

MSA

Blue & White

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | FALL 2013



Principal's Message *from Sue Moench*

This past summer I spent a great deal of my time living "in the moment." I gave myself the liberty of allowing my mind to wander and think about how our learning community can be its best. I thought about the path of incredible change that we have travelled over the past few years. It has been one in which we have embraced what was possible, and one that has allowed us to live the reality of a transformed school.

MSA has spent the past five years meeting the challenges of adopting a new curriculum after recognizing that we must meet the educational needs of our learning community now and in the future. We have had to release the familiar and accept uncharted challenges as a means of moving forward in providing the best educational opportunities for the learners entrusted in our care. While our journey has been arduous at times, we are beginning to arrive at a place of great

renewal. The commitment to providing excellence in education will remain our roadmap and will allow us to use our traditions to honor our past, to tout our current successes to recognize what we have accomplished, and to embrace opportunities to prepare for what is possible.

As we began this school year, there has been a great sense of renewal and purpose at MSA.

Our staff and students have come back refreshed and ready to tackle the challenges of a curriculum that will allow learners to take risks and apply skills repeatedly to achieve mastery, while being provided with both nurturing and supportive feedback. We are in the learner's "court" and we believe in their capacity and celebrate their efforts along their educational journey. After all, while there will always be a formal ending point, the

purpose of learning is growth and development.

It has certainly been a purposeful journey of learning and development for MSA over the past few years, and one that reminds me of a quote by Peter Senge, author, researcher and educator, at Massachusetts Institute of Technology: "You cannot have a learning organization without a shared vision... as shared visions provide a compass to keep learning on course when stress develops."

Our shared vision at MSA is to provide the highest quality education in a caring, Christian environment to produce the Island's most well-rounded learners. With the support of our Board of Governors, administration, faculty, staff, parents, and students we will continue to pursue the challenges of meeting this vision to give our learners educational advantages that will position them for success in our global economy.

MSA in the News

Learning Locally, Excelling Globally

Walking into the grade one classroom at Mount Saint Agnes Academy (MSA) feels a bit like stumbling into a budding startup company. Colorful pictures don the walls, while students gather excitedly around the SMART Board, as one of their peers manipulates colorful shapes to create a pattern. With her right index finger, she slides the blue triangle next to the green circle, completing the ten-item row. Applause resounds from the onlookers and the room feels more like a brainstorming meeting in which the idea for Facebook was created, than the chalkboard lectures of yesteryear.

And that is because the learning does focus on a collaborative approach, one in which the students are encouraged, through inquiry, to problem solve. It is a style in which the way the child thinks is just as important, if not more, as the content he or she is taught.

Using the Alberta Curriculum, one of the World's leading internationally recognized systems of learning, MSA's student-centered approach ensures a global education in which students develop to the best of their abilities. The curriculum truly is global with accredited international schools in China, Hong Kong, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, and Mexico.

More impressive, however, than the countries in which the curriculum is now taught are the student results: in the test results of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), which is administered by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Alberta placed top in reading, science and math out of 65 countries.

MSA's curriculum is based on the philosophy that students must be problem solvers, community citizens and global thinkers. While it has always remained dedicated to offering a "faith-based, values-added education," MSA serves to deliver on its new curriculum's philosophy through smaller class sizes from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

The intellectual, social, and emotional development that MSA's students receive is consistent from Elementary to High School. In fact, it is the only school on the island to offer a continuous curriculum, which culminates in its graduates receiving the Alberta High School Diploma. In its first year of accreditation, 97 percent of the 2013 class successfully completed it.

Mount Saint Agnes Academy has been committed to developing the whole child for 124 years since the Sisters of Charity arrived on the island in 1890. While it has maintained its strong Christian identity through faith and learning, MSA has adapted to serve students for the demands they will face in today and tomorrow's society. As an Alberta Accredited International School, MSA is allowing students to learn locally and excel globally.



2012-13 YEAR WRAPS UP!

