

HEADS UP

A Weekly News Update from the Principal and Heads of School

Friday, 9 September 2011

Volume 8 Issue 02

It is with great sadness that we have learnt of the passing of the father of John Donald (Year 9). Please keep the family in your thoughts in the coming days.

PRINCIPAL NEWS

"Believe. It is by believing in roses that one brings them to bloom."

These beautiful words were recently sent by an alumnus to one of our teachers and I think it is a great way to start this week's Heads Up. Furthermore, if you replace the word 'roses' with 'children', I think we have a great motto to approach the education of the students at St. Andrew's.

Since the publication of last week's Heads Up, I have been approached by a number of parents; either directly or through email, who have requested additional information about the development of the Strategic Plan. Needless to say, with the school year less than two weeks old, the plan is still very much in the embryonic stage but once completed it will shape our 'vision' in the years to come.

In the coming weeks and months all aspects of the school, from facilities to finance and from governance to curriculum will be looked at in detail, and aims for the future will be set. Once produced the Strategic Plan will be a practical working document that all members of our community should recognise and work towards. Throughout the year, I will be using this forum to update the community on the plan's development and I hope the entire process will be completed by May 2012. By having the plan in place before the end of this school year we will be able to use it as a springboard for the CIS/NEASC re-accreditation process that will take place in 2014; the planning for which will begin in late 2012.

Since school started I have had a number of meetings with different organisations within the school including the PTA, the Foundation and the Alumni Association. Our Alumni Association is particularly keen to attract new members and they can be found at www.sta-connected.org.

Alumni, Parents, Teachers, and Friends of
St Andrew's School

**please join us on our social networking site
created just for the St Andrew's Community**

find old friends, make new ones,
and stay connected!

Sign up at
www.sta-connected.org

A joint effort of the St Andrew's School Alumni & Friends Association (SIAAFA) and the St Andrew's School Foundation



Dengue Fever

Unfortunately Dengue Fever continues to have an impact on the island and St. Andrew's. Over the weekend of 3rd and 4th September we had the entire campus sprayed again and I have instructed Mr. Outten to remove any stagnant water on the campus. Nevertheless, as I stated last week, we are continuing to encourage parents to help in this process by spraying their children and/or their clothes before coming to school. If you would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the school nurse (Janet Bridgewater) on 6777814.

[Glenn Canterford](#)

Principal

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

OUTSTANDING NEWS FOR ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL (Bahamas All Merit Scholarships)

Over the summer we learned that out of ten (10) scholarships awarded four (4) went to St Andrew's students. Three of the awardees were IB graduates; D'Anthra Adderley, Kenton Meronard and Danielle Gaitor. Danielle has also received a \$150,000.00 scholarship from Spelman University. Our 4th awardee was last year's Head Boy Jordan Archer who did not accept this scholarship as he had already received a full scholarship from his university, by doing this Jordan enabled another deserving student to receive the scholarship offered to Jordan.

Raising Funds after Hurricane Irene Year 13 IB students Bake Sale Wednesday 14 September

Students in both Primary and Secondary have been asked to help raise funds for our family islands. These islands were not as fortunate as New Providence when Irene passed through the Bahamas. Please support your child's efforts.

Edline meeting for all Year 7 parents and all parents new to St Andrew's

Edline was introduced last academic year and improved communication between home and school and improved student learning. Teachers, students and parents will be even more expert in its use this year. This software allows our students and parents to access teachers' grade books no matter where they are; Europe, North America etc; anywhere there is internet. Like last year, teacher's grade books will show updates every three weeks and an EDLINE three week grade update schedule will be in next week's Heads Up.

Parents are asked to attend a short meeting **Monday, 19 September at 3:30pm in the library**. Parents will receive their access codes so that they can see their child's grades online.

Secondary School 'Back to School' afternoon Thursday 29th September 2011 (2:30pm – 5:00pm)

As the new academic year gets under way, the Secondary School faculty would like the opportunity to meet the parents of the students they have in their classes. We would also welcome the chance to share with you an overview of our varied programmes. This is not the time to ask **how** your child is doing but an opportunity to find out **what** your child is doing and which subject teachers he or she has.

Student Council Leadership

Students have elected their homeroom representatives and early next week the three students hoping to be elected Student Council President will each make a short speech to the assembled student body. The students will then vote.

The role of the Student Council is to communicate to the administration and to teachers the collective views of the student body through a recognized official organization. The council is composed of 18 representatives, plus alternates, elected annually by secret ballot in each of the Secondary School homerooms. An executive board is then elected by the representatives and the President of the Council is elected by secret ballot by the entire Secondary School student body. The upper school head boy and head girl also serve on the Executive Board.

The Council and Executive Board will meet regularly, and meet with the administration from time to time, for discussions of school issues. Minutes of meetings are posted and distributed to all representatives. Separate committees are set up to deal with certain areas of involvement, such as the social committee and the teachers' appreciation committee.

Student Leadership Prefects and Head Boy and Head Girl Prefects

In Years 9 and 12, the student body and the faculty/administration have traditionally elected students with recognized leadership potential as prefects. There are 20 Middle School Prefects and 20 Upper School Prefects. Once elected, they are expected to be treated with the same respect given to teachers. The role of the Prefects is as follows:

- To provide a support system for the administration and teachers to assist in the smooth running of the school
- To perform supervisory duties during morning and afternoon breaks
- To assist the deans at assemblies
- To provide other support, as required, that is not detrimental to their studies
- To act as role models for the student body, and set good examples in terms of:
 - Standards of dress and overall appearance
 - Standards of promptness and attendance
 - Standards of behaviour and politeness
 - Encouraging responsibility and leadership

Any prefect not meeting the above expectations or standards will be replaced by the student next in line in the voting.

