

# St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

February 17,  
2017



STA Families,

Our second trimester is wrapping up today. I have closed down FastDirect from parent viewing so that our teachers can begin working on report cards. Please remember that parent-teacher conferences are Friday, March 3, and that there is no school that day. Your teacher will be contacting you with the link to sign up for conferences online.

Our biggest discount for re-registration ended Monday, and we currently have 140 students registered for next year! This is 22 more than we had at the end of our biggest discount period last year. For those families that have not registered, discounts are still available.

We have a Family Mass scheduled for Sunday, February 26. Please try to attend this great celebration with our school and parish. Also, please remember that there is NO school on Monday, February 20 to honor President's Day.

Have a great long weekend!

Mr. Gallo

## Important Dates

*Virtus Training @  
STA – Saturday,  
February 18 (9:00-  
12:00)*

*NO SCHOOL –  
President's Day –  
Monday, February  
20*

*African-American  
History Presentation  
(6-8 Grade) –  
Wednesday,  
February 22*

*Family Mass (K/4  
lead, 6/2  
hospitality) –  
Sunday, February 26*

*Ash Wednesday –  
Wednesday, March 1*

## Re-Register for the 2017-18 School Year

As stated above, we already have 140 students registered for next year! This is great news, and a sign that our school will continue to grow. For families that have not yet registered, you can still receive \$70 off of your registration fee if you register by Friday, February 24.

Registration Date	Registration Fee	Savings
February 14 - February 24	\$125	\$70
February 27 – March 13	\$150	\$45
March 14 – March 24	\$175	\$20
April 3 – August	\$195	\$0

Our goal is to have 200 students registered by March 24. You can track our progress and see which students are “in for 17-18” on the bulletin board outside the main office.



## Report Cards and Conferences

The second trimester ended today. Families will no longer be able to check student grades on FastDirect so that teachers can complete report cards. Parent-teacher conferences will be on Friday, March 3. There will be no school that day so that we can have all of our conferences that day. Please make sure to schedule and attend your child’s conference on this day. We will not release your child’s report card to you until you have a conference with your child’s teacher. Please look for a link to sign up for conferences from your child’s teacher.

## Parent Volunteer Opportunities

**AM and PM Parking Lot Duty – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Parents Lead**

**Book Fair – February 26-March 3**

**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**



## Parking Lot Help

We are now transitioning back to dismissing outside regularly, so we are looking for more volunteers to help set up and take down cones and direct traffic before and after school. Please consider helping make sure our parking lot runs smoothly by helping during one of these times. You can earn service hours for volunteering your time in the parking lot. Talk to our Home and School representatives Kelli Wallace and Karen Brooks if you have questions about how to help. Also, please plan on dismissal happening outside for the rest of the school year unless there is inclement weather.

## African-American History Month at STA

February is African-American History Month, and our school is doing several activities to celebrate this event:

- All of our classes have decorated their doors to represent a component of African-American History. Classes will be taking a tour of the building to see the decorated doors and learn more about African-American History.
- Our middle school will attend a presentation by Jan Irwin on Wednesday to discuss African-American history. Mrs. Irwin has given many presentations to middle school students at STA over the years, and does a great job with our middle school students.
- On Friday, our 8<sup>th</sup> grade will attend the Archdiocese of Chicago's African-American Prayer Service at Holy Name Cathedral.
- Our north stairwell is decorated with projects from each class honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Junior. Students and parents can look at the projects as they use this stairwell.



## Track It Forward

Families need to make sure they complete their 20 service hours by the end of this year and log their hours on Track It Forward. The end of the school year will be here before we know it, so make sure to start completing service hours now. I resent links last week to sign up to all families who had not set up their account. If you are having trouble with Track It Forward or have any questions about it, please let me know.

## Open Houses and Tours at STA

Below is a message from Tareema Jean-Baptiste, who is coordinating admissions for our school:

*Share your STA spirit!! Spread the word to friends, family, neighbors...etc about STA! School tours are every Wednesday and Friday at either 8:30am or 9:30am. There will be two open houses this year Jan. 31st from 5-7pm and March 16th from 5-7pm. To register for either a tour or open house please visit our website [www.stapostleschool.com](http://www.stapostleschool.com) or email Tareema Jean-Baptiste [tjeanbap@stapostleschool.com](mailto:tjeanbap@stapostleschool.com)*

## General Reminders

- I will be out all day Thursday for an Archdiocesan leadership day. Mrs. Damico will be out all day Wednesday for an arch meeting.
- There is still time to sign up for our after-school improve club. You can sign up by going to this [link](#).
- Home and School has organized a STA Chicago Wolves trip on April 15. Look for information on this in the attached flyer.
- The Book Fair begins on Sunday, February 26 and goes until Friday, March 3. This is an opportunity for parents to earn service hours.
- My graduate school classes have resumed this week. I will be leaving right before dismissal on Tuesdays to make it to my 4:00 PM class downtown. This class goes until May.
- We have an All-School Mass Tuesday. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will lead the Mass.
- 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.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [tgallo@stapostleschool.com](mailto:tgallo@stapostleschool.com)

