



# St. Andrew's

## Regional High School

ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

880 McKenzie Ave  
Victoria, BC V8X 3G5  
Web: [www.standrewshigh.ca](http://www.standrewshigh.ca)  
Email: [sarhs@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:sarhs@cisdv.bc.ca)  
Tel: 250-479-1414  
Fax: 250-479-5356

**Principal:** Patrick Niwa  
[pniwa@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:pniwa@cisdv.bc.ca)

**Vice Principal:** Ciaran McLaverty  
[cmclaverty@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:cmclaverty@cisdv.bc.ca)

**Mission Statement:** St. Andrew's Regional High School strives to develop Catholic-Christian values in students by openly stating and celebrating our belief in the values Jesus taught. Our commitment to excellence in education of the whole person guides our decision-making. Our goal is to provide each student with opportunities to gain the knowledge, skills and values necessary to respond to personal challenges with faith, hope, and love.

**December 1, 2023**

**From Mr. Niwa**

Today we had students from St. Patrick's Elementary and St. Joseph's elementary visit our school for Shadow Day. Shadow Day is when these Grade 7 students come to visit to get some insight about what our school is all about. After gathering in the library for introductions, our student council presidents, Emma and Mariana, described their experience here.

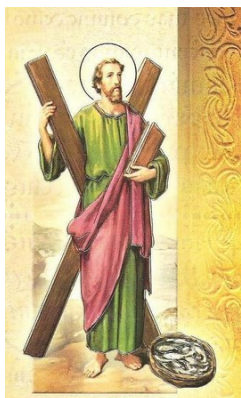
Following this, students were led by our students on a scavenger hunt where they got to explore the different areas of the school and meet staff members. All students, including St. Andrew's students, gathered in the gym for a Celebration of the Arts.

Our bands and choir sang and performed songs, our drama production entertained, and the arts demonstrated their talents. We truly have an outstanding program.

After the Celebration of the Arts, our visitors were treated with pizza before attending a variety of classes in the afternoon.

I would like to thank Mr. McLaverty, Mrs. Kearsey, Mr. O'Reilly, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Gibbs, Ms. Stellino, Mrs. Boyd, and Mr. Hudson for their efforts making today run so smoothly. I would like to thank Emma, Mariana, and our student council for their help. I would also like to thank Mr. Pollard, Mr. Card, and all the teachers who accompanied their students.

God Bless,  
Patrick Niwa  
Principal



**Celebrating the Feast of St. Andrew on November 30th**

Dear Families,

We have received a number of phone calls with expressions of some concern for drivers using Sevenoaks Road and Nelthorpe Street in the neighbourhood across the road from the school, behind McKenzie, as they prepare to pick up students after school.

Residents there are expressing some frustration as apparently some drivers are parking in residential spots or blocking driveways and even speeding along the narrow street while en route to St. Andrew's. Some cars, in an attempt to beat the light at Nelthorpe and McKenzie, are also getting stuck in the intersection, blocking traffic.

Therefore, we ask in consideration of the safety of our students, and maintaining good relations with our neighbours that drivers take measures to keep those areas as clear as possible. Effective steps can include delaying or staggering your pickup time and even better, drivers can use the larger parking lot behind the school by Sacred Heart for safer pickup. That parking lot can be accessed from Saanich Road as well.

One further note is that all yellow curbs in the school driveway are absolutely no stopping zones. Thank you for your support and cooperation.



**Mark You Calendars:**

December 1	Gr. 7 Shadow Day / 5 block day / celebration of the arts
December 5	5 Block Day—Advent Mass
December 6	PSG meeting 7pm
December 7	Grade 12 retreat
December 8	Hire-a-choir / poinsettia / Purdy’s and cheese pick up
December 20	Advent Carol Service 6:30pm
December 21	Interim Reports / Locker clean out
December 22	Last day of classes! Noon dismissal
January 8	School Re-Opens
January 9-11	Grad Photo Day
January 10	PSG 7pm



**Grade 12 Retreat!**

**GRADE 12 RETREAT is HERE:**

On Thursday, December 7th the grade 12 grad class will be heading to Camp Pringle.

