

# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS Regional Secondary School

541 West Keith Road, North Vancouver, BC V7M 1M5

Principal: Mr. J. Campbell  
Vice Principal: Mr. J. Galat  
Vice Principal: Mr. T. Horton

Tel: 604-987-4431

Web: [www.aquinas.org](http://www.aquinas.org)

FOLLOW US ON:

STA School Activities - on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

## IMPORTANT DATES IN DECEMBER

2	Photo Retake Day
3-4	Grade 11 Retreat
4	Grade 8 Science Fair
7-11	Dignity Week
17	School Mass/Last Day of Class for Students
18	Staff Retreat, School Closed
19-31	School Closed for Christmas Break
25	Christmas Day
31	New Year's Eve

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from Administration	2
Art Department	3
Campus Ministry	4-6
News from the Academic Advisor	8
November Honour Roll	10-14
Music Department	15
Science Department	16-17
Alumni News	18
Community News	19-20

## VOLUME 28, ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2020

As we enter into this season of Advent, let us take the time to think about what the birth of Jesus means in our lives. I was sent an email from a colleague who shared an Advent reflection by French Jesuit, author, and paleontologist *Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*. It is a passage urging us to be patient. "Above all," it begins, "trust in the slow work of God. We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay." The prayer suggests patience in all things, especially patience with yourself.

This patience is never more necessary as COVID-19 exposures increase within our community. We at STA must continue our vigilance by continuing to follow our school's health and safety plans, in service to our school and greater community. In response to enhance the safety at our school, we have accepted the generous offer from a philanthropic donor, through Charitable Impact, to treat the touch surfaces at STA. This antimicrobial surface protection was administered by ZeroBlast on Friday and will enhance our fight against the coronavirus and other infectious microbes. This treatment will not reduce our cleaning protocols we have in place, rather, it enhances them.

Although, this Advent season will be different, it will be a time where we should take the time to think of where we want to go and figure out how to get there.

Have a great  
December!

*John Campbell*



## COVID-19 UPDATE

We have had a very successful start to the school year in the face of new challenges presented by the pandemic. Having just signed and issued the report cards for the first reporting period, it is clear that our students are working hard and progressing well, and it is good for them to be in school receiving in-person instruction. We wish to commend our teachers, educational assistants and support staff for all of their hard work so far, and we wish to commend our students for their academic achievements to date.

Some activities and clubs are continuing, albeit with modifications required by current guidelines, while others have had to be suspended for the time being. Most of our team sports are not yet able to compete with other teams in games, but we are holding practices to foster physical activity and skill development, and to be ready in the event of a resumption of games. Teams comprising more than one grade level are practicing in separate halves of the gym as per current guidelines.

At the time of writing this, the September 3, 2020 version of the ***Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings*** remains in effect. We wish to reiterate the following precautions which everyone needs to observe in order for us to continue to operate safely and without interruption:

It is imperative that students who are sick stay home. This is the best way to contain spread of the virus. We continue to provide streaming of classes when needed to allow students who are ill to stay in touch with their classes.

It is also important that students observe physical distancing whenever possible, particularly when they are with students outside of their cohort.

It is also important that students wash their hands frequently, especially before and after eating. Regular hand hygiene is an important deterrent against infection.

It is also important that students wear their face masks whenever they are outside the classroom. In general, we are seeing strong compliance with this guideline in the school and we thank the students for their cooperation.

During this time of heightened transmission in the community, it is important that students and families limit their social interactions outside of school. Doing so will help keep everyone in our school safe. This will be particularly important during the upcoming Christmas holidays.

We thank everyone for their cooperation and support during this challenging time, and we wish our students continued success during the second half of our first semester.

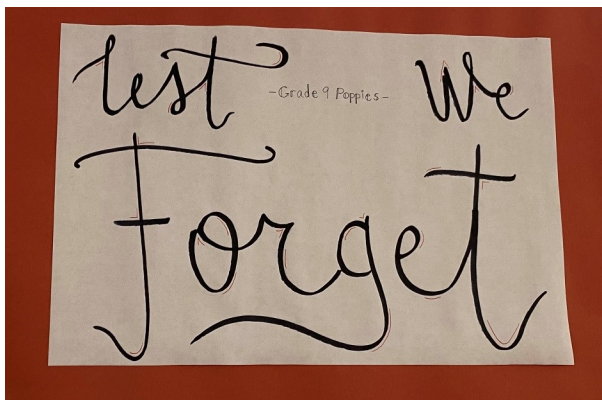
*Mr. J. Campbell*  
Principal

*Mr. J. Galat*  
Vice-Principal

*Mr. T. Horton*  
Vice-Principal

## GRADE 9 ART REMEMBRANCE DAY INSTALLATION

In honour of Remembrance Day, the Grade 9 Art students created a collaborative art installation of papier mache and mixed media poppies. The hanging display was installed at the second floor entrance of the school as an expression of our collective need to remember all those who have served in our nation's defense.



## OUR CUSTODIANS

*Thank you* to our custodians, clockwise from the top, Mr. Degrano, Mr. Landicho, Mr. Daniel and Mr. Lazaro, for the amazing job they are doing in keeping our school sanitized, clean and safe for all. They work tirelessly during the day and after everyone is gone in the evening to ensure all our surfaces are disinfected and the space is spotless.

*In appreciation for all  
that you do....*





# Campus Ministry


The new liturgical year began with Advent on Sunday, November 29th this year.

**T**he people of Israel waited generations for the promised Messiah to arrive. Their poetry, their songs and stories, and their religious worship focused on an awaited savior, whom God had promised, over and over, would come to them to set them free from captivity, and to lead them to the fulfillment of all that God had chosen for them.

