekend! REMINDER: Monday, October 11th is Thanksgiving Monday!

“In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:18

ELEMENTARY PIZZA DAY

Due to COVID absences and the partial shutdown of SAA, the first pizza day of the school year has been moved **from** Thursday, October 14th **to** **Thursday, October 28th**. Hopefully, this later date will give you more time to submit orders and payments for your children. Please have all orders and cash/cheques submitted by **Friday, October 15th**.

WALKATHON INFORMATION

[2020 Memories Video](#)

[2021 Welcome Video](#)

On Monday, October 4th, or on your child's earliest return date to school, they will receive a St. Ann's Academy Walkathon pledge sheet. The Walkathon will take place on **Thursday, October 21** but **students can continue to collect pledges after the Walkathon up until our Final Walkathon Assembly on November 8th**. Hot dogs and a drink will be provided to all students on this day and dismissal will be earlier than normal but dismissal times are yet to be confirmed (buses depart school at 1:00 on this day). This event is our major school fundraiser and the funds collected this year will support initiatives that are to be determined from student input.

A major purchase from last year's fundraiser was a new fence surrounding the lower playground, adding much needed safety from wayward balls.

The major initiative this year is to raise funds to replace our aging lockers in the high school.

We are very appreciative of the generous donations from our families and the Kamloops community in support of our school. All donations in excess of \$25 are eligible for a tax receipt.

Early Daily Draws

Students may start to bring in money and pledges on **Monday, October 25th**. Your child will be entered into a random daily draw for every \$25 that he/she collects in pledges (\$25= one entry). In order to be entered into the daily draws, the money and pledge forms must be turned into the main office by 9:00 AM each day. All students may turn in their money and pledge forms to their classroom or homeroom teachers. Daily draw prizes this year include gift cards to Aberdeen Mall, Subway and Booster Juice. Early draws will take place on October 26, 27, 28 and 29.

We will continue to collect money up until November 8th but to be entered in the final Walkathon prize draws, funds must be in by **Wednesday, November 3rd**. Money turned in after November 3 will **not** go towards additional tickets for daily draws or towards class averages for fundraising amounts.

Prizes

For every \$25 your child collects, they will receive a blue ticket that will be entered into a draw to win a Gift Card to a business of their choice from a set list. (For example, Tumbleweed toys, Walmart, Chapters...)

For every \$100 your child collects, they will receive a gold ticket that will be entered into a draw to win one of the following top prizes: an Oculus VR Gaming Headset, a personal phone projector, Beats Wireless Headphones, and a Nintendo Switch Lite.

Prizes will also be awarded for the top earner in each class and the top class in each division. Of course, there will also be a chance to play the coveted money drop game.

Unused pledge forms must be returned to the school.

Walkathon Volunteers Needed for October 21, 2021

We are in need of **parent volunteers** to help supervise at the various check-in stations along the Walkathon route. **Parent volunteers** are also needed to assist in the lunch preparations in the canteen. **If you are able to volunteer, please call the school at 250-372-5452 or email dspina@st-anns.ca**

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BREAKFAST FOR THE NEEDY

High School Parent Volunteers Needed

'Breakfast for the needy' will be starting up again on Tuesday, October 12th. The breakfasts are once a month and are in partnership with St. Vincent de Paul. The students will make a hearty breakfast that will be packaged and given out to all the guests outside Sacred Heart Cathedral on Tuesday, October 12 from 9:30 to 10:30am. We will need parent volunteers to help with the distribution of the breakfast outside the Cathedral and to help assemble the food items from 8:30 to 12:00pm.

If you are available, please contact Domenica Spina at dspina@st-anns.ca

Thank you and God bless!

ARE YOU HANDY WITH A SCREWDRIVER or an ALLAN WRENCH?

We need volunteers to help build IKEA shelves! Fill your parent participation hours with a screwdriver! Contact Mrs. Mallais at cmallais@st-anns.ca

CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS & VISITOR MODULE

Please note that all parent volunteers who help out at St. Ann's Academy **must have a current Criminal Record Check on file at the school office**. If you need more information, please contact our main office. For those parents who are planning to volunteer for this event, please contact your child's teacher or the office at officeadmin@st-anns.ca to let us know. Please also note that *all* parent volunteers who help out at St. Ann's Academy must have a current Criminal Record Check on file at the school office. If you are unsure if your CRC is current, please call the school office at 250-372-5452 or email attendance@st-anns.ca to find out. If you know that you require a CRC, please visit the on-line link <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/> and enter the access code **ZGSRAGHQAL** (this is specific to St. Ann's Academy and even if you have had a criminal record check for a different organization, we still require one for SAA specifically). Choose the box with "request a new Criminal Record Check". When filling in your personal information the "position with organization" will be "Volunteer". There is no charge for the CRC.

All parent volunteers must also complete the Visitors Module at <https://st-anns.ca/wp-content/uploads/Visitors-Module.pdf> to be able to assist at or with school-related activities. Upon completion of the visitor's module, please kindly fill in and submit the 'Proof of Learning Document' to the office. We thank our parent volunteers for their help in supporting all of our school activities! Many of these activities wouldn't be possible without you!

