


# THE SAINT

THE MOUNT SAINT AGNES ACADEMY MAGAZINE - FALL 2025

Golf Tournament  
Back To School  
Annual Giving  
Sport Awards  
Class of 2025 Graduation  
Ring Ceremony  
Alumni News





Our experience with the ELP program has been absolutely wonderful for both my son and me. From the very first day, the teachers created such a warm and welcoming environment that made my son excited to come to school every morning. He has learned so much academically and socially and I've loved watching his confidence grow each week. The activities are creative, engaging, and perfectly designed for his age, making learning feel like play. As a parent, it has been heartwarming to see how much he enjoys school and how the staff truly care about the students. We couldn't be happier with the ELP program and MSA, it has been an amazing start to his educational journey! 

**Daniela DeCouto**

Mother to Lorenzo DeCouto, Kindergarten



**Published by:** Mount Saint Agnes Academy  
**Art Direction and Design:** Sean Collier, Cosmic  
**Editors:** Anna Faria-Machado P'23 and Lili Le Fevre  
**Photography:** Suzanne De Couto '84, Lisa Stevens '90 and Zoe Lopes  
**Printing:** Print Link

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this publication. However, we apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions.

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## Principal's Message

Dear MSA Family,

As we step into a new school year, there's a sense of renewal in the air—marked by fresh energy, new faces, and the familiar rhythms of school life returning. At Mount Saint Agnes Academy, each new year is a reminder of the beautiful cycle of growth, learning, and connection that defines our school family.

We warmly welcome our new students and staff, who now become part of the MSA story—a story shaped by generations of learners, educators, and alumni who continue to carry the spirit of our school into the wider world. Whether you are just beginning your journey with us or returning to familiar hallways, your presence strengthens our community.

The start of the year is a time to set intentions, build relationships, and embrace the opportunities ahead. It is also a time to celebrate the enduring values that unite us—faith, compassion, and a deep sense of belonging.

May this year be filled with joy, purpose, and the grace of new beginnings.

Warmly,

**Anna Faria-Machado P'23**  
Principal



## Chairman's Message

Dear MSA Community,

As we begin a new school year at Mount Saint Agnes Academy, we are filled with gratitude and pride for the legacy of excellence, faith, and community that continues to thrive within our school walls.

For over 135 years, MSA has been part of the fabric of Bermuda—it is a testament to generations of educators, students, families, and supporters who have shaped MSA into the vibrant, values-driven institution it is today. Each new school year brings fresh energy, new faces, and renewed commitment to our mission of nurturing minds and hearts.

The Board is deeply inspired by the dedication of our faculty and staff, the enthusiasm of our students, and the unwavering support of our families and alumni. Together, we are not only honoring our past but also building a future rooted in compassion, curiosity, and service.

As we celebrate over 135 years of Catholic education, let us continue to walk forward with purpose, united in our belief in the transformative power of learning and community.

With heartfelt appreciation,

**Sean Kelly**  
'02, P'36, '39

# What a Day on the Green!

The 23rd Annual MSA Home & School Golf Tournament, held on May 10 at Belmont Hills, was a tremendous success, bringing together parents, alumni, staff, and supporters for a day of fun, fellowship, and fundraising.

The event kicked off with coffee and pastries outside the clubhouse, setting the tone for a relaxed and enjoyable morning. With perfect weather and great company, the tournament was a sell-out, drawing enthusiastic golfers from across the MSA community. Congratulations to the foursome *Screaming Eagles* led by board member Jimmy Caplice P'31 on their first place finish!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the many volunteers, faculty, staff, and alumni who generously gave their time to make the day run smoothly. Special recognition is due to

the dedicated Golf Committee—Katrina Smith '01, Steve Cosham P'28, Amy Greenslade '97, P'35, '38, and headed by Elaine Miskiewicz P'28—whose months of planning and coordination brought everything together seamlessly.

We are also incredibly grateful to our generous sponsors, whose support made the event possible and helped us raise over \$35,000 toward upgrades to the MSA Auditorium. These improvements will benefit students and faculty for years to come, enhancing the space where so many important school moments take place.

The tournament was more than just a fundraiser—it was a celebration of community spirit and shared purpose. We look forward to building on this success and seeing everyone back on the green next year!



# MSA AGM & Back-to-School Party

By Amy Greenslade '97, P'35, '38 | President

On September 5, the MSA community gathered in the courtyard for the Annual General Meeting and Back-to-School Party. Nearly 200 parents, students, and staff came together to kick off the new school year in a spirit of connection and celebration.

The evening began with the Annual General Meeting, where attendees heard updates from the Home and School Association, Principal Anna Machado P'23, Chairman of the Board Sean Kelly '02, P'36, '39, Director of Advancement Lili Le Fevre, and Bazaar Committee Chair Kimberley Hines '98, P'25, '29. Following the meeting, families enjoyed a lively party filled with food, fun, and entertainment.



A special thank you goes to Kenny's Kitchen for once again preparing the delicious food. Thanks also to Viking Foods for their support. Music, games, glitter tattoos, and a jumpy castle kept the energy high. A highlight for many children was exploring the new play table, a summer project brought to life by the Home and School Association with the help of parent and staff volunteers.

