ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
Regional Secondary School

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IMPORTANT DATES IN

Dec 2	Door Is Open
Dec 4	Advisory Schedule
Dec 5	Grade 8/9 Career Day
Dec 6	Weekly Mass Parent Association Meeting
Dec 7	Advent Penitential Service
Dec 10	Christmas Concert
Dec 11	School Mass
Dec 12	Advisory Schedule
Dec 17-20	Spirit Week
Dec 17	Fine Arts Evening
Dec 19	Advisory Schedule
Dec 20	Weekly Mass Last Day of Classes
Dec 21	Staff Retreat/No School
Dec 25	Christmas Day

May this Advent season of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth, be one where we focus on the positives and celebrate what we all have in common…God's love. The opportunities we have should be cherished and not taken for granted.

I have witnessed over the years how benevolent our students and staff are when it comes to the needs of our fellow man. Their generosity and caring has been recognized and an offer has come forward to support their compassion. A wealthy benefactor has donated money at the rate of $10 per month for each student in the school. The students can donate the money to a charity of their choice…within reason. Please read more details on *page 14* of the newsletter.

Remember, "Jesus is the Reason for the Season"

Have a great Christmas!

John Campbell, Principal

January Exam Schedule

DATE/GRADE	8	9	10	11	12
Monday, January 21 AM	French			Religion	Religion
Monday, January 21 PM	French Oral		English	Biology Honours English	English Communications
Tuesday, January 22 AM		Math		All Maths	Pre Calc Math
Tuesday, January 22 PM	Religion		Science		French Geography
Wednesday, January 23 AM	Math/Math 8/9	French Orals	French Orals	Socials	Law
Wednesday, January 23 PM		French	French	French	Chemistry
Thursday, January 24 AM		Socials		French Orals	English Provincial Exam Psychology
Thursday, January 24 PM			Religion	Chemistry	Biology
Friday, January 25 AM		Religion	Socials	Beg. Spanish Spanish	Economics Literature
Friday, January 25 PM				Physics Spanish Orals	Physics
Monday, January 28 AM	Science Fair		Math	Accounting	Calculus AP Calculus Found. Math
Monday, January 28 PM	Science Fair			Earth Science	History Civilizations

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

Congratulations to *Laura Cunningham*, a grade 10 student, who won a teen poetry slam in November 2018 sponsored by the North Vancouver City Library. She earned a first place finish for her efforts.
According to *Laura*, her "poem was inspired by a recent October astronomy weekend trip to the top of Cascade Lookout in Manning Park. Clear skies provided the perfect opportunity to see all the cosmic elements". At the right is her winning poem taken from the North Vancouver City Library website.

We applaud Laura for her creative efforts and her willingness to take a risk in a contest. For those students inspired by Laura's efforts, students are reminded that the BC Teachers of English Language Arts professional organization is running a contest looking for student generated creative writing. If your submission is accepted, you writing will be published and you will be given a free publication for your efforts. Please see your English teacher for more information.

Six-thirty Sunset

Red light headlamps
slowly fade to black
Gaze up to the
chilly October sky
Sky chart, star hop, arc and spike
alpha, beta, lambda
Neptune, Uranus, Mars
wander among the stars
Galaxies near and far
glowing clouds emerge
All night Pegasus and Perseus
keep watchful eye below
Milky Way wrapped around the globe
warm hug on a cold night
Billions of stars twinkle
shining just for me
From atop a dark mountain
the universe is an old friend.

Science Department News

GRADE 8 SCIENCE FAIR

Grade 8 Parents, please note the following:

Our 17th Annual Grade 8 Science Fair will take place in our school gym on Monday, January 28.

The students' Science Fair Reports are due in Science class on Tuesday, December 18 (day 1) and Wednesday, December 19 (day 2).

The students' science fair boards will be distributed in December and are due in the gym at 8:00 am on the day of the Science Fair.

The students' schedule for the day will run as follows:

8:00 am to 9:00 am: Students set up their Science Fair boards in the gymnasium.
(This will likely take only a few minutes, but boards MUST be set up no later than 9:00 am.)

9:00 am to 12:00: *Students return home to prepare for their interviews in the afternoon. Other students will be writing exams and we will not have supervision for the grade 8s during this window of time.*

12:00 to 2:00 pm: Students stand by their Science Fair boards in the gymnasium for judges' interviews. **It is essential that students are on time for their interviews – 12:00 sharp!**

5:00 pm to 6:00 pm: Students and their families attend the awards ceremony.
(Awards will be presented at 5:30 pm.)

