President’s Message
Mrs. Connie Yunyk (S��bo ’77)

At our recent Marian Awards for Excellence Brunch in May, Sr. Alice Konefall gave a meaningful and poignant introduction to this year’s Marian Awards recipients—the Class of 1965. She used the following words from author Elizabeth Kubler-Ross to describe the Class of ’65 and it profoundly touched me:

People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within. I have witnessed this inner light, this inner beauty that resides in so many in our community, and for this I am both blessed and grateful.

June is a time to say farewell to our graduating Class and their families, and to faculty and staff members. To the Class of 2017, I ask that you remain humble and kind along your journey. Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher provided the ultimate example of humility and kindness to all those she encountered—now it’s your turn! To my colleagues who are retiring or moving on to new beginnings, I extend my deepest gratitude to each one of you for your commitment and dedication over the years to educating young women with spirit, mind and body. Best wishes and good luck to Mr. Jordan Burg, Sr. Josephine Chudzik, Mrs. Wilhelmina Duffy, Mrs. Vivian Epp, Mrs. Audrey Mireault, Mrs. Deborah Nickel, Mr. Michael Saj and Ms. Teresa Uruski. At the end of June, we will also recognize our staff for their years of service to SMA—10 Years: Ms. Judy Ashcroft, Mrs. Catherine David, Ms. Jessica Dyck-Lyons, Mr. David Morrison, Mr. Rob Morrison, Mr. Michael Saj, Ms. Dana Sigurdson, Mr. James Villa and Ms. Cecilia Wojcik. 30 Years: Mr. Demetro Danyluk. 35 Years: Mrs. Allison Challes.

SMA continues its mission to serve, even during the summer months: eighteen students along with Mr. James Villa, Ms. Maria Martino and I will travel to El Salvador on our sixth mission trip June 27—July 8. Let’s remember that we are Christ’s hands and feet as we walk in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in El Salvador.

The adults in our school never stop learning either. Mrs. Bev Henry and Mrs. Bonita Friesen, will travel to Longueil, QC in mid-July to attend the SNJM Pilgrimage to our Sacred Sites. Ms. Lisa Barkman-Hobbs and Ms. Georgine Van de Moulere will travel to Portland at the end of July to attend the SNJM Leadership Forum. Sr. Michelle Garlinski will attend the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities Mission Leadership Institute in Chicago at the end of July. Ms. Gina Borkowski and I will travel to Denver at the end of July to attend the National Conference on Student Recruitment, Marketing and Retention. Thank you everyone for your ongoing commitment to our Charism, Mission and Values!

Typically during the summer, general scrubbing, cleaning and maintenance takes place to ensure the school “sparkles” for the return of our school community in September. Some of the major projects include driveway/road repairs, rescaling the metal roof, a facelift to our Old Auditorium, new flooring in basement locker rooms and Food and Textiles Labs and new showers and flooring in both gym change rooms. Lots to keep our tireless maintenance department busy all summer long!

I extend an abundance of gratitude to many for your continued support and kindness in my third year as President; the SNJM (true mentors and supporters for us all), members of both Boards (in particular the Chairpersons, Scott Greenlay and Ken Cranston), Alumnae Association, Parents’ Guild, Administrators, teachers, staff, students, families and especially my husband and children for their patience, unwavering support, and love!

I am confident we will have a great year ahead as our Strategic Plan continues to unfold. I look forward to our work together in educating young women spirit, mind and body. Take care and have a restful and enjoyable summer!

Senior School Principal’s Message
Mrs. Michelle Klus

As the school year draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to applaud all students, parents and staff who have shared their gifts and given freely of their time in order to enrich everyone’s school experience. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Student Leadership Council for their devotion, dedication and energy for a very successful year. These students played an integral part of every SMA activity that took place on the school grounds and elsewhere. They have truly shown the potential of empowering others and have helped to improve student life in and around our school.

I bid the graduating class of 2017 farewell and wish you nothing but the best. I can truly say that I am excited to see what you all accomplish. You will all make a difference. Stay strong and “hold high the torch”. To staff members that are leaving whether it be for retirement or simply moving on, thank you sincerely for all of the hard work and dedication you have shown our SMA students. We have been blessed to have walked the halls with you.