The evening provided the perfect opportunity for families to reconnect after the summer and welcome new members into the MSA family. The Home and School Association thanks everyone who attended and for making the event such a joyful start to the school year.



**It was wonderful to see parents, students, and staff come together to kick off the school year in such a joyful and connected way. Events like this remind us of the strength and spirit of the MSA community, and we extend a warm welcome to all our new families joining us this year.**

Amy Greenslade '97, P'35, '38



# BooHoo (Yahoo!) Breakfast Social

By Amy Greenslade '97, P'35, '38 | President

The Home and School Association hosted its second annual BooHoo (Yahoo!) Breakfast Social on September 3, welcoming the families of MSA's newest ELP students. While the children enjoyed their Morning Mingle, a chance to meet classmates and teachers ahead of the first school day, their parents gathered in the courtyard for a morning of connection and support.

About 50 parents and family members assembled in the courtyard to share coffee, tea, and pastries while getting to know one another. The morning struck a balance between nerves and excitement, as families marked the important

milestone of their child's first day at MSA. A light-hearted touch came in the form of tissues and Hershey's Kisses — small tokens to recognize the mix of emotions that come with this new beginning.

The BooHoo (Yahoo!) Breakfast has quickly become a cherished tradition, giving parents a space to meet each other and feel part of the wider MSA family from the very start. The Home and School Association extends thanks to everyone who attended and looks forward to supporting these families throughout their MSA journey.



# Miles of Smiles

## The Color Me Run Lights Up MSA

On Friday, May 30, our school community gathered for the MSA 5K Color Me Run/Walk, a celebration of movement, school spirit, and togetherness. With over 406 participants, the event brought energy and color to the streets surrounding our campus.

From start to finish, runners and walkers of all ages were showered in colorful powder as they made their way along the route, cheered on by supportive spectators. The event offered a fun and active way for families and friends to connect.

We are grateful for the generous support of our sponsors, LUSO and BERMUDA RENTALS, whose contributions helped make the event possible. We also extend our thanks to all raffle prize donors and volunteers who played a role in its success.



**\$12,000** raised

Thanks to the collective efforts of our community, we raised over \$12,000—a meaningful contribution toward improvements to the school auditorium.



As the day came to a close, it was clear that the Color Me Run/Walk is a valued tradition at MSA. We look forward to welcoming even more participants next year on Friday,

**MAY 29, 2026**

# We Love Our Volunteers!

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

On June 3, we threw a special Appreciation Breakfast to celebrate our incredible volunteers! We are thankful for everything you do for our school. Your time, energy, and dedication truly make a positive impact on our students and bring a wonderful spirit to our MSA community. Thank you for being such an important part of our MSA Family!



# Investing in the Heart of Bermuda's Future

As Mount Saint Agnes Academy begins another exciting school year, we are reminded of the enduring strength of our community. Much has changed over the years, but what remains constant is MSA's mission, values, and unwavering dedication to educating the whole child.

For over **135 years**, MSA has stood as a pillar of **faith, learning, and community** in Bermuda. More than just a school, MSA is part of Bermuda's story. Generations of Bermudian families have walked these halls, built lifelong friendships, and grown into compassionate leaders. That legacy continues today—**thanks to the support** of our donors, alumni, families, and friends.

Each year, our **Annual Giving Campaign** helps us go beyond what tuition alone can provide. It allows us to respond to needs as they arise, support families through financial aid, and invest in improvements that enhance the learning environment for all.

*This school year, there are 42 students who received some form of financial aid. The average disbursement is \$3,464.29*

Your generosity will help us continue vital building upgrades. These enhancements are not just about bricks and mortar—they're about creating spaces that inspire and support our students' growth. Annual giving also ensures we can offer flexibility when unexpected needs arise—whether it is technology upgrades, classroom resources, or professional development for faculty.

We have set a **fundraising goal of \$150,000**, and with your help, we can reach it. But this campaign is about more than raising funds—it is about **making dreams come true and shaping futures**. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us uphold our mission and values.

By giving to MSA, you are not just supporting a school—you are **investing in the heart of Bermuda's future**. Donor support shapes every student's journey, helping us nurture compassionate, confident, and capable young people who are ready to lead and serve.

We invite you to be part of this journey.  
To make a gift, visit [www.msa.bm/donate](http://www.msa.bm/donate)  
or scan the QR code.



Together, let's continue to build a legacy of excellence, faith, and community—for today's students and generations to come.

# MSA Marks First Mental Health Week with Month-Long Awareness Activities

By Bellina Hunjan | MSA Counsellor

Throughout the month of May, MSA proudly joined the global observance of Mental Health Awareness Month, with a wide range of activities aimed at educating, supporting, and empowering our school community.

The month began with a special highlight: I had the opportunity to be featured on BBC News in an interview with Grae Minors, sharing the exciting plans for Mental Health Week and giving insight into the other initiatives happening across the month.



## Elementary Highlights: Therapy Dogs and Executive Functioning

Elementary students were treated to a unique experience through our partnership with the incredible team at Community K9. Students engaged in therapy dog sessions, where Eileen Thorne from Community K9 led an interactive workshop on canine body language and facial expressions. Children learned how to recognize when a dog wants attention or needs space, and they had the opportunity to interact with several friendly dogs, feed them, and watch training demonstrations.