End of Year Awards

General Excellence

Grade 6: Julia Pimentel
Grade 7: Miranda Araujo
Grade 8: Blair Smyth
Grade 9: Meagan Stecko
Grade 10: Alyssa Cardoso
Grade 11: Ciara Rego
Grade 12: Nicole Pimentel

Incentive Award

Grade 7: Colin McCue
Grade 8: Laryssa Teixeira
Grade 10: Ryan De Melo
Grade 11: Steven Moniz

Joan McPhee/Susan McPhee-Rhind Award for Dedication: *Evin Mosley*
Jason McCoy Award for Music: *Stephen Corrado*
John DaCosta Award Grade 7: *Miranda Araujo*
John DaCosta Award Grade 10: *Alyssa Cardoso*
Sandy Johnson Memorial Plaque for Improvement in Literacy: *Cassidy Johnson*
Sandy Johnson Memorial Shield for Excellence in a Foreign Language: *Meagan Stecko & Luke Pimentel*
William DeSilva Sr. Award: *Evin Mosley*
Rose E. Soares/Joseph S. Marirea Scholarship: *Ciara Rego*
Mark Lightbourn Shield: *Sophia Fortuna & Grade 9*
Toby Colombe Sporting Excellence Scholarship: *James Amaral*
Physical Education Fitness Award: *Malik Joell*

Class of 2013

Samantha Armano
*The Huntley School of Equitation in
Gloucester, England*

Caitlin Bean
Nottingham-Trent University, UK

Heather Blee
Royal Academy of Dance, UK

Shelby Camara
Bermuda College

Kaelyn Castle
Music career

Nicholas Coelho
Saint Mary's University, Canada

Phillip Couto
Bermuda College

Ashton Dean
New England Institute of Technology

Dylan DeSilva
BELCO Apprenticeship Programme

Rachel Fox
Winston Salem University

Tarae Fox
Bermuda College

Dimitri Frias
Richmond University, Leeds

Landery Gosserand
University of Kansas

Frederick Lee
Bermuda College

Xana Lima
Bermuda College

Matteo Lombardi
*University of Prince Edward Island,
Canada*

Tyler Lopes
Holland to Work, Showjumping

Solomon Ming
Working

Jeremiah Monk
University of Liverpool

Courtney Monkman
Saint Leo University, Florida

Cameron Moulder
Bermuda College

Caitlind Outerbridge
Bermuda College

Nicole Pimentel
*King's University College at
Western University*

Ryan Resendes
Working

Kneiko Richardson
Bermuda College

Eric Rocha
Bermuda College

Rachel Soares
University of the West of England (Bristol)

Brandon Sousa
Nottingham-Trent University

Peter Sousa
Dalhousie University

Shannon Stearns
Nottingham-Trent University

Zachary Stecko
Niagara College

Melissa Tatem-Samson
Bermuda College

Maiia White
Miami Dade College, Florida



Graduation Awards:

Nicholl Shield - Valedictorian: *Heather Blee*

Most Rev. Bishop Murphy Shield - Salutatorian: *Nicole Pimentel*

Robert Gullon Memorial Shield for Heart: *Phillip Couto*

Rev. Deacon Edward Outerbridge Shield

for Outstanding Christian Values: *Nicole Pimentel*

Jeffrey Castro Shield: *Kneiko Richardson*

Home and School Association Award

for Outstanding School Spirit: *Phillip Couto*

Board of Governors Incentive Award: *Solomon Ming*

Rollo Sullivan Award: *Heather Blee*

Bentley-Doyle Award for Excellence and Commitment to

Sports: *Rachel Fox & Phillip Couto*

Gail McCallum Kneisler Angel on Earth Award: *Shelby Camara*

Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bermuda

Outstanding Student Award: *Nicole Pimentel*

HSBC Recruit Extraordinary People Program Award: *Rachel Soares*

Deloitte Award: *Heather Blee*

PriceWaterhouseCoopers Bermuda Headstart Award of
Excellence: *Nicole Pimentel*

Ernst & Young Values Award: *Xana Lima*

BELCO Math Achievement Award: *Peter Sousa*

Service Award St. Patrick's Church: *Heather Blee & Nicole
Pimentel*

Service Award Radnor Road Christian Fellowship: *Rachel Fox*

The Unsung Hero Shield: *Xana Lima*

Comic Life BAZAAR

Thirty-eight thousand and thirty. That's the (conservative) estimate of the number of manpower hours it took to make this year's Mount Saint Agnes Academy Bazaar successful. That's the effort of one person working 10-hours per day for 10 years.