This year our theme was People of Hope. next year we are People of Joy. As father Sam Argenziano so beautifully said at our closing Mass, “Hope leads to Joy”. The foundation that we have laid this year will lead us into next year.

I wish all students and their families a safe and restful summer. I look forward to seeing all of your bright, refreshed and beautiful faces in September. You may visit our website at any time during the summer months. Be sure to check for updates on class supplies so you can prepare for your return.

God Bless and enjoy a safe and relaxing summer!

Junior School Principal’s Message
Mrs. Carol-Ann Swazyie (van Es’ 80)

With the blink of an eye, we have reached the end of a school year. It has been an amazing year, with our junior students achieving many milestones, experiencing new adventures, and firmly beginning their journey toward their high school years. Navigating the junior years is always a challenging endeavor. How lucky we are to have you as our partners in this part of your daughter’s journey.

As we close out the year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our faculty and staff, who have made a difference in your daughter’s life. I know how committed they are to your daughter’s growth as a learner, and they have guided, nurtured and even pushed (if needed) along the way.

A reminder that all textbooks should be returned to teachers by the date of the exam, or their last scheduled class where there is no exam involved. Once the juniors finish their exams, they will be finished with classes. Should students wish to review their exams afterwards, they are asked to make an appointment with their teacher on Tuesday, June 27th. Reports cards will be available for pick up from homeroom teachers on June 30th between 8:30 and 9:30.

Wishing you all a safe, relaxing summer with many blessings to behold.
Supporting Adolescents in Today’s World

Mrs. Carol-Ann Swayzie (van Es ’80)

Welcome to the fifth edition of this newer column. We hope that this space is providing information that you find helpful as you journey through the adolescent years with your daughter(s). This month, the three items are on a similar theme: the Importance of Mistakes in Learning.

Article

This article by Dr. Shimi Kang, Psychiatrist and author discusses why making mistakes is good for kids. http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/dr-shimi-kang/making-mistakes_b_5163188.html?ncid=engmodushpmg00000006

Video

In this short video, Dr. Jo Boaler discusses how the brain grows through making mistakes, and discusses a growth mindset in tandem with learning Math strategies. http://thelearningexchange.ca/videos/mind-sets-and-mistakes/

TED Talk

In this TED Talk, Diana Laufenberg shares three surprising things she has learned about teaching — including a key insight about learning from mistakes. https://www.ted.com/talks/diana_laufenberg_3_ways_to_teach

Assessment Dates For the 2017-18 School Year

We are providing families with advance notice of major assessment dates for the 2017–2018 school year. As per our student handbook, we remind you of the following:

All students are expected to write assessments and exams on the dates scheduled. Parents are asked NOT to book vacations during assessment and exam time.

Mid-Year Assessments
December 14, 15 and 18, 2017
January 18, 19, 22 and 23, 2018

Grade 12 Provincial English Standards Test
January 9 to 12, 2018

Final Exams
Grade 12: June 6 to 14, 2018
Grade 11: June 11 to 20, 2018
Grades 7 to 10: June 18 to 21, 2018

Charism and Mission Office

St. Michelle Garlinski ’88, SNJM

Greetings from the Charism and Mission Office! Although the Church Year has returned to Ordinary Time, it seems anything but ordinary! A very exciting initiative began this year at SMA called Encountering Our Story. This initiative is helping the collaborators in our Mission deepen their understanding and spirituality of our SNJM Charism. The first Encountering Our Story team arrived at the Congregational House of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, in Longueuil, Quebec on May 18. Over four days, I led our team of Mr. Dave Chell, Mme Maria Marasco, Mrs. Deb May and Ms. Cecilia Wojcik as they broadened their understanding of our charism, put our story into historical context and deepened our personal faith journey. We engaged in prayer, rituals, relationship building with Sisters and staff, experienced the sacred sites in Longueuil and along the Richelieu River and enjoyed community time. At the end of our day along the Richelieu River, during our reflection and sharing, I asked them, “Which Pilgrimage site connected with you the most?” With their permission, I share excerpts of their reflections with you:

