



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS Regional Secondary School

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Construction Update	2
Science Department	3
Grad News	2 & 4
Athletics	4 - 7
Academic Advisor	8 - 9
Student/Alumni News	10-11
STA Parent Association & SPX Craft Fair	11 & 12

IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER

Nov 1	Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day
Nov 2	Grade 8 Retreat
Nov 3	Pro-D Day School Closed
Nov 5	STA Craft Fair
Nov 8	DPA and Service Hours Due
Nov 13	School Closed for Remembrance Day
Nov 14	Pro-D Day School Closed
Nov 15	School Mass
Nov 16	School Dance
Nov 20-24	HACE Week #2
Nov 21	Report Cards Distributed
Nov 25	Fall STA Grounds Clean Up
Nov 27	Spirit Day
Nov 27-28	Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews



LOOKS LIKE THERE IS NO TURNING BACK NOW!

Now that the ground breaking has taken place, the real work begins. I am inspired by the energy and commitment exhibited by all those involved with the building project. The new STA will be a proud statement for our North Shore Catholic community. The effort put forth will be rewarded in spades if we all pull in the same direction. The fall sports teams have followed the same course and are once again reaping success from hard work.

The cross country team sent 3 teams to the provincials... best results in school history! The senior girls field hockey team made it to the provincials... first time in school history! The junior boys soccer team won the North Shore Championships... first time in school history! The four levels of girls volleyball teams are all doing great in their road through the playoffs! The senior boys soccer team is one win away from a provincial berth.

Come out and support our teams... best free entertainment around!

Have a great November!

John Campbell

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE—WEST KEITH ROAD

We wish to share with you the following information from the City of North Vancouver relating to their construction work on West Keith Road:

“As part of the City’s pavement management program, and with the anticipated completion of trail and utility construction, BA Blacktop will be restoring the pavement on West Keith Road (south side) from Marine Drive to Mahon Avenue. **Work is scheduled to begin Thursday October 26** and is anticipated to be completed within three weeks including Saturdays. Daily construction times will be from 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. with detours and parking restrictions in effect.

The work will be done in sections and there will be **NO ACCESS** to the portion of the street within the paving zone. Please avoid walking on any freshly prepared surfaces or the new paved blacktop surfaces during the entire process.

The paving is dependent on dry weather and the project may be delayed, extended or cancelled if conditions are not entirely satisfactory. During this time, the actual worksite will be kept as compact as possible. Traffic control personnel will be onsite to assist with traffic flow and vehicular access.

The City of North Vancouver recognizes the inconvenience this work may cause and thanks you for your understanding and cooperation.”

We therefore encourage parents and students to avoid using West Keith Road for drop off, pick up or parking, and to consider doing so one block or more east of the school.



GRAD 2018

Grade twelves are currently in the midst of their Purdy's Christmas Chocolate fundraiser. Grads earn 25% of their total sales which will be put towards their Dinner/Dance costs. This very popular fundraiser has traditionally seen over \$10 000 in chocolates sold! The deadline for orders is November 24. Get some treats for Christmas and support a grad!

Graduation Coordinators

Ms. Mattia, Ms. Martins, Ms. Liang



Science Department News

SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED

WE WANT YOU!

We are looking for judges for our Sixteenth Annual Grade 8 Science Fair. This event will take place from 8:00 until 4:00 on Monday, January 29. Training for judges will be provided on the day of the event, as will lunch! While YOU DO NOT NEED TO HAVE A BACKGROUND IN SCIENCE TO BE A WONDERFUL SCIENCE FAIR JUDGE, this is certainly an asset. Please note that beginning this year, time spent judging our science fair may be used toward Parent Participation. All interested parents or STA alumni should please email Ms. Treacy at treacy@aquinas.org.



SHAD APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

SHAD is an internationally recognized, immersive summer program of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math)-based lectures, workshops, projects and activities. Students currently in grades 10 through 12 who are high-achievers in science are encouraged to apply for this month-long summer program at one of 16 university campuses across Canada. While at SHAD, students are encouraged to “recognize their own capabilities and envision their extraordinary potential as tomorrow’s leaders and change makers” (www.shad.ca). Attending SHAD has the potential to be a life-changing experience, and it looks great on university applications, identifying attendees as elite students. It is also a very fun program, with lots of

social activities. Last year, STA sent two of our current grade 12 students to SHAD at campuses in New Brunswick and Newfoundland.