We were also fortunate to welcome Dr. Laura Henagulph, who joined in the discussion on the clinical benefits of dog therapy, particularly its positive impact on our neurodiverse learners.

In addition, Grades 3–5 participated in workshops on executive functioning, the essential skills that help us manage time, stay organized, and regulate emotions. Students explored what happens when the brain feels “too full” and learned practical strategies to help them calm down, focus, and reset.

## Middle & High School: Workshops and Conversations

From May 12–16, students in middle and high school took part in a series of meaningful lunchtime talks on topics including resilience, body image, executive functioning, nutrition and mental health, and youth voices in mental health. These sessions sparked powerful conversations and offered students valuable tools to better understand themselves and support their peers.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the incredible educators and professionals who made these sessions possible: Ms. Davis, Mr. Glazebrook, Mrs. Robinson, Ms. Rego, Susannah Cole, and the Bermuda Health Council for their impactful contributions.

## Youth Mental Health Panel

On May 19, immediately following Mental Health Week, we were honored to host the Youth Mental Health Panel in collaboration with the Bermuda Government Ministry of Health. This inspiring evening brought together over 60 attendees, including students, parents, educators, and community members. Panelists, Dr. Daniel Kavanagh, Dr. Sandy De Silva, Dr. Darrien S. Ray, Dr. Samantha Scott-O’Bannon, Maxine Brown and Jah-nai Smith, shared meaningful insights, lived experiences, and real-world updates, sparking much-needed dialogue about youth mental health in Bermuda.

The evening was a powerful reminder that “*we are not an island*” when it comes to mental health. It is something we must continue to talk about, support, and prioritize.

## Looking Ahead

As this was MSA’s first Mental Health Week, we are already reflecting on how to expand and strengthen the initiative for the future. This year showed us just how valuable it is to create space for these conversations, and how much our students, families, and staff benefit from coming together to learn, share, and connect.

Talking openly about mental health helps our young people understand that they are never alone in what they experience. It reminds them that support is always available and that education, awareness, and community can make a real difference in how they face challenges. By continuing to build on this foundation, we hope to create a culture where every student feels seen, supported, and empowered to take care of their mental well-being.

## MSA Students Take a Stand:

# Stop the Violence

By Shannon Davis | Former Grade 12 and High School Social Studies Teacher and Personal Coach, The Growth Mirror



Violence touches families, communities, and futures. At Mount Saint Agnes Academy, students decided that silence was not an option. Through their involvement in the Stop the Violence campaign, they confronted one of the most urgent issues facing Bermuda today, the ripple effect of “gang violence.”

The students explored how violence does not stop with those directly involved, but ripples outward into classrooms, families, and neighborhoods. They also addressed the inequities in how private school and public school students are acknowledged, calling on the community to see beyond labels and divisions.

I was grateful for the opportunity to lead this initiative. Students Sophie Weikl, Emma Vieira, Hailey Furtado, Ariana Sousa Saints, Tabari Burgess, Le Troy Trott, Jaylen Smith, Andaé Harewood, Kamaya Lynch Wade, and Giana Romeo gave their voices and perspectives to this important conversation.

Their video project carried deep emotion as it was dedicated to their schoolmate Ethan Arruda, who was tragically murdered on October 27, 2023. Ethan’s memory served as a reminder of the true cost of violence and as inspiration for students to step forward as leaders who can shape a safer Bermuda.

Student Giana Romeo captured the heart of the project when she shared, *“It is not just one community, it is not just one group of people. It could happen anywhere, and our friend Ethan is an example of that. It should not have taken him losing his life for us all to take more accountability. It should have been happening already.”*

The Stop the Violence campaign, part of the Ministry of National Security Violence Reduction Strategy, focuses on youth empowerment, mental health awareness, and social equity as pillars in breaking the cycle of violence. For the MSA students, participation was more than a campaign. It was an act of courage, compassion, and unity.

Their message is clear. When young people are given the chance to lead, they can change the narrative and help build communities that are safer and stronger for all.



View “The Aftershock”  
video here:



## Spring Concert:



MSA's *Spring Vibes* concert was a lively celebration of student talent and creativity. Held on May 8 and 9, the event featured performances from students across grade levels, showcasing their hard work and passion for music and the arts.

Thanks to the dedication of our music teachers, Holly Archeval and Marie-Sophie Brackstone, students were well-prepared and confident on stage.

Special acknowledgements go to the stagehands, backstage crew, front of house team, the talented artists responsible for the foyer décor, and the lighting and sound technicians.

A very special thank you to Eric Cabral '09 for his generous assistance with the lighting and sound setup.

The fun continued at the *Spring Vibes* After-Party, held after Friday night's performance, where families enjoyed bouncy castles and delicious food from local vendors such as Hot Dog Delight, Kebobs on the Curve, Ashley's Lemonade, Dutch Pops. Our students were busy with additional treats - popcorn was sold by our National Honor Society and malassadas were sold by the Prom Committee.

It was a joyful event that brought our community together and highlighted the spirit of MSA.

Celebrating Athletic Excellence:

# MSA's First Sports Awards Night

On May 29, Mount Saint Agnes Academy proudly hosted its first-ever Sports Awards Night, celebrating the achievements of student athletes in basketball, football, and volleyball. The evening marked a new tradition of recognizing the dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship that define MSA athletics.

