

SLA WINTER / SPRING NEWSLETTER

June 19, 2025



Sandy Lake Academy in 2025

Christmas passed effortlessly, ushering in a new year filled with hope, anticipation, and excitement as we welcomed students back to our cherished halls. With graduation approaching and the joy of winter and spring activities shining in every child's smile, Spring 2025 became even more special as we celebrated SLA's 50th anniversary, a milestone that resonated deeply with current and past students, families, and the surrounding community.

Opportunities at Sandy Lake Academy

We are currently seeking individuals to serve as Substitute Teachers. If you are interested, please email your resume to principal@sandylakeacademy.ca

Top News

Elementary Highlights
High School Highlights

Inside Feature

Winter Fun
Indoor Sporting Tournaments
Ski Trip
SLA Motto In Action
March Day Camp
SLA 50th Anniversary Celebration
Spring Week of Prayer
Spring Concert

GRADE 1/2 CLASS



Congratulations to Lemuel Vidhyaharan for his remarkable achievement at the Nova Scotia Chess Challenge! Winning first place in the grade 2 category is a testament to his dedication and skill in the game.

By the grace of God, may you continue to excel in all your future endeavours. Well done, Lemuel!

GRADE 3/4 CLASS



Congratulations to all the grade 3/4 students for successfully conducting a class where they taught each other their native languages! Through a series of lessons, each student had the opportunity to introduce the basics of their language while also sharing elements of their culture, including traditional foods, games, and songs. This wonderful initiative not only fostered learning but also strengthened appreciation for the diverse backgrounds within the class. Well done to all involved!

GRADE 3/4 CLASS



To support funding for our 2025 Costa Rica Mission Trip, the school launched a homeroom fundraising competition. The homeroom that contributed the most would be rewarded with a free pizza party, a casual day and the unforgettable opportunity to shave Pastor Todd's beard! The Grade 3/4 class emerged victorious, choosing a fun celebration where the girls dressed in red and the boys in blue.

Congratulations to the Grade 3/4 class for winning the homeroom mission trip fundraiser! We applaud your dedication, drive, and outstanding contribution to SLA's foreign mission service program.

KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL



Congratulations to the SLA Elementary choir for successfully securing two gold medals at the 2025 Kiwanis Music Festival! That's an incredible achievement and a reflection of their hard work and dedication. The SLA family is truly proud of your accomplishments.

GRADE 4/5 CLASS



Congratulations to Valentina from Grade 4/5 for her outstanding work on the Ecosystems class project! Her dedication and effort truly shine. A big round of applause also goes to the entire class for their creativity and artistic expression during the special Arts & Crafts session. They embraced the opportunity to create their own masterpieces, bringing their visions to life and enjoying every moment of the process. Well done to all!

2025 HRM CITIZENSHIP AWARD



Congratulations to Moyo Bode-Owolabi, the 2025 HRM Citizenship Award Winner for Sandy Lake Academy. We are so proud of you, Moyo! To Bode and Ife, may the Lord continue to bless you as you raise Moyo to shine brighter and brighter for Him.

FIRST AID TRAINING



SLA has added 18 high school students to its list of certified first aiders. On April 22, these students eagerly seized the opportunity to become certified, signing up for a rigorous one-day training course which they all successfully completed.

Through this training, they have gained essential life-saving skills, including how to respond effectively in emergencies. Each student has received official certification in Basic First Aid and Level C CPR, equipping them to provide crucial assistance when needed.

ICE SKATING ON THE LAKE



The SLA students were gifted with ideal conditions to take to the frozen lake for a morning of skating. Bundled in warm layers and radiating excitement, the students embraced the chill in the air and the blessing of the moment. It was a thrilling experience and angels were seen, memories were made, friendships deepened, and for a few sparkling hours, time seemed to pause, offering a glimpse of winter's quiet joy and youthful wonder.