Israel longed for a Messiah, and John the Baptist, who came before Jesus, promised that the Messiah was coming, and could be found in Jesus Christ, God's son, the "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." Advent is a season in the Church's life intended to renew the experience of waiting, and longing, for the Messiah. Though Christ has already come into the world, the Church invites us to renew our desire for the Lord more deeply into our lives, and to renew our desire for Christ's triumphant second coming into the world. Advent is the time in which we prepare for Christmas, the memorial of Jesus Christ being born into the world.

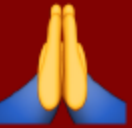
Preparations are practical, like decorating a tree or stringing lights, but they're also intended to be spiritual. During Advent, we're invited to enter more frequently into silence, into prayer and reflection, into Scripture, and into the sacramental life of the Church, all to prepare for celebrating Christmas. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says the goal of Advent is to make present for ourselves and our families the "ancient expectancy of the Messiah...by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming."

## THE SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS




### ORIGINS

The first missionaries in Europe took advantage of the pagan traditions to evangelize. One of them consisted of lighting candles during the winter, which represented the sun god.




### CIRCULAR SHAPE

It represents God's eternal love for us and also speaks of our own love towards the Lord and others, which needs to be renewed constantly.




## THE ADVENT WREATH




### THE BRANCHES

Green is the color of hope and life. Our biggest hope should be to achieve a closer union with God as the tree and its branches.



### THE CANDLES

The four candles of the wreath are lit each Sunday of Advent. They represent the dissipation of darkness as we approach the birth of the Lord.

INFORMATION FROM ACIPRENSA.COM


## FOREST OF MIRACLES

**STA** has sponsored a tree in Dundarave Festival's Forest of Miracles in support of the Lookout Foundation again this year. Come down to Dundarave between November 28th - January 4th to enjoy the festival and look for our tree! We invite you to join our giving group and help us help end homelessness in our community:

<https://m.charitableimpact.com/Ck1A>

This year, all donations up to \$50,000 will be doubled by the Lookout Foundation. Lookout will use the proceeds to provide permanent, rent-geared-to-income home for homeless members of our community.



## ADVENT RETREAT

Everyone is invited to join in the Archdiocese of Vancouver's online Advent Retreat. For many of us, it would be easy to say that 2020 has had its unique share of challenges. It has been easy to become discouraged, disconnected, and disengaged. Advent and subsequently, Christmas, however, present for us an opportunity to share in a fresh joy, a true joy, a joy that can conquer any darkness: Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born!

Join *Father Juan Lucca* and *Barb Dowding* at this year's Advent Retreat: *Ero Cras* (Tomorrow, I Will Be), where we will explore the rich symbols in Advent and share the intricate details of Christmas liturgy to help prepare us for the coming of Christ at Christmas, where our hope and our joy will be full. For more information and to register (for free) please see this link:

<https://beholdvancouver.org/events/advent-retreat-2020-ero-cras-tomorrow-i-will-be#register>

A poster for the Advent Retreat 2020. The background is a dark, snowy night scene with a person standing in the snow, holding a flashlight that illuminates the path. The text "ADVENT RETREAT 2020" is at the top. Below it, in a large, stylized font, is "Ero Cras - 'Tomorrow, I Will Be'". A star is centered below the title. The date and time "FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 7 - 9 PM" are displayed. In the bottom left corner is a logo for "Jesus OUR LIVING HOPE" with a star. In the bottom right corner is the logo for the "Archdiocese of Vancouver".



## RCAV MEN'S SHELTER OUTREACH

We are doing our regular collection for the RCAV Men's Shelter in December as well as donating winter clothing and writing Christmas cards for the homeless.

### MEAL COLLECTION

Prepare and drop off 12 baked goods or 20 sandwiches (individually wrapped) at the Campus Ministry office before 9 am on Thursday, December 10th & Thursday, December 17th and log 1 service hour. Or make more and log more hours! There will also be collections from 1-2 pm on Saturday, December 19th in the St. Anthony's Parish parking lot and 1-2 pm on Tuesday, December 22nd in the St. Pius X parking lot.

### CLOTHING DONATIONS

We are looking for the following clothing items: Gently used winter jackets and raincoats, new or gently used sweatshirts and hoodies, new winter gloves and toques, new socks, new underwear, and new t-shirts.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR THE HOMELESS

Pick up a package of 3 Christmas Cards from the Campus Ministry office, bring them home to write with your family, and return them before Monday, December 7th. If you would like more than 3 cards you can take more than one package! This small gesture will mean so much to those who usually don't receive any.

Thank you for your continued support of the Men's Hostel and the Door Is Open, especially now in this extra trying time. We are overwhelmed each Thursday by the number of sandwiches and baked goods we receive. It is incredible to see the corporal works of mercy in action.

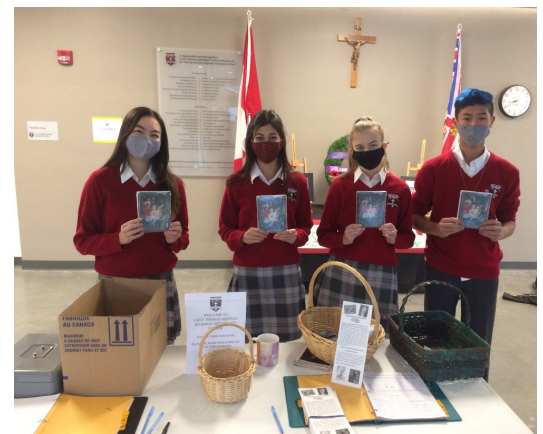


*Merry Christmas*

## LIFE AND JUSTICE CLUB

The Life & Justice students at STA worked hard this month to raise funds for the "National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children". This organization was instrumental in rescuing and assisting Sofia, a 15-year-old girl who was the victim of sex trafficking from the ages of 9 to 15. Sofia is aware of the efforts of Life & Justice students, who have posted Sofia's story on their bulletin board. Funds were raised through the sale of Christmas card packages - a total of 90 packages were sold, for a profit of \$232.00.