The event began with light refreshments in the gym, giving families, coaches, and athletes a chance to connect and reflect on the season. The awards ceremony followed in the

auditorium, where Naquita Robinson P '25,'35 served as MC, bringing energy and warmth to the celebration.

Trophies were presented by team coaches alongside Principal Anna Faria-Machado, highlighting individual and team accomplishments. Coaches were also recognized for their commitment, with a special tribute to Ms. Jackie Tailford '80, who coached volleyball at MSA for many years and made a lasting impact on her players.

The evening was a meaningful celebration of the role sports play in MSA's extracurricular life, and athletes are already looking forward to growing this tradition in the years ahead.



# Congratulations to the following MSA athletes:

## High School Boys – Football

Most Improved Player	Noah Gift
Best Teammate Award	Sa-Qui Robinson
Leadership Award	Olek Rymon-Lipinski
Coach's Award	Jordan Tavares
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Sami Carolo

## Middle School Girls – Basketball

Most Improved Player	Peyton Hines
Best Teammate Award	Kyra Simmons
Leadership Award	Naomi Butterfield
Sportsmanship Award	K'Ah Seymour
Coach's Award	Lily Amaral
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Phoenix Williams

## High School Girls – Basketball

Most Improved Player	Kamaya Lynch Wade
Best Teammate Award	Paige Roberts
Leadership Award	Kamaya Lynch Wade
Sportsmanship Award	T'Mia Williams
Coach's Award	Alexis Sousa
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	T'Mia Williams

## High Junior Varsity Boy – Basketball

Most Improved Player	Evan Benevides
Best Teammate Award	Jaylen Sewell
Leadership Award	Stasio Rayner-Weller
Sportsmanship Award	Daniel Smith
Coach's Award	Gavin Fortuna
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Stasio Rayner-Weller

## High School Varsity Boys – Basketball

Most Improved Player	Stasio Rayner-Weller
Best Teammate Award	Olek Rymon-Lipinski
Leadership Award	Olek Rymon-Lipinski
Sportsmanship Award	Jordan Tavares
Coach's Award	Christian Hanwell
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Jordan Smith

## Middle School – Under 13 Football

Most Improved Player	Jaishun Jones
Best Teammate Award	Kingston Rattery
Leadership Award	Tanaka Kunze
Sportsmanship Award	Malik Tomaz
Coach's Award	Kyle Kitonga
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Quinn Farnsworth

## Middle School – Over 13 Football

Most Improved Player	Micah Smith
Best Teammate Award	Cameron Camara
Leadership Award	Caleb Booth
Sportsmanship Award	Dunstan De Sa
Coach's Award	Daeori Jones
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Caleb Booth

## High School Boys – Volleyball

Most Improved Players	Jayden Lambert/Carter Lamb
Best Teammate Award	Gabe Booth
Leadership Award	Olek Rymon-Lipinski
Sportsmanship Award	Ethan McAlpine
Coach's Award	Marcus Rodrigues

## Middle School Boys – Volleyball

Most Improved Player	Jaishun Jones
Best Teammate Award	Aiden Glazebrook
Leadership Award	Kai Fitzgerald
Sportsmanship Award	Cristiano Hizon
Coach's Award	Sebastian Caco
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Payton Mora

## Middle School Boys – Basketball

Most Improved Player	Micah Smith
Best Teammate Award	Ryan Renaud
Leadership Award	Nathan Cuarentas
Sportsmanship Award	Aiden Glazebrook
Coach's Award	Payton Mora
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Dunstan De Sa

## Middle School Girls – Volleyball

Most Improved Player	Catelaya Tomaz
Best Teammate Award	Kyra Simmons
Leadership Award	Naomi Butterfield
Sportsmanship Award	Phoenix Williams
Coach's Award	Julia Stoppa
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Reese McAlpine

## High School Girls – Volleyball

Best Teammate Award	Catrina Furtado
Leadership Award	Chloe Botelho
Sportsmanship Award	Paige Roberts
Coach's Award	Lara Simas

# NHS Steps Up for Bermuda's End-to-End

By Claire Kelly '06 | Grade 1 Teacher and NHS Mentor

This year, the MSA National Honor Society proudly took part in the Bermuda End-to-End, joining thousands of walkers, cyclists, and rowers in one of the island's biggest fundraising events. With over 100 enthusiastic participants, we embraced the challenge not just for the adventure, but for the cause — with our MSA team raising almost \$5,500 to support local charities across Bermuda.

The NHS members saw this as a powerful opportunity to promote wellness, teamwork, and community engagement. It was a chance to connect outside the classroom, support meaningful causes, and show school spirit.

We are already looking ahead to next year — and we are aiming even higher! With the momentum we have built, we are excited to grow our team and make an even greater impact together.



**Save the Date**

**Mark your calendars for May 2, 2026 and please join our MSA team!**

# Middle School SEEK Week

Student Experience, Exploration, and Knowledge Week (SEEK Week) is an immersive learning experience specifically designed for our Middle School students. During this special week, students step beyond the traditional classroom setting and engage in hands-on workshops centered around topics that spark their curiosity and passion.



# There were six workshops available to the students

01.