SAA STORE

Looking for **Crusaderwear**? Our SAA store will be open on **October 4th 2-3:00** and **October 18 2-3:00**. Get your attire before out next Crusaderwear Day on October 29th!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I recently received a bulletin from our Deputy Minister of Education, Mr. Scott MacDonald. The bulletin states that mask use has been expanded to K-3 students. This new requirement takes effect Monday, October 4th. This means all students, staff and guests will be required to wear a mask “when inside a school building, including while at their desks and on buses.” Another document, Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools, also encourages individuals to wear a mask while carpooling (unless are members in the car are from the same household).

Although students, staff, and guests are required to wear masks, these recommendations also acknowledge individuals who are unable to wear a mask because:

- they don't tolerate it (for health or behavioural reasons)
- If a person is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person
- If the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it
- If the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask (e.g., actively playing a wind instrument, high-intensity physical activity, etc.)
- If a person is eating or drinking
- If a person is behind a barrier (e.g., a divider, a cubicle, or in a room by themselves)
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements are important.

Given the above accommodations, I would like to reassure everyone that students will not be penalized or excluded from activities. Furthermore, wearing a mask all day can be exhausting. Students will be encouraged to go outside during breaks to remove their mask and breathe some fresh air.

Staff will continue to reinforce the use of masks through positive reinforcement and reminders. We should also remind ourselves that the use of masks will not guarantee a person's safety but is a tool to help reduce the potential of an infected person passing the virus to others. Other approaches, such as staying home if ill and frequent handwashing are still important.

Since masks have been required, St. Ann's Academy has provided masks and will continue to provide single use masks for anyone who forgets their reusable mask at home. We have a supply of adult masks as well as masks for children.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Mr. Niwa

LIBRARY NEWS

Fall Scholastic Book Fair!

Our Fall Scholastic Book Fair is just around the corner! Join us virtually on **Monday, November 15th until Monday, November 22nd @ 8:59pm PT** to purchase the latest great books! All books sold help our library earn rewards for new resources!! Please follow the link to start browsing!

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5163672>

All orders will be shipped directly to the school (that means free shipping for everyone) and orders will be distributed to students once they arrive. The Library appreciates all of your support!

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!

DRESS DOWN FOR CHARITY

Our first 'Dress Down for Charity' is happening on **Friday, October 15th**. The theme for this first dress down day is **FALL COLOURS**. This will be a House Challenge so bring your loonies and toonies!! **Is it going to be Cassidy, Exner, Bates or Blondin who wins this challenge??**

About Our Charity This Month

Funds raised on our first dress down day will go to support '**The Mustard Seed**'. The Mustard Seed is a Christian non-profit organization that has been caring for individuals experiencing homelessness and poverty since 1984. The Mustard Seed is a supportive haven where people can have their physical, mental, and spiritual needs met and grow toward greater health and independence. For more information visit <https://theseed.ca/>

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field: it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” Matthew 13:31-32

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

Senior Athletics: Grade 8/Junior/Senior Volleyball & the Boys Soccer season have begun! Parents and players can view practice times and find team schedules on the HS Athletic website; <https://sites.google.com/st-anns.ca/highschoolathletics/home>

For all parents/guardians wanting to attend and watch High School Games:

1. Volleyball games are at 5pm, 6pm and 7pm at the host school.
2. Each player is allowed to have 1 spectator attend until the maximum number of 30 is reached. Once reached, doors will be closed and locked.
3. You must answer all COVID questions to be allowed entry.
4. You must provide your own mask and be wearing that mask to be allowed entry. No mask = no entry, no exceptions.
5. You must hand sanitize upon entry.
6. You must sign in to allow for contact tracing, if needed.
7. You must adhere to all COVID requirements while in our school.
8. You must cheer on the teams and have some fun!

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Arlene, Stephanie and April want to thank you for your continued patience as we update emails and try to get information to you in a timely manner. Please continue to keep us updated with changes to email addresses and your communication preferences (NOTE: If you only want to receive some information at a particular email address but not *all* information, for example someone only wants communication from the teacher but not the newsletters, we can set those preferences up for you...just let us know).

A big thank you as well for diligently reporting student absences to us! A friendly reminder when reporting an absence to please email Arlene directly at attendance@st-anns.ca (vs. the office admin or accounts email). The St. Ann's app is also a simple and convenient tool for reporting absences.

The St. Ann's website is being updated and a VERY big thank you to Mrs. Mah for all her help in doing this. Mrs. Mah has been busy updating the website calendar and adding newsletters, student forms and pertinent information to the website for your convenience. Visit www.st-anns.ca to stay up-to-date with St. Ann's news!

MUNCH-A-LUNCH

October Munch a Lunch ordering is now open for parents to order lunch for their children through our school Canteen. If you registered an account last year you are a RETURNING parent, please follow the link below and for anyone new, please click on NEW parents to create an account.

We are not set up for online payments, however I'm very excited to say we now accept E-Transfers. You may send your total owing to payments@st-anns.ca Please indicate who and what it's for in the message section. We are set up for direct deposit so there is no security question. Alternatively you may send in cash, cheque or pay by debit at the office.

Thanks for supporting the school Canteen!

NEW parents need to register here:

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/StAnns>

RETURNING parents can go directly to the login page:

<https://munchalunch.com/login>

HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE SAA APP FROM THE APP STORE?

Download it today for quick access to school information!

The Administrators, Teachers and Staff at St. Ann's want to wish you many Thanksgiving blessings this holiday weekend! May your time spent with family be filled with joy and health!

"Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind. Let them offer a sacrifice in thanks, recount his works with shouts of joy"

Psalm 107:21,22