



# St. Mary's Academy

October 2009 Newsletter

Volume IV

Number 1

## News from the Director - Sister Susan Wikeem



Construction of the new library and uniform shop is underway. I pray we have a long, mild fall so that the building envelope can be completed before winter sets in. The capital campaign, expanding the vision, is ongoing. Funds are in place to finance Part A of the expansion project. Thank you to the families who have made a pledge. More funds are needed before we begin Part B which is the theatre production and athletic multi-purpose room. An information session is being planned for new parents.

## Principal's Message - Mrs. C. Yunyk

It is hard to believe we have completed our first five weeks of this academic year! Much has already been accomplished in both curricular and extra-curricular areas. Some highlights include: Chelsea Caldwell elected as Head Girl, volleyball teams are on fire, junior musical is in full rehearsal mode, and SMA is hosting the National Debate Seminar this week. I am grateful for your enthusiasm, gifts and commitment to SMA!

We have reported in several past newsletters that an updated assessment framework will be implemented this year; a plan which has taken over eighteen months to develop. With November come progress reports which have undergone improvements to better reflect your daughter's progress to date. Grade 12 progress reports will include a mark expressed by a percentage, a teacher comment, skills/competencies achieved to date and an attendance profile. For students in Grades 7 – 11, the mark will be a letter grade in addition to a teacher comment, skills/competencies achieved to date and an attendance profile.

I encourage you make a habit of visiting the SMA website for school information and news. Parents who want an inside look at school life should check the daily bulletin that contains the announcements made in classrooms each morning.

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events: the HRT dinner, International Day, Parent-Teacher Interviews and *Annie Jr.*

The Grade 12 ELA Standards test, worth 30% of final grade, will be written January 5 – 8 for the most part during class time. Beginning January 7 until and including January 21 all students will experience mid-year assessment in most subjects worth 10% of final grade. This assessment is cumulative and common in nature, 60 minutes in length and may include process-type writing reflections, a debate, a lab experiment and report and unit tests.

An assessment schedule will be posted on the SMA website before Christmas. Parents are asked not to plan family vacations during this time. If you require additional information, please contact a member of the administration team.

## Inside

*News from the Parent's Guild* 2  
*International Day*  
*Annie Junior*  
*Cornerstore Message*

*A Message from Missions* ..... 3  
*Good Food! Good Cause!*  
*Hope is BOLD*  
*Take Your Kid to Work Day*  
*Uniform Shop News*

*SMA Golf Team* ..... 4  
*Home of the Flames*  
*A Prayer in Fall*

## Dates to Note

### OCTOBER

- 22 - 12:35 Dismissal
- 23-24 - Jr. Varsity VB Tournament
- 27 - Picture Retakes
- 28 - Human Rights' Dinner
- 30 - Mission Colour Day

### NOVEMBER

- 1 - International Day/All Saints Day
- 4 - Take Your Kids To Work Day
- 11 - Remembrance Day - NO classes!
- 13 - Progress Report Distribution
- 18 - 12:35 Dismissal
- 19 - NO Classes, P/T Interviews
- 20 - NO Classes
- 27 & 29 - Jr. Production - Annie Jr.

### DECEMBER

- 7 - Immaculate Conception Mass
- 8 - No Classes
- 11 - No Classes
- 15 - December Newsletter
- 18 - 12:35 Dismissal

**Don't Forget!**

To turn your clocks back  
ONE HOUR  
on Sunday,  
November 1st!



### Get Your Christmas Shopping Done Early at the Cornerstore

The Cornerstore is proud to introduce a beautiful *SMA charm* created by Epsilon Creations. It is available in silver, and special ordered in gold.

We are open every day except Tuesday 12:35-1:35 You can also see us at International Day as well as P.T. Conferences. Do not forget to visit our website.

We have a great selection of sportswear available. Get a head start on your Christmas shopping. We have something for everyone.

*Please remember cheque or cash only.*

### Join us in prayer!



Wednesday mornings  
@ 8am in the Chapel

## News From the Parents Guild - Rita Serbin

The Parents' Guild Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We had a great turnout of new and returning parents! On September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 the Parent Information evening was held at the school and the Guild hosted a wine and cheese reception for the SMA community. Special thanks to Banville and Jones Wine Company for its generous donation of red and white wine for the evening. The centerpiece at the reception was a marvelous ice sculpture featuring the SMA crest. This was generously donated and created by Larry MacFarlane of Krystal Dreams Ice Sculptures. The volunteer assistance for this event was very much appreciated.

We look forward to meeting parents at International Day, a multicultural event at SMA on Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Please check the school website for additional information about International Day.

We welcome all parents to our next Guild meeting and Christmas get-together to be held on Tuesday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at 6:30 p.m in the Board Room. The evening will begin with a brief meeting followed by a potluck and a fun and inexpensive gift exchange. If you would like more information about the Guild or our December meeting please contact any member of the Parents' Guild executive.