Online applications are due November 20. The admission process is competitive and takes into account both academics and extra-curricular activities. There is no cost to apply, and if necessary, financial support is available for successful candidates.

Please speak to Ms. Treacy or go to www.shad.ca for more information.

UBC ENGINEERING UPCOMING EVENTS

ENGINEERING OPEN HOUSE

There will be cool lab demonstrations, informative presentations, and fascinating lab tours. Learn about careers in engineering! DATE: Saturday, November 18.

GEARING UP! CLUBS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Join us for hands-on engineering and science. Dissect a squid, build a rocket or program your own video game. Saturdays, September to December.

RSPV: engineering.ubc.ca/student-events



GRAD ALERT: YEAR BOOK 2017/8

GRADUATE MEMORIES

FOR GRADE 12 PARENTS ONLY!

Would you like to write a special letter to your graduate in the 2017/8 yearbook? The Media Arts class is now working on the senior section of the yearbook. We require a baby photo, write-up and payment to the STA office by Monday, December 4, 2017 for pickup by *Ann Joby*.

Mark the envelope: Ann Joby, PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

PLEASE ENCLOSE THE FOLLOWING:

1. Photo with the **student's name on the back**. This photo must be a baby picture of your son or daughter. It will be returned at the end of the school year with the yearbook, **provided it is labeled with the student's name**. A good colour copy is OK. If you would like to send the picture electronically, it must be **at least 300 dpi**.
2. Your write-up (100 words or less) may be submitted on paper or preferably by e-mail.
E-mail the write-up to: jobyann@aquinas.org or sawdon@aquinas.org
3. Cash/ cheque made payable to STA for \$25.00.

Students quite often open the envelope and peek at their photos and messages, even when it is sealed and addressed "**Personal & Confidential**". If you would like to avoid this give the envelope directly to *Mrs. Brickell* in the STA office.

All families of graduates are encouraged to submit a memory!

Space is limited and submissions are due on December 4, 2017 but you may hand it in early. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the school at [\(604\) 987-4431](tel:6049874431) weekdays until 3:00pm. The yearbook staff cannot guarantee inclusion in the yearbook if pictures and write-ups are handed in late either by parents or students.

Thank you for your support!

Yearbook Staff



STA ATHLETICS

STA CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

The STA Cross Country Team won their **first ever** North Shore Championship in convincing style wiping out all AA competition. Not only are they at the top, they are sending 3 teams to the provincials...more than any AAA team on the Shore. 20 members of the team ascended on Jericho Beach Saturday, November 4 to compete against the best in the province.

Go Saints Go!





SENIOR BOYS SOCCER

After an off season of training, identification camps and the annual alumni soccer game, the senior boys soccer roster was finalized in early September. The Fighting Saints, opened the season with an exhibition game against Handsworth, which resulted in a 1-1 draw, but a 3-1 win for STA in the shootout. The regular season opened with back to back wins over Collingwood and Mulgrave before the boys dropped their first game of the season in 2-1 loss to Windsor. The first loss was followed up with three consecutive wins over Sutherland, Bodwell and Rockridge, which

was enough to secure the Fighting Saints a second place finish in 'AA' North Shore league. The North Shore-Burnaby zone playoffs get underway on Thursday, November 2nd at Fen Burdett Field as the boys look to make their push towards the 'AA' provincial championships. Watch for playoff results in the November newsletter.

Coaches:
Mr. Loui Salituro & Mr. Fernando Grossling

JUNIOR BOYS SOCCER



The Jr. Boys soccer team is having its most successful season ever. We are so far undefeated (the only team in the league that can make that claim) and have shown an exceptional performance in every game, both on and off the field. We are led by a strong squad of grade 10's and the grade 9's and 8's are a fantastic complement to all our efforts. Coaches *Diego* and *Felipe Grossling* look forward to finishing first place and going for our first ever championship title.
 Well done boys!



