

# Newsletter

Information for St. Mary's Academy parents and friends

April 2016

## President's Message

Mrs. Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77)



Alleluia, Jesus is risen, Alleluia! Happy Spring and Happy Easter to all! As Catholics we are called to continue celebrating the Easter Season for 50 days following Easter Sunday until Pentecost. May we

continue to be grateful to our God with open hearts and a joyful spirit for the gift of our risen Jesus.

March is always a busy month at SMA! Budgets are presented to both SMA Inc. and SMA Foundation Inc. Boards of Directors for revision and consent; from which new tuition and a realistic business plan for our next school year are set. We have also completed another round of re-registration and new student acceptances, and now our focus turns to the final couple of months for what has been a very exciting and productive year. I would be remiss if I did not extend a heartfelt thank you to all players, teams, parents and friends who contributed to making our 4th Annual **Female World Sport School Challenge** a great success this year. Under the watchful and very competent eye of Kathy Bumstead, Event Organizer, we were

able to grow the tournament to ten teams from coast to coast in Canada and one team from Shattuck-St. Mary's in Minnesota. Thank you, thank you!

Please be reminded that the **deadline for bursary applications is May 2, 2016** (to the President's Office). I encourage families to apply for a bursary if you believe you meet the criteria outlined on our website at [stmarysacademy.mb.ca](http://stmarysacademy.mb.ca) (under Admissions, Tuition and Financial Aid). This year, SMA disbursed \$280,000 to financially assist 75 students, providing access to families who believe in the SMA experience for their daughters, and would otherwise not be able to afford it. For the upcoming 2016-2017 school year, SMA Foundation Inc. has committed donations up to \$329,000 to the school for bursary disbursements to qualifying families and students.

With the assistance of our Consultants, Community and Youth Solutions Inc., the School Board is on target and in the final stages of compiling our new Strategic Plan. Kindly accept my deepest gratitude for your participation and contributions during the data-gathering stage earlier this year! The Corporate Members (Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary) and SMA Inc. (School Board) will be reviewing and ratifying the Strategic Plan at the May Board meeting. Our hope is to share the Plan with our community before the end of June.

Mark your calendar for the 12th Annual **Marian Awards for Excellence Luncheon** which will take place on Saturday, April

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30th at The Gates on Roblin honoring two distinguished and respected women of our SMA community: Sister Marylyn Gibney and Susanne Parent '81. If you cannot make the event but would like to make a donation to the SMA Bursary Fund, kindly visit our website and follow the directions once you select "click to purchase tickets" or contact Amy Houston '03, Alumnae Relations, Advancement and Special Events Coordinator, at 204-478-6031 or [ahouston@smamb.ca](mailto:ahouston@smamb.ca).

Have a wonderful spring! God Bless!

## Principal's Message

Mrs. Josie Audino



I hope everyone had a happy Easter and a wonderful Spring break. As we continue to celebrate the spirit of the Easter season, we approach our work with renewed hope and joy.

April progress reports will be mailed by the end of April or early May and will be sent only to families of the students about whom there may be some form of concern. Final academic exams are not far away; hence, we ask you to please continue supporting your daughters during this time. The examination schedule will be posted both on our website and in individual classrooms by mid-May.

Before the exams, students can look forward to Math contests, Colour Days to help those in need, Concours d'art oratoire, the continuation of their athletic activities, the Athletic Banquet, Athletic Awards and Wednesday morning prayer.

The Administration team is busy planning for next year. We look forward to welcoming next year's new students at the **Leadership Council Carnival** on May 31st.

Happy Spring to all!



April 2016

## Human Rights Team Dinner

Mr. Roby Yeung

SMA's Human Rights Team (HRT) is pleased to host the *Spark a Change Dinner* to raise awareness about the current status of refugees and new immigrants in Canada. Guest speaker, David Matas, Human Rights lawyer, advocate, and author will share his perspective and his experience in working with human rights issues around the globe. Net proceeds from the dinner benefit the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba.