SPORTING TOURNAMENTS

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT HIGHLIGHTS



WINTER HIGHLIGHTS

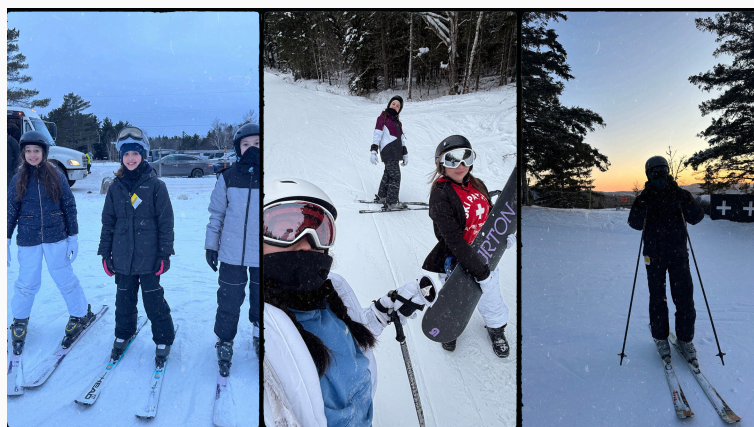
SOCCER TOURNAMENT HIGHLIGHTS



This fundraiser for our Costa Rica Mission Trip was well supported and enjoyed by SLA and Church families. Students, Staff, Parents and members of the SDA church and local communities enjoyed an evening of fun and fellowship while we raised funds for our Costa Rica Mission trip.

SKI TRIPS

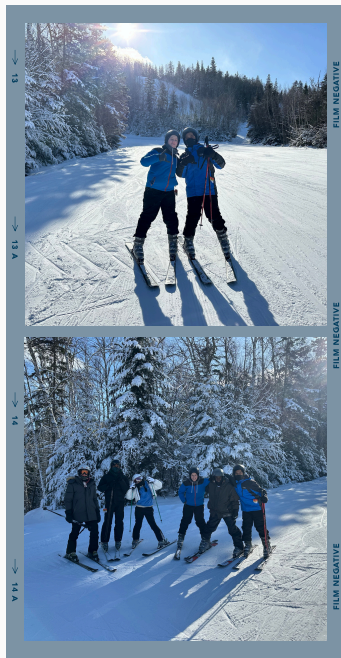
MARTOCK SKI HILL



Each year, the SLA Ski Club participates in several ski trips throughout the months of January to March. This year, students from Grades 4-12 were welcomed to be participants in the Ski Club where several trips to Martock Ski Hill occurred during January, February and March. It was a thrilling experience throughout the ski season and created a wave of anticipation for next year.

WINTER HIGHLIGHTS

POLEY MOUNTAIN



Each year during ski season, grade 7-12 students have the opportunity to showcase the skills they've developed throughout the season during an overnight ski experience. This year, students went to Poley Mountain in New Brunswick. While they thoroughly enjoyed skiing at Poley Mountain, the true highlight of the trip was spending quality time with friends, teachers, and chaperones outside of the classroom, an experience that adds an extra layer of excitement to the season.

SLA MOTTO IN ACTION

NORTHWOOD INCARE LIVING FACILITY



Students from grades 9–12 volunteered to assist the staff and residents of the facility with gardening and maintenance. They cleared weeds, removed debris, and left the grounds in impeccable shape. Their dedication and hard work transformed the space into a beautiful and welcoming environment. The staff were deeply impressed by their eagerness to get their hands dirty, as well as the warmth and joy they shared while helping their neighbours. Their efforts not only improved the facility's outdoor space but also strengthened the sense of community and connection among everyone involved.

SLA MOTTO IN ACTION

PARKER STREET FOOD AND FURNITURE BANK



SLA embraced the opportunity to live out our motto by serving at the Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank. Every Tuesday, a dedicated group of four students volunteered for four hours, sorting fruits and assisting with various tasks to support the organization. Week after week, the students eagerly look forward to their time at Parker Street, finding fulfillment in serving others. Their efforts not only make a tangible difference but also spread joy, as they take pride in lightening someone's day and bringing happiness to the community.

