

# St. Thomas the Apostle School Newsletter

September 29,  
2017



Dear STA Families,

We have our first Sunday Family Mass this Sunday at 8:30 AM. More information on this event is in this newsletter. We encourage all of our families to attend this important celebration for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

We will be also having our first Community Celebration and Spirit Day on Friday. This will be a great opportunity to continue to build school spirit and community. Our students also reached their goal of 15,000 STAR points as a school and earned their first school-wide reward. Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade leadership club chose the award, and they decided that all of our classes will have some class game time lead by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Congratulations to our students for staying safe, taking responsibility, and acting Christ-like.

Have a great weekend!

Mr. Gallo

## Important Dates

*Family Mass (3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Lead, K/4<sup>th</sup> Hospitality) – Sunday, October 1 (8:30 AM)*

*Aspire Interim Assessment (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade) – October 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>*

*7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting – Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> (5:30-6:30 PM)*

*Spirit Day and Community Celebration – Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Virtus Training at STA – Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>*

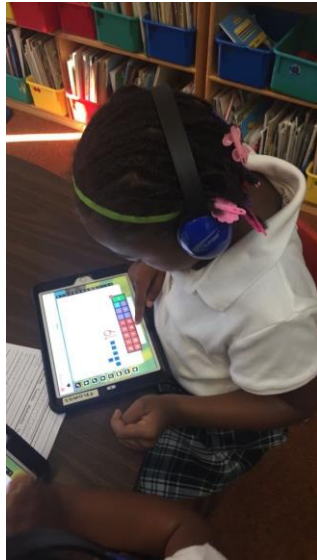
## Sunday Family Mass

We will be having our first Sunday Family Mass this Sunday at 8:30 AM at the STA Church. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will lead the Mass and our Gospel Choir will perform at Mass. Following Mass, our school will host the hospitality. Kindergarten and 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents are responsible for leading the hospitality. Any student who attends this Mass in their school uniform earns a NUT card. We encourage all of our STA families to attend this important celebration of STA school and church.

## Spirit Day and Community Celebration

Next Friday, we will have our first school spirit day and community celebration. We will be holding community celebrations monthly, and we will focus on our virtue for the month. September's virtue is cooperation. Leading up to the celebration, each class will meet with their buddy class to do a group project on the virtue of cooperation. One of our middle school advisory groups will lead a presentation to the school on cooperation and we will recognize a few students in the school who model this virtue. They will receive Shining STAR pins that they can wear with their school uniform each day. We will also recognize students who had perfect attendance (no absences or tardies) for the month. These students will earn a NUT card.

Students are allowed to come in STA spirit wear on Friday. Please see the handbook for the dress code for this day. The Home and School Association will be providing snacks to the students. Each snack is \$0.75.



## Parent Volunteer Opportunities

AM and PM Parking Lot Duty

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

Check for other opportunities on Track It Forward

## Wines and Steins 2017

Be sure to purchase your "Early Bird" tickets to our 3rd Wines & Steins Harvest Festival! Wines & Steins is a wine and craft beer tasting event in support of the STA School Endowment Fund. It will be held on October 14th from 7:00-10:00 pm in the school gym. We hope to see you there! "Early Bird" tickets can be purchased in the school office or on Give Central until **Sunday, Oct. 1st**:

Individual tickets

(\$40): <https://www.givecentral.org/location/358/event/13727>

Couple tickets

(\$65): <https://www.givecentral.org/location/358/event/13728>

Ticket prices will increase starting on Oct. 2nd:

Individual tickets (\$50)

Couple tickets (\$75)

This year, we are selling St. Thomas the Apostle School stemless wine glasses! Guests will be able to use their new wine glass for all of their tastings the night of the event. Not able to attend this year? You can still support the STA School Endowment Fund by purchasing STA wine glasses! Each glass is \$5.00 and will be available for guests at Wines and Steins. Those unable to attend can pick up their wine glass in the school office starting on 10/16/17. Wine glasses can be purchased the night of the event or in advance in the school office or Give Central:

Wine glass purchases

(\$5/glass): <https://www.givecentral.org/location/358/event/13949>

Be sure to read the second edition of the Wines & Steins News for even more information about the

event. <http://stapostleschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/wines-and-steins-news-2-2017.pdf>

## **Family Night – Playworks!**

We will be having our first Family Night on Thursday, October 12 from 6:00-7:00 PM in the gym. For this night, we are going to Playworks, our new recess program. We will have a representative from Playworks come to talk about how Playworks runs, and Ms. Holifield (our recess coordinator) will discuss how it specifically works at STA. From there, families will have a chance to play some of the recess games with our students. Any family that attends this night can earn one service hour. We hope to see you there!

