



# St. Mary's Academy

## October 2012

### From the Director - Sister S. Wikeem

Construction of the theatre production area is progressing well. I pray we have a long, mild fall so that the building envelope can be completed before snowfall. The capital campaign, expanding the vision, is ongoing. Thank you to the families who have made a pledge. More funds are needed for this phase of the expansion. It is our hope you will respond in a manner in keeping with the magnitude of the undertaking and with the knowledge that the future of St. Mary's Academy promises to be as distinguished as its past.

Many of you are aware that SMA fields two hockey teams. One competes in the Winnipeg Women's High School Hockey League. The other, the Flames Prep team, is a Hockey Canada Sports School team in its second season competing in tournaments and exhibition games against AAA teams and other Sports School teams. We are pleased to announce that the Flames Prep

Team will be the host team for Hockey Canada's first Female World Sports School Challenge that will take place in Winnipeg February 21-24, 2013. Jocelyn Krzyszycyk chairs the SMA organizing committee that will be looking for sponsors and volunteers. Mark your calendar and plan to attend to support our *Flames*. More information will follow in the months ahead.

Preparations for International Day are well underway. This is SMA's day to celebrate the ethnic diversity of our school community. I hope your family plans to attend. Information is included in this newsletter.

I encourage you to become familiar with SMA's online presence – website and social media. Parents who want an inside look at school life should check the daily bulletin that contains the announcements made in classrooms each morning.

### From the Principal - Mrs. C. Yunyk

#### This year we celebrate our call to be a PEOPLE OF FIRE- Faith, Integrity, Respect, Empathy!

It is truly amazing to witness the energy, enthusiasm, excitement and activity generated at the beginning of each school year. Now seven weeks into the school year, I am delighted to report that students and teachers are settling nicely into a routine, concentrating on learning and participating in the numerous and diverse extra-curricular activities offered at our school. A healthy pulse is beating in our school! It is through the generous spirit, time and commitment of many members of faculty, staff and parents that this is all possible and I extend my gratitude to everyone.

We take pride in making sure all students get off to a great start. Each year in October, faculty meets to discuss students who may be experiencing challenges academically, socially and/or behaviorally. If it is determined that an action plan is required for your daughter following the **student-centered meetings on the afternoon of October 18**, our Student Support Team (consisting of Administration, Resource, Campus Ministry, Guidance and Career Counseling) creates an action plan early in the school year to ensure success for

all students. This may include a conversation with parents, students or a referral to Mrs. Dart and/or Mrs. Sigurdson or a referral to Child Guidance Clinic professionals to help the student work through a defined challenge. Kindly note that **November Progress Reports** will go home with your daughter on **Monday November 12**; these reports are intended to give you an idea of your daughter's progress to date. Please return the interview request form as soon as possible as this interview session fills up quickly!

Once again this year, respectful, responsible and appropriate student use of social media is a key focus. It is becoming abundantly clear that parents also need to be informed and become more knowledgeable about creating a cyber-safe home for their cyber-savvy teenager. An information/education evening for parents on this very topic has been planned for **Tuesday October 23 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in Durocher Library**. Carolyn Gringras from the Red Cross will address **Cyber Bullying** and Winnipeg Police Service Constable Sandra Murner will present on **Internet Safety**.

Let's all keep the fire burning this year as we hold high the SMA torch!

### Inside

WE Day	2
PSAT	2
Parent Evening	2
Campus Ministry	2
Take Your Kids to Work	3
Home of the Flames	3
Golf Team	3
University Planning	3
Jr. Cross Country Running	4
Grad Information	4
Parents' Guild	4

### Dates to Note:

Oct 18: Early Dismissal 12:35
Oct 19: SAGE No classes
Oct 22: Classes begin 9:50 am
Nov 4: International Day
Nov 7: Take Your Kid to Work Gr. 9
Nov. 9: Remembrance Day Service
Nov 12: Report Card Distribution P. 4
Nov 15: Early Dismissal 12:35
P/T Conferences 1:30-8:30pm
Nov 16: No Classes today
Faculty Mtg. am
P/T Conferences 1:00-6:00pm
Nov 19: No classes Staff Retreat
Nov 23: Mission Colour Day
Dec 3: Classes begin 9:50 am
Dec 10: No Classes; Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Dec 13-17: Mid Year Assessments
Dec 21: Early Dismissal 12:35 pm
Last day of Classes before Christmas



# Congratulations to *Emily Meadows* who was elected by the student body as Head Girl for 2012-2013!

St. Mary's Academy is now on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube. The easiest way to follow us on these social media sites is to go to our website at [stmarysacademy.mb.ca](http://stmarysacademy.mb.ca) and click on a social media icon (this will take you to our page).