Fortunately, many hands make light work. And while superheroes were present at MSA's "Comic Life" Bazaar, it took the concerted effort of a community of students, parents, faculty, staff, alumni and friends to ensure that this event continued its legacy as the oldest, continuous fair on the Island still in existence.



The Fair, as it was originally known, started with the inception of Mount Saint Agnes Academy in 1890. It was more of an arts and crafts fair by the Sisters of Charity than the cotton-candy-serving-fun-filled-raffle-drawing fundraiser of today.

In fact, it has evolved to become the largest fundraiser for MSA. This year it netted more than \$100,000 in raffle sales before the Bishop formally blessed and announced the opening of the Bazaar on October 18th. These funds will be used to assist the school in its mission to provide the highest quality education in a caring, Christian environment.

While the economy has been slow and people are willing to forego more elastic goods such as raffle tickets, they were an

easier sell when people saw the prizes, which ranged from a Kia Rio Hatchback (leather seats, anyone?), to a family trip to Universal Studios, to ten \$1,000 grocery vouchers. The risk was certainly worth the reward. Just ask the winners!



CURRICULUM CORNER

Tony Makowski, Curriculum Coordinator

One of the most satisfying aspects of my job is going into classrooms and witnessing firsthand the excellent teaching and learning that is occurring on a daily basis. We are fortunate to have adopted a curriculum that is student-centered, one that promotes student reflection, collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving. This approach leads to increased understanding and the ability to synthesize, analyze and evaluate information more effectively.

In the classroom, this translates into lessons that are activity-based and students who are fully engaged in a guided discovery process. Whether it involves Kindergarten children sorting and classifying seashells, as part of an early numeracy lesson, or a high school class debating individual and collective rights in contemporary society, our students are attaining important skills, attitudes and values. They are also gaining a strong foundation that will enable them to be contributing members of a society that is becoming increasingly complex and a world that is ever-changing.



Summer Days

Students' Determination Pays Off with Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme was started in 1956 and now operates in 60 countries. The Award has been running in Bermuda for over 30 years. The Award offers young people a challenge to develop wholly through a balanced program in which they are encouraged to serve others, acquire new skills, and experience adventure. The Award is not competitive and anyone with strong initiative and determination can earn the award. MSA has many Award holders at the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. This year, we had several students receive both Bronze and Silver Awards at our High School Assembly on 25th November. The awards will be presented by the newly-appointed Director of the Duke of Edinburgh Bermuda Award Scheme, Mrs. Traci Burgess.



Bronze Awardees:

James Amaral
Susanna Armano
Victoria de Frias
Danielle James
Karen Marino
Sage Outerbridge
Shannon Wade
Alyssa Cardoso
Meagan Stecko
Lyndsey Arorash

Silver Awardees:

Brandon Sousa
Luis Correia

This past summer three MSA students successfully completed their Gold Expedition in Germany.

Gold Awardees:

Brandon Sousa
Michelle De Costa
Aaron Trimm

Congratulations to all!

SAINTS EXCEL IN SUMMER SPORTS



While our very own teacher, Erika Bove, was busy winning two Gold Medals in the women's tennis of the NatWest Island Games, we had several MSA students representing Bermuda internationally in basketball and sailing.



Participating in the Global Cup in Orlando, Florida, were eight MSA students out of a total of 50!

Those proudly representing Bermuda and MSA were:

U16 Bermuda National Team: Matthew Amaral, Evin Mosley, Sean Peniston (Grade 11)
U14 Bermuda National Team: Zachary Johnson (Grade 9)
U12 Bermuda National Team: Caelin Peters, Kobie Reid, and Tristan Rocha (Grades 7 and 8)
U14 Bermuda National Team Girls: Caroline Amaral (Grade 7)

In sailing, James Amaral competed in the Junior Olympics in the Laser Radial class, sailing out of the Rochester Yacht Club in New York. Well done to our fantastic student ambassadors and athletes!

Chairman's Report

by Garry Maderios, OBE, JP, FCA

How quickly time flies, the first three months of the school year have already been completed. The Bazaar has been concluded and we are fortunate to have it be another success. Thank you to all who participated or contributed in any way. A lot of work and organizing is done by a few for the benefit of all. For those of you who were involved, your efforts have not gone unnoticed. Also, a great well done to the students, whose pre-sale of raffle tickets far exceeded last year's sales. The importance of the event from the perspective of community, fund raising and stakeholder bonding cannot be overstated.