*Well done, L&J students!*



## DONATION REQUEST

**STA** students *Lucas & Alex McLennan* and *Lucas & Justin Mulhall* are supporting two worthy organizations this Christmas and are inviting you to participate.

*Luke 15 House*, based in Surrey, BC, supports men struggling with addictions. If you wish to learn more about this organization, the website is: <https://www.luke15house.org/> and the facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/Luke15House/>

*Talitha Koum Recovery Homes*, based in Coquitlam, BC, supports mothers (with young children ages 2 - 6 years) struggling with addictions. If you wish to learn more about this organization, the website is <http://talithakoumsociety.org> and the facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/TalithaKoumSociety/>

Both organizations are in need of donations of items listed below.

### Talitha Koum Recovery Homes for Women

#### For the women

Toques & Gloves  
Umbrellas  
Warm scarves  
Pajamas, Slippers  
Runners  
Hoodies  
Underwear (*new only*)  
Warm Jackets  
Sweaters (cardigans or pullover sweaters)  
Sweat pants  
Jewellery  
Travel size toiletries  
Chocolates (*new only*)  
Gift cards for Walmart, Costco, Grocery Store

#### For the children (ages 2 – 6 years)

Warm clothing  
Warm jackets  
Hoodies  
Pajamas  
Diapers (toddler sizes – age 2+)  
Underwear (*new only*)  
Toques  
Gloves (*gloves with fingers, not mittens*)  
Games, Dolls, Toy Cars (*new only*)  
Chocolates (*new only*)

### Luke 15 House

Toques  
Gloves  
Small black umbrellas  
Slippers  
Sweatshirts  
Runners  
T-shirts  
Sleeveless t-shirts  
Underwear (*new only, sizes M, LG and XL*)  
Jackets  
Sweaters  
Gym wear  
Warm scarves  
Deodorant (*new only*)  
Travel size toiletries  
Games  
Chocolates (*new only*)  
Cookies (*new only*)



*Donations can be dropped off to the STA office, until Friday, December 11.*

*Thank you in advance for your support.*

## News from the Academic Advisor

With university applications for Fall 2021 admissions now open, grade 12 students are encouraged to utilize the academic advisor's office with any application or admission questions. 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. Our updated academic advising web page is also a great resource for useful links, scholarship opportunities, career explorations and post-secondary planning tools.

[www.aquinas.org/index.php/academics/advising](http://www.aquinas.org/index.php/academics/advising)

Follow us @staacademics



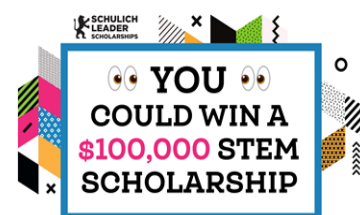
[www.facebook.com/staacademics](https://www.facebook.com/staacademics)



### SCHULICH LEADER SCHOLARSHIP

Nominations are now open for the 2021 *Schulich Leader Scholarship*. *Schulich Leader Scholarships* are Canada's most coveted undergraduate STEM scholarships. Up to one hundred are awarded to entrepreneurial-minded high school graduates enrolling in a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math program at 20 partner universities across Canada. Half are valued at \$100,000 for engineering scholarships and half are valued at \$80,000 for science and math scholarships. Every high school in Canada can nominate one graduating student each year to apply for the scholarship. Grade 12 students interested in being nominated as STA's candidate for 2021, are asked to see *Mr. Salituro* in the academic advisor's office for a nomination form.

*Nominations close on December 17, 2020.*



### EDUCATION PLANNER 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](http://educationplannerbc.ca) and start planning your path to success.





## Grad 2021

### PURDYS CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Our Grade 12 Purdys Christmas Chocolate Fundraiser was a tremendous success with over \$21,000 worth of chocolates sold. Participating grads earned 25% of their individual sales which will go towards year-end graduation expenses.

Another sale will be happening during the Easter season so stay tuned!



### GRADWEAR

Over 80 items of Gradwear 2021 were sold to grade 12 students this past month.

*Great spirit grads!*

### NORTH VANCOUVER CITY LIBRARY: TEEN SHORT STORY CONTEST

We would like to congratulate STA students *Billy Park* (grade 8) and *Estefania Santos* (grade 10) who participated in the North Vancouver City Library teen short story contest.

*Billy* placed first in the grade 7 – 9 group for his story:  
*The Hidden Enemy*

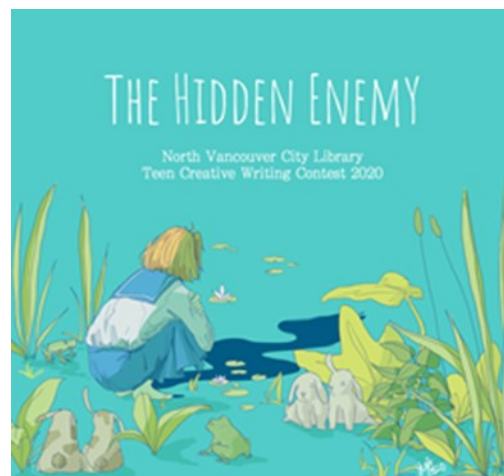
*Estefania* placed first in the grade 10-12 group for her story:  
*Yesterday a Girl Lightened Her Hair with Chamomile*

To get the right word in the right place is a rare achievement.

