



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fall Semester is well underway, the halls are filled with Students rushing to get to their next class, and the IT Insights newsletter is going strong. We continue to receive great feedback from Staff and Students, so keep it up!

Just a reminder that if there was an article from a previous issue that you didn't finish reading or want to read again, they are all posted on the St. Clair College website under the Student I.T. Services section.

You can view this at the link below:

<https://www.stclaircollege.ca/it-services/insights/articles>



FEATURED PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

IT Client Services: The summer computer swap went to plan and Client Services has been working diligently to upgrade Staff and Faculty machines.

IT Systems: Check out the new Alumni Perks App. The St. Clair College Alumni Association has introduced the app to our 130,000 Alumni. Sign-up information and forms are available at www.stclairalumni.com

IT Enterprise: We're excited to announce the successful completion of a major data center upgrade during the summer months. The enhancements will provide IT Services with great technological capabilities and improved efficiency, enabling us to deliver a more robust and secure digital infrastructure.



MONTHLY FEATURES

IT CLIENT:

IT ENTERPRISE:

IT SYSTEMS:

What is Multi-Factor Authentication and what it means for you. [Follow the link to learn about it and how to set it up.](#)

Staff, did you receive a new XPS Convertible laptop? [There are some differences, see them here.](#)

[User Guide is also available here.](#)

[Dig a little deeper into how Cisco VOIP Phones work.](#)

Questions about SIS? Have a look at [St. Clair College's Student Information System](#) (SIS) which is available through My St. Clair portal.

TEAM SPOTLIGHT

This month's spotlight is on **Matt C.** He came to St. Clair in early 2021 after nearly 20 years in the manufacturing sector. He started at the Chatham Campus and eventually moved to South. He brings a great attitude and lots of experience with computer hardware and Windows. He is also a graduate from St. Clair's Computer Science Technologist program.

He has quickly made friends around campus, with Staff and Faculty alike.

You may see him in the halls pushing a cart of computer equipment or on his way to play some basketball at lunch.



THE CYBERSECURITY CORNER

THE IMPORTANCE OF SOFTWARE UPDATES IN CYBERSECURITY

In our increasingly interconnected digital world, cybersecurity has become a paramount concern. Cyber threats and attacks are growing in sophistication and frequency, making it crucial for end-users to take proactive steps in safeguarding their digital lives. One of the simplest yet most effective ways to bolster your cybersecurity defenses is by staying vigilant with software updates.

WHAT ARE SOFTWARE UPDATES?

Software updates, often referred to as patches or fixes, are regular releases provided by software developers. They serve several purposes, such as

improving functionality, enhancing user experience, and most importantly, addressing security vulnerabilities.

WHY ARE SOFTWARE UPDATES VITAL FOR CYBERSECURITY?

1. **Patch Vulnerabilities:** Cybercriminals are constantly searching for vulnerabilities in software to exploit. Software updates are designed to patch these vulnerabilities, preventing attackers from using them to gain unauthorized access to your system.
2. **Stay Ahead of Threats:** Cyber threats evolve rapidly, and new vulnerabilities are discovered regularly. Software updates help you stay ahead of these threats by ensuring your software is equipped with the latest security features.
3. **Data Protection:** Your personal and sensitive data are valuable targets for cybercriminals. By keeping your software up to date, you minimize the risk of data breaches and the potential fallout, such as identity theft or financial losses.
4. **Malware Prevention:** Malware, including viruses, ransomware, and spyware, can infect your computer through unpatched vulnerabilities. Software updates often include patches that protect against these types of malware.
5. **Improved Performance:** Besides security, updates often bring performance improvements, bug fixes, and new features, enhancing your overall user experience.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR SOFTWARE UPDATED SECURELY:

1. **Enable Automatic Updates:** Most operating systems and software applications offer automatic update settings. Enable these to ensure you receive the latest security patches without manual intervention.
2. **Verify Software Sources:** Only download software and updates from official sources. Be cautious of third-party websites or unofficial sources, as they may distribute malicious software.
3. **Regularly Check for Updates:** If you don't have automatic updates enabled, make it a habit to regularly check for updates in your software settings or control panel.
4. **Backup Your Data:** Before installing updates, it's a good practice to back up your data, just in case something goes wrong during the update process.
5. **Use a Password Manager:** Consider using a reputable password manager to generate and store complex, unique passwords for your accounts. This adds an extra layer of security.

Educate Yourself: Stay informed about cybersecurity best practices and the latest threats. The more you know, the better you can protect yourself.

In conclusion, software updates are not just about improving functionality; they are your frontline defense against cyber threats. By prioritizing and regularly updating your software, you significantly reduce your risk of falling victim to cyberattacks, keeping your digital life safe and secure. Remember,

in the world of cybersecurity, staying up to date is not an option-it's a necessity.

GRIFF'S PRO TIP OF THE MONTH



Have you ever needed to paste something that you copied a few Ctrl+C's ago? It's all still available through the expanded clipboard. Press the Windows + V buttons and a little menu will pop up. From this menu, you can access the last 25 or so items that you've copied, whether its text, pictures, etc. This menu also has other tabs to access special characters, emojis, ASCII emoticons and even GIFs.

THIS MONTH'S CONTEST

Can you solve our IT Insights Word Search?

Find all the hidden words and upload your finished sheet for a chance to be this month's winner!

[Download the Word Search](#)

You can complete the word search digitally in Adobe Acrobat using the markup tools, or print it, complete it by hand, take a clear photo and submit.

Use this [online form](#) to submit your answer. Three (3) winners will be chosen at random.

[Click here to see contest rules.](#)

LAST MONTH'S CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to our 3 WINNERS from last month's contest!

They were able to spot the **7 Differences** between the two photos.

The 7 differences were as follows: 1.) Missing GEM Student Residence, 2.) Missing Griffin logo on ESports building, 3.) A waving Griff, 4.) Missing Renaissance Center in the skyline, 5.) The missing vehicle in the parking lot, 6.) The inverted colours of the "Saints Nation" sign and 7.) The changed colours of the 3 umbrellas.



Jay Maheriya

Andrew Steele

Valeriia Lysyk

HOURS OF OPERATION:

IT HELPDESK (x2500)

Mon-Thu: 8am to 8pm
Fri: 8am to 7:30pm

IT CLIENT SERVICES

Mon-Fri: 8am to 10pm
September - June
Mon-Fri: 8am to 5pm
June-September

IT AUDIO/VIDEO

Mon to Thu: 8am to 8pm
Fri: 8am to 7:30pm

Something you'd like to see in future issues?

[Drop Us a Line](#)

I agree to receive electronic messages from St. Clair College containing information and offers with respect to activities and services that may be of interest to me. I may withdraw this consent at any time by [unsubscribe](#).