## International Day -

Travel the world and get a glimpse of other cultures at **International Day** at St. Mary's Academy on **Sunday, November 1, 2009**. Bring the whole family. Admission – silver collection.

Start the day with the International Day Mass at 10:30 a.m. in Alumnae Hall. Then purchase lunch in the cafeteria at any of the countries represented. Return to Alumnae Hall during the afternoon where you will be entertained by local talent that will take you to the lands where their music and dance originates. Try your luck with our monetary draw.

Raffle tickets have been sent home with the students. Please make an effort to sell them. At \$1.00 per ticket they will sell well. Advertise

the day while selling tickets. Individual pavilion raffles are also part of the International Day activities.

The ever-popular home baking table will be ready for business as well. Baking can be dropped off on Friday, October 30, Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> or Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, before 1:00 p.m.

Donations for the Rainbow Auction can be dropped off at Reception. Please label items with your name and also indicate Rainbow Auction.

We look forward to seeing you at this annual family event.

## 2009-2010 Junior Production - Annie Junior

Last year kicked off the first junior play St. Mary's Academy has done since "Alice In Wonderland" in 1993. "Heaven Is..." was a huge success involving over 90 of St. Mary's talented students.

This year, we are pleased to continue involving the juniors in the drama department. In late November, the girls will show off their talent and hard work with their production of "Annie Jr."

The story is about a little orphan girl, named Annie, who is left in the care of the dreaded Miss Hannigan. She hopes to get out of the orphanage and find her parents by any means possible. "Annie Jr." is an upbeat, exciting play full of fun and adventure. With only two performance dates, don't miss the show.

Tickets are 10 dollars each and will go on sale Friday, October 30th. The show dates are Friday, November 27 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 29, at 1:00 p.m. Please come and support the hard work of all the juniors involved and senior volunteers creating the show. Thank you for your support and can't wait to see you in the audience!

~ Assistant Producers: Ainsley Balcewich and Alana Hommel



## A Message from Missions - Ms. L. Dart & Sister M. Gibney

First meeting – fabulous! We were delighted to have an overwhelming response of mission reps and others who are interested. There were not enough chairs!! Moving to the Old Aud enabled us better to get together in the “mix and mingler” games.

In the past 3 weeks, many classes have been generous in their weekly collections for Alpha House, Hospitality House and the Terry Fox

Foundation. We continue to plan for the year, hoping to involve many who will take on special events such as colour days, the card campaign, Christmas Hampers, the annual food drive, the Hunger Meal...

We anticipate a good year with our leadership team consisting of Christine Caliguiri, Olivia Danylchuk, Gabby Morrill, Taylor Onsowich, and Lexa Twist.

## Good Food! Good Time! Good Cause! - Mr. D. Swirsky

The sixth annual SMA Human Rights Team (HRT) dinner is Wednesday, October 28, 6:00pm - 8:30 PM in the cafeteria.

The dinner is catered by Mona Lisa's and the desserts are home made by the students.

This year's theme is Human Rights Heroes, and we will have several speakers state who their human rights hero is and why. Tickets are \$20;

tables of 8 can be reserved for \$140. Donations are gratefully accepted and tax receiptable.

Tickets are available at the Wellington Cres entrance, or by contacting Dale Swirsky, [dswirsky@stmarysacademy.mb.ca](mailto:dswirsky@stmarysacademy.mb.ca).



## Hope is BOLD - M. Garlinski, Campus Ministry Office

Our SNJM Youth Summer Justice Project and Youth Leader were fun and faith-filled experiences. Campus Ministry @ SMA has a leadership team and you can learn more about them on the website. The Grade 12 retreat and Service Fair were wonderful September events. CLC, J-Walking, Campus Ministry reps Breakfast Club meetings, Wednesday Morning Mass (October 14<sup>th</sup>), Harvest Thursday (October 15<sup>th</sup>) and a choir retreat are all scheduled to begin this month.

Without a doubt our highlight this fall was Mother Marie Rose week. We kicked it off with

Holy Names Sisters visiting and sharing their stories. Tuesday was the actual Feast day and we gathered to celebrate Liturgy as a faith community and we welcomed our Retrally speaker, ValLimar Jansen who prepared our Grade 12's for the Retrally day which was on Wednesday. Thursday ValLimar continued to meet with students, there was a Mother Marie Rose scavenger hunt and ValLimar offered an evening for parents. Friday we concluded with a little rose treat!

As we continue to journey as People of Hope, may we keep the vision, courage and faith of Mother Marie Rose close to our hearts.

## Take Your Kid to Work Day - November 4th - Mrs. S. Matheson

On Wednesday, November 4, 2009, hundreds of Grade 9 students from Manitoba will spend the day at a work place, job shadowing a parent, relative, friend or neighbour. This day is titled **Take Our Kids To Work Day**. St. Mary's Academy offers this opportunity to the students as part of Grade 9 career planning and exploration.

