



Principal's Message

Dear MSA Family,

As we find ourselves in the joyous season of Easter, we reflect on the blessings surrounding us. Spring brings with it not only the renewal of nature but also the renewal of our spirits, reminding us of the boundless possibilities that lie ahead.

In this edition of our newsletter, we celebrate the many achievements of our students, whose dedication and hard work continue to inspire us all. From academic success to acts of kindness and service, it's evident that the values instilled in our students are flourishing, shaping them into compassionate individuals ready to make a positive impact on the world.

We invite you to contribute to the annual appeal, as MSA has nurtured generations of bright, compassionate individuals who have gone on to become leaders in their fields. Your contributions play a vital role in sustaining the mission and vision of our beloved school, ensuring that

future generations benefit from the same enriching experiences that have shaped our community.

Let us embrace the spirit of Easter, spreading light and hope wherever we go. Together, we can continue to build a future filled with promise and possibility.

Mrs. Anna Faria-Machado



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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



What a wonderful week!

We celebrated Catholic Schools Week from January 28th - February 3rd, with daily themes and activities. Our MSA family enjoyed taking time to reflect and acknowledge the ways that Catholic education continues to enhance our lives.

While the National Catholic Schools Week celebrated community, students, the nation, vocations, faculty, staff, and volunteers, we selected additional themes to reflect our daily experience at MSA. We chose gratitude, inclusion in our MSA family, service, traditions, and legacy.

Parents and volunteers joined us for a coffee social on Tuesday morning, which was a small token of our gratitude for their invaluable contributions to MSA.

On Wednesday, our students greeted the community from the sidewalk outside the school. Our esteemed clergy attended the school on Thursday as we honored the work of the Catholic Church. Closing the week on Friday, our students enjoyed a non-uniformed day with a scavenger hunt for Elementary School and lunchtime games for Middle School.



School News



The MSA Middle School Student Council successfully raised funds to assemble 120 Spring Blessings bags for the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Loaves and Fishes Program. These bags, containing snacks and toiletries, were distributed to participants on Easter Sunday. They extend their gratitude to Butterfield & Vallis for their support in helping to fill the bags, and we thank all MSA students and parents who generously donated to this meaningful cause.

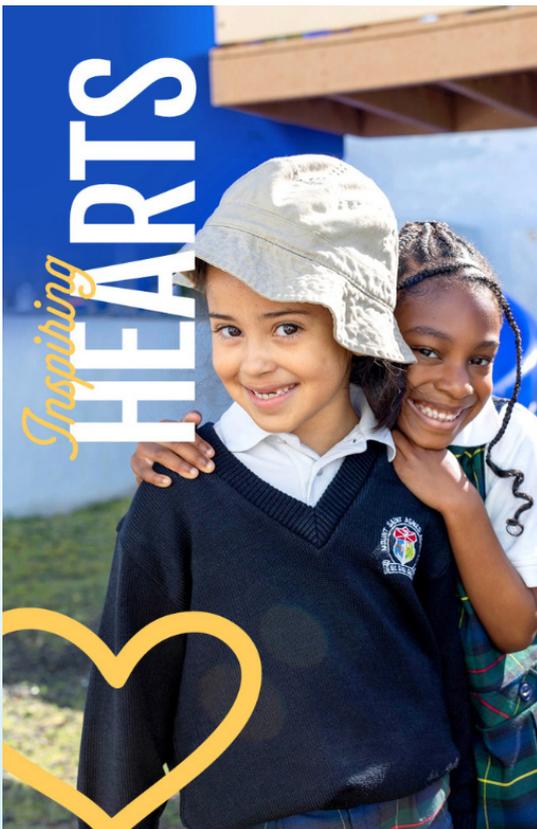
100 Days Until Graduation

In celebration of 100 days before graduation, our senior students had a delightful pizza lunch on March 18, followed by a presentation from alumna Nola Mingledorff '18. Nola is a Recruiter Consultant at Expertise Group and shared valuable insights on professional connections after graduation.



Read & Feed

For the past nine years, Mount Saint Agnes Academy students have participated in a Read and Feed Program with the mission to boost reading while rallying support to collect food donations for the Eliza Dolittle Society, for their Daily Bread Program. Students ask friends and family to sponsor them in meeting their reading goals, by contributing non-perishable food items. This year the Read and Feed drive was once again extremely successful. We collected an overwhelming amount of food items from many generous participants!



Mount Saint Agnes Academy (MSA) stands as a beacon of hope and opportunity for young minds. Since 1890, our Catholic learning community has nurtured generations of bright, compassionate individuals who go on to become leaders in their fields and pillars of our community.