## Island Adventure

The Island Adventure Workshop centered on exploring forts, caves, and bays. The students in this workshop had the opportunity to visit several locations, including Gates Fort, Turtle Bay, Walsingham Reserve, Blue Hole, Zombie Land, and Lagoon Park. They also went to Horseshoe Bay Beach for surfing and even tried diving.



02.

## Ocean Warriors

Students visited Dolphin Quest, where they met dolphins and toured the trainer area behind the scenes. They then welcomed Hannah Horsefield from the Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute (BUEI), who discussed plastic pollution and displayed samples collected from Bermuda's shores. Alumnus Choy Aming '93 gave an engaging talk on Bermuda's shark population and the importance of their conservation. Students visited the BIOS station, where students learned about coral ecosystems.



03.

## Natural Wonders

In the Natural Wonders workshop, students explored beautiful beaches, went rock climbing, and discovered charming coves along the South Shore. They participated in a nature scavenger hunt at the Botanical Gardens, learning about notable plants that grow in Bermuda. Additionally, they toured the Masterworks Museum, where they were surprised by a piano performance that beautifully complemented the artwork.



SEEK Week is a fundamental part of our Middle School experience, providing students with valuable opportunities to grow outside the classroom. During this week, students can apply what they have learned in real-world situations, explore their talents, discover new interests, and express themselves creatively and authentically. This experience promotes personal growth, encourages curiosity, and helps students build confidence as they engage in learning dynamic, hands-on environment.

## 04. Power of Print

In the Power of Print workshop, students took a trip to the Masterworks Museum, where they delved into the world of lino printing and block printing, guided by Education Officer Kimberley Fisher. They also created art with LEGO! Using both flat LEGO pieces and those with bumps, they unleashed their creativity and brought images to life.

## 05. Photographic Workshop

Students in the Photography Workshop were introduced to the basics of trick photography and optical illusions through hands-on activities and creative photo challenges. Throughout the week, they worked on various photo challenges.

## 06. Make and Take

In the Make and Take workshop, students engaged in crafting and took home their creations. They made their own ceramic coasters, beautiful jewelry, and painted and decorated pots. They even visited Bermuda Green Thumb to choose plants that brought their creations to life.





# Vive la France!

By Hailey Furtado '27

This summer, I had the incredible opportunity to travel to the south of France after being awarded a scholarship from the Alliance Française des Bermudes. To be selected, I had to write an essay and complete an interview in French. I was honored to be one of four students chosen from different schools, and the experience that followed was truly unforgettable. I spent three weeks in Cannes, a beautiful city on the French Riviera. Upon arrival, we were taken to a boarding school where we stayed throughout the program. Each morning, we attended French classes that matched our tested language levels, which allowed me to strengthen my skills in an immersive environment.

The afternoons were just as enriching. With my new friends, I took the train to explore surrounding cities, including Nice, Antibes, Juan-les-Pins, Monaco, Cap d'Ail, Ville-Franche-sur-mer, and Menton. These trips not only allowed me to see more of France but also gave me the chance to experience



the culture firsthand. The school also offered many activities, such as sailing, tubing, going to the cinema, and even visiting a waterpark. These adventures made the program both educational and exciting, blending classroom learning with real-life cultural experiences. After the three weeks, we went to Paris with the two members of the Alliance Française where we visited the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, the Palace of Versailles and explored Paris different "arrondissements".

Beyond the language and travel, this scholarship helped me grow as a person. I made lasting friendships with people from around the world and became more responsible and independent. It was an experience that challenged me, inspired me, and left me with memories I will carry forever. I am incredibly thankful to the Alliance Française des Bermudes and Mrs. Exell for helping me every step of the way to achieve this amazing scholarship.

# New Faculty

We are excited to welcome the following staff to the MSA family.



## Mr. Scott Cervino

We are pleased to welcome back Mr. Scott Cervino as our High School Religion Teacher and Grade 12A homeroom teacher. Originally from New Jersey, Mr. Cervino brings over 30 years of teaching experience, including 17 years on the island of Elba in Italy. Eleven of those years were spent at MSA, where he discovered a deep passion for education. Reflecting on his return, he shared how meaningful it was to reconnect with former colleagues and students, describing MSA as “a family in every sense of the word.”

Mr. Cervino is married to Kathy, an MSA alumna, and they have two sons, Luca and Matteo. He values meaningful conversations in the classroom and believes in learning alongside his students. His goal is to bring his best to MSA each day and remain actively engaged in the life of the school.



## Ms. Ashley Soares '20

Welcome to Ms. Ashley Soares '20, our new Grade 5 teacher. Born and raised in Bermuda, Ms. Soares is a proud fourth-generation MSA alumna. Her passion for working with children led her to spend eight years as a swim instructor, and she is excited to continue her journey in education at the school that shaped her own learning experience.

Ms. Soares looks forward to creating a supportive and engaging classroom environment where every student feels valued. She is eager to contribute to MSA's welcoming community by building strong relationships with students, families, and colleagues, and hopes to bring energy and creativity to her teaching each day.



## Mr. James Straker

We are pleased to introduce Mr. Straker as our High School Mathematics Teacher and Grade 11A homeroom teacher. With 16 years of experience in education, he brings a strong background in mathematics and a deep commitment to student success. Mr. Straker was drawn to MSA for its faith-based foundation, academic excellence, and the opportunity to collaborate with a dedicated team of educators.

