

THE SAINT

THE MOUNT SAINT AGNES ACADEMY MAGAZINE - FALL 2024



NEW STUDENT EXPERIENCE
MIDDLE SCHOOL SEEK WEEK
EVENTS
MSA SPORTS
GRADUATION
ALUMNI



MSA's core values and focus on the whole child and family are what encouraged me to send my daughter to MSA. It is also important to me that my daughter be a part of generations of tradition.

Kristina Amaro '08, Teacher and Parent of Maribella, Grade 2



Published by: Mount Saint Agnes Academy
Art Direction and Design: Sean Collier, Cosmic
Photography: Zoe Lopes, Marq Rodriguez
Contributors: Olivia Dean '69, Suzanne DeCouto '84, Mi DeSilva '74, Lili Le Fevre, K'ah Seymour '31
Printing: Print Link

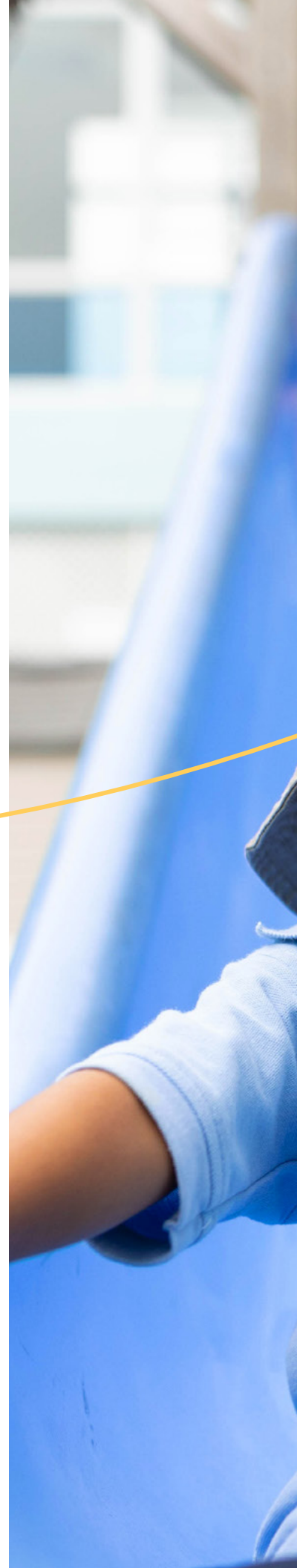
Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this publication. However, we apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions.

P.O. Box HM 1004
Hamilton HM DX
Bermuda

19 Dundonald Street,
West Hamilton HM 09
Bermuda



www.msa.bm





Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Principal's Message | 02 |
| Chairman's Message | 02 |
| A Fresh Start | 03 |
| Joining the MSA Family | 04 |
| Welcome New Faculty | 05 |
| Middle School SEEK Week | 07 |
| Sports Day | 10 |
| Celebrating Talent and Community | 11 |
| Brush Strokes | 12 |
| A Colorful Success | 13 |
| A Night to Remember | 14 |
| Grade 12 Senior Retreat | 15 |
| Graduation | 16 |
| Joining the MSA Family | 18 |
| Alumni News & Events | 19 |
| In Memoriam | 23 |
| Home & School Association | 24 |
| Long Service Awards | 25 |
| MSA Family Day | 26 |
| Save the Dates | 28 |

Contents



Principal's Message

Dear MSA Family,

It is with great joy and deep gratitude that I welcome you to the first-ever edition of our school magazine! We are reminded of the blessings that come from being part of the MSA family. Rooted in the teachings of our Catholic faith, our school is more than just a place of learning—it is a community where the values of love, compassion, and service are lived out every day. Together, as students, parents, faculty, and staff, we form a vibrant and faith-filled community that supports the spiritual, academic, and personal growth of all.

The beginning of each school year is a time filled with hope and excitement. It offers fresh opportunities for learning, new friendships, and moments of grace. This year offers exciting opportunities for our students to deepen their understanding, collaborate meaningfully, and express their creativity in new ways. We seek to nurture the gifts and talents of every child, so they may be prepared not only for academic success but also for lives of faith and service.

This magazine is a beautiful reflection of our shared journey. It highlights the creativity, achievements, and dedication of our students and staff, and it celebrates the many ways God's love is at work within our school community. I hope this magazine becomes a cherished tradition, one that captures the spirit and heart of our school for generations to come.

