



# STA At-a-Glance

**Week 11: November 4 - November 11, 2025**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



**JOIN US – OPEN HOUSE**  
December 2 | 6:00 pm  
Applications now open until December 5, 2025  
aquinas.org



Do you have friends or neighbours who are considering a new school for September 2026? STA will be hosting its Open House on **Tuesday, December 2**. Visitors will have the chance to visit with teachers and interact with students to experience the STA Advantage. Highlights of the evening include: clubs tables in the gym, band performances, and opportunities to speak with our Academic Advisor, Athletics Director and PHE/Academies/Kaizen Department Head. Registration is not required.

- 5:30 pm - Doors open
- 6:00 pm - Principal's Remarks by Mr. Krol
- 6:15 - 8:00 pm - School tours/meet the teachers.

## KUDOS

**Congratulations to STA X-Country runners**  
STA X-Country runners participated in the BC Provincial Championships held this past Saturday at Nanoose Bay on the Vancouver Island. Aidan J and Jordan P ran in the Senior Boy's race, Josh W in the Junior Boys, and Audrey S in the Junior Girls. All four students, who had qualified for a spot at the Provincials at the Vancouver Sea to Sky Zone Finals, ran strong races on a rainy day and on a muddy course against the best x-country runners in the province. Well done STA X-Country!





### Kudos to Senior Girls Volleyball Team

After capturing **3rd place at the BC Catholics** with a big win over St. Thomas More, they now host the North Shore semi-finals tonight at 5:10pm vs. Whistler. Catch all the action live on our [STA Athletics HUDL](#) page, you won't want to miss it!

**Congratulations to the Bantam Volleyball Red Team** on their two game win last night. They beat Windsor 3:0 and Carson 2:1 in their playoff games. That puts them into the semi-finals. All the best to these volleyball players for Wednesday. Go Saints!



**Congratulations to the Juvenile Girls Volleyball team** in their successful sweep against West Van last night in the North Shore quarter finals! The girls continue their fight this Thursday (November 6) as they will face Collingwood in the semi-finals home game at 4:00pm. Catch all the action live on our [STA Athletics HUDL](#) page, you won't want to miss it! Go Saints go!



**Kudos to our Junior Girls Volleyball team** dominated their league, finishing 1st in their pools and heading into playoffs this week. They will play tonight against Windsor at Argyle. Go get 'em, Saints!





On behalf of the Parents Association, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the **36th Annual STA Christmas Craft Fair & Market.**

Our 2nd and 3rd floors, beautifully decorated for the season, together with both gyms, were transformed into a festive shopping destination featuring over 160 talented vendors offering a wide variety of unique, handmade, and creative items. We are especially thankful to all the vendors and to the more than 1,500 visitors from our community who came out to support them. Even with the time change, the event remained lively and filled with Christmas spirit all day long!

A special thank-you goes to our school community for the many used book donations - the "Used Book Sale" was once again a great success. The ever-popular Raffle Basket fundraiser also drew plenty of excitement and joy. We are deeply grateful to everyone who donated prizes and congratulate all 95 raffle winners!

We appreciate everyone who attended and helped make this event memorable - whether by shopping with our vendors, enjoying the

delicious food from our cafeteria and school store, or purchasing raffle tickets. Your support truly made a difference.

An event of this scale can only succeed through teamwork and generosity. Our sincere thanks go out to all the parents, students, and staff volunteers who worked tirelessly in advance and throughout the weekend. From setup and decorating, to welcoming guests and managing closing duties, we appreciated all your help. And, to those parents who jumped in at the last minute to fill volunteer shifts - thank you! Your flexibility and enthusiasm are deeply appreciated.

