



St. Mary's Academy

April 2008 Newsletter

Volume II

Number 4

SMA FLAMES Hockey - The Flame Keeps Burning



Four years in a row...a hockey dynasty has been created at SMA !!!

On Wednesday, March 26th the Flames Hockey Team defeated St. James Collegiate 2-1, in overtime, to win the WWHSHL Division 1 championship, making it four years in a row. This was also the seventh win in eight years for the team. That's quite a record!

Spring Is in the Air!

Alleluia! Christ is Risen— Indeed He is Risen! Well the lilies are in full bloom, the Easter waters are flowing and we are definitely feeling the Spring fever! Holy Week at SMA was a wonderful experience as the choir and members of the Grade 8 Drama club collaborated to share with the community the Stations of the Cross. The choir had an opportunity to have its first choir retreat, which allowed students from every grade level to come together to sing, play, pray, sing, eat, plan, and sing some more! To see the pictures of this event and other Lenten activities, checkout our SMA website. As we move through this spring we will continue to live out our mission as People of Service by continuing to share our gifts at the Unitarian Church on Harvest Thursdays. This time of year is also busy

Art Students Honoured - Manitoba Marathon Calendar

In the fall, the students taking Art 40S created artwork for the 30th anniversary of the Manitoba Marathon, which is this year.

A number of our students' creations have been selected to be included in their anniversary calendar. The pieces created by all our students will be available for auction at the upcoming Hoyt Dinner on April 20th. All proceeds will go towards the Mani-

Thank you to all the players who, despite a rocky start to the year, worked hard to win six straight games in the playoffs. Thank you, also, to the coaches Bob Johnson, Eric Pele, Kyla Fraser ('06) and Richelle St. Croix ('03) for your dedication and commitment to St. Mary's. Your effort and support are truly appreciated.

On Monday, April 14th the WWHSHL gathered at Canad Inns, Polo Park, to recognize excellence in womens' high school hockey. Congratulations to Rebecca Hewett who was selected top defence and who also received the sportsmanship award. Congratulations also to Elise Crocker who was nominated MVP.

Finally, congratulations to the FLAMES coaching staff who received the Referees' Award which recognizes the coaches who demonstrate respect for and co-operation with officials, display a positive attitude and are positive role models for their team players.

with the planning of graduation activities and our closing Mass. A number of SMA students have been invited to assist with retreats for Christ the King School, a parochial school in our city.

Please remember to mark your calendars and join us for Wednesday morning Mass in the Holy Names Chapel from now until May 14th. The Grade 10 students, who recently completed a thorough walk through of the Liturgy in Religion class, are leading the various ministries.

A reminder to those students who have not completed the ten hours of service learning experiences, that this is due by early May.

Remember the Easter season is 50 days long so - Happy Easter!

toba Marathon Foundation which supports Manitobans who live with an intellectual disability.

Congratulations to all the Art 40S students who created wonderful artwork and a special congratulations to Stephanie Chung, Sumin Jin, Michelle Senez and Kimly Vu who had their work chosen for the calendar.

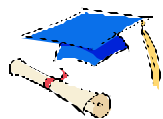
Well done, girls!

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Dates To Note

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| April 18 - Senior Dance |
| April 22 - Gr. 7 Tea and Poetry 7:00 |
| April 24 - Heritage Fair |
| April 25 - 12:35 pm Dismissal |
| April 25 - Junior Dance |
| May 1 - Summer Uniforms |
| May 1 - Bursary Applications Due |
| May 3 - Marian Awards Luncheon |
| May 5 - French AP Exam AM |
| May 7 - Calculus AP Exam AM |
| May 8 - Junior Track & Field |
| May 9 - PD Day - No classes |
| May 12-16 - Art Display |
| May 19 - Victoria Day, No School |
| May 23 - Athletic Awards Assembly & Luncheon |
| May 26 - Student Leadership Council Carnival |
| May 27 - Sr. Divisional Track & Field |
| May 30 - Parent/Daughter Mass & Brunch |
| May 30 - Gr. 7-9 Divisional Track Meet |
| June 2 - Awards Assembly 11:40 am |
| June 4 - Closing Mass 8:30 am |
| June 23 - Textbook Returns |
| June 26 - Gr. 7 - 11 Report Card Distribution |
| June 27 - Admin Day, No School |



Graduates' Corner

Graduation Celebration dates are as follows:

May 30

Parent/Daughter Mass & Brunch

June 4

Grade 12 Alumnae Induction & BBQ

June 13

Graduation Dinner & Dance

June 23

Grade 12 Exam Viewing

June 24

Convocation Rehearsal at 9:00 a.m.
Compulsory Attendance

June 25

Convocation

Parents, if you have not signed up for committee work, please contact Mrs. Klus -
klus@stmarysacademy.mb.ca
or Mrs. Yunky-
cyunky@stmarysacademy.mb.ca.