As we move forward into the new school year, may we continue to be inspired by our faith, united in our mission, and dedicated to the success and well-being of all our students. Together, as one MSA family, we will grow in faith, learning, and love.

Anna Faria-Machado
P'23



Chairman's Message

Dear MSA Community,

As an alumnus and parent, I am deeply honored to chair the Board of Governors of our wonderful school. I have firsthand experience with the unwavering dedication of our school leadership and staff, who tirelessly work to foster a safe and stimulating environment that nurtures both academic and emotional growth.

Building upon the strong foundation laid by the Sisters of Charity over 134 years ago, we remain committed to providing a high quality education in an environment that focuses on each student and helping them to reach their potential. Our most recent Education Plan underscores this commitment, ensuring that all our endeavors are guided by our institutional values of respect, integrity, responsibility, trust, compassion and caring, success, and our motto, Nil Sine Deo.

While the Board has several initiatives under consideration, the ongoing improvement of our facilities is a top priority, and we cannot achieve this goal without your continued support. We are immensely grateful to our parents, alumni, and friends for their generosity in providing an environment where our students can thrive.

This inaugural edition of The Saint offers a glimpse into the vibrant, warm, and stimulating environment that is the hallmark of our school community. Celebrating the accomplishments of our students and the active engagement of our alumni, we believe it captures the essence of what makes Mount Saint Agnes a truly special place.

Sean Kelly
'02, P'36



A Fresh Start



The Beginning of a New School Year at MSA

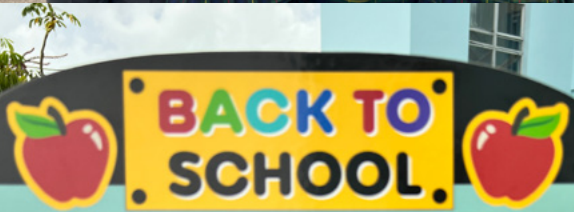
The start of a new school year is always a time brimming with anticipation and excitement. As summer ends, students eagerly prepare for the adventures the upcoming year promises. The thrill of reconnecting with friends, meeting new classmates, and reuniting with teachers creates a contagious energy throughout the school.

This year, the excitement kicked off early at the Welcome Back Party hosted by the Home & School Association. The event was a fantastic celebration that brought together students, teachers, and families. From games and delicious food to the highlight of the evening, the bouncy castle, the event was full of fun and laughter. And of course, it would not have been complete without the appearance of our very own mascot, Rambo, who gave everyone a warm welcome back to school.



The hallways buzz with enthusiasm, as students return with fresh hopes and aspirations. The promise of new knowledge, exciting experiences, and personal growth makes this time of year particularly special. It is a chance to start anew, set goals, and embrace the many opportunities that lie ahead. Whether it is achieving academic success, participating in extracurricular activities, or simply enjoying the sense of community, there is something for everyone to look forward to in the months to come.

It was a joyful way to mark the start of what promises to be an incredible school year. With the energy and enthusiasm felt at the Welcome Back Party, the MSA community is ready to make this year one to remember. Welcome back, everyone! Let us make this year our best one yet!



Joining the MSA Family



I started at MSA feeling scared. The school was enormous, and it was a big step from primary school to middle school. I was nervous about meeting new classmates and teachers. Even though I've only been here for about two months, MSA makes me feel at home. The students, teachers, and staff are all kind, sweet, and overall, a welcoming community.

Some of the changes from primary school to middle school have been great. I love having a locker because it makes me feel mature. I also like

the new classes that were not at my primary school, such as Spanish, playing an instrument in Music, and all the after-school sports and activities that are offered. Some changes that I was not ready for were packing, carrying, and changing into my gym clothes, especially in only 5 minutes. It's also difficult moving from class to class in only 3 minutes, no matter where you are in the school.

Making friends has been a good experience for me. I am meeting new people from different schools and

different grades. So far, everyone has been a delight. I like how my new friends are reliable and there for you. We girls always stick together.

I am excited to be an MSA Saint and to have been welcomed into their loving community. So far, they have taught me how to have faith, always try my best, and to never give up.

By K'ah Seymour
Grade 6 student



I am excited to be an MSA Saint and to have been welcomed into their loving community.



Welcome to the Newest Members of our Faculty

We are excited to welcome the following staff to the MSA family. Their dedication to education and commitment to student success will undoubtedly have a positive impact on our school.