Finally, we would like to give special recognition to those individuals who went above and beyond in their dedication, creativity, and commitment:

We would like to give special recognition to the following individuals for their outstanding contributions:

- Mariannina Calabrese - Flyer, Advertising & Communications
- Monica Barichello - Decorations
- Teresa Moon - Cafeteria
- Paola Plecko & Maira Gonzalez - Raffle
- Adela Nichols - PAC Treasurer
- Hericka Piccinini - Permits
- Leigh Oikawa - Finance
- Chris Cristea - Electricity & Crafter Support
- Daniel Mosquera & Chris Cristea - Signage and Vendor Assistance
- Daniel Mosquera - Parking Lot Control
- Catherine Cantas & Monica Barichello - Vendor Food Orders

A special mention and thanks to:

- The school office staff and all STA staff members who supported us in so many ways;
- Ms. Atkinson, for coordinating the student volunteers;
- Ms. Bennett, for her help with the cafeteria;
- Our custodians, who kindly assisted vendors and helped with countless tasks throughout the weekend.

We deeply appreciate your gifts of time, talent, and generosity in support of our STA community. We look forward to another wonderful and successful event in 2026.

Warm regards, Paola La Pica (PA Chair / Christmas Craft Fair Coordinator)

## OFFICE UPDATES



### myEducation BC Parent Portal Login

Term 1 Learning updates (ie report cards) will be released on-line on **Friday, November 7**. STA parents will be able to access their child's learning updates through myEducation BC's parent portal.

In order to access this information, please ensure your myEducation BC parent account is active. Please click on this [link](#) and complete the login information with your Login ID and password. Step by step instructions are [here](#).

Any questions, please send an email to the [office](#).

---

### Parent Teacher Interview Sign Up

The link and instructions to register for Parent Teacher Interviews will be provided with the learning update published on **Friday, November 7**. You will need your child's last name and their PEN number (as shown on the learning update) to access the website.

### Parent/Teacher Interviews will be:

- Thursday, November 13: 3:30pm – 5:00pm and 5:40pm - 7:30pm
- Friday, November 14: 10:00am – 5:00pm

Students are encouraged to attend interviews with their parents. There will be no classes for students on **Friday, November 14**.

---

### Professional Development & Remembrance Day - Monday, November 10 & Tuesday, November 11

School will be closed for teachers professional development followed by Remembrance Day. Classes will resume Wednesday, **November 12** on a Day 2 schedule.

---

### Purdys Christmas Chocolate Sale - until November 20

Grade 12 students are selling Purdys chocolates as fundraising towards their Dinner Dance event in June. Yummy chocolate, gift giving and supporting a grad - it doesn't get any sweeter than that!

Click here for more [information](#).





**The STA Annual Poinsettia Sale is here!**

Once again, the STA Parent Association is proudly selling beautiful Christmas poinsettias, wreaths and seasonal arrangements. The funds raised will be used to improve and enhance STA student extra-curricular activities.

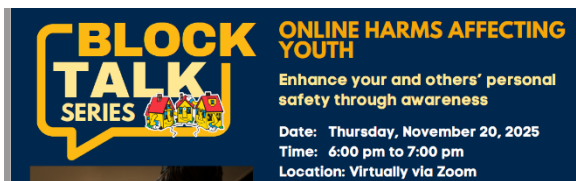
Please visit and place your order today.

The order deadline is **November 19** and pick-ups will take place on **December 4** and **December 5**.

We thank you in advance for your support.

**St Pius X Elementary School Christmas Craft Fair Volunteers Needed**

St Pius X Elementary School needs student volunteers for their Christmas Craft Fair - setup, during, and take down - on November 22 and 23. The sign up sheet is at the office. Service hours can be earned.



Zoom presentation from [Dr. Kaitlynn Mendes](#) [about online safety](#).

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**November:**

**3 - 7 Spirit Week**

5 - Grade 9 "Take Our Kids to Work" Day

7 - Remembrance Day Assembly at 11:10am. Families are welcome to attend.

7 - Student Interim Learning Update available on-line

10 - SCHOOL CLOSED - Professional Development Day

11 - SCHOOL CLOSED - Remembrance Day

13, 20 and 28 - Men's Hostel Ministry - Baked Goods or Sandwich Drop Off at 8:00 - 9:00am

13 - Grade 8 Retreat trip (during school hours)

13 - Parent Teacher Interviews at 3:30pm - 7:30pm

14 - NO CLASSES IN SESSION - Parent Teacher Interviews at 10:00am - 5:00pm

19 - Spirit Day

19 - School Dance at 6:00-9:00pm

21 - SCHOOL CLOSED - CISVA Networking Day

## MESSAGE FROM ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

**"I can accept failure, everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying."** – *Michael Jordan*

It's been a **character-building and inspiring week** in the world of **Aquinas Athletics!** Our student-athletes continue to show what it means to compete with heart, resilience, and Fighting Saints pride.