We are still in need of judges for our Science Fair! Judges are required from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm on Monday, January 28. 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. All interested parents and STA alumni should please email *Ms. Treacy* at treacy@aquinas.org .

Those who have already volunteered to judge (thank you!) were sent a confirmation email in the middle of November. Please let *Ms. Treacy* know if you have volunteered to judge the science fair but did NOT receive this email!

UBC ENGINEERING FUTURE LEADERS BREAKFAST

We are proud to share that grade 12 student *Evie Hwang* was one of sixty students chosen to attend UBC Engineering's Future Leaders Breakfast on Saturday, November 24. Special guests at this event included the Dean of Engineering, Engineering Department Heads, professors and current engineering students.

Congratulations, *Evie*!

Student News

In preparation for a research assignment using proper academic citations, members of *Mr. Mendoza's* Composition 10 classes visited the University of British Columbia in Vancouver's Point Grey. Both classes visited UBC's Beaty Biodiversity Museum in the morning, followed by lunch at the brand new AMS Nest (Student Union Building), followed by a visit to the Museum of Anthropology in the afternoon. Students were able to visit these two institutions, as well as to see UBC's vibrant campus life.

Mr. Mendoza would like to thank *Principal Campbell*, *Ms. Sibau*, and *Jackson* and *Julia*, the NET Team members that served as chaperones on both field trips.

For information about, Vancouver's own natural history museum, check out their website at www.beatymuseum.ubc.ca; for information about the Museum of Anthropology at UBC, also check out their website at moa.ubc.ca. Go and spend a day of sightseeing, dining and shopping at UBC on the weekend if you'd like to avoid the crowds this Christmas season!

Above: *Mr. Mendoza and members of Composition 10A and 10F on the grounds of the Museum of Anthropology at UBC. Photo taken Thursday, November 8, 2018.*

At left: *Members of the Composition 10F class check out some of the interactive activities and displays at the Beaty Biodiversity Museum at UBC. Photo taken Thursday, November 15, 2018.*

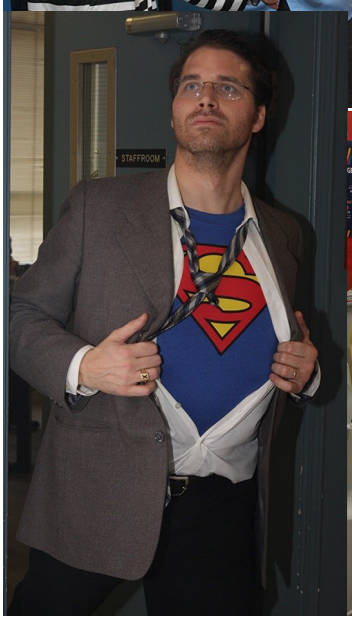
-- *Mr. Mendoza*, Teacher

FUTURE OLYMPIAN???

Congratulations to *Isabella Cesareo* (grade 11) who recently qualified for Canadian World Swimming Trials to be held this April 2018. In addition, *Isabella* has also qualified for Olympic Swimming Trials to be held in April 2020. To date, *Isabella* has qualified in the 200 metre backstroke and is hoping to add the 100 metre backstroke to her list.

Way to go Isabella!! The STA community is proud of you!

