



St. Mary's Academy

AUGUST 2010 NEWSLETTER

From the Director - Sr. S. Wikeem

The August issue of the newsletter signals that, in a few weeks, the school office will reopen and the new school year will officially begin. Please check the SMA website for the school calendar, school supply list, and parking application.

I am pleased to welcome back to SMA alumna Ms. Sylvia Bator who will teach chemistry and science. And, after a twelve year absence, former SMA teacher Ms. Teresa Uruski is also returning to the guidance department as career counselor. Welcome also to French teacher Ms. Cheryl Prystanski and school office secretary Mrs. Beverly Henry.

I look forward to meeting you at Parents' Night on Wednesday, September 22nd. In addition to receiving information about school programs and activities, you will have an opportunity to tour the new facilities and enjoy a wine and cheese reception hosted the Parents' Guild. Come to meet the teachers and each other.

From the Principal - Mrs. C. Yunyk

Welcome to all students and families to an exciting school year.

This year we are called to be a people of **P.O.W.E.R.—PASSION, OWNERSHIP, WISDOM, ENTHUSIASM, RESPONSIBILITY.**

This theme will permeate all aspects of school life, especially during our school-wide retreat in October, our staff retreat in November as well as many other activities throughout the year!

Our Parent Information Evening has been planned for **Wednesday September 22, 2010, beginning at 7:00 p.m.** in Alumnae Hall. Following a general meeting there will be grade level break out sessions where you can meet your daughter's homeroom teacher. At the end of the evening please join members of the Parents' Guild, Faculty and the Administration team for refreshments in the cafeteria.

The Grade 12 Retreat is planned for Monday September 20 (details to follow). This is a regularly scheduled school day and attendance is mandatory. Please note that the day will end at approximately 7:30 p.m with Liturgy—parents are strongly encouraged to attend.

Please read this newsletter carefully for information about school opening, student timetables, agendas, textbooks and lockers. I encourage parents to maintain open and on-going communication with the school. I look forward to meeting and working with each of you during the coming year. It promises to be full of wonderful challenges and opportunities!



Contents

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Director | 1 |
| Principal | 1 |
| Uniform Sale | 1 |
| School Opening | 2 |
| General Info | 2 |
| September Events | 2 |
| Scholarships | 3 |
| Service Learning | 3 |
| Alumnae Tea | 3 |
| Grade 7 Camp | 3 |
| Corner Store | 3 |
| Music Lessons | 3 |
| Parent Evening | 3 |
| Parents' Guild | 4 |
| International Day | 4 |

Fall Uniform Sale

September 7th & 8th

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

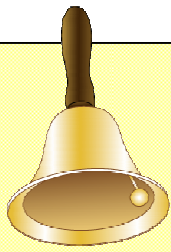
Payment must be made by Visa, MasterCard, Debit Card or Cash. **Cheques not accepted.** If a student is coming with a parent's credit card, the student must have a note signed by the parent authorizing the student to use the card.

Starting Friday, September 10th the Uniform Shop will be open on Fridays during the lunch hour.

Lockers – Students must purchase a combination lock from SMA at a cost of \$6.00. No other locks are permitted.



Your Name
Your locker number



School Opening

New Students

Orientation Day
Wednesday,
September 8th

ALL NEW STUDENTS

meet in Alumnae Hall at
9:00 a.m.

followed by a meeting with
homeroom teachers until
10:00 a.m.

School Orientation Tours

with our

“In the Navy”

Ambassador Team

10:00—11:00 a.m.

Uniforms not required
Dismissal at 11:00 a.m.

General Information

School Calendar – a calendar of major events is available on the SMA website. The calendar outlines important dates including two major assessment periods in January and June. All students are expected to be present during the assessment periods. A doctor’s certificate is required to verify illness or absence during the assessment periods. Parents are asked NOT to book holidays during this time.

The school-wide retreat and school masses are important community building events that are mandatory for all students. Please do not make any appointments on these dates.

