

SAA Weekly: September 20, 2021

CALENDAR

Sep 20: SAA Store Open (2-3:00PM)

Sep 21: SAA School Committee (formerly School Council) @ 6:00PM

Sep 21: House Spirit Day – Free hot dogs! Wear your house colours!

Sep 24: Terry Fox Run

Sep 27: SAA Store Open (2-3:00PM)

Sep 28: Grade 8 Retreat

Sep 30: NO SCHOOL - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Oct 1: PHOTO DAY (Mass dress required!)

Oct 4: Grade 1 'Come Read With Me'

Oct 5: EARLY DISMISSAL: K-3 12:00pm, 4-7 12:10pm, high school 12:30pm pick-up, bus departs 12:45

Oct 6-8: NO SCHOOL (CISKD Retreat for Staff)

Oct 11: NO SCHOOL – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Oct 12: SAPA (St. Ann's Parents' Association) Meeting @ 6:30PM (email sapa@st-anns.ca for the link to join the meeting)

Oct 13: Elementary MASS (Mass dress required!)

Oct 14: High School MASS (Mass dress required!)

Oct 15: **Dress down** for charity (Non-uniform day; details below), **Elementary Pizza Order Forms due

PICK-UP POLICY

As many of you have experienced, our pick-up procedure needs a bit of help, so your cooperation is greatly appreciated. It is often like this at the beginning of the year until we all get used to the routine. Please review the pick-up policy and ensure that you are following the proper procedure. If we all do our part, we can keep that line moving, making everybody happy :)

1) You have been assigned a *specific* pick-up window, and they are as follows:

- K-3 2:30PM pick-up
- 4-7 2:40PM pick-up
- 8-12 2:50 pick-up (I would suggest you may want to come even closer to 3:00, particularly for older students)

2) With the designated windows, there is no need to arrive early. In fact, this is one of the reasons why we are experiencing congestion.

3) IF you have multiple children to pick up, your pick up window will then be the pick up time of your oldest child, for ALL your children. Don't worry...your younger child will be supervised!
FOR EXAMPLE: if you have a child in Grade 5 and in Grade 9, your pick up time will be the 2:50 pick up window.

4) IF you have one of the later pick-up windows, you should *not* be driving onto school property until the beginning of that window. You may even want to err on the side of the late end of that window. Again, please be assured that there will be supervision for your younger children.

- 5) IF you are parked in the line up, much before your assigned pick-up time, you may be asked to leave the line and come back. We don't want to have to start doing that but we NEED to keep that line moving!
- 6) Lastly, if your children are old enough, and you are comfortable with it, you may want to make arrangements for pick-up at a designated spot close by, but off campus. We are aware that a number of families are doing this already :) We will leave that up to your discretion but if you choose this option, please just let us know that you have made this arrangement, so that we know why your children are leaving campus.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

START COLLECTING YOUR PARENT PARTICIPATION HOURS!

All parent volunteers who help out at St. Ann's Academy must have a current Criminal Record Check on file at the school office and complete the visitor module. 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 and note the access code is ZGSRAGHQAL. 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. Volunteers needing to complete the Visitor's Module, please see the attachment. Upon completion, if you could kindly fill in and submit the 'Proof of Learning Document' to the office. We thank our parent volunteers for their help in supporting this school event!

WALK-A-THON - Thursday, October 21 We are in need of parent volunteers to walk with the various classes on the day of our walk-a-thon. Elementary and high school teachers will be in direct contact with parents to arrange volunteers. If you are able to volunteer to walk with a high school class, please email officeadmin@st-anns.ca or contact your child's homeroom teacher.

ATHLETICS The High School Athletics department is looking for a Grade 8 girls' basketball coach. If you are interested, please email Ms. Mallais at cmallais@st-anns.ca

SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL PHOTOS (K-12) - Friday, October 1st is Picture Day at SAA! As such, students are required to wear Mass attire. Thank you for your cooperation!

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 extra long weekend!

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION – September 30th - NEW STATUTORY HOLIDAY

HOUSE SPIRIT DAY – We are so excited about our first House Spirit Day of the school year! On **Tuesday September 21st** we will be celebrating our house spirit by welcoming our new students to their houses and enjoying a hotdog lunch. There will be no charge for this hotdog lunch as it will be provided by the school. Your child's order has been processed by their respective VPs.

Students are encouraged to wear their house shirts for this Spirit Day. A reminder that for House Spirit Days students are to wear their normal uniform attire- simply swapping out their uniform shirt for their house shirt.

New students will find out their houses on Monday and will then receive a new house shirt for them to wear on Tuesday!

We hope to see the school in an array of blue, green, purple and red!

SAA STORE The SAA Store is up and running! The upcoming dates and times are as follows: **Mon, Sep 20, Mon, Sep 27, Mon, Oct 4 and Mon, Oct 18 always from 2-3:00PM**. The store will be set up right inside the main doors, just outside the front office. This is a chance to pick up your SAA Crusader wear! Please note that the SAA Store is only for the purchase of the casual Crusader Wear and does not sell uniform articles.

