



St. Mary's Academy

April 2011 Newsletter

From the Principal - Mrs. C. Yunyk

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Happy Easter to all! During the first week of Easter, also known as the Easter Octave, we invite our community to continue celebrating as we did on Easter Sunday. We are reminded that Jesus did not remain on the cross or in the tomb, but rose from the dead and gives us the gift of new life. May we continue to thank God for the gift of Jesus with open hearts and a joyful spirit.

It is very hard to believe that there are only two months remaining in this school year. We still have a lot of unfinished business however! Preparations continue for our graduating class: Convocation on June 28, Graduation Dinner and Dance on June 24, Parent-Daughter Mass and Brunch on June 3 and Alumnae Induction and BBQ on June 1. Many special events planned for a group of special young women!

Final exams are around the corner as well; which is frequently a very stressful time of the year! Teachers provide students with an exam outline along with a few days of overview during the final days leading up to the exam period. The June exam schedule and guidelines are posted on our SMA website. Kindly become familiar with your daughter's exam schedule to avoid any last minute complications and/or conflicts. Final exams in Grades 9 – 12 are worth 30% of the final grade and 20% of final grade for students in Grades 7 and 8. It is also important to familiarize yourself with our **year-end textbook return policy** found on page 16 of the Student Agenda, once again to avoid any conflicts or misunderstanding at the end of June.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the school and involvement in your daughter's education.

God Bless!

Social Networking-Staying in Touch or Losing Touch? - Administration

Today's generation is well aware of social networking. For many teenagers, it is their primary method of communication with their peers. Their comfort with, and knowledge of the many facets of digital communication is staggering. Many adults find it difficult to remain 'on top of things' as we may not be as well-versed in this domain as are our children. A digital generation gap has become evident.

As many of us know, the speed and ease of contacting multiple people at one time is an effective way of spreading important information and staying in touch. However, it is also a way of spreading malicious, harmful information as well.

As many parents know, the anonymity of the digital world has given many teen users of the networks a false sense of what is appropriate or inappropriate to post. To quickly type a malicious statement, then post or send it, has become too easy. Teens are typing words, phrases, insults, spreading rumours and gossip at an alarming rate. Things are being put into print that the author would never have said to a person's face. Many people are asking: "Are our teens losing touch with what it means to act with integrity?"

Schools throughout North America are affected by the negative use of Digital Social Networks and digital forms of communication. We too, at St. Mary's

Academy, have seen the effect on some of our students. What occurs in the digital world carries over to the school, into our hallways, into our classrooms. The issues are disruptive to the students' learning environments, and can, at times, compromise their sense of personal comfort and safety. This is not acceptable to us. Where issues of inappropriate use of digital media are brought to our attention, we will attempt to resolve the issue. We will hold individuals accountable for their actions. We will contact parents to enlist their assistance in this process. As educators, we will assist our students to a clearer understanding of what is acceptable and not acceptable in the digital domain.

As parents, we encourage you to discuss this topic with your daughter. We encourage you to continue being aware of what sites your daughter is using to communicate with her peers, and to closely monitor or block sites that have been, or may be used inappropriately. We encourage you to discuss with her that being an onlooker or a participant in negative chat is not acceptable. In fact, it empowers the original author with 'permission' to go ahead and continue being malicious.

We know that you have chosen the Academy because of what we stand for, and believe in. We thank you for your support on this.

