

St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

December 16,
2016



STA Families,

Christmas is almost here! Please remember that our last day of school before break is Tuesday, December 20. We will be dismissing at 2:30 that day, and there will be no after care.

Our Christmas program will be Tuesday, December 20 at 1:00 PM in the gym. The focus of the program will be the meaning of Christmas. All of the students will perform a song with their class and discuss what their class feels is the meaning of Christmas

We encourage any family looking for a place to worship on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to consider attending Mass at STA.

Finally, the Home and School Association's Breakfast with Santa is tomorrow at the STA gym. Come with your families to enjoy a delicious breakfast and see Santa!

Have a great weekend!

Mr. Gallo

Important Dates

*Breakfast with
Santa- Saturday,
December 17*

*STA Christmas
Program – Tuesday,
December 20 (1:00
PM in STA Church)*

*LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL BEFORE
BREAK – Tuesday,
December 20*

*Christmas Break –
December 21-
January 3*

*School Resumes –
Wednesday, January
4*

Christmas Events at STA

Below are a few reminders for upcoming events as Christmas approaches:

- The last day of school before break will be Tuesday, December 20. We will dismiss at 2:30 PM and there will be no after care. All students will need to be picked up at 2:30.
- Our Christmas program will begin at 1:00 PM on Tuesday in the church. All students will need to return to their classroom after the program with their teacher, and we will then dismiss from the gym. No parent can pick up their child from the church after the program.
- Breakfast with Santa is tomorrow in the STA gym. All families are welcome to attend this event. Any parent interested in completed service hours should contact the Home and School Association.

Reach for the STArS Update

We are continuing to receive donations for Reach for the STArS. With our matching gift, we have currently raised **\$60,758** for technology at STA! This means we have reached our goal for this campaign. Thank you to everyone who helped STA reach for the STArS! We will be updating you on how we will be using these funds for technology after the holiday break.

Important Events Coming in January

January will be a busy month at STA. Below are some important events coming when we return from break:

- Believe it or not, we are already beginning to plan for the 2017-18 school year! We are finalizing information to register for next school year, but we will be opening registration on January 17, 2017. There will be a discount for families who register early. We encourage all of our families to register early to help our school plan for next year.
- We will also be shooting a promotional video for the school on January 17. We will be providing more information on this closer to the date.
- Catholic Schools Week begins Sunday, January 29. We will have an all school Mass followed by an open house. Expect more information on Catholic Schools Week in January.
- We are planning a family science night for January 19. More details will come.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

AM and PM Parking Lot Duty – 5th Grade Parents Lead

Breakfast with Santa- Contact Home and School

Lunch Helpers – Daily throughout the year from 11:00-12:00

Field Trip Chaperones – Please contact your child's teacher if interested

Help Pre-K students pack-up for dismissal – Contact Mrs. Lendi or Mrs. Pruitt



School Closing Procedure

Winter has arrived, and this brings the possibility of inclement weather. We will not open school if the weather creates unsafe conditions for bringing children to and from school. If we determine to close school, you will receive a message through School Messenger alerting you of the closure. You will receive an email, text message, and phone call alerting you that school is closed. We will also post news on the closure on our Facebook page, school website, and on the Illinois School Emergency Closure Center. Please make sure to look for this alert and be prepared for a possible school closure if there is severe weather.

7th Grade Parent Meeting

We will have a 7th grade parent meeting on Thursday, January 12 at 5:00 PM. All 7th grade parents should plan on attending. We will be discussing plans for the graduation dinner and meeting in committees to make sure we are prepared for the evening.

Mother-Son and Father-Daughter Dances

The Home and School Association is planning a Mother-Son and Father-Daughter Dance in February. The Father-Daughter Dance is Friday, February 3 and the Mother-Son Dance will be on February 10. Save the date for these great school events.

General Reminders.

- Please make sure to check when your child's after school programs are, and that they attend the program on the correct day. Schedules for after-school clubs are posted in the office and around the school building.
- Please remember that all families need to sign up on Track It Forward to log your service hours. All families need to complete 20 service hours and log them on Track It Forward. Please contact Mr. Gallo if you need help with your Track It Forward account.
- 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.
- There will be no school Mass on Tuesday. We will be having our final Advent prayer service after announcements on Tuesday instead.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at tgallo@stapostleschool.com

