

St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

February 23,
2018



Dear STA Families,

I want to thank all of the families who came to the parent coffee this week to discuss school safety in the wake of the school shootings in Parkland, Florida. I appreciated hearing everyone's insights on this matter, and we will make some changes to policies and procedures to ensure our school stays safe. *Please make sure to read the letter attached to this message for more information on this.*

Parent-teacher conferences are coming up on Friday! All families have received the link to sign up for their conference time. If you have not signed up for a time, please do so ASAP. No family can receive their child's report card without conferences.

Finally, we have a Family Mass this Sunday at 8:30 AM. We encourage all of our families to attend this service to come and worship together as a community. Have a great weekend!

Mr. Gallo

Important Dates

Family Mass (K and 4th Lead, 2nd and 6th Hospitality) – Sunday, February 25 (8:30 AM)

Empower Illinois Applications Open – February 27 (7:00 PM)

Sweatshirt Day (PBIS Reward) – Thursday, March 1

STA Book Fair – February 28-March 2

NO SCHOOL – Parent-Teacher Conferences– Friday, March 2

Re-Register for 2018-19 – Now Online!

Thank you to all of our school families who have re-registered! We are very glad to have you returning. If you have not re-registered your child(ren) yet, then please do so today! Families who re-register between now and March 29th are eligible for the second registration fee discount of \$150 per child. Re-registering by March 29th also guarantees a spot for your child next year. The online registration links are below:

[Re-Register for Pre-K](#)

[Re-Register for K-8](#)

Some important notes on re-registration are below:

1. If your FACTS account currently uses ACH to pay, you will be billed the registration fee on FACTS. If your FACTS account uses invoice, you will need to come to the school to pay with check, cash, or a credit/debit card.
2. If you have multiple K-8 students, you only need to complete one re-registration form. If you have multiple Pre-K students, you must complete one form for each child. If you have both Pre-K and K-8 students, you must complete both forms.
3. If you are a currently family who has a child that will be new to the school, you must complete and submit an application for this new student. If the new child is accepted, you can then register them online.
4. RETURNING STUDENTS for the following grades need to submit to the office or scan and e-mail to admissions@stapostleschool.com the following documents:

Kindergarten: Current Immunization/Physical Exam Form;
Vision and Dental Exam

Grade 2: Current Dental Exam

Grade 6: Current Immunization/Physical Exam; Dental Exam

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

AM and PM Parking Lot Duty

Assist the Pre-K and K students at lunch (11:00-12:00 daily)

Check for other opportunities on Track It Forward

5. ALL STUDENTS WHO NEED TO TAKE MEDICATION during the school day must return the Medication Authorization Form.

All medical forms will be sent out digitally as an e-mail attachment. When they are completed, they can be scanned and e-mailed as an attachment to admissions@stapostleschool.com or turned in to the school office.

Additionally, we are offering \$50 off next year's tuition for current families who refer new families to STA! (3 family or \$150 max)

If you have any questions about re-registering, please contact Ms. Acton at macton@stapostleschool.com or Mrs. Perlut at cperlut@stapostleschool.com



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up this Friday, March 2nd. We will have NO school that day because of conferences. Families will be able to sign up for conferences between 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM that day. Please plan on having your conference on this day. Your child's teacher will send you a link for you to sign up for conferences online. Please remember that you can not receive your child's report card until you have a conference with their teacher.

STA Spirit Wear – Now Available Online!

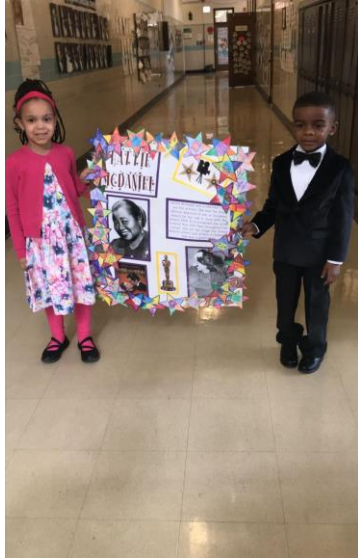
We are excited to announce that you can now order STA spirit wear online. You can go to this link to order your spirit wear: [STA Spirit Wear](#). We have added some new items that you can now order. Thank you to Alton Brooks for setting all of this up for our school!

STArry Night

Be sure to check your child's backpack for your STArry Night invitation and the February issue of the STArry Night News today! Reservations can easily be made online at this year's STArry Night website: [STArry Night](#). Make your reservation by March 29th to get the early bird discount on your tickets to STArry Night and the after-party at The Revival! You can also buy your STArry Night raffle tickets on the website! The winner of the STArry Night raffle will save \$600 on this year's STA tuition. Each raffle ticket costs \$25. You'll find the raffle tickets on sale in the "Featured Items" section of the STArry Night website. Remember, all of the money raised from STArry Night will go towards our new playground! We hope to see you there!