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Dates to Note: MAY

- 2-6- Art Gallery
- 2 - Summer Uniform Option
- 2 - AP Chemistry Exam (AM)
- 4 - AP Calculus Exam (AM)
- 6 - AP English Lit Exam (AM)
- 6 - El Salvador Colour Day
- 7 - Marian Awards and Mother's Day Brunch
- 6-7- Provincial Badminton
- 10- AP French Exam (AM)
- 11 - Gauss Math Contest
- 12 - SMA Gr. 7 & 8 Track and Field Day
- 16 - Gr. 9-12 Preliminary Track & Field Meet
- 17 - Faculty Meeting 2:30 Dismissal
- 17-18- New Student Uniform Sale
- 20 - Mission Colour Day
- 23 - Victoria Day-No Classes
- 27 - Athletics Awards & Luncheon
- 26 - Gr. 11 & 12 Topics & Gr. 7 Science Conference
- 31 - Leadership Council Carnival
- 31- Gr. 7 & 9 Preliminary Track Meet

JUNE

- 1 - Grade 12 Alumnae Induction and BBQ
- 2 - Awards Assembly
- 2 - Gr. 7 & 9 Divisional Track and Field Day
- 3 - Parent-Daughter Mass and Brunch
- 3-4- Provincial Soccer
- 6 - Closing Mass - 8:35am
- 24- Grad Dinner and Dance
- 27 - Convocation Mandatory Rehearsal (9:30 am)
- 28 - Convocation (2:00 pm)
- 29 - Newsletter/Report Card Distribution
- 30 - Administration Day

O Risen Lord,

*Let us join with all creation,
singing our Alleluias, for you
have conquered evil, suffering,
and death by your own death
and resurrection.*

*Enter our hearts and
enlighten our minds that we
might find your transforming
fire of love burning brightly in
our lives-changing our sorrow
into joy, our despair to hope,
our fears to faith.*

*Let us rejoice by proclaiming
the Good News of your dying
and rising embedded with the
human heart, through the
power of your Spirit.*

Amen



BUILD A HOUSE FOR BLANCA

Please help support our girls who are going to El Salvador to build a house for Blanca and her daughters/granddaughter in Loma Linda from June 23-July 7.

T-Shirts and book bags are on sale for \$15 each and are available at the school office or through Mrs. Yunyk.

Consider purchasing a ticket for a Fundraising Luncheon at Mona Lisa Restaurant. The luncheon takes place on Sunday, May 15 from 12:00—3:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 with \$10 going directly into the house fund. These may also be purchased at the school office.

Thank you for your support.

Art Gallery - Mrs. D. Nickel

This year, from Monday, May 2 until Friday, May 6, the Annual Art Gallery will take place over the lunch hours. Many students from Grades 8 to Grade 12 have worked countless hours to create incredibly beautiful art pieces. From the Grade 8 calligraphy and clay tiles, through the Grade 9 pointillism and clay figurines, to the senior paintings, the gallery is truly a visual treat for all to see.

All are welcome to see the work.

Visitors are asked to enter via the Administration entrance, since the gallery is along the first floor near the reception area.



**Défi BioTalent
sanofi-aventis
BioTalent Challenge**

- Mrs. M. Klus

The Sanofi Aventis Biotalent Challenge (SABC) was held on April 12th at the St. Boniface Research Center. Grade 12 student Joo Hee Park and grade 10 student Sandy Lee were St. Mary's participants and their teacher mentor was Mrs. Klus. SABC gives high school students from across Canada the chance to pour their curiosity, creativity and science skills into cutting-edge research projects that tackle some of the day's toughest challenges - from Alzheimer's disease and cancer to crops and the environment. SABC is, essentially, an extremely high level and highly competitive science fair. Joo Hee's project title was "Mast Cell Population in Lichen Planus and Lichenoid Mucosis of Oral Mucosa" and her mentor was Dr. Steve Anhing. Sandy's project title was "Increased Levels of the Tight Junction Protein Claudin 1 in Breast Cancer Cells changes their Cellular Behavior" and her mentor was Dr. Yvonne Myal. Sandy Lee was also selected to be interviewed, along with her mentor

on CJOB on Monday, April 11th.