This summer a number of enhancements were undertaken to improve the infrastructure and the education process. The main one was the locker room renovation project, which commenced on the last day of school in June, and was completed just before school started in September. The old facility, which was original from the opening of the school in 1967, was in dire need of upgrading. It also provided security and supervising issues, since the bath and changing rooms were one floor above and away from the gymnasium where the PE teachers were with classes. New girls and boys changing rooms, including showers and bathrooms, have been constructed downstairs in the new section that was added onto the gymnasium. The old facilities upstairs have been converted into a new Guidance Counselor's office, a meeting room and a large multi-use room. In addition, two new bathrooms were constructed across from the balcony of the auditorium. This project was funded by monies raised from our successful Capital Campaign, Investing Together for Tomorrow, which had a goal of \$5,000,000, received pledges of \$5,281,698 and collected cash to date of \$5,125,448.

Some of the smaller projects completed were the construction of a ramp for wheelchair access to the auditorium, the installation of new

bleachers in the gymnasium, and the installation of a new clock and bell system throughout the school.

Two Board members stepped off the Board at the end of the last school year; Steven Antonition after six years and Susan Patschak after four years. During his tenure Steven served in the Technology, Bursaries, and Academic committees and was Chair of the last two committees for five years. Susan served on the Academic committee, chaired the Enrollment committee in its inaugural year and was Deputy Chair of the Board. They were dedicated to the mission of MSA and worked tirelessly in progressing its objectives and goals. They graciously and voluntarily gave up their time, energy and skills for the school and the MSA family. On behalf of the Board, and the entire MSA community, I extend gratitude, thanks and appreciation for all of their support, contribution and commitment made during their terms.

It is with great pleasure that I announce the four new appointed Board members: William DeSilva Jr. and Janice Gutteridge, both Bishop's appointees, and Greg Rymon-Lipinski and Joe Amaral, both Home & School Association appointees. Willie, who is a graduate of MSA, class of '79, finished three two-year terms in August 2010, and hence has been off the Board for three years. During his initial tenure he served in many leadership positions and, because of this experience, is now the Deputy Chair of the Board and Chair of the Enrollment committee. Willie is a Fellow Certified Management Accountant and holds a Business Administration degree from Saint Francis Xavier University. He has extensive business experience and is President and CEO of Even Par Limited. Janice Gutteridge, who attended MSA from K – 10, completing her secondary education at boarding school, is a lawyer, an associate in the Corporate Department of Cox Hallet Wilkinson Limited. Her legal experience, as well as her knowledge and experience with

Trusts, will be an asset. She has a Bachelor of Law (Honours) degree from the University of Essex. Greg Rymon-Lipinski is a Chartered Accountant with a Bachelor of Commerce degree with Honors (First Class) from the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. He has been in Bermuda since 2001 and has 16 years of accounting and auditing experience, as well as significant financial services experience, with specific focus on the (re)insurance industry. Greg is Vice President - Financial Reporting at Axis Capital.

Joe Amaral is a Chartered Mechanical Engineer and has an insurance designation of CPCU. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours, Mechanical Engineering, from Queen's University. He is presently Claims Manager, Oil Management Services Ltd., where he has worked for the past seven years. Previously, Joe served as the Systems Control Manager at BELCO for 15 years.

The Officers of the Board for this year are Garry Madeiros, Chairman, William DeSilva, Deputy Chairman, Michael Smyth, Treasurer, and Colleen Sinclair, Secretary.

Bermuda's economic challenges since 2008 have had a major impact on private education. The effects are seen in enrollment numbers, tuition collections and funding. We have a constant need for additional funding to ensure that we deliver the best educational product. Therefore, MSA will be implementing an Annual Giving program which will raise funds to support the school's operating budget, enhance the school programs, increase bursary opportunities and support extra-curricular activities. The official kickoff will be in the next two months. We look forward to connecting with you soon. Thank you for your continued support.

NEW CHANGE RIGHT ON TIME!

