



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Nascantur in Admirazione*

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

## St. Thomas PreK-10 School Newsletter

March 4<sup>th</sup>, 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 1<sup>st</sup>

**Financial Aid Application Deadline  
School EF Mass**

March 4<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>

**Reading Month Competitions/Events (see below)**

March 5<sup>th</sup>

**Technology Discussion Night, 7-8:30 p.m., school library (see below)**

March 6<sup>th</sup>  
**No School - ICLE PD Day**

March 7<sup>th</sup>  
**Gala Planning Meeting, 2-3 p.m., parish hall  
JV B-Ball Tournament (see below)**

March 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>  
**Special Reading Month Dress Days**

March 13<sup>th</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
**Dress-up/Dress-down days canceled due to special dress days for March Is  
Reading Month (see below)**

March 28<sup>th</sup>-April 7<sup>th</sup>  
**Easter Break**

SAVE THE DATE: April 19<sup>th</sup>  
**St. Thomas Gala - Weber's Inn**



## Second Graders in Character

Many of our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders dressed up today as a character from a book they read in class, including *Winnie the Pooh* and *Paul Bunyan*!



## From the Headmaster

In honor of Reading Month, I used assembly time today to read the students a story from a favorite collection of folk stories: Howard Pyle's *Salt and Pepper*. This would be a wonderful month to read out loud with your kids! That is something that is central to the classical approach for all levels, including high school. Reading out loud brings out the delight and beauty of the words, the tone, and the "music" of a piece of writing. It also engages the kids in the art of listening. Feel free to reach out to your child's classroom or literature teacher for good read-aloud suggestions. I am also attaching my "headmaster's list" for ideas.

I look forward to seeing you tomorrow evening at our evening discussion on technology use at home. This will provide parents an opportunity to share ideas and listen to insights on how to have a disciplined and limited approach to screentime at home, particularly in light of the mission of the school and a Catholic vision of human development. This is about crafting a positive approach to a pressing issue, rather than just a reactionary approach.

This Wednesday, the full-time teachers and I will be attending our second in-person professional development session with ICLE (Institute of Catholic Liberal Education). We will be joining our sister schools St. Mary's in Williamston and Resurrection in Lansing. This will be a great opportunity for our staff to deepen their love of and reflection on classical Catholic education.

## JV Basketball Tournament

Our J.V. girls will be playing their first tournament game at Washtenaw Christian in Saline this Thursday at 5:30. This year, they enter the tournament as a 3-seed, a testament to their strong regular season! Come out to support our 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade girls.

## Preschool Scholarship

St. Thomas School offers a scholarship each year for a new St. Thomas parish family that is joining our preschool. If anyone you know is interested in both our preschool and in becoming a parishioner of St. Thomas Catholic Church, please let them know. The preschool scholarship offer is \$2,500 off 2024-2025 tuition. As a reminder, any family that enrolls at St. Thomas School, the referring family gets a \$750 tuition credit for the 2024-2025 school year.

## Gala Tickets, Planning Meeting

Tickets can be ordered on our website at <https://sta2.org/school/st-thomas-school-scholarship-gala-auction-2024/>. Please consider attending the Gala meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 2-3 p.m. in the parish hall to see how you can volunteer for specific needs still to fill as we gear up for the event.

## Lunch Duty Volunteers Update

Thank you to all those who have helped fill open slots for March! Your help is greatly appreciated.

## Track Coach Needed

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

## March Is Reading Month

Here is the remaining schedule:

- MON, MARCH 11
  - Dress up from the historic era your class is learning about right now.
- TUES, MARCH 12
  - Miss Dalian's mother will come and read her recently-published book and answer questions for grades PK, K, 1, and 2
- MON, MARCH 18
  - Special jeans day with spirit wear or green for St. Patrick and our Irish athletics
- 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 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 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.