

WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

# The BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



Dec. 4-8, 2023

## This week!

The virtue this week is **gratitude**: a thankful disposition of mind and heart.



Monday, Dec. 4 –

- Parent Rosary, 8:15am, Church Lower Level Nursery
- NO MASS Grades 1-3 (all-school Mass on Friday, Dec. 8)

Tuesday, Dec. 5 – Mr. Don's birthday! Wahoo!

Wednesday, Dec. 6 – Happy Feast of St. Nicholas!

- 0-5ers Gym Time, 11am, Saint Thomas Gym.
- Cookie Trays for Faculty/Staff, 8:15am, Church Lower Level. Please help us treat our teachers and staff to trays of Christmas goodies! Please sign up using our [STA Cookie Tray Sign Up Genius](#).

Friday, Dec. 8 – Immaculate Conception / LATE SCHOOL START!  
**School begins at 8:30am.** Please drop your children off no earlier than 8:15am.

- All-School Mass, 10:10am. Parents, join us! All students (K-8), please remember Mass uniforms.

Sunday, Dec. 10 – Vespers Service, 6pm, Church. Our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade choir will perform traditional Advent songs with reflections. Please join us!

## Looking ahead!

Dec. 17 – Nativity Program (see second to last page for details)

Dec. 23-Jan. 7 – Christmas break; no school

Jan. 12 – Registration for 2024-25 school year opens

Jan. 15 – MLK Day; no school

Jan. 16 – Kids and Tech parent presentation, 6:30pm ([RSVP now!](#))

Jan. 18 – All-School Spelling Bee

Jan. 20-26 – All-In Week

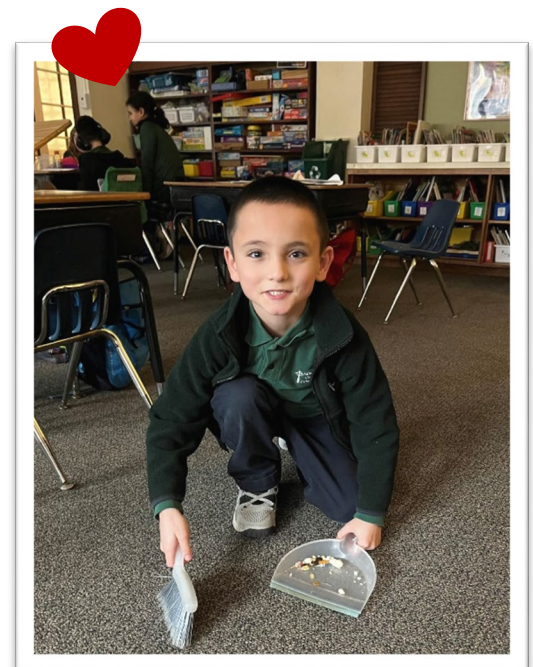
Jan. 29-Feb. 2 – Catholic Schools Week

## We want your feedback!

This month, we will be collecting your feedback for Saint Thomas faculty and staff. We have three forms to fill out:

- [Principal feedback](#)
- [Assistant principal feedback](#)
- [Teacher's feedback](#).

You can fill out the teacher's survey as many times as you need, one per teacher. Please take a few minutes to fill these out.



Helping Mr. Ted, who just had knee surgery!

## December lunch menu!

Here is our [December lunch menu](#). If your child wants hot lunch, remind them to order it in the morning with their homeroom teacher. Families are billed through Infinite Campus.

## Blackbaud Financial Aid for 2024-25 school year

The window to apply for financial assistance for the 2024-25 school year is open. The first deadline is Dec. 1, 2023.

Visit [studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school](http://studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school) to get started and check out the [2024-25 Blackbaud/SMART parent application guide](#) and the [2024-25 parent instructions](#) for help.