Give Today
msa.bm/donate

Sports RoundUp

Cross Country

Our elementary and middle school students took part in the BSSF (Bermuda School Sports Federation) cross country competition in March. Grade 2 student Teagan Scott-Hanley came in second in the under-9 girls' race, Grade 8 student Ava Moorghen came 3rd overall in the over-13 girls' race and our boys' over-13 team placed 3rd overall in team points.

Netball

Our middle school girls formed a netball team for fun, the first netball team since Covid. They played two friendly games and won both! We look forward to more netball teams in the next season.

Touch Rugby

The middle school touch rugby team played three games this season. They won two and drew one, playing exceptionally well, considering this was their first time!

Interschool Sports

During the B.S.S.F. Interschool sports competition our high school students Stasio Raynor-Weller won 2nd place medal in High Jump and Tiago Correia won a 2nd place medal in Discus.



Every day, we witness the magic of learning unfold from our Early Learning Program through to our High School. An investment in MSA is an investment in the future of Bermuda. Our graduates are doctors, engineers, entrepreneurs, artists, and change-makers who are shaping a brighter tomorrow.

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Career Day 2024

Our annual Career Day took place on Friday, February 23. To kick off the day, our students enjoyed a dynamic presentation by alumna, Stacey Pitcher '05. Ms. Pitcher is a local accountant and coaching consultant who co-authored *Success Redefined: Secrets to Achieving Your Goals on Your Terms* with motivational speaker Jack Canfield, of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series fame.

Following our guest speaker, students spent 10-15 minutes with each of their companies of interest during bell ringer sessions in the auditorium, attended classroom sessions, and then returned to see a different set of organizations during the afternoon bell ringer sessions. Our students learned so much from the 55 organizations in attendance, which represented a variety of industries, including international business, aviation, pharmaceutical, governmental, and nonprofit. It was awesome to welcome back several of our alumni.

We are grateful to everyone who made our Career Day a “ringing” success! We were inspired by our students becoming excited as they began to visualize their future careers.



BIOS Climate Classroom

Participation in the BIOS Climate Classroom provided the grade 7 students with a rich and immersive learning experience centered around the impact of climate change on the ocean. During this visit, students learned about the impact of climate change on the ocean. They had the opportunity to use virtual reality to explore a coral reef ecosystem, learn about the effect of ocean warming on corals in an escape room and carried out chemistry experiments to model ocean acidification. The BIOS Climate Classroom experience was both inspiring and educational, empowering students to recognize their role in addressing environmental challenges and fostering a sense of stewardship towards our oceans.



Happy 134th Birthday MSA!



We marked this special occasion with some dancing in the auditorium and a whole school photo, on March 4, 2024. The Bazaar Committee provided lunch to all students and staff. We were all very grateful for this special treat. And, of course, there was a birthday cake!



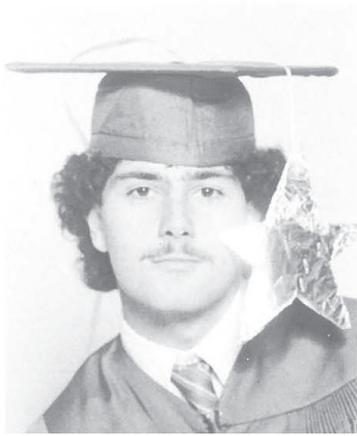
At MSA, we believe in the transformative power of education. We go beyond academics, fostering a holistic, family environment where students cultivate not just knowledge, but also character, faith, and a deep sense of social responsibility.



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“Are your donuts fresh?”



Why me?



It's Reunion Season

Hello, Class of 1984! Do you remember any of these moments? It's hard to believe that it has been 40 years since we last walked (or ran, for some of us!) around the hallways of MSA. We want to celebrate this milestone together! We are planning a series of reunion events from June 14 to June 17. To find out more or help with the planning, please email Suzanne Decouto at sdecouto@msa.bm.

Class of 1969, would love to get together to celebrate their reunion. Email Fiona Campbell at 4fionacampbell@gmail.com if you are interested!

Birth Announcements

Parents Nicola (Arnold) Pedro '04 and Jonathan Pedro '07 welcomed baby Noah Arnold Pedro into the world on Boxing Day, 2023.



Parents Chelsea (Soares) Commissiong '07 and Jordan Commissiong '10 were excited to welcome baby Devin Maya Commissiong into the world on March 19, 2024, at 3:48 am.

Parents Christopher Lopes '06 and Stephanie Lopes were happy to announce the birth of their second son Sebastian Luca Lopes on March 14, 2024. “Sebby” as his parents call him was born in Singapore weighing 8lbs 4oz. Theodore was very excited to become a big brother!

Best wishes to babies Noah, Sebby and Devin, we hope to see you at MSA one day!