Kristy Smith - Assistant Principal



Joining us from Alberta, Canada, Mrs. Smith has years of experience in education leadership. She brings a wealth of knowledge and a strong commitment to student success.

Mrs. Smith is excited to contribute to MSA's faith-based learning environment and to create a positive and joyful experience for all. She believes in the power of collaboration and is eager to work together with the MSA community to achieve great things. Mrs. Smith's daughters, Addison, Grade 4, and Bryn, Grade 2, are fully embracing their MSA experience; their brother, Payson is looking forward to joining them soon.

Bellina Hunjan - School Counselor



Ms. Hunjan brings a wealth of experience to MSA, having worked with children and adolescents in schools throughout the UK.

With a master's degree in psychoanalysis, Ms. Hunjan is committed to providing support to students, parents, and staff. Her goal is to create a safe and nurturing environment where everyone feels valued and understood.

Sam Kelly - High School Mathematics Teacher



With 34 years of experience teaching in various countries, Ms. Kelly brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to MSA. Ms. Kelly was eager to join MSA, having heard positive feedback from friends and alumni.

Ms. Kelly is passionate about inspiring students to love math and is excited to share her enthusiasm with our students. Outside of the classroom, she enjoys thrifting and seeing her former students succeed.

Chantal Howard - Diverse Learning Specialist



Mrs. Howard, who has dedicated her career to supporting student success, is excited to join the MSA community.

After completing her education degrees in Canada, Ms. Howard gained valuable experience working with students in various school settings. Mrs. Howard moved to Bermuda in 2020 where she continued her work as a teacher and behavior therapist.

Mrs. Howard looks forward to collaborating with MSA's faculty to create customized approaches which best meet the students' specific learning needs.

Jacqueline Smith - Diverse Learning Teacher



Mrs. Smith, who has experience as a teacher and MTSS Interventionist, is thrilled to return to the MSA community in this new role. She is pleased to share that her twins joined the MSA family in kindergarten.

Mrs. Smith, a dedicated team player, is passionate about education and believes in the Reggio Emilia and Kagan Cooperative learning philosophies. She is excited to contribute to MSA's strong sense of family and faith-based environment.

Marie-Sophie Brackstone - Music Teacher



Ms. Brackstone is passionate about education and inspiring students. After graduating from the Catholic University of America, she joined the St. Thomas More Teaching Fellowship.

Ms. Brackstone is excited to join the MSA community and share her love of music with students. She believes in nurturing hidden talents and helping students grow both academically and spiritually.

In her spare time, Ms. Brackstone enjoys baking, cooking, traveling, and hiking.

Jessie Thomas - After School Program Coordinator and Part-time Elementary Physical Education Teacher



Ms. Jessie Thomas, a proud Bermudian, joins MSA as a Physical Education teacher. After completing her PGCE at Sunderland University, she had the opportunity to complete her student teaching at MSA, where she fell in love with the school community.

Overcoming personal challenges, Ms. Thomas discovered her passion for physical education. She believes in creating a safe and inclusive environment where students can enjoy being active and develop a love for movement.

Ms. Thomas is excited to inspire students to reach their full potential and help them experience the joy and accomplishment that comes from physical activity.



MSA opened its doors in 1928 with only 22 female students. By 1968, the school had grown to accommodate 630 students, the largest enrollment in its history.

Middle School SEEK Week

A Week of Exploration and Learning Beyond the Classroom

The Middle School SEEK Week (Student Exploration, Experience, and Knowledge Week) was a four-day event filled with exciting workshops and activities that aimed to provide students with hands-on experiences and opportunities to explore various fields of interest beyond the traditional classroom setting.

lore

From June 18 to June 21, students at our school were immersed in a diverse range of workshops and experiences that allowed them to delve into areas such as art, innovation, environmental awareness, and adventure.

Depending on their area of interest, the students had the opportunity to choose among the following workshops:

Game On: Cornhole

gave participants the opportunity to assemble and paint their own cornhole boards with the help of retired carpenter Michael Camara '77, make bean bags, and even learn basic sewing skills from Filomena DaCosta '75. The workshop provided a fun and creative outlet for the students and acquired practical skills such as drills, painting techniques, and sewing.

Cupcake Crusaders

embraced their inner bakers and embarked on a sweet journey to create delicious cupcakes led by Karen Marsh '73. From shopping for ingredients to visiting local bakeries and engaging in a cupcake-baking challenge, the students not only honed their culinary skills but also learned about teamwork and creativity.