We hope that you will join us on May 9. Dinner will be catered by the Caboto Centre. If you have dietary restrictions, please contact Roby Yeung at ryeung@smamb.ca with your request.

### *Spark a Change Dinner* supporting refugees and new immigrants

Monday, May 9, 2016

Reception: 6:00 p.m. | Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Academy Cafeteria, 550 Wellington Crescent

Guest Speaker: David Matas, Senior Legal Counsel, B'nai Brith Canada

Entertainment by the India School of Dance, Music, and Theatre Inc.

Adult Ticker: \$25.00 | Student ticket: \$20.00

Tickets available from SMA's Reception Office

Net proceeds benefit the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba

## El Salvador Mission Trip

Mrs. Janet Zonneveld

From June 30 to July 14 a group of 18 students and three teachers will travel to El Salvador for our annual mission trip (Mrs. Yunyk will join the team for a portion of the mission). We are happy to go back to the community of Huisisilapa. This year's projects are to renovate the church, outfit the clinic with furniture and supplies and plant trees. We look forward to seeing the bright faces of the children and adults that we befriended last year and we hope to teach the children how to play ultimate frisbee and four square. While we are in El Salvador we will get to know the history and culture of the region through visits to national historical sites and cathedrals. Our group has been busy learning about the country as well as some practical Spanish.

We are also hosting a *Paint Nite* on May 27 with proceeds going directly to funding the projects in Huisisilapa. Please consider coming to Paint Nite and/or donating sports equipment (four square balls, frisbees etc.), gently used t-shirts, shoes and medical supplies such as Advil. Please drop donations off at SMA's Reception Office.

If you have questions, contact Janet Zonneveld at jzonneveld@smamb.ca.

If you would like to make a cash donation to the El Salvador project, please make cheques payable to St. Mary's Academy and write "El Salvador 2016" in the memo line.

Donations of \$25 or more will receive a tax receipt. Cheques can be dropped off at SMA's Reception Office.

### *Paint Nite*

supporting SMA projects in Huisisilapa, El Salvador

Friday, May 27, 2016

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. | SMA Cafeteria

Tickets: \$45 each

Join SMA's El Salvador team for a fun night of painting while supporting projects students will work on in El Salvador this July.

Net proceeds go directly to SMA's projects in Huisisilapa

Paint Nite requires no previous skill!

Paint Nite's Artist will guide people step-by-step in creating their own unique masterpiece.

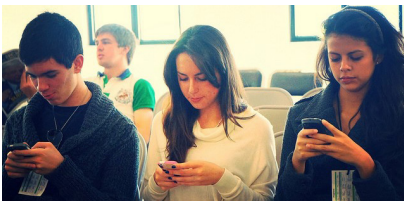
Purchase tickets at [stmarysacademy.mb.ca](http://stmarysacademy.mb.ca)



painting participants will create

## 'Screenagers' and 'The Gutsy Girl'

Mrs. Carol-Ann Swayzie



At a time when society is seeing an increase in the rates of anxiety in teenage young women, we thought it would be a good idea to pass on two recent articles that were shared with our faculty.

### Screenagers

This article offers a brief examination of the phenomena of "Screenagers" and the increasing reliance of teens on their social media feeds. Some suggestions are offered that may help in reducing teens' reliance on social media feedback.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/keithwagstaff/2016/02/28/are-your-kids-addicted-to-their-phones-screenagers-wants-to-help/#392874876d4b>

### The Gutsy Girl

This article is an overview of a new book, *The Gutsy Girl*, that provides insights to parents for assisting their daughters through feelings of anxiety and developing greater levels of courage and resiliency. Ten major ideas are shared, along with further links to check out.

<http://www.outsideonline.com/2064726/10-ways-raise-brave-girls>

April 2016

## Campus Ministry

Mrs. Joanne Steeves (Weight '90)

Happy Easter! Christ is Risen – Indeed He is Risen! Alleluia!

