



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

Tel: 604-987-4431
Fax: 604-987-7816
Web: www.aquinas.org

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Construction Update	2
Music Department News	2
Science Department News	2-3
LRC News	4
STA Athletics	4-5
Academic Advisor	6-7
Student/Alumni News	8
Traffic Notice	9
Community News	10-12



As you can see from the above picture, our building program is waiting for no one. The rainfall is doing its best to slow things down, but the contractor is pushing ahead and is still on target for a September 2019 opening.

I would like to thank in advance all who are taking part in making Catholics Schools Week a success. Many students participated in the Sunday Mass at their home parishes, others are helping out with the Open House, and others are welcoming 23 Chinese students who are here on a cultural exchange.

I am looking forward to the play, 'Hoedown'. The cast and directors are busy making this a production one to remember.

Graduation is starting to ramp up. Please view pages 6-7 for information regarding scholarship applications, deadlines and activities.

All basketball teams are very competitive and are currently at or near the top of their leagues. It is a true representation of the efforts put forth by the players and coaches alike. Congratulations to the wrestling team as they won the North Shore Aggregate AAA title making STA the top wrestling school on the North Shore! The Girls Wrestling team won the female championship for the 5th year in a row!

Re-registration for 2017-18 will soon be upon us. We are moving towards on-line re-registration this year, stay tuned for more details. Best of luck to our teams and a great February to everyone!

John Campbell

IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY

4-10	Catholic Schools Week
4	Door Is Open
6	School Mass
7	Open House
8-9	Professional Development Days-School Closed
12	BC Family Day-School Closed
14	Ash Wednesday
19-23	HACE Week
19-20	Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
20	No Classes
20	Placement Exam
28	Spirit Day

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



The construction of our new school is progressing despite the recent heavy rains. Excavation and pouring of foundations continues. The concrete is being poured using the Doka modular steel forming system which greatly reduces the one-time use of wood in preparing forms. A new staircase has been built behind the convent for students travelling to and from classes there.

Music Department News

The STA Music Department is now preparing for festival performances in the spring. First up are the Junior and Senior Jazz Ensembles at Capilano University on Friday, February 16. The Choir and Concert Band festival performances are in April. Parents are welcome to attend these performances!

The Senior Concert Band is also preparing literature for its performance in Disneyland in April.

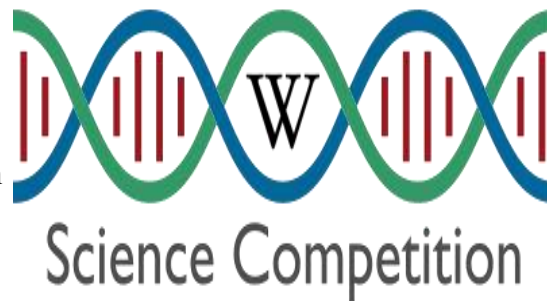


We wish to remind parents that regular home practice is a requirement of band classes. Students should be taking their instruments home to practice after each band class.

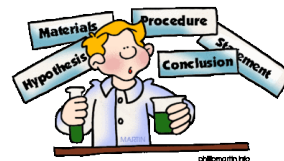
Science Department News

MICHAEL SMITH CHALLENGE

The *Michael Smith* Science Challenge is an annual contest for grade 10 science students. It is sponsored by UBC's Faculty of Science and is written by students from across Canada. This year's contest will take place on Wednesday, February 14, from 9:00 am to 10:00 am (D and C blocks). Grade 10 students with marks of at least 80% in science who are interested in writing the contest should speak to their science teacher.



SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL'S 16TH ANNUAL GRADE 8 SCIENCE FAIR



On Monday, January 29 the STA Science Department held its Sixteenth Annual Science Fair. Our grade 8 students spent five months laboring over their projects, and at last it was time to share them with the world! Parent and grade 12 student judges evaluated the projects. We were also visited by grade 7 students from all four of our north shore Catholic elementary schools. Families were invited to come and view the projects in the evening, right before the winners were announced.

The STA Science Department would like to thank our grade 8 students for making the day such an impressive success. We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our judges who volunteered their entire day to judge backboards, read lab reports and interview our grade 8 students. Finally, we would like to congratulate our grade 8 Science teacher, *Mr. Lamasan*, for all the hard work he did to extract the very best in scientific potential from his students.

