



# STA At-a-Glance

Week 20: January 20 -  
January 27, 2026

## KUDOS

### Congrats!

The **STA Senior Boys and Girls Basketball** teams had an outstanding showing at the 37th edition of the **BC Catholic Basketball Championships** over the weekend at Holy Cross Regional High School. The **Senior Boys** finished with a three game win streak to place **5th in the BC Catholics**. Starting off with a lunchtime home game loss against the 4A 2nd ranked Holy Cross team, they went on to win big games against Immaculata, Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary Schools and St. Thomas More Collegiate. Players of the game were awarded to Gabe B and Elye S. Congratulations to Gabe B who was named tournament All-Star for his stellar performance.

The **STA Senior Girls** did an outstanding job competing at the BC Catholics Basketball Tournament. The team played with great energy, teamwork, and determination throughout the tournament, representing their school with pride. A special shout-out goes to Corli H for an exceptional performance, earning Player of the Game honors as well as an Honourable Mention selection to the All-Star Team.



Special appreciation for our parent drivers, coaches, teacher-sponsors and talented players for their noted efforts throughout.

---



### Kudos to Gr. 8 Boys Basketball Team

The Grade 8 Boys had another highly successful week, with six wins in as many days. In league play, the RED team cruised to two double digit victories over Collingwood and Windsor. The WHITE team also won comfortably after making the trek to the Sunshine Coast to face Chatelech. It was the first career victory for acting student-coach Aidan J. Congrats, Aidan!

The benefits of our two-team system were on full display on the weekend, as a mix of RED and WHITE team players won the Archbishop Carney Classic in Port Coquitlam, going

undefeated through the three games. Victor D led the way by averaging an impressive 30 ppg, while Ben D was a constant presence at point guard and connected on a last-minute 4-point play to seal a win vs Quad A Maple Ridge. Roice B and Damian K deservedly won player-of-the-game T-shirts, while Noah P, Jake H, and Ivhan D had strong tournaments. As we head into the exam week break, the RED team's overall record sits at 17-7 (6-2 in league play).

---

The **STA Grade 9 Boys Basketball** team delivered an impressive run at the St. George's Invitational Tournament over the weekend. The Saints opened with a thrilling overtime victory against the host school, St. George's, and followed it up with a strong win over Lord Tweedsmuir. The team ultimately fell to North Shore rival Argyle in the final, but they leave the tournament with confidence and momentum heading into the final weeks of league play.



### Praise to Junior Boys Basketball Team

The Grade 10 boys basketball team competed in a tournament at Sutherland this week. The team opened the tournament with a hard-fought loss, bounced back with a strong win in their second game, and returned on Saturday to close the tournament with another tough loss. Overall, the players showed resilience, teamwork, and growth throughout the competition.

---



## Congratulations to Jonathan W

St. Thomas Aquinas Grade 12 student Jonathan W has recently filed a provisional patent for a solar-powered medical device for use in remote areas that are often hit by power outages.

Please find a full version of the North Shore News article [here](#).



## Brushes in Hand: The Mural Project Begins!

We are thrilled to announce that the Art Club has officially begun work on our school mural! If you walk by the games area on the first floor on Tuesday afternoons, you'll see our talented students hard at work transforming a blank wall into a vibrant masterpiece.

This project is a perfect reflection of the Art Club's mission: **"To enrich our school by creating projects that foster community and beauty, while also supporting personal artistic growth."**



### **Community Directory - Who Are the People in Your Neighbourhood?**

The STA Community Directory is an online resource of businesses owned or managed by STA parents, alumni parents and alumni.

Click [here](#) to review the Directory and/or to add your business to the listings.

## OFFICE UPDATES



Dear STA families,

The school parking lot is now closed to all non-staff vehicles during arrival and dismissal times and is not to be used for student drop-off or pick-up. This is an important step in improving safety and reducing congestion at these busy times of day. We ask families to please park in the surrounding residential area and to be mindful of all posted parking regulations and our neighbours.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If your child has a medical need that requires access to the the parking lot, please contact the school office in advance to make arrangements.

Sincerely,

Mr. Krol  
Principal

---

### **Term 2 Starts - January 27: Blocks reversed**

Effective Tuesday January 27, 2026 the school's block schedule will be reversed.

Day 1 classes – D/C/B/A

Day 2 classes – H/G/F/E

Term 2 starts on Tuesday, January 27 with Day 1 schedule.

---

### **Grade 8 Science Fair - Monday, January 26**

A few reminders as we approach our big day:

- Projects need to be set up in the gym no later than 8:30am
- 9:00 - 11:00am - students will be interviewed by at least two judges (bring a book to read while waiting - no phones!)
- 11:00 - 1:30pm - leave school for lunch
- 1:30 - 2:30pm - return to school for the final round of interviews

- 2:30 - 5:00pm - leave school. Relax! The hard part is over!
- 5:00pm - return to the school for the awards ceremony

All students must be in full uniform for the entire science fair.

