



STA At-a-Glance

Week 15: December 3 -
December 10, 2024

KUDOS



Congratulations to the **STA Senior Girls Volleyball** team for an amazing 2024-25 season: 10th in the province, 3rd in the Vancouver Sea to Sky Zone and 1st on the North Shore. A huge thank you to Coach Chris Spence, Staff sponsor Mr. Christopher, Parent Chaperones - Julia Simpson and Shannon Barnes, our team, and finally our graduating seniors: Bianka G., Kiki L., Charli L. and Alexa P. as well. Go Saints!



Congratulations to **Anita Vaseghi '23** who was awarded the 2023 Governor General's medal for academic excellence. The Governor General's Academic Medal was first awarded in 1873 and has since become one of the most prestigious awards that a student in a Canadian educational institution can receive. The medal is awarded to the student who achieves the highest average upon graduation from a secondary school. Anita is currently studying Cellular Anatomical Physiological Sciences at UBC and plans to

enter the medical field. Well done Anita!



The STA Junior wrestlers attended their first meet of the season at Carson Graham on November 28, and showed incredible effort and determination on the mats. The Seniors wrestlers followed up with their debut meet at Argyle on November 29, bringing their best to each match. Both teams demonstrated great sportsmanship and skill, setting a strong tone for the season ahead. Our athletes are off to a great start!



Congratulations to Mr. Domina on his recent graduation from UBC with a Masters in Math Education. After working full-time and completing his studies on weekends and in the evenings over the last two (2) years, Mr. Domina is ready to help STA students enjoy learning math. He's a great example to staff and students of what you can achieve with a plan, focus and dedication. Thank you, Mr. Domina, for all that you do for STA!

OFFICE UPDATES

Is your family extending the Christmas break?

If your family is planning to extend the Christmas break either by leaving prior to December 20 or returning to school after January 6, 2025, the student will need an extended absence form from the office. This form must be signed by a parent and each one of the student's teachers must also sign it and provide any noted homework assignments. The form must be returned to the office once completed.

The office staff will also require an email from the parents advising the school of the absence. Please email office@aquinas.org with the necessary information.

STA Grad 2025 Purdys - Pickup Time on Thursday, December 5 at 3:00pm

The grade 12 Grad 2025 Purdys Christmas chocolate fundraiser was a tremendous success with over \$20 000 worth of chocolates ordered! Grads earn 25% of their total sales which will be put towards their Dinner and Dance in June. Order pick up will be at the library Alumni Room.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check out the school [calendar](#) for these and other events

December

12, 19 - Men's Hostel Ministry - Baked Goods or Sandwich Drop Off: 8:00 - 9:00am

18 - Spirit Day - Xmas Pyjama Day

20 - School Closed - Professional Development Day

21 - Christmas Break. School Re-opens Monday, January 6

Christmas Concert (Choral and Band) and Art Exhibit - Tuesday, December 10 at 6:00pm

The student art exhibition will open at 6:00pm in the second floor foyer, followed at 7:00pm with the Christmas Band and Choral concert. The Art Exhibit showcases the learning and expression that has occurred in the art studio throughout the fall term in Art 8, 9 and Art Studio 10, 11 and 12. The Band and Choral performances will entertain as you listen to both the sounds of the Concert and Jazz Bands and the beautiful harmonies of the Concert Choir.

We hope you thoroughly enjoy both the sights and sounds as we showcase the work from our vibrant Visual and Performing Arts Department.

Christmas Drama Performance - Monday, December 16 at 7:00pm

Our vibrant Visual and Performing Arts Department we will be presenting the Christmas Drama Evening in the gymnasium. Grades 8 through 12 will be performing sketches and shorts that highlight their learning from the fall term. All are welcome.

**Grade 12 Parent Grad Committee
Christmas Online Auction - now until
December 5 at 11:00pm**

The Grade 12 Parent Grad Committee is thrilled to announce our Christmas Online Auction Fundraiser! This event is the primary fundraiser for this year's graduates, with all proceeds going towards their much-anticipated grad celebrations. Thank you for joining us in making this year's graduation celebrations unforgettable. Your support truly means the world to us. Auction Link is [here](#).