His goal is to inspire students to enjoy learning and to help them build confidence in their abilities. He finds great fulfillment in guiding students through challenges and celebrating their progress—especially when a difficult concept finally clicks. Mr. Straker is excited to contribute to the MSA community and support each student in reaching their full potential.



## Mr. Raymond George

Mr. Raymond George is our new Music teacher. Originally from Toronto, Canada, Mr. George brings over 25 years of experience in music education. Before joining MSA, he taught piano at the Bermuda School of Music. He and his wife Janice have two daughters, Seraiah and Naomi.

Mr. George is passionate about creating a positive and inclusive classroom environment, believing that music can inspire growth and connection. He enjoys performing with the Tino Martinez Quartet and hopes to pursue a master's degree in education and music. His favorite part of teaching is watching students develop a love for music. You will often find him cheering on the Raptors, Blue Jays, and Maple Leafs, win or lose.



### **Ms. Kristina Wright**

We are excited to welcome Kristina Wright as our new High School Social Studies and Grade 12 Homeroom Teacher. Born in Bermuda and raised in the Cayman Islands, Kristina brings a global perspective and a rich background to her role. During her high school years, she proudly represented Bermuda as a player on the Women's National Football Team. Her teaching journey has taken her as far as China, where she previously taught English.

Kristina chose MSA after hearing wonderful things about our community and feeling drawn back to teaching older students. When asked what she loves most about teaching, she shared, "My favorite part of teaching is connecting with students and making an impact on their lives and the way they view the world."



### **Marsheen Burch**

Welcome Marsheen Burch, our new After School Program Coordinator. A proud Bermudian, Marsheen brings creativity, warmth, and a wealth of experience to her role. She has a background in modeling and coaching and enjoys expressing her artistic side through designing accessories. As a devoted mother and grandmother, she is passionate about working with children and creating meaningful experiences.

Marsheen is committed to developing engaging, student-centered activities that blend arts, sports, and life skills, while maintaining strong communication with families. She looks forward to expanding her leadership skills through international training and hopes to enhance after school programs across the island. We are excited for the energy and innovation she brings to MSA.



### **Ms. Heather Sinclair '11**

We are delighted to welcome back Heather Sinclair '11 as our Kindergarten teacher. A proud MSA alumna, Heather's family has been connected to the school for nearly 80 years, beginning with her grandmother in 1940. After earning her teaching degree in London in 2020, Heather spent three years teaching in inner-city primary schools, gaining valuable experience in classroom management and inclusive education.

Heather is passionate about creating a supportive and engaging learning environment. She looks forward to working with the new Alberta curriculum and incorporating Reggio Emilia inspired practices. Outside the classroom, she enjoys playing field hockey for the Bermuda Women's Team and spending time with her Sphynx cat, Dobby. Her return to MSA feels like coming home, and she is excited to help her students grow in confidence and curiosity.



### **Ms. Kinda Bassett '14**

We are thrilled to welcome our new office administrator, Kinda Bassett '14 to the team! A proud Bermudian, Kinda has deep roots in our community, having completed all of her schooling at MSA.

What does she love most about her role? "Seeing the many smiling faces that come through the office doors." Kinda recognizes MSA's strong sense of family and is committed to bringing a warm, supportive spirit to each day. We are excited for the energy and dedication she will bring to our school!



# With Faith and Friendship, They Step Up

By Jennifer Cassidy '04, P'34, '36 | Grade 5 Teacher

This year's Grade 5 Stepping Up Ceremony was a heartfelt celebration of 21 students who completed their elementary school journey and are ready to take on the challenges of middle school. The intimate gathering honored the growth, friendships, and accomplishments of the class, while also looking ahead with excitement for what is to come.

The ceremony included a memorable speech and the class song, "Wavin' Flag" by K'naan. Its uplifting message — that as they grow older, they will become stronger and capable of so much more — beautifully captured the spirit of this milestone moment.

With hearts full of faith, trust in God, and the encouragement of teachers, family, and friends, we believe this group of 21 students will continue to grow in wisdom and character. As they step forward into middle school, they carry the lessons and memories of their elementary years with them, ready to succeed in every stage of their educational journey.



# Senior Retreat

**A Tradition of Connection and Reflection**  
By Karen Wicks '78, P'01, 03 |  
Retired High School Religion Teacher

The Senior Retreat has been a treasured part of the Grade 12 MSA experience for decades. I know it was already a tradition in 1978 — my own senior year — when we ventured out with Sister Judith Marie Rollo.

Over the years, the retreat has evolved, taking on new forms and purposes. In recent times, it has become a day that brings seniors and their parents together — and, perhaps most importantly, offers the senior class one last chance to bond before the whirlwind of final exams, diplomas, and goodbyes begins.

In the weeks leading up to the retreat, the seniors worked under the invaluable guidance of CTS teacher Mrs. Lisa Stevens to create a special video. This heartfelt project featured our youngest students imagining what they might become when they grow up, then “morphing” into the seniors themselves.

The retreat theme matched the class banner and set the tone for the day. It began with breakfast for seniors and their parents in the auditorium. An opening prayer invited everyone to reflect on how far the students had come, and the room was filled with warm conversation and laughter.