*Mark Twain*

To win an award by doing so is commendable.

*Mr. C*



## STA Athletics

Wow, Yahoo, Fantastic...our Xcountry team won the AA Banner on the North Shore and ended 2nd overall (Handsworth beat us by 1 point)... super job to all and yes we will keep running during the week, until we cannot.

Congratulations to all runners and thank you to coaches *Mr. McCaffery & Mr. Domina*

## GRADE 8 HONOUR ROLL

Alsop, Sienna	<b>Mengestab, Nathan</b>	Gelo, Bianka	Pactanac, Skyler
Altomare, Giulia	<b>Modequillo, Ziara</b>	Ghodrati, Gelareh	Pagtakhan, Ciara
Baker, Hudson	<b>Park, Sunghan</b>	Gorecki, Nicholas	Panzetta, Emilia
Barichello, Christian	<b>Pietraru, Alexa</b>	Guzman, Gabriel	Rendall, Liam
Carotenuto, Justin	<b>Rinon, Callia</b>	Hagedorn, Jayda	Riddall, Nathaniel
Chen, Sophie	<b>Savage, Isaac</b>	Haziza, Burke	Robinson, Vicente
Cromack, Charlotte	<b>Selegria, Mikayla</b>	Jackson, Josiah	Setticasi, Alexander
Cruz, Ryan	<b>Shi, Lydia</b>	Jessop, Wesley	Shehata, Ramy
Dean, Harry	<b>Spadavecchia, Maya</b>	Kerridge, Thomas	Smiley, Owen
Domina, Vanessa	<b>Wein, Sasha</b>	Koo, Hamin	Stuart-Roca, Annika
Duncan, Blake	Alladina, Sofia	Kwak, Minjun	Tabassi, Dorsa
Fernandes, Marco	Boffo, Mikayla	Lam Po Yuen, Aidan	Tanious, Lindsay
Fraser, Carys	Bond, Zachary	Lamb, Charli	Tigas, Isabelle
Glowacki, Julianne	Borsoi, Ella	Law, Ryan	Tuazon, Myazelle
Jeon, Mikael	Bracken, Joseph	Lee, Savannah	Tucker, Anthony
Kasabashian, Gabriella	Cantas, Sebastian	Macatangay, Seth	Valenzuela, Marielle
Kennedy, Matthew	Cardle, Fiona	Mackenzie, Benjamin	Villareal, Tanya
Kim, Grace	Ceolin, Isabella	Martin, Maya	Wallin, Sidney
Kostamo, Elanor	Concepcion, Maria	McLeary, Aiden	Wang, Matthew
Kuwalek, Jacob	Conlin, Sarah	Nichols, Oliver	Warwas Gonzalez, Zara
La Pica Puelle, Micaela	Dear, Rita	Oh, Juwon	Wenzel, Eric
Larson, Neve	Diab, Sean	Oko, Chantelleanne	Yang, Po
McCready, Alessandra	Dwyer, Andrew	Organ, Finley	Zhao, YueTing
McMillan, Sienna			

**Names in bold denote First Class honours (GPA = 4.00).**

Honour roll students are listed alphabetically and have achieved a GPA of 3.202 or greater and/or have received Excellent or Good work habits in all subjects.

## GRADE 9 HONOUR ROLL

Altamirano, Sara	<b>Radosevic, Rachel</b>	Cratchley, Lauren	Lazaga, Ancus
Chen, Jason	<b>Sawhney, Neil</b>	Cruz, Abigail	Lipnitskiy, Michael
Coley, Nathan	<b>Sayyad, Melissa</b>	Daoust, Angie	Mahmoodian, Sarina
Concepcion, Pauline	<b>Sharp, Zakary</b>	Delaine, Jonah	Malekzadeh, Zhina
Delgado, Nicolas	<b>She, Kai-Yu</b>	Di Rosa, Marianna	Mastrangelo, Luciana
Fitzgerald, Emma	<b>Sikich, Dante</b>	Diab, Rosemary	McLaughlin-Arasteh, Orla
Gelo, Tia	<b>Stevens, Mikaila</b>	Frith, Caterina	McMillan, Madeline
Ghezzi Fagyas, Kyara	<b>Taylor, Harrison</b>	Gibbs, Clemente	O'Neill, Quinn
Henley, Rhiannon	<b>Wong, Cherrie</b>	Gilmour, Georgia	Panzetta, Alessandra
Jones, Lydia	<b>Yoomin, Yi</b>	Govorcin, Nicolas	Rhone, Ava
Kirkham, Bridget	Ahn, Solbi	Hagedorn, Sienna	Rodriguez, Andrea
Lum, Taylor	Amat, Rhoan	Hall, Michael	Ryznar, Justin
Marcano, Fabiola	Arcilla, Gabrielle	Hare, Teagan	Schmidt, Jonathan
Martinez Gutierrez De Velazco, Alondra	Ban, Benji	Hisole, David	Schuss, Sofia
Milone, Sophia	Benedet, Elle	Howse, Liam	Song, Geehyun
Mousavi, Melikasadat	Bond, Rebecca	Jaffe, Alexander	Stockwell, Eton
Mulhall, Justin	Calimoso, Ella	Kalanchey, Chase	Tigas, Francis
O'Flaherty Wills, Bronwyn	Chandralingam, Adrian	Kelly, Joshua	Torrillo, Jervin
O'Neill, Mia	Cheung, Bowen	Kero, Helena	Tuey, Oliver
Pestes, Alessa	Codrington, Bennett	Kuss, Addyson	Walker, Nyah
Poori, Sriniketh	Corcoran, Avery	Lara, Eva	Watts, Jack
Purkiss, Elizabeth			Yao, Jessica



**Names in bold denote First Class honours (GPA = 4.00).**

Honour roll students are listed alphabetically and have achieved a GPA of 3.202 or greater and/or have received Excellent or Good work habits in all subjects.



