

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS Regional Secondary School

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IMPORTANT DATES IN APRIL

1	School Re-Opens
5	Lenten Penitential Service
8	Spring Team Photos
9	Grade 12 Report Cards Sent Home Gr 11 Course Selection Meeting
10	Gr 12 Course Selection Meeting
18	Holy Thursday
19	Good Friday No School
21	Easter Sunday
22	Easter Monday No School
23	Pro-D Day No Classes
25	School Mass
26	Spirit Day

As we venture through the final days of Lent, we look forward to the joy of Christ's resurrection which has given us hope and has blessed our lives. As a Catholic school, we rejoice in learning about the path Jesus has forged for us. This sets us apart from secular schools who don't have the opportunity to let God into their curriculum.

This past winter season has continued to be fruitful for our sports teams with their participation in Provincial Championships. Our gymnastics team lead the way in provincial honours! The wrestling team also did well with a great experience had by all. We sent two basketball teams, the Junior Boys and Senior Girls, to the provincial championships this season, while the other teams played admirably with many athletes having an opportunity to compete. The opportunities offered to our students could not have happened without the dedication and commitment from their coaches and sponsors.

We are entering the performing phase of the year as our choirs and bands participate at the various Kiwanis Festivals. This year's play, *"The Girls of St. Mary's"*, will be a great production. I saw how much work they put into rehearsals and it will pay off.

The new building is still on time and on budget...your continued prayers are appreciated for this great project.

Have a great April!

STA 2019-2020 REGISTRATION

NEW STUDENTS

New grade 8 students/families to STA will have a final opportunity register in person at STA on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

RETURNING STUDENTS

Families should have received their reregistration letters in the mail by now. If not, please contact the STA office at office@aquinas.org.

Return your **Pastor's Authorization Form** to the office as soon as possible so you can go back on-line and complete the registration process.

On-line and in-person registration must be completed by Saturday, April 13 in order to receive the \$100 reduction in the application fee.



Student News

HONOUR ROLL – FEBRUARY 2019

We acknowledge grade 10 student **Sean Woo** who achieved First Class Honour Roll with 96% average and grade 11 student **Elio Spadavecchia** who achieved Honour roll in the February reporting period.

For students in grades 10-12: **First Class Honours (92%+) average**. honour roll students have achieved an overall average of 82% or greater and/or have achieved Excellent or Good work habits in all subjects

SPRING BREAK FRANCE TRIP

Mr Vesco, Ms Botteselle and Mr. Savage chaperoned a group of 22 students on a tour of Paris and parts of Northwest France from March 16-24. They were a bit early for the official commemorations (early June) of the 75th anniversary of the first Normandy landings but they saw some of the preparations and commemorated in their own particular way as grateful Canadians.



STA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC

Gabriel Rhone was awarded a \$250.00 scholarship for outstanding playing and improvisation at the Vancouver Kiwanis Jazz Festival

Nathan Corvera-Alfonso performed with *Sarah McLachlan* at the Vancouver Convention Centre on March 5 for the event, *A Conversation with Barack Obama*.

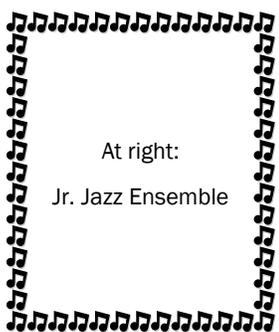


S.T.A. MUSIC DEPARTMENT

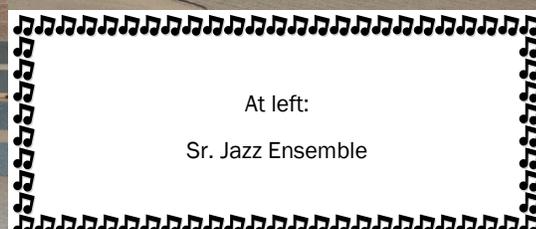
The Junior and Senior Jazz Ensembles performed at the Kiwanis Jazz Festival on February 13. The Junior Jazz Ensemble under the direction of *Mr. Guy* received a Silver Award and *Gabriel Rhone* received a scholarship award for Most Distinguished performer in at the Junior level. The Senior Jazz Ensemble under the direction of *Mr. Horton* earned a Gold Award and *Graydon Baker* won a scholarship for Most Distinguished Rhythm Section player.

Congratulations to all!

Our Choirs and Concert Bands are now working on literature for their Kiwanis performances in April. The Grade 10 Concert Band is also preparing for their trip to the Sun Peaks Music Festival on April 12-14.