The class then split into two groups: one continued work on the video with Mrs. Stevens, while the other joined GROWTH MIRROR motivational speaker, Ms. Shannon Davis, for an engaging session on resilience. Through guided activities, Ms. Davis encouraged the students to reflect on their own strengths and the challenges they have overcome.

The final portion of the retreat took place at the home of the McAlpine family, who generously opened their doors — and their backyard — to the class. The day shifted into a celebration of friendship and shared history. The seniors enjoyed swimming, kayaking, lawn games, and volleyball. Sunshine, laughter, and easy conversation filled the afternoon, marking a perfect close to a day that celebrated not only the milestones they had reached, but also the bonds that will carry them forward long after graduation.

The Senior Retreat is more than a day away from the classroom — it is a sacred pause. It is a moment to look back with gratitude, to stand still in the present, and to step forward with courage. This year's theme, *I Have Called You by Name*, reminded each student that they are known, valued, and loved — not only by their families and friends, but by God, who has been present in every step of their journey.

May they carry forward the lessons of the retreat: to listen for their calling, to lean on one another in times of challenge, and to walk boldly into the future, knowing they have been called by name.



# Strength in Unity

## MSA's Graduation Mass and Ceremony

**Strength in Unity: MSA's Graduation Mass and Ceremony**  
This year's Graduation Mass and Ceremony at Mount Saint Agnes Academy was a deeply moving tribute to the strength, resilience, and unity of the Class of 2025. Held in June, the event was not only a celebration of academic achievement but also a reflection of the profound bond shared by a class that has faced extraordinary challenges together.

The loss of their beloved classmate, Ethan Arruda, cast a long shadow over the year, but it also brought the graduating class closer than ever. Their ability to support one another, to grieve together, and to honor Ethan's memory with grace and love was a powerful testament to their character and the values instilled in them at MSA.

The day began with Graduation Mass, where prayers and reflections offered comfort and hope. The spirit of Ethan was felt throughout—his memory woven into the fabric of the celebration, reminding all present of the importance of compassion, friendship, and living with purpose.

Later in the afternoon, the Graduation Ceremony featured awards and speeches that were both heartfelt and eloquent. Valedictorian, Ethan McAlpine, delivered a thoughtful and inspiring address, capturing the essence of the class's journey with clarity and heart. His words honored the past, celebrated the present, and looked ahead with optimism.

Salutatorian, Olek Rymon-Lipinski, spoke with emotion and sincerity, offering a heartfelt reflection on the shared experiences that shaped their final year. His tribute to Ethan and to the class's enduring spirit moved many to tears and reminded everyone of the power of community.

Together with their families, teachers, and friends, the graduates marked the end of one chapter and the beginning of another. The ceremony was not only a farewell—it was a celebration of perseverance, love, and the unbreakable bonds formed at MSA.

As the Class of 2025 steps forward into the future, they carry with them the lessons of resilience, the strength of unity, and the memory of a friend who will always be part of their story.

# Honoring Excellence

## Special Recognition Awards for the Class of 2025

Inaugural Presentation of the Ethan Arruda Award in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Arruda

This meaningful new award honors Ethan’s life and serves as a testament to the love he inspired and the life he lived. It is presented to a graduating student who best exemplifies the values Ethan so naturally embodied — his generous spirit, unwavering loyalty, and the kindness he shared freely with everyone around him.

To date, a total of \$51,700 has been received to establish an endowment for this award. The recipient of the 2025 Ethan Arruda Award received a \$5,000 cheque and has their name inscribed on a commemorative plaque, which is proudly displayed at the school.

**The 2025 Ethan Arruda Award was presented to Nathan Agostinho.**

### Presentation of Special Awards:

The Nicholl Shield for the highest average for the three years of High School	<b>Ethan McAlpine</b>	The Principal’s Outstanding Achievement Award	<b>Chloe Botelho, Ava Romeo, and Lara Simas</b>
The General Excellence Award for the highest average for this school year	<b>Ethan McAlpine</b>	The Principal’s Achievement Award for Perseverance	<b>A’Saiya Brangman, Azariah Greaves and Laurie Malo</b>
The Most Reverend Bishop Murphy Shield for the second highest average for the three years of High School	<b>Olek Rymon-Lipinski</b>	Jeffrey Castro Award	<b>Zariyah Daniels</b>
The Mount Saint Agnes Academy Incentive Award	<b>Julie Elliott</b>	The Bently Doyle award is for excellence and commitment to MSA sports	<b>Olek Rymon-Lipinski</b>
The Robert Gullon Memorial Shield for Heart	<b>Aithana Servida</b>	The BELCO (Liberty Group) Math Achievement Award	<b>Ethan McAlpine</b>
The Reverend Deacon Edward Outerbridge Shield	<b>Nathan Agostinho</b>	The 2025 PWC Bermuda HeadStart Award of Excellence	<b>Chloe Botelho</b>
The Home and School Association Award for Outstanding School Spirit	<b>Sa-Qui Robinson</b>	The Outstanding Student Award, given on behalf of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Bermuda	<b>Olek Rymon-Lipinski</b>
The Outstanding Leadership Award	<b>Lara Simas</b>	The EY Bermuda Values Award	<b>Laurie Malo</b>
The Unsung Hero Award	<b>Kaylee Almeida</b>		

