

St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

September 2
2016



STA Families,

Thank you to all of you who attended our Back to School Night last night. I hope the evening informed you about initiatives and upcoming events in the school and has all of you excited for the 2016-17 school year.

I look forward to seeing all of you again this week for our classroom open house nights. Enjoy the holiday weekend!

Mr. Gallo

Changes to Pick-Up/Drop-Off Procedure

On Tuesday, we will begin erecting scaffolding for tuck-pointing on the south wall of the building. We will need to adjust our procedure for drop-off and pick up while the scaffolding is up. Please note that we will not be able to use the south door by the parking lot during this time.

Important Dates

*Labor Day- NO
SCHOOL Monday,
September 5*

*PK/K/1 Classroom
Open House Tuesday,
September 6 6:30-7:30*

*6/7/8 Open House
Wednesday,
September 7 6:00-8:00*

*2/3/4/5 Open House
Thursday, September
8 6:30-7:30*

*STA Parish Picnic
Sunday, September 11
10:00 AM*

*Chromebook Day
Monday, September 12*

Drop-Off

- We will set up a system of cones and chains that will mark off an area for the children to safely enter the school building. Children will continue to enter through the main school door off of Woodlawn Avenue. Please drive extremely carefully in the parking lot to make sure the children can enter safely.

Pick-Up

- All children will go to the gym at dismissal. Parents will need to park their cars and enter the building through the door off of Woodlawn Avenue and meet their child in the gym. This will run the same as when we have inclement weather outside.

The tuck-pointing should take four weeks. I will notify everyone when we can return to our normal procedure. I appreciate everyone's patience with this change.



Classroom Open House Nights

We will be having classroom open house nights this upcoming week. Please plan on attending this crucial meeting where you will meet your child's teacher and learn about what will be

Parent Coffee Klatch
Thursday, September
15 8:15 AM (Parish
Hall)

Picture Day Friday,
September 16

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

**AM and PM Parking Lot
Duty – 8th Grade
Parents Lead**

**Parish Picnic –
Sunday, September 11
10:00-1:00 PM**

**Hyde Park Children's
Book Fair – Sunday,
September 11, 11:00
AM – 5:00 PM**

**Flag Football and
Volleyball Coaches –
See Coach Satterfield
or Alton Brooks**

**Lunch Helpers – Daily
throughout the year
from 11:00-12:00**

Save the Date!

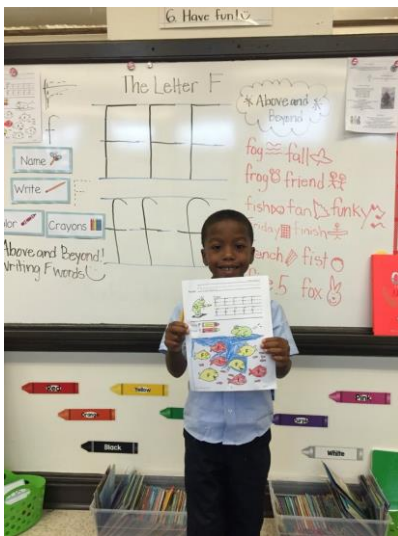


October 22, 2016

**Tickets available at
Back to School Night,
Classroom Open House
Nights, and on
GiveCentral**

happening in their classroom this year. Members of various school organizations will be in the gym to answer any questions you may have about their programs. The schedule for the meetings are below:

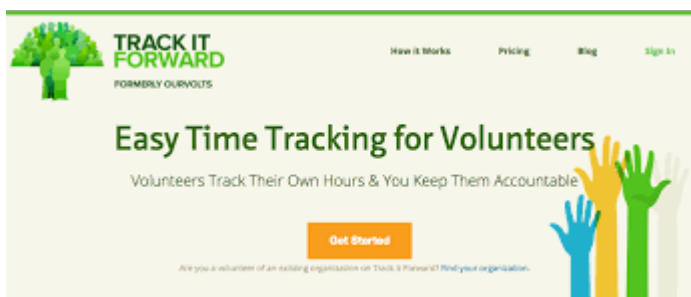
- Tuesday, September 6 – PK/K/1st Grade Open House (6:30-7:30)
- Wednesday, September 7 – 6/7/8 Grade Open House (6:30-8:00)
 - **There will be a meeting for 7th and 8th grade families from 6:00-6:30 this evening to discuss graduation and high schools.** The 7th grade families will meet in the gym, and the 8th grade families will meet in the parish hall.
- Thursday, September 8 – 2/3/4/5 Grade Open House (6:30-7:30)



Log Your Service Hours on Track It Forward!

STA will be using Track It Forward to log parent service hours for this school year. Track It Forward is a website and mobile app that will allow all families to easily log service hours for the year. All families should have received an email with your login information (please note that we are only setting up one account per family, so we emailed only the primary email address listed in our school records). You will be responsible for submitting all of your service hours. Please make sure to set up your Track It Forward account as soon as possible. Representatives from Home and School will be in the gym at classroom open house nights to answer any questions you may

have about using this program.



STA Partners with the Museum of Science and Industry

STA is excited to start a three-year partnership with the Museum of Science and Industry's Science Leadership Initiative. Mrs. Belcastro, our middle school science teacher, will be leading our school through this program. We will be comprehensively evaluating our current science program and developing and implementing an action plan to further improve our science program. We are excited to start this program, and grateful for all the hard work Mrs. Belcastro is doing to continue to develop the science program at STA!



General Reminders

- Starting this week, I will be in a graduate school class on Tuesdays. In order to make the class on time, I will need to leave school right at dismissal. If you need me during this time, you can reach me by email. Mrs. Damico will be available at the school if you need to speak with a school administrator.

- The deadline to submit applications for after-school enrichment programs is Friday. Please make sure you submit all applications to Ms. Peebles by then. Programs will start on Monday, September 12.
- Our FastDirect grading and communication system is up and running. New families should be receiving a letter today with your login information. Please check your child's backpack for this information.
- 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.
- Please make sure you have turned in all health, dental, and vision forms to our school office. We need these in ASAP.
- Our first all-school Mass will be Tuesday, September 6 at 8:30 AM. Our 8th grade will lead the Mass. All are welcome to attend. We will have weekly Mass on Tuesday the rest of the year.
- The Parish Picnic is Sunday, September 11. It will begin with Mass at 10:00 AM with the picnic to follow in the courtyard. The parish is looking for volunteers. Any school parent who volunteers will get service hours. Please contact Lisa in the parish office if you are interested.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at tgallo@stapostleschool.com