## GRADE 10 HONOUR ROLL

McLeary, Ashley	98	Woodworth Eliana	94	Gibbs, Jose	Razeghi, Rozhin
Matinrad, Mehrsa	97	Kim, Vin	93	Harrison, Sydney	Revilla, Angelina
Genova, Rumina	97	Hamilton, Michael	93	Hinze, Lauren	Riddall, Mia
Vaseghi, Anita	97	Okon, Caiden	92	Hinze, Sean	Santos, Estefania
Asoudehkhajani, Seyedehtailin	96	Cox, Sophie	92	Howard Jovanovic, Zoi	Sharghi yazdi, Setareh
Montoya, Dana	96	Burgos, Javier	92	Hunter, Anthony	Shehata, Rafik
Chan, Sofie	96	Bernandez-Lai, Diego	92	Kanatselis, Gabriel	Shehata, Ramez
Themens, Kelsey	96	Arai, Ethan	92	Kelly, Norah	Simmons, Matias
Chong, Jae Ha	95	Baker, Roland		Kennedy, Thomas	Smith, Charlotte
Islas, Diego	95	Baptista, Alexandre		Kim, TaeJun	Somera, Alyssa
Del Monte, Athessa	95	Caffaro, Luca		Kischer, Evan	Soroka, Alexander
Panicker, Alexandre	95	Cha, Edward		Kostamo, Stephanie	Souza, Julie
Villanueva, Myla	95	Clarke, Madeline		Kramer, Victory	Tidman, Aidan
Lee-Cayetano, Madelyn	94	Cutler, Declan		Kwon, Yohan	Tomas, Anthony
Forguson, Lucy	94	Ducut, Brendan		Kwong, Aiden	Urbani, Elizabeth
Fediw, Isaac	94	Estropia, Harrison		Larson, Sierra	Ventura, Aubrey
Hamilton, Meara	94	Factor, Deanna		Merabian, Lukas	Villanueva, Shayne
Gutierrez, Danica	94	Fernandes, Daniel		Merrin, Laura	Wong, Kara
		Fraser, Raine		Mozaffari, Radin	



**Names in bold denote First Class honours (92 % + Average)**

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

## GRADE 11 HONOUR ROLL

Rodriguez, Tamara	<b>98</b>	<b>Altamirano, Isabel</b>	<b>93</b>	Dimas, Matthew	Misola, Andreanne
Lee, Kai	<b>97</b>	<b>La Pica, Fiorella</b>	<b>93</b>	Edge, Benjamin	Nedergard, Markus
Ahn, Regina	<b>97</b>	<b>Levasseur, Samuel</b>	<b>93</b>	Flynn, Matthew	Oliveira, Rafaela
Kwak, Minseok	<b>97</b>	<b>Edwards, Ella</b>	<b>93</b>	Freckelton, Jasmine	Ong, Grace
Dijak, Dominik	<b>97</b>	<b>Eng, Ayden</b>	<b>93</b>	Friesen, Lucas	Pavlovic, Ivana
Popa, Adelina	<b>97</b>	<b>Acio, Alexandra</b>	<b>92</b>	Gawronski, Anna	Purkiss, Michael
McLennan, Lucas	<b>97</b>	<b>Concepcion, Janelle</b>	<b>92</b>	Gharavi, Helia	Qi, Zhongyuan
Chen, Yvonne	<b>96</b>	<b>Macatangay, Job</b>	<b>92</b>	Gustafson, Anja	Savage, Sophie
Dick, Dylan	<b>96</b>	<b>Kang, Yebin</b>	<b>92</b>	Kasabashian, Elizabeth	Semeniano, Adrian
Wishart, Daniel	<b>96</b>	<b>Coppin, Samantha</b>	<b>92</b>	Khanansho, Andrew	Setticasi, Anthony
Battisti, Trent	<b>95</b>	<b>Wang, Abraham</b>	<b>92</b>	Krzyczkowski, Roman	Sikich, Eva
Frith, Luke	<b>95</b>	<b>Wein, Maia</b>	<b>92</b>	Lam Po Yuen, Alexis	Silberstein Sestini, Juliana
Purvica, Daniela	<b>95</b>	Aguilar, Xavier		Laudencia, Jericho	Stokes, Kaitlin
Rangel, Jose	<b>95</b>	Anastacio, Sofia		Lazaro, Kandie	Tan, Hazel Mae
Kam, Marcus	<b>95</b>	Bizzotto, Caroline		Lee, Hailey	Villa Soto, Danilo
Mulhall, Lucas	<b>95</b>	Buno, Jannah		Liang, Zhuokun	Villagracia, Michael
Moore, Mckenzie	<b>94</b>	Buno, Jayron		Lipiec, Alexandra	Voulakis, Joseph
Cruz, Brandon	<b>94</b>	Claro, Julianna		Liu, Mia	Wimberley, Rory
Calindas, Kevin	<b>94</b>	Cole, Samuel		MacDonald, Ava	Zadeiks, Jordan
McLennan, Alexander	<b>94</b>	Corcoran, Kiera		Machry, Riley	Zarowny, Monika
Jennex, Halle	<b>94</b>	Dai, Mingyong		MacNeil, Arianna	Zhai, Yuquan (Echo)
Lum, Ayden	<b>94</b>	Dalisay, Channah		Maglieri, Ella	Zhao, Boao
Bitá, Tudor	<b>94</b>	Damery, Jacob		Marusak, Dominik	Zhou, Dorry
Yu, Kylie	<b>93</b>	De Paz, Aliah		Matich, Brandon	

