



Parent Newsletter

From the Head of School

Dear Parents,

I started the year off in September by talking about transitions; my own transition to Head of School and the transition that students take each year at SDA, as they move ahead in their course of study. Time truly has flown and when I look back on what I had to say that first week of school, I can only hope it held true for the entire school year.

Here at Saint Dominic Academy, we are all about rising above challenges, exceeding expectations, and ensuring that each young lady has the most engaging, intelligent and memorable experience while she walks these halls. I encourage your daughters, do not fear the transitions that wait ahead this year; face them with confidence and with the knowledge that as women of distinction, they can achieve anything. The year may be different, it may bring the unexpected, but “anything is possible if you’ve got enough nerve”

We made many changes and additions to the SDA program this year, and I think we all, parents, students, faculty and administration faced every transition, every new idea, and every venture placed before us this year with confidence and the desire to achieve greatness.

This year, and in years to come at Saint Dominic Academy, we will continue to embrace change and will continue to indeed live up to the idea that *anything is possible if you’ve got enough nerve!*

I wish you a happy and restful summer and will carry you in prayer!

Warmly,

Sarah Degnan Moje
Head of School

A message from the Academic Dean

Dear Parents and Guardians,

¡El tiempo pasa

Le temps passe vite!

Time flies!

And so it did this school year !

The time has come for us to exchange handshakes, give each other pats on the shoulder, make notes-to-self on *what-to* and *what-not-to do* next year and, of course, plan for another memorable summer for our precious young ladies.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support, encouragement, and inspiration that you and your daughters have generously showered me with. You have made my first year as Academic Dean one of the better years of my professional life. It was, and will continue to be, a privilege and a pleasure to serve you in this role, which I vow to carry on with zest, love, and glee.

I will end the year with a host of things I've learned and, in tandem with a favorite rhyme that has cheered me on through life...

Good, better, best
Do not let them rest
Till your good is better
And your better is best !

... I look forward to a wonderful school year 2017-2018!

In the meantime, the sun and the sea await...

Enjoy !



Mrs. Guen Farrales
Academic Dean

A message from the 7th & 8th Coordinator

Dear Parents,

It seems that not so long ago I was reminiscing about the lazy, hazy days of August as we were preparing to welcome a new school year at Saint Dominic Academy. Now here we are saying good-bye and looking forward to summer vacation.

As I write this letter, our eighth grade students are thinking about their upcoming Moving up Ceremony. We are so proud of all they have accomplished these past two years and we applaud them as they prepare to enter their freshman year. Our seventh grade students will host a breakfast in their honor later this month.

Seventh grade students are also busily planning an orientation program for the incoming seventh graders. They are happily looking forward to becoming Big Sisters to the class of 2023. These fine young ladies have become such an important part of our Saint Dominic Academy community. We anticipate their continued success and look forward to watching them grow into empowered young women.

I wish all of them and all of you a very happy and healthy summer vacation.

