



St. Mary's Academy

Volume IV

April Newsletter

Number IV

News from the Director - Sister Susan Wikeem

In only a few short months another school year will be over and the Academy will have graduated 101 more young women eager to begin a new stage in their lives. Most of them have attended SMA for four or six years, but once they leave us they become "alumnae for life".

We never cease claiming our former students, taking pride in their accomplishments, and counting on their support for our mission. Six years ago the Academy initiated the Marian Awards to recognize

alumnae who *Hold High the Torch* through service to the community and excellence in their professional lives. The 2010 recipients are Dr. Christine Butterill (Keegan '60), Dean of Studies, St. Paul's College and the Honourable Retired Judge Susan Devine '68.

Additional information is on page 3 of this newsletter. I hope to see many current families, alumnae and friends at the event.

Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting at SMA - Mrs. C. Yunyk

In 2006 MECY (Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth) mandated all Manitoba schools to revisit their assessment and evaluation as well as reporting practices in order to enhance student learning. Information about MECY's assessment and reporting initiatives can be found on the Education Manitoba website <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/initiative.html>.

World-wide research has proven that on-going, formative assessments which involve specific feedback and student engagement result in the strongest gains in achievement of outcomes (Sutton, Hargreaves, O'Connor, Marzano et al, Earle, Fullan, Wiggins, Davies). In fact, international studies over the past number of years have proven that when teachers engage students in varied forms of assessment, when they go to deeper levels of understanding and involve students in self-assessing their growth, there is greater achievement and retention of outcomes.

In response, our SMA faculty devoted professional development time to studying assessment literature, practices and models. As a result, faculty revised the November progress report and developed a mid-year assessment strategy to replace the former January exam model.

As part of the implementation, the November Progress Report has been revamped to more accurately reflect an outcomes-based reporting of student progress. This shift responded to a real concern expressed by teachers who for many years believed that grades on the November Progress Report did not accurately reflect the students' skills growth at that time of the year.

A mid-year assessment format where subject area teachers in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science work as a team to develop

an assessment piece which is common(subject-specific), cumulative(body of knowledge) and outcomes-based has been newly implemented.

Final cumulative and common exams will take place in June (worth 20% in junior school and 30% in senior school) which is much more in-line with post-secondary expectations. In fact, research at the high school and university level continues to support that the greatest gains in summative/standard-based, course-end assessments occur where students were involved in authentic, learning-centered assessment that provided ongoing feedback and were designed to promote student comprehension.

According to Wayne Hully, President of Canadian Effective Schools on School Improvement, change can be messy and painful; this situation is no different. At SMA, we are continuing to assess this shift in assessment and reporting practices for January and June. Student feedback via the Student Leadership Council, parent feedback through an online survey and professional dialogue with faculty on which elements of the January model worked best and how to make improvements for next year are means by which we are collecting data. We will continue to keep our SMA community informed with the progress.

We, at SMA, are responding to the current, scientifically researched insights into the nature of learning which have implications on how we teach, what we teach, and how we apply classroom assessment strategies. Meeting the needs of students, who are at the heart of the Academy's decisions and activities, is central to our mission. In her day, Mother Marie Rose was considered a pioneer, with a compelling passion to enhance girls' futures as educated women. This is a passion which we continue to share.

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Dates to Note

APRIL

- 23 - April Progress Reports
- 23 - 25 - Senior Musical Production
- 26 - No Classes, Faculty Professional Development
- 29 - 30 - ALIVE Program
- 30 - Mission Colour Day

MAY

- 3 - 7 - Art Gallery
- 3 - Spring Uniform Option
- 3 - AP French Exam (PM)
- 5 - AP Calculus Exam (AM)
- 6 - AP English Lit Exam (AM)
- 10 - SMA Gr. 7 & 8 Track and Field Day
- 12 - Gauss Math Contest
- 12 - 14 - Grade 7 camp
- 17 - No Classes, Faculty Professional Development
- 20 - Grade 7 Science Expo
- 21 - Athletics Awards & Luncheon
- 21 - Mission Colour Day
- 24 - No Classes
- 28 - Grade 12 Glow n' Grow Luncheon
- 31 - Leadership Council Carnival

JUNE

- 2 - Grade 12 Alumnae Induction and BBQ
- 3 - Pembina Trails Track and Field Day
- 4 - Parent-Daughter Mass and Brunch
- 4 - Grades 7 & 8 Design Challenge
- 7 - Awards Assembly
- 7 - Grade 12 Consumer Standards Test
- 8 - Closing Mass - 8:30am
- 10 - Grade 12 Pre-Calc Standards Test
- 24 - Textbook Returns
- 25 - Convocation Mandatory Rehearsal (9:30 am)
- 28 - Convocation (2:00 pm)
- 29 - Newsletter/Report Card Distribution
- 30 - Administration Day

YOUTHLEADER†

August 16—20, 2010

Those completing grades 9-11 are welcome to apply to be selected for the SMA Youth-leader 2010 Team.

