

St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

May 11, 2018



Dear STA Families,

Thank you to everyone who came to and supported our music concert on Tuesday night. It was a wonderful evening and a great opportunity for our students to show off their musical talents. Special thanks to Mr. Jones for all of his hard work getting our students prepared for this evening.

We will be holding our final community celebration on Friday, focusing on the virtue of empathy. We will also be holding our May Crowning, where we honor Mary. All families are welcome to attend this event.

Finally, we will have our final parent coffee on Thursday at 7:45 AM in the parish hall. We will use this time to talk about ideas for how we can continue to improve our school for next year.

Have a great weekend, and happy Mother's Day!

Mr. Gallo

Important Dates

*STA Advisory Board Meeting –
Wednesday, May 16
(7:00-8:30 AM)*

*Home and School Association Meeting –
Wednesday, May 16
(6:30-7:30 PM)*

*STA Parent Coffee –
Thursday, May 17
(7:45-8:45 AM)*

May Crowning/Community Celebration (Empathy) – Friday, May 19 (8:10 AM)

*7th Grade Parent Meeting –
Wednesday, May 23
(5:30-6:30 PM)*

May Crowning and Empathy Community Celebration

We will be holding our final community celebration on Friday, May 18 at 8:10 AM. We will start this program with our May Crowning. This provides our students with an opportunity to reflect on and honor Mary in the month of May.

Each of our classes has been working on a service project to learn more about people in need and how they can help them. We felt doing these projects was the best way for students to learn what it means to be empathetic. Each class will give a brief presentation on their project at the community celebration. All families are welcome to attend this program.

Playground Update

Now that we have completed fundraising for the playground, we are continuing to move forward with completing the playground. We are currently working with outside counsel for the archdiocese on finalizing the terms of the land donation. We are also working with the archdiocese on getting quotes from various contractors for the project. I will continue to update you on our progress with this project.

Re-Register for 2018-19 – Now Online!

We currently have **286 students** registered for next year. We encourage any family who has not yet re-registered for next year to do so ASAP. We are going to accept students until our classes fill, and your spot is not guaranteed until you complete registration. Some of our classes are already close to capacity, so it is important to do this soon. The online registration links are below:

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

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

The materials fee for families who have already re-registered will be due on May 31st. We will use the same process that we used for the registration fee to handle this payment. Families with ACH on their FACTS account will have the materials fee billed through FACTS and withdrawn on May 31. Families with invoice on FACTS will need to bring their materials fee payment to the school.

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

Reminders for the End of the Year

The end of the school year will be here before we know it. Below are a few reminders as the end of the year approaches:

- The last day of school for PK, K, and 8th grade is Monday, June 4. K will dismiss at 11:30 AM (after their Kindergarten Celebration) with NO extended care. PK and 8th grade will dismiss at their normal time and will have extended care.
- The last day for the rest of the school is Wednesday, June 6.
- The 8th grade graduation dinner is Friday, June 8 at Mount Carmel. The graduation service will be at 11:15 AM on Sunday, June 10 at the STA church.
- Families should plan on paying any remaining balance by Tuesday, May 15. Any family who has not paid off their balance by then will be excluded.
- All families need to complete their 20 service hours by Sunday, June 10, and log their hours on Track It Forward. You will not get credit for your service hours until they are logged on Track It Forward. Any family who does not complete their service hours will be fined \$15 for every service hour they did not complete.

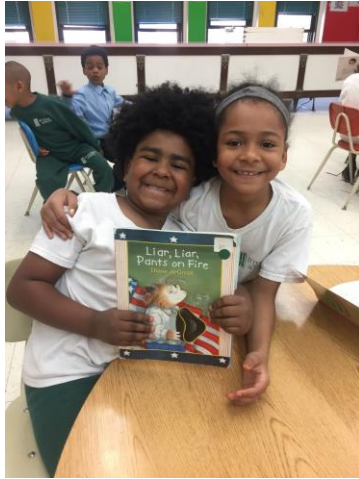


STA Night at Shred 415

Sign-up for STA's Night at Shred415! Come Shred and have fun with parents, teachers, and friends from STA! It will be a heart-pounding, 60 min. interval training class! All fitness levels welcome! The class will take place on Wednesday, May 23rd at 4:00 pm at Shred's South Loop location: 1136 S. Delano

Court West, Suite E202. With validation, parking is free for 2 hours. Limited, complimentary childcare available on location. Must sign-up for childcare at least one day in advance.

All reservations can be made on the STArry Night website: [STA Night at Shred 415](#) . \$30/person. All proceeds will directly support the playground fund. Sign-up today before it sells out!



7th Grade Parent Meeting

We have two more 7th grade parent meetings planned to finalize plans for the 8th grade graduation and awards dinner. These meetings are on Wednesday, May 23 and Wednesday, May 30. Both meetings are from 5:30-6:30 PM. All 7th grade parents should attend this meeting.

7th grade parents also need to remember that they should plan on having their child attend the 8th grade awards dinner on Friday, June 10 at Mt. Carmel so that their child can assist for the evening and participate in the ribbon and candle ceremony. The 7th graders should wear white shirts with black bottoms for this event.

Financial Aid for 2018-19

Empower Illinois has begun notifying families about the status of the status their applications for tax credit scholarships. Families should make sure to check their email for communication from them, and to please let us know if you have been awarded a tax credit scholarship.

Families who have a Caritas scholarship will need to complete the FACTS financial aid application as soon as possible in order

to be eligible to receive their Caritas award again next school year.

Our scholarship committee determined another round of STA scholarships this week, and scholarship letters were both emailed and mailed out this week. Families who received letters have until May 31 to register for next year and accept their award.

Summer Program 2018

The 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.

Registration for the summer program is now available. Families can complete the link below in order to register:

[Summer Program Registration Form](#)

You will also need to pay the \$50 registration fee in the school office in order to finalize registering.



News for Home and School

We currently have 73 families who have completed their service hours. HSA still needs a lot of help for their events for the rest of the year, especially for Field Day. Sign up on Track It Forward.

HSA Meeting: Please come to our **last** HSA meeting for this school year! **Wednesday 5/16/18 at 6:30 – 7:30pm** in the Parish Hall!! If you are interested in being a room parent, committee

chair, committee person and or have a new event idea please come!! All are welcome!!

Coffee Klatch: Please come to our **last** parent coffee **Thursday 5/18/18 at 7:45 – 8:30am** in the Parish Hall. Mr. Gallo will be there to continue to hear ideas that will help make STA great next year!! All are welcome!!

It's that time of the year again!! STA School Supplies Sale!! Save money, time and sanity! Purchase your school supplies online today!! Please see attached flyer for details!

Come represent STA in the 4th on 53rd Hyde Park Parade!! Wednesday July 4th, 2018 from 10 am - 12 pm. Please sign up in Track it Forward!! Service hours (2) will go towards your 2018-19 school year!! If you have any questions please email Tareema Jean-Baptiste at tjeanbap@stapostleschool.com

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!!

General Notes

- There will be school Mass on Tuesday at 8:30 AM. Ms. Beckert's 1st grade class will lead the Mass.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at tgallo@stapostleschool.com