

# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS Regional Secondary School

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

Principal: Mr. J. Campbell Vice Principal: Mr. C. Campbell Vice Principal: Mr. T. Horton Follow us: STA School Activities - on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>

#### VOLUME 27, ISSUE 7

March 2020

Tel: 604-987-4431 Fax: 604-987-7816

Web: www.aquinas.org

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

STA Atheltics	2-3
Science Department News	4
Student News	5-7
Wendy	8
News from the Academic Advisor	9
Community News	10
Registration	10

#### IMPORTANT DATES IN APRIL

10	Good Friday, School Closed				
13	Easter Monday, School Closed				



successful performance by the STA Theatre Company at the Kay Meek Art Centre of the play "Wendy: A Peter Pan Story" just prior to Spring Break.

The Thursday matinee was enjoyed by students from St. Edmund's Elementary School. The start of social distancing did not affect the actors performances and all who attended the play were fully entertained. See page 8 for more details.

#### March 12-14, 2020





# STA ATHLETICS

STA GYMNASTICS



STA Gymnastics Provincial competition was held in Victoria on March 5-7 at Inspire Sport Victoria. STA was represented by 12 competitive athletes 7 of which placed in their various events.

Congratulations to the following gymnasts on their accomplishments:

LEVEL	ATHLETE	UNEVEN BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	VAULT	OVERALL
LEVEL 1 JUNIOR	Isabella Dy			7th		
LEVEL 1 SENIOR	Rachel Li	8th	3rd	2nd		4th
LEVEL 1 SENIOR	Grace Haines		6th	6th		8th
LEVEL 1 SENIOR	Cara Bauermeister			3rd		
LEVEL 2	Georgia Gilmour		6th	7th	10th	
LEVEL 3	Ivana Pavlovic				2nd	
LEVEL 5	Myla Villanueva		10th	8th		

#### STA SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM PULL OUT BIG WIN AT "AA" TOURNAMENT



ednesday, March 4, the STA senior boys basketball team scored a big win with a double overtime victory over Princess Margaret Mustangs from Penticton at the "AA" tournament held at the Langley Event Centre. Read about tournament games that day in the link below.

Congratulations to Michael O'Flynn for his outstanding performance in that game.

https://varsityletters.ca/double-a-boys-day-1-your-home-for-live-game-reports-all-day-as-the-2020championships-tip-off-at-the-lec/



Yay

#### STA SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM YEAR END RESULTS

he STA Senior Boys finished an excellent season placing 5th overall in the Provincial "AA" tournament held at the Langley Event Centre during the week of March 2-7.

After an exciting double OT win over Princess Margaret Secondary in their opening game of the 'AA' provincials, the STA senior boys fell to the eventual provincial champs from Prince Rupert on day two of the tournament. The Fighting Saints quickly put that loss behind them and marched on to defeat both Abbotsford Christian (97-71) and George Elliot (83-75) to claim 5th place at the BC championships.

#### Congrats to all the players and coaching staff on an outstanding season!

#### FIGHTING SAINTS LEAVE IT ALL ON THE FLOOR

he Fighting Saints Senior Girls basketball team headed into the BC Championships as the number #6 seed in the province. They opened up the tournament with a comfortable win over Summerland which set up a rematch with STM- a team the girls lost to in the finals at the recent BC Catholics. But STA had starting point guard Caelan Prescott back in the line-up, and her presence combined with huge performances from Jessica Clarke and Gemma Cutler fueled the Fighting Saints to victory over the Knights from STMC. Then less than 12 hour later the girls were up against longtime rivals (and friends) from the eastside of Vancouver, the Britannia Bruins. With 6 seconds left and down by 2 points Jessica Clarke put up a shot that missed, but Gemma Cutler got the rebound and quickly put the rebound in to tie the game. But the basket was waved off as the referee believed that ball was still in her hand when the final horn went (a call that will be debated for quite a while:). The dream of going to the championship game vanguished and the Fighting Saints were heart broken. Regardless, and in true Fighting Saint spirit, the girls held their heads high for they truly had given everything they could of themselves, to their teammates, and to the school community. For in the end this group of graduating girls has competed in 20 championship games and won 17 of those championships. This year their titles include the North Shore Championships and the North Shore Premier League Championships.

Congrats on a great season and a great high school career for those grade 12 players!



ra

# Science Department

## **GREATER VANCOUVER REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR**

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

the 2020 Greater Vancouver Regional Science Fair has been cancelled.