Sincerely,



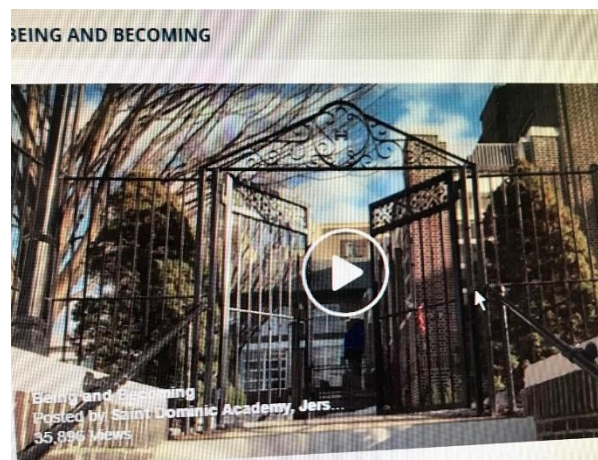
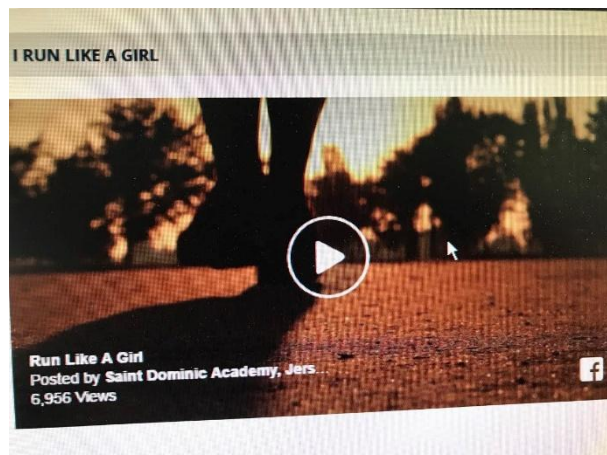
Ms. Mary Ann McLean
7th and 8th Grade Coordinator

Have you seen.....

SDA's new **promotional videos**? They are posted on our webpage (www.stdominicacad.com) and on YouTube. Entitled "Being and Becoming" and "I Run Like a Girl," based on a poem written by **Lauren Kelley '17**, the videos speak to our goal of empowering young women for leadership in a global society.

After watching these videos you will see that from 1878 to today, and far into the future, Saint Dominic Academy will offer young ladies a chance to be everything they ever dreamed of being: STEM scholars, Presidents, Soloists, Athletes, and there is never anyone saying "girls cannot..." At Saint Dominic Academy, we work every day to send the message that "Girls Can" and "Girls Should" and that message, more than any other, helps to create a world of women who work for the betterment of society as a whole.

Enjoy them and then, please share them!



Congratulations!

SDA Inducts New Members Into Honor Societies

On Wednesday, April 26, Saint Dominic Academy inducted twenty-five members into the Siena Chapter of the National Honor Society, four new members into La Societe Honoraire de Francais (French Honor Society) and eighteen new members into Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica (Spanish Honor Society).

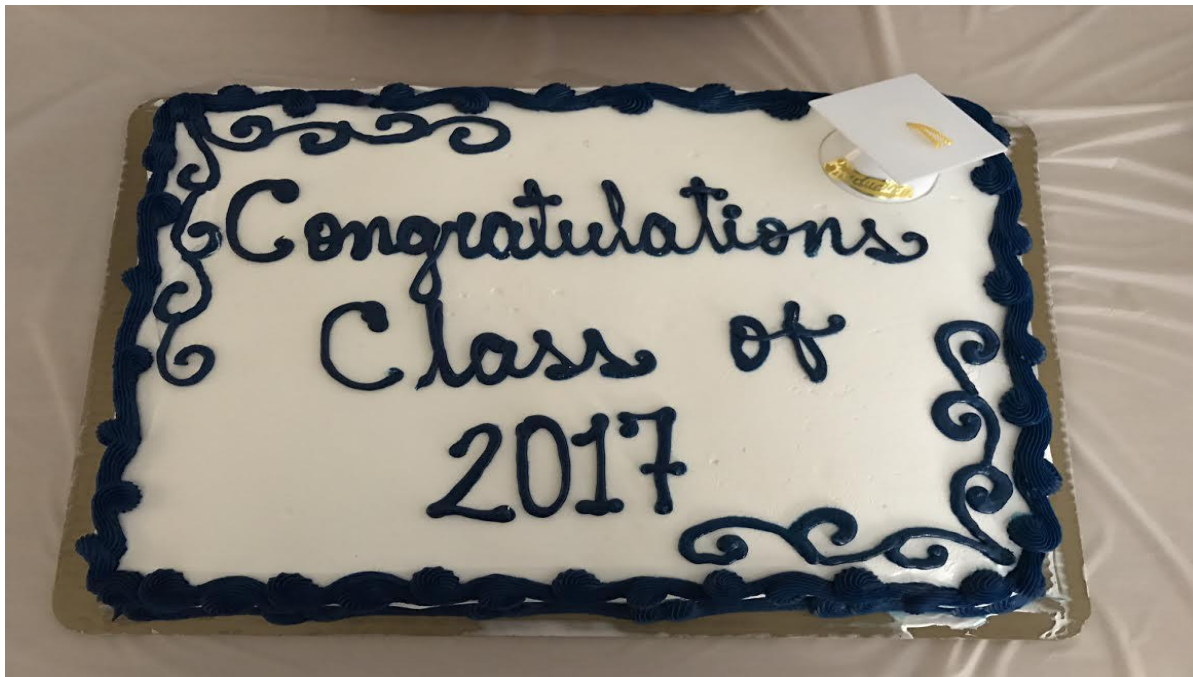
New National Honor Society inductees include: sophomores **Donna Abello, Amity Ajero, Meghan Anderson, Skye Archibald, Maia Bustamante, Jarrielle Cabalfin, Jen Marie Chie, Hannah Dobronsky, Nicole Gizzi, Courtney Malden, Jenna Manzo, Ashley Marrero, Julia Murphy, Melanie Nunez, Katelyn Pineda, Maya Pinney, Yvette Sarmiento** and **Gabriella Swope**. Junior inductees include **Jennifer Chandy, Megan Dowden, Francesca Guido, Alessandra Izaguirre** and **Jessica Wisowaty**, and seniors **Danielle Dompur** and **Pamela Reinoso**.