Buses are leaving at 8:30am promptly and will return at 7:30pm.

Students need to bring a **BIG LUNCH**, water bottle and wear civvies. Dinner and Snacks provided.

Wear appropriate clothes, sturdy shoes as we will be outside for some of our day.

This is a **TECH FREE** day: leave phones, earbuds at **HOME!** :)

Please contact Ms. Gilbert if you have any questions.

It’s a **GREAT** day to be a **SABRE!**



Homework club (in room 222) will be starting up again on Tuesday, October 10, 2023! All are welcome to get some extra support and/or a quiet place to do work.

**Days & times are:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3:15 – 4:15 with one Education Assistant. Wednesdays are from 1:50 – 3:15 with five Educational Assistants!

**Student Council—Candy Grams**



**Do you have a friend that you’re really thankful for but don’t know how to show your gratitude?** Or do you talk to someone but you’re not close enough to buy them a Christmas present? Well do we have the product for you! Starting next **Monday, December 4th**, the Student Council will be taking orders for candy grams in the commons at lunch, which you can order anonymously, or sign your name, and send it to a friend in the school! The candy grams will be hand delivered, during the last day of school before Christmas break (December 22nd). **These delicious bags of candy only cost \$2**, so bring your money and be sure to order candy grams!

**Career Counselling Department**

You can help your child flourish by encouraging them to volunteer. **Volunteer Victoria** offers free consultations and can connect you with some very interesting and rewarding connections for your child. *This is a great way to help prepare your child for the required Capstone 12 project.* Check out the website <https://volunteervictoria.bc.ca/youthprograms/> or email for more information at [julia@volunteervictoria.bc.ca](mailto:julia@volunteervictoria.bc.ca)

**Religion Department**

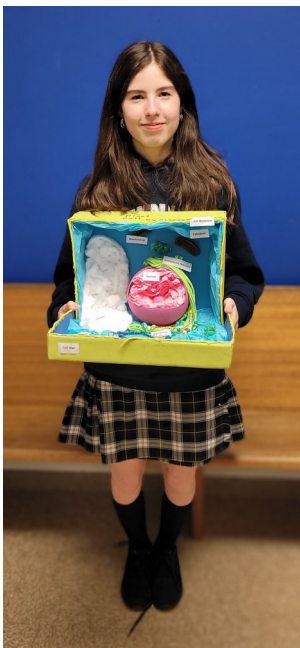
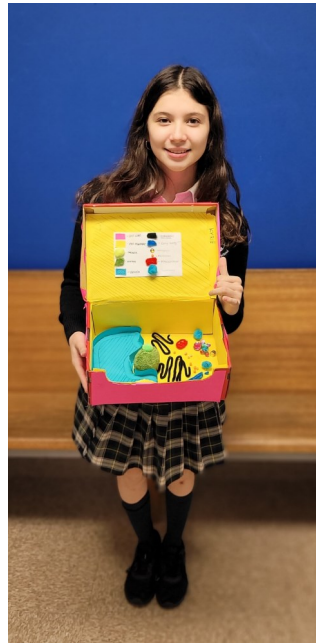
Grade 11 students recently visited our school chapel to contemplate God’s personal love — the foundation of our faith. This is our inspiration to ‘Build in Love’ at St. Andrew’s!





# Science Department

Our grade eight students have been busy creating and making their cell projects. Check them out!



SCIENCE  
RULES

## Local School Council

40th Anniversary of St. Andrew's first graduating class is in 2024. We are striking a planning committee to celebrate this great occasion. If you are interested in helping to plan this event we will be having a meeting in January please reach out to Angela at [angelagrohovac@gmail.com](mailto:angelagrohovac@gmail.com)

## Sports Parents Committee

Many thanks to the St. Patrick's CWL, they invited our athletic department to work their Kidszone at their annual bizarre. It was with much gratitude that we accepted \$1000 at their volunteer appreciation evening. Thank you to all who supported our Purdy's fundraiser. Enjoy your chocolate and our athletic department will be thankful.

