



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH SCHOOL

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

www.stthomastheapostlenj.com

ISSUE #2

OCTOBER 2020

### A Note from the Principal

Hello Everyone,  
 Happy Fall! STA is adapting to the new "normal." Our faculty and students have become experts in routinely washing their hands, spacing themselves out, and understanding the importance of taking all appropriate measures to staying healthy. Today our students spent some time in prayer as they watched daily Mass from our parish in their classrooms and large areas. As it is difficult to have our student body go to Mass, we have been able to organize one class at a time to attend, while others watch a prerecorded Mass in their classrooms. We thank Fr. Larry and Fr. Luca for their powerful words and prayers as we all navigate through the changing of the normal schedules. STA celebrated Spirit Week this week! A huge shout out has to go to the amazing Home & School Association. They have been working so hard to ensure that this school year has many fun filled and community driven activities for everyone. Our students and faculty alike enjoyed every minute of Spirit Week and the ever-popular Spirit Walk. Even with new procedures, it was still as exciting as always. October 1<sup>st</sup> marked the welcome back of several of our students who were working remotely in September. Our students, who have been in the building, welcomed each one of them with open arms! Figuratively of course! Next week we begin MAP Testing in grades 2-8. This standardized digital assessment measures student growth in the areas of Mathematics, Reading, and Grammar. This test is taken three times throughout the year. The data aggregated from these assessments allows our educators to formulate individual plans for the students to assist in their overall academic growth. The class of 2021 has been measured for their caps and gowns; this is one of the first milestones toward graduation. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade will participate in several virtual open houses and meetings with high school admission directors. STA is so proud of them as they show true leadership skills and assist the rest of the student body by modeling positive examples for the school. Our school continues to navigate through this new world we are living in strategically and with poise. With the power of prayer in front of us to guide us, we can withstand all obstacles placed in our ways. I am proud and applaud all our educators for their hard work and dedication towards the students. Their efforts should never go unnoticed. Enjoy the month of October! I am sure we will see some ghosts and ghouls along the way!

*Mr. Petrillo, M.Ed.*

### Parent Reminders

Please look for the following information being sent home today:

- STA Book Fair Information
- Barksdale Picture Day Information
- H&S Charleston Wrap Fundraiser

## REMINDER

**All families MUST complete the PowerSchool Information Update by Wednesday, October 7th.**

**Please return the Policy Agreement to the school office by Monday, October 5th.**

**Please have your child/children's name on their uniforms, backpacks, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc.**



### Calendar Reminders

**Tuesday, October 6th**

- ☉ Picture Day



**Saturday, October 3rd**

- ☉ H&S Fall Plant Sale Pick-up



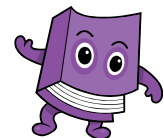
**Monday, October 12th—NO SCHOOL**

- ☉ Columbus Day



**Tuesday, October 13th**

- ☉ Book Fair Begins



**Friday, October 16th**

- ☉ Book Fair Ends

**Monday, October 19th**

- ☉ Winter Uniforms Begin

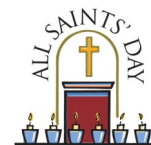


**Friday, October 23rd—NO SCHOOL**

- ☉ Professional Development Day

**Friday, October 30th**

- ☉ Orange/Black Tag Day



**Saturday, October 31st**

- ☉ Halloween

**Sunday, November 1st**

- ☉ All Saints' Day

# H & S Association

*Charleston Wrap*  
Simply the highest quality in fundraising



Support STA H&S  
With  
Charleston Gift Wrap

Look for the information going home  
today!

The fundraiser starts October 2nd and ends  
October 15th.



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## 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 Restaurant Fundraiser

**Pizza Uno**  
426 NJ-3 West  
Clifton

Join us on Friday, October 15th.

20% of all dine-in and take-out orders  
will be donated to the school!

(Flyer and voucher will be sent home  
next week.)

## THANKSGIVING PIE & CHEESECAKE SALE

Brother's Quality Bakery of Allwood, owned by STA's Gencarelli family, will be making the pies and cakes again this year.



Look for information going home in  
Friday Folders in the next few weeks.

Sale starts Friday, October 15th!

## 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](http://www.smarttuition.com) or 1.866.396.5681

## Newsletter Submissions

E-mail information to [staoffice@staschool.org](mailto: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.



## ShopRite/ Stop & Shop Gift Card Order Information



ShopRite 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](http://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.