# SHAD

I e are proud to announce that four of our grade 11 students, Laura Cunningham, Grace Haines, Saketh Poori and Chloe Taylor were accepted to SHAD this summer. SHAD is an internationally recognized month-long summer program held on university campuses across Canada and is focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). It encourages students to identify and foster their potential as leaders and change-makers for tomorrow's world. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SHAD has been cancelled for this year, but this in no way lessens the accomplishments of these students we are very proud of these remarkable young people!



# UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAMS

#### Medicine

We are proud to announce that grade 11 student *Jenny Gao* was accepted to the University of Toronto's Youth Summer Program in the Faculty of Medicine.

This exciting program features four one-week-long modules in the fields of Physiology, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Pharmacology and Toxicology, and Microbiology.

Congratulations, Jenny!



## **HEBDEN CHEMISTRY BURSARY**

C hemistry 12 students are invited to apply for the \$1000 Hebden Chemistry Bursary. Applicants must plan to continue the study of Chemistry (or areas related to Chemistry) at a recognized post-secondary institution. They must also have worked to make their school and/or community a better place while maintaining a respectable GPA. They are required to supply a letter of reference and a piece of writing explaining why they would encourage a grade 10 student to take Chemistry. The application deadline is April  $23^{rd}$ . Interested students should please contact *Ms. Treacy* at:

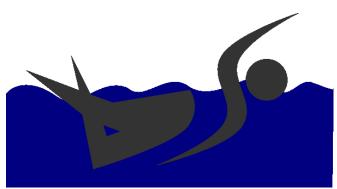
treacy@aquinas.org.

# STUDENT NEWS

#### STA STUDENT TO TRY OUT FOR CANADIAN JUNIOR NATIONAL SWIM TEAM

C ongratulations to grade 12 student *Isabella Cesareo* who will spend March 30- April 6 in Toronto as she qualified to compete in Toronto for the Canadian Junior National Team. If she gains a spot on the Junior Team she would then participate in the Pan Pacific Championship in Hawaii in August 2020. Isabella swims with the Chena Swim Club and is competing in the 110 meter and 200 meter Backstroke.

We wish her the best of luck in her events taking place on April 1st and April 4th.





## **BASKETBALL ACADEMY**

**F** or a change of pace the boys in the Basketball Academy headed up to the North Shore Table Tennis center for some solid instruction and competition. At the close of play on the final day there was a hotly contested pairs match. Once the dust had settled a championship partnership ruled the tables.

Congratulations to the 2020 Basketball Academy

Table Tennis Champions-

Jackson Burr and Mr. Prescott!



FEBRUARY HONOUR ROLL

ongratulations to grade 9 student *Ashley McLeary* who achieved First Class Honours in the February 2020 reporting period with a GPA of 3.8.

Well done Ashley.



# SKILLS CANADA PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

ongratulations to grade 8 student *Georgia Gilmour* who competed in the Skills Canada Public Speaking competition at UBC on February 29<sup>th</sup>. Georgia finished in second place behind a grade 12 winner – a fabulous accomplishment. Speakers prepared speeches on the following topic:

*"What needs to occur so that more people from underrepresented groups can pursue careers in the skilled trades and technologies."* 

Georgia presented at STA's Public Speaking showcase back in December.

Way to go Georgia!

#### STA STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN BC WINTER GAMES

he BC Winter Games took place in Fort St. John from February 20-23. Over 1200 athletes and 300 coaches participated at 15 venues in all types of winter sports.

Athletes stayed together at the North Peace High School for 5 days, resulting in lots of comradery among the young athletes.

Three of our grade 8 students participated in their sport of excellence.

*Zak Sharp* participated in the speed skating events. *Zak* trains at the Burnaby and Richmond Ovals. He made it to the 400 metre final where only the top 5 racers competed. He skated in the 1500 metre final as well as placing 3rd in the 4 x 300 metre relay.

*Pierce Avini* and *Addyson Kuss* participated in the U14 Alpine Ski event. Both students train with the Tyee Grouse Mountain Ski Club. *Pierce* placed 4th, missing the podium by 0.38 seconds. *Addyson* placed 20th in the province.

Congratulations to Zak, Addyson and Pierce on their achievements.



FORT ST. JOHN

2020 WINTER





#### TEAM HUGHES DELIVERS TO THE DOOR IS OPEN

**STA** Campus Ministry students participate in monthly food preparation at the Door Is Open.

The Door is Open is a drop-in ministry that provides food, clothing, counselling, shelter services, referrals, and a warm and safe environment in the heart of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, a neighborhood recognized for the highest concentration of the poorest urban population in the whole of Canada.