HALLOWEEN AT STA



HONOUR ROLL – NOVEMBER 2018

GRADE 8

Apostol, Vincenzo
Arai, Ethan
Asoudehkhaljani, Seyedehailin
Baker, Roland
Baptista, Alexandre
Berg, Dominic
Bernardez-Lai, Diego
Boppart, Gabriella
Bremsak, Nina
Brick, Kelsey
Burr, Jackson
Caffaro, Luca
Chong, Jae Ha
Clarke, Madeline
Coo, Mark
Costales, Raphael
Cox, Sophie
Cutler, Declan
Del Monte, Athessa
Ducut, Brendan
Dwyer, Matthew
Dy, Isabella
Estropia, Harrison
Factor, Deanna
Fediw, Isaac
Fernandes, Daniel
Forguson, Lucinda
Fraser, Raine
Genova, Rumina
Gill, Kiyan
Glowacki, Benjamin
Hamilton, Meara
Hamilton, Michael
Harrison, Sydney
Heijse, Anna
Hinze, Lauren
Hinze, Sean
Howard Jovanovic, Zoi
Howse, Noah
Hunter, Anthony
Islas, Diego
Jozsa, Adam
Jung, Jun
Kelly, Norah
Kennedy, Christina
Kennedy, Thomas
Kim, Siwoo
Kim, Tae Jun
Kim, Vin
Kischer, Evan
Kostamo, Stephanie
Kramer, Julia
Kramer, Victory
Kwon, Yohan
Kwong, Aiden
Larson, Sierra
Lee-Cayetano, Madelyn
Maledy, Luke
Matinrad, Mehrsa
McLachlan, Ian
McLeary, Ashley
Merrin, Laura
Montoya, Dana
Mozaffari, Radin
Nacorda, Gabrielle
Nadeau, Eric
Oko, Caiden
Panicker, Alexandre
Pascuzzi, Daniel
Pizzolon, Jake
Revilla, Angelina
Riddall, Mia
Santos, Estefania
Scherk, Michael
Sharghiyazdi, Setareh
Simmons, Matias
Smiley, James
Smith, Charlotte
Somera, Alyssa
Soroka, Alexander
Souza, Julie
Themens, Kelsey
Vaseghi, Anita
Ventura, Aubrey
Villanueva, Myla
Villanueva, Shayne
Wong, Kara
Woodworth, Eliana
Yi, Jioh

Honour roll students are listed alphabetically and have achieved and overall average of 82% or greater and/or have achieved Excellent or Good work habits in all subjects

HONOUR ROLL – NOVEMBER 2018

GRADE 9

Alexandra Acio
Regina Ahn
Ainslee Dalzell
Dylan Dick
Luke Frith
Mckenzie Moore
Catherine Moric
Adelina Popa
Daniela Purvica
Jose Rangel
Tamara Rodriguez
Aguilar, Xavier
Altamirano, Isabel
Battisti, Trent
Bita, Tudor
Bizzotto, Caroline
Buno, Jayron
Cabahug, Janelle
Calindas, Kevin
Chen, Yvonne
Claro, Julianna
Cole, Samuel
Concepcion, Janelle
Coppin, Samantha
Corcoran, Kiera
Cruz, Brandon
Dalisay, Channah
De Paz, Aliah
Dijak, Dominik
Erdman, Talia
Flynn, Matthew
Gawronski, Anna
Gharavi, Helia
Gultan, Tara
Gustafson, Anja
Kam, Marcus
Kang, Yebin
Kasabashian, Elizabeth
Kim, Eugene
Kim, Jinho
La Pica, Fiorella
Lam Po Yuen, Alexis
Laudencia, Jericho
Lazaro, Kandie
Lee, Kai
Lum, Ayden
MacAtangay, Job
MacDonald, Ava
MacNeil, Arianna
MacNeil, Ewan
Maglieri, Ella
Malekpour, Maneli
Marusak, Dominik
McLennan, Alexander
Misola, Andreanna
Nedergard, Markus
Oliveira, Rafaela
Ong, Grace
Panzetta, Gabriella
Purkiss, Michael
Riccio Palmieri, Manuela
Rojas Gonzalez, Marcela
Savage, Sophie
Sikich, Eva
Villa Soto, Danilo
Villagracia, Michael
Voulakis, Joseph
Wang, Abraham
Wein, Maia
Wimberley, Rory
Wishart, Daniel
Yu, Kylie
Zadeiks, Jordan
Zarowny, Monika
Zhai, Echo

Names in bold denote Frist Class Honours (92%+) Average Honour roll students are listed alphabetically and have achieved and overall average of 82% or greater and/or have achieved Excellent or Good work habits in all subjects