Mount Saint Agnes Academy was abuzz this summer, but this time with workers diligently plying their skills to ensure some wonderful new changes at the school grounds. Two beautiful and spacious change rooms, which include bathrooms and private showers are a welcome improvement to the gym. The existing change rooms were converted into an office/resource center for the Guidance Department and two multi-purpose meeting rooms. Additionally, new bleachers were installed, the gym was refinished, two auditorium bathrooms were added, a wheelchair accessible ramp to Kindergarten, Grade 1, and the Auditorium was built, and Woodmont was painted to match the school's color! Furthermore, with the addition of a new Synchronized Clock and Bell System, the transition of students from class to class is as seamless as were the renovations!

The team at F. Lewis Maintenance did a fantastic job, staying on schedule even after multiple changes were made. The end result is that MSA now has a facility that meets its existing and future needs. Special thanks to Ricky Mallory, Malcolm Wilson, F. Lewis Maintenance and their crew, Nusum Electric, After-hours Plumbing, LG Drywall, Grey & Company, Island Glass, Pembroke Tile, Aptech Granite & Marble Ltd, Island Carpets & Vinyl Floors, Selectron Ltd., Hussey Bleachers, EZ Presentations Ltd., Signworx, A.D.L. Moniz General Painting and Maintenance, and Baptist Builders Supply.

ADDITIONS TO THE MSA FAMILY



Selena Mello, High School English Language Arts & Social Studies

I am Bermudian born and bred, and took some time before finding my way to teaching. I am a former MSA student, and graduated from Hawaii Pacific University with a BSc in Accounting and a MBA in Finance. After entering into a career of accounting at PriceWaterhouseCoopers, it didn't take me long to realize that the office wasn't the right fit for my personality and, thus, following three short years of late night financial statement audits, I found myself as the Aquatics Director at Sandys 360.

It was there that my passion for teaching was ignited. I realized that it was more the teaching than being in the water that really excited me. So off I went (not on the actual trail) to Oregon to obtain a Masters in Teaching. There I taught Kindergarten and became a licensed teacher. I taught for a year at Purvis Primary, and when my current position at MSA was advertised, I jumped at the opportunity. It's great to feel like I'm home again, and it's fantastic to see the buzz from students learning.



Christopher Tannock, High School Social Studies

I am very happy to re-join the Mount Saint Agnes family and will be teaching Social Studies. I have been teaching for eight years. Prior to MSA, I was at The Berkeley Institute where I taught several different Social Studies courses. My particular love is History, but I hold admiration and respect for all of the social sciences, especially in terms of Bermuda's history and culture.

I attended Hampton University (HU) in Virginia. It was there, in conjunction with the University of Bath and Oxford College, I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in 2004. I continued my education at HU to earn a Masters in Teaching and a Teaching Certification in 2005. I attended MSA from grades four to twelve. It wasn't until after High School that I quickly came to appreciate how well Mount Saint Agnes prepared me not only for university, but for life after education.

I want to thank everyone within the school for welcoming and helping me as I adjust to the curriculum and students. I look forward to continuing to grow and learn as a professional and as a member of the Mount Saint Agnes family.



Meghan Tatem, Grade 1

I began my teaching experience instructing swimming to all age groups through Aquamania Swimming. This led me to pursue an Early Childhood Education Degree from Lynn University. At Lynn, I found that I really enjoyed working with the younger grade levels; and I learned how to teach a variety of student abilities. Upon graduation, I began substitute teaching at various schools on the island, including my first local position at BHS in P2 (Gr. 1). I am enjoying being back at MSA and in Grade 1 where I hope to continue my career!

I became a teacher because I love working with children. It took many years for me to realize what I wanted to do with my life, but when I did I accomplished much more than I imagined I could. This helped me to understand that being a teacher is about encouraging students to be the best that they can be academically, while also realizing how important it is to reach the variety of levels and personalities in class because every student learns differently. Being back at MSA feels surreal, but it's also a fantastic feeling. I attended MSA from K-12 and it's great to be a part of the MSA family again!



Aaryn Cimino, High School English Language Arts

I am from Calgary, Alberta, Canada, so it is wonderful to be here on the more temperate island of Bermuda. I am in my fifth year of teaching English Literature at the High School level. I have taught Grades 10 – 12, and I have also taught English as a Second Language to adults in Canada and Brazil.

Beyond the English Language Arts, I teach Yoga. I was certified in Nasik, India. Outside of school I swim, hike, snowboard, skate, practice Yoga, and explore International Film.

I am very grateful to be a part of MSA – it is a great community of caring and supportive teachers and students.