## SUPER SIXERS

Congratulations to **62** Grade 12 students who were presented with their Super Sixer pins at the Blessed Mother Marie Rose Mass on October 5th.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all Grade 12 students as you enjoy and cherish your final year as students of SMA.

## Invitation

*Everyone is invited to join us for Wednesday morning Mass or prayer starting at 8:00 a.m. in Holy Names Chapel.*



## WE Day - Mrs. CA. Swayzie

WE Day is an event that celebrates the youth movement for local and global change. Saint Mary's Academy has been fortunate enough to receive a limited number of tickets to attend the second WE Day event on Tuesday October 30<sup>th</sup>. This year's featured speaker is Mikhail Gorbachev, the former leader of the Soviet Union. As well, local philanthropists will be presenting along with well-known musicians and performers. Our Leadership Council and Ambassador Team members will attend, as well as 2 representatives from each homeroom.

Interested students are asked to submit a 50 – 75 word paragraph explaining why they wish to attend the event, and why they should be chosen to attend.

These paragraphs must be submitted to the office by Monday, October 22 at 10:30. A team of teachers will be reviewing the paragraphs to determine the winning participants. Names of the lucky winners will be revealed on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012, with permissions slips and information being sent home for the participants.

We are blessed to be able to celebrate this unique day as we, at St. Mary's Academy, so firmly believe in being leaders to make a change in our world.

## PSAT – a first for SMA - Ms. T. Uruski

On Wednesday, Oct 17, 2012 Grade 10 and Grade 11 students have the opportunity to write the PSAT. The PSAT is a standardized test administered by the College Board in the United States and for the first time – St. Mary's Academy has been granted the ability to offer this test to our students. The benefits of taking the PSAT is to get in some practice before a student writes the SAT in May/June of her Gr. 11 year or October/November of

her Gr. 12 year as Universities in the USA require an assessment score as a integral part of their application process. Students currently in Gr 9 and 10 will have an opportunity in May 2013 to register for the PSAT with Ms Uruski if they have plans to apply or attend a University in the USA.

## Coach of the Year - Mr. D. Danyluk

Congratulations to Mr. Demetro Danyluk who has received the Grey Cup Legacy Fund Coach of the Year in June 2012. This is an extremely prestigious award granted by the Manitoba High School Athletic Association for his lifetime commitment to health, fitness, and coaching. Congratulations from the whole St. Mary's Academy family.



## Campus Ministry - Ms. M. Garlinski

**Campus Ministry is on F.I.R.E. indeed!** What an amazing start to the year! A team of 18 Grade 8-12 students are involved in leadership on campus ministry this year and they even came in during summer break to get started. Doing what, you ask? Well, welcome cards to new students, preparing for opening Mass (ice cream Mass!) , RETRALLY (java-Lua), Service Fair, first Breakfast Club, Grade 12 Retreat, Mother Marie Rose week (including our prayer pals and brunch with the Sisters and class reps) and blessed Marie Rose Mass. AND it doesn't stop there. We are beginning Wednesday morning Mass, Harvest Thursday, AMS@SMA and Jr. Club L.E.M.O.N. in the next few weeks. It might be getting cold out

there but the heat from the F.I.R.E. is keeping us warm.

A special thank you to all parents and friends who have helped us this fall.

At the brunch with the Sisters, we gave each HOMEROOM and each Sister's home a copy of the prayer that was written to Blessed Marie Rose after her beatification in 1982.

We invite all SMA homes to join us in prayer:

*Blessed Marie Rose obtain for us today the audacity of faith the simplicity of hope and the power of love that we might actualize the words of Jesus, "I have come to cast fire on the earth and how I wish it were already blazing".*

*~ Luke 12:49*

## Take Your Kids to Work - Ms. T. Uruski

On **Wednesday, November 7, 2012**, Grade 9 students across the province will spend the day at a work place, job shadowing a parent, relative or neighbour. St. Mary's Academy is pleased to support this opportunity as part of our Gr. 9 career exploration program.

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 students which is both informative and exciting. Students will have a chance

to reflect on their experience in light of exploring their own career interests.