Students will be responsible for putting away their own tables and chairs when the awards presentation is over. Thank you to our many parent judges!

---



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL  
FAITH | COMMUNITY | EXCELLENCE

### January 2026 Exam Schedule

		Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Monday, January 19	8:25 AM	Career Education 8 and 9 Workshop		English 10	Religion 11	Religion 12
	12:25 PM					
Tuesday, January 20	8:25 AM			Literacy Assessment 10 Religion 10 Projects		History 12
	12:25 PM		Science 9	Literacy Assessment 10 Religion 10 Projects	Chemistry 11 Life Sciences 11	AP Computer Science Honours English 12
Wednesday, January 21	8:25 AM			Foundations of Math & PreCalculus 10 Workplace Math 10	PreCalculus 11 Foundations of Math 11	PreCalculus 12 Foundations of Math 12
	12:25 PM	Religion 8	Social 9			Comp Cultures Literature 12
Thursday, January 22	8:25 AM	Math 8 Math 8/9			English 11 Honours English 11	Anatomy 12 Physics 12
	12:25 PM		Math 9	Literacy Assessment 10 Religion 10 Projects	Marketing 11	Psychology 12
Friday, January 23	8:25 AM				Physics 11	Chemistry 12 Philosophy 12
	12:25 PM			Science 10		Literacy Assessment 12 Political Studies
Monday, January 26	8:25 AM	Science Fair				Calculus AP Calculus Literacy Assessment 12
	12:25 PM	Science Fair				Literacy Assessment 12

AM EXAMS: Students must be in the gym for morning exams at 8:25am

PM EXAMS: Students must be in the gym for afternoon exams at 12:25pm

### January 2026 Exam Schedule - January 19-26, 2026

The mid-term exam schedule, including expectations, has been posted on the [website](#).

Classes will not be in session during exam week.

If a student will be away from school during exams or will be missing a scheduled exam due to other commitments, please inform the [office](#) and [Mr. Salituro](#) as soon as possible.

---



SERVICE HOURS INFORMATION & VERIFICATION

The STA Service Program is an opportunity for students to be SAINTS within our community. This program is a requirement of our Career Education curricula. We want our students to give of their time and engage in opportunities that utilize their talents, interests and skills. It enables students to practice the values which are integrated into all aspects of learning and life at the school.

What does it mean to be a STA SAINT?

- RESPECT - Our actions demonstrate that we value, and care for our school and every individual.
- PERSEVERANCE - We always strive to work hard, do our best, and never give up.
- RESPONSIBILITY - We recognize that our actions affect ourselves and others, and that we all have a role in building a positive and safe school environment.
- COMMUNITY - We work together. We are Aquinas.
- FAITH - Our Catholic faith permeates all that we do and who we are.

Note: Administration will review all activities to ensure they reflect the philosophy of the Service Program.

ACTIVITIES APPROVED FOR SERVICE HOURS

- School Events/Organizations
- ✓ International Night
  - ✓ Oaill Fair
  - ✓ Peer Tutoring through School programs such as IRC/Homework club
  - ✓ Running a school club
  - ✓ Event setup/take down
  - ✓ School Drive Events
  - ✓ Baking (school events)
  - ✓ Door is Open
  - ✓ Alumni Events
  - ✓ Grounds crew

Parish Opportunities

- ✓ Parish Community Events
- ✓ Altar Serving
- ✓ Singing in Choir
- ✓ Prep Teaching
- ✓ Youth Ministry Leader

Community Opportunities

- ✓ Coaching/Assistant Coaching a team
- ✓ Festival & Community Events - e.g. Terry Fox Run, Oaill Run
- ✓ Summer Camp Volunteering
- ✓ Elementary School events
- ✓ Volunteering at library, seniors home, charities

EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES NOT APPROVED FOR SERVICE HOURS

- ☐ Babysitting
- ☐ Dog walking
- ☐ Picking up garbage in the neighbourhood
- ☐ Household Chores, Yard Work, and Maintenance
- ☐ Any paid work
- ☐ School required participation (No double dipping for other course requirements e.g., P.H.E.)
- ☐ Volunteering to work for a business
- ☐ Working/helping/coaching a family member or friend, neighbour, or specific individuals even if its unpaid
- ☐ Tutoring of friends, classmates, other individuals that is not through the school peer tutoring program

If an activity is NOT on the list of approved activities, students are asked to receive prior approval from their Religion teacher and/or administration or risk having the activity not count as community service.

## Community Service Hours past due!

All STA students are required to complete 16 hours of community service over the course of the 2025-26 school year. Eight (8) service hours were due to be submitted to Religion teachers last week.

Emails have already been sent home for students who have not submitted any hours or whose submitted hours did not qualify as approved service.