**Names in bold denote First Class honours (92 % + Average)**

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

## GRADE 12 HONOUR ROLL

Rhone, Gabriel	<b>99</b>	La Breche, Noah	<b>94</b>	Freckelton, Declan	Matias, Jalen
Taylor, Chloe	<b>98</b>	Yang, Beini	<b>93</b>	Germia, Jermei	McLachlan, Owen
Poori, Saketh	<b>98</b>	Baker, Graydon	<b>93</b>	Ghezzi Fagyas, Ian	Mills, Ryan
Haines, Grace	<b>97</b>	Pedrero Pastrana, Maria	<b>93</b>	Gilson, Abigail	Miranda, Angelica
Themens, Mackenzie	<b>97</b>	Black, Ryan	<b>93</b>	Gong, Jasmine	Misola, Alyssa
Serrano, Sofia	<b>97</b>	Kero, Anthony	<b>93</b>	Goodwin, Rory	Moon, Yenna
Woo, Sean	<b>97</b>	Ryznar, Sophia	<b>93</b>	Hamilton, Thomas	Nikkhah, Parham
Nock, Hudson	<b>97</b>	Contini, Channele	<b>93</b>	Helm, Riley	Nudalo, Jaizelle
Bauermeister, Cara	<b>97</b>	Dong, Ethan	<b>93</b>	Hoh, Yein (Clare)	Ockeloen, Samuel
Wattier, Siena	<b>96</b>	Wee, Jessica	<b>93</b>	Hussey, Camden	Palmer, Sophie
Dupouy Pardo, Maria	<b>96</b>	Kim, Andrew	<b>93</b>	Jones, Sonya	Parente, Sofia
Hamilton, Calleigh	<b>96</b>	Dear, Carmel	<b>92</b>	Kalanchey, Jack	Paul, Benjamin
Hunt, Amelia	<b>96</b>	Hamagami-Postill, Kamryn	<b>92</b>	Kemper, Dylan	Repard-Denniston, Arabella
Thordarson, Erik	<b>96</b>	Watts, Tristin	<b>92</b>	Kim, Chloe	Sapanta, Vanessa
Canvin, Ella	<b>96</b>	Khavandgar, Nika	<b>92</b>	Kim, Daniel	Schmidt, Marcus
Kennedy, Ella	<b>96</b>	Ong, Gabriel	<b>92</b>	Kim, Soobin	Schumann, Luke
Day, Jazz	<b>96</b>	Arai, Brandon		Kim, Taeyoon	Sikich, Luca
Heuchert, Joshua	<b>96</b>	Arcilla, Raphael		Kirkham, Aodhan	Somera, Abigail
Jasionowska, Olivia	<b>95</b>	Babcock, Grace		Kischer, Thomas	Souza, Joshua
Saffar, Bahar	<b>95</b>	Balmaceda, Jansen		Koeppen, Christopher	Steverding, Anna
Woodworth, Frank	<b>95</b>	Barrera, Nicolas		Krohman, Justin	Sutherland, Gabriel
Ye, Yiwen	<b>95</b>	Blake, Jack		Lalanne, Jordyn	Sutherland, Michael
Cunningham, Laura	<b>95</b>	Boase, Dexter		Lew, Derek	Teather, Destynee
Costales, Ericka	<b>94</b>	Borges McDiarmid, Catarina		Lewis, Lauren	Tiernay, Anna
Dahl, Meghan	<b>94</b>	Brick, Hailey		Li, Mingqi	Torres, Maria
Markarian, Taleen	<b>94</b>	Cox, Paige		Luo, Zhuofu	Valdez, Hannah
Rogers, Liam	<b>94</b>	Cromack, Henry		Lyu, Gengda	Wang, Boya
Gao, Yang	<b>94</b>	Dawson, Olivia		Ma, Hanshu	Wong, Kieran
Manongsong, Gericho	<b>94</b>	Del Monte, Geraldine		Ma, Haosen	Yan, Dolores
Eng, Allyssa	<b>94</b>	Enriquez, Felix		Markic, Jessica	Yellowley, Marcus

**Names in bold denote First Class honours (92 % + Average)**

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



# Music Department

Our Music Department has been rising to the challenges presented during the current pandemic. Despite this, we have enjoyed several productive months of rehearsals and virtual performances.

First among the challenges are the current health and safety guidelines. We have developed our own health and safety guidelines for Band and Choir based on the recommendations from the B.C. Music Educators Association, which have been reviewed and approved by the B.C. Centre for Disease Control. These guidelines include proper physical distancing, polycarbonate screens between rows and between different cohorts, and enhanced cleaning after rehearsals.

Second among the challenges is a semestered timetable, which is never good for a music program. During this first semester we are running Beginning Band 8 and Concert Band 10. These courses will end in February and we are looking at ways for these students to be able to continue playing in some way after February. The Beginning Band 8 is making great progress with daily classes, and the Grade 10s were invited to join the Senior Concert Band for the Remembrance Day recordings, which they did.

