

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School



August 19, 2024

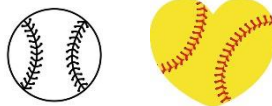
THE NOTE!!

Today is National Potato Day and National Soft Ice Cream Day! **Sounds like a trip to Homewood Grill to me!!** We want to Congratulate Mark and Tiffany Keller for the opening of their business. It has been a wonderful addition to our community and great place to work for many! Thanks for investing in our little town!

We've had a great start to the school year. I'm sure this morning was a little rough, but the kids are adjusting and doing well. This note will come out at the beginning of each week. A parent packet will come home every Monday as well. Please go through it and return the white packet with your kids tomorrow. We reuse them every week.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: BB H T-Town (B) 4:30, SB @ Cumberland 4:30



Tuesday: BB @ Palestine 4:30, SB @ Dieterich 4:30

Wednesday: Booster Club mtg. CANCELLED due to lack of agenda items

Thursday: CC @ St. Anthony 4:30, SB H Marshall 4:30



Friday: **All-School Mass** (7th will plan), BB @ Sigel 4:30, NCHS Media Night

Saturday: SB @ Windsor 10:00, Mass @ St. Thomas 4:30

Sunday: Masses @ St. Thomas 7:00/10:00, Mass @ St. Mary's 8:30

Attached/In Packets: Volunteer Page (check to see when/where you are), Elks Free Orthopedic Clinic Flyer, How to Help Kids Be Successful

- ❖ If anyone is interested in **joining the Catholic church**, please contact the church office at (618) 783-8741.

- ❖ Thank you to all of the families who have helped with **improvements/maintenance**. It is greatly appreciated. Working together is what makes our school special! We have new carpet, new lockers, and some new wiring/switches in our building. All of this thanks to you!
- ❖ If you're in **Casey's**, you might thank them for the cookies our students and staff received last week. They were delicious and we are thankful that they thought of us! It was a great addition to our lunch on Friday.
- ❖ FYI – we have a cage on the southeast corner of our school building where **cans can be dropped off**. Please make sure to seal the bag they are in. The money made goes into our petty cash fund.
- ❖ In your packets is a list of ways to **help your child be successful in school**. It is so important that adult “things/situations” be kept among adults. What mom and dad/grandma and grandpa have going on is not for kids to worry about or talk about. Please save your kids the stress of it all and talk when they can't hear.
 - ❖ When **sending an email** about sickness/end of day, please send it to the classroom teacher, Lori (lorismith@stthomassaints.com) and me (jillbierman@stthomassaints.com). This ensures that things are taken care of. If it is just something about the classroom, you can just send it to the teacher. They will share with me if they think I can help in any way. Always start with the teacher and then you can always email me if you need more help.
- ❖ Just a reminder that when your child **brings their lunch**, they should not have soda to drink. Also, try to send things they can open and eat reasonably fast. Lori and I are in the cafeteria if they need help, but independence is something we are trying to teach them.
- ❖ Please look at the **volunteer page** attached to the email and in your packets. If you won't be able to be here, please let me know. The library and recesses are things we need to have every time unless you let me know that you can't be there.

Thanks for being willing to help out!
- ❖ So far, **dismissal/parent pick-up** is going well. One thing that we need to make sure of is that when you are leaving after picking up your student(s) that you turn right or west out of the parking lot, not back towards the pick-up line. This will save some congestion. If you have questions, let me know.
- ❖ **Thank you to our fall coaches!** We have a lot of busy kids. Our 2024-2025 baseball coaches are Nathan Earnest, Sam Bierman, Gary Lewis, Dalton Baltzell, and Tyler Frichtl. The boys are opening their season tonight! The JCJH softball coach is Sara Beam and she is assisted by Andrea Cleaver, Shelby Lohman, and Cody Beam. The JCJH Cross Country coach is Mr. Jeremy French and he is assisted by Mr. Justin Kelsheimer. There are many JFL and Soccer coaches, and we appreciate their time as well! We insist on good behavior at school for our athletes, as well as checking eligibility each Friday at noon to determine playing the following week.
- ❖ Our **virtue program** is underway and our students are trying to exhibit the virtue of **Honesty**. We have already had some recognized. How awesome! Feel

free to recognize your kiddos at home when they tell the truth and nothing but the truth!

❖ We attended our first **all-school mass** with 100% wearing their polos! Woohoo! The kids looked great and did really well overall. Our expectations are high for students during mass. A few things you can work on with yours are: not going out of church for bathroom/drink, not standing on the kneelers, not hanging on the pew, not being held or sitting down when they should be standing/kneeling, facing Father, and participating as much as possible. There are laminated cards in the gathering space that have all of the responses on them if that would help your kiddos follow along with mass. I know mass is a struggle with little ones and you may sometimes feel like “you don’t get anything out of it,” but if you receive the Eucharist, you got something really BIG out of it! I encourage church attendance every weekend, no matter what church you attend.

If it’s not a priority for the family, it shows when we go here at school.

❖ The **Duck Race** was a huge success. Thanks to the Publicity Committee for helping with everything and for all of the families who came out to celebrate. We have a banner in our gym listing all of the sponsors! Thanks to EVERYONE who helped make it a great fundraiser for our school.

1st: Allie Hermann

2nd: Aubrey Schnabel

3rd: Suzanne Baltzell

Blue Duck Winners of a \$25 gift certificate: Shirley Woodard, Aubrey Schnabel, and Norah Goss

- ❖ Our next fundraiser will be **detergent sales**. We sell laundry and dishwasher pods and a few other extras. That will come home in next week’s packet (Aug. 26th). We are thankful to Jason Kuhl and Susanne Schackmann for their help with this fundraiser.
- ❖ If you’re driving into Newton from the west, you’ll see **new track signs**. Quincy Fulton and Emma Schumacher were state champions last year for track! We’re so proud of them and we love to see them representing their families and their school in such a positive way!