Makerspace Marvels

introduced students to the world of 3D printing and traditional woodworking techniques. Participants learned how to use software tools to design and create physical objects using 3D printing technology. Additionally, they had the opportunity to craft and paint birdhouses, providing them with hands-on experience in woodworking and design.

Ocean Warriors

highlighted environmental awareness through activities focused on understanding and addressing ocean stressors. Students participated in beach cleanups, learned from marine conservation expert Choy Aming '93, and explored local landmarks. They also developed prototype devices to address ocean challenges.



Island Adventurers

offered an exhilarating experience filled with surfing, paddleboarding, cliff jumping, and exploration of hidden gems across the island. Students not only enjoyed thrilling activities but also gained a deeper appreciation for the natural beauty of their surroundings.

Art Carnival and Innovation Quest

provided students with opportunities to express their creativity and critical thinking skills. From creating carnival masks and paintings to participating in innovative challenges such as constructing towers, designing paper airplanes, and building catapults, students were able to unleash their creativity and problem-solving abilities.

Studio Saints

students learned the art of storytelling through video production. From recording and editing videos to embarking on a sailboat field trip, the workshop allowed students to explore the world of visual storytelling and media production.

Overall, Middle School SEEK Week was a resounding success, with experiences that not only enriched student learning but fostered creativity, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of the world around them. The students were left with a wealth of unforgettable memories from their exploration beyond the classroom.



I was so excited to participate in the Cupcake Crusaders SEEK Week. I had such a great time learning all the new tips and tricks on how to bake cupcakes and brookies like a professional. There were some interesting flavors created, and they all tasted delicious!



Ava M., Grade 8



Sports Day

A Celebration of Talent and Team Spirit

This year's Annual Sports Days at the Bermuda National Sports Center were a thrilling celebration of athleticism, teamwork, and school spirit. Held over two action-packed days in February and March, students from Grade 3 to Grade 12 displayed their talents in a variety of competitive events, including sprints (100m, 200m, 400m, 800m), relays, high jump, javelin, long jump, shot put, discus, and skipping races.

The stands were packed with families, friends, and our ever-enthusiastic mascot, Rambo, all cheering on the athletes and creating an electrifying atmosphere. The dedication and

hard work of every participant shone through, as they gave their all, demonstrating true sportsmanship and determination.

After two days of intense competition, Green House claimed victory as the Sports Day Champions. Their impressive performances across the events were a testament to their teamwork, perseverance, and commitment to success.

On April 27, our youngest athletes from the Early Learning Program (ELP) to Grade 2 had their chance to shine. Their special Sports Day was



filled with fun games and playful competitions on the MSA field, filling the air with laughter and excitement. Cheered on by enthusiastic parents and family members, the day was made even more memorable with a special appearance by Rambo, who lifted spirits and added to the festive atmosphere.

Both events truly embodied the spirit of Sports Days—where talent, team spirit, and joy take center stage, bringing our school community together in celebration.



A memorable moment in MSA's history was the Disney-themed bazaar, which featured a visit from the iconic Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck. The characters traveled from Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, to entertain our students and community.

Celebrating Talent and Community

Spring Fest was a resounding success, filled with music, dance, and a festive atmosphere. The Spring Concert, a highlight of Spring Fest, featured two outstanding performances by our talented students.

Our guests were also treated to an art exhibit by our creative middle school and high school artists displayed earlier in the month at City Hall. The first night was a sold-out show, and the energy in the air was electric. The matinee was equally impressive, leaving the audience in awe. Following the final performance, a festive atmosphere filled the air as everyone celebrated the event's success.

Spring Fest offered a variety of activities, including bouncy castles, and food vendors. The sounds of laughter and music filled the air as everyone joined in the festivities.

We would like to thank all our patrons, teachers, students, and the organizing team for their contributions to the success of Spring Fest. Look out for details of our upcoming Christmas Concert, which will be held December 10-12.





Brushstrokes of Generosity

The Annual Art Auction

This May, MSA held its annual art auction, showcasing the exceptional creativity of our students and alumni. For the first time, group pieces were submitted, adding a new dimension of collaboration and excitement to the event.

The auction kicked off with a special cocktail reception on May 17 in the auditorium, where guests could view the impressive works from our alumni and students. Early bids at the reception set a lively tone for the

event, which was followed by an online auction running from May 27 to June 9.