We came together in prayer during Holy Week to witness the Stations of the Cross, which were beautifully and prayerfully presented by one of our Grade 8 classes. On Good Friday, a small group of students, staff, parents and Alumnae walked The Public Way of the Cross and accepted the honour of hosting the 30th Annual Public Way of the Cross next year on behalf the SMA community.

Campus Ministry is in full swing again after a well deserved and restful spring break. We continue our ministry as *People of Hospitality* both within and outside

of our walls. Please join us for **Earth Day** on April 22. We will join with the Green Team to pray in a special way for all creation. We will gather for a prayer service at 8:00 a.m. outside, near the Wellington gate exit. We are also busy preparing for our **Campus Ministry Retreat** on May 13-14. We continue with our weekly **Harvest Thursday** ministry and **AMS@SMA** with IRCOM. Staff and students prepared a meal for the community at the Welcome Home where a group of students have been “walking with the people” every month.

### Youthleader 2016

Interested in being a member of SMA Youthleader Team 2016? We are excited to announce that we will be inviting applications, selecting and preparing a team to represent SMA at Youthleader

2016. **Youthleader** is a Christian Leadership week that helps high school students, Grades 10-12 (and adults) grow in their call to leadership. The week looks at skill development and enrichment (effective communication, group facilitation skills, being proactive, etc). It also looks at the gifts that individuals bring to leadership through a Christian lens. This year Youthleader is September 1st to 4th at St. Benedict's Retreat and Conference Centre. For more information about the program visit [www.archwinnipeg.ca](http://www.archwinnipeg.ca).

Continued blessings on your Easter season and please join us in celebration every Wednesday morning in Holy Names Chapel for Mass at 8:00 a.m. (until May 18th).

## Marian Cup

Mr. Jordan Burg

**Judges are needed** for SMA's 4th annual Marian Cup Debate Tournament. Judges do not have to have previous experience. To volunteer, contact Mr. Jordan Burg at [jburg@smamb.ca](mailto:jburg@smamb.ca)

**Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2016**

**Registration:** 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

**Judge's Briefing:** 4:30 p.m.

**Awards Presentation:** 8:30 p.m. (approx.)  
The Marian Cup consists of three rounds of impromptu parliamentary debate on the theme of Medical Issues.

Dinner and snacks provided. Students or adults with dietary considerations should bring their own.

## New Scholarship

**For Grade 12 students:** The **Friends of Hailey Foundation** (Janet Paterson (Debroni '91)) is pleased to offer an annual scholarship to a graduating Grade 12 SMA student whose intent is to pursue post-secondary education in any medical field. The scholarship is in the amount of \$1000 and will be awarded at SMA's Awards Assembly in June.

Interested students should submit an essay (800-1000 words) outlining and explaining personal philosophy and education goals (include eligibility requirements). Deadline to submit to the President's office is May 5.

Visit [www.patersonfamily.ca](http://www.patersonfamily.ca) for Hailey's story.

## Drama News

Ms. Joy Beauchamp '80

Congratulations to the two classes of **Grade 9** Drama who presented their scene work from *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Wonderful job, girls!!

The **Grade 10** Drama Class did its Performance Exam on April 14. The class performed three, one act mystery plays: *The Purloined Letter*, *The Pajama Party*, and *The Patient*. Great work girls!

The **Grade 11** Drama Class has been collaborating with the Grade 11 Art Class as they work towards their presentation of *Let Them Howl*. Beautiful panels were prepared by the Art Class to be used as symbols of strength and to help set the scene for our Grade 11 actors. Great gratitude is extended to Mrs. Nickel and the Grade 11 Art Class who came in on Spring Break to work on the project. The Exam Performance of the play takes place on April 26 at 1:35 p.m.

The **Grade 12** students are working towards their Performance Exam, the presentation of *Disney's High School Musical Jr.* The students have been working hard both on stage and off. The Performance Exam will take place May 26 at 1:35 p.m. for the school community and families, and for friends of SMA at 7:00 p.m. on May 26. Feel free to invite anyone you may know who might like to see the show, and, as it is an exam, it is free of charge!