New members of La Societe Honoraire de Francais include sophomore **Amanda DeJesus**, and juniors **Joelle Francisco, Francesca Guido** and **Kathryn Moody**. New members of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica include sophomores **Maia Bustamante, Jarrielle Cabalfin, Hannah Dobronsky, Julia Murphy, Nicole Ojeda** and **Maxine Rieder**. Junior inductees include **Jennifer Chandy, Andrea Fernandez-Charris, Sophia Feijoo, Emily Gill, Alessandra Izaguirre, Simran Kaur, Stefanie Osorio, Nicolette Racz, Amanda Ros, Alani Spina** and **Makenna Waller**.



Congratulations! continues.....**Class of '17 – Ivy Bound and More**

Congratulations to the SDA Class of 2017 whose acceptances include U Penn, Cooper Union and NYU, and one student who has signed a NCAA National Letter of Intent to run at Monmouth University. The class's scholarship awards total \$7,054,160. Additional acceptances include American University, Caldwell University, The Catholic University of America, Central Connecticut State University, College of Mount Saint Vincent, The College of New Jersey, Duquesne University, East Stroudsburg University, Fairfield University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Fordham University, Franklin Pierce University, High Point University, Hofstra University, Holy Family University, Iona College, James Madison University, Johnson and Wales University, Kean University, Loyola University, Lynn University, Manhattan College, Marist College, Marquette University, Montclair State University, Mount Saint Mary College, New Jersey City University, Northeastern University, Pace University, Providence College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rider University, Rowan University, Rutgers University, San Diego State University, Seton Hall University, St. Joseph's University, St. Louis University, St. Peter's University, Stevens Institute of Technology, Stockton University, Temple University, University of Connecticut, University of Florida, University of Hartford, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, University of Miami, University of New Haven, University of Scranton, University of Vermont, Villanova University, and Wentworth Institute of Technology.



Congratulations! continues.....

SDA Spirit Award Winners

The Saint Dominic Academy Spirit Award is one of the highest awards given by the school community, and is awarded to one sophomore, junior and senior each year. Having been nominated by the student body, the Spirit Award recipient is then chosen from the nomination lists by the faculty, staff and Administration of the Academy as an outstanding representative of her class.

To achieve this award, the student must exemplify the highest ideals of SDA. These ideals include enthusiasm, community, service, and honor. The Spirit Award can be presented to a recipient once in her high school career.