In Memoriam

Steven Sousa '76 will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this challenging time. Let his memory serve as a source of comfort and strength.

If you have a birth or death announcement to share please contact sdecouto@msa.bm

ALUMNI

Dear Graduates of 1974,

Your classmates are planning a 50th (!) reunion celebration this June and would love for you to join in! Here are the details of the celebration plans so far:

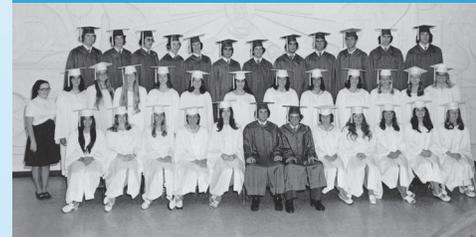
Thursday, June 27 - Attend the Graduation Mass at St. Theresa's at 11 am, followed by lunch.

Friday, June 28 - Attend the MSA Alumni Sip-n-Snack at 5:30 pm, followed by dinner.

Saturday, June 29 - The location for the Celebration Dinner will be announced soon.

Please contact Mi DeSilva at mi@logic.bm to learn more and RSVP for these important celebrations!

Best regards,
Your Classmates of 1974



Thanks, Sister, for making us artists!

Heather Kromer '76, Diana Fearis '72, and Tricia Roberts '74, contributing artists at the Dragon's Lair Gallery in St. George's, were coached by the talented and able Sr. Theophane, a petite, sweet older nun who cheerfully bore the brunt of the occasional practical joke. This early introduction to art by such a masterful artist and gentle soul has inspired all three alumnae throughout their lives, leading them to branch out and experiment with different media.

Diana's passion is 'slate art', an unexpected use of 1800s slate pieces from old Dockyard buildings. These pieces were washed overboard, found years later, and are now serving a whole new purpose!

Tricia also joined the Plein Air artists some time ago, having been encouraged by Rhona Emerson '73, another talented student of Sr. Theophane's. Tricia works mainly with acrylics, painting landscapes, ocean scenes, boats, and pet portraits.

One of the founding members of the cooperative, Heather's contribution to the gallery is her photography, although she also dabbles in graphic design and enjoys writing. She has a unique style and enjoys capturing texture, color, and shadows. She focuses more on composition, and less on the technical aspects of photography.

All three alumnae feel inspired by our island with its beauty and uniqueness and strive to share this with the many visitors, through their art. They enjoy being ambassadors for the Olde Towne and for the island of Bermuda.



Have you signed up for our Alumni Facebook page?

Scan over the QR code and sign up today!

CLICK ME!



5K Color Me Run/Walk

Get ready for our first-ever Color Me Run/Walk on Friday, May 31 at 6:00pm. The event will start and finish at the MSA courtyard. Throughout the route, at every mile, you will be showered with color powder (or you can choose not to be). At the finish line, there will be music, food vendors, a bar, and more color! The water station and goodies for the bags are sponsored by Luso and Premier Distributors. The first 200 people to register will get a white event T-shirt, perfect for a color explosion. Don't wait any longer, click on www.racedayworld.com to register now. Get those walking and running shoes ready for an exciting and colorful event.





It is all about the Art

We are excited to announce our third annual art auction, which will showcase the artwork of our talented students and alumni. We are very grateful to the MSA alumni who are donating artwork for the auction this year: Sophia Fortuna '16, Melinda Saraiva '07, Grace Edwards '12, Ayanna Peniston '21, Jasmin Simons '15, Jehkio Bean-Lightbourne '19, Rachael Antonition '10, Charis Haynes '05, and Rodrigo Lira '18. We will also have two of our teachers showcased, Mrs. Cristina Capelo and Ms Alyse Huynh.

In addition to middle and high school student artwork, for the first time, all elementary classes will participate by submitting individual pieces or a group piece. We expect there will be fierce bidding amongst parents!

New this year will be an opening night reception on May 17, from 4:30pm until 7:00pm. All auction artworks will be displayed in the MSA auditorium and artists will be on hand to talk about their pieces. We hope to see parents, alumni and friends of MSA at this event. There is no charge for this event, but drinks will be available for a donation. This will also give you the opportunity to begin bidding on the art pieces. To RSVP please sdecouto@msa.bm.

Online bids will then be accepted on our website www.msa.bm from May 20 to June 2 when the artwork will be displayed at BREW Coffeehouse on Front Street. The funds raised from this event will be used for student bursaries.

Celebrating 100 Languages

On February 23 we celebrated Loris Malaguzzi's 104 birthday, the founder of the Reggio Emilia Approach and writer of the poem "The 100 Languages". This poem has inspired our thinking, philosophy, and environment here at MSA. The short video is the poem being read by our early years' students and facilitated by our ELP Teacher Mrs. Kristina Amaro (photo below). We invite you to experience the poem and be filled with wonder.