## AP French News

Mlle Prystanski

On March 15, the Grades 11/12 AP French class attended the Cercle Molière performance of *L'ennemi du peuple* at the Centre Franco-Manitobain. The play, from Manitoba playwright Rhéal Cenerini, tells the story from inside the Minister of Agriculture's office, where staff is dealing with an E. coli crisis in a meat plant resulting in the death of a young girl. Adding to the controversy is the public condemnation of the government's food handling policies by the Minister of Agriculture's brother, a food sciences professor at a university. Several contentious themes were explored throughout the hour and fifteen minute performance.

The girls were treated to stellar performances from a talented cast. They were not only immersed in the many plot lines of the story but also practiced their ability to “switch on their ears” for the many different accents the actors portrayed. The students enjoyed discussing the many provocative relationships and topics displayed throughout the piece. The play explored brotherly relationships, loyalty versus integrity, weighing public health and safety versus economic development, as well as morality versus pragmatism. As always, the Cercle Molière provided us with an authentic and thought-provoking experience whilst immersed in the French Language. Bravo!

April 2016

## Mission Club

Ms. Teresa Uruski

### “Yes you CAN” – Food Drive for Winnipeg Harvest

In March the Mission Club organized the collection of food items for Winnipeg Harvest. Students and staff were generous in contributing over 600 items for the drive. A special thank you to the students in Grade 12 for bringing in the most items (137).



### Monthly Organization Focus

**April:** we are organizing fundraising activities for programs offered at Honouring the Spirit of Our Little Sisters Transition Home, Next Step, and Artbeat Studio. Honouring the Spirit of Our Little Sisters Transition Home is a safe home for females between the ages of 13 and 17, who are being subjected to sexual exploitation. Next Step offers support to offenders who are transitioning out of prison. Artbeat Studio provides studio space for people living with mental illness - it is both a creative and supportive community environment.

**May:** we will focus on projects that the SNJM Community is coordinating in Brazil.

If you would like to make a donation to any of these organizations, please contact Ms. Uruski at [turuski@smamb.ca](mailto:turuski@smamb.ca).

## Track & Field

Mr. Demetro Danyluk

Outdoor track and field season is upon us with hardworking students training almost every morning preparing for a variety of meets throughout April, May and June. There is still time for any students who are still interested in competing to come join the team. Following is list of the meets students will compete in:

**Jim Daley Relays:** April 30

**Interlake Invitational, Stonewall:** May 5

**Athletics Manitoba Spring Open:** May 13 & 14

**SMA (7&8) Track Meet:** May 13

**WWAC (Senior 9-12) at GPHS:** May 19

**WWAC (Senior 9-12) at U of M:** May 24

**Selkirk (7-9) Junior Meet:** May 25. Rain day May 27

**PTAA (Junior 7-9) at U of M:** May 31 (3000)

**PTAA (Junior 7-9) at U of M:** June 2 (Main meet)

**Athletics Manitoba Meet:** June 3 & 4

**MHSAA Senior High Provincials (Gr. 9-12) in Brandon:** June 9-11

**Junior High Provincials (Gr. 7-8) at U of M:** June 15

## Prep Hockey

Mrs. Bonita Friesen and Mr. Dave Chell

It was another successful year for the Prep Hockey team. With 37 wins, 11 losses, and 3 ties the team boasts a 73% win average, the highest in its five years existence. Highlights of the year include a strong showing in Stoney Creek in September, followed by a three game sweep in Thunder Bay against the Thunder Bay Queens. Two weeks later

we jetted off to Edmonton for a mini tournament hosted by our Catholic cousin St. Francis Xavier, where we went undefeated. A month later we were in upstate New York for The North Country Shootout, where we played several of the strongest teams in North America and held our own. After a relaxing Christmas break the schedule ramped up with the Futures Hockey Tournament where we started slow but came back to capture the B side final. Next trip up was to the capital of the USA, Washington, for the Challenge Cup where we came home with the U16 Championship Banner going undefeated in all 6 games. And finally hosting our fourth annual Female World Sport School Challenge at the Iceplex. Hats off to all our wonderful volunteers who made this tournament the best ever. We earned the Bronze medal after a second solid defeat of local arch rival Balmoral Hall Blazers. The year was topped off with a most memorable, first ever SMA hockey trip to Europe (Sweden, Denmark and Finland). Thanks to all who made this trip possible. A great time was had by all, and the girls won five out of six games.

