



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione
"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas School Community Newsletter June 1, 2021

Boniface Term Virtue: Modesty

School Year Theme ~ *gratia cantantes* (Gratitude)

School Mission Statement

In partnership with Catholic families, St. Thomas seeks to nurture future Catholic scholars, leaders and saints. Assisted by the Holy Spirit, we inspire students to grow intellectually through a classical Catholic curriculum, forming confident youth leaders grounded in virtue. We guide children to become friends of Jesus—to love as He loves, and join our Catholic community's rich tradition of proclaiming the Kingdom and bettering our world.



Congratulations to Frances Rutherford and Michael Savarino and their families on the Confirmation. Frances and Michael received the sacrament from Bishop Earl Boyea last week at St. Thomas after a year of preparation in formation, service and prayer.

***Congratulations Frances and Michael~!
Go forth and do great things for God~!***

Winners of the 2021 St. Thomas Upper School Science Fair

5th & 6th Grade



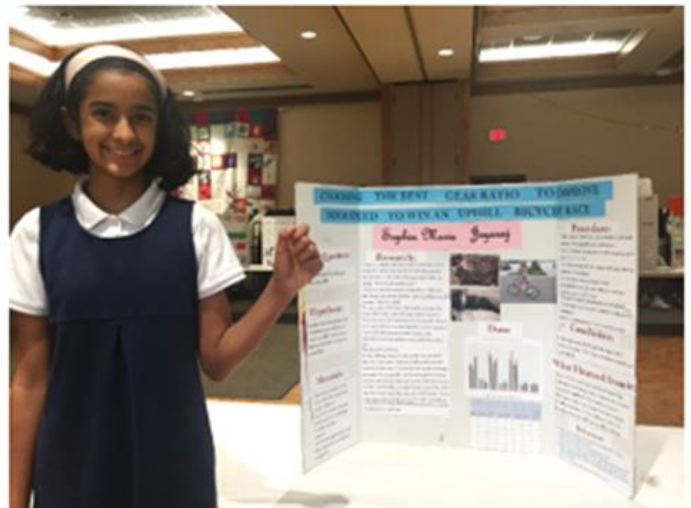
1st Place: Sophia Savarino—Colossal Cupcakes (Do different types of flour affect how much a cupcake rises?)



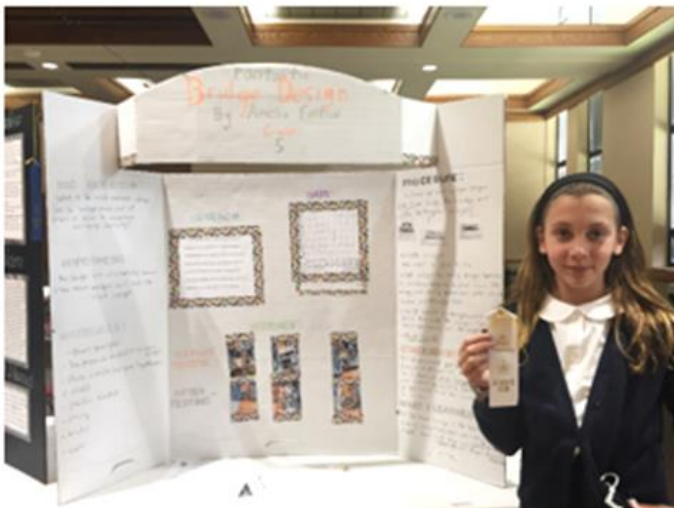
1st Place: Charlotte Hanley—Discovering the Relative Viscosity of Liquids



2nd Place: Fulton Deemer—Shooting Hoops from Different Heights



2nd Place: Sophia Jeyaraj—Choosing the Best Gear Ratio to Improve Your Speed to Win an Update Bicycle Race