Our Junior and Senior Jazz Ensembles have been repopulated and will run all year long. The Junior Jazz Ensemble meets on Mondays and Thursdays after school, and our Senior Jazz Ensemble meets on Tuesdays after school and Thursdays at lunch. The Jazz Ensembles are currently rehearsing in a square format in the Drama Room for additional space between students. These ensembles comprise students in more than one grade, and we are using polycarbonate shields for additional separation between the cohorts.



Our Choir students are rehearsing this year as a Junior 8/9 Choir and a Senior 10/11/12 Choir. We have moved our Choirs into a larger space on the third floor of the convent and have provided additional air filtration. Students are separated by cohort, are spaced apart during rehearsals, and masks are worn.

Our Senior Concert Band and Choirs recorded music for our virtual Remembrance Day Service, which was streamed to all classes via YouTube. You can watch the service and the performances on the school's YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/5AhtXDUy8W4>

Our ensembles are now preparing to record performances for our virtual Christmas Concert. The recording sessions will be held during the day on Monday, December 7 and we hope to share the finished concert on Monday, December 14. While we would of course prefer to hold a live concert, this format will enable family members from far away to enjoy the concert.

*T. Horton*

*S. Rebane*

*R. Woitowitsch*



# Science Department News

## GRADE 8 SCIENCE FAIR

The Nineteenth Annual STA Science Fair will be held on Friday, December 4 for our grade eight students who are taking Science in term one. Students should already be working on their projects. A rough draft of their reports will be due to *Mr. Lamasan* on Monday, November 16 and their final reports will be due on Monday, November 23.



### GRADE EIGHT SCHEDULE FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

(Block B Science students ONLY)

#### 8:00 to 8:25 am

Students set up projects in the auxiliary gym

#### 8:30 to 9:55 am

Students attend Block A

#### 10:10 to 11:25 am

Students are beside their projects in the auxiliary gym for interview portion

#### 11:25 am to 12:20 pm

Lunch

#### 12:20 to 1:35 pm

Students attend Block C

#### 1:45 to 3:00 pm

Students are beside their posters while the other grade 8 students come to view the projects, one class at a time. Awards ceremony to follow.

## SHAD APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

**SHAD** is an internationally recognized, immersive summer program of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math)-based lectures, workshops, projects and activities. Students currently in grades 10 and 11 who are high-achievers in science are encouraged to apply for this month-long summer program. While at **SHAD**, students are encouraged to “recognize their own capabilities and envision their extraordinary potential as tomorrow’s leaders and change makers” ([www.shad.ca](http://www.shad.ca)).

Attending **SHAD** has the potential to be a life-changing experience, and it looks great on university applications, identifying attendees as elite students. **SHAD** will be held online this year, and will offer activities such as: seminars from world-renowned university professors, mentoring and coaching from the program director, workshops from business leaders, STEAM-based labs, academic, social and recreational virtual field trips, community-building events, a real-world design challenge, and access to university centres.

Online applications are due December 7. The admission process is competitive and takes into account both academics and extra-curricular activities. There is no cost to apply, and if necessary, financial support is available for successful candidates.

Please speak to *Ms. Treacy* or go to [www.shad.ca](http://www.shad.ca) for more information.





## GRADE 10 SCIENCE CLASS

### Chemistry Lab

Science 10 students have been doing lots of labs for their chemistry unit. They have investigated the Law of Conservation of Mass, identified acids and bases using chemical indicators, performed six different types of chemical reactions (pictured), and compared the effectiveness of three antacid tablets.



## ENGLISH COMPOSITION 11

More submissions from *Mr. Mendoza's* English Composition class.

### What's my passion by

*Marco Fernandes*

I was in grade 4 at home watching a youtube video on soccer cards and I was in total shock. Some of these cards can go for a lot of money. 4 thousand dollars for a shiny paper card I thought was insane and ridiculous. A week later I was in a Target in Bellingham U. S. A. I was at the checkout and I spotted a pack of soccer cards and it instantly reminded me of the video I watched, and I ended up buying them. When I got home I thought why not just open the soccer pack I got. Slowly opened the shiny slim plastic wrap the blood was rushing through my veins and shuffled for them good luck. I then flipped them all around with my eyes closed for good luck. I started to flip through the cards so I could find some decent players and club badges. I started to lose hope. I realized I had one more card left, the butterflies started to build in my stomach. I didn't think there was going to be anything, but all of a sudden there it was, a 101 match Attax Dele Ali. Probably one of you know what that card is. It's one of the best cards to get in 2017. I was just so happy because it was such a high level and rare card. The

burst of excitement in my bones I just couldn't explain. I had no clue at the time how rare this card is. I just loved how shiny, colourful and how amazing the card looked. This is how my love for collecting soccer cards started. That's the joy of soccer cards, you know there might be something good in it but you don't know what it could be. My passion for soccer card collecting only started in grade 4. It was very difficult for me to find soccer cards because in Canada the most famous sport is hockey and they only have hockey cards, whereas in England soccer is a very big sport. You can find soccer cards just about anywhere in England. When I go to England on holiday I try to stock up on soccer cards to bring home, because they have the best cards and a higher chance of collecting rare ones. One thing I love about my collection is I can tell you when I got each card because of the special memories that they created for me. Each card has its own unique and distinct design which makes it stand out. Soccer cards can even bring you and your friends who enjoy soccer together. You can trade your cards, make teams and play them against

each other. It can really bring relationships closer together. I feel that this passion is very unique because not many people like collecting cards, I also think in a way that this can also improve our organization skills by setting them in order. I'm not sure how, but that's what I told my mum whenever she was annoyed with me in grade 5 because that was all I did after school. I know this passion may be a bit weird to some, but for me, it's fun, cool and something to pass the time and take my mind off things. Collecting soccer cards will always be something I continue on for the rest of my life.