Application deadline is **MONDAY, APRIL 26TH** and can be submitted to Ms. Garlinski. Students will be interviewed.



Out on A Limb - May 15th with Jesse Manibusan.

All students (grade 7—12) are welcome to register through the Campus Ministry Office by **MONDAY, APRIL 19TH**.



**Défi BioTalent
sanofi-aventis
BioTalent Challenge**

Congratulations to Sandy Lee who placed 3rd overall in the intermediate projects at the SABC competition. She was awarded \$600 for this achievement. Also congratulations to Alyssa Verrelli who placed 4th overall in the senior projects. Alyssa was awarded \$750 for this achievement. Rachel Nickel, Jenny Jo and Camille Glidden also deserve recognition for completing this extremely high level science competition.

Also our very own Mrs. Klus was awarded with a teacher recognition award. St. Mary's was very well represented at this competition. Good job girls!

Attention All Current Grade 11 Students and Parents:

In preparation for graduation activities next year, white gloves and pumps are required. Please start looking for these items over the summer.



Flames Hockey - Mrs. P. Johnson

Although the Stanley Cup playoffs are just beginning, the Winnipeg Women's Highschool Hockey League season officially came to a close. At the awards banquet, the SMA Flames Hockey team was presented with the finalist banner for the Winnipeg Free Press Division and Elizabeth Hewett was named top defense in the league. Allison Rothwell was one of three nominated as top goalie in the league.

The team had a great season and developed tremendous skill. It showed itself to be a team who played with "class, respect and discipline".

Thank you to the coaches, Bob Johnson, Eric Pele, Kyla Fraser(06) and Caitlin Pele(09).

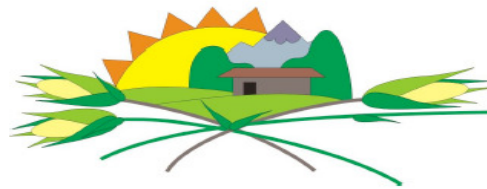


Green Team is Granted Some Green - Mrs. K. Lê

The St. Mary's Academy *Green Team*, under the leadership of Emily Guttormson, recently received a provincial grant for \$500.00 in support of school-based environmental initiatives. The *Green Team* plans on putting this money to good use next year by making the school even greener.

The *Green Team's* focus for this year is a Take Pride clean-up on school grounds and a pop can tab collection in conjunction with Holy Cross school.

All pop can tabs are in support of students who require specially made wheelchairs. It's not too late...pop can tabs are still being collected until **May 1st** and can be brought to **Room 202**.



Loma Linda

Project El Salvador

Project El Salvador connects the community of Loma Linda with friends from Canada. Originally a service initiative developed through the parish of St. Alphonsus in Winnipeg. Project El Salvador has grown to include several rural parishes in Manitoba, and parishes within Winnipeg.

There are several components to the project under way in the community that support health care, edu-

cation, youth programs, a micro-loan system and a general development of the community. Both adult and school groups are now involved. **St. Mary's Academy is considering becoming involved in this project during the summer of 2011.**

An information session will be held for parents and students on **Tuesday, May 11th at 7PM at St.Mary's Academy.**

From Missions - Sr. M. Gibney

As we enter into our last lap of the year, we do so with gratitude. We were pleased with the generous response to our Hunger Meal which took place on February 26th. Mrs. Zonneveld gave a wonderful presentation on her family's experience of volunteering in El Salvador for a period of seven months. Hearts were opened.

We had a successful food drive for Winnipeg Harvest early March. We thank in a special way those teachers who helped to make this possible: Mr. Saj, Mr. Hess, Mrs. Franz, Mrs. May and Mr. O'Donoghue. For every food item presented, students were given ballots to be cast to see their 'favourite teacher' dance. Hip Hop it was! They did a great job!