# Next Chapter

Universities and Colleges the Class of 2025 are currently attending



## Bermuda

Bermuda College  
Raleigh Bermuda

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## Canada

Class Afloat, Nova Scotia  
Concordia University, Quebec  
Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia  
Queen's University, Ontario  
St. Mary's University, Nova Scotia  
Wilfred Laurier University, Ontario

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## Philippines

De La Salle University

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## United Kingdom

Bath University  
Bournemouth University  
London South Bank College  
Loughborough University  
University of Liverpool  
University of Nottingham  
University of Plymouth  
University of Staffordshire, London Campus

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## United States

Bay Path University, Massachusetts  
Flagler College, Florida  
Mike Bender Golf Academy, Florida

2 members of the Class of 2025 will be taking a gap year and 1 has entered the workforce



# More Than a Ring

## Stepping Into Senior Year Together

By Kamaya Lynch-Wade '26

On September 19, 2025, twenty-eight students received their class rings during Ring Mass at St. Teresa's. This event marked an important milestone for the Class of 2026.

I had the honor of being song leader during the mass. I felt very nervous in the loft, but also powerful. I felt as if I could make an impact and help create an emotional memory for everyone present. Receiving my ring opened my eyes to the beginning of the end of my years at MSA, a moment that will stay with me forever.

MSA keeps this tradition because it officially begins the senior year, and brings together generations of MSA members, creating a true sense of family. No matter what led us to join MSA, we now take these steps together in unity, sharing the same milestone as one class. My classmates looked emotional and proud knowing they have made it to this point in their journey. As we step into our senior year, we carry forward the spirit of Mount Saint Agnes Academy. A reminder that our journey is truly "Nil Sine Deo," nothing without God.

# Alumni News

Congratulations to alumnus Jaeden Johnston '17 on successfully graduating from Buckinghamshire New University in the UK with a BSc (Hons) in Air Transport for Commercial Pilot Training. We cannot wait to see you take to the skies behind the controls of an airplane!



## Young Alumni Happy Hour Recap & Upcoming Event

On July 25, we enjoyed a great happy hour with our Young Alumni at Front Yard on Front Street. It was a wonderful evening filled with laughter, shared memories, and warm conversations about all the exciting things happening in everyone's lives.

We're already looking forward to the next gathering on

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 22 AT ASTWOOD ARMS

Be sure to check out our [Alumni Facebook page](#) for updates and more details.



# Class of 2000

By Kelly Benevides '00



The MSA Class of 2000 celebrated their 25 year high school reunion on Friday, July 4, 2025, with a dinner and dance at the Spanish Point Boat Club. The event was well attended by approximately 30 classmates, including seven who travelled from overseas to take part in this special milestone. It was an evening filled with joy, laughter, and fond memories as classmates reconnected and reflected on their journey since graduation.

The weekend continued with a family beach day at Clearwater Beach on Sunday, July 6, 2025. Classmates, along with their families, enjoyed a day of sunshine, swimming, and fun, bringing the reunion festivities to a perfect close. The MSA Class of 2000 is grateful for the strong turnout and the shared spirit of community that made their 25th reunion such a memorable success!

# Class of 1990

By Lisa Stevens '90



Some of the Class of 1990 got together to celebrate 35 years with a casual BBQ at Kilderry Estate. Left to Right: Nancy (Andrews) Sousa, Andrea (Bell) Morghen, Tina Martin, Susan Rebello, Tamara (Pratt) Lewis, Deirdre (Lohan) Bull, Lauren Grayston, Jennifer (Adderly) Lindo, and Lisa Anne (Bardgett) Stevens

**Don't forget to join our MSA Alumni only Facebook page and stay in touch so that we have your current information.**

**Join The MSA Alumni Connect Page**



**Update Your Information Here**



# In Memoriam We would like to honor the following alumni who have passed away



We were saddened to learn of the passing of Renee Lawrence '77 (nee Butterfield). We extend our condolences to her son Jordan Lambe, her sister Yvette Butterfield and to all her extended family and friends.



It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of Eddie Desousa '01. Our heartfelt condolences and thoughts are with his family, friends, and all who knew him. May he rest in peace.



We are saddened to share the passing of Jeffrey Mello '92. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family, friends, and all who were fortunate to share in his life. May his classmates find comfort in remembering the moments and memories he helped create during his time at school.



We regret to announce the passing of Anita Stamper '68. We extend our condolences to her family and friends. May her memory be a blessing.

## Save the Dates 2025-2026

MONTH	DATES	EVENTS
<b>November</b>	<b>22</b>	Alumni Association Sip, Mark & Create Event
<b>December</b>	<b>6</b>	Home & School Santa Breakfast
	<b>9, 10, 11</b>	Christmas Concert
	<b>15</b>	Home & School Sugar Plum Shop
	<b>17</b>	School Break Begins
	<b>22</b>	Young Alumni Party
<b>January</b>	<b>2</b>	School Break Ends
	<b>24</b>	Home & School Multicultural Night
	<b>25 - 30</b>	Catholic Schools Week
<b>February</b>	<b>4</b>	Information Session 5:30 pm (All grade levels)
	<b>9 - 13</b>	Semester Break: No School
	<b>21</b>	Alumni Association Quiz Night with Mike Bishop
<b>March</b>	<b>3</b>	MSA Birthday

# Thank you to our incredible golf sponsors!