MSA HAPPENINGS

Grandparents' and Grandfriends' Mass

On Friday, September 6th, Mount Saint Agnes Academy celebrated a Grandparents' and Grandfriends' Mass at St. Theresa's Cathedral, followed by a reception in the church hall. Grandparents and Grandfriends were then invited to stop by the school to visit their grandchildren in the classroom!



High School Dance Cruise

Hosted by the Student Council, the 2013 High School Dance Cruise saw MSA students dancing the night away aboard the MV Elizabeth. A wonderful time was had by all, including faculty and staff!

Youth Harvesting Initiative

On October 9th and 10th, eleven Mount Saint Agnes students participated in the 5th Annual XL Youth Harvesting Conference, "Putting the YOU in University," at the XL Building. Over 60 students from senior schools across the island were split into five teams based on their career interests, which included education, health, hospitality, business and international player recruitment. This year's conference assigned teams with specific tasks related to the "Little Mo' Internationals" tennis tournament, which will be held in Bermuda next year. Teams had just over eight hours to prepare a 10-minute business plan presentation to the 12-person panel of judges. MSA participants were Brandon Sousa, Amber Reid, Matthew Amaral, Evin Mosley, Sean Peniston, Lauritz Schwarz, Karen Marino, Taala Somner, Keira Whited, James Amaral and Savannah Staines.

Spirit Day

This year's Student Council Leadership hosted Spirit Day at the beginning of the school year in order to initiate the Grade 9 students into High School. The day consisted of an adventure course on the field and relay races between the Houses in the gym. Congratulations to the Student Council for a stellar start to the year!



Ring Mass

"Accompany each other on the journey." That was the message delivered by Father Paul Voisin to Mount Saint Agnes Academy seniors at the Ring Mass at St. Theresa's cathedral. Surrounded by faculty, staff, parents, family, and friends, the twelfth grade class received their rings after having them blessed by the Cathedral's Rector.



While class rings have long adorned the hands of MSA graduates ("well over 55 years ago," according to former Principal Sister Judith), it was not until 1977 when the Ring Mass tradition of having the rings blessed and distributed began. The Mass served, and serves, as the opening liturgy for the beginning of the school year, a celebration of the year to come.

The rings symbolize unity, a joining together of the senior class in a journey that will see them through their final year at MSA. They are also a source of inspiration for future successes, and provide a focus for reflection about the past, one rooted in the ideals of faith, loyalty, and truth.

For some seniors, the reception following mass is a critical aspect of the Ring Mass tradition. Here, they share in cake and punch with their classmates, family, and friends...but most importantly they go around and have people turn their rings for good luck. So far, it's been working well for MSA graduates!

Speak Out Workshop

On September 25th, all High School students participated in a half-day Speak Out Conference at the school. These student-led forums were small group discussions that have been designed by Alberta Education to listen to what students would like changed in the classroom. At our Speak Out Conference, MSA students heard some inspirational messages, participated in several team-building activities and were invited to talk about their educational experience. Students talked about their learning styles, what is working for them, and what they would like to see happen in schools. In small groups, students spent time discussing questions about their educational experience and eventually voted on two top ideas for each question on how to improve it. The results of these deliberations were shared with staff and forwarded to Alberta Education. The Speak Out Workshop is an important initiative because it helps MSA figure out how to best serve its students.



St. Francis of Assisi Prayer Service

On October 4th, Grades K – 5 attended a prayer service in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. Two live animals, Rambo and Mindy, were present for a blessing from Father Joseph Morley, who led the service. At the end of the service, Father Morley blessed all those who had brought photos of their pets. These photos were then displayed on a bulletin board in the school hallway. In a wonderful display of unity, the students sang "Let There Be Peace on Earth" on the field, where David Lopes released white doves into the sky. It was a truly beautiful service. Special thanks to Mrs. Boyle for organizing, and to David Lopes for the doves.

Movember Mo' Bros

The desks and halls of Mount Saint Agnes Academy took on a new dimension as the faculty, staff, and High School Boys participated in Movember to raise awareness about men's health, both locally and globally. Make it worth all their teasing by supporting the team. Go to www.movember.bm to donate toward this worthy cause!



