

the STARGAZER

FROM THE DESK OF DEAN BOCCIA



The 2020-21 school year is the quintessential example of what it means to embrace challenges as opportunities for growth! Our STARS and their teachers used their mighty girl gifts to find a way out of no way as they persevered and pivoted in order to make it possible for us to learn both on campus and remotely. Our parents provided the steady support that we needed to sail our ship to the harbor. Therefore, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of the members of our school community for reinforcing my belief that we are better together!

At the beginning of each calendar year, rather than making New Year's resolutions that we all know are too quickly forgotten, the SAA Lower School and the Junior High choose *One Word* on which to focus their thoughts and actions. The LS 2021 Word for the Year is *Believe* and the JH word is *Balance*.

These two words have served the children well as we focused on monthly themes that went with each one. Themes such as, *Balance Family and Friends and Balance Study and Play* for the JH, and *Believe that Friendship is an Honor and a Privilege and Believe that the Little Things Aren't Little* for the LS.



In addition to these good words, we also chose God words as inspiration. For *Believe* we chose, *Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. John 14:1* For *Balance*, we chose the verse,

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1.

Over the summer encourage your STAR to write her 2021 Word for the Year on a post-it or an index card and put it in a visible place so she will be reminded of it. Have her think of her own theme for June and July and write that down as well. Hopefully, reflecting on these wonderful words will bring her peace and warmth over the summer.

Parting Thoughts...

Which way do I go? Lord knows, we were all asking ourselves this kind of question when the school year began! The children followed arrows to keep themselves on the right side of the hallway and six feet apart from each other...they played in numbered play zones...teachers

pushed carts loaded with their materials to get from class to class... parents helped their children as they zoomed in for lessons...you name it - we did it. And all the while we stayed true to the pillars upon which our school stands - Prayer, Study, Community and Service.

Here's to always being
SAA STRONG!



Summer Spotlight & Summer Enrichment

[Click here](#) for our **Summer Spotlight** where you can access information about **Summer Enrichment**. **All new students should have received their Google accounts** that gives your daughter access to summer materials. **NEW families:** Please contact Sara Casey at scasey@saa-sds.org if you have not received your account.

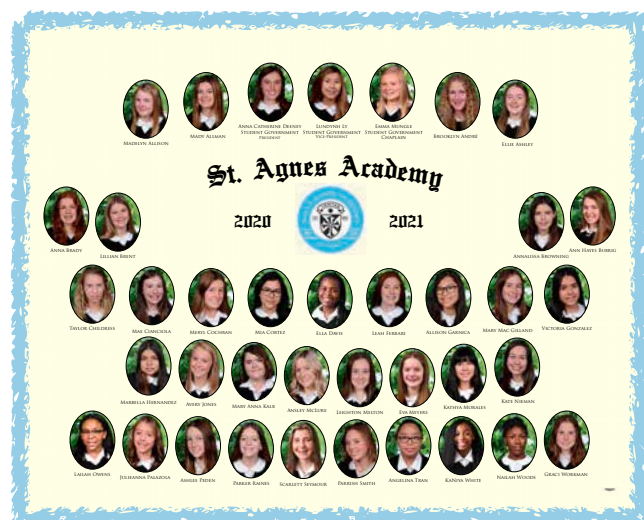
The goal of summer enrichment is to help your daughter to retain and gain knowledge over the summer months. Each grade has a *Summer Requirements* page that will explain what is required and what is optional. Unless otherwise stated, the login credentials are the school provided student email address and password (stars + four digits). Students should use the *login with Google* option when available. If you have any questions, contact Sara Casey at scasey@saa-sds.org.



Report Cards and Junior High Course Assignments

Report cards and JH course assignments will be mailed on June 8. Please contact Mrs. Brooks at tbrooks@saa-sds.org or at 901-435-5800 if your address has changed. **Official** JH schedules will be issued when school starts in August.

Congratulations to our Grade 8 Class of 2021!



Our **SAA Grade 8 Class of 2021** has many accomplishments for which to be proud! This class of Stars earned the most number of scholarships awarded to the rising freshman class of all the schools that applied, including the Freshmen Leadership Scholarship, awarded to **Anna Catherine Deeney**, for which all rising freshmen were eligible. Well done girls!