Duties of the Head Boy and Head Girl

A Head Boy and Head Girl are elected as the leading students of the school to represent the entire student body and the School. These positions are held by Year 9 and 12 students who are chosen by the administration on the recommendation of prefects and faculty members. Students holding these positions are chosen because they are leaders who are responsible and studious. They speak on behalf of the school in public settings, contribute to assemblies and attend various local events as representatives of the school.

Student Leadership House Captains

House Captains

Middle school 7/8/9 House Captains are involved in leading and organizing house sports teams. Upper school 10/11/12 House Captains are chosen for their team spirit and leadership qualities as representatives of their houses. House Captains are expected to arrange practices for sports events, organize teams and remind them of upcoming events and activities.

SPORTS NEWS

Last academic year the St Andrew's Hurricanes won more championships than any other BAISS school..... yes including those very large schools. Our students and their coaches have to be commended and I hope we continue to be competitive and good sports, win, lose or draw. Good luck this year GO HURRICANES.

Good News

Over the summer the following eight Year 11 students attended the Global Young Leaders Conference (GYLC). This is an outstanding opportunity for our students to meet similar 'minded' students from all over the world. This summer we had St Andrew's students in the United States, Europe and China. I may ask some of these students to share their experiences in an upcoming upper school assembly, Lyette Darville, Jasmin Ginton, Lauren Ginton, Tanaz Johnson, Natishka Johnson, Andy Schaefer, Perez Willie and Byron Woodside. Also Brandon Russell Year 11 attended the People to People programme at Harvard University.

Good News

Parents, if you have good news to share with us about our students, e.g., weekend activities not sponsored by the school, please email me directly. Over the holiday, if students represented The Bahamas or their clubs, in different areas, please let me know.

Appointments (doctor etc)

Parents, please remember to send a note in or email the school if your child has to go off campus with you to an appointment. Thank you.

Electronic Devices

Parents, please remember that cell phones, digital cameras, head sets, I-pods, etc are **not** to be brought to school. These will be confiscated and returned to the parent, not the student. Ms Petersen's music classes are the exception to this rule on the days that they have music.

Internet Social Sites

Parents please take an interest and ask to see your child's involvement in these social sites. Some students, on the weekends are writing/posting the most awful and untrue comments about their classmates. If this weekend abuse carries over to school on a Monday or has a detrimental affect on a student's learning we will have to get involved.

Important Secondary School Events

Tuesday 13 September 7:30 am on the front lawn.....	Donuts for Dads
Wednesday 14 September	after 'Irene' year 13 IB "Bake Sale" fundraiser
Wednesday 14 September	Year 7 Survival Field Trip to Blackbeard's Cay
Thursday 15 September	PTA AGM 7:00pm in the library
Monday 19 September	All girls Inter House Softball
Monday 19 September	Edline meeting 3:30pm in the library
Wednesday 21 September	Senior Boys Softball
Thursday 22 September	Junior Boys Softball
Thursday 22 September	Scholarship Reception 7:00pm library
Week of Monday 26 September	Inter House Quiz
Thursday 29 September	Back to School Afternoon
Monday October 3	Middle School Awards 9:00am
Tuesday October 4	Upper School Awards 9:00am
Wednesday 12 October	Swim Gala
Friday 14 October	Public Holiday
Monday 17 - Friday 21 October	Autumn Break

Frank Coyle

Head of Secondary School

Email: frank.coyle@st-andrews.com

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Primary Parent Orientation Evening

Last evening our Primary School parents were out in large numbers to attend orientation meetings with year level teams. Each year level meeting was well attended and parents were given an introduction to the routines, expectations, special events and highlights for the 2011-2012 school year.

During the opening session in the Hall, all parents were introduced or reintroduced to three important groups in our community; the Parent Teacher Association, the Health and Safety Committee and the Foundation. This provided a good reminder to all in attendance that there are a variety of significant ways to become more involved in the life of the school.

Dr. Canterford, our new Principal, also shared his pleasure to be a part of St. Andrew's and reminded parents that their involvement is meaningful, vital and appreciated throughout their child's time at school.

Specialist teachers and new faculty members were introduced before parents set off to the various meeting rooms.

I would like to thank Dr. Canterford, Mrs. Nicole Knowles, Mrs. Karen Alliaata and Mrs. Kaynell Ritchie for their contributions to the evening.





Health and Safety

Mrs. Nancy Cartwright has secured a supply of “Bugs Lock” which are bands that repel mosquitos with a 100% natural aroma. Due to small parts it is not recommended for children under 3. Please see Mary Turner if you are interested in purchasing this product at a cost of 2 for \$5.00.

Dates to Remember

- Thursday 8th September
- Tuesday 13th September
- Wednesday 14th September
- Thursday 15th September
- Wednesday 21st September

- Primary Parent Orientation Evening 6:00pm** in the Hall
- PTA Donuts for Dads
- Hurricane Irene Relief Bake Sale
- PTA Annual General Meeting 7:00pm** in the library
- Primary School Edline Introduction for new parents

My best to you,
Yvette Simms
Head of Primary

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE ST ANDREW'S FAMILY

Please click on a group's link below to view information from the group:

[Community News and Events](#)

[Health and Safety News and Events](#)

[PTA News and Events](#)