Canadian Universities Tour

During the fall break, fourteen Mount Saint Agnes juniors and seniors participated in a Canadian Universities Tour, which saw them, along with chaperones, Mrs. White and Mrs. Exell, travel from the Maritime Provinces up to Ontario, visiting over twenty Universities and Colleges. The Universities and Colleges on the tours included:

Nova Scotia:

Dalhousie University, Acadia University, Mount Saint Vincent University, St. Mary's University, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design

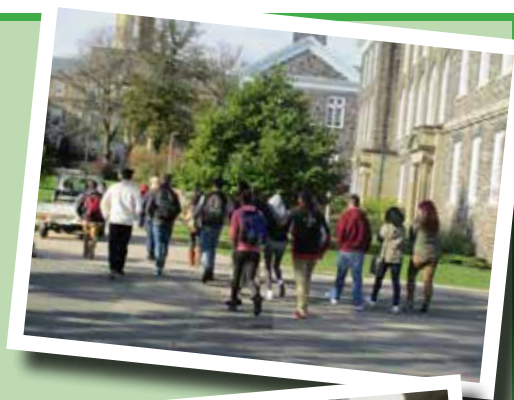
New Brunswick:

Mount Allison University, St. Thomas University, University of New Brunswick, Holland College

Ontario:

Western University, Kings University College, Prince Edward Island University, University of Toronto Mississauga and University of Toronto St. George Campus, York University, Humber College, Seneca, McMaster University, University of Guelph, Brock University, Niagara College, University of Waterloo, Sir Wilfred Laurier University.

The five past Canadian Universities tours have been a huge success. Students find it a rewarding experience, while they unanimously agree that the visits have helped them decide which University or College would be the best fit for them. The tours enable students to compare campuses, programs, residences and other services, all factors that are critical to making the important decision for higher education.



Halloween Parade

Despite the unceasing rain, the Halloween Parade continued its tradition, taking place instead in the auditorium. Astronauts, to princesses, to cowboys, to dancers were led in the procession by bagpiper Joel Cassidy, who has been leading the procession for over thirty years!



Greatest Variety of Sports Offerings in MSA History

Over the last few years, the Athletics Department has strategically and consistently improved the offerings at the Elementary and Middle School levels, while maintaining its High School program. The Athletics Department is pleased to announce that this 2013/2014 academic year, it is currently offering the largest variety of sporting opportunities in Mount Saint Agnes' history. Although MSA is unable to offer a few select sports due to its limited pool of students, the Athletics Department would like to applaud the collective efforts of faculty, staff, parents, and other volunteers who are contributing to the education of the whole child.

Student Spotlight

Premier for the Bermuda Youth Parliament Kennedy Middleton

"If I can't offer an alternative to an issue, I like to keep quiet." That's the sentiment of Mount Saint Agnes Academy senior, Kennedy Middleton, who has been a member of the Bermuda Youth Parliament for the past three years.

Fortunately, she's full of positive ideas about how to tackle the issues facing Bermuda today. When the Youth Parliament reconvened in October, Kennedy was elected as Premier of Youth Government. In her role, she ultimately serves as the face of Youth Parliament and is responsible for leading the Government, which involves preparing her team for debates against the Opposition.

The Bermuda Youth Parliament is more than just a space for its 30 members to debate how to resolve Bermuda's current challenges. It is also a vehicle through which proposals can be constructed, reviewed, and passed onto the House of Assembly. For example, their latest proposal discusses the implementation of a marine reserve in Bermuda's Exclusive Economic Zone.

A strong desire to ensure that everyone is treated equally and fairly has underpinned Kennedy's desire to be heavily involved in Youth Parliament. "I want to understand the way certain choices have historically led



to negative outcomes for some, and would like to change the way we do things so that the results are positive for everyone," she said.

"One of the most exciting aspects of being a member of the Bermuda Youth

Parliament is having the opportunity to form relationships with politicians," said the aspiring lawyer and politician. "It's a great learning experience to have such close contact with the decision-makers of Bermuda."

When asked what advice she had for other young people pursuing their passion, the Premier of the Bermuda Youth Parliament offered: "Even though times get rough, and doubt may sink in, do not let other people deter you from your dreams, because you're the one who will determine and live your future."



MSA Alumni ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014

at 5:30pm in the Senior Lunch Room

Car Rally

Sunday, February 2nd, 2014

Easter/Spring Party

Saturday, March 15th, 2014

Annual Cocktail Party

Friday, May 30th, 2014

Blue & White

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