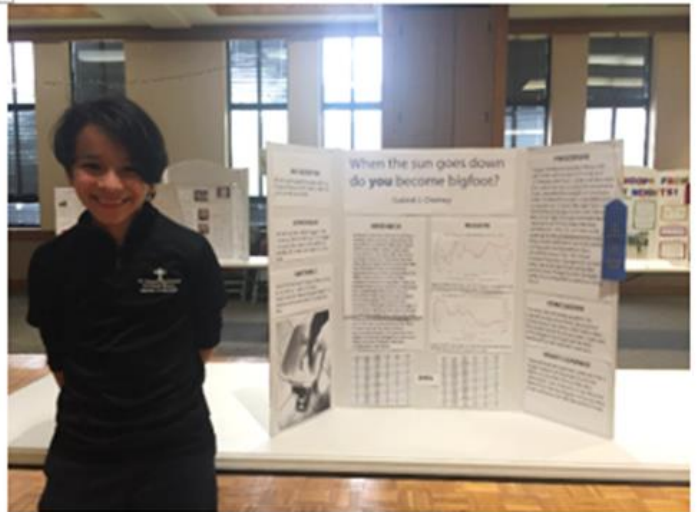


3rd Place: Amelia Eustice—Bridge Design (What is the most reliable design for a bridge?)

7th & 8th Grade



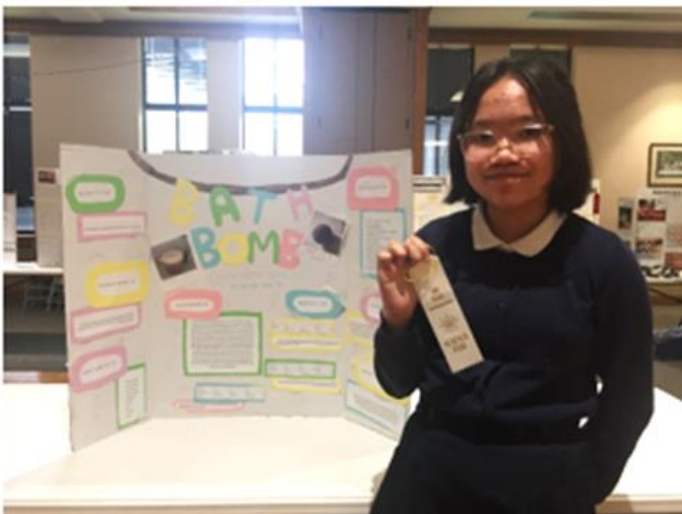
1st Place: Heidi Reimold—Now You See It! Now You Don't!
(The effects of acid on rocks)



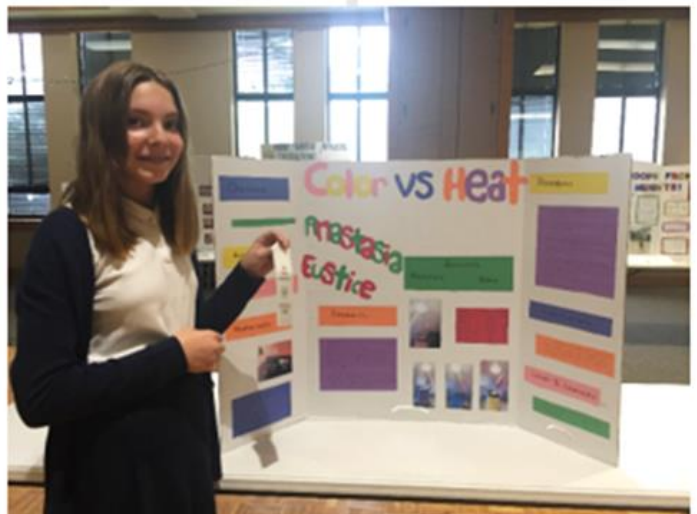
1st Place: Gabriel Cherney—When the Sun Goes Down to
You Become Bigfoot (Do our feet enlarge during the day
under the pressure of our body?)



2nd Place: Francis Rutherford—How Different Types of
Music Affect a Dogs' Behavior



3rd Place: Jasmine Dinh—Bath Bombs (How does
temperature effect time to dissolve?)



3rd Place: Anastasia Eustice—Color vs Heat (How does
color affect heat absorption?)



Bach and Beethoven are searching for a summer residence!

Families interested in having their cheerful presence in the home for a few weeks over the summer are invited to contact Mr. DiLaura. They are looking for possibly two families to receive them for 4 weeks each, one from June 19th to July 16th, and the second from July 16th to August 13th. All care materials will be provided with instructions~



Miss Lorang's seventh and eighth graders engage in Socratic dialogue, responding to each other's positions on key topic questions which Miss Lorang offers for their shared reflection, debate, and judgement. Students employ skills in our critical thinking curriculum which are embedded in all subjects. See the attached critical thinking skills scope and sequence for details on each grade's—Kindergarten to 8th grade—designated skills.