April Progress Reports

The families of students experiencing academic difficulty in one or more subjects or for whom attendance has been a concern will receive a report of the student's progress on Monday, April 23.

Please examine this report and contact the school if there are any questions.

St. Mary's Academy ATHLETIC AWARDS

This year's athletic awards ceremony is scheduled for

**May 23, 2008
at 11:30 a.m.**

This is followed by a luncheon for the athletes.

We look forward to acknowledging and honouring the time, effort and commitment of our students, coaches, and supervisors.

Final Exams

The 2008 June Exam schedule will be distributed mid May. Families can check the school's website to find details related to exams at each level.

Focus on Careers

This year, the Youth Employment Service has presented a series of workshops to our Grade 10 students. These presentations included an overview of the labour market, the importance of a good resume, and the importance of creating portfolios and preparing for interviews. By the end of May all Grade 10 students will have completed their portfolios in the Career Counseling Course. Well done ladies!

For those students and families seeking information related to scholarships, bursaries and finan-

cial aid, check out these web sites:

www.studentawards.com
www.scholarshipscanada.com
www.studentaid.gov.mb.ca

It is important to note that students must first apply for a student loan in order to apply for any bursaries. If you require further information related to careers, please call Mrs. Beaucage-Pena at 477-0244, extension 263.

SMA Athletics

Here in the gym, Home of the Flames, the high top basketball shoes have been stashed on the top shelf to be replaced by badminton court shoes, spikes for track and field, soccer cleats, and rugby jerseys.

The Senior badminton team coached by Jennifer Ferguson is in full swing in the West Winnipeg Athletic Conference league play. Alexa Laidlaw, Grade 12, our reigning 2007 Provincial Silver Medalist plans to strike gold on May 2/3rd in Gimli at the 2008 Provincial Championships. She is joined by Brenlee Martin and Mika Udarbe in the singles category. Morgan Jones and Ashley Hinds (Grade 12), Karen Deane and Stephanie Chung (Grade 12), and Paige Zaporzan and Mary Furgale (Grade 9 & Grade 12) wrapping up the doubles contingent. Junior Badminton, coached by parent Ken Chartrand, are involved in league play.

Demetro Danyluk with the help of parent, Mona Linton, have a large group out for Wednesday and Friday morning track and field and fitness. All

girls in Grade 7-12 are welcome. They are preparing for divisional track and field meets scheduled for May.

Rugby is once again coached by Barb Burkowski('01) and her extremely dedicated crew of coaches, Amber Clemons, Lindsay Hunter('00) and Macara Markewich('03). The fields are not ready yet but the gym is full of athletes ready and willing to learn a new game.

Finally, the SMA FLAMES Soccer team begins season play on Thursday, April 17th under the direction of coaches Hubert Demers, Dave Campbell, Taylor Kirouac('07), and Katelyn Demers ('06). Stay tuned for more information regarding league and practice play.

As you can tell the gym is a hub of healthy, active young women playing, running, jumping, throwing, catching, striking, skating, and serving, all in the name of SMA.

Thank you to all for your continued support of the SMA Athletic Department.

The Debate Continues

Our Grade 9 junior debaters competed at the Junior Provincial Championships held at Balmoral Hall on March 19th. SMA sent three teams consisting of Olivia Prior and Katharyn Burczynski, Emily Cummings and Charlotte Coudiere, and Veronica Izydorczyk and Jane Hilder.

The girls debated one round of impromptu, and two rounds (both sides) of the resolution "Canada should

boycott the Beijing Olympics". The girls did a terrific job and as a result Katharyn Burczynski was named to the provincial team that will compete at the National Junior Championships to be held in Newfoundland in May. Our Grade 7 and 8 debaters will be competing in the Provincial Novice Championships to be held at Gray Academy in early May.

On a Mission

Our thanks to our faithful class mission representatives who have worked hard over the past couple of months in a number of activities. In addition to the weekly collection, the Grade 8 representatives sold bracelets for Development and Peace. One half of the funds went to two women from Lima, Peru, who made the bracelets. The remainder went to Development and Peace. The representatives also worked as part of the leadership team in Winnipeg Harvest's annual food drive.

On Holy Thursday, all class representatives were involved in our Annual Hunger Meal.

Laura Robson ('01), who worked in Ghana as an intern with Engineers Without Borders, gave an inspiring presentation. All money raised from this meal will be sent to Holy Names' High School, our sister school in Lesotho.

