

St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

January 19,
2018



Dear STA Families,

Re-registration for 2018-19 is almost here! We are opening re-registration for the upcoming school year on Sunday, January 28. We will have a meeting after the Family Mass to go over changes to re-registering, followed by an open house that will allow you to meet your child's teacher for next year. We are also announcing our rates of tuition and fees for next year. You will find that information below.

Re-registration also means the beginning of Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week is from January 28-February 3. This week provides our school with an opportunity to celebrate our school and what makes our school great. We will have special events planned throughout this week. You will find the schedule for this week in this newsletter.

Have a great weekend!

Mr. Gallo

Important Dates

*Big Shoulders Tax
Credit Scholarship
Application Open –
Monday, January 22
(8:00 AM)*

*Catholic Schools
Week Family Mass
(1st and 5th Lead) –
Sunday, January 28
(8:30 AM)*

*Returning Parent
Open House / Re-
Registration Opens –
Sunday, January 28
(9:30-11:00)*

*New Parent Open
House – Wednesday,
January 31 (6:00-
7:30 PM)*

Tuition and Fees for 2018-19

We have finalized our tuition and fees for the 2018-19 school year. **We are excited to say that tuition and fees for all K-8 families will be frozen at the 2017-18 rates for next year.** You can find the rates below:

2018-19 Tuition Rates

| Number of Children | K-8 th Grade | Pre-K |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| 1 | \$5,975 | \$6,500 |
| 2 | \$10,676 | \$12,850 |
| 3+ | \$15,575 | \$19,050 |

We also will be providing a discount to returning families who register early. A breakdown of these discounts is below (please note that all fees are per child):

| Registration Date | Registration Fee (per child) |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| By February 9 | \$100 |
| February 9-March 29 | \$150 |
| After March 29 | \$195 |

Families who register early will also need to pay their materials fee by May 31st. We will have open enrollment through March 29, meaning that we will guarantee your spot if you register by then. After that, we will finalize classrooms and cap class sizes. Make sure to register by March 29 to guarantee your spot for next year. We will be providing some more information on re-registering at the returning family open house on Sunday, January 28.

Tax Credit Scholarship Applications

The Big Shoulders Fund is opening their applications for tax credit scholarships at 8:00 AM on Monday, January 22. They are expecting all applications to be rewarded within the first hour that applications are open, so we are encouraging all of our families to apply right at 8:00 AM on Monday. In order to help make sure our families get their applications in, we will have computers available at school to help families who may need assistance applying. This will start at 7:30 AM on Monday in the conference room off of the principal's office. Information on what families need to apply is at the link [here](#).

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

AM and PM Parking Lot Duty

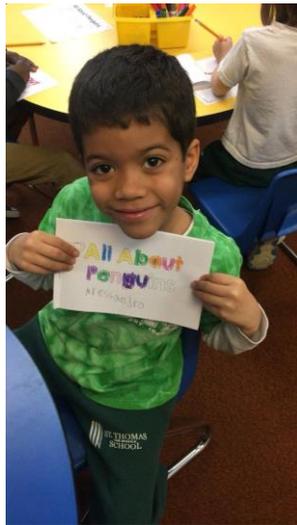
Assist the Pre-K and K students at lunch (11:00-12:00 daily)

Check for other opportunities on Track It Forward

Empower Illinois opens their applications at noon on Wednesday, January 31. They currently have more funds available for scholarships, but anticipate those going quickly as well. We will be hosting another session to help families apply when these applications become available.

Websites for the Big Shoulders and Empower Illinois SGO are below:

- www.empowerillinois.org
- www.bigshouldersfundsgo.org



Catholic Schools Week 2018

Catholic Schools Week is from January 28-February 2. We will celebrate our school and the people that make it great. Below is a schedule for the week:

Sunday, January 28 – *We Celebrate Our Parish*

- Family Mass (1st and 5th lead) – 8:30 AM
- Open House for Returning Families (9:30-11:00 AM, begins in the gym)

Monday, January 29 – *We Celebrate Our Community*

- Dress Down Day – students can wear pajama pants with gym shoes and an STA shirt
- Students write thank you cards to members of the STA community

Tuesday, January 30 – *We Celebrate Vocations*

- All-School Mass (8:30 AM, K leads)

- Vocations Day – look for more information on this from your child’s teacher

Wednesday, January 31 – *We Celebrate Our Faculty and Staff*

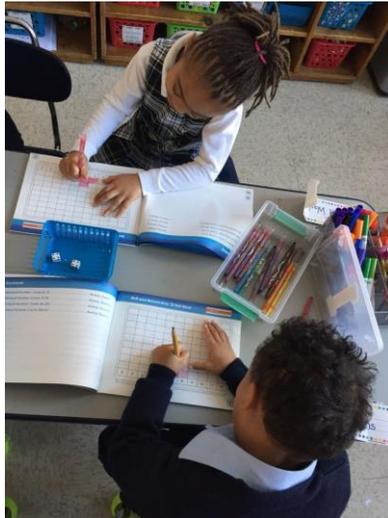
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
- Open House for New Families (6:00-7:30 PM)