As we look back on the season there were many victories both on the ice and off. The young ladies grew as individual players and people through all the travel, organization and demands on their time this high level commitment requires. We say goodbye to our seven Grade 12 grads: Kayla Friesen, Morgan Burr, Cecilia Lopez, Drew Raymond, Tory Micklash, Madison Arpin, and Shea Studler. We'll greatly miss them, but we also look forward to a strong team this fall to carry on the strong tradition of SMA prep hockey as we begin our sixth year of operation.

## Art Department

Mrs. Deb Nickel

### Inukshuk Project

A group of Grade 11 students volunteered to create an Inukshuk for the FWSSC Banquet. These students committed hours of work sawing large blocks of styrofoam into large boulders and then painting them to come alive as the pieces of the inukshuk. Congratulations to Alex Degen, Kate George, Alice Hamilton, Tiana Klippenstein, Annie MacRae, Kellie Munro and Gunjan Thapar for their outstanding contribution to the banquet and the school.

Many thanks to Mr. Dave Morrison and his staff for creating the raw boulder blocks and for their on-going support.

### Art/Drama collaboration

The Grade 11 art students helped with set design for the Grade 11 drama students performance exam. During Spring Break the art students created stunning banners celebrating women who, over the 20th century, pushed the advancement of women's rights in North America and beyond. After the exam, Mr. Dave Morrison offered to have his staff create frames for these beautiful pieces and they will be displayed in the school, to inspire our community.



April 2016

## From the Career Counsellor

Ms. Teresa Uruski

### Grade 12 Post-Secondary Planning Events for May:

**University of Manitoba:** What happens next? May 11 at 11:35 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at SMA.

**University of Winnipeg:** Course selection/timetabling and registration. May 11 at 11:35 a.m. in Room 200 at SMA.

### Grade 11 Career Development Sessions

This month, Grade 11 students will attend a special presentation regarding scholarships where they will receive information about the different types, sources of where to find scholarships and tips on how to apply.

### Grade 10 Career Development Classes

Students will attend the Rotary Career Sym-

posium on May 3 where they will learn about a variety of career and post-secondary educational opportunities. Later in the month, students will learn how to put together a 'skills-based' resume. 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.

## From the Advancement Office

Georgine Van de Mosselaer '83

Our 3rd and final *Burning Bright Speaker Series* for the 2015/16 school year will be held on **Thursday, May 12 at 5:30 p.m.** Join us for a spirited, historical mock debate entitled *Nice Women Don't Want the Vote*. Debate teams will be stacked with alumnae debaters along with a distinguished panel of judges. Mr. Jordan Burg will spearhead a memorable evening for all, celebrating

the 100th anniversary of Manitoba's women's right to vote. Tickets are \$20 by reservation at 204-478-6030 or [gvandemosselaer@smamb.ca](mailto:gvandemosselaer@smamb.ca).

On **Thursday, May 18, 2016** join us at 7:00 pm for a *Tax Tips and Estate Planning Seminar*, with a presentation by our own Christine Van Cauwenberghe '87, B.Comm. (Hons), LL.B., CFP, TEP, RRC. Hear from

Christine, a tax and estate lawyer, how to structure your estate in the most tax effective manner. This session will review how Canadians are taxed at the time of death, and the tax benefits of making charitable contributions. This session will also discuss the different ways in which charitable contributions can be structured to fit your personal needs. To reserve your complimentary ticket, call 204-478-6030 or email [gvandemosselaer@smamb.ca](mailto:gvandemosselaer@smamb.ca).