A special thank you to everyone who generously contributed, not only to our Hunger Meal, but to our weekly collections. More and more we are becoming aware that 'all it takes is the gift of giving.'

Grade 10-12 French Class Trip To Quebec

Bonjour

In mid-February, twenty-four of our Grade 10-12 French students participated in an action-packed travel adventure to Montréal and Québec. The group was supervised by Mme. Letkeman and Mrs. Northcott.

The itinerary included a mix of historical, cultural, linguistic, and physical activities. While in Montréal, the girls toured the old city and the harbour; attended Mass at the Basilique Notre-Dame; and visited two interactive museums and the Biodome. Special highlights were the night view of the city from the top of Mont Royal and of course the whirlwind shopping!

In Québec – where the 400th anniversary celebra-

tions had just kicked off – the group stayed in a lovely character hotel close to the Chateau Frontenac. This provided much opportunity for walking tours of Canada's oldest neighbourhood. In fact, our students enjoyed many refreshing winter activities – tobogganing on the boardwalk, snow-tubing at the Winter Sports Village, and dancing at the Cabane à Sucre. Many interesting photos were taken at the famous Ice Hotel in Duchesnay and in the elegant dining room of the Québec Parlement.

Our girls were wonderful travellers who represented our school well. They entered into all activities with real SMA spirit and were cooperative and respectful visitors. This trip will surely have kindled in them the desire to travel further in `La belle province`.

Peer Counselling

It is that time of year again! The School Counseling service is looking for 10-12 students who may be interested in joining the Peer Counselors Team. The Peer Counselors program is open to Grade 9, 10 and 11 students in the school. The selection process includes an application submission (**deadline April 30th**) and interview. If selected, the student will be eligible to carry on in the program each year through to Grade 12.

This year the Peer Counselors program began with a training retreat at the Saint Charles Conference and Retreat Centre as organized by Mrs. Beaucage-Pena and with help from the new Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Sigurdson, who followed up in leading the peer counseling team for the school year. The retreat training consisted of conflict resolution and peer mediation training and a full day peer counselor training workshop delivered by "Teen Talk".

The peer counselors Paola Camorlinga, Stephanie Chung, Sarah Craven, Laura Danyluk, Mackenzie Falk, Stephanie George, Roxane Gratton, Christine Lam, Mel Love, Chiri Maritim-Songok,

Breanna Mulhall, and Izabella Supel were assigned to support a Grade 7, 8, or 9 class in the school.

Peer counselors visited their assigned classes to introduce themselves to the students, to explain their roles as peer counselors, and to support home-room and health class activities as needed. The peer counselors also assisted in raising awareness about alcohol and other drug use during the November provincial awareness campaign by planning activities throughout the week.

Peer counselors meet over the lunch hour on a monthly basis for additional training and planning on various topics including bullying and peer harassment prevention, suicide prevention, developing healthy relationships and relationship violence prevention, and body image awareness.

On behalf of the Peer Counselors program, thank you to all of the students who participated on the peer counseling team. Good bye and best wishes to the Grade 12 students who will be graduating and leaving the team.

The Oldest Oppression - DVD

Congratulations to the 2006-07 Grade 11 Drama Class - the DVD version of "The Oldest Oppression" is in its second printing! Two hundred DVDs have been distributed to institutions including Acadia University, University of Manitoba, New York University, as well as a number of

schools and parishes in Winnipeg.

Special honour is in order since the Library of Parliament in Ottawa has called to order a DVD, thanks to a request from a Member of Parliament! Well done, girls!

Celebrate Our Rights & Freedoms

Congratulations to Ala Jekielek and Courtney Paquette, who placed first and second in the "Celebrate Our Rights and Freedoms" poster contest sponsored by the Manitoba Legal Association. Ala received a \$200.00 prize as well as the honour of having her design professionally displayed in a prominent downtown building.

Courtney received praise for her efforts and a \$50 gift certificate for art supplies. The contest was open to all Manitoba students, with only two prizes being awarded!

We are very proud of your efforts, girls!



Keep the "New Life" of Easter alive for more than a day!

Have you ever thought about how we have many "Easter" moments in our daily lives?