At right:
Jr. Jazz Ensemble



At left:
Sr. Jazz Ensemble

STA ATHLETICS



STA GYMNASTICS

The STA gymnastics team sent 21 athletes to the provincial championships in Delta on March 7 & 8. Athletes competed in 8 different levels and earned 55 top ten placings. The girls compete in 4 events while the boys compete in 6 events. As well as individual awards, the STA athletes also placed third in the combined men's and women's team total, the women's team placed third as did the men's team.

Congratulations to all the gymnast and their coaches.



Women's Individual Top 10 Finishes: *Isbella Dy, Rachel Li, Grace Haines, Cara Bauermeister, Kiana Burran, Chelsea Kim, Vanessa Sapanta, Myla Villanueva, Alexis Romero & Kamry Hamagami-Postill.*

Men's Individual Top 10 Finishes: *Vincenzo Apostol, Jutin Purkiss, Lucas Radburn, Santigao Apostol, Ben Labreche & Mattias Feigl-Schmidt*

SENIOR GIRLS HOOPS

A huge congratulations to the Senior Girls Basketball team who recently placed 4th at the Provincial Championships hosted at the Langley Event Center. *Jessica Clarke* and *Olivia Thorpe* were selected as Second



Team Provincial All-Stars, while *Gemma Cutler* was chosen as an Honourable Mention Provincial All-Star. The team was led by a phenomenal crew of grade 12's including *Kristinn Black*, *Jane Darby*, *Stefanie Bordignon*, *Sofia Panzetta*, *Pasley VanderMye*, *Olivia Thorpe*, and *Rebecca Clarke*.

This group of girls has had a tremendous run of success. Their on court highlights include:

- 2 Provincial Championships
- 2 BC Catholic Championships
- 4 Provincial Final Four Appearances
- 16 Championship Finals (14 wins- 2 Losses)
- Numerous Invitational Tournament Championships

But more importantly, they learned about commitment, sacrifice, friendship, and hard work. The STA community is so proud of all the girls.

Congratulations!!

STA'S JESSICA CLARKE TO PLAY IN FIRST EVER WOMEN'S BIOSTEEL ALL-CANADIAN BASKETBALL GAME

Canada's top high school basketball talent gets its annual showcase on TSN for a fifth consecutive year with the return of the Biosteel All-Canadian Basketball Game. The game took place on March 31 at the University of Toronto's Goldring Centre for High Performance Sport.

Congratulations to STA basketball star *Jessica Clarke* who was selected to play on the team. We hope you had a wonderful experience *Jessica*.



REBECCA CLARKE STARS FOR TEAM BC AT THE CANADA WINTER GAMES

STA's very own *Rebecca Clarke* flew to Red Deer Alberta to compete on Team BC's women's ice hockey team. Clarke starred for the team, leading them with 2 goals in a very competitive game vs Ontario. In the end, Team BC ended up capturing the bronze medal.



NEWS FROM THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR

As application deadlines approach for post secondary admissions, we encourage and welcome all senior students and parents to arrange to meet with *Mr. Salituro* or *Mrs. Paruzzolo* to discuss any academic needs including university application and admission requirements, obtaining transcripts, scholarship opportunities and a wide variety of other academic concerns. Follow our social media accounts on both Instagram and Facebook to keep up to date with new scholarship and bursary applications along with news on post-secondary info sessions and open houses. This information will also be published in STA's daily announcements and posted on the academic advisor link of the STA website shown below.

www.aquinas.org/index.php/services/academic-advisor



www.facebook.com/staacademics

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STA COURSE SELECTION 2019-2020

Parents and students are strongly encouraged to attend STA's course selection information evenings which will take place in the gym on April 9th and 10th at 7:00 PM. The April 9th session will be the grade 11 course selection presentation for all current grade 10 parents and students, followed by the grade 12 course selection presentation for all current grade 11 parents and students on April 10th. With the introduction of the new curriculum at the grade 11 and 12 level taking effect in September 2019, both parent and student attendance at these sessions would be most beneficial. Date for course selection is yet to be determined but will be available online for all students.

GRADE 11 COURSE SELECTION

INFORMATION MEETING

APRIL 9 - 7:00 PM

Current grade 10 students and their parents are to attend this evening where grade 11 course selection for the 2019-20 school year will be discussed. It is essential that grade 10 students attend this session, parents are strongly encouraged to attend.



GRADE 12 COURSE SELECTION

INFORMATION MEETING

APRIL 10 - 7:00 PM

Current grade 11 students and their parents are to attend this evening where grade 12 course selection for the 2019-20 school year will be discussed. It is essential that grade 11 students attend this session, parents are strongly encouraged to attend

Campus Ministry

PHILIPPINES ENCOUNTER

The Philippines Encounter trip took place during Spring Break and the students listed below participated. Thank you very much to everyone who donated to the cause and prayed for our students and staff while they travelled! Whether it was money through your parish, brought directly to the school, or physical donations in kind- it was all greatly appreciated and we were so happy to bring these things to those who most need it in the Philippines.

