

WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

The BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



Sept. 18-22, 2023

This week!

The virtue this week is leadership: Achieving greatness by bringing out greatness in others.

Sunday, Sept. 17 – Saint Thomas Picnic in the Park, Wilcox Park, 12-3pm. Join our Saint Thomas community for friendship, food and fun! Please bring blankets/chairs to sit on. There's still time to volunteer – visit our [Picnic in the Park Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer.

If you're coming, consider bringing a baked good to donate to the Bake Walk! (If it rains, we will gather in the Church Lower Level for lunch, entertainment, crafts and drumming.)

Monday, Sept. 18 –

- **Parent Rosary, 8:15am, Grotto (rain location: Church)**
- **Mass Grades 1-3, 10:10am, Church.** Mass uniforms – white shirts, ties (boys)/ white shirts, skirts/jumpers (girls). Parents, join us! Please check in at the office.
- **Grand Rapids Police Department annual visit.** The GRPD will be walking through our school as part of our commitment to the safety and security of our Saint Thomas community.

Wednesday, Sept. 20 –

- **School Pictures for P4-8th Grade.** This is a **NON-UNIFORM day** so our students can dress for pictures. Please follow our [Saint Thomas uniform holiday guidelines](#). (If you want a yearbook at the end of the school year, **YOU MUST ORDER A YEARBOOK WHEN YOU ORDER PICTURES.** Yearbooks are NOT included in any of the available picture packages.)
- **0-5ers Gym Time, 10am, Saint Thomas Gym.** Parents, caregivers and children ages 0-5, join us for a rumbling, tumbling great time!
- **New Family Meeting, 6pm, Ministry Center.** New families, join us for a run-down of everything Saint Thomas. Come with questions; we'll have answers!

Thursday, Sept. 21 – School pictures for P3 and Make-Ups

Friday, Sept. 22 –

- **0-5ers Storytime, 10am, Ministry Center.** For children ages 0-5 and their caregivers, join us for a faith-based early literacy fun!
- **Grades 4-8 Mass, 10:10am.** Mass uniforms – white shirts, ties (boys)/ white shirts, skirts/jumpers (girls). Parents, join us! Please check in at the office.



Parent Grade Gathering Parties!

Saturday, Sept. 23 – Parent grade gathering parties:

- 5th Grade hosted by the Hillary Family, 7-9pm.
- 7th Grade hosted by the Lee Family, 5pm.

You should have received an email from the host family for the parent grade gathering party. If you need information, please contact Genevieve Boyle (genyavello@hotmail.com).

Looking ahead!

Sept. 29 – 6th Grade Parent Gathering Party @ the Jacobsons

Oct. 5 – Education Foundation Friendraiser Breakfast

Oct. 7 – 4th Grade Parent Gathering Party @ the Maczkas

Oct. 10-13 – Book Fair

Oct. 13 – Grandfriends' Day/Half Day (dismissal at 11am)

Oct. 13 – STA Tailgate at Catholic Central game

Oct. 30 – Parent Night: Attention controls and executive function presentation by All Belong

September Lunch menu!

11	Chicken Tenders California Mix Veggies Grapes Milk	12	French Bread Pizza Salad/Carrots Fresh Fruit Milk	13	Breakfast Burrito (Turkey, egg and cheese) Hash brown String Cheese Frozen Strawberries	14	Mac'n' Cheese Green Beans Fresh Fruit Milk	15	Pizza Bagels Fresh Veggies Mangos Milk
16	Poached Chicken w. Roll Mashed Potatoes w. Gravy Peanut Milk	17	Hot Dogs Baked Beans Apple Slices Milk	18	Confetti Pancakes Sausage (chicken) Tater Tots Warm Apples Milk	19	Pasta w. Meatballs & red sauce Broccoli Fresh Fruit Milk	20	Pizza Sticks Salad/Fresh Veggies Oranges Milk
21	Chicken Sandwich Corn Frozen Strawberries Milk	22	Corn Dogs (chicken) Smiley Fries Fresh Fruit Milk	23	Cereal DAY! Muffin Apple Sauce Cheese Stick Fresh Juice	24	Quesadillas Refried Beans Pineapple Milk	25	Bosco Sticks Salad/Fresh Veggies Sidelicks Milk

Here is our [September lunch menu](#). If your child wants hot lunch, remind them to order it in the morning with their homeroom teacher. Families are billed through the Infinite Campus. Here are [Instructions for depositing money into your student's IC account](#). If you need helping getting into Infinite Campus, please email Cammi in the office (clawrence@stthomasqr.org).

Home and School News!

Parents, we are looking for:

- hosts for the 2nd grade and 8th grade parent gatherings
- a library volunteer for Mrs. VanDyke's 3rd grade class
- a room parent for P4 AM
- a room parent for Mr. Mester's 5th grade class

Stock the Lounge will be starting up soon-This is such a great way to show our teachers how much we appreciate them! This year you will only be asked ONE TIME to contribute, as we are going by last name. Beginning of the alphabet, be on the lookout next week for more info! Thank you! Please contact Genevieve Boyle at 773-610-6473 or genyavello@hotmail.com if you are interested or have questions about any of these.

Spelling Bee!

Our annual Spelling Bee is right around the corner. If your child would like to participate, please use this [STA Spelling Bee Sign Up](#). The deadline to sign up is Oct. 4.

Questions? Contact Jeanne Walch at jeannewalch@stthomasqr.org.

Deadline
Oct. 4



Other stuff!

♥ **Student Health Information:** We need parents to complete the "Student Health Information" form on their child's SchoolAdmin account. This is a quick, easy online form that asks about your child's allergies and medication. Please [log in to your SchoolAdmin account](#) and complete this form ASAP.

♥ **Virtus/Volunteer policy:** To volunteer in the school, you'll need to complete Virtus. To register, go to Virtus.org and select "First-time registrant" on the left. You will be prompted to register for a Virtus training session and authorize a background check. If you have already taken Virtus, please contact Cammi Lawrence (clawrence@stthomasgr.org) to have Saint Thomas added to your Virtus profile.

♥ **Parish Events:** Check out the [Saint Thomas Parish website](#) for upcoming events like the [Blood Drive](#) (Oct. 29) and the [40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil](#) (Oct. 10). Call Lori F. at (616) 459-4662 for more information.

♥ **West Catholic Events:** Visit the [West Catholic High School website](#) for upcoming events and admissions information.

♥ **Catholic Central Events:** Visit the [Catholic Central High School website](#) for upcoming events and admissions information.

join us!



The
SAINT THOMAS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

A POWERFUL WAY TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL, ITS STUDENTS,
AND CATHOLIC LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Let's be friends!

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST, A SPECIAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE,
SPEAKERS AND
EDUCATION FOUNDATION INFORMATION

Fall Friendraiser

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5
8:15-9:15AM
SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH LOWER LEVEL

THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND,
WE ONLY ASK THAT YOU RSVP TO
BETSYEDGERTON@STTHOMASGR.ORG
JOIN US TO LEARN MORE AND CONSIDER
SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AND SCHOOL.

CAN'T ATTEND? LEARN MORE OR DONATE TODAY USING THE
QR CODE OR VISIT
[HTTPS://STTHOMASGR.ORG/EDUCATION-FOUNDATION/](https://stthomasgr.org/education-foundation/)



SCAN ME