During this online period, art enthusiasts placed bids in friendly competition, showing great interest in the pieces on display. The enthusiasm for the artwork reflected their high quality, and we were especially pleased to learn that one piece was purchased by a cruise ship visitor who saw it exhibited at BREW Coffeehouse on Front Street, where the artwork was displayed after the reception.

The auction raised over \$3,500, which will directly support our bursaries program, helping to ensure access to education for deserving students. As we look forward to the next art auction in May 2026, we are proud of the incredible artistic talent within our community and the strong support from everyone involved. Thank you for helping make this year's event such a success!

Fun Fact

The mural in the foyer leading to the auditorium is a beautiful work of art by renowned Bermudian artist and sculptor, Vivienne Gardner.

A Colorful Success

5K Color Run/Walk

In May of this year, MSA held its first 5K Color Me Run/Walk. The event was a community and family affair, drawing in over 330 participants. A kaleidoscope of joy and enthusiasm, the run was filled with vibrant colors splashing the streets as participants made their way through the route.

The atmosphere was electric, with participants and spectators swept up in the event's excitement. The support from the community was truly heartwarming. The colorful event would not have been possible without the generous contributions of our sponsors, LUSO and BERMUDA RENTALS.



\$4,300 raised

The Fun Run raised over \$4,300.00 and left an impression on all involved. As the sun set on the colorful festivities, it was clear that this event had secured its place as a much-anticipated annual tradition. We are already looking forward to next year's Color Me Run/Walk! We hope to see even more happy faces joining in the fun on Friday, May 30.



Click on the QR code to see the reel BERNEWS produced for a recap of the excitement!





A Night to Remember

Class of 2024 Senior Prom

The Class of 2024 celebrated their Prom at Bella Vista on Saturday, June 1. The evening was filled with excitement as students arrived in their elegant attire.

After a delightful dinner, the dance floor came alive with music and laughter. Students showcased their best moves and enjoyed celebrating with friends. Throughout the night, there were countless opportunities for photos and unforgettable memories.

The highlight of the evening was the announcement of the Prom King and Queen. Nia-René Outerbridge was crowned Prom Queen, and Pharaoh Benevides was named Prom King. Liana Franco and Colin Cardoza were also recognized as members of the Prom Court.

The Class of 2024 Prom was a fitting culmination of their high school experience. The evening was filled with joy and laughter, as the students danced and celebrated their achievements. Congratulations to the Class of 2024 on a truly special night!

Grade 12 Senior Retreat

A Day of Bonding and Reflection

The Grade 12 students enjoyed a memorable senior retreat, a special day dedicated to family bonding, spiritual reflection, and fun. This cherished event provided a unique opportunity for students and their families to connect and celebrate their high school journey.

The day began with a hearty breakfast, where seniors and their families gathered to share stories, laughter, and delicious food. It was a wonderful way to kick off the day, fostering a sense of community and togetherness.

In the afternoon, the group embarked on a scenic cruise aboard the Aristocat. The stunning views and gentle breeze created the perfect backdrop for relaxation and connection. As they sailed, students reflected on their high school experiences, shared their aspirations for the future, and enjoyed the company of their loved ones.

Following the cruise, the celebration continued with a lively BBQ. Great food, fun games, and camaraderie made for a fantastic ending to the day.

Fun Fact

Last school year, our non-uniform day initiative made a significant impact by donating over \$10,000 to 16 different charities in Bermuda.



12

Graduation


The Class of 2024 celebrated their graduation on June 27 at St. Theresa's Cathedral. A beautiful mass preceded an evening ceremony where diplomas and awards were presented to the twenty-seven graduates.

Aidan Hassell
Aidan Medeiros
Andreia Correia
Anijahé dos Santos
Martin
Chelsea Scarth
Colin Cardoza
Davis Barnes
Dill Chrishanté
Donaldo Laurenceo

Dylan Muso
Eli Douglas
Emily Dunstan
Gianna Sabeen
Ivanna Young
Jacinto Saints
Jack Adderley
Katarina Cardoso
Keiran Smith
Liana Franco

Marcus Duarte
Michaela Tavares
Nia-René Outerbridge
Pharaoh Benevides
Reece Percy
Ryan Parkin
Ryan Saudade
Teren Phillips





Several awards were presented, including recognition of over \$279,000 in scholarships from both the graduates' universities (Western University, Dalhousie University, McMaster University, and Rollins College) and local organizations (Hospital Auxiliary, Centennial Bermuda, Chubb Charitable Foundation, BELCO, and BFIS Fidelis).