Sr. Michelle Garlinski ’88, SNJM

“For me it was at the sign just past the St. Antoine Cathedral facing the river. We were given jars and I had to go then, not wait, to put water in mine. It was as if God was calling in the sun-filled breeze that filled the air, the time is now. Mother Marie-Rose wants to connect with you through the sacred waters of the Richelieu”! - Mr. Dave Chell

“The Birthplace of Eulalie Durocher—although her house is no longer here one can feel her presence”, “The water of the Richelieu flowing downstream, the ripples lapping against the shore, the birds singing their songs in the trees as the sun shines upon the place where she, a servant of God, was born. This is Holy ground”. - Mme Maria Marasco

“Mother Marie-Rose’s birthplace was the most significant site for me because it emphasized the influence her family played in her overall development and especially in her faith development. Her family allowed her to explore her surroundings, allowed her to roam around like a tomboy and discover who she was”. - Mrs. Deb May

“Mount St. Hilaire is where I felt Eulalie realized what she was going to do with the rest of her life. It is where the idea of becoming a Sister and starting the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary was becoming a reality. I think discovering your path, your talent, your passion is a sacred event”. - Ms. Cecilia Wojcik

We look forward to having two more staff members experience this in July with our SNJM Network of Schools. The New Evangelization is alive and well. Blessed be the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, now and forever! Blessings to you and your family this summer!
Campus Ministry

Mrs. Joanne Steeves (Weight ’90)

It was an outstanding year in Campus Ministry that was filled with opportunity to become People of Hope. As an SMA community we looked at the many ways hope is needed in our city, our country and the around world. Our thoughts and prayers each week went out to the world, to far-away places like Syria and Peru and right here at home in our own city. We are reminded that sometimes people just need a little hope to overcome anything from the smallest of tasks to monumental feats. I pray that we continue sharing hope each day through our words and actions. “A single individual is enough for HOPE to exist, and that individual can be you.” -Pope Francis

I would like to say a huge thank you to the Campus Ministry Core Team and Reps under the guidance and support of students Shayna Bellingham and Nanki Saluja. Thank you for always sharing your spirit, commitment and faith. We pray for many blessings as you embrace your new challenges at University.

I am very pleased to share that students Sophie George, Samantha Furgale and Emma Callbeck will lead the Core team for the upcoming year. Together with the many gifted young women involved in Campus Ministry we are looking forward to a wonderful year as People of Joy in 2017-2018. May we all be blessed this summer as we take time to rest and renew our body, mind and spirit. See you in September!

Concours d’Art Oratoire

Mme Maria Marasco

In January 2017 the Advanced French classes at SMA worked diligently on preparing speeches for the written and oral component in the French curriculum. In March they presented their speeches to their classmates and then a select few presented to a panel of judges. We thank Ms. Zonneveld, Ms. Grande, and Mlle. Nabess for spending a few lunch hours judging and choosing the students to present their speeches at the Concours d’Art Oratoire Provincial competition. Once again our 10 girls did an amazing job and we are so proud of them! Way to hold high the torch! Félicitations à tout le monde!

Five of our participants placed in their categories:
Bethany Kolisiak: 2nd Place, Early Immersion Gr. 9-10
Emma Callbeck: 1st Place, Late Immersion Gr. 9-10
Claire Healey: 3rd Place, Late Immersion Gr.11-12
Sélina Audino: 2nd Place, Francophone Gr.11-12
Linnéa Cox: 1st Place, Impromptu Gr. 11-12

French Theatre and Dining Experiences

Mme Marie Desaulniers

On April 26, the Grades 7 and 8 French students went to the Manitoba Theatre for Young People to see the French version of the play, “Gretel and Hansel”. The play was an adaptation of the Grimm fairy tale and spoke of sibling rivalry. In the end, Gretel embraced her role as Hansel’s big sister and so they lived happily ever after!