Our three overall award winners were:

First Place: Rory Wimberley

Second Place: Talia Erdman

Third Place: Joseph Voulakis

The top five projects in each of the five categories at our Science Fair are listed below. Our three overall winners will compete at the Greater Vancouver Regional Science Fair at UBC this April 12 through 14. We know that *Rory*, *Talia* and *Joseph* will represent STA well and we wish them the best of luck!

SCIENCE FAIR CATEGORY WINNERS

	<i>APPLIED SCIENCE</i>	<i>BIOLOGY</i>	<i>CHEMISTRY</i>	<i>LIFE SCIENCES</i>	<i>PHYSICS</i>
<i>FIRST</i>	<i>Amir Kamali</i> How Can Hydraulic Cranes Lift Heavy Loads Efficiently	<i>Joseph Voulakis</i> Germ Genocide	<i>Ainslee Dalzell</i> I Can See Clearly Now	<i>Talia Erdman</i> Resist?	<i>Rory Wimberley</i> Utility Stability
<i>SECOND</i>	<i>Trent Battisti</i> Magnacar	<i>Ayden Lum</i> pH-lants	<i>Markus Nedergard</i> Plastic Permeation	<i>Halle Jennex</i> Spice Up Your Heart	<i>Matthew Flynn</i> Bend it Like Beckham
<i>THIRD</i>	<i>Danilo Villa Soto</i> Last Man Standing	<i>Dominik Dijak</i> Use and Reuse	<i>Anna Gawronski</i> Vinegar Preserves, Vinegar Deserves	<i>Marcus Kam</i> Music and Study	<i>Job MacAtangay</i> Keeping it Up!
<i>FOURTH</i>	<i>Jericho Laudencia</i> The Battery	<i>Samuel Cole</i> Let's Clean Up	<i>Charlotte Gilmour</i> Pucker Up	<i>Ayden Eng</i> Sugar: Not as Sweet as You Think	<i>Tudor Bitá</i> Pumped Up
<i>FIFTH</i>	<i>Roman Krzyczkowski</i> Electromagnetic Fields	<i>Elizabeth Kasabashian</i> Oops, I Dropped It	<i>Luke Frith</i> Rain vs. Fabrics	<i>Chloe Kim</i> Creature Connection	<i>Jayron Buno</i> I've Got the Power

LRC DEPARTMENT

I am at Mountain Side Preschool. I go there every Tuesday for work experience. When I am there I help the children to follow the rules and play games and colour with them. I help at lunch time and read them a story after lunch. My time there is so enjoyable and I would like to thank them for the opportunity.

Suraya P., Grade 12



STA ATHLETICS

SR. GIRLS BASKETBALL

For the first time in 23 years the St. Thomas Aquinas Fighting Saints won the BC Catholic Basketball Championships hosted at Holy Cross High School. The girls relied on the incredible leadership of *Olivia Thorpe* and *Rebecca Clarke* to propel them to championship heights. The *Clarke* girls swept the individual awards, as *Rebecca* was selected as the Defensive Most Valuable Player and *Jessica* was selected the tournament's Most Valuable Player! And it doesn't stop there... *Gemma Cutler* was selected as a First Team Tournament All Star and *Olivia Thorpe* was picked as a Second Team Tournament All Star.

Congrats to all the players and coaches!!



Tournament MVP

Jessica Clarke

(photo at left)

Tournament Defensive MVP

Rebecca Clarke

(photo at right)



STA ATHLETICS

STA GYMNASTICS

The 25 member STA gymnastics team includes several new members including many grade 11 students trying gymnastics for the first time. We have also had two recent graduates come back as coaches bringing our number of alumni coaches to six!



The women's beam competition was held on Friday, January 12. Top 10 placings from STA were:

<i>Level 1 Junior</i>	<i>Grace Hines</i>	<i>5th</i>
<i>Level 1 Junior</i>	<i>Cara Bauermeister</i>	<i>10th</i>
<i>Level 1 Senior</i>	<i>Emily Hogan</i>	<i>1st</i>
<i>Level 1 Senior</i>	<i>Rachel Li</i>	<i>4th</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	<i>Kiana Burran</i>	<i>2nd</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	<i>Chelsea Kim</i>	<i>3rd</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	<i>Vanessa Sapanta</i>	<i>7th</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	<i>Ivana Pavlovic</i>	<i>8th</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	<i>Talia Facey</i>	<i>9th</i>