During the 2nd week in October, students were provided with information and permission letters for *Take Our Kids to Work Day*. Please review these handouts and have your daughter return the signed permission form to her Career Development Class on either **Oct 16th or 18<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Uruski, Career Counsellor at 477-0244 ext. 263 or by email: [turuski@stmarysacademy.mb.ca](mailto:turuski@stmarysacademy.mb.ca)

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

We are now six weeks into jumping, diving, spiking, serving, passing, and the 2012 volleyball season. Eight teams, composed of 90 athletes, are training hard and practicing with much enthusiasm, commitment, and dedication.

The Grade 7 athletes will participate in their first "Friendship Tournament" on October 24<sup>th</sup>. St. Mary's volleyball athletes, Lindsay MacCharles, Ariana Fiorentino and Emily McPherson (Grade 12) Julia Frain, Dana Plett and Haley Walton (Grade 11) and Brett Whitla and Julia MacCharles (Grade 10) are committed to coaching and supporting these three teams. Two more developmental tournaments are scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Grade 7 "Flames", coached by Mrs. Jen O'Leary will compete in league play which began successfully on October 1<sup>st</sup> versus Westdale Junior High and Arthur A Leach. The Grade 8 team with University of Winnipeg Volleyball Athletes Lauren Sears and Alix Krahn have been practicing hard and are looking forward to their upcoming league play on Mondays and Wednesdays as well. The Grade 9 team, with Coach Tom Falconer, began its season with a tournament at Ecole Charleswood Junior High finishing in first place. League play begins October 16th working towards another Pembina Trails Athletic Association league championship. League games are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Junior Varsity team, coached by 15 year SMA

coaching veteran Leanne Leskiw and SMA teacher Adriane McElrea, is currently involved in its league play with the West Winnipeg Athletic Conference. The team has competed in two tournaments at Miles Mac and MBCI finishing 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The team hosted the SMA Invitational tournament on October 12-13.

The Varsity team with long- time SMA Coach Christine Rewniak and SMA Alumnae Lindsay Komishon is currently ranked in the top five for High School teams in the Province according to the Manitoba High School Athletic Association. The team began its season with a top ten showing at the Brandon Crocus Plains Tournament for the third straight year, and competed in the Lord Selkirk Tournament on September 28/29th winning the silver medal. The Varsity team will be hosting its own tournament on October 19-20th. League play continues on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Congratulations to all teams on a fabulous start to the season! Thank you to all the volunteer coaches; we are surrounded by fabulous role models, amazing dedication and commitment to improving and strengthening our volleyball program.

For more information or game schedules please contact Jen O'Leary, Adriane McElrea or Demetro Danyluk at 477-0244.

## Golf Team - Mr. J. Villa

On September 21 the golf team went to the MHSAA Provincial Championship in Minnedosa. The girls finished in second place, narrowly beaten by a strong team from Nellie McClung. The team struggled through injuries and terrible weather conditions and did the school proud. Lead by Hannah Diamond, Grade 12, the team also got a strong performance from Jung Min Hong, Grade 11.

Kathlyn Santiano, Grade 10, Katie McGlenen, Grade 9, and Rhea Teranishi, Grade 12, rounded out the team. A special thank you to Mr. Steve McGlenen, who very generously donated team uniforms and golf bags. Winter training will begin in February and spring league play once the courses open in the spring.



## University Planning-Gr. 11 & 12

**October 17** - Evening for Outstanding Students: University of Winnipeg (Gr. 11 & 12) 7:00 – 9:30 pm, Duckworth Centre (Parents Invited) Info call: 786-9844 or <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/future-evening-for-outstanding-students>

**October 30** - Evening of Excellence: University of Manitoba (Gr. 11 & 12) 6:30 - 9:00 pm, Fort Garry Campus: Engineering & Information Technology Complex Atrium (Parents Invited) Info call: 474-8806 or <http://umanitoba.ca/student/admissions/uminfo/evening-of-excellence.html>

**November 7** - National Universities Fair: St. John's Ravenscourt, 6:00 - 9:00 pm (Parents Invited) **OR**

**November 8** - National Universities Fair: Balmoral Hall, 6:00 - 9:00 pm (Parents Invited)

**December 1** - Advanced Early Application Deadline for Gr. 12 Students ONLY – U of M (for specific faculties) & U of W (all programs except the Faculty of Education: Mar 1) based on Gr. 11 marks (80% in English & 80% in 3 other 30S courses for the U of M) (70% in English, Math and 1 other 30S courses for the U of W)

**January 15** – Faculty of Music – U of M - Application deadline

**February 22** - Early Admission Deadline for Gr. 12 students ONLY – U of M based on February Gr. 12 marks

**March 1** - Early Admission Deadline – U of W based on February Gr. 12 marks

**Please note:**  
All Grade 12 students are encouraged to apply early for their universities or colleges of choice. A more complete list of important dates has been given to the Grade 12 students in September and is available on our career information website: <https://sites.google.com/site/smamacareerinformation/>

Students interested in applying to schools in Canada or the USA – should consult their websites for details on application deadlines before the end of October and/or see Ms Ursuki ASAP for assistance.

