

SANTA CATALINA UPPER SCHOOL

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Greetings from Dr. Murphy

Dear Parents:

As we approach the month of May, I write with an important reminder about our schedule for the end of the school year. Our Graduation ceremony for seniors will take place on Saturday, May 31. The Baccalaureate Mass will start at 9:00 a.m. in our Rosary Chapel; Commencement Exercises will begin at 2:00 p.m. in Sullivan Court. More information about graduation will be sent as we approach the date. In the meantime, however, please note that this year seniors will graduate a week earlier, prior to the final examination week for all other students. Any senior who is required to take a final exam in a class will do so during the week leading up to graduation at the scheduled time



Members of Santa Catalina's lacrosse team pose with girls from St. Bartholomew's lacrosse team visiting from Newbury, England. See details on page 2.

the change means a quiet, activity-free week for our freshman, sophomore, and junior students who will be taking their final exams after the seniors have departed.

With Advanced Placement exams and finals on the horizon, the demands on students can be stressful. A number of strategies can be employed, however, in order to help your daughters deal with these pressures. First, make sure your daughter maintains a healthy lifestyle, including plenty of sleep and exercise. Remind her of the value of being involved in activities such as sports or playing a musical instrument and of how these positive outlets are an aid in reducing stress. Secondly, encourage your daughter to plan ahead. Urge her to seek out her teachers if she is having any difficulty with a particular text or assignment and to make a special effort at this time to take good notes, to keep appointments, and to be sure she is in class on a regular basis. This can help your daughter with the organization of her life and give her a sense of control. And lastly, it is important for your daughter to try to gain some perspective on grades. Ultimately, the goal is that she does her very best, whatever the grade. There is no doubt that stress is a part of modern life and much more so the case in schools now than

it was only ten years ago. But there are definitely things we can do, together, to help our young people deal with it and be successful.

Despite the busy nature of the month of May, this is a wonderful time of the year and we look forward to seeing many of you very soon. As always, if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to be of service, please feel free to contact us. In the meantime, thank you very much and best wishes to all this last month of school.

Sincerely,

John J. Murphy, Ph.D.
Head of Upper School

on either May 28 or May 29. For all other students, final examinations will take place from Monday, June 2 through Thursday, June 5. Following their last exam, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be dismissed for summer vacation. This change in our schedule was made in order to allow seniors to graduate sooner than in past years and shortly after the last AP exam and once all other academic requirements have been met. We also are hopeful that

Important Dates: May and June 2008

Please visit the Web calendar for the latest detailed information.

- **Saturday, May 3**
 - SAT Exams
 - Junior-Senior Prom
- **Monday, May 5 – Friday, May 16**
 - Advanced Placement Exams
- **Friday, May 16**
 - Evening of the Arts, 8:00 p.m., PAC
- **Sunday, May 18**
 - Sports Award Ceremony, 4:00 p.m., PAC
- **Tuesday, May 20**
 - Parent Association Luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Hacienda
- **Wednesday, May 21**
 - Last day Seniors attend classes
- **Thursday, May 22**
 - Senior Transition Day
 - Seniors depart for Disneyland Grad Night at 3:00 p.m.
- **Friday, May 23**
 - Junior Leadership Program
- **Friday, May 30**
 - Prize Day Assembly, 4:00 p.m., PAC
 - Class Night Dinner, 6:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, May 31**
 - Baccalaureate Mass, 9:00 a.m., Rosary Chapel
 - Commencement Exercises, 2:00 p.m., Sullivan Court
- **Monday, June 2 – Thursday, June 5**
 - Final Exams for Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors
- **Thursday, June 5**
 - Dismissal after last exam

Success in Poetry & Writing Contests!

■ Junior Earns Two National Writing/Poetry Awards



Junior Allegra Krasznekevicz has been nationally recognized for two of her writing pieces. Her essay, "Being Krasznekevicz in America," already won a prestigious regional Gold Key Award in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and was recently judged on a national-level. She earned national recognition for her

essay in the Personal Essay/Memoir category and is invited to attend the awards presentation in June at Carnegie Hall in New York. Allegra is one among 1,000 students nationwide to receive this recognition.

The annual River of Words Poetry and Art Contest, in affiliation with the Library of Congress Center for the Book, announced that Allegra won two of the fifty prizes awarded. She is the first student to win two prizes in this contest, and will receive her awards at a ceremony at the San Francisco Library. The international contest is designed to encourage students to explore the natural and cultural history of their local areas and to express what they learn in poetry and art. Over 10,000 submissions were received this year.