You can listen to the interview at <http://www.cjob.com/other/audiovault.html> (Dr. Myal starts speaking, at about 11:23 am). Sandy was also chosen to present to a panel at the Center for the Advancement of Health Innovations at the Brodie Centre on April 13th. These two students will also be competing at the Manitoba School Science Symposium (MSSS) which will be held on April 19th – May 1st. The amount of time and effort these young women have dedicated to their projects is extremely commendable. They have represented St. Mary's in a very positive light. Good luck girls !



On a Mission - Sr. M. Gibney

The girls have been hard at work once again. We have had our regular collections to such places as House of Peace, L'Arche, Micah House, Our Place/Chez Nous, Osborne House, Beyond Borders. There was much enthusiasm during the annual Food Drive for Winnipeg Harvest. The number of food articles donated determined which teachers would dance during our spirit week. Thanks to Mrs. Lê, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mrs. Franz, and Ms. Wojcik! They did a great job! This year's

drive brought in a total of 43,861 pounds of food from different schools and agencies in the city.

This year a young woman by the name of Nicole Wiens spoke at our Hunger Meal assembly. All monies raised go for tuition of students in our sister schools in Lesotho. We had a colour day to support our foster child, Rudy del Carmen. Major funding took place for Japan. The girls exercised their creativity as they worked hard to demonstrate their solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Japan. Congratulations! Well done, girls!

Textbooks - policy in Handbook

Textbooks must be handed in to the issuing teacher:

Non-Exam Subjects-at the last class.
Exam Subjects-prior to the final exam.

Students who do not return textbooks as indicated or who have damaged or lost textbooks must pay the replacement cost and a **\$25.00 fine** on June 28, 2011.

Heritage Fair - Ms. J. Beauchamp

The SMA Heritage Fair was held on March 16 this year, with approximately 100 volunteer judges, support from The Bay and Starbucks, and over 200 students involved in Grade 9 and 11. This was a true community event. The beautiful SMA Library turned into Judges's Central for the day, and the amazing Grade 9 exhibits in the gym and Grade 11 exhibits in the cafeteria were complimented throughout the day.

The Grade 11 topic theme of *The Indian Act* created many unique opportunities for our entire school. The Grade 11s had two special lecture classes, with Dr. Kinew and the Treaty Commissioner, Jamie Wilson, who both came to address the topic with our girls. In addition, an incredible panel discussion was moderated by CBC's Wab Kinew with Archbishop Weisgerber, Treaty Commissioner Jamie Wilson and the Education and the Director Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre, Lorne Keeper as special guest speakers. The panel discussion for the Grade 11's was followed by a storytelling and dance performance by Summer Bear for our entire school.

Our school will now be represented at the Red River Heritage Fair May 5 at the University of Winnipeg by the following top ranked projects by the following students:

Congratulations to: Chantale Bosc, Sophie Poirier-Cole, Katherine Nemeth Crapper, Raven Rickner, Arielle Humphrey, Dayna Konopelny, Michaela Lang, Julie Boulet and Elly MacRae, Orycia Karpa.

The following Grade 11 students were the top finalists this year at St. Mary's Academy's Heritage Fair:

First Place: Elizabeth Rivera

Second Place: Claire Aiello and Erin Teschuk

Third Place: Sam Richmond, Jessica Thompson, Melina Venuto, Katrina Zmavc

Elizabeth Rivera also won the Janet Duggan Memorial Award for best project at the SMA Fair. Congratulations to Elizabeth!

People's Choice Awards are as follows:

Grade 9

FIRST Alexis Nemeth & Victoria Waytt

SECOND Dayna Konopelney

THIRD Taylor Martin, Jillian Reid,

Maya McDonald, Amanda Finch, Rachel Becker, Midori Matthew, Emily Prenovault

Grade 11

FIRST Alexis Bailey

SECOND Ashlea Moss, Alex Goodman

THIRD Diane Bosc, Nicole McGlenen, Jaclyn Albrechtsen, Eun Ah Lee

FOURTH Megan Marques & Katherine Pulak, Bénédicte LeMaître

Many thanks to the hard working staff, students and many volunteers whose enthusiasm and effort made this year's fair truly memorable!

