

THE PEACEMAKER... *PIECES*



1925

St. Thomas School community prepares children for life in a respectful and supportive environment by providing a dynamic education centered in Christ.

Book Fair Opens Tomorrow!

Please make sure you stop by our arctic Book Fair Blizzard while you are attending conferences. It's a great place to pick up books at excellent prices for gifts or just good reads.



Where: Our School Library

When: Thursday, November 15th from 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 20th from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

If you are able, please consider donating a book for your child's teacher. There is a Classroom Wish List at the Fair. See your Book Fair volunteer for details. Thank you and I hope to see you there! ~ Rebecca Shiel

Reminders:

There will be *No Preschool* on Monday, November 19th and *No Kindergarten* for AM students on November 20th. PM Kindergarten students will be in session in the AM on that day.

Please note there will be *no Scrip orders* placed the week of November 19 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Thank you! ~ Stephanie LaVoie

Fall Conference Schedule

Thursday, November 15th 5:00-8:00 p.m. (*All Grades*)
Monday, November 19th 12:00-3:00 p.m. (*Pre-4 only*)
Tuesday, November 20th 12:00-3:00 p.m. (*Not Preschool*)
5:00-8:00 p.m. (*All Grades*)

Please note that both Monday, November 19 and Tuesday, November 20 are half-days with dismissal at 11:00 a.m. Letters with specific conference times for your family were sent home.

Teachers of special classes will be available for conferences at the following times:

Computer (Mrs. Jazwiec)– Nov 15 & 20 from ~ 5-8 pm
Spanish (Mrs. VanZee) – Nov. 15 & Nov. 20 ~ 5-8 pm
Art (Mr. Fether)– Nov. 15 & Nov. 20 ~ 5-8 pm
Physical Education—(Miss Grothe) Nov. 20 ~12-3 p.m.

Friday's Thanksgiving Mass Will Honor Volunteers

St. Thomas Volunteers ~ Please join us this Friday, November 16, at the All School Thanksgiving Mass at 9:55 a.m. We will be honoring all St. Thomas volunteers who, despite busy schedules and their own family and personal commitments, make the time to share their gifts and talents with us. Without you, St. Thomas would not be the extra special place that it is. For those of you who are unable to attend, know that we will be giving thanks for all you do and praying that you'll be blessed with a safe and relaxing Thanksgiving holiday.

~ Angela, Lisa, Dave & Octavia

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party is this Saturday, November 17 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon in the school hallways and Ministry Center. Thanks to all families who have donated items and shoeboxes. We are still collecting items until Friday, November 16. Drop off filled shoeboxes Friday, November 16 between 3:15-5:00 p.m. or Saturday, November 17 between 9:00-12:00 noon in the Ministry Center. If you will be attending the "Packing Party", please RSVP to Maureen Jones at 454-2107 or email mjonesgr@yahoo.com. Hope to see your family there!!




ATTACHMENTS

- Sub & Cookie Dough Order Form
- Aquinas College Basketball Invitation
- Home & School Minutes

Peacemaker of the Month

The Dalai Lama (means "Ocean of Wisdom")

Born July 6, 1935 in the country of Tibet, Lhamo Dondrub was the 5th of 16 children born to a peasant farming family. According to Tibetan tradition, a search party was assembled to locate the next Dalai Lama and used several clues to find the young Lhamo. After passing many tests, the two-year-old Lhamo was recognized as the 14th Dalai Lama and his name was changed to Tenzin Gyatso. On February 22, 1940 in the Tibetan capital city of Lhasa, Tenzin was enthroned as the Dalai Lama when he was just 15 years old.

The Dalai Lama began his education at the age of six and completed his Geshe Lharampa Degree (Doctorate of Buddhist Philosophy) by the time he was 25. He practices the beliefs of a Buddhist monk, waking up at 4 a.m. to begin his day with two hours of prayer and meditation and ending the day with another 2 hours of prayer and meditation.

His roles as the Tibetan Head of State & Government, as well as the Buddhist Spiritual Leader, put the Dalai Lama's safety in danger when the Chinese military invaded Tibet in 1959. He fled to Dharamsala, India and due to the Chinese occupation of Tibet, remains there in exile. Someday the Dalai Lama hopes to return to Tibet.

Tenzin was the first Dalai Lama to travel to Western countries to meet with world leaders. He spoke of hoping to promote his beliefs of "universal responsibilities and religious harmony." In 1989, the Dalai Lama received the Nobel Peace Prize for his continued promotion of respect and the understanding of different faiths.