HONOUR ROLL – NOVEMBER 2018

GRADE 10

Grace Haines	**99** Dupouy Pardo, Maria	Miils, Ryan
Mackenzie Themens	**98** Gao, Jenny	Miranda, Angelica
Laura Cunningham	**97** Gilmour, Stephanie	Misola, Alyssa
Chloe Taylor	**97** Gilson, Abigail	Moon, Yenna
Allyssa Eng	**96** Goodwin, Rory	Nudalo, Jaizelle
Sean Woo	**96** Haaf, Georgina	Ong, Gabriel
Amanda Crane	**96** Harris, Benjamin	Palmer, Sophie
Sonya Jones	**95** Hoh, Clare	Parente, Sofia
Sofia Serrano	**94** Hunt, Amelia	Paul, Benjamin
Saketh Poori	**94** Kalanchey, Jack	Repard-Denniston, Arabella
Graydon Baker	**93** Kemper, Dylan	Rhone, Gabriel
Calleigh Hamilton	**93** Kennedy, Ella	Rodriguez, Jesan
Joshua Heuchert	**93** Khavandgar, Nika	Rogers, Liam
Hudson Nock	**93** Kim, Andrew	Ryznar, Sophia
Cara Bauermeister	**93** Kim, Minjin	Saffar, Bahar
Jazz Day	**92** Kim, Taeyoon	Sapanta, Vanessa
Paige Cox	**92** Koeppen, Christopher	Somera, Abigail
Olivia Jasionowska	**92** Krohman, Justin	Steverding, Anna
Arai, Brandon	LaBreche, Noah	Thordarson, Erik
Arcilla, Raphael	Lalanne, Jordyn	Tiernay, Anna
Barrera, Nicolas	Lemelin, Chloe	Torres, Maria
Black, Ryan	Lew, Derek	Wang, Boya
Blake, Jack	Li, Mike	Wattier, Siena
Canvin, Ella	Luo, Lucy	Watts, Tristan
Contini, Chanelle	Ma, Hanshu	Wee, Jessica
Costales, Ericka	Markic, Jessica	Woodworth, Frank
Dahl, Meghan	McLachlan, Owen	Yang, Jennifer
Dear, Carmel		Ye, Elena
Donato, Chad		Yellowley, Marcus

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HONOUR ROLL – NOVEMBER 2018

GRADE 11

Christine Weiss	**97**	Cesareo, Isabella	Matoulek, Natalie
Felix Leblanc-Pratt	**96**	Chen, Kristin	McGeough, Matthew
Samantha Scalabrino	**96**	Clarke, Jessica	Milla, Anikka
Dayton Bowen	**96**	Conejar, Allison	Minni, Joseph
Sophia Kostamo	**96**	Coyle, Mika	Neal, Stephanie
Diego Altamirano	**95**	Cune, Maria	Panopio, Guia
Rudolf Kischer	**94**	Cusano, Santana	Parente, Isabella
Emily Bracken	**94**	Cutler, Gemma	Parrotta, Julia
Cleo Cox	**94**	Dalzell, Daela	Pereira, Sharlene
Caleigh O'Flaherty	**94**	Damery, Edward	Pizzolon, Adam
Rachel Li	**94**	Endler, Laura	Prescott, Caelan
JingXiang Mo	**93**	Everett, Emily	Rodrigues, Olivia
Sa Eun Shin	**93**	Heffring, Madison	Sarvas, Emma
Erik Sanoria	**93**	Hudon, Joshua	Shin, Jenna
Aron Butt	**92**	Jozsa, Petra	Spadavecchia, Danet
Isabella Galat	**92**	Kero, Ava	Stockwell, Katharina
Catherine Schmidt	**92**	Kim, Chae Ryeong	Tancredi, Evan
Sam Winter	**92**	Kim, Munho	Tidman, Jakob
Leah Abbott	**92**	King, Lili	Thomas, Nicolas
Achadinha, Justin		Lee, Jun Soo	Urbani, Madeline
Almerling, Alyssa		Lowe, Caitlin	Winter, Meg
Alnuweiri, Evyndira		Maglieri, Olivia	Wouters, Julia
Borejszo, Lucas		Maguire, Fiona	Xia, Simon
Bosa, Ava		Marcano, Eloisa	Yao, Vicky
Burran, Michael		Marilley-Bodner, Benjamin	Zadeiks, Mia
Campbell, Lauren		Martin, Julia	Zhang, Coco
		Mastrangelo, Sophia	