Congratulations to Allegra on her impressive achievements!

■ Students Win Big in Local Poetry Contest

The annual Monterey County High School Poetry Awards, in which Santa Catalina students have earned more prizes than any other school in the last ten years, recently announced their winners. This year Santa Catalina students won ten cash awards, including three of the top prizes. Eight students won awards for ten poems. Congratulations to the all the winners!

\$50 Awards: Allegra Krasznekevicz, junior, "Outcast Memory"; Brooklynn Moore, junior, "Imitations (From Anne)"; Daniella Sanchez, senior, "La Danza"

\$25 Awards: Maria DiGiovanni, senior, "Poor Mrs. Calabash"; Brigid Greene, senior, "Baby Blanket"; Allegra Krasznekevicz, junior, "Waterfall"; Annalise Moberg, senior, "Ashes"; Olga Patron, junior, "Alcanzar tu inmensidad"; Daniella Sanchez, senior, "The Author"; and Sophia Yu, freshman, "D-day" (a Pantoum)

Great National Latin Exam Results!

Results for the 2008 National Latin Exam were recently announced. This year the Latin students did exceptionally well, even though the NLE was considered more challenging than ever. Twelve out of the 16 students who took the exam received recognition, earning a total of 4 Gold and 4 Silver Medals, 1 Magna Cum Laude certificate, and 3 Cum Laude certificates. Congratulations to all!



Latin 1: Isabelle Williams, freshman, Gold Medal & Summa Cum

Laude; Libby McPherson, freshman, Cum Laude

Latin 2: Kristina Flathers, freshman, Gold Medal & Summa Cum Laude; Francesca Faris, sophomore, Silver Medal & Maxima Cum Laude; Caitlin McCann, sophomore, Silver Medal & Maxima Cum Laude; Alexandra Strenfel, sophomore, Silver Medal & Maxima Cum Laude; Natalie Simmons, freshman, Magna Cum Laude; Taylor Pate, sophomore, Cum Laude

Latin 4 Prose: Emma Wells, junior, Cum Laude

Latin 4 Poetry: Ila Foley, senior, Gold Medal & Summa Cum Laude; Jade Lichauco, senior, Gold Medal & Summa Cum Laude; Hayley Berra, senior, Silver Medal & Maxima Cum Laude

Students Score Well in Mathletics!

The following students represented Santa Catalina at the 40th Annual Monterey County Mathletics Competition on Saturday, April 12 at CSUMB. Congratulations to the participants and winners!

Geometry: Kristina Flathers, freshman, 3rd Place; Elizabeth Clark, freshman, Honorable Mention; and Haylie Kim, freshman, Honorable Mention

Advanced Algebra: Hannah Kim, sophomore, 2nd Place; Christine Han, sophomore, Honorable Mention; Dah Kyung Kim, sophomore, Honorable Mention

Math Analysis: Lottie Dowson, junior, 2nd Place; Agnes Cho, junior, Honorable Mention; Katherine Robinson, junior, Honorable Mention

AP Calculus AB: Sarah Cosseboom, senior, 2nd Place; Haley Johnson, senior; and Tess Ma, junior

Spring Sports Update ~ Go Cougars!

The Lacrosse team has journeyed to Stanford to play in the prestigious Western States Tournament. They hosted St. Bartholomew's School from England for a match and dinner afterwards and look forward to their trip to play Cate and Thacher.

The Softball team is in the thick of the MTAL race and continues the theme of national and international play as they host Presentation High of Louisville, Kentucky.

The Swim team is gearing up for the remainder of the MTAL league season and the Swimming and Diving Championships next month. Senior Devan Kennifer has qualified for the CCS meet in the 200 Individual Medley and 200 Freestyle.

The Track team has been competing all over the region in both meets and invitational events. A number of the track & field athletes have attained personal bests as they also gear up for the MTAL Championships.

■ Equestrian Riders Going to Nationals!

Catherine Lentini, sophomore (1st Varsity Intermediate Over Fences), and Briana Billingham, senior (1st Varsity Open Flat), qualified for the national equestrian competition. Congratulations and good luck to Catherine and Briana!

