



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

www.stthomastheapostlenj.com

ISSUE #5

JANUARY 2021

A Note from the Principal

Hello Everyone,
 Happy New Year! It is a joy to welcome you back to the second half of the school year here at STA! After the holidays we aired on the side of caution and held a remote session that proved to be imperative to maintain the safety of our students, faculty, and staff. On Monday, our teachers, staff, and students entered back for in-person instruction. Their smiling faces could be seen through their masks! This month we will be administering MAP Growth standardized assessments to all students in 2nd through 8th grade. The assessments will begin the week of January 25th. These assessments will enable us to measure student growth in the areas of Reading, Mathematics, and Language. The MAP national standardized assessments, similar to the Classworks program, provides computer adaptive tests that adjust to each student's learning level. The assessments provide a unique set of test questions based on the student's responses to previous questions. If the student answers correctly, the next question is more challenging. If they answer incorrectly, the next question is modified to enable easier understanding of the concept. This results in a detailed picture of what the student knows and is ready to learn. Students who are working remotely will be able to take the assessment simultaneously with their respective classes. Catholic Schools Week will be here in no time! It does look a little different than years past. We are attempting to do as many socially distanced activities to keep the excitement of Catholic Schools Week vibrant in the building and throughout the community. Please refer to the schedule of events for our various drives and collections going home in the next few weeks. Each day does have a particular theme that we would like each child to take part in. In the past we have held a full-fledged open house for our current families to see the work of their children and new families to walk through the school. This year we have established a virtual tour of the building, along with the scheduling of new family meetings to communicate with those who would like to join our great community. I would like to thank everyone again for all that you are doing to keep everyone safe. Thank you to everyone for all that you do to make STA a Home.
 God Bless,

Mr. Petrillo, M.Ed.

Parent Reminders

Please look for the following information being sent home today:

- SFIC Scholarship Information

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with regret that we announce the retirement of John Morthier, STA's morning custodian. Mr. Morthier has given over 10 years of his time and talents to St. Thomas the Apostle. We thank you John for all your years of service to our school, keeping us clean, healthy, and safe day in and day out! We wish him all the best in this exciting part of his life.

SMART TUITION UPDATES

The following fees have been billed to SMART Tuition accounts in the month of January 2021:

- BeforeCare and AfterCare fees for November 16th through December 18th.

If you have any questions regarding these charges, please send an email to staoffice@staschoolnj.org within 10 days of receipt of your SMART Tuition invoice.

Calendar Reminders

Monday, January 18th—SCHOOL CLOSED

- ☉ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



Wednesday, January 20th

- ☉ Progress Reports available online

Monday, January 25th

- ☉ MAP Growth Testing Begins



Friday, January 22nd

- ☉ 2021/22 Registration Fee & Letter of Intent due

Sunday, January 31st

- ☉ Catholic Schools Week Begins



Monday, February 1st

- ☉ New Family Registration begins

Friday, February 5th—12:15 pm DISMISSAL

NO AFTERCARE

- ☉ School Liturgy 11:30 am
- ☉ Teacher Appreciation Day



Wednesday, February 10th

- ☉ H&S Virtual General Meeting @ 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 12th

- ☉ H&S Dine-In Fundraiser Bella Napoli



Friday, February 12th—SCHOOL CLOSED

Monday, February 15th—SCHOOL CLOSED

- ☉ Presidents' Day

H & S Association



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2021

(JANUARY 31ST — FEBRUARY 5TH)

Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to our
Virtual Tour

The link will be posted to the school's website on
Catholic Schools Week.

LOOK FOR THE **CSW SCHEDULE FOR MORE DETAILS!**

H&S VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE H&S IS HOSTING A VIRTUAL
GENERAL MEETING. PLEASE JOIN
THEM ON
**THURSDAY FEBRUARY, 10TH @
7:30 PM**



PLEASE LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION IN THE
NEXT FEW WEEKS.

STA Calendar Raffle



The STA Calendar Raffle has started!
The H&S is asking families to sell or purchase 10 tickets.

If you need additional tickets, please contact
Michele Gilfillian at mggilfillan@yahoo.com
or 646-584-8187.

All ticket sales need to be finalized by
Friday, January 29, 2021.

H&S Dine-In Fundraiser

Bella Napoli
1640 Broad Street
Bloomfield



Thursday, February 11th

Look for flyer coming home in a the
upcoming weeks.

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.



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, 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.