Here is a list of the colleges and universities where the Class of 2024 is enrolled.

Acadia University

Algonquin College

Bermuda College

Carleton University

Dalhousie University

McMaster University

Mike Bender Golf Academy

Mount Allison University

Mount Saint Vincent University

New York School of Interior Design

Rollins College

Saint Mary's University

Sheridan College

University of Ottawa

University of Prince Edward Island

University of Western Ontario

Joining the MSA Family



Introducing Lili Le Fevre, MSA's New Director of Advancement

Lili Le Fevre, a native of Montreal, joined MSA in September 2024 as the new Advancement Director. With a background in advertising and philanthropy, Lili brings a wealth of experience to her role.

Lili is passionate about supporting MSA's continued growth and success. She is excited to collaborate with the MSA community to foster a culture of philanthropy and create a lasting impact on the lives of our students.

Lili loves connecting with donors and sharing their stories of compassion. It is inspiring to see how their gifts transform lives, enabling innovative programs, scholarships, and facilities that benefit faculty, staff, and students.

Thank You Donors – Annual Giving 2023-2024

We are incredibly grateful for your generous support and dedication to our school. Your annual gift plays a vital role in enriching our students' educational experiences and fostering a nurturing learning environment.

Thanks to your kindness, we can continue improving our facilities and offering bursaries. Your belief in our mission inspires us to strive for excellence every day.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support. Together, we are shaping the future of our students.

Mark your calendars for our Gala on Saturday, March 1, at the Hamilton Princess. More details to follow.

New Alumni Association Co-Presidents



Introducing Jennifer Lopes '91 and Trinette Mitchell '92 as the new Co-Presidents of the MSA Alumni Association! Their goal is to revitalize the association and create a more active and engaging community for alumni.

The Co-Presidents have an exciting year planned, with several fun events and collaborations with the Home and School Association. We encourage all alumni to attend these events and stay connected to the MSA community.

We look forward to a vibrant and exciting year for the MSA Alumni Association.

STAY CONNECTED!

Don't forget to join our MSA Alumni only Facebook page.

MSA Alumni Connect



Have you made any changes to your contact information? Please let us know by clicking on the form or scanning the QR code below:

Update Information



We love to hear from you! If you have any news or stories to share, contact our Advancement Manager, Suzanne Decouto

sdecouto@msa.bm

Sip, Snack, and Success

The All Alumni Event 2024

The annual Alumni Sip `n Snack event was a highlight of the 2023-2024 school year. Held on June 28, the event brought together alumni from various graduating classes, including Ms. Maureen Cusack, a graduate from the class of 1948.

The evening was a wonderful opportunity for alumni to reconnect, share stories, and celebrate their time at MSA. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, joy, and a strong sense of camaraderie.

We would like to thank everyone who attended this special event. Your presence made it truly memorable, and it was heartwarming to see the enduring spirit of our school community.



As we look forward to the future, the Alumni Sip `n Snack event serves as a reminder of the lasting bonds formed during our time at MSA.

We hope to see you at our next gathering on

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025



On Friday July 26, the Young Alumni (2015-2024) gathered for a Happy Hour event from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM at the new GAME ON Sports Bar on Bermudiana Road.

We encourage all young alumni to mark their calendars for the next event on

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2025



Alumni News: Celebrating Life's Special Moments

Congratulations to Mr. Joe Kelly and Mrs. Elaine Ray '78 Kelly, on their 40th wedding anniversary. Their enduring love and commitment serve as a wonderful example for all.

Congratulations to Michelle Davis (Camara) '08 and Jonathan Davis '04 on the birth of their new baby girl Charlotte Davis on March 26, 2024.



Class of 1984 – 40 Years of Memories and Friendship

The Class of 1984 recently celebrated a milestone—40 years since their graduation! Planning for the reunion began well in advance, and anticipation was high for the weekend of fun and reminiscing. The festivities kicked off on a beautiful June Friday evening with a happy-hour cruise aboard the UBERVIDA. Among those on board were Lucille Lowe (Burchall), Candice Shouldice (Aming), Anne-Marie Bell (Harris), Susan Stabile (Sinclair), Tony Cordeiro, Brian Gonsalves, Dean Soares, Brent Nichols, Kristen Daum (Wakefield), Alicia Resnik (Finkbeiner), Helene Simmons (Hart), Suzanne DeCouto, and Susan Simmons (Johnson).