Update on Classroom Contributions for Auction

Thank you so much to the following people for stepping up and volunteering their time and talents for this year's Auction. Our goal is to display these wonderful child-centered creations at the beginning of January. As you can see, three spots remain open. Grab another parent in your child's class, have a cup of coffee, and enjoy planning a project that will put smiles on your children's faces! Please contact Steph Zimelis ASAP (454-5682) if you'd like to volunteer.

P3	Connie Rellinger
P4 AM	Steph Zimelis
P4 PM	OPEN
K AM	Janie Mauren
K PM	OPEN
1/L	Marie Strickland
2/B	Steph Zimelis
2/M	OPEN
3/P	Marjorie Gell
3/D	Karen Nicholson
4/C	Steph Zimelis
4/5P	Joanie Mauren
5/F	Suzi Furtwangler
6	Patti Mirandette
7	Tracy Bandlow
8	Patti Mirandette



Annual 8th Grade Cookie Dough and Sub Sale



The 8th grade students are earning funds for their class trips. Please help support them by purchasing delicious Savory Sweets Cookie dough and other sweet treats or mouth watering Russo's subs. The Cookie Dough tubs sell for \$10.00 with a wide variety of choices. The Subs sell for \$3.00 and also have quite a nice variety. Please look for the order form attached to this issue of the Pieces. Payment is needed at the time the order is placed. Please return your order form to the school office clearly marked **8th Grade Sale** no later than November 30th. Delivery of your order will be on December 14th. Thank you in advance for your support. Contact Kiki Lown or Michelle Kane with questions.



ADD/ADHD Education Seminar

There will be a free Adult Education Seminar on ADD/ADHD and Your Child hosted by CLC Network on Thursday, November 29th from 7-9 p.m. at 4340 Burlingame SW, Wyoming. Dr. Robert Bulten will be the speaker. For more information or to register, please call CLC Network at 245-8388 or e-mail Tina at tnetland@clcnetwork.org.

"Praying the Rosary at St. Thomas

Moms and dads are welcome to come say the Rosary on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 3:00 pm** and on **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 am**. Come early to pick up your children or stay later after dropping them off and join other parents in the St. Thomas Church to pray to our Lady for communal and personal intentions. All are welcome - especially young children!"



School Directory Correction

Please change the phone number printed in the directory for the **Gooch** Family to: **458-7778**.

TOP 50 CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

Congratulations to Catholic Central and West Catholic High Schools for earning a place on the 2007 Catholic High School Honor Roll as two of the 50 Best Catholic High Schools in the United States. The High Schools were recognized for outstanding merit in academics, religious identity and civic education.



Thanks to our VIPS!

We would like to thank everyone who helped with Celebrate Life Week, especially Lucinda Dieleman, Tara Simonait, Carey Horrihan, and Debi Schueler. We would also like to thank everyone that helped with All Saints Day: Nicole Patterson, Chris Mondroski, Melissa Skinner, Joni Maren, Laura Mangan, Kay Gibbons, Jeanne Walch, Mike Jermstad, Anna Wardrop, Kathy Barth, Tara Simonait, Amy Drees, Mary Beth Rott, Natalie Syrba, Joanna Kovarik, Patty Corcoran, Geralyn Stormzand, Cheryl Lambert, Tanya Molotky, Becky Yunker, Andrea Hess, Sarah Faber, Sharon Herold, Carole Knapp, Laura Routzahn, Rodney Jubelin, Michelle Kane and Margaret Murphy.

MOMS SAVE THIS NIGHT!!!!

The 5th grade moms will be hosting a Procurement Party on December 1st from 7:00 till 10 p.m. in the church basement. We will have live entertainment, refreshments food, and wonderful company. This is a great opportunity to bring your donations or those you might have collected for the St. Thomas Auction then relax and kick back with us and enjoy yourself before the holidays start. If you have any questions, feel free to call Lisa Gooch at 458-7778.



Home & School Sponsors Parent Awareness Meeting on Racial Issues

A Parent Awareness meeting will be held on Monday, November 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ministry Center. The topic for this meeting will be the letter that was sent home to school families concerning racial issues at St. Thomas. If you have any questions, please contact Ward and Angela Yondo at 452-0444.

Yearbook Volunteer Needed

We are looking for a yearbook chairperson. This person would coordinate photos, help with layout, and work with school staff. If anyone is interested, please contact Lisa Wolf or Angela Yondo.

