



Dear Parents and Students,

December is an exciting time of year as we begin our Advent celebrations. Advent is the season filled with hope, anticipation and excitement as we get ready to celebrate the birth of Christ. On December 4th, we will be celebrating the season of Advent with Mass. As always, parents are welcome to join in our celebration. Our Mass times are 8:30am and 9:45am.

Christmas can be a wonderful time for many families; unfortunately, for others it can be a very difficult time. Our Christmas Angel Program strives to support families in our community who are in need. The program began on November 30th. We are extremely grateful for any support you can provide to help a family in our area. Our school will be fundraising in December.

We have a number of field trip opportunities for students this month including trips to the Osgoode Care Centre, the Ontario Supreme Court for our grade 12 law students, and to Place d'Orleans mall for our multiple exceptionalities class. We are also hosting a high school dance on the evening of December 20th.

Please join us for an evening of music hosted by our Music Department on December 18th at 7pm. As always, Mr. Curtis and his music students have been working hard all semester to put on a fantastic show full of wonderful music and Christmas cheer.

On behalf of Mr. Doucette, myself and the entire staff of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School, we wish you and your family an Advent and Christmas season filled with hope, peace, joy and love. May the gift of God's love, the gift of peace and the gift of happiness be with you through the New Year.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Danny Palumbo, Principal



The Chaplain's Corner

Christmas Angel



STA staff and students are excited to make an impact in our local community as we begin our season of Advent! During our Thanksgiving food drive we learned that food shortages affect many families throughout Canada, and we know that as Christmas approaches many families in our area feel the pinch even more. It is our goal to relieve some of this pressure felt in our community by giving food vouchers to those in need, and we thank you for your donations to this great cause.

If you donate \$20 or more for this project we can give you a charitable tax receipt! Just make your cheque out to CDSBEO, or if paying in cash be sure to give us your name and mailing address. And remember, you can always do a monthly charitable donation through automatic withdrawals! Just give me a call or email me for more details.

Thank you for your help!

I hope this Advent brings you and your family closer together, and closer to the heart of Christ.

God bless you on your journey,

Mr. Chris Vonesch
Chaplaincy Leader



December Dates to Remember:

Dec 03, Band Mash Up # 3
Dec 04, Advent Mass at 8:30 & 9:45 AM
Dec 06, Student Leadership Indigenous Day in Kemptville
Dec 06, Grade 12 Law Class trip to the Ontario Supreme Court
Dec 07, Spirit Wear Day \$2
Dec 07, Student Senate Meeting
Dec 14, Grad Photo Re-takes
Dec 18, Christmas Music Concert at 7 PM
Dec 19, Alternate date for Christmas Music Concert at 7 PM in the event of Inclement Weather
Dec 20, Spirit Wear Day \$2
Dec 20, Gr 9 to 12 Winter Wonderland Dance from 7 to 10 PM (doors open at 6:30 PM)
Dec 21, Dress Down Day \$2
Dec 21, Web Crew Activity
Dec 21, Gr 9 to 12 Christmas Video period 3
Dec 22 to Jan 06, Christmas Break
Dec 24, Christmas Eve Mass at STA @ 4:30 PM
Dec 24, Christmas Eve Mass at OLMM @ 7 & 9 PM
Dec 25, Christmas Day Mass at OLMM @ 10 AM
Dec 31, New Year's Eve Mass at OLMM @ 4:30 PM
Jan 01, New Year's Day Mass at 10 AM



EQAO Math Assessment

Attention all grade 9 students/parents and guardians. The EQAO math assessment dates have been set: Students taking **MPM 1D** and **MPM1P** will write their assessment on **Wednesday, January 16th** and **Thursday, January 17th**.

Attendance is mandatory for these dates. Please do not plan any holidays or appointments during these dates.

PROM NEWS...

Grade 12 Graduates:

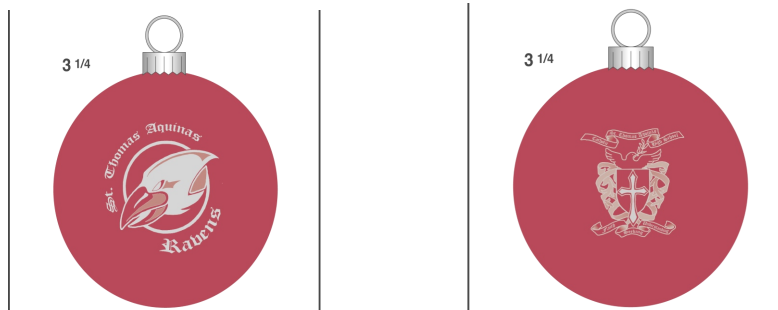


This year's prom will be held at the *Infinity Convention Centre* in Ottawa on Friday, May 31st, 2019.