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Senior Named 2008 CCS Female Scholar/Athlete-of-the-Year

Senior Devan Kennifer was named as the 2008 Central Coast Section Female Scholar/Athlete-of-the-Year, winning a \$1,500 scholarship. The award acknowledges Devan's accomplishments in the competitive sports arena, in the classroom, and in the school community. "Devan is as tough and as smart as any player I have coached at any level. Having her on your team is like having a coach in the water at all times. She is a hard worker both in the pool and in the classroom. She is well deserving of this award," enthused Jim Morton, water polo and swim coach at Santa Catalina.



The recipient of the CCS Female Scholar/Athlete-of-the-Year award is a graduating senior, with a minimum 3.5 GPA and a SAT score of at least 1500. She must also have competed at the varsity level for a CCS school for at least two years and have an exemplary record of positive athletic and non-athletic citizenship.

Congratulations to Devan on this very prestigious award and best wishes at Harvard!

College Acceptance Update

As of this date, seniors have been accepted by the following colleges and universities:

Allegheny, American, Arizona, Azusa Pacific, Barnard, Biola, Boston University, Cal Arts, Cal Lutheran, Cal Poly: Pomona and San Luis Obispo, CSU: Fresno, Fullerton, Humboldt, Long Beach, Northridge, Sacramento, San Diego, San Jose, Sonoma and Stanislaus; University of California: Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, LA, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz; Carnegie-Mellon, Catholic, Central Florida, Chapman, Claremont McKenna, Colorado (Boulder), Colorado State, Creighton, Dayton, Denver, DePauw, Dickinson, Dominican, Emerson, Evergreen State, Fordham, Georgetown, George Washington, Gordon, Guilford, Harvard, Illinois - Chicago, Indiana, Johns Hopkins (Peabody), Kansas, Kansas State, Lake Forest, Lewis & Clark, Loyola - Chicago, Loyola Marymount, Loyola - New Orleans, Macalester, Marymount Manhattan, Mary Washington, McDaniel, Miami of Ohio, Michigan State, New York University, Northeastern, Northern Arizona, Northwestern, Oberlin, Occidental, Ohio University, Ohio Wesleyan, Oregon, University of the Pacific, Penn State, Pepperdine, Pittsburgh, Portland, Puget Sound, Purdue, Redlands, Rice, Rochester, University of San Diego, University of San Francisco, Santa Clara, Sarah Lawrence, School of the Visual Arts, Scripps, Seattle, Southern California, Southern Methodist, Southern Oregon, St. Andrew's (Scotland), St. John's College (MD), St. Mary's (CA), SUNY - Purchase, Susquehanna, Syracuse, Temple, Texas Christian, Trinity (CT), Trinity Dublin, Trinity University (TX), Tufts, Tulane, Vanderbilt, Vermont, Villanova, Wagner, University of Washington, Washington State, Wellesley, Westmont, Wheaton (IL), Whittier and Willamette.

Parent Association Spring Luncheon

■ Tuesday, May 20, 12:30 p.m., Hacienda Courtyard

Please join the Parent Association for their annual spring luncheon. This is the perfect time to dine al fresco with friends before summer vacation begins. The event is \$15.00 per person; checks payable to Santa Catalina Parent Association. Please RSVP to Kathy Gibbs at kogibbs@sbcglobal.net.



Graduation Weekend Information

Please note that all resident students are expected to attend the Baccalaureate Mass in the Rosary Chapel on Saturday, May 31. The Mass is one we all share as a gift to the seniors and for which the resident students are the choir. Mass begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Rosary Chapel. Commencement Exercises start at 2:00 p.m. in Sullivan Court. Also, please note that Graduation Weekend is now, for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, a pre-final examination weekend. For this reason there are no overnight permissions given. Final examinations take place the week of June 2 through June 5.

Additionally, because of the numerous activities and responsibilities of the students that weekend, we are unable to receive guests for a campus overnight on Friday, May 30. If this poses any difficulty for a day student to attend Class Night activities, please contact Mrs. McLaughlin at 831.655.9369.

Cum Laude Inducts New Members

The Santa Catalina chapter of the Cum Laude Society recently inducted new members into its chapter. We congratulate the following students, pictured below, on their induction.

Seniors: Sarah Cosseboom, Jessica Fletcher, Brigid Greene, Kelsey Hightower, Haley Johnson, Sarah Luksik, Yaneli Ruiz, and Andrea Whipple

Juniors: Agnes Cho, Julia Davids, Dorothy Dowson, Michele Jaeger, Anisa Joseph, Allegra Krasznecwicz, and Katherine Robinson



Important News: Prom Information for Parents of Juniors and Seniors

As you know, the Santa Catalina Junior-Senior Prom will occur Saturday, May 3. This year the juniors, under the leadership of Mrs. Nancy Hunt, have undertaken to hold this event at Santa Catalina. In the spirit of tradition and of memorable occasions on the campus, the juniors are providing a lovely setting, both a live band and a DJ, gaming tables appropriate to the evening, and a fortune teller. The event looks to be quite a night!