The graduates of the Class of 2021 who received Top Honors this year are as follows:

Valedictorian: **Taylor Childress and Madelyn Allison**

Salutatorian: **Kathya Morales**

Third Honors: **Mae Cianciola**

Summer Hours

If you need to contact the school over the summer, our offices will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday. The SAA office will be closed from July 5-9. We will have access to email but will not be able to answer the phones during this time. Please call Mrs. Brooks prior to any visit to SAA during the summer break to ensure that she will be there to assist you.

NEW iPads & Laptops for 2021-22

This year students in grades K-6 will receive new iPads and JH students will receive new laptops! We will issue each STAR her device on her first 1/2 day of school. **Parents of new students, all rising grade 7 parents and students, and all new rising grade 8 parents and students need to attend a tech orientation to receive their devices.** Dates for the August orientations will be posted on the Summer Spotlight the last week of June.



School Supplies, Books, and PE Uniforms

Your daughter's books, school supplies, and PE uniform will all be on her desk when she returns to school! This process will ensure that your child has everything that she needs on her first day of the 2021-22 school year. In addition, parents will no longer need to run the risk of dealing with back orders or worse...return orders. **The fee for these student materials will be paid through your FACTS Tuition Management account on August 6.** Details about the total cost for books, digital subscriptions, school supplies, and PE uniforms will be sent later in the summer.

The school is ordering a PE uniform for each student in Grades 1-8. (KinderStars will not need a PE uniform. In lieu of the PE uniform, they will receive a special drawstring bag only for them!) The uniform will consist of a PE shirt and a pair of shorts, and the cost will be bundled with your daughter's books and supplies. Parents may place orders for additional PE uniform items with the Spirit Shop at spiritshop@saa-sds.org.

We are here to serve you over the summer, so feel free to contact us if you have any questions!

- Tammy Brooks: tbrooks@saa-sds.org or 435-5800.
- School Counselor, Britney Dedmon: bdedmon@saa-sds.org
- Dean Boccia: kboccia@saa-sds.org or 435-5829



Summer Virtual Check-in Meetings

Weeks of June 21 & July 19



In these ever-changing times, we want to stay in contact with our families over the summer. Therefore, two **Virtual Check-in Meetings** will be held for each class during the weeks of June 21 and July 19. At our Check-in Meetings, we will meet our new families in each class, discuss any updated information on the opening of school, and answer questions that parents may have. Students are welcome to attend the Check-in Meetings with their parents.

[Click here](#) to join the meeting or enter the Meeting ID 209 829 3277. (Please note that no passwords are needed to enter the meetings.)

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| Monday, June 21 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SAA <i>Kindergarten</i> Check-in Meeting at 6:00-6:45 p.m. 2. SAA <i>Grades 1 & 2</i> Check-in Meeting at 7:00-7:45 p.m. |
| Wednesday, June 23 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SAA <i>Grades 3 & 4</i> Check-in Meeting at 6:00-6:45 p.m. 2. SAA <i>Grade 5 & 6</i> Check-in Meeting at 7:00-7:45 p.m. |
| Thursday, June 24 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SAA <i>Grades 7 & 8</i> Check-in Meeting at 6:00-6:45 p.m. |
| Monday, July 19 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SAA <i>Kindergarten</i> Check-in Meeting at 6:00-6:45 p.m. 2. SAA <i>Grade 1-4</i> Check-in Meeting at 7:00-7:45 p.m. |
| Tuesday, July 20 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SAA <i>Grade 5 & 6</i> Check-in Meeting at 6:00-6:45 p.m. 2. SAA <i>Grades 7 & 8</i> Check-in Meeting at 7:00-7:45 p.m. |

Catch a New Rising Star!

Let's give a warm welcome to the newest members of our SAA family!



Kathryn Broussard (K)
Cecelia Jones (K)
Addie Davis (SAA1)
Cy Nobleza (SAA4)



Gillian Gatere (SAA5)
Morgan Massey (SAA 5)
Charlotte Stifter (SAA5)
Elsa Gaylor (SAA 6)
Daisy Yarrow (SAA 6)



Reagan Oberling(SAA7)
Landry Sanford (SAA7)
Louisa Howard (SAA8)
Callan McCollum (SAA8)
Morgan Musacerenge(SAA8)