Merry Christmas to all the wonderful families at STA! Your 2025 Parent Grad Committee

<p>DOOR IS OPEN RCAY MEN'S SHELTER HARVEST PROJECT COVENANT HOUSE</p>	<p>DAY 1 - DEC 2ND TOYS</p> <p>DAY 2 - DEC 3RD BACKPACKS & CROSSBODY BAGS</p> <p>DAY 3 - DEC 4TH HOODIES (TEENS & ADULTS)</p>	<p>SPECTRUM MOTHERS SOCIETY GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRY NORTH SHORE FAMILY SERVICES QUEEN MARY HAMPERS</p>
<p>DAY 4 - DEC 5TH SWEAT PANTS (TEENS & ADULTS)</p> <p>DAY 5 - DEC 6TH BABY ITEMS (DIAPERS, WIPES, ETC)</p> <p>DAY 6 - DEC 9TH SOCKS, UNDERWEAR, & T-SHIRTS</p>	<p>12 DAYS OF GIVING</p> <p>HELP US CARE FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS IN NEED BY BRINGING IN NEW ITEMS TO GIFT!</p>	<p>DAY 7 - DEC 10TH WINTER ACCESSORIES (TOQUES, GLOVES, SCARVES)</p> <p>DAY 8 - DEC 11TH HYGIENE ITEMS (FULL SIZE TOOTHBRUSH, TOOTHPASTE, DEODORANT, SHAMPOO, ETC)</p> <p>DAY 9 - DEC 12TH COFFEE & TEA</p>
<p>DAYS 1 - 5 1 ITEM = 1 SERVICE HOUR</p> <p>DAYS 6 - 12 3 ITEMS = 1 SERVICE HOUR</p> <p>SUGGESTED VALUE PER SERVICE HOUR = \$10 - \$30</p>	<p>DAY 10 - DEC 13TH WRAPPED CHRISTMAS GOODIES (CHOCOLATES, COOKIES)</p> <p>DAY 11 - DEC 16TH BOX OF GRANOLA BARS</p> <p>DAY 12 - DEC 17TH BOX OF CEREAL</p>	<p>THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL DONATIONS OF NEW ITEMS!</p> <p>WITH EACH DONATION YOU ARE BRINGING GOD'S LOVE TO THOSE IN NEED!</p>

12 Days of Aquinas Christmas Giving
Campus Ministry's **12 Days of Christmas Giving** is back again this year! We are collecting donations of NEW items to support our neighbors in need through various organizations. Thank you for your support!

Christmas Caroling - Thursday, December 5 at 3:05pm

Students are invited to come Christmas Caroling and visit the seniors at Inglewood Care Home. No experience required. Your visit brightens the day of residents. Pick up a permission form from Ms. Hughes in the campus ministry office!



**Advent
Candlelight
Mass**

Thursdays, 7:30am
December 5, 12, 19
in the Chapel

"My soul is waiting for the Lord"
- Psalm 130

*The Rorate Mass is an ancient Advent custom from Northern Europe.
It is only lit by candles, representing Mary's role in
bringing the Light of the World into the darkness of the world.*

Advent Candle Light Masses

Students and their families are invited to our school chapel to celebrate the season of Advent with morning Masses by candlelight on **Thursday, December 5, 12, and 19 at 7:30am**. The Mass is only lit by candles to turn our focus to Mary bringing the Light of the World into the darkness of the world. Pastries will be provided after Mass.

PARENT ASSOCIATION / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES

Click on the **Parent Participation Portal** to register for the opportunities below:

Crossing Guards Needed

We are seeking for crossing guards for before and after school shifts. Contact **Karen Lo** at karenytlora@gmail.com for more details or to confirm your participation.

Cafeteria

- Part time opportunities available for December.
- (3) Full time volunteers are still required, shifts available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 11:30am to 2:00pm and Wednesday from 12:30 to 3:00pm. Contact **Claudia Montagut** at clamommar@gmail.com to sign up.

Volunteers needed for December 10 (Christmas Concert & Art Exhibition) & December 16 (Christmas Drama Production)

Baked Goods

Students and parents can earn volunteer hours by providing **homemade** baked goods. One dozen baked goods = 1 hour volunteer time. Drop the baked goods to the school office during the day or to the cafeteria between 5:00 - 7:00pm. There is no limit to the volunteer hours the students can earn.

Refreshment Station Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to setup, serve and clean-up for both event from 5:30 - 9:30pm. Thank you for your involvement!