



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

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IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY

6	School Re-opens, Day 2 Early Dismissal
8	Advisory Schedule
9	PA Meeting Weekly Mass
10	Ski Program
12	Door Is Open
15	Advisory Schedule Spirit Day
16	Weekly Mass
16-17	Review Days for Exams Therapy Dogs at STA
17	Ski Program
20-27	Mid-term Exams
27	Grade 8 Science Fair
28	Term 2 Begins Day 2 School Mass
29	Advisory Schedule Gr 9 Immunization Clinic Service Hours Due
31	Ski Program

Luke 2: 1-20 The Birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled.² This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria.³ So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.⁴ And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,⁵ to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to have her child,⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.⁸ The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear.⁹ The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.¹⁰ For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord.¹¹ And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."¹² And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

The Visit of the Shepherds.¹³ When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."¹⁴ So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.¹⁵ When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.¹⁶ All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.¹⁷ And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.¹⁸ Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

New America Bible, Revised Edition



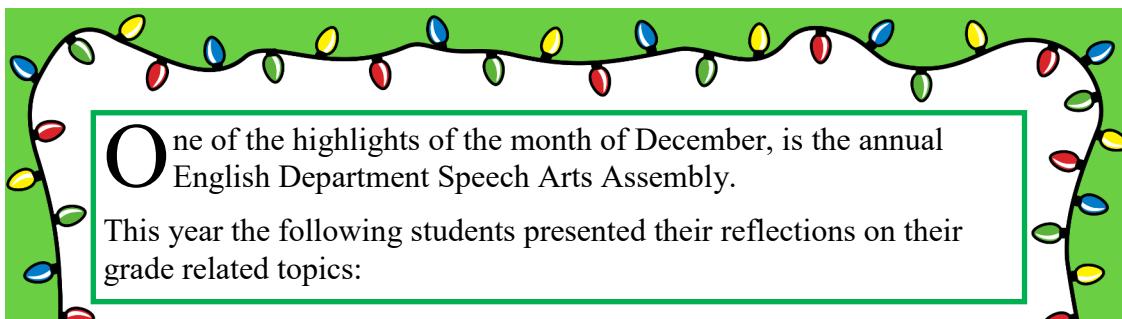
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
January 2020 Exam Schedule

		Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Monday, January 20	AM			French Written	French Beginners Spanish	Religion
	PM	Math Math 8/9		French Orals	Religion	Hon English English
Tuesday, January 21	AM				Precalc Math FOM AW Math	Precalc Math FOM
	PM	Religion	Math	Religion	French-Oral Spanish-Oral	
Wednesday, January 22	AM	French Written		Socials		Chemistry Law
	PM	French-Oral	Religion		Biology	Political Science History Philosophy
Thursday, January 23	AM		French Written		Physics	Physics Psychology
	PM		French-Oral	Science		Biology
Friday, January 24	AM		Socials	Math AW Math	Hon. English Spanish	French
	PM				Chemistry	Calculus
Monday, January 27	AM	Science Fair			Earth Science	English Literature
	PM	Science Fair				Civilizations Human Geography



AM EXAMS
Students must be in homeroom for morning exams at 8:30 am

PM EXAMS
Students must be in homeroom for afternoon exams at 12:30 pm



GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
MY PASSION	MY CANADIAN IDENTITY	LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION	MEMOIRS	PERSUASIVE
<i>Tyler Yupangco</i> “My Passion”	<i>Rachel Chong</i> “My Journey to Canada”	<i>Tammy Rodriguez</i> “String Bracelets”	<i>Destynée Teather</i> “Digging up Memories”	<i>Edward Damery</i> “Nap Time”
<i>Georgia Gilmour</i> “A Good Hearty Laugh”	<i>Stephanie Kostamo</i> “How to be a Canadian”	<i>Daniel Wishart</i> “Ushankas”	<i>Chloe Taylor</i> “Life is Precious as it is Delicate”	<i>Ben Marilley-Bodner</i> “Why We Should Still Eat Meat”
			<i>Olivia Jasionowska</i> “Across the World”	<i>Daniel Zejer</i> “How Suffering Built My Story”

STA ATHLETICS



VICTORY FOR STA SENIOR GIRLS BAKSETBALL TEAM

STA senior girls basketball team won the *Quinn Keast* Tournament in November, beating the Argyle Pipers 64 to 52 in the final game.

Jessica Clarke was the tournament MVP and *Gemma Cutler* was named All-Star.

Photo at left of *Taleen Markarian*, starting guard, was posted on the tournament website. *Taleen* was a huge force for the STA team and her outstanding work ethic, not having missed a practice all season, has contributed to the team success.