Congratulations to Junior cross country that was comprised of grade 7s and 8s. This team went on to a convincing victory of the Pembina Trails Athletic Association grade 8 team championship and the Athletic Manitoba Cross Country challenge against some of the best teams in the province. The following team members were committed group of girls who improved physically and mentally throughout the 4 meets they participating in: Amanda Ludlow,

Sierra Sutherland, Adara Lepage, Alex(CoCo) Koltek, Mia Danis, Delany O'Hara, Maya Subramaniam, Adia Duehrsen, Tristan Chambers and Julia Cornejo.

Thank you to all the parents to getting them to those early morning practices and to the 4 meets.

To all those athletes, remember success does not stop here.

## GRAD 2013 Grade 12 Important Dates

**Nov. 15, 2012 7:30 – 8:30 pm.....**Graduation information meeting for all Grade 12 parents.

**Nov. 29, 2012.....**Sobeys gift card orders due.

**Feb. 19, 2013 7:30 – 8:30 pm.....**Safe grad information for Grade 12 parents

**Mar. 4, 2012.....**Sobeys gift card orders due.

**Mar. 21, 2013.....**First grad payment due. \$225

**April 30, 2013.....**Final grad payment due.

**May 30, 2013 (Thursday).....**Parent-daughter Mass & Brunch (*Please note the date change*)

**June 19, 2013.....**SMA Safe Grad Dinner & Dance

**June 24, 2013.....**Convocation Rehearsal **Compulsory** for all Grads

**June 25, 2013 (Tuesday).....**Convocation

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. V. Epp by phone at 477-0244 extension 407 or via email at [vepp@stmarysacademy.mb.ca](mailto:vepp@stmarysacademy.mb.ca) or Mrs. M. Lovallo at 477-0244 [mlovallo@stmarysacademy.mb.ca](mailto:mlovallo@stmarysacademy.mb.ca).

## News from the Parents' Guild

Parents Guild

### International Day

Travel the world and get a glimpse of other cultures at the 39th Annual International Day at St. Mary's Academy on Sunday, November 4, 2012. Bring the whole family. This event is our largest fundraiser and all net proceeds go directly to the school to purchase items to enhance the educational experience of our girls at SMA. Last year we raised over \$25,000 through the many volunteer hours of our parents and the generosity of our community.

Start the day with the International Day Mass at 10:00 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 originate. Try your luck with our cash lottery and/or the many baskets available at the Rainbow Auction. Stroll into the library to admire the works of the SMA Class of 2013 Art Program (under the direction of Mrs. D. Nickel) at the annual International Day Art Auction.

**Cash lottery raffle tickets have been mailed to your home. We ask every household to purchase or sell at least one book per student to assist in our fundraising efforts. All books (sold and unsold) must be returned to Sister Susan's office by October 22nd.**

The ever-popular home baking table will be ready for business as well. Baking can be sent with the girls on Friday November 2 or dropped off in the cafeteria or on Saturday, November 3 before 1:00 p.m.

We are also always looking for donations of items to be assembled in baskets for the Rainbow Auction. These can be dropped off anytime at Reception. Please label items with your name and also indicate Rainbow Auction.

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

### Cornerstore News

Come check out our new SMA sportswear at the corner-store. SMA sweatpants make an excellent Christmas gift. The cornerstore is open everyday from 12:30-1:30 except Tuesday.

You can also visit us on International Day, as well as Parent-Teacher interviews. We accept cash or cheque only.

### Junior Special Events:

Our first dance of the year, "Candyland" is coming up on Friday, October 26. The Junior Special Events team is working very hard to plan this event! The dance runs from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. and is located in the SMA cafeteria. The cost is \$5.00. We are in need of parent chaperones from 7:30-10:30 pm. Without your support, this dance cannot happen! Please contact Ms. Davey at [ldavey@stmarysacademy.mb.ca](mailto:ldavey@stmarysacademy.mb.ca) if you are able to give of your time. We appreciate your efforts. Thank you!



**Hockey Skills Development Program has been cancelled due to low registration.**