Congratulations to this year's Spirit Award Winners:

Sophomore – **Cristina Sabia**

Junior – **Emily Gill**

Senior - **Lauren Kelley**

Passing the Torch!

On Friday, May 19 at the Senior Honors Assembly, the 2017-2018 Student Council Executive Board was installed. The new officers are (L-R) **Francesca Guido**, President, **Nicolette Racz**, Vice President, **Sophia Feijoo**, Secretary, and **Raquel Lekic**, Treasurer. They succeed (L-R) **Lauren Kelley**, **Allie Duran**, **Maegan Duran** and **Erin Bailey**, respectively. In her final address as President, Lauren Kelley shared some poignant memories, thanks and reminders and concluded with this comment, "So, thank you to Saint Dominic Academy in its entirety for making the past four years unforgettable. Thank you to the underclassmen, for being the little sisters I never had. Thank you to our teachers and mentors, for teaching us lessons we will take with us far beyond the classroom. And finally, thank you to the resilient, compassionate, beautiful women who make saying goodbye so hard: the Class of 2017. Seize the day and make your lives extraordinary."



A Message from the SDA Parents' Association

Hello all,

Well time really flies when we are having fun. It is almost the end of the school year and time for our suntan lotion and wide brim hats. As you aware, the PTA's objective this year was to ensure full funding for the air conditioning unit to be installed in ELAN. I am happy to say that with the Designer Bag Bingo event added to our 2017 schedule, we have reached our goal.

Our first Designer Bag Bingo was held on Saturday, April 8, 2017 at the Lodi Boys and Girls Club. This event was a success as we made approximately \$12, 500. I would like to express a great thank you to all who donated, bought tickets, attended, helped and won great prizes. To the parents who donated a significant amount of their time and money to ensure we had a successful event, a great BIG THANK YOU. The event was very entertaining, some tables more than others, but overall we had a great time. I for one, cannot wait for next year's event.

We have concluded our Calendar Raffle. I would like to extend 'Thank You's' to all who returned their tickets and congratulations to our winners.

Please note that the PTA is always in need of volunteers, if you would like to volunteer for next year please contact Jennifer Bailey at [201-264-5623](tel:201-264-5623) or Jennifer.Bailey@bbh.com

Thanks for your continued support.

Jennifer Bailey

SDA Parents' Association.

SDA Inaugural Trip Day Hailed a Great Success!

At the beginning of January, Ms. Degnan sent a letter home to all parents which stated, “Our administration is fully aware that not all learning can be done in the classroom setting; that there are indeed lessons to be learned in the world around us. . . . We do also firmly adhere to that old adage, ‘all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.’ Your daughters work hard, each and every day, as does our faculty and staff. Our plan for this March is to have all students, faculty, administration and staff fully engaged in our first annual SDA Trip Day!”

Despite having to change plans due to inclement weather, SDA’s inaugural Trip Day became a reality as groups of students along with their faculty and staff chaperones set out from SDA to a variety of adventures in and around the Metropolitan Area. On Friday, April 10, the first round of trips went out to **Medieval Times** (7 & 8 grade), a Behind the Scenes workshop and self-guided tour of **Madame Tussaud’s Wax Museum**, a trip around Manhattan on **THE RIDE**, a tour of Rockefeller Center and a visit to the Top of the Rock (**ROCK Pass**), a self-guided audio tour of **The MOMA** (Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art), a painting session at **Pinot’s Palette** in Hoboken, the challenge of **Escape the Room, NYC**, and a walking tour of the **Wall Street** area.

On Friday, April 28, the remaining trips included **Glass Roots Glassmaking Studio** in Newark, a tour of **The United Nations**, a guided tour around **The Whitney Museum of American Art** and a self-guided tour of the **9/11 Museum**.

A survey taken of faculty, staff and students indicated that Trip Day was not only enjoyed by all, but a new tradition that everyone is looking forward to next year.