On May 24, I along with my senior French students went to Stella’s restaurant at the Centre Culturel in St. Boniface to celebrate their commitment to French: Communication and Culture Studies through Grade 12. Bravo les filles!

Drama News

Ms. Laura Davey ’05

A big congratulations to our talented Grade 10 Drama students who successfully performed The Mousetrap by Agatha Christie in April as their final performance exam for the year. Well done ladies!

Congratulations are extended as well to the amazing Senior Drama Class (Grades 11 & 12) who produced and performed Disney’s Beauty and the Beast, Junior for their final performance exam on the afternoon and evening of May 25. Putting on such a beautiful show was a huge undertaking and the girls rose to the occasion! Bravo!

Centre Culturel in St. Boniface to celebrate their commitment to French: Communication and Culture Studies through Grade 12. Bravo les filles!

2016-17 Drama Performance

Ms. Martha MacKinnon

SMA is proud to announce our 2017-2018 school musical is Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Cinderella. We are pleased to have alumna Eliana Dell’Acqua ’03 as our Musical Director.

Auditions
September 11 to 15 (further details will be provided in September).

Performances
Thursday, November 30 at 7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 2, at 2:00 p.m.
Ticket information will be published in the Fall. Don’t miss this timeless, magical fairy tale!
With hearts filled with gratitude, thank you to all of you who have given of your time and your financial support. Our Colour Days, major student fundraising initiatives and classroom donations raised $10,300. Through your sharing we have helped our sisters and brothers in our global community!

A very special thank you goes to our extraordinary Mission Executive Team Members who planned and assisted with managing the various fundraising projects and events throughout the year. And a big thank you to our Mission Reps and Members who were there to lend a helping hand to ensure their classmates were informed and involved. May you all be blessed for your generosity and willingness to be People of Hope.

Athletics

Mr. Demetro Danyluk

Soccer

The SMA Soccer team competed in a three day tournament in May and unfortunately were unable to make it back to the provincial championships held in Portage. Thank you again to the Forzley family for their dedication and commitment to the athletics at SMA.

Rugby

The SMA rugby team had a very exciting season however they just missed making it into the playoffs. Despite the disappointment the team was represented by two players, CoCo Koltec and Jummy Akinola, in the Rugby 15s All-Star Game. Thank you Patty Erichson and her coaching staff for all your time and efforts in helping the rugby program grow.

Track and Field

Sixteen of our athletes participated in the Athletics Manitoba Junior High Provincial Track and Field Championships. All athletes trained hard and fine tuned their skills and fitness during the morning and afternoon practices. This dedication and commitment helped them to qualify for this meet by performing well at our conference meet. We had numerous students finish in the Top Ten: Taylor Dawyduk, Gold - Shot Put, Taya Thoende, Bronze - Shot Put, Julia Bayer Cheung, Bronze - 800m and 5th - 100m, Talia Kantautas, Bronze - 400m, Madeline LaPorte, Bronze - 1500m, 6th - 100m and Gold - 800m, Maia Ehmann, 6th - 100m and 80m hurdles, Cadence Christie, 5th - 1200m and 7th - 800m, Emelia Banmann, 9th - High Jump, Jasmine DeCaire, 5th - Discus, Ainsley Brennan, 9th - Discus, Annika Falkenberg, 7th - 300m, Cailtyn Willison, 8th - 800m, Ella Thomson, 4th - Long Jump, 5th - 100m and 80m hurdles, Grade 8 Medley Relay Team (Julia Bayer Cheung, Talia Kantautas, Annika Falkenberg, Caitlyn Willison) - Silver, Grade 7 Medley Relay Team (Cadence Christie, Lauren Viss, Taya Thoende, Maia Ehmann) - Gold.

Our Junior Varsity and Varsity Track and Field team competed at the Manitoba High School Athletic Association Provincial Championships from June 8 - 10 at the University of Manitoba. These athletes earned the opportunity to compete against the very best by finishing in the top 3 in the conference or by reaching standards at various spring meets.

The Junior Varsity team consisted of Chloe Oleksiuk, Gabi Dawyduk, Ella Thomson and Alyssa Moon. The Varsity team consisted of Tristan Chambers, Sarah Moir, Casey Nelson and Sierra Sutherland.

