



THE BUZZ!

Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School | Dynamic Education Centered in Christ

Plan your week!

Parents, please join us virtually for our Chapel talk every morning. The Chapel talk link is <https://meet.google.com/rgb-ofxa-vhj>. The virtue this week is prudence: the ability to see reality objectively, allowing us to judge what is right and wrong.

Monday, Feb. 21 and Tuesday, Feb. 22 – NO SCHOOL/WINTER BREAK! Enjoy your time off. Sleep in. Go sledding. Go skiing. Drink hot chocolate. Call your family. Read a good book. Take a nap. Cook dinner for your family. Rest up and be ready to arise and shine on Wednesday morning.

Wednesday, Feb. 23 – 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat.

Wednesday, Feb. 23 – Donut Day! To thank Saint Thomas for all the art donations, Artists Creating Together will be dropping off donuts for the entire school!

Friday, Feb. 25 – School mass, grades 4-8, 9:55am. Parents are invited to attend Mass. Because of limited seating, please use this [Friday Mass Sign Up Genius](#) and sit in the choir pews, near the piano.

Celebrate Black History Month!

During Catholic Schools Week, Bishop Walkowiak talked about six Black Americans who are on their journey to Sainthood. He challenged the students in the Diocese to learn more about them as we celebrate Black History Month. The students in Mrs. Zakrajsek's 4th and 5th grade multiage class rose to the challenge and are researching each person in depth. They are creating a slideshow presentation, which they will share with the K-3rd grade students to teach them about these amazing Black Americans.

Check out the lunch menu!

- Monday – No school.
- Tuesday – No school.
- Wednesday – Pizza!

Reminder of parking/drop off rules

Please be mindful of the rules in the **preschool parking lot and the parking in front of the school**. Parents are not allowed to pick up or drop off students in front of the school on Wilcox Park Drive. Parents also may not use the preschool parking lot off of Carlton unless they have a preschooler. The main Church lot or the Fulton Street gate by Children's Healing Center are the only places for pick up and drop off for all non-preschool families.

Sign up today!

♥ **Book fair volunteer:** If you are interested in volunteering for our March 8-10 Book Fair, please sign up using our [Book Fair Volunteer Sign Up](#). Questions? Please contact Chris Grabar (630-846-1264 or chrisgrabar123@gmail.com).

♥ Parents, **volunteer in the lunchroom!** It's super fun! Even if you just have an hour to spare, we would love to have an extra set of hands to support our school lunch program. [Sign up to volunteer in our lunchroom!](#)

♥ **GRACEAC spring sports registration** is open! Please see the two separate links below. The first link is for the 5th-8th grade spring sports (girls soccer, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, baseball, boys & girls track, and boys & girls tennis – 6th-8th grade only). The second link is for 3rd/4th grade boys and girls lacrosse. The deadline to sign up is Feb. 27.

- [GRACEAC 5th-8th grade spring sports](#)
- [GRACEAC 3rd-4th grade lacrosse](#)

Keep in mind!

♥ Mark your calendars for the **8th Grade Parent Meeting, Monday, February 28, 6:30-8:30pm** in the lower level of the church. We will discuss the end of the year festivities for our 8th graders, including graduation events, end of the year trip, last day of school fun, and the class memory book. We will need many volunteers to make these things happen. If you are unable to attend the meeting but you want to be involved, please contact Emily Brunner (emilyabrunner@yahoo.com) or Liz Deimel (elizabethdeimel@gmail.com).

♥ **Saint Thomas Book Fair is coming to our Ministry Center.** Tuesday, March 8 – Thursday, March 10 from 8am-3pm. Cash and credit card will be accepted. Students will visit the Book Fair during their library time to browse the books available for purchase. Parents are also welcome! Teachers wish lists available for families to donate to their children's classrooms. All proceeds benefit the Saint Thomas Library. Please consider [volunteering at the Book Fair](#). If you have any questions, please contact Chris Grabar (chrisgrabar123@gmail.com or 630-846-1264).

♥ Join us for an **all school skating party Saturday, March 12 from 6:30-8pm at the Southside Ice Arena!** Let's party the parkas away as winter comes to an end and we close in on the start of spring! This is a free family event – all skates are free. Concessions will be open for purchases. Thank you to Mike and Meredith Slobodnik for sponsoring this event!

♥ The **Saint Thomas Middle School Choir** will be having a concert, **Sunday, March 27 at 7pm** in the church. The students would love to see you there!

♥ **Home and School** is offering a **service opportunity** for students and families. We would like to continue to help and support the families we sponsored at Christmas. The Herman family is facing great medical and financial challenges. Please consider using our [MealTrain Sign Up](#) to help. Meals can be dropped off right after school. Thank you!

♥ **Parish Activity:** Join our faith community in a Lenten journey with **CRS Rice Bowl**. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl in the back of church the weekend before Lent (2/26-27). During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on global hunger and take action to help our sisters and brothers impacted by this injustice. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

COVID notifications

♥ New COVID positive cases this week: 2

Please see our updated [letter template](#) that explains Kent County Health Department recommendations for parents.

Covid resources:

- [K-12 and High Education School Toolkit](#)
- [K-12 COVID-19 Symptom and Testing Protocol](#)
- [Kent County Public Health Order 1.11.22](#)