

St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

August 22 2016



STA Families

Our first week of school was a success! Everyone on our faculty at staff was excited to see you and the students to start another year. We are blessed to have **279 students** in our school this year. STA has not had this many students in our school since 2004! We are grateful for all of the families who have joined our school community this year.

Please remember to attend our all-school Back to School Night this Thursday from 6:15-7:30. We will be announcing school initiatives for the year, reviewing school policy and procedures, and introducing new faculty and staff.

Have a great weekend!

Mr. Gallo

Important Dates

Back to School Night

Thursday, September 1 6:15-7:30

Labor Day- NO SCHOOL Monday, September 5

PK/K/1 Classroom Open House Tuesday, September 6 6:30-7:30

6/7/8 Open House Wednesday, September 7 6:00-8:00

2/3/4/5 Open House Thursday, September 8 6:30-7:30

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

Back to School Night

Our Back-to-School Night is this Thursday from 6:15-7:30 PM in the STA Gym. This is a mandatory event for STA parents. We will be offering free child care in the STA cafeteria so that everyone can attend this meeting. We will be distributing parent handbooks at the entrance to the gym before the meeting. Please make sure to get one and to sign the parent handbook acknowledgement form when you arrive.

We now need more space in our gym to accommodate the additional families in our school this year. For this reason, we will not have tables for various STA organizations set up in the gym. We will have a space for a table for our Title I programs and our upcoming Wines and Steins event. Other STA organizations will have tables set up in the gym for Classroom Open Houses September 6, 7, and 8.



PBIS Teach Day

Our PBIS Teach Day was a success! On Wednesday, all of the STA students, teachers, and staff went over expectations all over the building so that everyone can stay safe, take responsibility, and act Christ-like. You will see signs all over the building outlining these expectations. Students who follow expectations

**AM and PM Parking Lot
Duty – 8th Grade
Parents Lead**

**Parish Picnic –
Sunday, September 11
10:00-1:00 PM**

**Hyde Park Children's
Book Fair – Sunday,
September 11, 11:00
AM – 5:00 PM**

**Flag Football,
Basketball, and
Volleyball Coaches –
See Coach Satterfield
or Alton Brooks**

**Lunch Helpers – Daily
throughout the year
from 11:00 AM-12:00
PM.**

Save the Date!



October 22, 2016

**Tickets available at
Back to School Night,
Classroom Open House
Nights, and on
GiveCentral**

can earn STAR points. Our school has a goal of 10,000 STAR points. We will be tracking our progress towards this goal on the bulletin board outside the main office. Below is a picture of Ms. Acton and Ms. Becker explaining the expected behavior for arrival to the kindergarten class.



Classroom Open House Nights

Classroom Open House Nights are scheduled for September 6, 7, and 8. On these nights, you will get to see your child's classroom and hear your child's teacher present on what will happen in the classroom this year. This night is extremely important in establishing a strong parent-teacher relationship for the year. Please plan on attending. The schedule is below:

- September 6 – Pre-K, K and 1st Grade (6:30-7:30)
- September 7 – 6th, 7th, and 8th (6:30-8:00)
 - There will be a meeting for 7th and 8th grade parents in the gym and parish hall beforehand from 6:00-6:30
- September 8 – 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th (6:30-7:30)

STA Parish Picnic

Our parish will be having its annual parish picnic on Sunday, September 11. There will be a parish-wide Mass at 10:00 AM followed by a picnic in the courtyard. All STA school families are welcome to

attend. Parents can also complete service hours by helping with the event. Please let Lisa Couch in the parish office know if you are interested in volunteering.

STA will also be participating in the Hyde Park Children's Book Fair on the same day in Nicholas Park. The event is from 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. We are looking for parent volunteers to work at our table at the event and speak to prospective families. Please contact Mr. Gallo if you are available.

General Reminders

- This week, we sent a letter home with all students regarding the results of the lead testing done in our building. We have no pipes or fixtures in the building with dangerous amounts of lead contamination, and all of our sinks and faucets are safe to use.
- Please remember lunch order forms for October are due to the school by August 31. Please contact Mrs. McNulty at the school office if you have any questions. Applications for free and reduced lunch are due to Mrs. McNulty ASAP.
- We need some parent volunteers to help open student lunches from 11:00-12:00 daily. Please let Mr. Gallo or Mrs. Damico know if you are interested. This will count for service hours.
- Packets with information on after-school enrichment programs went home this week. Please make sure to complete and turn in forms for clubs you are interested in having your child participate in by next week.
- Please make sure you have turned in all health, dental, and vision forms to our school office. We need these in ASAP.
- Our first all-school Mass will be Tuesday, September 6 at 8:30 AM. Our 8th grade will lead the Mass. All are welcome to attend. We will have weekly Mass on Tuesday the rest of the year.
- The tuck-pointing on the north end of our building is almost complete. Soon, we will be putting up scaffolding to begin tuck-pointing on the south end of the building. This will affect our drop-off and pick-up procedures. I will outline the change in procedure in an upcoming newsletter.
- If you have any questions, comments, or feedback on this newsletter, please let me know. You can contact me at tgallo@stapostleschool.com. I appreciate any input you may have.