Student Timetables and Student Agendas – will be distributed during the homeroom period (8:30 a.m.) on Thursday, September 9, 2010. The agenda includes the school calendar, general school information, policies and procedures, and student information. Please take time to familiarize yourself with this information.

Textbooks – On the first day of classes, subject teachers issue numbered textbooks to each student in. Each assigned textbook is the responsibility of the student to whom it is assigned. In June 2011, students are responsible for returning assigned textbooks in accordance with the following procedures:

Non-exam courses - at the last class

Exam courses - prior to the final exam in a designated classroom.



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.

On the SMA Website – www.stmarysacademy.mb.ca



- 2010-2011 school calendar
- school supply list
- parking application
- this August newsletter

September Events



WELCOME BACK!

All Students

Thursday,

September 9th

Classes Begin—Day 1

Homeroom lists will be posted at school entrances and on classroom doors. Students are to proceed directly to their homeroom at 8:30 a.m. for opening exercises, timetable and agenda distribution and locker assignment. Full winter or summer uniform is required. Bring school supplies.

Opening Mass – Opening School Mass will be on **Friday, September 10th at 2:00 p.m.** in Alumnae Hall. Parents welcome!

Grade 9 Welcome Day Friday, September 17th — Workshops and activities are being planned to facilitate the transition for all Grade 9 students. All students are strongly encouraged to stay to the end at 10:00 p.m. Specific details and permission forms will be distributed the first week back to school.

Parent Information Evening Wednesday, September 22nd — 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. At that time you will have the opportunity to meet members of the Parents’ Guild, your daughter’s teachers, and the Administration team.

Walk for Cancer — St. Mary’s Academy students will be participating in the Walk for Cancer on **Thursday, September 23rd**. A \$10.00 flat fee will be collected from each student for a donation and to defray costs for student-led activities. Further information will be provided to students in early September.

Christine Skublics Scholarships and Awards

Each year scholarships are given in memory of Mrs. Christine Skublics who was a teacher at St. Mary's Academy and our Principal from 1985-1990. The students awarded these scholarships have obtained the highest academic average for their particular grade level.

Recipients of the Christine Skublics Scholarships are:

Grade 9 – Natalie Desaulniers

Grade 10 – Rachel Nickel

Grade 11 – Joo Hee Park

Recipients of the Christine Skublics Award for second and third highest in each grade are:

Grade 9 – Elizabeth Dufresne & Justina Tychanski

Grade 10 – Laura Enns & Kennedy Meier



Bob Ritchie Scholarship



The Bob Ritchie Scholarship for Academic Achievement and Outstanding Involvement at SMA as established by the Ritchie Family. The award winner must be in Grade 11 and returning for Grade 12 in the fall, must be an honours student and must be involved in the school community. The recipient of the Bob Ritchie Scholarship is Elysa Sandron.

Service Learning @ SMA

Service learning is coming to the realization that service is not about what we do – it is about *who we are*. We will continue to live this dimension of our mission in the coming school year. It begins by identifying needs in the community, church or school; actively responding to these needs; and reflecting on the experience.

Service learning for 2010-2011 will include **ALL** students from Grades 7 to 12. Students are welcome to start planning or serving at their site before the school year begins. A Service Fair is being planned for Thursday, September 30th 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. featuring possible service organizations from around Winnipeg. Please refer to the website for the brochure, reflection questions, necessary forms for parents and service site supervisors, and possible service learning sites.

What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us. (R.W. Emerson)

Where could your gifts serve those in need?

Grade 7 Camp

Grade 7 students will be at Camp Arnes from **Wednesday, October 25^h** to **Friday, October 27^h**. Camp is a community building and fun experience. Students will be supervised by Camp Arnes staff, SMA faculty and Grade 11 student camp counsellors.

The cost of attending camp will be \$200.00. An information package will be sent home in September with your daughter.