The cost of a ticket to attend this year's Prom will be \$100.00. As we prepare for Prom, we have many financial commitments and deadlines that must be met. To ensure that we meet the financial deadlines, we are requiring a deposit of \$60.00 from all graduates attending Prom. The deposit must be made by Thursday, January 17th, 2019. This payment must be made through School Cash Online (link can be found on the STA home page). The balance owing on the ticket (\$40.00) will be due by Thursday, April 4th, 2019. Tickets for Guests that do not attend STA will be available for purchase through School Cash Online from Monday, April 8th until Thursday, April 18th for \$100.00.

If you have any questions, please speak with Ms. Cox in Room 249 or Ms. De Coeur in Room 213.

St. Thomas Aquinas Christmas Ornament



The ornament, as pictured, is burgundy with the school's crest on one side and the raven's logo on the other side in silver. The cost per ornament is \$5.00. All proceeds go to benefit various school activities. If interested in purchasing an ornament please contact Ms DeCoeur (trisha.decoeur@cdsbeo.on.ca)



Methods of Communicating School Vehicle Cancellations Due to Inclement Weather

Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario (STEO) would like to advise students, parents and guardians that there are several methods that can be used to check for school vehicle cancellations:

1. Access STEO's website at www.steo.ca and click on the link "Delays and Cancellations". Cancellations will be posted by 6:15 a.m.
2. Subscribe to STEO's Parent Portal for updates on delays and cancellations, specific to your child's transportation. Sign up at www.steo.ca under Parent Login.
3. Follow STEO on Facebook for updates on delays and cancellations and messaging.
4. Follow @steo.news on Twitter for updates on delays and cancellations.
5. Follow @steocancel on Twitter for cancellation notifications.
6. Call 1-866-629-0629 to access a pre-recorded message.
 - During inclement weather the message will be posted by 6:15 a.m.
 - **Please note that the message for this phone line is only updated on inclement weather days.**

Announcements regarding the cancellation of school vehicles and special vehicle transportation will be aired on local radio and television stations, beginning at 6:15 a.m.

Please do not call the bus companies for cancellation information, as the radio and website reflect the most accurate information.

If transportation is cancelled in the morning, afternoon transportation will not operate.

Wishing you safe travels!





CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Box 2222, 2755 Highway 43 - Kemprville, Ontario - K0G 1J0
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November 1, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

RE: TRANSPORTATION – INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS

Winter is fast approaching and there may be times when the weather or road conditions will disrupt school bus and special vehicle transportation. The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario works cooperatively with Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario (STEO), local bus companies and our coterminous Upper Canada District School Board to ensure that our approach to transportation during times of inclement weather is planned, coordinated and communicated with the safety of students in mind.

STEO receives up-to-date information regarding regional weather and road conditions from MeteoGroup – a global weather advisor. Decisions concerning the cancellation of school bus and special vehicle transportation are made cooperatively based upon this information and on the input of a team of weather captains across the region of service.

Unless otherwise announced, schools will remain **open** for students and staff, even if transportation is cancelled. If transportation services are cancelled in the morning, transportation services will also **not** operate in the afternoon.

Announcements regarding the cancellation of school bus and special vehicle transportation will be broadcast by your local media outlets, starting at 6:15 a.m.

Alternatively, parents/guardians and students can verify if busses are cancelled by accessing:

1. STEO's website at www.steo.ca and clicking on the link "Bus Delays or Cancellations"
2. STEO's free APP for your Apple or Android device. Use the access code STEO
3. STEO's Parent Portal for updates on delays and cancellations, specific to your child's transportation. Sign up at www.steo.ca under Parent Portal
4. STEO Facebook or on Twitter @steo_news
5. CDSBEO Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CDSBEO> and Twitter feed @CDSBEO
6. CDSBEO website at www.cdsbeo.on.ca.

Please **do not call** the bus companies directly, as the STEO website will reflect the most accurate information.

Winter weather conditions can change suddenly. If roads become impassable during the school day, or they are judged to be risky, students will be kept at school until either their parents/guardians can pick them up or it becomes safe to resume school bus transportation.

Learning and Growing Together in Christ