**Soccer:** Both of our boys' soccer teams wrapped up their seasons last week after hard-fought North Shore playoff battles. Though they fell short of advancing, their grit, effort, and determination were second to none, a true reflection of the Fighting Saints spirit.

**Basketball:** Tryouts are underway! Check the school announcements for schedules. Don't forget a signed consent form must be handed to your coach before your first session. Time to lace up and show your skills!

**Wrestling:** Wrestling season kicks off **next Wednesday, November 12 after school** in the auxiliary gym. Come out and test your strength and spirit! Don't forget a signed consent form must be handed to your coach before your first session.

**Finally...** As Michael Jordan once said, *"I've failed over and over and over again in my life, and that is why I succeed."* Here's to learning, growing, and giving it our all — the Fighting Saints way. Go STA!

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

### The Door Is Open

Kudos to the 29 students who made a meal of chili, salad, and fruit salad from scratch then served it to our neighbours living on the Downtown Eastside on Sunday morning!



### Youth Alpha - Wednesday, November 5 at 3:15pm

The Alpha Youth Series is all about creating a space where you can explore your biggest questions about life and faith in a way that feels open, real, and respectful. It's a place where real conversations happen, and friendships can grow in an inclusive, welcoming environment. We will go through the series together as a team, discussing and learning about ourselves and our faith. Starting this Wednesday, come join us in the alumni room. Fr. Lucio from Holy Trinity parish and various other STA leaders will be there to support you! See Gabby R, Gaby M, Ephraim C, Paige K or Ms. Hughes if you have any other questions.

## Candy Drive for Good Shepherd Ministry - Thursday, November 6 3:00-4:00pm

Thank you to everyone who brought in candy for our candy drive! It is not too late to bring yours in if you haven't yet! Drop any amount of candy off at the campus ministry office this week! All of the candy makes a big difference! Thursday after school, we will begin making the candy bags for those in need.

Everyone is welcome to come to the cafeteria from 3:00-4:00pm to help!



## Month of Holy Souls - Praying for the souls of Loved Ones

The Catholic Church dedicates the entire month of November to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. During the entire month of

November, we will be offering our weekly school masses for the deceased loved ones of our community. We invite you to include the names of your loved ones at this [link](#). Remembering them, praying for them, and giving thanks for them, pleases God, who makes use of our prayers to help purify these souls in Purgatory that He loves.

## Grade 8 Retreat - Thursday, November 13

The Grade 8 retreat is quickly approaching. Permission forms have gone home with students. They need to be signed and returned back to school by **Wednesday, November 5**. Students report to their first block as usual for attendance and then head to the buses.

- They do not need to wear their uniform.
- Pizza lunch, snacks, and drinks will be provided.
- Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle.
- They will be spending time outside, rain or shine, please come prepared.

## PARENT PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

### Help Needed:

- We are looking for a full time volunteer to help wash/clean the school bus a few times per month. There would be two of you, and we are preferably looking for a male helper. If interested in finding out more please contact [Carmen](#)
- The landscaping team is looking for a part-time volunteer (min 3hrs/month) to ensure that the gardening equipment, fuel and supplies are in good working order. Commitment is from February-November each year. All associated costs are reimbursed. Please contact [Kathleen Jessop](#) for more information.
- Cafeteria - full time shifts available: Tue, Wed and Friday (11:30pm - 2:00pm). Please contact [Claudia Montagut](#) if interested.



- Traffic duty volunteers - full time shifts: mornings: Mon (8:45am - 9:30am) and Tue-Fri (8:00am - 8:45am) and afternoons: Mon-Fri (2:45pm - 3:30pm). If you are interested please contact [Karen Lo](#).
- Parent Judges for the Grade 8 Science Fair - January 26, 2026 (your child doesn't need to be in grade 8 in order for you to volunteer)

Click [here](#) to sign-up and review the current opportunities in the portal.

## HALLOWEEN SPIRIT