On Day 1 of competition we started off very well with Sierra Sutherland winning bronze in the 1500m. Next, SMA had athletes run in the 400m heats resulting in three of our athletes, Alyssa Moon, Tristan Chambers and Sierra Sutherland, making it into the finals on Saturday. Our two Javelin throwers, Sarah Moir and Gabi Dawyduk, competed in their flights and also made it through to the final round. To finish off the day our two medley (400-200-200-800) relay teams raced away with both teams winning silver medals.

On a rainy Day 2 we had two athletes, Tristan Chambers and Alyssa Moon, in the 800 m heats and both of them qualified for the final on Saturday. In the Varsity Javelin final Sarah Moir just missed the podium with a fourth place finish. To complete the day the combination of Tristan Chambers, Sarah Moir, Casey Nelson and Sierra Sutherland once again came away with a silver medal in the 4 x 400m relay.

Day 3 started with plenty of wind and rain during Gabi Dawyduk’s Javelin finals, and she finished in seventh. Once the rain disappeared and with the wind sticking around Alyssa Moon(PB) and Sierra Sutherland both jumped back onto the podium winning bronze in the 400m final with Tristan Chambers finishing 5th. With a very short rest Alyssa Moon came right back and won another bronze in the 800m. SMA came home with three silver and four bronze medals. Congratulations to all!

In closing congratulations and thank you to Adara LePage and Sierra Sutherland for a great six years of training and racing.

Leadership Council

SMA thanks the dedicated students who were on the Leadership Council in the 2016-17 school year. We wish the 2017-18 council members a great year.

Head Girl - Anaka Sandhu

2016-2017 School Year Co-Chairs

Athletics - Mackenzie Kolton and Anaka Sandhu
Campus Ministry - Shanya Bellingham and Nanki Saluja
Green Team - Reyna Stefanson and Julia Tays
Human Rights Team - Lumiere Parrenas and Amy Tran
Mission Club - Sidona Alem and Madison Maurice
Peer Support - Annie MacRae and Essence Wandering Spirit Mordoch
Special Events - Mackenzie Dei Cont and Laura White
The Spark Newspaper - Linnéa Cox and Adara LePage
Yearbook - Tiana Klippenstein and Stephanie Knysz

2017-2018 School Year Co-Chairs

Athletics - Coco Koltec and Sarah Watson
Campus Ministry - Sophie George and Samantha Furgale
Green Team - Jummy Akinola and Sophia Partyka
Human Rights Team - Isha Khandewal and Cameron Armstrong
Mission Club - Amber Reichardt and Soomin Han
Peer Support - Anna Ahn and El-Shadai Nyakilu
Special Events - Hannah Baines and Angelica Buccini
The Spark Newspaper - Sapphire Moroz and Nicole Kaneski
Yearbook - Jasmine Zbaraszezki and Kiara Calista
Parents’ Guild
Mrs. Candace Partyka
Thank you volunteers for your tireless and generous contributions this year. Because of your efforts the Guild is again making a generous donation to the SMA Bursary Fund and presenting two $1200 scholarships at Convocation—the SMA Citizenship Award and the SMA Parents’ Guild Scholarship. We were also happy to be able to pay for each graduate’s brunch at the recent Daughter/Parent Graduation Brunch, and at Convocation the Guild will gift each graduate a hand crafted SMA angel. We were also pleased to be able to purchase an SMA crest podium for the school. These were paid for by revenues from International Day, the Raffle and the Corner Store. Your volunteering has a meaningful and lasting impact. Thank you!

Please be sure to visit the SMA website and sign up to volunteer next school year! We have a new on-line signup procedure for our volunteers called: Signup.com
- The new sign up procedure requires that EVERYONE in ALL AREAS sign up yearly
- We would like for people to sign up now so that we are prepared for September.
- The new signup link is: http://signup.com/go/csBMVek.
- The link can also be found on the SMA website under Parents.