## **Aspire Interim Assessment**

Next week, our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes will take their first Aspire interim assessment. This is a formative assessment taken three times a year to help inform us as to where our students are currently at, and which areas they can use further support. This is NOT the final summative assessment (this is taken in April). They will take the test from Monday through Thursday, and they will take one of the four subjects (math, reading, English/Writing, and science) each day. Our 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the assessment on their Chromebooks, and our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will take it in the computer lab. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any specific questions about this assessment.



## **7th Grade Parent Meeting**

There will be a mandatory 7<sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Every year, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade at STA is responsible for planning the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation dinner. They “pay it forward” so that they can enjoy their graduation dinner the following year. We will be meeting then to discuss roles and responsibilities for this event.

## Lunch Application and Household Income Survey

There is still time for families to complete either their school lunch application or the household income survey. The archdiocese is asking every family to complete one of these two items so that our school can maximize the amount of federal funds we receive. You can complete the lunch application and not order lunches if wish to do so. Lunch applications are available in the office, and the household income survey can be completed [here](#).

### Notes from Home and School

Please see the note below from the Home and School Association:

***MR. GALLO SAYS THE ROOM THAT SELLS THE MOST TAFFY APPLES HE WILL PERSONALLY PAY FOR A PIZZA PARTY!!***

*Taffy Apple Sales are a great way to stock up on Halloween Candy as well as help your kiddos flex their Everyday Math/ Entrepreneur muscles while raising money for the school!! Last year we raised over 6,000 dollars!! Come on STA lets step UP and beat last year!! Please turn in completed order forms with MONEY to the office no later than Oct 6th. ! FOR EVERY \$100 SOLD STUDENTS EARN ONE NUT CARD!! FOR EVERY \$100 SOLD PARENTS EARN A CHANCE TO WIN A \$50 STARBUCKS GIFT CARD, \$100 COSTCO GIFT CARD OR CHAMPAGNE MASSAGE DATE FOR TWO!! COMPLETE ORDER FORMS AND MONEY ARE DUE 10-6-17. HAPPY SELLING!!*

***SPIRIT DAY:*** *Our first spirit day is Friday 10/6/17!! Students can wear jeans and a spirit wear T-Shirt!! Remember to send money for Spirit Say snacks!! Snack start at 75 cents!!*

***Halloween Party:*** *Presale tickets go on sale Friday, September 22nd through Tuesday, October 24th. Look for the flyer in your students backpack. Buy early and save on ticket prices. Tickets will also be sold at the door as well.*

*Also, HSA is asking for candy and Halloween themed party favors for the Halloween Party. For each family that labels and donates*

two bags will receive 1 service hour. Please drop off in the school office by Friday, October 27th.

**Haunted Hallway at the Halloween Party:** We are looking for someone who can step into Alton Brooks' huge shoes and take over the Haunted Hallway next year after his youngest of four graduates in May. If Halloween is your favorite holiday and you cannot resist a good haunted house/hallway, please reach out to home and school at [homeandschool@stapostleschool.com](mailto:homeandschool@stapostleschool.com). STA would like to thank Alton for all the scares he has provided over the years to the students.

**FUN LUNCH:** is Tuesday 10/31/17! Please remember completed form and money due Friday 10/6/17! You may pick up a Fun Lunch forms in the school office. (please note hot lunch is not served on fun lunch days so if your child is not participating in fun lunch they will need to bring a packed lunch)

**SERVICE HOURS, SERVICE HOURS, SERVICE HOURS!**

Please log into Track It Forward, "Click" Event Sign Up and scroll through and choose service hours! First HSA meeting is 9/20/17 from 6:30-7:30pm in the Parish Hall! All Parents are welcome! If you have any questions please email [homeandschool@stapostleschool.com](mailto:homeandschool@stapostleschool.com)



## General Notes

- I will be out all day Thursday to attend a mandatory archdiocesan principal's day.

- On Tuesday, Jan Irwin will be coming to speak to our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students about how to prepare for high school and college.
- We will be hosting Virtus training at STA on Saturday, October 7 at 9:00 AM. Make sure to sign up on the Virtus website. They do NOT take walk-ins.
- Pre-K and K students who participate in Supper Soccer Stars or Acrobatics are allowed to come in their gym uniform on the day they have the club so that the students do need to change after school.
- We will have an all-school Mass on Tuesday. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will lead the Mass.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [tgallo@stapostleschool.com](mailto:tgallo@stapostleschool.com)