



# Newsletter

# NEWS

Information for St. Mary's Academy parents and friends

August 2013

## Director's Message

Sister Susan Wikeem



The 2013-2014 school year is just around the corner. The school office opens August 20th. Please check the SMA web-

site for the school calendar, school supply list, parking application and link to the on-line Parents' Guild Volunteer form.

We welcome back Kendra Le who returns to the English Department from maternity leave. We also welcome four new staff members, Matthew Paschak and Rebecca Mandrick will teach sciences, Laura Jane Boville will teach choral music and Ian Campbell will be responsible for liturgical music.

We are pleased to welcome students into the new Theatre Arts wing which is ready and waiting!

### Special Welcome

I want to say a special welcome to new families joining our SMA community. I look forward to meeting you and working with you. Parents who bring their daughter to Orientation Day on September 4th are invited to stay for coffee and refreshments. This is a good opportunity to meet some staff members and other parents.

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## Principal's Message

Mrs. Connie Yunyk



Summer is a time to kick back, relax and reconnect with ourselves and loved ones. I hope you have all had a chance to enjoy our

beautiful summer surrounded by family and friends!

For twenty-three SMA students, summer presented an opportunity to travel and serve in two communities; one in Loma Linda, El Salvador for the third consecutive year and the other in Yakima Valley, Washington for the second time. Many thanks to Ms. J. Zonneveld, Ms. C. Marquez, Mr. J. Villa, Ms. C Wojcik and Ms. M. Garlinski for volunteering their time to accompany our students on these incredible, life-enhancing journeys.

As the end of summer break draws near, our school gears up for another exciting, enriching and active year. Each year, a theme is carefully selected to guide planning for all aspects of school life... this year we are called to embrace and live our call as **PEOPLE of COMMUNITY**. The following passage from Matthew "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them" anchors

and inspires us all to be the community our foundress Blessed Marie Rose Durocher modeled in her days, and challenges us to continue in today's society. This theme will permeate all aspects of school life, both in the classroom and especially during our retreat and reflection days for faculty and students throughout the year.

Kindly read this newsletter carefully for information about school opening, student timetables, agendas, textbooks and lockers. I encourage parents to maintain open and on-going communication with the school's administration, faculty and staff. We look forward to meeting you, and together assist your daughter in her education and development. It promises to be a year full of wonderful challenges and opportunities! God Bless.



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## School Opening

### New Students

New student orientation takes place on **Wednesday, September 4, 2013.**

**9:00 a.m.** - All new students meet in Alumnae Hall.

**9:15 a.m.** - Students meet with their homeroom teachers until 10:00 a.m.

**10:00 a.m.** - School Orientation Tours take place with SMA's "In the Navy" Ambassador Team.

**11:00 a.m.** - Dismissal  
Note that uniforms are *not* required for Orientation morning.

### All Students

Classes begin for all students on **Thursday, September 5, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.**

Homeroom lists will be posted at school entrances and on classroom doors. Students are to proceed directly to their homeroom for 8:30 a.m. for opening exercises, locker distribution, timetable and agenda distribu-

tion.

Full winter or summer uniform is required.

Bring school supplies.

The opening of the cafeteria service will be posted on our website in the coming weeks.

## Welcome Breakfast for New Parents

New parents are invited to join SMA faculty and staff for a continental breakfast on **Wednesday, September 4, at 8:15 a.m.** in the 2nd floor Board Room.

This is a terrific opportunity to meet other parents, speak with volunteers and tour the school while your daughter participates in the orientation for new students.

The Board Room will be open at 8:15 a.m. and parking is available in Lot B. We look forward to seeing you.

## Important General Information

### Administration

**Mrs. Connie Yunyk** is responsible for all activities and academic programs for students in Grades 11 and 12.

**Mrs. Carol-Ann Swayzie** is responsible for all activities and academic programs for students in Grades 9 and 10.

**Mrs. Michelle Klus** is responsible for all activities and academic programs in Grades 7 and 8.

### School Calendar

A calendar of major events is available on the SMA website. The calendar outlines important dates including **two major assessment periods in December/January and June.** All students are expected to be present during the assessment periods. A doctor's certificate is required to verify illness or absence during the assessment periods. Parents are asked **NOT** to book

holidays or time away from school during these periods. If a student misses a mid-year assessment it will affect the value of their final mark.

### **School-wide Retreat/Rally (Retrally), Reflection Days and Liturgies**

These are important, mandatory community-building events for all students. Kindly become familiar with the school calendar and do not make any appointments on these dates.

### **Student Timetables, Student Agendas, Lockers and Locks**

These will be distributed during the first homeroom period on Thursday, September 5, 2013. The agenda includes the school calendar, general school information, policies and procedures, and student information.