WATCH ME!



Student Athlete Highlight

T'Mia Williams, an eighth-grade student, is embarking on her second year with the middle school girls' basketball team. During her time on the team, she has exhibited remarkable progress as a player, fuelled by her unwavering commitment to the sport. This is evident in the many hours she devotes to honing her skills outside of school. Her lightning-fast dribbling on the court often creates opportunities for breakaways, and her scoring ability from anywhere within the arc has rightfully earned her the title of this season's MVP. Her exceptional athleticism resulted in T'Mia being invited to join the middle school boys' team, a testament to her undeniable talent on the court. T'Mia has had a remarkable season and we can't wait to see what she can accomplish when she joins the high school team next year!



News from the Home & School

The annual Home & School Golf Tournament is taking place on Saturday, May 4 at Belmont Hills Golf Club. The tournament cost is \$900 for a foursome. To register, simply send an email to Katrina Smith at homeandschool@msa.bm.

Home & School GOLF

TOURNAMENT

**Saturday,
May 4, 2024**

**Belmont
Hills
Golf Club**

**Entry
\$900 per
Team (4)**

**Hole in One Prize
New Car!**

To register email homeandschool@msa.bm.
Interested in becoming a sponsor for a tee or green?
Contact Katrina Smith on homeandschool@msa.bm.

Don't miss out on this exciting event, and a chance to win some great prizes!

Save the Date: May 9 & 10



The poster features a vibrant background of a blue sky with white clouds, green grass, and musical notes. At the top center is the MSA logo (Mount Saint Agnes Academy). The main title 'SPRING FEST '24' is written in large, shiny gold balloons. A purple starburst graphic contains the text 'SAVE THE DATE!'. Below this, the event schedule is listed: 'MAY 9 | 6pm Concert' and 'MAY 10 | 3pm Concert & Festival' with 'Food Bouncy Castles & more!' underneath. At the bottom, there are logos for 'WOOD BURN PIZZA' and 'TRINI SPICE', along with a cartoon yellow character.

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SPRING FEST '24

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

MAY 9 | 6pm Concert

MAY 10 | 3pm Concert & Festival
Food Bouncy Castles & more!

WOOD BURN PIZZA

TRINI SPICE

Christmas is Never Over!

Yes, Christmas 2023 has passed, but the memories still linger on. Events the students took part in included:

- Some of our Grade 12 students participated in the Marketplace Santa Claus Parade, waving and greeting all onlookers with a 'Merry Christmas'.
- The Home & School Association organized its yearly Sugar Plum Shop on December 11. The event required elementary students to bring in a gently used item and, for each item they brought, they could buy a gift for a family member. While making decisions was tough, every student was pleased to have purchased gifts for their loved ones.
- We had an amazing three nights during our Christmas production called "Snow Biz"! The students danced, laughed, fished, posted mail, and, of course, sang! We even had snow! The production began with the Tableau and the choir, which included some of our alumni. We want to express our gratitude to all the teachers, students, and patrons who made this event possible. Thank you!



Sports Day 2024





During our two-day Sports Day event in March, students from Grades 3 to 12 participated in various activities including track, javelin, long jump, high jump, shot put, discus, relay, 100m, 200m, 400m, and 800m races. Additionally, there was a skipping race for the students. The event was held at the Flora Duffy National Stadium and even Rambo appeared to cheer on the students. Both days were a huge success and Green House were declared the Sports Day Champions. We extend our congratulations to them!



What Learning Looks Like

Learning looks like play! It looks like students who are deeply engaged and interacting with the lesson.

Learning looks like singing, dancing, painting, sculpting, and countless other languages of expression. It also looks like developing self-confidence, building friendships, staying active, and making healthy choices.

You're invited to our new ELP classrooms to discover more about early learning at MSA.

MSA Early Learning Program Play Date
Wednesday, April 24 at 9:00am
RSVP to msaoffice@msa.bm or 292 4134



www.msa.bm





“Through his ‘artistic creativity’ man appears more than ever ‘in the image of God’”

~Pope John Paul II

Mark Your Calendar!

April 24

Early Learning Play Date

May 9 & 10

Spring Concert

May 17

Art Auction Opening

May 20 - June 2

Place your bids for Art Auction
On-Line @ msa.bm

May 31

Color Me Run/Walk

June 27

Graduation Mass and Reception

June 28

Alumni Annual Sip & Snack

Did you know that you can give a donation to MSA online?
Just visit www.msa.bm/donate to make a gift and support MSA.

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