## Grad Parent Corner!

### Grad Winter Formal!

When: Saturday, January 27th, 2024 from 6pm - 10:30pm

Where: Olympic View Golf Club, 643 Latoria Road

Host: Parent Grad Committee

The cost of the event is \$90 per attendee, payable to [angelaleslie@shaw.ca](mailto:angelaleslie@shaw.ca) by e-transfer. You must RSVP to Angela by December 13th

Please provide the following information when you RSVP and e-transfer. There is financial assistance if needed. Family and student raised funds for after grad activities may be accessed if necessary. Please send an email to [sarhs@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:sarhs@cisdv.bc.ca)







## From the SARHS Music Dept.

Congratulations to all St. Andrew's Singers, Concert, and Jazz Band students on a fabulous Coffee House evening on November 15th!!

Your performances were outstanding and it was an added bonus to have our superintendent, Mr. Rossetti, perform some great tunes as well! Special thanks to our parent co-ordinator, Anna Zidek, and all parents who helped out with this event.

### Hire-a-Choir - Dec. 8th/9th

Are you having a Christmas party this year? Looking to up your 'festive factor'? Why not hire St. Andrew's Singers to provide live music for your party! For a suggested donation of \$50, you can hire the choir to entertain your family and guests with fun, festive tunes that remind us of the reason for the season! Book now while there is still availability: [poreilly@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:poreilly@cisdv.bc.ca)

**Advent Carol Concert and Raffle - Dec. 20th, 7pm\*\*** (Please note that 7pm is the correct time, NOT 6:30pm as on the calendar)

Our Advent Carol Concert will be taking place on Wed, Dec. 20th at 7pm in the school gym.

Come celebrate the reason for the season with readings & music by St. Andrew's Singers, Concert Band, and Jazz Band students. We will also have our annual Advent raffle featuring gift baskets of chocolate, spa items, movie night, and more! Buy your tickets next week from any Music student for only \$2 and get your chance to win these amazing baskets at the Advent Concert. All are welcome to join us on the 20th!

### Important Dates

Dec. 5th - Advent Mass (Choir - I I am at Sacred Heart Church)

Dec. 8th/9th - Hire-a-Choir (times TBA)

Dec. 20th - Advent Carol Concert (7pm in the gym - all groups)

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION



PE 9 students had a refreshing walk in nature this week, stopping to play some mini-games along the way.





# SARHS Parent Support Group

Thank you for helping us help our school!

## Meet the PSG Board

Connect with us at [sarhs-psg@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:sarhs-psg@cisdv.bc.ca)



**Linda  
Fodchuk**  
President



**Mia  
Curtis**  
Vice-President



**Brenda  
Moranchel**  
Secretary



**Stephanie  
Kilner**  
Treasurer



**Francis  
Camaraire**  
Member at Large



**Maria  
Giorgi**  
Member at Large



**Peggy  
Farah**  
Member at Large



**Fausto  
Giorgi**  
Member at Large



**Maria  
Weeks**  
Member at Large



**Alejandra  
Trindade**  
Member at Large

A BIG thank you to Mr. McLaverty, Rosa, Valentina, LSC, Student Council and Music, Sports, and After Grad reps. who keep us informed and help us make decisions.

## Your PSG Supports...

Grade 8  
Orientation  
Breakfast

Meet the Staff  
Night

Hot Lunch

Parent Education  
Events

Student Council  
Activities

Music and Sports

Island Catholic  
Schools SARHS  
Open House

Student  
Scholarships

and School  
Community  
Legacy Requests

**THANK YOU  
for supporting  
our school  
Hot Lunch,  
Paradise Island  
Cheese, and  
Big Box Cards  
fundraising  
programs!**

## MERRY CHRISTMAS! FROM OUR FAMILIES TO YOURS.

The gift of love. The gift of peace. The gift of happiness. May all these be yours this Christmas and in 2024! **For volunteer opportunities in December and January, contact the PSG at [sarhs-psg@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:sarhs-psg@cisdv.bc.ca)**



## PARENT SUPPORT GROUP: Volunteer Opportunities

**“Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else’s help.” – Heather French Henry**

### Parent Support Group

The PSG is a volunteer group of parents who assists school administration, teachers, and students in building the amazing community that is St. Andrew’s High School!