## Home and School News!

- **Home & School Newsletter:** Check out our [Home and School December Newsletter](#), featuring a very special grandma!
- **Stock the Lounge:** Let's show our appreciation for our teachers by stocking the lounge! Families with last names beginning in **I-J** can bring treats Dec. 4-15. This year, you will only be asked to stock the lounge one time. Sign up using our [Stock the Lounge Sign Up](#). We appreciate your generosity!
- **Christmas Service Project:** Our Saint Thomas School community is sponsoring three families in need this holiday season. Look for sign-ups and ways to help soon!

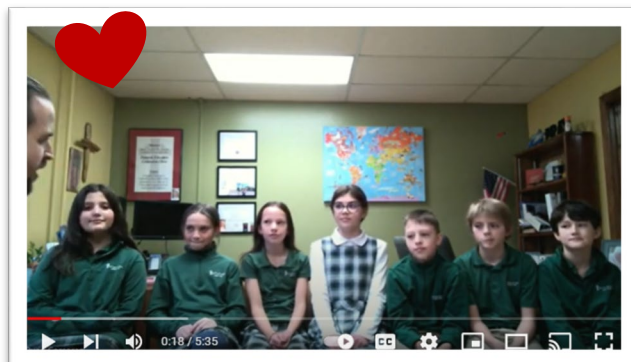


## GRACEAC Ski Downhill Racing/Slalom 2023-24

If your middle schooler is interested in participating in the GRACEAC co-ed downhill racing team, the sign up is open. GRACEAC ski downhill racing/slalom is open to boys and girls in grades 6-8. Please sign up through the [GRACEAC website](#). The deadline to sign up is Jan. 8.

## Corcoran's Corner!

In this week's [Corcoran's Corner](#), Mr. Corcoran sits down with a few 6<sup>th</sup> graders to hear about their recent 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat, held last week at Aquinas College.



## The Book Fair Needs You!


The Book Fair Committee is looking for dedicated volunteers to help plan the annual school Book Fair. Committee members need to be creative, organized, and able to work as part of a team. This committee meets weekly for 8 weeks each spring and fall to develop, implement and carry out tasks required for this event. Planning for the Spring Book Fair starts soon. Contact Melissa at [melissakrolewski@gmail.com](mailto:melissakrolewski@gmail.com) to get involved.

## Other stuff!

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

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

♥ **Cannonsburg Ski Punch Card:** Punch cards are for K-12 grade students and offer discounts on lift tickets, rentals and private lessons. Check out this [Cannonsburg flyer](#) for more information.



### Save the Date! An Advent Nativity Service

Performed by Grades 1-4

Friday, December 15: School Rehearsal 2:20

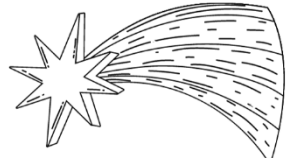






Sunday, December 17: Performance 4:00

Saint Thomas Stage

What to wear:

Grades 1, 2, 4: Dress up in your Christmas best!

Grade 3: Dress in your Nativity Costume.



# SAINT THOMAS SKI CLUB

ENJOY WINTER TOGETHER



## THE NITTY GRITTY

- Social club, open to all students
- Transportation provided for middle schoolers and 4th/5th graders with a middle school sibling
  - Students who choose this option must be an independent skier
  - Approximately \$80/student for the season (final cost TBD)
  - Only includes after school transportation to Cannonsburg
  - Lift tickets must be purchased separately
  - Chaperones will be on the bus and at the ski lodge, but not on the slopes
  - Parents are responsible for pick-up from Cannonsburg by 8:45pm
- Dates coordinated with Saint Paul and IHM
  - 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/23
- There will be a designated area at school to store ski equipment

**Questions? Contact Meredith Maczka [mkm9404@gmail.com](mailto:mkm9404@gmail.com)**

To learn more about Ski Club, contact Meredith Maczka ([mkm9404@gmail.com](mailto:mkm9404@gmail.com)) or complete the [Saint Thomas Ski Club Google form](#).