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HONOUR ROLL – NOVEMBER 2018

GRADE 12

Steven Brown	**98**	Abad, Rozelle	Jovero, Michael
Jaekyung Eo	**98**	Apostol, Santiago	Karimpanal, Abraham
Michelle Nock	**98**	Balce, Carla	Keller, Poppy
Paul Moolan	**97**	Bauermeister, Alexander	Kielar, Matthew
Pasley Vandermye	**97**	Bernardez-Lai, Marco	Krohman, Rebecca
Joshua Savage	**96**	Bizzotto, Gianluca	Kuwalek, Sara
Pablo Islas	**96**	Black, Kristinn	LaBreche, Benjamin
Thomas Thordarson	**96**	Bordignon, Stefanie	Li, Ray
Electra Voulakis	**95**	Bremsak, Sara	Liu, Andersen
Lisa Zhang	**95**	Brick. Liam	Liu, Tiffany
Andre Male Armida	**95**	Buitenhuis, Noah	Paguntalan, Ryan
Peter Ljuljovic	**95**	Buno, Katrina	Rieder, Thomas
Phoebe Luo	**95**	Christensen, Maya	Robles-Block, Aanika
Ericka Cagunot	**95**	Chua, Lorainne	Rodriguez, Mayela
Zoe Zhang	**95**	Ciolfitto, Luca	Romero, Alejandra
Na Hyun Lee	**94**	Clarke, Rebecca	Saffar, Sara
Kiana Burran	**94**	Darby, Jane	Salcedo, Ma Alyssa
Alyssa Dimaandal	**94**	Dimas, Sarah	Sammarelli, Adam
Yekta Saremi	**94**	Duro, Alyssa	Sarana, Jasroop
Mikaela Ong	**94**	Ellis, John	Schneider, Aidan
Louis Gao	**94**	Feigl-Schmidt, Mattias	Shaughnessy, Emily
Krista Alcantara	**94**	Flynn, Brendan	Shim, Jaemin
Olivia Thorpe	**93**	Ford, Duncan	Slowey, Patrick
Joshua Cox	**93**	Gates, Michael	St. John, Christopher
Woojin Houser	**93**	Goodwin, Daniel	Sutherland, Concettena
Brogan Themens	**93**	Guan, Gretchen	Szabo, Hunor
Kyuri Lee	**93**	Guan, Yifan	Taylor, Carmen
Laura Harris	**93**	Hamilton, Matthew	Tosa, Misuzu
Julianne Nacorda	**93**	Hickey, Amber	Tran, Minh Long
Atena Ziapour	**93**	Hinze, Aidan	Tubeo, April
Dylan Factor	**92**	Hodgins, Connor	Tumaneng, Gabrielle
Raphael Plana	**92**	Hogan, Emily	Wang, Herman
Dominique De Guzman	**92**	Hughes, Terence	Wang, Rachael
Justin Purkiss	**92**	Hwang, Jiwon	Wheeler, Julie
Kai Rui Liu	**92**	Irving, Scott	Whelan, Carmella
Sofia Panzetta	**92**	Jennex, Kiahna	Wouters, Colby
		Jin, Zheyi	Zhang, Qingyu

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News from the Academic Advisor

As the midterm exam schedule has now been published, we encourage all students to arrange to meet with ***Mr. Salituro*** to schedule potential exam conflicts or concerns. With university applications for Fall 2019 admissions now open, grade 12 students looking to obtain current school transcripts for post-secondary applications, can also do so through the academic advisor's office at anytime. Students and parents are encouraged to follow our social media accounts on both Instagram and Facebook to keep up to date with new scholarship and bursary opportunities along with news on post-secondary info sessions and open houses. This information will also be published in STA's daily announcements.

www.facebook.com/staacademics

@staacademics

PART – TIME JOB OPPORTUNITY

Harbourside Children's Centre in North Vancouver is currently looking for a senior student to fill a part-time position during after school hours. Duties include clerical and computer work and the wage starts at $15/hour. This is great opportunity to get valuable work experience and hands on training. All interested applicants are asked to see *Mr. Salituro* with a resume and cover letter.

EducationPlanner.ca
Explore your post-secondary options in BC

High school to post-secondary is a big step. Here in B.C., there are thousands of world-class education options after high school – whether you're enrolling in an academic program, upgrading skills or training for a career. BC's post-secondary system has the breadth and flexibility to offer programs on a wide variety of career options.
Education Planner BC helps students make well informed decisions about their education and career options. Use the Plan section to find articles and information about different paths along the student journey.
Create one account and apply to multiple post-secondary institutions.
Visit educationplannerbc.ca and start planning your path to success.

SAINT MARK'S COLLEGE
CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE
THE CATHOLIC COLLEGES IN VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Corpus Christi College is hosting a Preview Night for prospective students and their families. You can meet with faculty, staff and current students, learn more about their programs and take a tour of the campus. All are encouraged to bring questions for their panel.

