



St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School,
November 2017

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Dear Parents and Students,

At the half way point of the first semester, teachers are preparing high school report cards and elementary progress reports. Elementary progress reports will be sent home on Monday, November 27. High School report cards will go home on Wednesday, November 22. Friday, November 24th is a board wide PD Day. Grade 7 and 8 interviews are scheduled on Thursday, November 30th from 3:30- 7:30.

All parents are welcome to join one of our Remembrance Day Services on November 10th. Our first service begins at 8:30am. The second service begins at 9:45am. Every year on November 11th, Canadians pause to remember the men and women who have served, and continue to serve our country during times of war, conflict and peace. We honour those who fought for Canada in the First World War (1914-1918), the Second World War (1939-1945), and the Korean War (1950 -1953), as well as those who have served since then. More than 2.3 million Canadians have served our country in this way, and more than 118,000 have died. They gave their lives and their futures so that we may live in peace.

Thank you to our STA community for rallying behind our Food Drive. Through your generosity and support, STA donated thousands of pounds of food to replenish the shelves of our local food bank.

On October 26th, we hosted our grade 9, 10 and 11 academic awards ceremony. The awards were handed out to members of our STA student body and were a result of students' hard work, dedication, commitment, and grit. At STA, we strive to build resilience, grit and a growth mindset in students. When students are gritty, it doesn't matter how much they know when they enter into a problem or challenge. All that matters is that they don't quit when things get tough and that they recognize that success is built on hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to all award recipients and all summa certificate recipients.

Special mention to our Principal's Award recipients:

Grade 9 – Maria Ogrel

Grade 10 - Emma Patterson

Grade 11 - Toni Steele

We have many exciting events and trips planned for November including trips to the National Arts Centre, The National Gallery of Canada, and Parliament. Students are excited for their annual November Dodge Ball Tournament in support of prostate cancer awareness. This month, we also have students participating in We Day and Just Us Youth Day.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Danny Palumbo,
Principal



Message from our Chaplain...

"We should always endeavor to wonder at the permanent thing, not at the mere exception. We should be startled by the sun, and not by the eclipse. We should wonder less at the earthquake, and wonder more at the earth." ---G.K. Chesterton



Successful Food Drive!

October 12th was a fantastic day of giving back to our wonderful community. St. Thomas Aquinas students loaded 3272lbs of food into the "Drive Away Hunger" trailer faithfully led by the Farm Credit Canada team, delivering it to the Good Neighbours Food Bank in Embrun. We know that each pound of food equates to about one meal, and we are so proud of the efforts our staff and students put into this endeavor! Congratulations STA, and we're looking forward to many more food drives to come!

Remembrance Day Prayer Service

Our prayer service at STA will take place on Friday, November 10 at 8:30am & 10am in the atrium. Please join us for this time of reflection as we remember and pray.

Just Us Youth Day!

On **November 28, 2017** there will be a social justice day for **Grade 10 students** from each secondary school across Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario. Grade 10 students were selected because of their potential to become leaders within their schools as they enter into their senior high school years. This event will provide students with an opportunity to meet with others from across the system and to respond to the call to be *"responsible citizens who give witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life."* CGE 7

God bless you on your journey to God,

[Chris Vonesch](#)
Chaplaincy Leader

Together in Faith is a new website created by the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association and promoted by the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario. Its aim is to celebrate the distinctive nature of Catholic Education in Ontario.

Our Catholic education system is designed to offer an inclusive learning environment, fostering spirituality to produce top academic and community-minded graduates. Our educational mission is the transmission of knowledge and the formation of the whole person: body, mind and spirit.

Visit www.cdsbeo.ca and click on the *Together in Faith* link to sign up to support Catholic Education in Ontario.

Dates to Remember:

Nov 01, Take Your Kid to Work Day
Nov 06, Catholic School Council meeting at 6:45 PM in the Library
Nov 08, Term 1 ends for Grade 9 to 12
Nov 08, MADD presentation at 1PM for Grade 11 & 12
Nov 09, Term 2 begins for Grade 9 to 12
Nov 10, Remembrance Day Services at 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM
Nov 15, WE Day
Nov 17, Spirit Wear Day—Raven's Landing
Nov 21, Just Us Youth Day
Nov 22, Report Cards for Grade 9 to 12 go home
Nov 23, Casual Day—Mission Team
Nov 24, PA Day—no school
Nov 27, Report Cards for Grade 7 & 8 go home
Nov 28, Just-Us Youth Day for Grade 10 students
Nov 29, SEAC meeting at Kemptville Board Office at 6 PM
Nov 29 to Dec 4, Scholastic Book Fair during school hours (extended to 7:30 on Nov 30)
Nov 30, Grade 7 & 8 Parent / Teacher Interviews from 3:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Take Your Kids to Work

The 23rd annual *Take Our Kids to Work*TM program for grade 9 students takes place on Wednesday, November 1, 2017. This opportunity helps students explore career options by seeing first-hand the skills required in today's workplace. Parents can invite their children to join them for the day, or a child may ask a relative, neighbour or family friend to take them to work.

SEAC MEETINGS

All meetings are held at the Kemptville Board Office beginning at 6:00 PM

Wednesday, November 29th, 2017
Wednesday, January 31st, 2018
Wednesday, February 28th, 2018
Wednesday, March 28th, 2018
Wednesday, April 18th, 2018
Wednesday, May 23rd, 2018
Monday, June 4th, 2018

Library News

The Library is hosting the annual Scholastic Book Fair on

November 29, 30 and Dec 4—during school hours.

On November 30th, we are open until 7:30 pm