## From the Alumnae Office

Amy Houston '03

The Alumnae Office has been involved in many wonderful events in 2016. This past weekend, we hosted 83 eager to learn painters, comprised of alumnae and friends at *Paint Nite*. This event was hosted by and in support of the Alumnae Association. It was a fabulous turn out with much laughter and good times had by all. We hope you will consider joining us next time. You can view the photos on the SMA Photos page.

We are looking forward to the 12th annual *Marian Awards For Excellence* Brunch

held at The Gates on Roblin on Saturday April 30. Doors open at 10 a.m. with brunch served at 10:30 a.m. and the formal program to follow. I encourage parents to join us for a delightful morning celebrating the lives of service that our two recipients, Sr. Marylyn Gibney and Susanne Parent '81, so effortlessly demonstrate. This is a great opportunity to connect with other parents and to share with your daughters the lives of service of members of SMA's community. A limited number of tickets are still available from [stmarysacademy.mb.ca](http://stmarysacademy.mb.ca). Tickets are \$75 each. We look forward to seeing you there.

## DATES TO NOTE

### April 2016

- 20 Summer Uniform Sale: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Earth Day (prayer service at 8:00 a.m.)
- 22 2:30 p.m. Dismissal
- 27 Marian Cup Debate Tournament
- 30 Marian Awards For Excellence Luncheon

### May 2016

- 2 Summer Uniform Option
- 2 AP Chemistry Exam (morning)
- 3 Parents' Guild Meeting
- 4 AP English Lit Exam (morning)
- 5 AP Calculus Exam (morning)
- 2-6 Art Auction (during lunch hour)
- 7 Concours d'art oratoire
- 9 Spark a Change Dinner
- 10 AP French Exam (afternoon)
- 11 Gauss Math Contest
- 12 Burning Bright Speaker Series
- 13 SMA Track Meet: Grades 7 & 8
- 13 Colour Day: supporting SNJM projects in Brazil
- 17 2:30 p.m. Dismissal (Faculty Meeting)
- 18 Tax Tips & Estate Planning Seminar
- 20 No Classes - PD Day
- 23 No Classes - Victoria Day
- 24 Late Start: 9:55 a.m. (Faculty Planning)
- 27 Paint Nite
- 30 Athletic Awards Assembly
- 31 Leadership Council Carnival



Mrs. Lidia Erickson

### Hours of Operation

**Monday through Friday 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.**

The Corner Store will be open during the following events:

- Summer Uniform Sale on April 20
- New Student Sale on May 16 & 17
- Carnival on May 31

**The Corner Store has lots of new apparel!**



### Summer Uniform Sale

**April 20, 2016**

**5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Summer uniforms may be worn from May 2nd to Thanksgiving.

The Tartan Shop accepts Debit, Visa, Mastercard and cash.

# Around the Academy



Grades 11/12 AP French class at the performance of *L'ennemi du peuple*



Quebec Trip - February 2016



JV Basketball Team - SMA Invitational Champions



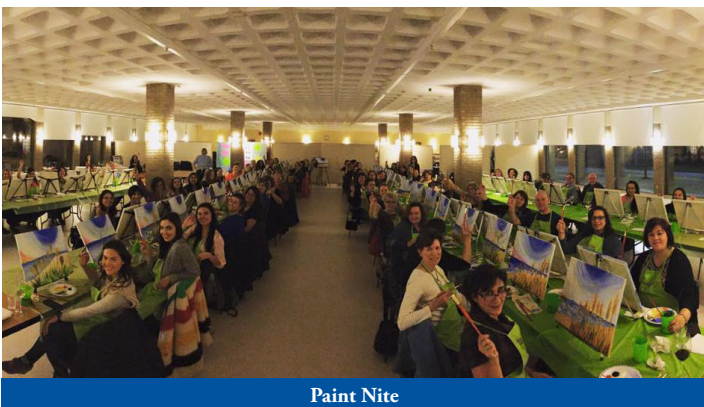
Varsity Basketball Team - SMA Invitational Champions



Flames Prep Team in Europe



Female World Sport School Challenge Banquet



Paint Nite



Paint Nite