



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas K-9 School Newsletter

March 21st, 2023

School Mission Statement

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School exists to form disciples of Jesus Christ. Educating in the Eucharistic culture and classical intellectual tradition of the Catholic Church, students are led to encounters with the transcendental good, true, and beautiful. In wonder, confidence, and virtue, students are prepared to engage our broken world for the glory of God, the good of others, and for their own sanctification.

Virtue for the School Year: *Devotio* (Devotion)

- Having the will to give oneself readily in the service of God

Virtue for Scholastica Term: Perseverance

- Enduring a delay in when a good may be accomplished or realized



~ Events Calendar ~

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

March 20th

ARK Testing Window Opens (please see attached letter)

March 21st

April Lunch Orders Due

March 24th
Shakespeare Dress-up Day

March 29th-30th
Book Fair During Library Time (see flyer)

March 31st
End of Scholastica Term/Angel House Colors Jeans Day

April 5th
Parent Survey Due (see below)

April 6-16
Easter Break

(Reminder) April 24th
Teachers' PD Day for Diocese Sophia Press Roll-Out – No school

(Reminder) April 28th
St. Thomas Gala/Auction at Weber's, 5:00-9:00

Goodbyes and Gratitude

We have a couple of early goodbyes to make. Mrs. Carter, our 3rd-grade teacher, is going on maternity leave starting next week, making her last day this Friday (3/24). Miss Schubert has been with her since the end of February and will be ready to take over the class when Mrs. Carter leaves. We – and especially her third graders – will greatly miss her and are very grateful for the wonderful work she has been doing with the biggest class in the school! We pray that everything goes well with her delivery (she is due in April)!

Mrs. Ramos, our young 5's preschool lead teacher, will be leaving us at the end of April due to health reasons. She is very sad not to be able to finish out the year with her students – she always insists that she has the best class in the school! Mrs. Ramos has done an excellent job in forming the young ones to be ready for Kindergarten, and we will very much miss her! Miss Dalian will help to provide continuity for the students, and we will be seeking a full-time replacement for Mrs. Ramos at least to cover the remainder of the school year.

Parent Survey

I have created a survey to receive parent feedback about the 2022-2023 school year. This year, we will use Google forms. The following is the link:

<https://forms.gle/7opBonETwGQvRBck9>

Each parent can feel free to fill it out – it should take no more than 10 minutes or so. The survey is anonymous. Please complete by April 5th, our last day before Easter Break. I will analyze and release results later in April or in early May. Thanks for doing that – it's very helpful to hear from you as we continue to develop and improve the school!

Classical Catholic Education Summary and Reading List

Back in the fall, I wrote a series in the newsletters about various terms and meanings used in classical Catholic education. I have created a compiled version of those and added some suggestions for further reading (see attached). I know that parents sometimes wonder what exactly this “classical education” really is, especially since most of you probably didn't receive such an education yourselves. For those have the time and the will, hopefully this can be a helpful aide in developing your understanding of it. I will say that the “classical education” movement is a recent phenomenon, and there is a lot of messiness and fuzziness surrounding it. In a sense, we are all trying to catch up to what this thing is, because we all, in one way or another, are significantly impacted by modern, conventional education. I believe that a starting point of fundamental importance is in history – knowing what classical education and the liberal arts are, not just as they've been revived in the last 20 years, but as they've developed over centuries in Western culture.

Food Drive Update

The 6th graders have been busy collecting and counting cans and other items for our March Canned Food Drive for Hope Clinic. Below are the totals per class as of the end of last week:

K: 6
1: 10
2: 11
3: 89
4: 159
5: 41
6: 13

7: 0
8: 10

Keep bringing in those cans!

Book Fair

During their library times next week, students will have an opportunity to create a wish list from a selection of titles provided by Our Lady of Grace Bookstore. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Playground Update

The new playground installation is tentatively scheduled to begin after April 15th, during which time (around 2 weeks), the playground area will be closed.