Our mission is to nurture partnerships among schools, businesses, and communities, and to encourage caring adults to share their expertise, talents and resources with students. This day provides a positive learning opportunity for stu-

dents which is both exciting and challenging. Students will discuss their work experiences in the career classes to follow.

Early in the month of October, information and permission letters for **Take Our Kids To Work Day** will be sent home. Families are kindly asked to return the permission letters to school by **October 20, 2009**.

If you have any further questions regarding **Take Our Kids To Work Day**, please contact Mrs. Matheson, Career Counsellor at 477-0244, extension 263.

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

The Uniform Shop is located adjacent to the entrance to the cafeteria. The shop is staffed by parent volunteers. It is open every Friday over the lunch break from 12:35 p.m. to 1:35 p.m with the exception of in-service and exam days. A percentage of all uniform sales is payable to the Parent Guild and these monies are used to fund projects in the school.

The following is the 2009 price list for you to refer to when making uniform purchases:

Article	Price
Washable Kilt	\$80.00
Long Sleeved Blouse	\$32.00
Short Sleeved Blouse	\$30.00
V-Neck Pullover	\$51.00
Cardigan	\$53.00
Sleeveless Vest	\$49.00
Tie	\$18.00
Summer skirt - NEW	\$49.00
Golf Shirt - NEW	\$26.00
Knee Socks	\$6.50 ea
or 3 pairs for...	\$18.50
Cotton/Lyrca Tights	\$15.00
Opaque Tights	\$8.00
Kilt Pin	\$2.50

We do have some vintage uniform items available, check with the shop for the updated sale prices of those items.

PST is charged on all adult sized merchandise. If you are under 15 you must remember to fill out the PST exemption form that is in the uniform shop. GST is charged on all purchases.

**Halpern's does not accept personal cheques** as payment for merchandise purchased at the Uniform Shop. You may pay using cash, debit card, VISA or MasterCard. If you are sending your credit card with your daughter, she will also need a note, signed by the cardholder, indicating that she has permission to use the card.

## SMA Golf Team Provincial Champs - Mr. J. Villa

For the third consecutive year SMA girls won the Provincial Golf Championship in Minnedosa, MB. They won this year by a combined score of 21 strokes and Bri-ann Tokariwski (Grade 12) was lowest female golfer with a 79. Nicole McGlenen (Grade 10) was second lowest female for the tournament with a score of 86. Jaclyn Albrechtsen (grade 10), Melanie Bossiere (grade 9), and Adriana Pawlowsky (grade 10) rounded out this strong team.

Additionally, Bri-ann was named the Home Run Sports Winnipeg High School Athlete of the Week. Go Flames!



## Home of the Flames - Mrs. J. O'Leary

We are now 6 weeks into jumping, diving, spiking, serving, passing, and the 2009 volleyball season. Seven teams, composed of 95 athletes, are training hard and practicing with much enthusiasm, commitment, and dedication.

The Grade 7 athletes participated in their first "Friendship Tournament" on October 5<sup>th</sup>. St. Mary's volleyball athletes Jessica Malach (Grade 12), and Danika Picklyk (grade 1i), as well as Jessica Korol (Grade 11) and Stephanie Primeau (Grade 11) are committed to coaching and supporting these three teams. Three more developmental tournaments are scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup> and November 5<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Grade 7 "Flames", coached by teacher Adriane McElrea and Kate Cook ('06), will compete in league play beginning on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Grade 8 team with Lindsay Komishon ('06) and Tom Falconer, have been practicing hard and are looking forward to their upcoming league play beginning on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Grade 9 athletes with coaches Christa Desrochers and Jayme Menzies began their league with a win against Ecole Charleswood, Ecole Viscount Alexander and Westdale Schools as well

as a top-four finish at the Shaftesbury Tournament.

The Junior Varsity team, coached by Jocelyne Roy, is currently involved in its league play where they are undefeated. The team will be hosting a tournament on October 23rd-24th<sup>th</sup>.

The Varsity team with long-time SMA coaches Leanne Leskiw, Michelle Sanheim, and SMA Staff member Christine Rewniak (currently on maternity leave) has been ranked Number 1 in the province. The team began its season with a first-place showing at the Brandon Crocus Plains Tournament, as well as the Lord Selkirk Tournament. The team hosted their own tournament on October 23/24th where they finished 4th. League play continues on Monday and Wednesdays.

Congratulations to all teams on a fabulous start to the season! Stay tuned for more great information from the home of the Flames.

Thank you for your continued support of the athletic department. For more information or game schedules please contact Jen O'Leary, Adriane McElrea or Demetro Danyluk at 477-0244.

### A Prayer in Fall

**Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, obtain for us today :**

**the audacity of Faith,**

**The simplicity of Hope,**

**And the power of Love,**

**That we may actualize the words of Jesus; 'I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish that it were already kindled.'**

*Luke 12:49*