~ Events Calendar

View the complete St. Thomas School Calendar [here](#).



Friday, June 4th

kNOw Child Safety Program Notification Due

Opt-in or opt-out email notification are required from each family.

Program access links provided below.

Tuesday, June 8th

8th All School Graduation Mass @ 9:30 AM

Wednesday, June 9th

Boniface Term Report Cards Available Online

Thursday, June 10th

**All School End of School Mass
and Awards Ceremony**

Friday, June 11th

Last Day of School Picnic - Half Day

Drop off at [South East Area Park](#) at 9:00 AM

Note New Location~!

2901 E. Ellsworth Road Ann Arbor, 48108

Pickup at Park at Noon

No ESP

Special Calendar Note: The last days of school are special opportunities for students and teachers to enjoy the fruits of their labors and bring a fitting close to the relationship they have established over the course of the past year. We ask parents to plan summer activities only after our last day of school on Friday, June 11th and avoid students' premature departure from the school community. This respect of our school calendar is due teachers, the student, the other students, and the families in our community. Thank you.

From the Headmaster

2021-2022 School Year Academic Results – With spring NWEA Measures of Academic Progress assessments complete, we are able to view the achievement of our students from their fall starting point this school year to the spring. Below are the grade level averages of RIT (raw) score and national equivalent percentiles for that average class RIT score from the fall to the spring. Individual students results will be sent home next week.

Overall, our students experienced extremely significant growth as can be seen in comparing the percentile equivalent from the fall to spring. A certain norm growth is required of students in order to maintain the same percentile given that nationally, there is an average amount of student leaning growth.. When a percentile advances against the previous, growth has outpaced this national growth norm. These increases place St.

Thomas in the 90th percentile nationally in terms of growth with respect to the national norm.

Our students have made wonderful strides this year which can be attributed to the quality of the instruction, the rigor of the curriculum, the persistence of student effort, and the consistency of parent support. We should all take pride in these results which have prepared our students for yet further academic growth at St. Thomas next school year. See the attached document for complete results.

AA St Thomas Elementary School - Ann Arbor

Math: Math K-12

Grade (Spring 2021)	Growth Count‡	Comparison Periods					
		Fall 2020			Spring 2021		
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile
K	16	150.8	7.7	91	166.4	8.9	99
1	12	171.1	9.1	88	187.3	10.6	98
2	7	179.4	12.2	55	188.7	11.1	56
3	10	195.8	10.3	76	211.8	8.6	97
4	10	206.3	8.2	73	219.7	7.9	93
5	7	221.3	16.8	91	234.1	11.6	98
6	4	214.8	10.5	41	228.5	10.4	79
7	8	220.4	13.1	44	228.4	14.4	61
8	2	234.5	9.2	80	241.0	8.5	87

AA St Thomas Elementary School - Ann Arbor

Language Arts: Reading

Grade (Spring 2021)	Growth Count‡	Comparison Periods					
		Fall 2020			Spring 2021		
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile
K	16	146.8	9.4	89	159.9	10.1	96
1	12	169.5	15.7	96	186.2	14.2	99
2	7	176.9	15.3	55	190.6	8.9	81
3	10	198.8	21.8	90	210.2	16.9	97
4	10	212.1	8.4	96	216.2	8.0	95
5	7	229.7	10.8	99	233.4	10.9	99
6	4	211.3	11.3	48	213.5	7.0	42
7	8	222.4	13.2	83	230.3	14.7	96
8	2	225.5	21.9	79	230.5	12.0	88

kNOw Program ~ Partnering with Parents for the Safety of Our Children

Opt-In/Opt-Out Notifications from each family are due this **Friday—June 4th**

The diocese takes our responsibility to support you and our children extremely seriously and requires parents to specifically opt-in or out of participating in this program.

Please watch the [parent kNOw Program introduction video](#) to understand the program's design.

If desired, preview the video session PowerPoint presentations on the [parent resources page](#).

View and discuss with your child the [age appropriate video session](#) (located below the introductory video.)

It is required that parents confirm with [Mr. DiLaura](#) via email by **Friday, June 4th** that you have either taken advantage of the program or opted out, in order to confirm with diocesan offices our community's availability to engage in this initiative to protect our children,