PSG meetings are held once a month.

Attending a PSG meeting counts as one hour towards each parent’s school commitment of 10 hours of volunteer time.

*[Join us for our next meeting!](#)*

**Wednesday, December 6th, 7 p.m., in the school library**

Your contribution to the PSG will make a big difference at our school!

# Sabres Sports

## ***Congratulations to our St. Andrew's Swim Team!***

The four athletes from our school went to the BC School Sports Aquatics Provincial Championship. They placed in the following categories:

**200 Medley Relay:** 4th place

**400 Freestyle Relay:** 6th place

**Rubin Lee** 100 m backstroke, 10th place

**Alex Camaraire** 100 m freestyle, 3rd place and bronze medal

We are proud of these young athletes who get up very early for training multiple times a week. Way to go Sabres!





## Around the Diocese and community

1) The Bishop's Appeal, Tapestry of Faith, is still accepting 2023 donations. Please consider making a financial commitment to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Not only are you helping our parish, but you are making a real difference to our greater Diocesan faith community, our religious leaders, and Local Mission Parishes. Donations may be made on-line at: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal>

2) The Centre for Christian Engagement at St. Mark's College at UBC has shared videos of two talks they hosted this year:

- Super, Natural Vancouver - Christian Mission and Witness in a Secular Age with Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLBFTKP4v8E>

- Laudato Si' in a Time of Global Disruption: Francis and Politics with Dr. Massimo Faggioli: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nyosDT3qdk>

3) Star of the North Retreat Centre has shared a video of "Rite Relations: Developments in Indigenous Catholic Leadership and Unity". The presenter of this talk, which they hosted earlier in the year, is Noah MacDonald - a Canon Lawyer with the Archdiocese of Toronto, a proud Anishinaabe member of Michipicoten First Nation, and an advocate for the rights and leadership of Indigenous Catholics. To view the video, please visit <https://vimeo.com/starofthenorth/rite-relations?share=copy> and enter the password "Star".

4) On January 5 & 6 2024, the Diocesan liturgical conference "The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God" will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Victoria. This free conference is an opportunity to enter into a richer experience of the Trinity in our Eucharistic Celebrations, and will be valuable both for those who serve in liturgical ministries and those who participate in the assembly. The presenters will be Dr. Glenn Byer and Dr. David Pitt, liturgical and musical educators at Catholic colleges in the U.S. The workshop will run Friday, January 5 from 7 - 9:30 pm and Saturday, January 6 from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. For more information and to register please visit <https://EpiphanyLiturgyConference.eventbrite.com>; for assistance in registering, please email [mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org) or call 250-479-1331 ext 227.

# December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>Week</u> <u>ABCD</u>					1 Day 2  Gr. 7 Shadow Day	2
3 <u>Week</u> <u>BADC</u> First Sunday in Advent	4 Day 1	5 Day 2 <b>5 Block Day</b> Advent Mass	6 Day 1  Staff Meeting 2:15pm		8 Day 1  Hire-a-choir	9  Hire-a-choir
10 <u>Week</u> <u>CDAB</u>	11 Day 2  Young Entrepreneurs Show (Bring cash)	12 Day 1	13 Day 2	14 Day 1	15 Day 2	16
17 <u>Week</u> <u>DCBA</u>	18 Day 1  TAG Door decorat- ing	19 Day 2	20 Day 1  Dept Mtg.  Advent Carol Service 7 pm	21 Day 2  Interim Reports  Locker Clean Up	22 Day 1  SVdP Assembly PA Gingerbread House Contest / <b>school closes 12</b>	23
24	25 	26	27	28	29	30
School Closed for Christmas Holidays December 23—January 8, 2024						
31						