ATHLETICS - The High School Athletics fall program has begun for Volleyball and Boys soccer! Please refer to the Athletics Calendar link below to check practice times and games once they are announced. <https://sites.google.com/st-anns.ca/highschoolathletics/home>

CANTEEN - Ms. Lorraine's delicious homemade hot meals, muffins, sandwiches and other goodies are making the halls of SAA smell wonderful! [September and October Canteen Menu](#). Also note that the canteen items will be added to the school calendar on the SAA website.

DRESS FOR CHARITY DAY - October 16th (Grades K-12) is our first 'Dress for Charity Day' of the year! Students are invited to wear a theme outfit on this day, instead of their school uniform. Please bring in a loonie or toonie to support a good cause! Stay tuned for the theme and the charity. Please note that on non-uniform days, students must still adhere to dress code. Students may wear un-ripped jeans or khakis, leggings under a skirt, a skirt or a dress. T-shirts and sweatshirts may have logos or symbols on them, providing they are not offensive.

SAPA (ST. ANN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION) The St. Ann's Parents' Association (SAPA) is a volunteer group of parents that raises and distributes funds for the school community – for extra-curricular sports and musical and other activities, travel costs for sports and music groups, and scholarships for the students, and staff appreciation events. We raise funds through a variety of means, such as the Christmas Bazaar, spring raffle, **Mabel's Labels*** and a Colombo Lodge takeout dinner in November to name a few. We meet monthly for an hour, which enhances communication with school administration. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM, and will be virtual/online during this time. You can earn hours towards the Parent Participation Program by being an elementary class rep, or volunteering with SAPA and helping out with fundraising activities. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, October 12th at 6:30PM**.

Email sapa@st-anns.ca if you want to attend virtually; all parents or guardians are welcome. Come and learn more about the different roles and sign up. If you are looking for labels for your children's clothing, shoes, books etc. please use https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/. Select St. Ann's Academy before you do your purchase and 20% of all sales will come back to the school. They also sell kids and adult face masks!

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 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 **Email us at:** 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 if Covid restrictions prevent this from happening. It has been questioned 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 prevent parents from volunteering. Having to put everyone's safety first, SAA will not put students, parents or staff in a position that may expose anyone to harm. So please be assured that even if you sign up for an upcoming event now, that if things change for you or the school, we will certainly release you from these obligations. 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.

NEWS FROM THE SAA OFFICE

OFFICE STAFF Mrs. Costa (Arlene) is the friendly face greeting you in the morning at the window of the front office. Mrs. Costa is an SAA parent and her son, Matteo, is in Grade 10. She has been at the front office since March so this is just her first September experiencing the craziness of back-to-school. You certainly wouldn't know that though as she balances phone calls, hands out late slips, takes school fees and keeps everyone on track.

Mrs. Baird (Stephanie) is the friendly face helping with your tuition payments, answering questions about fees, buses, canteen or anything else you may be wondering about. Mrs. Baird is also an SAA parent with a son, AJ, in Grade 7 and a daughter, Maleah, in Grade 5. Mrs. Baird has been working in the office for a year and is always willing to offer a helping hand.

Mrs. Johnson (April) is the friendly face helping with your registration issues, MyEd issues and any other general questions you may have. She is also an SAA parent with a son, Zach, in Grade 12 and a daughter, Kaija, in Grade 7. Mrs. Johnson only joined the front office team at the beginning of September and is trying very hard to help with getting things up and running for the start of the school year. We have also been able to convince her to stay on with us!

Arlene, Stephanie and April thank you all *immensely* for your patience as we get this year off to a bit of a bumpy but sure start!

E-TRANSFERS – We are pleased to say that we can finally offer you the option to pay for various school fees by e-transfer! To do so, simply send your e-transfer to payments@st-anns.ca. Please note that e-transfer payments MUST go *specifically* to *that* email address and no other! Other payment options are cash, cheque or debit machine at the school office.

ATTENDANCE - Reporting a student absence Thank you to our parents for diligently reporting their child's absence(s). A friendly reminder that, for your convenience, we have a number of ways to report a student's absence.

Parents may:

- use the school app (if you haven't yet done so, download the SAA app)
- click [Report an Absence](#) on the [St. Ann's Academy](#) site
- email attendance@st-anns.ca (please try to use *this* email for reporting an absence vs. officeadmin@st-anns.ca)
- call the school office at [250-372-5452 \(ext 118\)](tel:250-372-5452)

HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE SAA APP FROM THE APP STORE? Download it today for quick access to school information!

YEARBOOKS Yearbooks were sent home with your youngest child last week. We also have additional yearbooks available for sale at the office at a cost of \$45.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

PIZZA DAYS – Take a break from packing a lunch! This school year, the Grade 7 class will be delivering Panago pizza once a month to the elementary classes for lunch. You have the option of ordering pizza for the entire school year or on a month-by-month basis. Pizza cost is \$3.50 a slice. Please complete either the [Yearly Pizza Form](#) or the [Monthly Pizza Form](#) and return to school by Wednesday, September 29th ([This form was also sent home with your student](#)). All proceeds go to the Grade 7 year end trip so thank you for your support!

*****Edited - Oct 1, 2021 from Ms. Makse** ***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**.
Updated forms: [Yearly Pizza Form](#), [October Pizza Form](#)