Prom begins at 9:00 p.m. and continues until 1:00 a.m. It will be chaperoned by Santa Catalina faculty. All those attending are expected to arrive and check in with the chaperones no later than 9:30 p.m., and all will remain until midnight. No one may come and go from the Prom prior to midnight. Couples may then choose to enjoy the next hour until 1:00 a.m. dancing or participating in entertainment activities. Those continuing after midnight should plan to remain at the Prom until 1:00 a.m.

There are no other school-sponsored or School-chaperoned events connected to Prom, only the Prom itself at Santa Catalina. Resident students who are not spending the night with their own families are expected back on campus by 12:30 a.m. or by 1:30 a.m. depending upon whether or not they wish to remain at the Prom until 1:00 a.m. On prom night no overnight permission is given to a resident student except to stay with her own parents on the Monterey Peninsula: Monterey, Pebble Beach, Carmel, or Pacific Grove. Resident students may not drive home after the Prom if "home" is beyond one of these areas and/or requires significant highway driving.

As you are certainly aware, prom nights continue to be a significant worry for schools and for parents. For us as for others, the hope is that the evening will be both fun and safe for all involved. We will talk with the juniors and seniors regarding the expectations for arrival and departure times, and we will talk with them specifically

regarding concerns for the use of alcohol and/or drugs. We will caution them about the dangers of substance use and driving, and we will encourage them, should they find themselves in a difficult or dangerous situation, to call their parents for help, or to call any adult at school for help. We will emphasize that your first concern and ours is their safety and that it is essential to use good judgment.

In the process of attempting to forestall any difficulties, we will also explain very clearly the School's policy regarding the use of alcohol and/or drugs, regarding the unchaperoned rental of hotel rooms, or the unchaperoned use of a private home at any time on the evening of the Prom. A student will be subject to serious disciplinary proceedings at School should it come to our attention that she has used alcohol and/or drugs. This policy applies also to any student who organizes or attends an unchaperoned gathering at a hotel or private home. Any student specifically responsible for organizing such a gathering will be particularly at risk regarding her standing at Santa Catalina. This policy applies to every Santa Catalina student who attends the Prom or who, even though she has not attended Prom, might later join such a gathering. It applies to the entire night of the Prom and to a day student as well as a resident whether she be staying on campus, or with her parents.

We are most grateful to the Junior Class for their hard work and their wonderful spirit in sponsoring and arranging a memorable event for their friends. It is our hope that all will move ahead smoothly and uneventfully and that this Prom will be one which we will all remember happily.

Very sincerely,
Sister Christine
Assistant Head of Upper School

Special Days for Seniors & Juniors

■ Senior Transition Day & Disneyland Grad Night

On Thursday, May 22 seniors will participate in the Senior Transition Program. This is a full school day devoted to the transition seniors will face moving on to college. The day provides seniors with a realistic view of college and some strategies to deal with the new environment.



At 2:00 p.m. seniors will sit for the formal senior graduation picture, and will then depart for the annual Disneyland Grad Night trip at 3:00 p.m. Seniors will return on Friday afternoon, May 23.

■ Junior Leadership Day

Our Junior Leadership Day will be held on Friday, May 23. This day will involve the class in a series of exercises in anticipation of becoming seniors.

Annual Fund: Every Parent Counts!

■ It's not too late to be counted for this year's Annual Fund!

If you have already contributed to this year's Annual Fund, thank you! Your donation is greatly appreciated and helps us continue the kinds of programs that set our school apart.

If you are considering contributing, even a small contribution – such as \$5.00 – makes a difference. The amount is less important than whether you participate. Parent participation is a factor when foundations consider our grant requests and are an important investment in school life.

Make your gift today at www.santacatalina.org, or call 831.655.9384. *Every Parent Counts!*

Number of Families Needed to Reach 100%

Grade	Annual Fund Donors (%)	Families
Senior	<div style="width: 39%;"></div>	39 more
Junior	<div style="width: 37%;"></div>	37 more
Sophomore	<div style="width: 36%;"></div>	36 more
Freshman	<div style="width: 35%;"></div>	35 more
Total	<div style="width: 14.7%;"></div>	147 more...