Preview Night details:

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2019
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Location: UBC Campus, 5935 Iona Drive, Vancouver
Register online: corpuschristi.ca/news-events/events/preview-night/

WHERE TO FIND THEM
Scholarships

SCHOLARHSIP WEBSITES

ScholarTree.ca

yconci.com

ScholarshipsCanada.com

YOUR PARENT'S WORKPLACE

Check with your parents and their friends to see if their workplace offers a scholarship. If they do they likely don't get many applicants and you'll have a great chance of winning!

GUIDANCE COUNCELLORS

Your guidance counsellors are a great resource for scholarship/grant opportunities in your local community.

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE WEBSITES

Visit the websites of the schools you're interested in attending to learn about entrance scholarships as well as other scholarships you can apply to.

STA ATHLETICS

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

A highly successful Volleyball season for all the STA girls teams with each of them advancing to the North Shore Secondary School Athletic Association finals. That included the Junior, Senior, Bantam and Juvenile girls teams. The unusual aspect of the finals were that all four of our STA teams played four Handsworth teams for the top spots. Check out the games listed on the link.

Congratulations girls on a stellar season.

https://twitter.com/NSSSAA/status/1059653082395463680?s=17

SPORTS ACADEMY 2018

The best coaches in the Lower Mainland keep popping into the gym to train our fantastic girls in the Fighting Saints Sports Academy. Last month the girls were training under the watchful eye of UBC Thunderbirds coach- *Jodi Abyszewski*. Coach *Jodi* is a former BC Schools Sports High School Athlete of the year (2002) and Trinity Western All-Star. While in high school *Jodi* was an All-Star volleyball, basketball, soccer, and track athlete. She preached about partaking in as many sports as you can. She also shared her invaluable thoughts on commitment and what it takes to play at the next level. Her session with our girls on hitting and attacking was very helpful as each player took away a little something to improve their game.

Library News

Along with gusty winds, some rain and even gorgeous sunshine, November brought with it time to reflect and to remember. This month, in honour of Remembrance Day, the STA library showcased a generous selection of books on both World Wars. We also featured an "All About Women" display with titles such as "Mother Teresa," "Anne Frank," and "Georgia O'Keeffe" from the beautiful Little People Big Dreams series.

Just in time for Remembrance Day, Mr. Campbell's Social Studies 11 students researched North Vancouver veterans of war for their Virtual Cenotaph assignments. They made use of both print materials and websites such as the online Virtual War Memorial and Veterans Affairs Canada site.

Ms. Treacy's Chemistry 11 students made use of library resources in their classrooms to research atomic theorists and Mr. Mendoza's English 10 classes used our online databases and citation websites to conduct research for their unique animal essay.

The library is a very busy place at lunch hour, before and after school as students use the space to work, research and play board games. The chess club and writing club make regular use of our space which is sometimes beyond maximum capacity especially during rainy lunch hours.

D. Mattia, Teacher Librarian

SOME NEW TITLES

***One Story, One Song* by Richard Wagamese**

Readers have embraced Richard Wagamese's writing for its honesty, its piercing beauty and its wisdom. "The short pieces in *One Story, One Song remind us of human beings' place in the world: We are a part of it, not masters of it. And by sharing our stories we share ourselves. By listening to others' stories, we share their lives and perhaps gain connections. One Story, One Song is all about connections, something we all need." - Globe and Mail*

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

Tells the story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal - a team that transformed the sport and grabbed the attention of millions of Americans. The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the boys defeated elite rivals first from eastern and British universities and finally the German crew rowing for Adolf Hitler in the Olympic Games in Berlin, 1936. The emotional heart of the story lies with one rower, Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not for glory, but to regain his shattered self -regard and to find a place he can call home. The crew is assembled by an enigmatic coach and mentored by a visionary, eccentric British boat builder, but it is their trust in each other that makes them a victorious team. They remind the country of what can be done when everyone quite literally pulls together--a perfect melding of commitment, determination, and optimism.

GRAD 2019 NEWS

The grads of 2019 just wrapped up their first major fundraising campaign of the year with $12,000 in Purdys Christmas chocolate sales! Grads earned 25% of their individual sales which will be credited to them on their year end Dinner/Dance order forms. Well done!

They have another opportunity to chip away at grad costs this March with the Easter Chocolates sale.

GRAD ALERT: YEAR BOOK 2018/9
GRADUATE MEMORIES
FOR GRADE 12 PARENTS ONLY!