SENIOR GIRLS BC CATHOLIC PROVINCIALS DID NOT DISAPPOINT AGAIN THIS YEAR



The team had high ambitions and came with their stA game. Despite a rough start on day one the team rallied to secure a playoff spot facing their nemesis St Pats in the quarterfinals on day two. The match was very close, had a lot of emotion and controversy with yellow and red cards being awarded to both coaches.

STA lost the first set but gained some momentum at the end of the game. In the second set, STA made some minor offensive adjustments to break St Pats defence and got off to a quick lead. STA was able to hold the lead finishing on a controversial call to win the set sending the match to a 3rd game tie breaker.

Again STA started with a 3 point lead which they would not relinquish. Amazing play from seniors *Nicole Greig* (Bumps) passing as libero, *Hannah Richards* (Turk-Bandit) setting, and right side spiking from captain *Katherine Harland* (Bert). It was obvious the seniors wanted this win and played their hearts out. St Pats had no answer for *Harland* and the team won having their best effort of the season. With the win the team advanced to the semi final round where they faced LFA.

It seemed as if the St Pats game took a lot out of the girls dropping the match 2-0. The bronze medal match up was against Holy Cross.

Having just lost and seeing the STA starters were exhausted, the decision was made to start the bench. With the help from 4 juniors pulled up for the tournament, the team had the right spark and played an amazing game and was able to pull out the win earning them the bronze medal.

Congratulations girls on a great tournament !



STA SENIOR GIRLS FIELD

The STA senior girls field hockey team at the AA Provincial Qualifying tournament October 27. The girls had a great time, great weather and great experience from a season of senior level play.

Good luck to the team at the Provincials this week.





BANTAM GIRLS VOLLEYBALL



Bantam girls volleyball team held a tie dye bonding party to prepare their shirts for the Walk-a-thon. You can see the fabulous result!

The bantam girls volleyball team have had a great start to the season. They are developing their skills, learning new offences and defences and are coming together to look and play like a real team.

They are undefeated in league play and at the BC Catholic tournament they won their quarterfinal game against Holy Cross and then lost in the semi-finals to LFA in a hard fought battle. We expect the girls to only get stronger and more confident as the season progresses.

Way to go Saints!

JUVENILE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL



The STA Juvenile girls Volleyball team are setting, bumping and spiking their way to the top! Our serving still needs a bit of work, but Rome wasn't built in a day, so I'm sure we'll come out Serv-ivors!

Our net-result: we are currently placed first in the North Shore East Division, ahead of Windsor, Sutherland and Seycove, to name a few. STA is leading with an impressive 4 wins, 8 points and only 1 loss. With Playoffs just around the corner, now is the time to work harder than ever! Elbow and knee injuries aside, we're going to keep practicing and hopefully ace our way through the playoffs!

Go Saints Go

STA is excited to have a core of Grade 8 students who have joined the swim team in addition to our more experienced swimmers. They represent the school well with their determination and positive attitude. Wish us well as we prepare for the Zone meet at the end of October.



SWIMMING

News from the Academic Advisor

With university early admissions now open and entrance scholarship applications now being accepted, the academic advisor's office has been a tremendously busy place. Students are welcome to drop in to meet with **Mr. Salituro** or **Mrs. Paruzzolo** to discuss post-secondary applications and admissions, scholarship opportunities and a wide variety of other academic needs or concerns. Senior students are encouraged to follow our new social media accounts on both Instagram and Facebook to keep up to date with new scholarship and bursary applications along with news on post-secondary info sessions and open houses.

This information will also be published in STA's daily announcements.



Follow us @staacademics

www.facebook.com/



NOVEMBER POST-SECONDARY VISITS AT STA

STA is proud to host information sessions from the following post-secondary institutions in November. All sessions will take place in the library and are open to all students in grades 11 and 12.

Interested students must register at the academic advisor's office for each session.



McGill University
November 21
10:00 AM



Vancouver Film School
November 23
10:00 AM



University of Alberta
November 29
8:30 AM



University of Calgary
November 29
3:15 PM

UBC APPLIED SCIENCE OPEN HOUSE

Grade 11 & 12 students interested in a career in engineering, nursing, architecture and landscape architecture are encouraged to attend UBC's Applied Science open house on November 18 from 10:00 – 4:00 pm. Meet with professors, staff, and students who can help you decide whether UBC Applied Science is right for you. There will be demonstrations, fascinating lab tours, and informative presentations. Talk to advisors, professors and current students about all your options.