DIEGO ALTAMIRANO	DOMINIQUE DE GUZMAN	CARLA BALCE	FLEIX LEBLANC-PRATT	LUIGI SAMMARELLI
SANTIAGO APOSTOL	ALYSSA DIMAANDAL	KIAHNA JENNEX	JULIANNE NACORDA	SAMANTHA SCALABRINO
GIANLUCA BIZZOTTO	LAURA ENDLER	PETRA JOZSA	RYAN PAGUNTALAN	HUNOR SZABO
KATRINA BUNO	LAURA HARRIS	RUDOLF KISCHER	GUIA PANOPIO	GABRIELLE TUMANENG
JESSIE CABADA	AMBER HICKEY	SOPHIA KOSTAMO	JUSTIN PURKISS	VERONICA ZOLETA

Ms. Elizabeth Hughes & Mr. Jeremy Keong
Campus Ministry Coordinators

Thank
You

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Dear Parents,

This year's International Night is coming up soon! It will be held on Friday, May 24th.

International Night is an excellent opportunity to meet STA families, to celebrate the cultural diversity of our school community, and help raise funds for charity. International Night is 100% charitable. The funds go directly to local charities, such as the Door Is Open, where STA provides a meal each month.

We are seeking help in the following areas:

- Organizing a Table:** If you would like to be responsible for organizing a table, which includes contacting STA families for your nation, providing food, and serving food on the night itself, please contact **Ms. Hughes** at ehughes@aquinas.org. You will receive PPP Hours for organizing a table.
- Providing food and assistance:** If you are able to provide food for a minimum of 10 people, or work at a table on May 24, please contact **Brenda Dayton** at dayton.brenda@gmail.com.

As in previous years, we are hoping to host 12 to 15 national tables which will be decorated with cultural artifacts and serve national food.

Free Confidential Counselling for Youth

Our Services

- The Student Trainee Counselling Clinic will provide counselling for youth (12 to 19 years of age).
- The Clinic is intended for youth experiencing difficulty coping with problems/issues (e.g., illness, mild-moderate depression, mild-moderate anxiety, isolation, loss and grief, etc.) who would like to receive free counselling from a student trainee under the supervision of an onsite Registered Clinical Counsellor (RCC).
- The clinic will run on Saturdays and Sundays from May, 2019 until the end of July, 2019, in partnership with Moving Forward Family Services



What we do?

- We offer confidential, supportive counselling to improve well-being for youth in the community.
- Our student trainee counsellors are graduate students in our Master's Program in Counselling Psychology and will be supervised by an onsite Registered Clinical Counsellor (RCC).
- The student trainee counsellors follow the ethical guidelines of the British Columbia Association of Registered Clinical Counsellors (BCACC).

We provide referrals where appropriate.

For referral leave confidential message at 778-321-3054

Due to the Training Nature of our Clinic, the Following Concerns are Beyond the Scope of our Counselling Services:

- Youth with active, uncontrolled mental health problems or addictions.
- Youth who are experiencing active suicidal ideation.
- Youth who display violent or threatening behaviour.

If you need more information before making a referral, please contact Dr. Erik Jensen at Adler University. Email: ejensen@adler.edu

FOR YOUTH 12 to 19 Years of Age

How to make a counselling appointment?
To register for this free and confidential counselling service, you will need to:

1. Leave a confidential phone message at 778-321-3054
2. An intake worker will contact you within a week at the number you provide.
3. You will then have a brief phone interview.

*Youth under 13 years of age will need a parent or legal guardian to sign a consent for service before starting counselling.

Community News



**DELIVERED IN TIME FOR MOTHER'S DAY
PROCEEDS TOWARDS MINIMIZING STUDENT CAFETERIA WAIT TIMES
i.e. MICROWAVES IN THE NEW SCHOOL**

Go to <https://stthomasaquinas.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home> to see a great selection of locally grown hanging baskets, herbs, vegetables, potting plants, succulents and gardening accessories and place your order.

Ordering deadline **Friday, April 26th** and if ordered by early bird deadline of Thursday, April 18th, you'll get a chance to win a locally crafted vertical planter with every \$20 of product ordered.

Pick-up will be on Thursday, May 9th, just before Mother's Day weekend.

Full details and link to ordering on STA School website through the Parent Association "**Quick Links**" under the Parents tab.

STA Newsletter Subscriptions

Please notify the office (604-987-4431 or office@aquinas.org)
if you move or change your e-mail address.