Here’s what some of students and faculty members had to say: “I had never been to Madame Tussaud’s Wax Museum. I was able to see how the figures are made and what they actually looked like in person compared to meeting an actual celebrity.” “I chose my trip because I thought it would be a nice experience to go somewhere that was not in New Jersey for a school trip.” “The United Nations has always been something I wanted to experience.” “I selected Escape the Room because I really enjoy activities where I have to use my critical thinking skills.” “I love New York and was excited for any trip that was offered.”



911 Museum

SDA Inaugural Trip Day continues.....



SDA's "Fearless Girls"



Did they make it out?



Glass Blowers at work

SDA Inaugural Trip Day continues.....



An encounter with the Hulk



Let the jousting begin!



Aficionado's of Modern Art

SDA Inaugural Trip Day continues.....



Artists extraordinaire!



At the "Center" of it all!



A fashion stop by The Whitney

SDA Inaugural Trip Day continues.....



SDA's General Assembly

Some Reminders for Parents

Please Lending a Helping Hand

SDA has offered to help St. Joseph School, Jersey City with their collection of Box Tops for Education. Their goal is to collect 20,000 tops before the end of the year. Please save your Box Tops over the summer and send them in when school begins. You can also drop them off or mail them in.

Every Box Top helps!

Thank you.



Drop-Off Safety

For the safety of our students and for other pedestrian and automobile traffic, it is requested that students be dropped off on Duncan Avenue on the side of the school. Cars **should not stop** in the middle of traffic on Kennedy Blvd. to let girls out of cars. It is very dangerous for all. Thank you.

SDA Spring Athletic Report

Outdoor Track & Field- The perennial power has taken its share of bruises this spring but had some highlights. SDA saw its 36-year hold on the Jersey City Outdoor title taken by a senior laden Snyder team. Our second place Blue Devils scored an impressive 94 points so they did not go down without a fight to the senior dominated Tigers. The relay season was paced by seniors **Malia Gray** and **Celeste Aurora** (SDA's NJSIAA Scholar athlete) and a solid and improving youth based distance corp.

The Blue Devils made their 37th consecutive trip to the Penn Relays and in front of more than 20,000 spectators earned medals finishing third in a tough heat. Carrying the batons for SDA were **Isabel DeBari '19, Suhayla Johnson '20, Celeste Aurora'17** (who signed a National Letter of Intent to compete at D1 Monmouth University) and **Malia Gray '17**. The team additionally won a record seventh South Hudson Championship (the meet began in 2009) and were paced by **Jessica Wisowaty '18** who had the best meet of her fledgling scholastic career. The team has one month left with hopes for solid effort on the county, and state level as well as our annual appearance at the Outdoor Nationals in North Carolina.

The SDA XC team will begin practice on June 26, with a summer road race at the Shore and Camp (8/20-8/25) on the agenda. The team will be preparing for a big season including an October 7, 2017 race at Walt Disney World, Florida. ALL are welcome to join and /or train.

Cross Country /Track & Field reunion- On Saturday, October 28, 2017, the SDA XC /Track & Field program is hosting a reunion of sorts commemorating the upcoming 40th Anniversary of the program. For details and to be added to the contact list please contact **Tara Adams-Ragone '92** tararagone@yahoo.com

Softball - The team under the direction of first year coach John Bigler began the year 8-0 before faltering then and leveling off to their regular season record of 15-8. The fifteen wins to date are the most by an SDA team in close to ten years. Wins over defending HICIAL champion Kearny and Paramus Catholic were key games in the 8-0 start. Four year standout, senior **Mary Kate Cannito** who deserves to leave SDA on a good team earned her 100th career hit and 100th RBI (Mary Kate along with **Brianna Coletti '17** were honored by the HICIAL as Scholar Athletes) and **Ariel Conception '18**, has posted a 14-7 record on the mound.