Register at <https://apsc.ubc.ca/openhouse>

DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LOGS FOR 2017-18

Students in grades 10-12 should remember that starting in September, daily physical activity must be reported to their HACE teacher. A minimum of 150 minutes per week are required in each of grades 10, 11 and 12. Grade 12 students must include their final report in their Graduation Transition Portfolio.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Students are encouraged to search for scholarship opportunities in their intended field of study or at the post-secondary institution they intend to apply. Scholarship opportunities are posted in the daily announcements and on our social media accounts and published in the monthly newsletter. Please see these new scholarship opportunities below:

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

These full ride scholarships support domestic tuition and tuition surcharges for one academic year (2 terms, and are renewable for up to three additional years (6 terms). Applications are now open at: <http://capilanou.ca/entrance-awards/>

SFU UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP

Valued from \$10,000 and up, to an amount sufficient to cover tuition and fees. Available to both domestic and international students admitted for the fall term to any undergraduate degree. Applications now open at: <http://www.sfu.ca/students/admission/scholarships.html>

CORPUS CHRISTI JUNIOR FELLOW SCHOLARSHIP

Entitles the recipient to \$25,000 over two years. More info at: <http://corpuschristi.ca/our-programs/circle-of-fellows/>

UBC CENTENNIAL SCHOLARS ENTRANCE AWARD

Entitles entering students one-time and renewable awards of up to \$40,000 payable over four years. More info at: you.ubc.ca/centennial-scholars

UBC MAJOR ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP

Entitles entering students at UBC, including a one-time award of approximately \$5,000 and renewable awards of up to \$40,000 payable over four years. More info at: <http://you.ubc.ca/financial-planning/scholarships-awards-canadian-students/major-entrance/>

UBC WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY: HOPE for Success

The Humanitarian Organization for Providing Empowerment (**HOPE**), an on-campus group under the Alma Mater Society at UBC, will be hosting a workshop for graduating students of the coming 2018 school year.

Come get ready at UBC HOPE's: Hope For Success workshop series which will offer an in-depth and comprehensive look at how to tackle university application questions with ease. During the session students will be given a chance to work on example questions to build confidence as well as see examples of successful personal profiles from previous years!

But it doesn't just end with the workshop! Mentees will be given a chance to have their applications proofread and edited with suggestions by the mentors before they are to be submitted.

Topics include:

- 1. Requirements for admission to UBC?*
- 2. What is UBC looking for?*
- 3. Tips on starting your personal profile*
- 4. How you can improve your personal profile*



Students who are keen about their post-secondary futures would benefit immensely from this workshop. Please note the details below:

Date: November 22, 2017

Time: 5:00-7:00pm

Cost: \$10

Location: UBC Irving K Barber Library room 182

Contact: ubchopeclub@gmail.com

Website to sign up: <http://thehopeinitiative.wixsite.com/ubchope>

Student News

With Halloween rounding out the month of October, the library's displays reflect both the season and its origins. Students have been making great use of the space before, during and after school as well as at lunch to either complete homework, meet with friends, play board games, and do research. As well, in October, three of our students accompanied library staff to the United Library Warehouse annual fall sale. These avid readers

helped us select age appropriate titles and had a lot of fun in the process including winning some terrific door prize. Thank you to *Kevin Calindas*



and *Brandon Cruz* from grade eight, and *Alyssa Duro* from grade eleven who helped us with the shopping process.

We remind all students that we love receiving your suggestions and recommendations for book titles. Look for our new titles to be on the shelves soon!

KURUME SHINAI CULTURAL EXCHANGE

On October 13, STA was very excited to welcome over 80 staff and students from our sister school, *Kurume Shinai*, in Japan. These students and teachers had a five day stay in Canada and spent a full day touring STA. During their stay, STA staff and students greeted *Kurume Shinai* with a warm Saints welcome and an assembly featuring a fantastic performance from our band, under the direction of *Mr. Horton*, and a video on STA life made by Student Council. The band worked hard to pre-

pare the Canadian and Japanese national anthems, as well as the theme from *Hockey Night in Canada*. *Kurume Shinai* and STA worked together to create a cultural sharing exhibit where students and staff experienced many wonderful facets of the Japanese culture, including a tea ceremony, calligraphy, and traditional kimonos. The STA students were excellent ambassadors and represented the spirit of STA with warm hearts. We would like to thank staff, students, and the entire STA community for making our Japanese friends feel at home and are looking forward to our visit again next year!

