



ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL

[All SAS Employees] [SAS Community News] Your Friday News from Campus! ❄️

1 message

St. Andrew's School
Reply-To: "St. Andrew's School"
To: SAS Community News

Wed, Dec 15, 2021 at 3:59 PM



Dear Friends,

Although the first semester does not officially end until the winter Long Weekend, the Winter Break seems like an appropriate moment to reflect on the academic year so far. Students have done a beautiful job of recreating our campus culture of proximity and connection this term, culminating in a festive final weekend that is captured in some of the photographs and stories shared in this newsletter. The [art exhibition](#) and [music](#) and [dance](#) performances showed off the hard work and creativity of scores of Saints. Our annual Service of Lessons and Carols, which you can watch [here](#), was the most accomplished and sublime that I can remember. (I have attended eleven now in total!) Most of all, I appreciate the way we have been able to gather joyfully as a community throughout the term—at athletic events, artistic performances and exhibitions, and academic presentations. Our everyday routines of classes, School Meetings, chapel

services, and family-style meals and announcements have felt more meaningful and important than ever.

Thank you for all you have done to make this possible. Most obviously, the fact that our faculty, staff, and students are vaccinated has made all the difference. In this message you will find our requirements for returning to campus as the Omicron variant comes on the scene. The most important part of our plan right now is getting all [eligible students](#) their COVID booster shots. If your child is over 16, please arrange for them to get their booster shot over Winter Break, and send an image of their updated vaccine card to healthcenter@standrews-de.org. The booster shot is our best strategy for continuing to limit the spread of COVID-19 and all its variants on our campus. In January, we will hold a booster clinic on campus for remaining eligible students who have not yet received a booster shot. However, getting the booster early in the recess provides your child and the vulnerable in our school community with the highest level of protection when we return from the break in January.

I am personally grateful for each and every one of you and the contributions you have made to this wonderful fall semester. I look forward to seeing everyone back from break refreshed and rested, and to continuing our work together this winter. Until then, I send my very best wishes for a healthy and peaceful Christmas and a happy new year.

With warmest wishes,

Joy McGrath '92

Daniel T. Roach, Jr. Head of School

News & Notes

Winter Break Return Process & Protocols

Parents, thank you so much for being our partners in the return-to-campus process following Thanksgiving Break! Because the protocols we set forth for the Thanksgiving return process worked, we are going to use them again for the Winter Break return process. Here is what you need to know:

Before Students Return

- We strongly encourage all students to take a COVID-19 test prior to returning to campus on Tuesday, January 4—either a PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to return, or a rapid test taken within 24 hours prior to return. We are strongly recommending this measure because if your child receives a positive test result upon arrival to campus, they will have to return home. Testing before departure

will save your child and/or your family the trip to St. Andrew's in the event your child does, in fact, have COVID. If you plan to use an at-home test for your pre-arrival test, you may want to purchase or order one now, given the inconsistent supply of these tests.

- Beyond COVID-19, students with colds or any other respiratory virus should not return to school until they are well. The same is true with any students experiencing nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea; students with these symptoms should not return until 48 hours after their symptoms resolve.

Winter Athletic Camps

- Athletic camps are by invitation only. If your child is invited back to campus early to attend a winter athletic camp, your child will receive that invitation to camp from their coach via email, and you will be copied on the invitation email.
- Winter athletic camps begin on Sunday, January 2. Please plan to arrive between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM ET that day. We will rapid-test all students at the squash center upon arrival; students must receive a negative result before heading to their dorm. If you need to arrive outside of this window, please contact Associate Head of School Ana Ramírez at aramirez@standrews-de.org.
- Winter camp practices will begin at 3:00 PM ET on January 2.