Dance Team – Congratulations to the newest members of the SDA Dance Team: **Aisha Adeboye '23, Olivia Aidukas, Chloe Butler, Adele Mauldin, Kassandra Ruiz, Avery Sullivan, all '21 and Kayla Stewart '20.**

Athletic Awards Night - The annual SDA Sports Award banquet was held on May 15th at the Chandelier in Bayonne. More than 200 attended the festivities and were happy as they were acknowledged and thanked for their accomplishments for the year. Our guest speaker, former SDA hurdler **Karen Paneggiante Johnson '96**, shared her personal and professional experiences and received a standing ovation following her remarks. Karen, the mother of a three year old daughter and one year old son, is a banker and realtor by trade who currently resides in Hoboken. **Sister Mary Lou Bauman** and National Award-winning Dance Team coach **Marie Pompeo-Maffia '79** were presented service awards (15 years and 30 years, respectively) for their contributions to the athletic program. The evening ended as Malia Gray and Celeste Aurora led a rendition of the Alma Mater.

Saint Dominic Academy Scholar Athlete Award - Joining Aurora, Coletti and Cannito in receiving scholar athlete recognition is this year's winner of the prestigious St. Dominic Academy Scholar Athlete Award - **Alexandra Duran '17**. Allie is a Bayonne native and was Vice President of the Student Council. She was also a member of National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, LINK Crew, DYAC, Peer Ministry, Eucharistic Ministers and Student Ambassadors. She was also an award winner for her involvement in Soccer and Basketball. Congratulations to Alexandra for joining a most select club.

**SDA Drama Club
to present:**



November 17 & 18, 2017

Auditions for SDA's upcoming production of "The Sound of Music" will be held on **June 7th and 8th** (12:30 – 4:00 p.m.) with callbacks scheduled for June 13. All information about the characters, the audition requirements and how to sign up for an audition time is posted at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4aaca72caaf85-the-sound>

Saint Dominic Academy Students Selected for Summer Programs

While the days at school wind down, many SDA students already have busy summers lined up.

Incoming freshman **Kassandra Ruiz** was recently awarded a scholarship to Broadway Dance Center in New York where she'll be spending many of her summer days.

Maia Bustamante '19 will be SDA's representative at HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar) According to its materials, HOBY's mission is to "inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation" and has as its core values, volunteerism, integrity, excellence, diversity and community partnership. The three day event includes activities, workshops, reflective time, group time, a dance, a parents program, and several keynote speakers.

Mae Ebid '19 has been accepted to work with Projects Abroad's High School Special programs, designed for teens 16-19 years old who are interested in helping developing communities around the globe. (www.projects-abroad.org) Mae will be serving in schools and care centers in Kathmandu, Nepal for four weeks.

Danielle Prekop '19 who has been ranked by USA Swimming (<https://www.usaswimming.org/>) as 1st in New Jersey and 17th in the United States in the 200 Meter IM and 1st in New Jersey and 22nd in the United States in the 400 Meter IM, has further qualified to represent TEAM USA in the 2017 International Maccabi Games in Israel this summer. This event is the third largest sporting event in the world held every 4 years, with about 42 countries sending their best in each sport.

Gabriella Swope '19 will be working at Sea Turtle Camp (www.seaturtlecamp.com) in Surf City, North Carolina. Sea Turtle Camp was founded to offer youth the opportunity to learn about marine biology through immersive, hands-on, feet-wet experiential education. Their mission is to cultivate a love and respect for the ocean by building confidence and developing character, while inspiring coastal conservation through safety, fun, and learning! Gabby will also be working in the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Hospital which was created to provide injured sea turtles with the love and care necessary to rehabilitate and release them back to the ocean

Rising Senior **Raquel Lekic** has been accepted to The *Ever to Excel* Program at Boston College. Ever to Excel allows students from around the world opportunities to live Jesuit spirituality. Participants are introduced to some of Boston College's best community members each day and will discover the power of service, spirituality and community. Students deepen faith, engage in conversation, serve others, reflect, and explore Boston College and the city of Boston.