Many of our reps continue to work hard to do what they can to help our brothers and sisters in need. Donations were given to such groups as Jocelyn House, Habitat for Humanity, Honouring the Spirit of our Little Sisters, House of Peace, L'Arche, Crossways in Common, Holy Names' missions in Lesotho, and Micah House.

In the months to come, our weekly collections continue. Soon we will begin our process to look at a new leadership team for next year. Hard to believe!

Thank you once again for your continued interest and support.

Hertiage Fair - Ms. J. Beauchamp

The SMA Heritage Fair was a great success thanks to the hard work of our creative Grade 9 and Grade 11 students, the guidance of their teachers and the generosity of over ninety volunteer judges.

The winners of the Grade 11 Fair who will be representing SMA at the Red River Heritage Fair were:

1st Place: Samantha Reimer and Olivia Danylchuk
(Winners of the Janet Duggan Memorial Award)

2nd Place: Dominique Chell

3rd Place: Emily Wilson

4th Place: Caitlin Spellman

Oliver Synopsis - Mrs. K. Lê

This year, St. Mary's Academy will be putting on the musical *Oliver!*. The musical follows the life of a mistreated orphan named Oliver Twist who is sold from a workhouse to an undertaker for an apprenticeship.

After a fight with Noah Claypole, who insults Oliver's dead mother, little Oliver runs away to London. In London, Oliver meets 'The Artful Dodger' who takes him to see Fagin. It is Fagin who trains Oliver to steal from others by picking pockets. One day, after he and some other boys try to rob Mr. Brownlow, Oliver, is arrested. Thankfully, he is rescued from his arrest by Mr. Brownlow who takes him back to his house.

Fagin fears that Oliver will reveal the location of their lair and coins a plan to kidnap the now safe and happy Oliver. From here, the plot takes a series of twists and turns and is sure to keep you in suspense.

This year's musical is sure to be a success!

Representing SMA at the Red River Heritage Fair with the highest overall marks in their class will be:

Lauren Gowler, Natalie Desaulniers and Megan Bourns, Alannah Thibodeau, Sandy Lee, Lauren Kressock, Emily Meadows, Alessia Guzzi, Angela Daet, Nissren Zeid, Stephanie Hayden, Christine Bumstead, Tori McConnell, Leigh Vossen and Jayden Edgington, Jessie Augustus/Madison Magnus Walker, Lily Medyaska, and Sarah Mulhall.

Congratulations to all the participants! Well done!

Performance times and dates:

Friday April 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday April 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday April 25 at 2:00 p.m.

Non-refundable tickets are \$12 and will be available for students to purchase weekly, beginning March 23rd, every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:05-1:20 at the school box office.

Assigned Seating (Cash or Cheques made payable to St. Mary's Academy)

PATRON OF THE ARTS:

The program committee is offering you a chance to become one of our "Special Patrons" listed in the program. Your name will be listed on a Patron Page in our *Oliver!* Program. The cost of being a "Special Patron" is \$25 per listing. All cheques can be made payable to "St. Mary's Academy" and donations can be made at the front office.

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE:

June 7:

12: Consumer Math (AM)

June 9:

12: ELA (AM)

June 10:

12: Pre Calculus Standards (AM)

11: Math (PM)

June 11:

12: Biology (AM)

11: ELA (PM)

June 14:

12: Chemistry (AM)

11: Physics (AM)

10: ELA (PM)

June 15:

11: AP Chem (AM)

June 16:

12: Physics (AM)

11: History (PM)

10: Science (AM)

June 17:

9: Math (AM)

8: Math (AM)

7: Math (AM)

June 18:

11: Biology (AM)

10: Math (PM)

9: ELA (AM)

8: ELA (AM)

7: ELA (AM)

June 21:

11: Chemistry (AM)

10: AP Chem (AM)

9: Science (PM)

8: Science (AM)

7: Science (AM)

AM Exams: 9:00 - 11:00am

PM Exams: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Seniors write in Cafeteria

Juniors write in their Homerooms

Colours can be worn, but must be school appropriate (no beachwear).

THE CORNERSTORE

Come and see our wide variety of SMA sportswear. If you are looking for a keepsake, our SMA charm, designed by Epsilon jewelers will make the perfect gift.. We are open every day except Tues. 12:30-1:30. You can also visit us at the Spring Sale and New Student Sale..We accept all gently used clothing. You can view our merchandise on the SMA website. Please remember cheque or cash only.

