



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas PreK-10 School Newsletter March 18th, 2024

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: Faith

- Assenting, through grace, to God's revealed truth

Virtue for Scholastica Term: Friendliness

- Acting in a becoming manner towards others



~ Upcoming Events ~

March 4th-22nd

Reading Month Competitions/Events (see below)

March 22nd

Dress-down day canceled due to special dress days for March Is Reading Month (see below)

Last Day of Scholastica Term

March 27th

**Report Cards Published
Parent Survey Responses Due**

March 28th-April 7th
Easter Break

April 19th
St. Thomas Gala - Weber's Inn

CALENDAR UPDATE: May 10th Early Dismissal
1:30 Early Dismissal for Drama Production at Arthur Miller Theatre, 2:00 p.m.;
7:00 p.m. Evening Performance (see below)



MSO Competition Recap

This past weekend, Alex Wood, Sebastian Jeyaraj, John Lee, Serena Jeyaraj, Luca DiMattia, Jonathan Sauter, Sam Garred, and Sophia Jeyaraj competed against area schools in the Michigan Science Olympiad. Their events included Flight, Roller Coaster, Code Busters, Anatomy and Physiology, Can't Judge a Powder, Write It Do It, and Fast Facts. Special congratulations to John Lee and Serena Jeyaraj, who finished third in Can't Judge a Powder and qualified for the state competition in May!



The team took St. Albert the Great as their patron. The following encoded quotation (using a "Caesar Cipher") from St. Albert gives you a taste of what the team had to experience in code busters!

"Wr ghvluh doo wkdw l ghvluh iru wkh jorub ri Jrg, dv Jrg ghvluhv iru Klv doo wkdw ghvluhv."

Answer: "To desire all that I desire for the glory of God, as God desires for His glory all that He desires."

Visit from Mrs. Mangan's Son, Ford Car Designer

Last Thursday, Bill Mangan graciously shared with middle and upper school students about the work he does in designing cars for Ford, giving students an example of someone who is using their artistic skill and degree for their work!



Special Reminder – Gala Tickets/Update

Tickets can be ordered on our website at <https://sta2.org/school/st-thomas-school-scholarship-gala-auction-2024/>.

Please consider helping out with donations for our raffle baskets. A flyer (see attached) was sent home over a week ago, but we have received few responses thus far! Thanks for your help in supporting our Gala.

From the Headmaster

In our lower-school reading competition, for the second week in a row, Raphael earned 20 points, Michael 18, and Gabriel 16! One more week to go! I look forward to seeing 1st-10th grade students compete this Friday in our literary trivia game at 2:00 in the gym. Parents are welcome!

At assembly, we talked about the importance of forgiveness in developing friendly relationships with others and in maintaining and growing friendships. Human relationships are messy affairs, full of missteps and hurts, and, without forgiveness, we tend to fall into pride, forgetting that all of us are sinners and in need of mercy. Indeed, the Passiontide, we reflect on the humility of God, who, instead of confronting his accusers in the temple, went out of the temple and hid (see the end of Jn 8). This event became the basis for the tradition of covering statues and crucifixes for the remainder of Lent. We are deprived of the delight of seeing the holy images of our faith, and we enter into the hiddenness and humility of Jesus, who has His eyes fixed on His goal next Friday.

Drama Club Production

This year, for the middle/upper-school drama club, Miss Schoenle and Mr. Massett have rented out the Arthur Miller Theatre the week of May 6th-10th, with the main performance occurring at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 10th. In addition, we would like to give the students and teachers an opportunity during the day to see the play, since not everyone will be able to make it to the evening performance. **May 10th will be an early dismissal for the entire school at 1:30, allowing parents to pick up and drive students to watch the 2:00 performance at the theater, which is a less-than-10-minute drive away.** More details forthcoming after Easter break!

Parent Survey

Please take time this week to fill out the parent survey for the current school year, using the following link: <https://forms.gle/AaaJePr7DVuAL3ch7>. As always we appreciate your feedback! This is an anonymous survey that includes both multiple choice and short answer responses. Please keep in mind that the purpose of this survey is to offer feedback in a constructive mindset. If you have deep frustrations or concerns, I would love to hear about those too, and I would invite you to reach out for an in-person conversation. If possible, please complete by next Wednesday, March 27th. Thanks!

Canned Food Drive Update

So far, we have collected around 1024 items total! Items will be accepted through this Friday. The current class ranking is as follows:

1. 9th/10th - 13.8
2. 6th - 12.0
3. 4th - 10.3
4. 2nd - 9.7
5. 3rd - 9.2
6. 5th - 7.6
7. K- 6.1
8. 1st - 5.3
9. 8th - 4.1
10. 7th - 4.0

Track Coach Needed

Mr. Miller is still looking for a track coach for this spring. Please contact him at cmiller@sta2.org if you know any leads or are able to help.

March Is Reading Month

Here is the remaining schedule:

- TUES, MARCH 19
 - The Feast of St. Joseph- Normal dress code, only the students can wear something red- a shirt, tie, vest, sweater, socks, hairbow, pin, etc. Mrs. Deemer will set up a St. Joseph Table in the school office hallway, and the students can come by before their lunch period to visit the table and receive a St. Joseph cream puff and/or bread.
- GRAND FINALE: THURS, MARCH 21- FRI, MARCH 22
 - Library raffle prizes will be given out at library class times.
 - On Friday, we will have a special all-school assembly in the parish hall at 2:00 pm for a game of Literary Trivia. Two representatives from each of grades 1st-10th will be selected to compete in a K-4 or 5-10 trivia competition with questions composed by their teachers about literary subjects. Winners of the reading competitions will also be announced.