Thursday, February 1 – *We Celebrate Our Nation*

- STA Olympics (K-8th grade, 2:30 PM)

Friday, February 2 – *We Celebrate Our Students*

- Dress Down Day – students may come out of uniform following the NUT card dress code
- Fun Lunch sponsored by Home and School Association
- Classroom Buddy Activities
- PBIS Reward



Re-Registering for the 2018-19 School Year and Open Houses

Current STA families are invited to an Open House on January 28th from 9:45-11:00am! Join us for hospitality after Family Mass in the Gym and learn exciting news about the 2018-19 Re-registration process! Then, you are invited to visit your child’s grade level classrooms for the 2018-19 school year. We hope to see you there!

We are also hosting an Open House for Prospective families on January 31st from 6:00-7:30 pm. Please share this information with anyone you know who is interested in sending their child to STA! Open Houses offer prospective families the opportunity to

learn about the school's faith-based environment, academic curriculum, as well as getting a tour of the building. Families who are interested in attending can sign-up using the link on the STA website.

Procedure for Canceling School Due to Weather

Winter is here, and with it brings the possibility of inclement weather that could force us to cancel school. We will use our School Messenger system (which what we use for these messages) to reach you. This system can send you an email, text message, and phone call. You can also check our website and Facebook page for more information. We will do our best to communicate this decision as soon as possible, but be prepared for the possibility of this happening early in the morning if there is a large amount of snow overnight.

Any snow days will push our last day of school back. The last day of school is currently scheduled for June 5. It will be pushed back one day for each snow day we take during the year.

Intent to Return Forms

If you have not turned in your intent to return form, please do so ASAP! This information is extremely important for us as we plan our budget and classrooms for next year. For those families that have not submitted your form, we will still take them! A copy of the form is attached, and you can submit them to the school office. We also have copies in the school office for you to take to complete. Your child will get a NUT card if you turn in the form.

The image shows a handwritten table on lined paper titled "Good Judgement in 2018". The table is divided into two columns: "More" and "Less".

| More | Less |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Respect | talking while others are talking |
| Sharing | |
| listening | |
| Kindness | cursing/teasing |
| Patience | hate |
| hands to self | *Hmm!* unsafe behavior |
| Love | |
| Positivity | Distracting others |
| Integrity | |
| excitement to get work done | Attitude |
| | disobedience |
| Cooperation | shouting out |
| being on task | aggravation |
| raising of hands | rocking back on our chairs |
| Participation | filing around (especially behind teachers back) |
| healthy eating | |
| Being Prepared | |
| Technology | |

State of the School

Please remember that our State of the School meeting will be Tuesday, February 6 at 6:00 PM in the gym. All families should plan on attending this important meeting. Mrs. Damico and I will update families on the financial state of the school, discuss future plans for the school, and provide update on new initiatives currently going on at STA. Any family who attends will earn 1 service hour.

Note on School Lunches

We have been seeing an increasing number of families ordering food to be delivered to school for lunch for their child. This has been difficult to our office staff to manage, as we often do not know who the lunches are for when they arrive. These delivered lunches are often not delivered during the student's lunch period, meaning that this child is then missing class time to eat. We are going to ask all of our families to avoid ordering lunches to be delivered to school. Please make sure you send your child has a lunch when they come to school (if they did not order a school lunch). If the child forgets their lunch, please come or send someone to bring this lunch in for their child, and make sure to indicate who the lunch is for when you bring it.

7th Grade Parent Meeting

We will have a 7th grade parent meeting to plan the 8th grade awards dinner on Tuesday, February 13 at 5:30 PM. All 7th grade parents should plan on attending this meeting so that we can prepare for the awards dinner.



News for Home and School

STA Pizza Fun Lunch is Friday February 2nd, 2018. There will be **no hot lunch** that day!! If your child is not going to participate they will need to bring a packed lunch from home. **Order form and money are due Friday January 26th, 2018.** (see order form attached)

Saturday, February 24th from 6:30- 8:30pm: Father/Daughter Dance in STA Gym

Look for flyers in your child's backpacks soon!
\$25/couple, \$5 for each additional child

Tuesday, February 28th - Friday, March 2nd

Book Fair in Parish Hall

Saturday, March 10th, from 6:30- 8:30pm: Mother/Son Dance in STA Gym

Look for flyers in your child's backpacks soon!
\$25/couple, \$5 for each additional child

We need lunch helpers, morning parking lot helpers, Fun Lunch helpers, Father/Daughter Dance helpers, Mother/Son Dance helpers and much much more!! Sign up today!!

If you have any questions please
email homeandschool@stapostleschool.com

General Notes

- I will be out of the building Tuesday until noon for an archdiocesan meeting.
- Our virtue for this month is good judgement.
- We will have a tornado drill at 9:00 AM on Friday.
- We will have an all-school Mass on Tuesday. 2nd grade class will lead this Mass.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at tgallo@stapostleschool.com