FIGHTING SAINTS SPORTS ACADEMIES

The Fighting Saints Girls Sports Academy and the Fighting Saints Boys Basketball Academy are off to a great start this year. We are blessed to have *Ransford Brempong* heading coaching the basketball portion of the Academy. *Ransford* is a former NCAA and professional player. In addition he has represented Canada on our Senior National Team for many years. The girls and boys in the program are also making great strength strides under the direction of *Ms. Paxton*- who not only is a fantastic teacher and former University of Alberta basketball star, but also works with Hockey Canada as a strength and

conditioning coach.

The Fighting Saint Sports Academies are busy getting players ready for volleyball play-offs and the upcoming basketball season. If you have any questions pertaining to the Fight Saints Sports Academies please email

Mr. Prescott
(prescott@aquinas.org)

Go Saints



Alumni News



Congratulations to STA Graduate 2017 *Theresa Brown* who received a University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship.

Natalie Sharp, grad 2015, is debuting in a new series launching in the US on October 17 with her TV dad *Jason Alexander* (George Castanza, of *Seinfeld* fame). Like the Partridge Family, this TV family is hitting the road on tour with all sorts of hi-jinks. As one of the leads, *Natalie* filmed 10 episodes over 40 days this past summer here in Vancouver, with representation now in both LA and her home city.



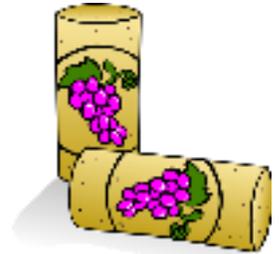
STA graduate *Oscar Barrera*, Realtor with Royalty Group, is organizing his second annual clothing and blanket drive. Clothing items that will keep people warm such as gloves, scarves, sweaters, jackets, hats and of course blankets. All items should be clean and in good condition.



Drop off can be made to Saint Thomas Aquinas High School before Thursday, November 17.

Why donate: It is easy to overlook the importance and the power of small actions, however the impact that it can make in someone's life is impossible to measure. Be sure that donating a pair of gloves or socks will make a difference in a person's life. Items will be distributed to homeless individuals wherever they congregate. If you have any suggestions for drop locations or if you would like to participate in distributing clothing, contact Oscar at 778-228-2811 or Oscar@obsold.com.

Dylan Roche, grad 1994, and his wife Penelope purchased a site in Naramata in 2014 and are establishing their winery on a 240 acre property on Upper Bench Road. *Dylan* studied urban geography at UBC then left North Vancouver in 2000 to work in France. He changed his focus and received a diploma in viticulture and winemaking in Beaune, France. In 2011 he and his wife moved to Penticton and as of 2014 they began farming their vineyard, Roche Wines, on the Naramata bench. So, if you are in Naramata, stop by 60 Upper Bench Road, visit our alumnus and say "hi" from the STA community.



Parent Association News

The PA would like to remind STA families and friends of the Annual Festive Plant Sale.

STA Festive Plant Sale

ORDER BY Friday 10 November

Order online at <https://stthomasaquinas.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Plants will be available 24th & 25th November, from STA at 3-4pm.

We would also like to remind families to check the parent participation website for upcoming volunteer opportunities including the Christmas Concert!



TALENTED ARTISANS, LOCAL BUSINESSES, GIFT WRAPPING, HOME BAKED CHRISTMAS TREATS, ALL DAY RAFFLE - PRIZES DRAWN EVERY HALF HOUR, HOT BRUNCH & REFRESHMENTS CHILDREN'S KIDS ZONE, PICTURES WITH SANTA, SCHOOL CHOIR 12:15 PM, SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



Christmas Craft Fair



 SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 19 | 10 - 2 PM 
ST. PIUS X ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1150 MOUNT SEYMOUR RD, NORTH VAN

STA Newsletter Subscriptions

newsletter@aquinas.org

Please notify the office if you move or change your e-mail address.