California Rugby Trip - Mr. M. Macaraeg & Mr. M. Saj

With practices for the upcoming Spring rugby season now in full swing, we welcome back **and** congratulate our team that has returned from the California Rugby Trip, as it took part in the Fullerton Youth Rugby International Tournament. Held on March 19 & 20 in Fullerton, California, the girls were eager to take in their first international rugby experience. On the first day of the tournament, the girls played an unprecedented **four** games, first taking on last year's tournament winner, Fallbrook Warriors, currently ranked #3 in the United States. The girls put up a good fight, keeping the strong California team to only one try in the first half. In the second game, the girls took on a team from Kent, Washington who is ranked #4 in the U.S. and lost by only two tries, 10-0. Due for a win in their third game of the day, the girls were determined to score and blew out the SoCal Gators 31 to 0! The girls rode the wave and won their fourth game handily 25-0 against a team from Oak Creek, Wisconsin.

On the second day of the tournament, the girls had a bye in the first round of the playoffs, then won their first game against the SoCal Gators 33-0 to

put them into the Girls Bowl Final for 3rd place in the tournament against the host team Fullerton Lions. The Bowl Final was an all-out war with neither team gaining a clear advantage at halftime. Fullerton ultimately scored the only try in the game, leading to a St. Mary's loss 7-0. Our girls put together a strong showing and ended up in 4th place out of 9 teams. They definitely turned some heads at the tournament and were the highest placed Canadian team in the tournament!

Mrs. Yunyk, Mr. Macaraeg, and Mr. Saj would like to thank the girls for all of their hard work over the winter during practices, and a strong showing at the tournament. They were excellent representatives of St. Mary's Academy and Canada, and a great time was had by all.



FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE:

June 7:

12: Consumer Math (AM)

June 8:

12: Physics (AM)

June 9:

12: ELA (AM)

June 10:

12: Pre-Calculus (AM)

11: History (PM)

June 13:

12: Biology (AM)

11: Physics (AM)

June 14:

12: Study Day

11: Study Day

June 15:

12: Chemistry (AM)

11: AP Chemistry (PM)

11: Chemistry (PM)

10: AP Chemistry (PM)

June 16:

11: ELA (PM)

10: ELA (AM)

9: ELA (AM)

8: ELA (AM)

7: ELA (AM)

June 17:

11: Math (PM)

10: Math (AM)

9: Science (AM)

8: Science (AM)

7: Science (AM)

June 20:

11: Biology (AM)

10: Science (AM)

9: Math (PM)

8: Math (AM)

7: Math (AM)

AM Exams: 9:00 - 11:00am

PM Exams: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Grades 9-12 write in Cafeteria

Grades 7-8 write in their Homerooms

Grade 7-11 Uniforms required

Grade 12 Uniforms optional, (if not, long shorts, shoulders covered, no flip-flops)

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.

News From The Gym - Mrs. J. O'Leary

Here in the gym, the 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 Leah Inglis is under full swing in the West Winnipeg Athletic Conference league play. Amy Smith, Grade 12, our reigning third place WWAC Singles Athlete has plans to strike gold on May 6th in Carman at the 2011 Provincial Championships this year. She is joined by Anika Campeau (Grade 11) in the Singles category with Natalie Desaulnier and Megan Bourns (Grade 10), Katherine Pulak and Megan Marques (Grade 11), wrapping up the doubles contingent. Junior Badminton, coached by parent Carolyn Fenny has begun league play with Pembina Trails Athletic Association so all shuttlecocks and racquets are being well used.

Mr. Danyluk has a large and very keen group of athlete's committed to 7:15 am Track and Field and Fitness practices. All girls in Grade 7-12 are welcome and practices will continue in the morning, lunch and after school in time for the up-coming divisional track and field meets in May and June.