The celebrations continued Saturday night as 20 alumni gathered for dinner at Cloud Restaurant. The lively group included Carlos Defrias, Steven Rodrigues, Brent Nichols, Louisa Swayne (Oliveira), Alicia Resnik (Finkbeiner), Lucy Garcia (Medeiros), Helene Simmons (Hart), Anne-Marie Bell (Harris), Candice Shouldice (Aming), Suzanne DeCouto, Tony Cordeiro, Susan Simmons (Johnson), and Susan Stabile (Sinclair).

It was a weekend full of joy and nostalgia, as classmates reconnected and shared stories about their lives since leaving school. Many agreed that these gatherings should happen more often, with plans already being made for future reunions.





MSA Class of 1974's 50th Reunion: A Golden Celebration

The MSA Class of 1974 marked their 50th reunion with a weekend filled with laughter, memories, and meaningful connections. The festivities began with the annual MSA Sip 'n Snack, providing a relaxed environment for classmates to reconnect. Some, like Audrey Cusack, had not been seen in decades, making the reunion extra special. Audrey even brought along her mother, Maureen Barnard Cusack from the Class of 1948, adding a heartwarming multi-generational touch to the event.

After the Sip 'n Snack, the group gathered at Denise Johnson Saylor's family home for an evening of conversation, wine, and homemade treats. The next night, they enjoyed dinner at Divots, where a lively atmosphere and long dinner table kept the conversation flowing well into the night. The reunion left everyone with a renewed determination to stay connected, and a WhatsApp group has already been created to keep the Class of 1974 in touch and plan more frequent get-togethers.

As we all know, reunions are about friendships, old and new, and this weekend certainly strengthened the bonds within this special group of MSA alumni.



Celebrating 55 Years: MSA Class Reunion

The MSA Class of 1969 recently came together to celebrate 55 years since their graduation, and what an evening it was! Held at the charming Ascots in the Royal Palms Hotel in late June, the reunion was filled with laughter, nostalgia, and the warmth of rekindled friendships. Though five decades have passed, the bonds between classmates remain as strong as ever.

Front row: Sharon (Kendell) Trimmingham, Edward Sousa, Antoinette (Madeiros) Moik, Olivia (Oliveira) Dean, Marguerite Lovell.
Back row: Frank da Ponte, Kathryn (Card) Garcia, Sandra (Foreman) Bird, Paul Preech, Maria (Tavares) Moniz, Janet (Cabral) Lutkin.

The highlight of the evening was a beautiful performance by violinist Sari Smith, whose rendition of "Ave Maria" stirred many emotions and set a reflective tone for the gathering. Alumni reminisced about their time at MSA, sharing fond memories of former teachers, the Convent (old school), and extracurricular adventures like Glee Club. The event was made even more poignant as classmates took a moment to remember those who could not attend or were no longer with them.

The reunion was not only a celebration of shared memories but also a reminder of the enduring friendships that began all those years ago at MSA. As the evening ended, laughter echoed through the room and promises to meet again were made, ensuring that the spirit of the MSA Class of 1969 will live on for years.

In Memoriam

We would like to honor the following alumni who have passed away:



At time of publication, the MSA family suffered a senseless and tragic loss with the passing of Grade 12 student Ethan Arruda. Our hearts and support are with his family and friends. We will be honoring Ethan in our spring edition.



Marcus Rushe was part of the Class of 2014 however he did move on before graduation. He has always been a part of the MSA family and kept close contact with his classmates. His younger sister is in grade 4. He will be deeply missed.



Peter Nelmes, a member of the Class of 1978, attended MSA for a brief period but left a lasting impression on the school community. Peter is survived by his wife Lee Anne and their three children, Courtney, Chad, and Faith. May he rest in peace.



MSA will remember Mr. Terry Stevens as a dedicated supporter of the school. In 2019, the Stevens family celebrated 100 years of involvement with MSA, which began when Mr. Stevens' mother, Ruth Louise, enrolled in 1919. Mr. Stevens graduated in 1953 and served on the Board of Governors, Diocesan Committee, Men's Association, and as a Stall Manager at the Bazaar. Mr. Stevens is survived by his wife of 59 years, Joan, and their two children, Nancy '85 and Michael '87.



Mr Derek Corbett was at MSA for a short while with the Class of 2008. Our prayers are with his family and friends.