The Gloria Bell Psalm

*Don't check your calendar,
Beloved God;*

*Today's not Easter Sunday.
But my Gloria bell rings out
joyfully,*

*"Glory to God in the highest,"
as I rejoice in this little Easter
this small triumph in my life.*

*My thanksgiving prayer is
soaked in the sunrise of the
resurrection joy,*

*all dressed up in new Easter
clothes,*

*to celebrate your gift to me of
this life-success.*

*As you raised Jesus
from the tomb,*

*so you have raised my hopes and
my heart this day.*

(Edward Hays)

Math Contest Awards 2008

This year a large number of students participated in national math contests. Congratulations to all of those students who accepted the challenge and wrote. In Grade 9, students wrote the Pascal Contest; in Grade 10, the Cayley; and in Grade 11, the Fermat Contest. Students who achieve scores in the top 25% in Canada receive Certificates of Distinction and the top student in the school receives a medal.

We would like to especially congratulate Susanne Morrill and Sumin Jin on their achievements in the Canadian Open Mathematics Contest. They both received Certificates of Distinction and have been awarded two of a maximum of nine gold medals in the entire province.

Susanne was also nominated to write the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad, one of three Grade 11 students selected in Manitoba.

Best of luck to all the Grade 7 & 8 students who will write the Gauss contest in May, the Grade 9, 10, and 11 students who write the Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia contests in April, and the Grade 12 students who

write the Euclid contest in April.

Our winners are:

Pascal (Grade 9)

Hayley Guillou – **Medal**

Kelsey Stevens, Camille Glidden, Dominique Chell,

Courtney Paquette, Lea Soenen, Rachel Dufresne, Mary Taylor

Cayley (Grade 10)

Zoe Prefontaine – **Medal**

Alanna Scammell, Charity Martim Songok

Fermat (Grade 11)

Susanne Morrill – **Medal**

Jeonga Gym, Yujin Kang

Grade 7 Scientists Put on a Show

Science Fair 2008 was held on March 14th, in the cafeteria when seventy-four Grade 7 students presented fifty-nine innovative and interesting projects. These Science projects were the result of creativity, hard work, and dedication from September to March. Some of the students had the opportunity to go and work in the labs at the medical centre at the University of Manitoba thanks to the support of consultants Karin, Tharmila and Shelly from the 'Let's Talk Science' partnership program.

A big thank you also goes to Yvonne Myals and Dr. Gietz at the

Medical Research Centre for all their efforts with our students. Every Grade 7 student deserves a medal for her hard work. Congratulations to all of you!

Best Overall Science Fair

Gold - Kiera Garagan

Silver: Cailey Coghlan & Adrienne Cooper

Please see insert for a complete list of individual results.

Parents' Guild Update

At our meeting on February 8th we were treated to a hands-on demonstration of the SMA web site by Sister Susan. Be sure to check it out as there is a lot of fascinating information available to us as parents regarding the school community.

The Hospitality committee hosted a lovely staff breakfast and luncheon on two separate days in appreciation for the tireless efforts of ALL staff at SMA. On behalf of each parent, "Thank you, staff, for taking such good care of our daughters and the facility we all enjoy!"

Our April meeting was lively with conversation and the sharing of many fabulous ideas. With the varied talents the Guild members bring to the table each meeting, it is truly exciting to see the birth of an idea and how it transforms. I compare the outcomes of our get-togethers to that of

watching our daughters grow and change so quickly, right before our eyes. Come to our next meeting on May 6th at 7:30 pm to get the news first hand.

We're in the process of recruiting volunteers as well as ideas for our inaugural "Fun-day Family BBQ" set for mid September. We enjoy patronizing SMA family owned businesses for events but we don't know you're out there unless you introduce yourself to us. We will keep you posted when further information becomes available. In the meantime, should you have any ideas or suggestions to participate in the event, please feel free to email Katherine Dane at kddane@mts.net.

Uniform Shop

News

A reminder that

Friday, May 16, 2008

will be the last day the Uniform Shop is open for this school year.

Winnipeg School Division
offers a presentation for parents

**Getting to Know Your Child Again:
The Excitement and Challenges of Parenting "Teens"**
with
Bill Gordon
Tuesday, April 29, 2008
7:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Grant Park School Gymnasium, 450 Nathaniel Street

If you are parenting a child in the age/grade range from upper elementary through senior high, we invite you to come and share an evening of information, humour and discussion about topics including but not limited to:

- The Facts and Myths About Adolescence
- What's Going On "In There"?
- The Eight Key Tasks on the Road to Adulthood
- Behaviours: What's Okay and What's Not?
- Roadblocks and Door Openers: Enhancing Communication

Don't miss it!

To register for "FREE" tickets for this event please call:
Mala Carrière, P.C. Clerk, 788-0203 ext. 132

Saint Mary's Academy

Receptionist Required

Monday - Friday

12:15pm - 5:00 pm

Applications may be submitted to:

The Director
St. Mary's Academy
550 Wellington Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3M 0C1
Fax: (204) 453-2417