

# St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

January 20,  
2017



STA Families,

Re-registration for the 2017-18 school is underway. We already have 17 students re-registered for next year. Our goal is to have 200 students registered by March 24. Remember that you can save money by registering early. **You will save \$95 if you register by February 13.** Make sure to register early to guarantee your child's spot at STA for next year.

Our science night was a great success! Students were able to go to four different science stations where they built towers out of cups, make bouncy balls, build bridges, and understand why objects sink and float. I want to thank our teachers for putting this terrific event together.

Catholic Schools Week starts on Sunday, January 28. Attached is schedule of events for the week. We encourage all of our families to come to the Family Mass on Sunday, January 28 at 8:30 AM, followed by the open house at the school from 9:30-11:30 AM.

Have a great weekend!

Mr. Gallo

## Important Dates

*STA Promotional  
Video Shoot –  
Tuesday, January 24*

*Family Mass –  
Sunday, January 29  
(8:30 AM)*

*Open House –  
Sunday, January 29  
(9:30-11:30 AM),  
Tuesday, January 31  
(5:00-7:00 PM)*

*Alderman Sophia  
King Visits STA –  
Monday, January 30*

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

Below is important information on re-registering for next year, including the discounts you can receive for registering early:

Registration Date	Registration Fee	Savings
January 17 - February 13	\$100	\$95
February 14 - February 24	\$125	\$70
February 27 – March 13	\$150	\$45
March 14 – March 24	\$175	\$20
April 3 – August	\$195	\$0

- Any family that registers by March 24 will guarantee a spot for their child next year. After March 24, we will determine our class sizes and fill up the rooms as people register. If you register early, you do not risk losing your child's spot for next year.
- Your registration is not complete until you submit both your registration paperwork and the registration fee. Please make sure to submit both of these items.
- We will be posting pictures of students who have re-registered on the bulletin board outside of the office. Students who re-register will also receive a button saying "I'm In for 2017-18". They will be allowed to wear these buttons at school.
- Any family who wants to apply for financial aid must do so on FACTS. We award more aid in the spring than in the summer, so I would encourage all interested families to apply early. We will award our first round of financial aid in March.
- Remember that you can get a \$25 discount for referring new families to STA. Please look at last week's newsletter for more information on this opportunity.
- I will be discussing re-registration and next school year more at the State of the School meeting on February 9.

## Catholic Schools Week Open Houses

We have open houses scheduled for Catholic Schools Week on January 29 from 9:30-11:30 AM and on January 31 from 5:00-7:00 PM. We are encouraging all of our current families to come to our January 29 open house. You will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher for next year and begin to learn more about their classroom experience for next year. Please try to attend this open house, and to promote our January 31 open house to any families that may be interested in attending STA.

## Parent Volunteer Opportunities

AM and PM Parking Lot Duty – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parents Lead

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

We currently need more parent volunteers to help monitor our parking lot before and after school. This is a very important job that makes sure our students stay safe and that our drop off and pick up procedures run smoothly every day. Please let me know if you are available to monitor the parking lot.

Once again, I am going to remind families that they can NOT drop off their child directly in front of the school. I have seen some families continue to do this after several reminders. Please set a positive example to all of our children by following the school's rules.

Finally, please remember to act Christ-like in the parking lot every day. All of us are responsible for setting a positive example for our students. All members of the STA community need to remain calm and cooperative around our school building.



## Promotional Video Shoot

On Tuesday, we will be shooting a promotional video for our school during the day. We will have interviews with students and parents and get footage of our Gospel choir and students in the classrooms. We have reached to all of the parents and students who will be involved in the video via FastDirect. We will also share the video with all of you when it is finished.

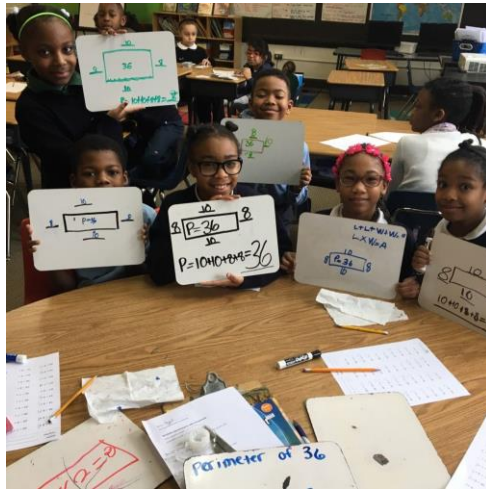
## School Closing Procedure

In case of inclement weather, this is the procedure for school closure. 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.

## 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)*



## 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.

- 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 distributed a paper copy of a survey the University of Chicago is running to our Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents. This survey is optional, and families can submit completed surveys to our school office.
- Here is a [link](#) with more information on the science experiments from yesterday's Science Night.
- 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 have an All-School Mass Tuesday. 6<sup>th</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)