The men's high bars and parallel bars competition was held on Tuesday, January 16. Placings were:

<i>Santiago Apostol</i>	<i>Level 1 High Bar—3rd</i>	<i>Level 1 Parallel Bars—1st</i>
<i>Ben Labreche</i>	<i>Level 1 High Bar—7th</i>	<i>Level 1 Parallel Bars—1st</i>
<i>Jon Ibbot</i>	<i>Level 1 High Bar—7th</i>	<i>Level 1 Parallel Bars—4th</i>
<i>Oliver Radburn</i>	<i>Level 2 High Bar—1st</i>	<i>Level 2 Parallel Bars—3rd</i>
<i>Jacob Nieckarz</i>	<i>Level 2 High Bar—2nd</i>	<i>Level 2 Parallel Bars—2nd</i>
<i>Josh Gali</i>	<i>Level 2 High Bar—3rd</i>	<i>Level 2 Parallel Bars—1st</i>
<i>Mattias Feigl-Schmidt</i>	<i>Level 3 High Bar—2nd</i>	<i>Level 3 Parallel Bars—3rd</i>

Results will be coming soon for the following events: the women's uneven bars competition, men's and women's vault competition, men's pommel horse and rings competition and the men's and women's floor routine competition.

The gymnastics team will be competing in the North Shore Championships on February 9.

News from the Academic Advisor

As we enter the second term of school, 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 post-secondary applications and admissions, obtaining transcripts, scholarship opportunities and a wide variety of other academic concerns. Follow our new 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.



Follow us @staacademics

www.facebook.com/staacademics



BC MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

BC ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

BC Achievement Scholarships recognize the top 8000 graduates in the province. The Ministry will determine recipients based on achievement in Grades 10, 11, and 12 courses that satisfy 2004 Graduation Program requirements, including elective courses. Grad Transitions will not be included. A cumulative average percentage will be calculated and form the basis for determining winners, who receive a \$1250 scholarship voucher to use towards their post-secondary tuition. ***Students do not apply for this scholarship.***

BC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

There are 55 BC Excellence Scholarships available to recognize well-rounded B.C. graduates. Winners will have demonstrated service and leadership, both at school and in their communities, and shown aptitude and commitment to their chosen career paths. They will receive a \$5000 scholarship voucher to use for post-secondary tuition. Only one student from each school may be nominated; therefore any 2018 grad wishing to be nominated by the school must submit a ***Sponsorship Application Form.***

PATHWAY TO TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship is awarded to 20 outstanding high school graduates who have demonstrated a commitment and aptitude for a career path in K-12 teaching. Winners receive a \$5000 scholarship voucher to redeem when they are registered and attending an approved K-12 teacher education program at one of BC's nine Faculties of Education. ***Deadline: February 15, 2018.***

DOGWOOD DISTRICT/AUTHORITY SCHOLARSHIPS

There are 5500 District/Authority Scholarships distributed across school districts and independent school authorities that recognize graduating B.C. students for excellence in their chosen area of interest or strength. Winners will receive a \$1250 scholarship voucher to use towards their post-secondary tuition. These award acknowledge academics but also recognize a student's accomplishments in a number of fields:

- **Indigenous Languages and Culture**, demonstrated at school or in the community
- **Fine Arts** (e.g., Visual Arts, Dance, Drama, Music)

See DOGWOOD DISTRICT/AUTHORITY SCHOLARSHIPS page 9

DOGWOOD DISTRICT/AUTHORITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Continued from page 8

- **Applied Skills** (e.g., Business Ed, Technology Ed, Home Economics)
- **Physical Activity** (e.g., Athletics, Dance, Gymnastics, not limited to Physical Education)
- **International Languages** with Integrated Resource Packages (IRPs) or External Assessments, including A.P. and I.B. courses
- **Community Service** (Volunteer Activity), which includes demonstration of local and global issues and cultural awareness
- **Technical and Trades Training** (e.g., Carpentry, Automotive, Mechanics, Cook Training)

Students can apply for this scholarship through the academic advisor's office.

UBC PRESIDENTS' DAY 2018

The UBC Presidents' Day event is a terrific occasion to visit UBC and connect with staff, students, and advisors. Whether you've already received an admissions offer, are still waiting for a decision, or are graduating high school in the coming years, students and their families are invited to learn more about life at UBC. The program includes:

Campus tour led by current UBC undergraduate students.
Lunch with UBC students, staff, and advisors who can answer



questions about student life and your programs of interest. Opportunity for students who have applied to UBC

to meet with an advisor from their faculty of choice and plan ahead for first year.