Science Department

GRADE 8 SCIENCE FAIR

The Eighteenth Annual Saint Thomas Aquinas Grade Eight Science Fair will be held in our gymnasium on Monday, January 27th. Backboards will be sent home with students during the last week of school before the Christmas holidays. Students should spend some time in January putting the finishing touches on their reports and working on their backboard displays. All grade 8 students have been provided with the evaluation sheets that will be used in the judging process, including the interview questions they will be asked by the judges. **In addition to working on their reports and backboards, during the month of January students should also prepare for the judges' interviews.** The schedule for the day of the Science Fair is as follows:

8:00 am to 9:00 am

Students set up their Science Fair backboards in the gymnasium.

(This will likely take only a few minutes, but backboards MUST be set up no later than 9:00 am.)

9:00 am to 12:00 noon

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

10:00 am to 11:00 am

Elementary school students visit the Science Fair.

12:00 noon to 2:00 pm

Students stand by their Science Fair boards in the gymnasium for judges' interviews.

It is essential that students are on time for their interviews – 12:00 sharp!

5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

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



In related news, we are still looking for a few more Science Fair judges. The day runs from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for judges, and lunch will be provided. You will also earn Parent Participation hours for your involvement. A background in science is helpful but not required. Please contact Ms. Treacy at the school at treacy@aquinas.org if you are able to help out. A big “thank you” is extended to those whom have already volunteered!

KWANTLEN SCIENCE CHALLENGE

On Saturday, November 30th, grade 12 students Dayton Bowen, Rudi Kischer, Samantha Scalabrino and Diego Altamirano and grade 11 students Sean Woo and Hudson Nock competed in the Kwantlen Science Challenge. Amidst a pack of stiff competition (including students who attend semestered schools and who take AP science and math courses), our students managed to place 16th out of 27 schools. This is a tidy improvement over their performance two years ago, when they placed 20th. They should also be lauded for their willingness to attend this event out in Richmond with a start time of 8:30 am on a Saturday!

Way to go, STA!!!

Career Day-Career Education



On November 27th, STA Career Education Department hosted our annual Career Day for the Grades 8-12 students. Over 20 different presenters (parents, alumni and community members) came to the school to talk to the students about their career and their career journey. Students had the opportunity to listen to three different presentations and have some Q and A with the presenters. This was a very important opportunity for our students to network with professionals from outside of STA and get a small glimpse into the realities of working and the interesting journeys that each individual travels on their own career path.



A special thank you to all the parents, alumni and community members for their participation and sharing of their time and insights with our students. If you would be interested in presenting or participating in our next Career Day event, please email

careerday@aquinas.org.

STA Christmas Concert



SENIOR JAZZ
ENSEMBLE



SENIOR
JAZZ
ENSEMBLE



SENIOR
CONCERT
BAND



JUNIOR
JAZZ
ENSEMBLE



GRADE 8
CONCERT
BAND



GRADE 9
CONCERT
BAND



GRADE 10
CONCERT BAND



CONCERT
CHOIR



CHAMBER
CHOIR

POST SECONDAY SCHOLARSHIPS

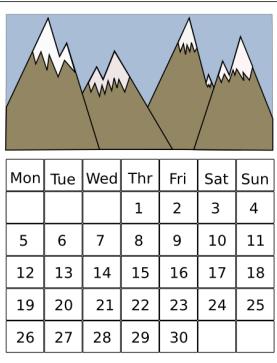
Congratulations to the following students who have received post secondary scholarship offers:



Isabella Cesareo from University of Toronto for Swimming

Michael O'Flynn from Acadia University for Soccer

Community News



2020 CALENDARS NEEDED

Prison Ministry will be collecting 2020 calendars again this year for men and women in our prisons. Please drop them in the box out front of the school office check in window.

Thank you to all the students and Catholic Education teachers for their thoughtful Christmas cards to prisoners. We always receive cards from prisoners afterwards expressing their gratitude to the students for their kind words, humorous jokes and that they are not forgotten especially at Christmas time.

God bless you all.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH



December 24

5 pm Mass: Carols at 4:30 pm
Midnight Mass: Carols at 11:30 pm

December 25

9:00 am
11:00 am

STA PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Next meeting: **Thursday, January 9th at 9:15 am, Room 207 of the Convent.**



All parents and guardians are invited to attend.



On behalf of the Administrative staff, thank you for your thoughtfulness throughout the month of December and for the generous gifts dropped off at the office.

We wish you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas and our sincere wishes for a wonderful year ahead.

STA Newsletter Subscriptions

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