### Textbooks

On the first day of classes, subject teachers issue numbered textbooks to each student. Each assigned textbook is the responsibility of the student to whom it is assigned. In June 2014, students are responsible for returning assigned textbooks in accordance with the following procedures:

**Non-exam courses:** to the subject teacher at the last class.

**Exam courses:** prior to the final exam in a designated classroom.

*Students who do not return textbooks as indicated or who have damaged or lost textbooks must pay the replacement cost and a \$25.00 fine by June 25, 2014.*

### **SMA Website: [www.stmarysacademy.mb.ca](http://www.stmarysacademy.mb.ca)**

Check our website for the following information: 2013-2014 school calendar, school supply list, parking application, daily bulletin, newsletters, photos and current/relevant information and events.

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## September Events

### *Opening Mass*

**Friday, September 6th** at 2:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. Parents welcome!

### *Grade 9 Welcome Day*

**Friday, September 13th.** Workshops and activities are planned to facilitate the transition for all Grade 9 students. All students are strongly encouraged to stay to the end at 10:00 p.m. Specific details and permission forms will be distributed the first week of school.

### *Grade 12 Reflection Day*

**Wednesday, September 25th.** This is a regularly scheduled school day at an off-site location and attendance is mandatory. Please note that the day will end at approximately 7:30 p.m. with Liturgy—parents are strongly encouraged to attend. More details will follow.

### *Service Learning Fair*

**Wednesday, September 18th** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All students from grades 7 to 12 will attend the *Service Learning Fair*. Service organizations from around Winnipeg will be present in the school, educating students about the mission of their organization and where service opportunities are available.

### *Parent Information Evening*

**Wednesday, September 18th** from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. Parents will have the opportunity to meet teachers, the Administration team and members of the Parents' Guild.

### *Walk for Cancer*

**Thursday, September 19th.** SMA students will participate in the annual *Walk for Cancer*. A \$10 flat fee will be collected from each student for a donation and to defray costs for student-led activities. Further information will be provided to students in early September.



2012 Walk for Cancer

## Message from the SMA Parents' Guild



l-r: Janice Beveridge and Kathleen Reid  
Parents' Guild Executive Members

### *Parents' Guild Volunteers Needed*

*Sign-up online to volunteer for the 2013-2014 school year.*

Go to [stmarysacademy.mb.ca/home/parents](http://stmarysacademy.mb.ca/home/parents) and click on the **Build the Guild** icon to register yourself as a volunteer with the SMA Parents' Guild. When you are contacted to volunteer, you are not expected to volunteer unless it suits your schedule. Note: The *Parents* section of the website provides more information about the various activities and events that the Parents' Guild puts on.

### *Parents' Guild Meeting*

The first Guild meeting for the 2013-2014 school year takes place on **Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m.** in Durocher Library. All parents are welcome to attend!



## Grade 7 Camp

Grade 7 students will be at Camp Arnes from **Wednesday, October 9th to Friday, October 11th.** Camp is a community-building and enriching experience.

Students will be supervised by Camp Arnes staff, SMA faculty and Grade 11 student camp counsellors.

The cost of attending camp will be approximately \$225.00. An information package will be sent home with your daughter in September.

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## Christine Skublics Scholarships and Awards

Each year scholarships are given in memory of Mrs. Christine Skublics who was a teacher at St. Mary's Academy and our Principal from 1985-1990. The students awarded these scholarships have obtained the highest academic average for their particular grade level.

### *Recipients of the Christine Skublics Scholarships:*

#### **Grade 9**

Melissa Coleman

#### **Grade 10**

Jae Yeon Park

#### **Grade 11**

Jodi Kristjanson

### *Recipients of the Christine Skublics Award for second and third highest in each grade:*

#### **Grade 9**

Allegra Chiarella & Emma Reznichuk

#### **Grade 10**

Su Lim & Gabriela Karabin

#### **Grade 11**

Marissa Antoniuk & Raven Rickner

## Bob Ritchie Scholarship

The **Bob Ritchie Scholarship** is for Academic Achievement and Outstanding Involvement at SMA, as established by the Ritchie Family.

The award winner must be in Grade 11 and returning for Grade 12 in the fall, must be an honours student and must be involved in the school community.

### *Bob Ritchie Scholarship Recipient:*

Chantale Bosc

## Alumnae Tea

The SMA Alumnae Association will hold its annual **Alumnae Tea** on **Sunday, September 29th**. All former students, parents, families and friends of past and present student are

invited. Mass at 12:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall followed by Tea in the cafeteria until 3:30 p.m.

## International Day

**International Day** takes place on Sunday, November 3rd. Mass takes place in Alumnae Hall at 10:30 a.m. and pavilions begin serving ethnic food at 11:30 a.m.

## 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.



### TARTAN SHOP

#### **Fall Uniform Sale**

September 3 & 4, 2013  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Payment methods accepted are Cash or Cheques only.

Starting Friday, September 6th the Tartan Shop will be open on Fridays during the lunch hour.

### SMA Corner Store

#### **Hours of Operation**

Open school days (except Tuesdays) from 12:30-1:30 p.m. starting September 16th.

The Corner Store sells a wide variety of SMA branded sportswear.

Cash or cheques are the only form of payment accepted.

The Corner Store accepts gently used uniforms, white shoes and gloves (for Convocation).

#### *Merchandise available at Tartan Shop Sale*

SMA Sportswear will be available at the Tartan Shop Sale on September 3rd & 4th.