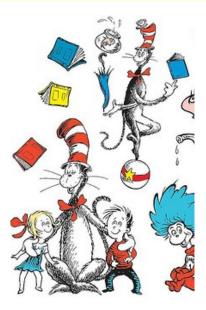
Sunday chili making was off the table due to social distancing requirements. *Ms. Hughes* offered an alternative approach requesting our school families and staff to prepare and deliver to the school, 10 sandwiches. Her goal was 300 sandwiches to take the place of chili. *Ms. Hughes, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Hughes, Ms. Atkinson* and *Mr. C* were at STA curbside on Saturday, April 4, accepting donations. An overwhelming number of 900 sandwiches and 500 deserts were received. Thank you to the STA community for your generosity during this time of adversity.





#### A MESSAGE FROM THE STA TEACHERS

- I will teach you in a room.
- I will teach you now on zoom.
- I will teach you in your house.
- I will teach you with a mouse.
- I will teach you here and there.
- I will teach you because I care.



~

## **STA DRAMA DEPARTMENT: WENDY; A PETER PAN STORY**

~

- 00

~ ~ ~

udos to the STA Theatre Company for presenting an absolutely wonderful production of "*Wendy*" at the Kay Meek Centre the week before Spring Break began.

0

~

~

\_\_\_\_\_

The phenomenal manner in which the entire crew delivered the production, amidst the constant threat of cancellation due to COVID social distancing protocols, clearly indicates how focused and committed everyone was to seeing this labour of love through.

*Maria Natola* and *Cos Natola* have stated unequivocally that STA's 2020 production of "*Wendy*" will go down as one of the most rewarding productions they have ever been a part of, and they both look forward to next year.

With a group such as the STA Theatre Company, only the sky is the limit with respect to what we can all achieve when we put our hearts and minds together.

God bless this amazing group of thespians, and see you at our next show!



# NEWS FROM THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Ithough the academic advisor's office is currently closed until further notice, we encourage and welcome all senior students and parents to email Mr. Salituro at salituro@aquinas.org to address any academic needs including university applications and admission requirements, obtaining transcripts, scholarship opportunities and a wide variety of other academic concerns. We continue to encourage both students and parents to follow our social media accounts on both Instagram and Facebook to keep up to date with new scholarship and bursary information along with news on post-secondary admission updates. Students are also reminded to check their email regularly as these updates will be sent out by email as well.



Follow us @staacademics



#### www.facebook.com/staacademics

Grade 12 interim report cards will be available on-line on Tuesday, April 7.

### 2020-2021 STA COURSE INFORMATION EVENINGS: POSTPONED

The grade 11 and 12 course information evenings originally scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> have been postponed until further notice. An email will be forthcoming from Mr. Campbell in the coming weeks with regards to the new date, time and format of the course information sessions. Parents and students are still encouraged to check out the academic advisor's link on the STA webpage for course information details and graduation requirements.

http://www.aquinas.org/index.php/academics/ advising

#### ONE-STOP ACCESS TO COVID-19 UPDATES FROM PSBC MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

T o assist you with more easily finding the latest information about the status of operations at the 30 member institutions, Post Secondary BC (PSBC) has now established links to updates from all of the institutions profile pages. From this one page, you can select any member institution and find the link to their updates. In some cases, there is just a link to their institutional information, but some institutions have already posted additional update information on their PSBC profile page.

PSBC website:

https://www.postsecondarybc.ca/institutions/

## **GRADE 12 APRIL INTERM REPORT CARDS**

Grade 12 students were provided their up to date marks, Q3 in PowerSchool, on April 7. These grades will be submitted to the BC Ministry of Education and will be the ones made available to Post Secondary Institutions for admission requirements. If students notice any errors in their grades, contact your teachers as soon as possible, to ensure corrections are made by Thursday, April 9.

# **Community News**

#### STA PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

All meetings are cancelled until further notice.



# STA REGISTRATION CONTINUES

To take advantage of the \$100 reduction in registration fees, please complete your on-line registration by Friday, April 17. Registration is not complete until all payment is submitted to the STA office.

Returning students in Category 1, 2 and 3 can register on-line through our website: www.aquinas.org, go to the Parent Portal, click on Register icon and log in using your registration ID and password that was mailed out to all families at the end of February. If you do not have the instructions and log in details, please contact the office at: 604-987-4431 or office@aquinas.org.

> All Visa students should register with *Mrs. Dougan* at the STA office. She can be reached at: **bdougan@aquinas.org**

STA staff wish all students and their families a blessed Easter.

> May the miracle of Easter bring you peace and joy.



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