Student panel with current UBC undergraduate students who can provide you with the "real life" students' perspective of UBC. Introduction to UBC's innovative facilities, vibrant campus life, and supportive student services and resources.

WHERE AND WHEN

Monday, February 19, 2018 at UBC's Vancouver campus.

HOW TO REGISTER

Registration for Presidents' Day 2018 is online at:

<http://you.ubc.ca/tours-info-sessions/campus-tours-events/on-campus-events>

CORPUS CHRISTI INFO SESSION AT STA

STA is proud to host an information session from Corpus Christi College on Tuesday, February 13 at 10:15 AM. Corpus Christi is a Catholic two-year liberal arts college located on UBC's campus. It provides an excellent transition between high school and upper-level university studies. The presentation will take place in the library and is open to all students in grades 11 and 12. Interested students must register at the academic advisor's office. Corpus Christi will also be hosting a preview night, which includes a tour of their campus on February 15 at 7:00 PM. This event is open to all students at no charge.



EXPLORE CAPILANO INFO NIGHT



Senior students considering to begin their post-secondary studies at Capilano University are strongly encouraged to attend the Explore Capilano Info Night on Thursday, March 1 from 5:30-8:00 PM. Students who RSVP online have an opportunity to win \$500 in tuition. RSVP here: <https://www.capilanou.ca/future/visit-cap/Explore-Capilano/>

Student News

The Cinderella Project

The Cinderella Project is a federal charity comprised entirely of volunteers. The goal is to bring a little “Fairy God-mother” magic to high school graduates who are struggling to make ends meet and allow them to look forward to their graduation with anticipation and pride. They provide both young women and men with formal attire in which to attend their graduation festivities.

Each year, the Cinderella Project holds one “boutique day” where donations of clothing, shoes and accessories are distributed to the students referred to the project. Each student, with the personal assistance of a “fairy Godparent”, selects a suit or gown of their choice. Shoes, accessories and

jewelry are also selected to complete the special outfit. The Cinderella Project boutique day is a way of celebrating the achievement of each student, many of whom have overcome personal hardships to reach the milestone of high school graduation. To make the day extra special The Pinnacle Hotel donates their ballroom for the occasion, hairstylists and makeup artists donate their time and there is even a disc jockey to set the mood. The Artona Group takes pictures of each grad and provides them with a photo package free of charge. Gift bags are also given to each student, which contain donations from many different sponsors.

If your graduating student is interested

in applying for the Cinderella Project contact *Ms. Rodericks* at:

rodericks@aquinas.org.

Deadline for applications is February 8 and the event date is Sunday, February 18, 2018. The number of applicants is limited so it is best if applications are made as soon as possible.

The link to the application is:

<https://goo.gl/forms/8xulaak23xSuzuFG2>



Alumni News



STA STUDENTS AT THE DOOR IS OPEN

STA Alumni *John Chae* (currently at University of Waterloo), *Matthew Purkiss* (currently at Corpus Christi College), *Jordan Schneider* (currently at UBC), and STA grade 11 student *Aidan Schneider* at the Door Is Open on Christmas Eve, setting up for the Christmas Day meal during their Christmas break.

TRAFFIC NOTICE

Parents, your cooperation with managing drop-off and pick-up traffic before and after school is required.

We have two drop-off/pick up zones: one on the south side of West Keith Road, uphill from the bus stop, and one on the north side of West Sixth Street in front of the convent. These zones are signed for drop-off and pick-up during school hours on weekdays. You are permitted to pull in and drop off or pick up; you are not permitted to park and wait there.

We have asked parents not to enter the front parking lot of the school for drop-off or pick-up. This has caused problems for departing or arriving school buses, deliveries, and garbage collection. All of these involve large vehicles which require lots of clearance and space in which to turn. This includes drop-off and pick-up for after school activities such as games and practices.

We have also asked parents to be respectful of our neighbours with regards to parking. We have received complaints from neighbours on Delbruck Avenue and on West Sixth Street who report driveways being blocked, and in some cases, refusal to move when asked. We request your cooperation and assistance in maintaining good relations with our neighbours.