Parent Evening with

Jerry Goebel

*You CAN make a difference
with your teenager!*

**Monday, October 4th
7:00 p.m - Alumnae Hall**

**Jerry will be our speaker during
Mother Marie Rose Week & Retrally
facilitator in October.**

Details will follow in September.

Please check our website.

Alumnae Tea

The SMA Alumnae Association will hold its Annual Tea on **Sunday, September 26th**. All former students, parents, families, and friends of past and present students are invited. Mass at 12 o'clock in Alumnae Hall followed by the Tea in the cafeteria until 3:30 p.m.



This is a great opportunity for new students to introduce their extended families to their new school.

Corner Store News

Come and see our wide variety of sportswear as well as SMA charms at the Corner Store open school days (except Tuesdays) from 12:30-1:30 p.m. starting Sept. 20th. We accept gently used uniforms, white shoes and gloves (for Convocation). Sportswear will be available at the Uniform Sale Sept 7th & 8th. We remind parents and students that we accept cash or cheques only.

Looking forward to seeing you throughout the school year.



Private Music Lessons

If you are interested in private piano, music theory, or beginner guitar lessons at the school please call for further information:

Sister Josephine Chudzik
direct line 284-3309.

International Day Sunday, Nov. 7, 2010

International Day is the Parents' Guild largest fundraiser of the year. It is similar to Folklorama with delicious ethnic food, displays and entertainment.

Pavilions confirmed for this year are: Greece, India, Ukraine, Celtic, Afro-Caribbean, Germany, Italy, Latin America.. There is also a raffle, a Rainbow Auction, home baking to take home and delightful entertainment and wandering minstrels.

We are still looking for a few more pavilions. If you would like to share your cultural background please contact **Bonnie Cadieux** intday@stmarysacademy.mb.ca Kits are available to start you off and lots of support along the way.

The event is open to the SMA community and the public.

An event of this magnitude requires considerable commitment from our SMA parent community. Many volunteers are required. Time commitments vary with the task.

Please take time to complete and return the enclosed volunteer form to the school.



From the Parents' Guild – Mrs. Nicola Guttormson, President

Welcome to all parents of St. Mary's Academy students. This is the 40th anniversary of the Parents' Guild, which was formed on November 4th 1970. We encourage each of you to attend our Guild meetings. These meetings provide parents with the opportunity to meet other parents and are a wonderful way to stay connected with the school. You can learn more about the school and community life of St. Mary's Academy by working with the Guild to help plan and organize fundraising and school social events. Meetings generally last one and a half hours and Sr. Susan always provides us with coffee and treats.

Our first meeting of the school year will be held on Tuesday, September 14th, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the S.M.A. Boardroom. Parents enter the school through the front door of the Administration Building located on the Wellington Crescent side of the school.

Please mark your calendar with the following dates of our 2010 - 2011 Parents' Guild meetings.

Tuesday September 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.(AGM)

Tuesday October 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday December 7, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.. (Meeting and Christmas celebration)

Tuesday February 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday March 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. (Call for nominations and nominating committee)

Tuesday May 3, at 7:00 p.m. (Results announced)

Tuesday June 7, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (Meeting and windup)

Congratulations to all SMA parents for a very successful 2009 - 2010 fundraising year. The Parents' Guild raised just under \$60,000! This money was used to enhance our daughters' school life in the following ways:

- A student agenda for each student
- Financial support for student education enrichment activities
- Financial support for the Bursary Fund
- Parents' Guild Academic scholarship to (a graduating student)
- Parents' Guild School Citizenship Award (to a graduating student)
- A gift for each graduate
- Hospitality and catering for the staff appreciation luncheon
- Hospitality at open house for prospective students and their families
- Hospitality for new parents at the carnival
- Digital piano for Alumnae Hall
- Wardrobes for drama costumes
- Tablets for math teachers
- A mobile science cart
- Laptop and LCD projector
- A document camera
- Financial support to host the National Debate Seminar at SMA
- Bulletin boards / dividers for cafeteria
- Chairs for reading area in the new library

We look forward to meeting you and having another successful year.