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

SLA MOTTO IN ACTION

COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP



SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

SLA MOTTO IN ACTION

COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP



SLA closed its doors on March 3rd for a two-week spring break. During this time, 12 students from grades 9 to 12, along with chaperones, embarked on a transformative mission trip to Costa Rica. Partnering with Wings of Life Ministry, they built a dormitory, painted buildings, conducted health and Bible centered children's programs while ministering to the Cabecar people in the remote Mountains of Costa Rica. This experience proved to be life changing not only for the Cabecar community but also for the students themselves. The lessons learned were invaluable, and the students felt deeply humbled to have had the opportunity to serve others.

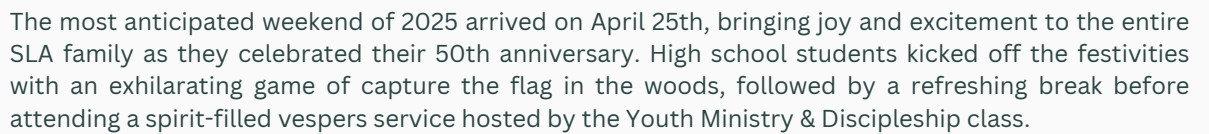
SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH DAY CAMP



During spring break, SLA hosted a vibrant day camp for elementary students, packed with fun, surprises, and plenty of activities. Throughout the week, students participated in team-building exercises, crafts, and both spiritual and physical activities, making their experience engaging, interactive, and unforgettable. As a special send-off, each camper received a gift bag, leaving them beaming with satisfaction at the end of an exciting and memorable week.

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS



15/18

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

SPRING FESTIVAL



As the sun prepared to make its grand entrance into spring, students eagerly welcomed the much-anticipated Spring Festival. The Grade 7/8 class shared a joyful buddies time with the Grade 1/2 students, keeping them entertained while the Student Association set up a day filled with fun and adventure.

Divided into classes, students embarked on a Bible verse treasure hunt, searching for words hidden in vibrant containers and working together to unscramble their message. The thrill of discovery and teamwork made for an unforgettable experience. Their efforts were warmly rewarded with steaming cups of hot chocolate, the perfect treat to end an afternoon of laughter, adventure, and sunshine.

SPRING WEEK OF PRAYER



SPRING WEEK OF PRAYER
MAY 5-9, 2025

Nwamiko Madden


CERTAIN SOUND
MEDIA

Finding himself disillusioned with the church's obscurity in society, Nwamiko decided to pursue fame as a means of introducing Adventism to household name status... And for a time, it worked! For just over five years he was a successful film and leading television actor in Canadian, American and international productions until God made it clear that it was time to part ways with the industry. Since then, he has transferred his energies and talents to finishing God's work, according to the Blueprint. Formerly the Director of Adult Sabbath School, Children's Ministries and Assistant Director for Media for the Alberta Conference, he currently runs his own Christian media production company, Certain Sound Media, where he functions as an itinerant speaker, songwriter, and filmmaker. www.certainound.org



SLA students warmly welcomed Nwamiko Madden from Certain Sound Media to our halls for Spring Week of Prayer 2025. His powerful life experiences and uplifting words inspired students throughout the week.

Classroom visits sparked engaging conversations, enriching each grade level with meaningful discussions. By the end of the week, students left feeling hopeful, blessed, and deeply encouraged.

SPRING CONCERT 2025

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS



Our Annual Spring Concert at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium was a cornerstone of SLA's 50th Anniversary celebration, transforming the evening into a truly spectacular event. The SLA students delivered an outstanding performance, making this occasion a monumental tribute to fine music. The lineup featured the SLA Elementary Choir (2025 Kiwanis Gold Medalists), the SLA High School Choir (2025 Kiwanis Gold Medalists), Gospel Glow (Grade 6 class), the Honours Choir (a brilliant blend of alumni and current students), and the Honourary Orchestra. Together, their voices and melodies resonated through the sold-out auditorium, leaving the audience in awe. It was a night of musical excellence that will be cherished for years to come.