Empower Illinois

Empower Illinois will be opening their applications for tax credit scholarships on Tuesday, February 27 at 7:00 PM. Their application will now have a two-step process, where families need to first complete a form with basic family information to hold their spot, and then complete the larger application at a later time. Families intending to apply should plan on applying right at 7:00 PM, as these scholarships should all be taken quickly. We will NOT be holding a help session for these applications given the changes made in the application process. Please contact me if you have any questions about this process.



Financial Aid for 2018-19

Empower Illinois has not yet announced when they will open applications for their tax credit scholarships. They did say that they will give at least one week's notice before it opens applications for next year. Once I hear more information from them, I will share it with all of you.

Families can also apply for STA scholarships. You must apply through the financial aid application on FACTS. Make sure to complete all parts of the application in order to be eligible. Our scholarship committee reviews all applications with the family's names removed and determines scholarship amounts to award. The scholarship committee will meet for the first time in early March.

Summer Program 2018

At the State of the School, we announced that we are planning on having our STA Summer Program run from June 20-July 27. There will be academic classes in the mornings, camp with We Got Game in the afternoons, and weekly field trips. I am attaching a flyer with more information to this newsletter.

In order to help us plan staffing for the summer, we are asking any family interested in having their child attend the summer program to complete the following survey:

[Summer Program Interest Form](#)

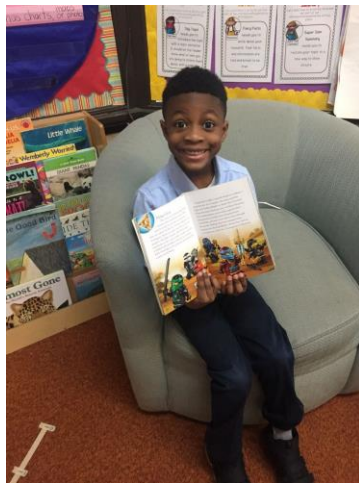
Please complete this form by Friday, March 2.

Sunday Family Mass

Our next Sunday Mass will be on Sunday, February 24 at 8:30 AM. Our Kindergarten and 4th grade classes will lead the Mass, and our 2nd and 6th grade classes are responsible for hospitality after Mass. Members of the choir should attend this Mass. Any student who attends the Mass in their school uniform will get a NUT card.

PBIS Reward – Sweatshirt Day

Our students once again have earned 15,000 STAr points! As a reward, all students can come to school Thursday in jeans and a sweatshirt. Congratulations to our students!



Track and Field Volunteers Needed

We need parent volunteers to help with our Track and Field team. Practices start on Tuesday, March 13, and they will be every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-5:00 PM. No experience is needed to help out. Please contact Coach Satterfield at c.j.satterfield@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in helping out. This is a great way to earn your service hours!

News for Home and School

DATE EXTENSION FOR MOTHER SON DANCE LAST DAY TO PURCHASE TICKETS IN WEDNESDAY 2/28/18. ABSOLUTE LAST DAY!!

Saturday, March 10th, from 6:30- 8:30pm: Mother/Son Dance in STA Gym - No Tickets sold at door

\$25/couple, \$5 for each additional child

see order form attached

Tuesday, February 28th - Friday, March 2nd

Book Fair in STA GYM STAGE

See flyer attached for details

STA at Pockets!! Thursday March 1st from 4pm -10pm eat in or pick up and 50% of the proceeds will go back to STA!! Let GO STA!! Let's show them how we support!!

See flyer attached for details

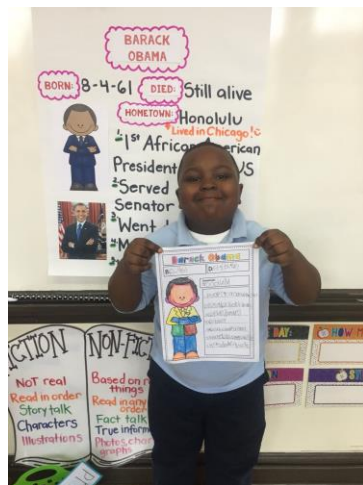
Used Uniform Sale and Spirit Wear Sale

Friday March 2nd from 9am - 5pm in the STA front Lobby

Login Track It Forward, "Click" Event Sign Up and scroll through and choose service hours! Remember to also login and submit any hours you have completed!!

If you have any questions please

email homeandschool@stapostleschool.com



General Notes

- I will not be in school Tuesday or Wednesday of next week. My wife and I are moving to a new place on those dates.

- We will have an all-school Mass on Tuesday. Mrs. Melachrinidis's 8th grade class will lead the Mass.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at tgallo@stapostleschool.com