This marks the end of my tenure as President of the Parents’ Guild. I have appreciated the opportunity to work with an amazing group of parents, and I would like to thank Connie Yunyk for her enthusiastic support of the Guild and her dedication to our school community. Welcome Kelly Moon, the incoming President of the Guild! Congratulations to the Class of 2017 and their families!

Alumnae Office
Mrs. Kerri Moore (McIvor ’94)
Congratulations to our newest SMA Alumnae! We welcomed the Class of 2017 following their Alumnae Induction Ceremony on Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Following Mass, the class shared brunch, watched their baby photo slideshow, wrote letters to themselves for their 10 year time capsule and signed everything in sight with Sharpies! A special thank you to the Parents’ Guild for adding “Tea for Tartan” to the program to collect donations of gently used uniform items.

Homecoming
Homecoming 2017 will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2017. The entire SMA community is welcome to join us for the festivities beginning with Mass in Alumnae Hall at noon, followed by SMA Alive. Our school will be open to for tours—see our students in action in various areas of the school. Additionally, tea and dainties will be served in the Sr. Susan Wikeem Boardroom. We hope you can join us!

Commemorative Years: this year we welcome the reunion classes of 2007, 1997, 1992, 1987, 1977, 1967, 1957, 1947 and 1937 for their commemorative years’ celebrations. The Commemorative Years Breakfast begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Cafeteria. Tickets for the breakfast are $25.00 and available in advance through the Alumnae Relations Office at 204-478-6031 or email me at kmoore@smamb.ca. Other information on class reunions is available on our website at www.smamb.ca.

Wishing all of you a wonderful and restful summer!

The Corner Store
The Corner Store is now closed for the school year. Thank you to all of our volunteers and customers, we could not raise the funds we do without your support. We look forward to seeing everyone in September!

Private Music Lessons
If you are interested in private piano, music theory or beginner guitar lessons at St. Mary’s Academy, please call Sister Josephine Chudzik at 204-284-3309.

Advancement Office
Ms. Georgine Van de Mosselaer ’83
Did you know that SMA will be celebrating our 150th birthday in 2019? Plans are underway for a celebration of our journey and hope for the future at a Birthday Party event. Save the date of September 27, 2019 for a celebratory event at the Victoria Inn.

We were thrilled to host Fr. Sam Argenziano at our May 16th Burning Bright Speaker Series, where he offered an engaging and passionate seminar on Living The Beatitudes. If you have never had the pleasure of listening to Fr. Sam speak, you will want to view the video and see the photos from the event at https://www.smamb.ca/events/burning-bright-speaker-series/

We were pleased to host a Legacy Planning seminar on June 12 with guest speaker Tim Chimuk. Information on estate planning, tax planning, increasing cash flow, private versus public foundations and how to align your values with your estate were covered in this informative session.

Once again, you have made a difference. The parent community of St. Mary’s Academy has responded with kindness and generosity to our Annual Giving campaign for the 2017/2018 school year. Donations totalled $53,000 which are directed to School Programs, the Building Fund and/or the Mother Marie-Rose Bursary Fund. You are helping to sustain the excellence of an SMA education and ensure that all young women have access to our school. Bravo!

We also introduced you to our Legacy & Hope campaign which is a tribute to the wisdom of our foundresses, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. This school year our parent community graciously donated $11,000 to this Bursary Fund. Thank you for your kindness!

Wishing you much peace, sun and happiness this summer break.

Grade 11 Parents
Please look for white shoes and gloves at this time of year, while they are available in stores. This is in anticipation of grad class photos in January (when these items will not be readily available).
French Dining Experience

Concours d’Art Oratoire Provincial Competition

Senior Drama Performance Exam: Disney’s Beauty and the Beast, Jr.

Athletic Banquet: Athletic Council with guest speaker Rhiannon Leier (far left) & Ms. McElrea (far right)

Gold Medalists: Gr 7 Provincial Medley Relay

Silver Medalists: Gr 8 Provincial Medley Relay

Silver Medalists: Varsity Provincial Medley and 4x400m

Awards Assembly: Recognition of staff who are retiring, moving-on or going on maternity leave