Rugby is once again coached by our very own Michael Macareg and Michael Saj and the extremely dedicated crew of Alumnae Alanna Scammell and Rupinder Singh. The fields are wet but the team is ready after an amazing trip to California for some exhibition games and playing experience. League play begins at the end of April.

Finally, the email and announcement has just gone out from Alumnae Taylor Kirouac and Katelyn Demers for all Grade 9-12 soccer players interested in playing on the SMA Flames team. Stay tuned for more information regarding league and practice play.

Manitoba Junior and Senior School Dragon Boat Championships will take place on Sunday, June 12, 2011. All willing and able to paddle are welcome to join.

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. The Athletic Banquet and Luncheon will take place on Friday, May 27, 2011 and all interested are welcome to attend. Thank you to all for your continued support of the SMA Athletic Department.

Hockey -

Mrs. P. Johnson

The Flames A and B division hockey teams officially ended the hockey season with a banquet "celebrating a season of excellence" on Wednesday April 12th at CanadInns Polo Park. The following students were nominated for:

Top Defence - Victoria Lovell
Top Rookie - Kathryn Moss,
Steffi Grossi (award recipient)

Sportsmanship Award -
Megan Porath

Most Valuable Player -Nicole
McGlenen, Kelsey Desilets
Top Scorer - Danielle
Krzyszczyk (award recipient)

Congratulations to all members of the Flames hockey teams for a great season.

Careers - Ms. T. Uruski

Gr. 12 Post-Secondary Planning

Grade 12 students are reminded to check the **SMA Career Information** website for regular updates on admission/scholarships/presentations.

Please note the following upcoming scheduled events:

May 12, 2011 - 12:35pm Old Aud
University of Winnipeg - What happens next?

May 13, 2011 - 12:35pm Old Aud
University of Manitoba - What happens next?

Gr. 11 Post-Secondary Information

April 19 - was our first annual Post-Secondary Information Evening for Parents and Students. Representatives from the Universities of Winnipeg, Manitoba and Red River College presented an overview of their various programs along with details about entrance requirements and scholarship opportunities. If you missed this session - please go to our SMA Career Information website to review their handbooks which summarize these details.

*Grade 11 Students are reminded to review the scholarship section of the SMA Career Information website to identify scholarships they would like to target for next year. Taking the time to read through

the details and requirements now provide the opportunity to add experience or volunteer hours to your scholarship resume in preparation for applying. Waiting to do this next year is too late!

Gr. 10 Career Development Classes

April 19 - was our first annual Post-Secondary Information Evening for Parents and Students. Representatives from the Universities of Winnipeg, Manitoba and Red River College presented an overview of their various programs along with details about entrance requirements and scholarship opportunities. If you missed this session - please go to our SMA Career Information website to review their handbooks which summarize these details.

Grade 10 students attended the Rotary Career Symposium on April 7th where they spent the day learning about a variety of career and post-secondary educational opportunities. This month, students are learning how to put together a 'skills-based' resume which focuses on the key skills they have acquired through a variety of experiences within their limited work-related background. At the end of May, students will present their Career Portfolio which will be a valuable tool that they can update yearly and use for future applications to universities, colleges and/or scholarships.

THE TARTAN SHOP

The Spring uniform can be worn beginning May 2, 2011. The Uniform Shop will be open on the following Fridays; April 29th, May 6th, May 13th and will then be closed for the year.

The Fall uniform sale will be held on September 6th and 7th from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Halperns has announced a new return policy: 90 days in original condition.

THE CORNERSTORE

Come and see our wide variety of sportswear. We are open every day except Tues. 12:30-1:30. Come and visit us at the New Student Sale May 17-18th. View our SMA charm, a wonderful keepsake. Our stainless steel water bottle would make a wonderful Father's or Mother's Day gift. You can view our merchandise on the SMA website. We also accept gently used uniforms. Please remember cash or cheque only.