Summer Enrichment Classes at SDA

When: Monday, June 26th through Thursday July 27th*

Where: Saint Dominic Academy

Film Studies (2.5 Credits):

Open to current Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

COST: \$300.00

TEACHER: Mr. Currie

DESCRIPTION: Become a movie critic as we analyze movie reviews and write our own reviews after watching several Hollywood films. This course is designed to introduce students to the elements of fiction as it appears in films, while strengthening students writing skills. Students will watch movies from several genres, including the classics, animation, action, drama, science-fiction, historical and comedy.

SAT English Prep Course:

Open to current Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors

TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

COST: \$300.00

TEACHER: Ms. Regan

DESCRIPTION: This class is designed to help prepare students for the English section of the SAT. Students will develop a strong foundation in the concepts that are tested on both Reading and Writing sections of the new SAT.

SAT Math Prep Course:

Open to current Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors

TIME: 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

COST: \$300.00

TEACHER: Ms. Angrosina

DESCRIPTION: This class is designed to help prepare students for the Math section of the SAT. In addition to reviewing topics from pre-algebra, algebra, and geometry, students will become familiar with the format of the exam and learn testing strategies.

*Classes run Monday through Thursday. There are no classes on Fridays.

Additionally, there will be no classes on Monday, July 3 and Tuesday, July 4 in recognition of the holiday.

Anyone interested in taking these classes should contact Ms. Soriano at

jsoriano@stdominicacad.com



We're
Searching for
Volunteers

To help paint classrooms

at

SDA

Saturday, June 17th

Starting at 9 AM

Lunch will be provided



Please RSVP to mmurphy@stdominicacad.com

Thank you!

2017-2018 Saint Dominic Academy Summer Reading

Saint Dominic Academy has prepared assigned reading for all students in the subjects of English and Religion, as required. It is every student's responsibility to read her assigned books over the summer vacation. Assessments will be given in classes during the first weeks of school. It is advised that students keep a journal for their summer reading assignments, so they can look back on their thoughts and notes before school begins in September. Happy Reading!

English Department Summer Reading List**AP Literature and Composition (12)**

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro

Persepolis by Marjane Sartrapi

British Lit Honors (AP Literature I) (11)

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin

The Guernsey Potatoe Peel Pie Society

by Annie Barrows

Animal Farm by George Orwell

World Literature (12)

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro

Persepolis by Marjane Sartrapi

British Lit Honors (AP Language) (11)

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin

The Guernsey Potatoe Peel Pie Society

by Annie Barrows

Animal Farm by George Orwell

A Room of Our Own by Virginia Woolf

British Literature (11)

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

The Guernsey Potatoe Peel Pie Society by Annie Barrows

American Literature Honors (10)

Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

The Awakening by Kate Chopin

Looking for Alaska by John Green

American Literature (10)

Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

Looking for Alaska by John Green

2017-2018 Saint Dominic Academy Summer Reading continues....**Siena Honors English (9)**

The Pact by Jodi Picoult

The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown

The Help by Kathleen Stockett

9th Grade English

At Risk by Alice Hoffman

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time by Mark Haddon

7th Grade

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

8th Grade

To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Religion Department Summer Reading List**Seniors**

Someday by Corinna Turner

Juniors

A Mighty Heart by Marianne Pearl

Sophomores

My Rock and My Salvation by Zip Rzeppa

Freshmen

Preparing for Adolescence by Dr. James Dobson

8th Grade

Saint Gianna Beretta Molla, A Woman's Life By Giuliana Pelucchi

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Empowering Women for Leadership

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www.stdominicacad.com

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Gaylor H. Wade—Design & Layout

Need to know what's happening?

The SDA school calendar is easily accessible
on the schools website:

<https://www.stdominicacad.com/calendar/>

Visit here anytime for up-to-date information