Regular Winter Break Return

- If you are not returning from Winter Break early for athletic camp, you should return on Tuesday, January 4. You may not return early from Winter Break unless you are attending an athletic camp by invitation.
- Please plan to arrive between 1:00 PM and 6:00 PM ET that day. We will rapid-test all students upon arrival; students must receive a negative result before heading to their dorm. If you need to arrive outside of this window, please contact Associate Head of School Ana Ramírez at aramirez@standrews-de.org.
- We will also test all students on Wednesday (as usual) and Saturday of the week following Winter Break, and we will not have family-style meals in the Dining Hall for the duration of that week.

COVID-19 Booster Clinic

With COVID-19 vaccine booster shots [now authorized for 16 and 17 year-olds](#), we are now planning on holding an on-campus vaccine booster clinic for students 16 and older on January 12. However, we strongly recommend students getting a booster shot while at home over Winter Break, if they have the opportunity to do so; the sooner you get boosted, the sooner you will have enhanced protection against COVID-19. If your

child does receive a booster shot over Winter Break, please send an updated picture of your child's vaccine card to healthcenter@standrews-de.org. We will share more details on the on-campus booster clinic with students and parents following Winter Break.

What Do You Think of the Friday News?

Saints, we're eager to hear your thoughts on the Friday News. [Click here](#) to take a brief (3 minutes or less) survey.

College Counseling Updates...

... for Class of 2022 Parents:

Parents of seniors, if your child is awaiting an early decision or early action admission decision over Winter Break, we recommend you read [this article](#) in preparation.

... for Class of 2023 Parents:

This winter and spring, St. Andrew's will offer small group online SAT or ACT test prep courses for juniors through [Revolution Prep](#). Click [here](#) to learn more about the courses, schedules, and pricing for St. Andrew's students. Revolution Prep also offers private tutoring programs if you feel this format would be more beneficial for your child. Revolution Prep offers financial assistance, and there is also a \$200 discount available for students who do not qualify for assistance if they register for the program before December 31, 2021. If you need assistance registering your child, or if you have additional questions, please contact Hope Goldberger at midatlantic@revolutionprep.com, or call 1-800-993-7780.

Keep in mind that this course will be time-consuming and that students should always prioritize their classroom work first. While this course will be a good option for some students, waiting until the summer to take a test prep course may be a better option for others. If you have any questions, please reach out directly to your child's college counselor.

Parent Hub

School Calendars & Events

Talk of the T-Dock

Holiday Events!

If you missed the livestreams, you can watch recordings of the many following holiday-related performances that took place this past weekend:

- [Orchestra Holiday Concert](#) (apologies for the technical difficulties we encountered with the livestream on Saturday night—this link will take you to the full recording)
- [The Nutcracker](#)
- [A Service of Lessons & Carols](#)

... plus a few photos below. A full photo gallery of these arts events will be available on the [Front Lawn](#) later in the week (when we have more images back from the photographer).





A Talk with Political Analyst Ross Douthat

This past Friday, St. Andrew's enjoyed a visit from *New York Times* columnist and political analyst Ross Douthat. Douthat, who is a conservative voice on the *Times* editorial page and has authored a number of books on politics, religion, education, and morals, addressed the school community in Engelhard Hall; he spoke on American political polarization and his theory that the root of this polarization lies in our society's current structure as a meritocracy. [Read more](#)



So Proud of Our Student Athletes!

On Tuesday of this week, we celebrated Class of 2022 student-athletes who have committed to play college athletics. Seen here are (L to R): Gavin Green, rowing, Brown; Elizabeth Rainey, swimming, Colgate; Sage Cookerly, lacrosse, Sewanee; Sunny Trivits, rowing, Boston College; Flynn Bowman, lacrosse, Sewanee; Cleo Ray, rowing, Bucknell; William Atkinson, squash, Amherst; Allaire Berl, tennis, Kenyon; and Phin Hunt, football, Middlebury. Congrats, and go Saints!



Recent Campus Snaps...

... these photos and many more all available on the [Front Lawn](#).





Have a happy and healthy Winter Break, Saints!