Students who have not submitted their community service hours will be followed up with by Administration and may be assigned to complete service hours on campus.

Thank you for supporting this important endeavor. Community service is a key part of what defines us as a Catholic school.

More information about service hours,

including the required form, can be found on the [school website](#).

## Pastor Authorization Forms 2026-27 School Year

All Category 1 and 2 families should have received an email on Friday, January 9 with the Pastor Authorization form for the 2026-27 academic year. Please return the form to the office by **Friday, January 23**.

If you did not receive this email, please contact [Christina Donovan](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

### January

- 23 - Men's Hostel Ministry - Baked Goods or Sandwich Drop Off at 8:00 - 9:00am
- 30 - Ski and Snowboard Club at 3:00pm
- 19 - 26 - **Mid Term Exams** - Classes will not be in session
- 26 - Grade 8 Science Fair
- 27 - Term 2 Starts: Day 1 - Reverse Blocks (D, C, B and A)
- 27 - 30 - Lost and Found collection displays
- 28 - Monthly School Mass at 10:45am. Families are welcome to attend

### February

- 1 - Door is Open
- 4 - Early Dismissal at 1:00pm
- 12 - 13 - SCHOOL CLOSED - Catholic Educators Conference
- 16 - SCHOOL CLOSED - Family Day

## MESSAGE FROM ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



### **Operation: STA Blackout!**

Get ready to bring the noise and turn their home court into our house! On **Tuesday, January 27**, our Senior Basketball teams are heading to Collingwood School for the biggest showdown of the season - and we need **YOU** in the stands.

**The Challenge:** Our Saints are taking on some of the toughest competition in the province. Collingwood's Girls are ranked #9, and their Boys currently hold the #1 spot. This is our chance to show them what STA spirit looks like!






**The Gear:** To make sure we're seen and heard, the Athletic Department is sponsoring a **STA BLACKOUT**.

- **Free Swag:** Every STA student who attends the game will receive a **FREE limited-edition black STA Spirit Shirt!**
- **How to get yours:** Find Mr. Allen at the Collingwood gym to grab your shirt and join the sea of black in the bleachers.

### **Spring Sports Preview: Something for Everyone!**

It's time to look ahead! We have a stacked lineup for the Spring season. Whether you're a veteran athlete or looking to try something brand new, there is a place for you.

#### **The Classics Are Back:**

-  **Badminton**
-  **Mountain Biking**
-  **Track & Field**
-  **Girls Soccer (Junior & Senior)**
-  **Boys Volleyball (Grades 8 & 9)**

#### **BIG NEWS: The Return of the Pitch & the Green!**

We are ecstatic to announce two exciting additions to the STA Athletics lineup:

- **Rugby is BACK!** For the first time in 30 years, Mr. Allen is reintroducing Rugby to STA. This is your chance to be part of a historic restart. A rugby meeting was held on Thursday, January 8th with over 25 Boys and Girls signing up. Rugby is for everyone! Please download this [letter](#) and complete the informed consent prior to your child coming to the first training session. Mr. Allen is looking for a few volunteers to help coach the team. If you are interested, please contact him.
- **Golf Team:** We are looking to hit the links this year with a brand-new Golf program!

**CAMPUS MINISTRY**



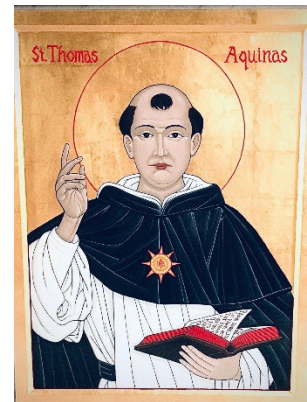
### STA Men's Hostel Ministry - Friday, January 23 at 8:00 - 9:00am

There is a food collection for the shelter this Thursday! If you are looking for a way to complete your service hours by feeding the hungry, bring your home made, individually wrapped, sandwiches and baked goods to the Campus Ministry office before school on Thursday! You will receive 1 service hour for every 12 items you make and bring in. Thank you for your thoughtfulness in making food and bringing joy to those in need. You will only receive hours for items that are home made. Store bought items do not count for service hours.

### Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas - Wednesday, January 28

We will celebrate the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas. Parents are welcome to join us for Monthly Mass in the gym at 10:45am.

The cafeteria will have a special lunch to celebrate (lasagna, Italian salad and focaccia).



### The Door Is Open - Sunday, February 1

The **Door Is Open** is a Catholic Charities outreach service that provides meals and services to residents and transients in the Vancouver's eastside. Students prepare and serve a meal to those in need while earning service hours. The school bus will depart from STA on Sunday, February 1

at 9:00am and return at approximately 1:30pm. Uniforms are not required. Students must register and submit a permission form with the Campus Ministry office. Spots are limited.

## KAIZEN PROGRAM

**KAIZEN** Athlete Development program's New Year's **joy** of effort, challenge, movement, and learning together.