MARIAN AWARDS

HOLD HIGH THE TORCH



Dr. Christine Butterill



Judge Susan Devine

The 6th annual St. Mary's Marian Awards recognize alumnae who reflect the values of the Academy, model excellence and demonstrate significant service to the community in their professional lives. Recipients distinguish themselves and the Academy by continuing to *Hold High the Torch*.

Please join us on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at the Manitoba Club at 194 Broadway

Mimosa reception at 10:30 a.m. Brunch to follow promptly at 11:00 a.m.

Tickets: \$55 per person. For more information, call the Alumnae Office at 478-6031.

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY



French Trip - *Mme. M. Desaulniers*

Twenty-nine Senior 2-4 French/Français students accompanied by Mme Swayzie, Mme Grande and Mme Desaulniers travelled to Québec city & Montréal for 5 days & 4 nights in February (12-16). We enjoyed the Winter Sports Village, an outdoor recreational paradise, where we went sports tube sliding. We visited a real ice Hotel where visitors actually pay to sleep overnight on beds of ice! We admired three centuries of history as we strolled the narrow & colorful streets of Canada's oldest neighbourhood in Place Royale, Québec city. After admiring the city while on a ferry ride across the St. Lawrence River, we took in the Québec City Winter Carnaval & parade. Before leaving Québec city, we enjoyed dinner at an authentic sugar shack where we were entertained with traditional music/dancing/limbo!

We had the privilege of visiting the Marie-Rose Centre in Longueuil where the Holy Name Sisters graciously greeted us & toured us around the home, chapel, and the Church. Our trip ended after shopping in Montréal's Underground City & visiting the Notre-Dame Basilica. We had a wonderful trip & hope to enjoy another trip to Québec again soon!



News From The Gym - *Mr. D. Danyluk*

The 5 months of basketball has come to a close. Congratulations to all the teams. A main goal on all our teams is to continually improve on your individual and team skills throughout the season. Hopefully through your dedication and commitment this goal was achieved. Our grade 7 and 8 team showed great improvement and came together as a team in the playoffs losing a close match in the leagues semi-finals. Our grade 9 team was very dedicated, because of this attitude alone they show great promise in the future.

The Junior varsity team made it all the way to the final 4 at the provincial championships with great team play. Christa Aguinaldo was selected as a provincial tournament all-star. The Varsity team likewise also made to the final 4 losing in close battle in the semi-finals at the University of Manitoba. Alicia Ogoms was selected as a provincial tournament all-star and was recognized as one of the top 10 basketball players in the province. Thank You to all the coaches your efforts will never go unnoticed. Also a tremendous thank you to our basketball scorekeepers for all the league, tournament and championship games you volunteered to work at. All of you have allowed us to develop a program we can be very proud of this year and all upcoming seasons.

The junior and senior high track and field team are now preparing for the conference and provincial championships. Practices are Monday,

Wednesday and Friday at 7:15am.

The rugby team is up and running, tackling and kicking. It is preparing hard and the league will begin as soon as the fields permit.

The soccer team tryouts will begin soon if they have not already before this newsletter goes out. The team will be preparing to make it back to the provincial championships and to improve on its 2nd place finish at last year's high school provincials.

The senior badminton team's season is well under way practicing after school and on weekends. We wish the senior team all the best at its conference championships April 28 and 29th at Sturgeon Heights.

The junior badminton team is practicing hard with a high number of participants. The season starts April 13th for the single ladies and the double teams start on the 15th. All the best in league play.

Finally congrats to the hockey team for a job well done, you continually represent St. Mary's Academy very well on and off the ice. The team came up short in the championship series but the effort was there.

We wish the graduating players on all the teams all the best in the future, thank you for your leadership which will continue on next year.

Easter Prayer:

Ms. M. Garlinski

The Crossroads of shadow and light,

Of death and life,

Of word and silence.

During challenging times when we may find the silence of God difficult,

May the surprising Word of God in the resurrection of Jesus,

Open within us a path of creative and life-giving experiences!



Join us in Prayer on Wednesdays @ 8am

in the Holy Names Chapel

April 21, 28 (Divine Liturgy @ 12:55), May 5, 12, and 19.