# Alumni News

## THE GRENIER FAMILY

**C**ongratulations to alumni parent *Margaret Grenier*, dancer and choreographer who has won this year's Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts.

*Margaret* started learning traditional Gitxsan dance at a young age from her parents, *Kenneth* and *Margaret Harris*, who were inducted into the Dance Collection Dance Hall of Fame last year. In 1967 the couple established the First Nations collective Dancers of Damelahamid, where *Grenier* is executive and artistic director. "Receiving this award, as a traditionally trained Indigenous dancer from the Northwest Coast, is a great honour and gives recognition to the depth of this art form and to the dedicated efforts that revitalized these dances. I have witnessed and experienced an immense shift in the world of dance as a result of our collective struggle to create space for our Indigenous dance practices and overcome colonial barriers. It is my hope that every achievement opens new possibilities and breathes strength into one another and our arts."

Her husband, former STA teacher, *Andrew Grenier*, an artist in his own right, is the creative force behind the large First Nations carving of the raven (displayed in the Alumni room) and the spindle whirl (displayed at the top of the stairs in the foyer between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors) leave a lasting legacy at our school.

**STA** 2011 graduate, *Nigel Baker-Grenier*, has just completed his law degree at UBC and was called to the bar in November 2020. A truly exceptional month for the *Grenier* family and we extend our happiness and congratulations to them on their achievements.



## STA SPIRIT WEAR

The Parent Association along with the Alumni Director are proud to announce the grand opening of the **STA Spirit Store**, on the second floor, next to the cafeteria.

Store hours for students are:

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 am—8:30 am and  
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during lunch hours.

Check out the catalogue on the STA Website:

<http://www.aquinas.org/index.php/school-store>

Order deadline for Christmas is: **Friday, December 4**



# Community News

## Boo!

Oops, wrong holiday. Still a bit shocking to think Christmas is creeping up on us again, isn't it?! But for as much pressure as there is "to find that perfect gift" particularly now that no one wants to go into crowded stores and packed parking lots, there is still something magical about Christmas! The sounds, smells, excitement, and wonder bundle together to create a much cherished time. Why not ease the seasonal pressure a bit and try some one-stop shopping with SchoolBucks'. Whether you are buying stocking stuffers, or grocery cards for one of our local charities you are not only shortening your list, but helping STA. SchoolBucks' gift cards are also great for acknowledging those people around you who you appreciate. For those families with businesses, gift cards are a great way to acknowledge your valuable employees, or just show them you are thinking of them. Order forms can also be found outside the school office, or can be downloaded from the school website. Shopping isn't that scary after all! So skip the pressure and have time to enjoy Christmas!



*Next order date is Thursday, December 3. with pick-up the following Thursday, December 10.*

Order form at: [http://www.aquinas.org/application/files/9415/9958/2998/Sept\\_Dec\\_Order\\_2020\\_SB.pdf](http://www.aquinas.org/application/files/9415/9958/2998/Sept_Dec_Order_2020_SB.pdf)

A reminder that **Bosa Foods** has joined the list of SchoolBucks retailers. Simply add their name to your order form. Gift card denominations are \$25, \$50 and \$100 and the school rebate is 4%.

## NORTH SHORE RESCUE TOQUES FOR CHRISTMAS



Grade 12 student, *Camden Hussey*, is once again selling North Shore Rescue (NSR) toques as an annual fundraiser. Established in 1965, NSR is a nonprofit, volunteer, community-based search and rescue team. They conduct about 130 search and rescue operations annually in mountains, canyons, and urban settings. They provide a rescue service to the public 24/7 and they do not charge for rescues.

The North Shore Rescue logoed toques are 100% acrylic and are premium quality, ultra-thick, and ultra-warm. One size fits all. The toques are one for \$25 and two for \$40.

Contact *Camden* directly at [4northshorerescue@gmail.com](mailto:4northshorerescue@gmail.com) to coordinate e-transfers.

Watch this exciting video on the valuable service provided by NSR.

<https://www.knowledge.ca/program/search-and-rescue-north-shore>

## STA PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Next meeting is on  
Thursday, December 3  
9:15 am  
via Zoom

Join Zoom meeting at:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2396177748?pwd=ZjhadGhUWlJpcXRnQ1NXMkRlSjRsdz09>



Meeting ID: **239 617 7748**  
Passcode: **stapa**  
*All parents and guardians  
are invited to attend.  
Parent association can be  
contacted by email at:*

[Sta.pa@aquinas.org](mailto:Sta.pa@aquinas.org)

### STA Talks!

## STA Alumni Board & Parent Association



The STA Alumni Board and the STA Parent Association is pleased to bring you STA Talks. This webinar-based learning is a series of speakers and topics designed to foster conversation, and inspire parents and students.

This Thursday, December 3, the presentation will be accessed through the STA YouTube channel on our website:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmNOHo5I\\_h7f-cfKD2dnwbg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmNOHo5I_h7f-cfKD2dnwbg)

Presenter: *Sean Heather*, Chef & Proprietor, Heather Hospitality Group  
Topic: How to Make a Charcuterie Board

Students will receive one-hour of volunteer time if they participate.  
Parents can sign their student's volunteer hour form.

### STA Newsletter Subscriptions

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