Sister Carey (Mary Joan Semos), a member of the Class of 1961 passed away on July 3, 2024, after residing in the Precious Blood Convent in Reading, PA, USA. Sister Carey maintained close contact with her classmates and will be deeply missed by the MSA community.

Home & School Association

Building Community Spirit at MSA

The Home & School Association is a vital part of our school, bringing together students, parents, teachers, and alumni to foster a strong sense of community. Through a variety of fun and meaningful events, this dynamic organization plays a key role in enhancing the school experience and ensuring a sense of belonging in the MSA family.

Throughout the year, the Home & School Association hosts a wide range of activities aimed at bringing together the school community. From fundraisers to social gatherings, their initiatives create an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere for all.

One of the highlights of the Association's work is their fundraising efforts, which directly support the school. Popular fundraisers like the MSA Bazaar, Charleston wrap sales, Booster popcorn orders, and Dessert Bingo help fund important programs and initiatives at MSA.

Beyond fundraising, the Association focuses on organizing opportunities for social interaction and connections. Monthly events allow students, parents, and teachers to meet, share experiences, and strengthen ties within the MSA community. Whether it's a creative Paint 'N Sip night, the much-loved Santa Breakfast, or sports nights featuring volleyball and basketball for middle and high school students, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Their flagship fundraiser, the annual Golf Tournament, draws generous support from alumni, whose contributions remain essential to the success of the Association.

The work of the Home & School Association wouldn't be possible without the ongoing support and dedication of our students, parents, teachers and alumni. Their involvement and generosity are deeply appreciated and have a lasting impact on our school.

The Home & School Association is a shining example of how collaboration, dedication, and community spirit can enrich the school experience. Their efforts not only strengthen the bonds within our MSA family but also highlight the importance of unity in building a positive and supportive school environment.

Thank you!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to last year's executive team for their dedication and service:

Laura Smith - President

Katrina Smith - Vice President

Elaine Miskiewicz - Treasurer

Chrislyn Dill - Secretary

We are excited to welcome this school year's new executive team:

Amy Greenslade - President

Gainelle Simons - Vice President

Tiffany Nelmes - Treasurer

Wanda Robinson - Secretary



LONG SERVICE AWARDS

The Board of Governors of Mount Saint Agnes Academy congratulates the faculty and staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment to our school.



Karen Wicks



Anna Faria-Machado



Theresa Fletcher



Valerie Martins



Tracy Wicks



Kelly Exell



Sandra Whalley



Martin Pastor



Sam Glazebrook



Kristi Foggo



Suzanne DeCouto



Holly Archeval

MSA Family Day

April 17, 2024

A picture is worth a thousand words



MSA Family Day



Save the Dates

| MONTH | DATES | EVENTS |
|----------|-------------|--|
| October | 14 – Nov 27 | Cookie Dough Fundraiser |
| November | 19 | Annual Giving Campaign Launch |
| | 30 | Home & School Santa Breakfast |
| December | 10 – 12 | Christmas Concert |
| January | 16 | Information Session 5:30 pm (All grade levels) |
| | 18 | Home & School Dessert Bingo |
| | 26– Feb 1 | Catholic Schools Week |
| February | 22 | Alumni Association Quiz Night with Mike Bishop |
| | 27–28 | Middle and High School Sports Days |
| March | 1 | Gala at Hamilton Princess |
| | 7 | Career Day |

A Place to Transform

Our beloved auditorium needs your support!

For decades, the auditorium has been the heart of our campus. After many years, we must now renovate this well-loved space to meet the needs of our current MSA family and community.

This year's **Annual Giving Campaign** aims to breathe new life into this cherished space. Breathing new life into the auditorium will allow it to become a community space that enables our students to transform into artists, performers, speakers and graduates.

We are truly blessed with a generous community that supports MSA in countless ways. Thanks to your generosity and passion for quality education, we can continue to enhance our facilities and offer our students a safe, nurturing environment where they can flourish.



If you would like to support future decades of creativity and memories in our transformed auditorium, please scan the QR code or visit msa.bm/donate



The auditorium is where memories, dreams, and accomplishments come to life. It is where generations of MSA students have come together for assemblies, graduations and unforgettable productions like *The Sound of Music* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. It's the heart of MSA's traditions, creativity, and shared experiences. Supporting its renovation means giving future students the same opportunity to connect, celebrate, and create memories in this treasured place.

Lexi Rego '02, P'33, P'36
Middle School Teacher