Community News

PRISON MINISTRY

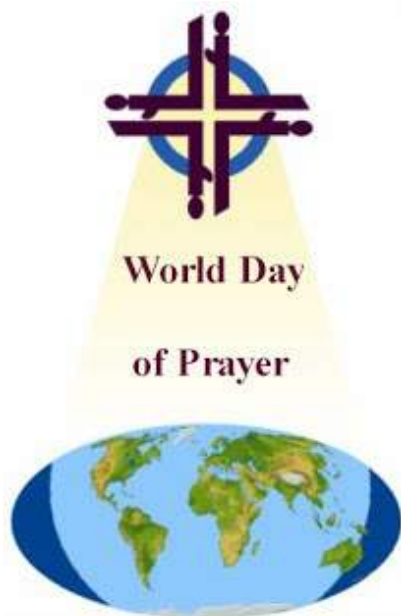
STA, as well as other schools in the lower mainland, participated in the Christmas Card for Inmates program again this year. This is one of the Prison Chaplain's responses:

As I gave the gifts and cards out to the inmates they eagerly lined up to receive them with smiles on their faces. When giving them out I would shake many of their hands and wish them a Merry Christmas. The gifts and cards have brought cheer into a very dismal place especially when the inmates are not with family. I observed some of the inmates reading the cards and they were touched by the cards the students wrote. One inmate had spent 20 years in and out of prison and this year was the first time he received anything for Christmas in prison. Many of the inmates do not have families that send cards or visit them during this time of year. I want to thank everybody who helped with cards and gifts this Year. Thanks to the students who wrote kind words and put encouraging scriptures in the Christmas cards it means a lot.



God Bless and Happy New Year

HOLY TRINITY PARISH HOSTS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2018



The World Day of Prayer, was initiated in 1918 by a group of Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant women to encourage informed prayer and prayerful action around the globe. Since then, it has grown to an ecumenical effort to ignite the goodwill and faith of all people who believe in the power of prayer to change hearts, lives and circumstances.

Please join us on Saturday, March 3rd at 11 am at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 2725 Lonsdale Avenue, for a worship service written by the women of Suriname. Suriname is the smallest of the South American countries located in the northeast part of the continent, bordering the Atlantic Ocean. All St. Thomas Aquinas High School families and staff are invited to attend.

For more information, please contact Nicole Tancredi
@ nickitancredi@gmail.com.

HOMESTAY NEEDED

The NET (National Evangelization Team) members have been an excellent addition to the Campus Ministry team this year. They spend two days a week at STA helping with retreats, masses, and music. These kind-hearted young adults rely on the generosity of local families for their accommodations. If you are able to host 2-3 team members for a week between now and May please email:

ehughes@aquinas.org



**CAMBRIDGE
UNIFORMS**
est. 1994

Catholic School Appreciation Week

Save the GST

Monday, February 5th to Monday, February 12th 2018.

Order online at www.cambridgeuniforms.com | School Code: QUI567

To show our appreciation to you, Cambridge Uniforms is pleased to cover the GST on all online and in store purchases made from Monday, February 5th to Monday, February 12th, 2018.

We look forward to assisting you.



#135-1305 Welch Street, North Vancouver, BC, V7P 1B3 (Store entrance is on 1st Street)
Email: orders@cambridgeuniforms.com | Telephone: 604-924-9069 ext 1

WANTED

It's show time!

We warmly invite you to come out and support the 2018 Saint Thomas Aquinas High School Theatre Company in its brand new and original production of

Hoedown

a romping two-act "dramedy" with a western flair! Everything is calm for our small-town characters. Their only care is finding a suitable location for the annual Hoedown. When shadows from the past suddenly emerge, however, everything is threatened. The show runs about two hours, which includes one short intermission.

Our production will be taking place at
The Kay Meek Centre for the Performing Arts, located at
[1700 Mathers Avenue](#), in the city of West Vancouver.

We will be presenting 12:30 PM matinees on both Thursday, March 1, 2018, and Friday, March 2, 2018. Our evening shows will be taking place on Thursday, March 1, Friday, March 2, and Saturday March 3, beginning promptly at 7:00 PM.

Tickets are priced at \$8.00 for students/seniors (65+) and \$12.00 for adults. Tickets can be ordered by calling [604-987-4431](tel:604-987-4431), or by filling in the order forms that have been sent out.

We look forward to seeing you at the show!

STA Newsletter Subscriptions

newsletter@aquinas.org

Please notify the office if you move or change your e-mail address.