



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

www.stthomastheapostlenj.com

ISSUE #1

SEPTEMBER 2020

A Note from the Principal

Welcome Back!

I feel that is the best way to say it - masks and all -welcome back!

The start to the new school year has brought much excitement among the students, faculty, staff, and families. On Wednesday, our students were greeted by their teachers in grades 1-8 in an unconventional way but exciting, nonetheless. Social distancing, masks, temperature scanning and air high fives were seen all around the parking lot and around the campus. Students, new and old, were excited to see their friends and educators. It was hard to see who was more excited, the students to be back, or the parents to see the students back.

A special thank you to our world class Home & School Association for holding our first ever new family meet and greet on Tuesday. New families were able to meet their teachers and staff. I would be remiss if I didn't add that we have over 50 new students in the school!

Today our Kindergarten families met with Mrs. Seasons and Mrs. Nader who will be educating the kindergarten students this year until the return of Ms. Strazza. Both educators come with a strong background in education and assisting students in developmental growth. Next week our Pre-K students will meet their teachers and see their classroom as they join us for the 2020-2021 school year.

As with all things new, we ask for flexibility and patience as we adjust to changing conditions. With everything we do, we keep the safety and wellbeing of the students always in our minds. Updates will be sent out periodically with any changes or switches to procedure. Please be advised that the form for Optional Remote in October is live as of today and must be submitted via Google Forms no later than September 21st at 9am.

Mr. Petrillo, M.Ed.



Parent Reminders

Please look for the following information being sent home today:

- 2019/2020 September and October Calander
- H&S Welcome Letter
- H&S 2020-2021 Board Members
- H&S Ice Cream Social Flyer

REMINDER

Anything in **RED** on the calendar is tentative.



Calendar Reminders

Monday, September 14th

- ☺ Grades K-8—Regular Schedule
- ☺ **Advanced Band Rehearsal @ 7:30 a.m.**



Tuesday, September 10th

- ☺ PK 3 & PK 4 Orientation 9:00 a.m.



Wednesday, September 11th

- ☺ PK 3 & PK 4 Regular Classes begins

Friday, September 18th

- ☺ H&S Ice Cream Family Social—6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 24th

- ☺ Back-to-School Night @ 6:30 p.m. (Virtual)
- ☺ H&S Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. (Virtual)



Friday, September 25th

- ☺ Lobel's Measuring Day



Monday, September 23rd

- ☺ **Fall MapGrowth Testing Begins**



Tuesday, September 29th

- ☺ Picture Day—Grades K-7

Back-to-School Reminders

Any student who is missing Health Office forms, including physicals and immunizations, will be receiving a notice from the school nurse. Please check your child's backpack everyday, and return the forms by the dates noted.

Thank you!

H & S Association



SAVE THE DATE

H&S Harvest Festival

October 3rd

Please make a note on your calendars.



Home & School

Ice cream Family Social

September 18th @ 6:30 pm

Must RSVP to the H&S by September 15th with the number of attendees to homeschool@staschoolnj.org.

Please enter through the Church parking lot, all social distancing protocols apply and masks MUST be worn.

Bring your chairs to sit, relax, and enjoy your ice cream while you meet the STA family!



Smart Tuition Information

Log in to check the billing detail (or refer to the monthly invoice) to ensure you are making the full payment due each month. To see the monthly breakdown, click on the amount due for each month.

There is a 3-day grace period. Payments made after this period will be assessed a late fee. Late fees will continue to accrue on all unpaid balances until the account is brought current.

Educational services will be terminated on accounts that are more than 10 days past due.

If you have a question about your bill, please contact Smart Tuition or send an email to the school office within 10 days of receipt of your Smart Tuition invoice.

www.smarttuition.com or 1.866.396.5681

Newsletter Submissions

E-mail information to staoffice@staschool.org. **The deadline is Wednesday, 12:00 p.m.** If there is a 12:15 p.m. dismissal or no school on a Friday, the deadline is Tuesday, 12:00 p.m. Thanks!

AfterCare Phone Calls

Phone calls for AfterCare during the regular school hours (8:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. or 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.) should be made to 973.338.8505. Messages will be given to the AfterCare staff.

Phone calls for AfterCare **after-school hours** should be made to 973.338.8505 x201.



Shop Rite Gift Card Order Information



ShopRight and Stop & Shop pre-ordered gift cards in the denominations of \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100 will be available for purchase on the school website from Thursdays to Tuesdays with pick up the following Saturdays. Please note: if buttons are not up on the website there will be no sale that week. Please order cards through www.staschoolnj.org, via the Buy Now button. (Located on the main page under "School News." Or "Giving" on top of page) The student's name is required at purchase, please provide the student's grade next to the name. (parishioners please put "parishioner" for student name and teachers, please put "teacher" under student name. An email address **MUST** be provided in order to receive confirmation of your assigned pick up time. Please note: your order will only be available at your assigned time. Pick-up schedule will be emailed to the email provided at time of ordering. Pick up for pre-ordered cards will take place at the front school gold doors entrance. Masks are required. Pre-orders **ONLY**, no additional cards will be available.