Would you like to write a special letter to your graduate in the 2018/9 yearbook? The Media Arts class will shortly be working on the senior section of the yearbook and would like you to leave baby photo, write-up and payment at the office by Tuesday, December 18, 2018 for pickup by *Pasley Vandermye*. Mark the envelope: *Pasley Vandermye*, PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Please enclose:

1. Photo with the **student's name on the back**. This photo must be a baby picture of your son or daughter. They will be returned at the end of the school year with the yearbook, **provided they are labeled with the student's name**. A good colour copy is OK. If you would like to send the picture electronically, it needs to be **at least 300 dpi**.

2. Your write-up may be submitted on paper or via e-mail. This message must be no longer than 100 words, please. It would be greatly appreciated if you could e-mail the write-up to:

vandermyepasl@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 from happening, you can give it directly to *Pasley Vandermye*. All families of graduates are encouraged to submit a memory! Space is limited and submissions are due no later than December 18, 2018 but you may hand it in early. If there are any concerns, please feel free to contact the school at **(604) 987-4431** weekdays until 3:30 pm. 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

OUR STUDENTS DESERVE A CHARITY ALLOWANCE

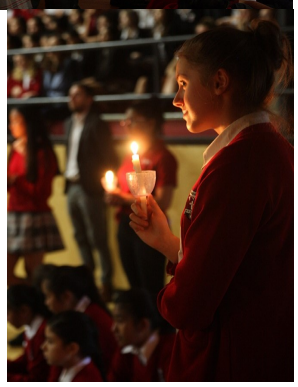
We are introducing a Charitable Allowance Program to empower your children to make a difference! Students will be given **an allowance of $10 a month** to donate to the cause of their choice using CHIMP - an online platform that makes it easy to donate to charities across Canada. This is a great opportunity for us to discuss the importance of charitable giving with students, get them thinking about causes they care about and how they can have an impact.

Your child's privacy is very important. Therefore, CHIMP doesn't share personal information with anyone. Check out CHIMP's Privacy Policy for more information.

Want to stay in the loop? For additional information sign up for their monthly newsletter.

Campus Ministry

An STA tradition of praying a Living Rosary was brought back this year. We prayed through the Luminous Mysteries together as a school community, with each grade leading a decade. The Rosary was prayed in many of the different languages that make up our STA community. We offered up intentions for the souls of our deceased loved ones, our own personal intentions, the STA community, prisoners, and the Pope's intentions.



GRADE 8 RETREAT

This month the grade 8 students experienced their first STA retreat. 21 grade 11 and 12 leaders worked with the NET team to prepare and lead the day. It was filled with games, skits, pizza, talks, testimonies, small group sharing, time of prayer, and mass; all helping us to understand where our identity comes from, focusing on the fact that the things we do don't make us who we are - God does.

Community News

The STA Parent Association meeting will take place on Thursday, December 6 beginning at 9:15 am in room C207 in the convent, 524 West 6th Street.

All parents are welcome to attend.

STA CHOIR WILL PERFORM AT THE
DUNDARAVE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS 2018
LOCATED AT DUNDARAVE PIER IN WEST VANCOUVER.

DATE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8
TIME: 1:00 PM—2:00 PM
COME OUT TO HEAR THE ANGEL VOICES AND
SUPPORT THE LOOKOUT SOCIETY

CAREER FAIR AT STA

The St. Thomas Aquinas Career Education department is hosting a Career Day event for our Grade 8 and 9 students at STA during the day on December 5, from 9:30 am - 1:00 pm. We greatly value the talent from the STA community (Alumni, Parents, etc.) and ask you to volunteer at our Career Day Event. We are looking for those passionate about their field of work, as well as looking for a variety of careers from our presenters whether that be traditional or non-traditional type jobs. It is important that we begin to plant seeds about the various possible career paths available to our students so they can begin to think about and explore those career fields. We will host a lunch that all presenters are invited to.

If you are able to attend as a presenter please let us know ASAP by contacting bmarchenski@aquinas.org with your relation to the school (Alumni, Parents, Parishioner on the North Shore, etc) along with a quick bio of yourself and career.

PRISON MINISTRY

WE are continuing to collect unused Christmas cards and 2019 CALENDARS to be give to inmates in our local prisons. All Christmas cards coming in now will be used by prisoners to send to their families. Many live far from their families and friends. It's a good chance for them to send meaningful notes to those they have left behind.

Thank you!

STA Newsletter Subscriptions

Please notify the office (604-987-4431 or office@aquinas.org)

if you move or change your e-mail address.