Pocket Lunch Update

Pocket Lunch has the ability to email notices and statements to all families. However, we need your email addresses in order to do this! It would save greatly on time and paper, as well as being even more convenient for you!



You can email me at drodgers@netzero.net with your email address, call my home at 874-5680, or let the office know. I will be using these only for hot lunch information.

The school also has the ability to send other information home via email, such as the Pieces newsletter. Please specify to me whether you want your email address used only for hot lunch information or both hot lunch and the Pieces. I would like to input this information within the week and begin using the email system. Thank you for your prompt response!!!

~ Shannon Rodgers



ALIVE IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



PICTURE DELETED FOR INTERNET SAFETY REASONS

PICTURE DELETED FOR INTERNET SAFETY REASONS

Back to Front: Elizabeth Rott, Julia LaVoie, James Shueler, Avery LaVoie, Matthew Mauren, Jenna Wolf, Hannah Redmond, Ben Dalrymple, Mary Grace Doyle, and Erin Mangan

Back Row: Abby Den Braber, Addison LaVoie, Ana Corcoran, Nick Vrugink
Middle: Stephen Woodruff, Mark Heun, Regina Faber, Konnor Barth
Front Row: Veronica Treece, Jessica Trenshaw, Nevada Flynn

PICTURE DELETED FOR INTERNET SAFETY REASONS

PICTURE DELETED FOR INTERNET SAFETY REASONS

Back Row: Joe Murphy, Sam Borgiorno, Chris McWain, Ryan Jones
Middle: Maya Zimelis, Lizzie Murphy, Peter McIlroy, Sara Vrugink
Front: Jameson VanDokkumburg, Alanya Henry, Gabe Henry, Jacob Jaracz

Back Row: Molly Kane, Armond Hess, Luke Lambert, David Flynn, Joe Ens
Middle Row: David Bridge, Maddie Lambert, Emily Tietema, Keegan Barth
Front Row: James Stormzand, Anna Valente, Emily Mauren, Margaret O'Neil



ALIVE IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY



PICTURE DELETED FOR INTERNET SAFETY REASONS

PICTURE DELETED FOR INTERNET SAFETY REASONS

Back Row: Aubrey LaVoie, Taylor Rodgers, Josh Colon
Front Row: Keegan Greene, Brennen Rodgers, Tim Crittenden, Adrien Yondo

Back Row: Taylor Molotky, Kathleen Doyle
Middle Row: Joe Trenshaw, Gracie Jones, Zack Prindle
Front Row: Max Aulbach

The Gator

The fourth graders are working on their Christian service project by recycling. Our concentration is on paper. Each day the fourth graders are collecting paper from around the school and depositing it into the recycling container.

Because we are called to be good stewards of the Earth, we would like to encourage you and your family to recycle your used paper products in our container. You will see a recycling container on the north side of the gym. Corrugated boxes are the only paper we can not accept. Newspaper, magazines, cardboard and even cereal boxes are all accepted.

St. Thomas Ski Club

Sign up now to join the St. Thomas Ski Club! We had a lot of fun at Cannonsburg last winter enjoying the snow with our fellow students. This is a great wintertime activity at a significant savings. Ski club will take place on Friday nights. Prices this year have remained the same as last year. However due to the new tax increase lift tickets and rental prices will increase on December 1st. I will be driving all payments to Cannonsburg on November 21st to beat the increase. Please sign up by Tuesday, November 20th. A list of ski options and registration forms went home last week. If you did not get one and would like to sign up, more order forms are in the school office. If you have questions please feel free to call me at 954.0969. Hope to see you on the slopes! ~ Stephanie LaVoie



Hornet Wear Is Here!!!

The Saint Thomas Athletic Boosters are proud to introduce the 2007-2008 HORNET WEAR CATALOG! Check out our new line of "Spirit Wear" featuring our new school logo and our official hornet mascot. This new line will enable all students and parents to choose from an assortment of clothing items to show off their school pride and spirit in style. This is the inaugural issue, and we look forward to bringing you additional items in the future. Please look for the order forms and samples of the items available at Parent/Teacher conferences. You can also go to the Boosters/Spirit Wear page on our website (www.stthomasgr.org/athletics/spiritwear.htm) and print off your own catalog and/or order form at home. All orders with payment can be dropped off in the school office.

** All Christmas orders MUST be received by December 7th to ensure delivery before the break.**