

NOVEMBER 9, 2023

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Dear Families,

This week brings a close to the first trimester of the 2023-2024 school year. Report cards for this first trimester will reflect an achievement grade only. Conduct, effort and how that achievement grade was derived will be explained and discussed during your reserved parent teacher conference. Please be sure to reserve your spot for November 20.

[Mrs. Siggeman](#)

[Mrs. Simms](#)

[Mrs. Bonczyk](#)

[Mrs. Di Cecco](#)

[Mrs. Dunlap](#)

[Mrs. Striedl](#)

[Mrs. Hougas](#)

[Mrs. Rhodes](#)

[Mrs. Howen](#)

Junior High conferences are scheduled directly with the junior teachers.

If a parent wished to meet with a special's teacher (art, PE, Music, Spanish or Technology) please contact the teacher.

Art	Mrs. Reis	preis@stthomascl.org
Music	Mrs. Holland	eholland@stthomascl.org
PE	Mrs. Wolf	kwolf@stthomascl.org
Spanish	Mrs. Guzman	mguzman@stthomascl.org
Tech	Mr. Vraney	evraney@stthomascl.org

TRIMESTER 2 ELECTIVES FOR GRADES 5-8

The sign up for the next session of electives is attached to this newsletter. The **KidWind** program is pretty

set and interested students will need to contact Mr. Reiva for permission to join a team.

Likewise, the **Video Moments** is limited in availability. Please be sure to get your registration turned in promptly.

Reader's Theater is preparing a performance for the upcoming edition of Video Moments. We will then move on to preparing for the holidays. We will begin rehearsing *A Charlie Brown Christmas* and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. If you are interested in acting but too busy to memorize lines, Reader's Theater is perfect for you!

UNIFORM UPDATE

Reminder that the most current and accurate description of uniform requirements can be found on the [Dennis website](#).

The Dennis website does not show the school logo on the items. This would require multiple photos for the multiple different schools to which Dennis supplies uniforms.

From November 1 through Spring Break, *all* students should be wearing a uniform fleece or a sweater with the logo. Spirit Wear sweatshirts or plain cardigans are not part of the uniform.

Girls' polo dresses should also have the logo.

Girls and boys in grades 6-7-8 are required to wear a white oxford (dress) shirt under the logoed sweater/fleece. Boys are required to wear navy, plaid, or gold ties. Ties are optional for girls.

Light up shoes are not allowed on uniform days. Uniform shoes are solid black, brown or navy with no logo of any kind unless that logo is the same color as the shoe.

PTO EVENTS

Sir Fun Bear's HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP

COMING SOON TO OUR SCHOOL

December 13, 2023

Students will have the opportunity to purchase gifts for everyone on their Christmas list! Gift list and details coming soon!

Please contact Ms. Boppart in the main office of the school to make a request.

EMPOWER ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIPS

Brian Iggins, our Regional Manager for the Empower Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship, is inviting you to a press conference on November 10 at 10 am at the Chicago Hope Academy, 2189 W. Bowler St. Chicago, 60612

Your presence will show support and the powerful impact the Tax Credit Scholarship Program has on our children and community. Please RSVP to Brian if you are able to attend. biggins@empowerillinois.org

You can help this cause by asking Governor Pritzker to stand up for Illinois students and publicly endorse the TCS Program. Click the button below to send your message.

CONTACT THE GOVERNOR

CONTACTA EL GOBERNADOR

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON EVENT

GUZMAN Y GOMEZ
Mexican Kitchen

REAL FOOD REAL CAUSES
WITH **GYG**

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL
20% OF SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WED NOVEMBER 15 | 4PM-8PM
5459 Northwest Highway, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

In order for fundraiser sales to count orders must be placed in-store or via the drive thru from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser listed. Delivery orders, gift card sales and alcohol not qualify. \$200 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

MASS INTENTIONS

Reminder: School Masses can be offered for someone special. Please stop in at the school's main office to make your request. The suggested offering for a Mass intention is \$10. These funds do not go to the school but become a part of the overall parish Mass intention fund.

43rd Annual St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Christmas in the Country Craft Show

Saturday, November 18
8am – 3pm

1023 McHenry Ave
Crystal Lake, IL

Now over 69 Juried Crafters with unique hand-made items, the EVER-POPULAR BAKE AND CANDY BOOTH, OUR OWN SETON'S ARTISANS, 5-PRIZE GRAND RAFFLE and a FOOD COURT with some homemade offerings! Come and take part in this pre-Holiday tradition with us!
Admission still only \$3.
Sponsored by the Seton Women's Group

ATHLETIC NEWS

Fr. Blessed all our Winter Athletes at Mass on Wednesday School Mass. What a beautiful sign to see all the kids in front of the altar together – we are truly blessed to have such wonderful levels of participation! It is core to our athletics culture that our athletes keep God at the center of their athletic journey. To quote St. Pope John Paul II:

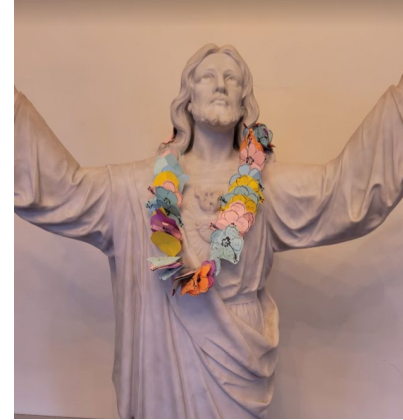
“Give thanks to God for the gift of sport, in which the human person exercises his body, intellect and will, recognizing these abilities as so many gifts of his Creator.”



LOVE FOR LAHAINA

We kicked off our athletic season back in August with our traditional Trojan event. In addition to Trojan Day, we also started a prayer chain for the Catholic school in Lahaina, Maui. The school is Sacred Hearts School, Lahaina. The associated church is “Maria Lanakila” which means “Our Lady of Victory”! Several of our athletes wrote prayers they would offer up on behalf of the school on paper flowers. We have collected all of these (you may remember seeing them up in the hallway) and created a ‘Spiritual Lei’ that we will be sending to the school along with a financial donation. Collectively, we have stormed heaven with 136 Hail Marys, 27 Our Fathers, 9 Glory Be’s, 3 Divine Mercy Chaplets, 6 Rosaries, 3 Mass Intentions, 2 St. Michael Prayers, 11 Guardian Angel prayers, 20 Memorares, 1 Seven Sorrows, and 3 Hail Holy Queen Prayers - now prayer is not about a numbers game, but we wanted to share the numbers to show how powerful it is when we work together. We pray that the school is comforted knowing it has much love from Crystal Lake, IL. We will

send the Lei along with a picture of it on our Sacred Heart of Jesus statue and our donation.



DISCOVER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Discovering Catholic Schools Week is November 12-18. On Tuesday, Nov. 14, the National Catholic Education Association is sponsoring a Day of Giving to support Catholic Schools. This is a 24-hour campaign. We ask that you share this link via a text message with all your contacts. Giving is easy and receipts are issued immediately for tax purposes.

[STS Day of Giving - 2023](#)

MCCHS EVENTS



Fall Play

Alice in Wonderland

November 10 & 11,
7pm

November 12, 2pm

DATES TO REMEMBER



November 10 & 11

7th BBB Tournament hosted by STS- Mark your calendars! Special Salute to Service for Veteran's Day! Please update your name on the athletics' [spreadsheet](#) if you are able to be involved.



11/29

Hoops for Hunger – Great night to enjoy our Boys Basketball teams and Cheer team and collect food for the Crystal Lake Food



12/8 & 12/9

8th Grade BBB Tournament hosted by St. Thomas – mark your calendars! Sign-up spreadsheet to follow in the coming weeks.



Dec 19th

8th Grade Night for Boys Basketball and Cheer

LEND A HAND



Volunteer at Recess:

[Grades 4 & 5](#)

[Grades k & 1](#)

[Grades 2 & 3](#)

[Junior High](#)

Volunteer at the Thomas Trading Post: - [Thomas Trading Post Volunteer signup sheet](#)

Support the Thomas Trading Post Wishlist: [Amazon.com](#)

Donate \$10 gift certificates for the Thomas Trading Post (Julie Anns, Five Below, Target, Amazon, McDonald, etc.): send to school office marked Thomas Trading Post

Nov 10th - 11th We will be hosting a 7th grade Boys Basketball Tournament! Tournaments take a lot of hands on deck, but they are a ton of fun! Please reach out to Colleen if you would like to be involved in planning concessions for that weekend (colleen@nieckula.net) or you would like to help decorate to recognize our Veterans.

Sign up for [scorebook/scoreboard/admission/&concessions](#)

Christmas Tree Decorating in downtown Crystal Lake: daniellepurgatorio@gmail.com

Monthly Family Mass: shelby@theyounges.com

Hoops for Hunger Night, Great night to enjoy our Boys Basketball and Cheer teams and collect food for the Crystal Lake Food Pantry

December 8 & 9:

8th Grade BBB Tournament hosted by St. Thomas – mark your calendars! [Volunteer sign-up found here](#)

December 19th

–**8th Grade Night for Boys Basketball and Cheer**, looking for a non-8th grade parent to help decorate, plan snacks and get flowers for parents. email colleen @ colleen@nieckula.net

[Virtus](#) password to set up a new account: 2train!

Nov-23						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Mass 1045 Saint Program 1:15	All Souls Mass 7pm @ Oak	NO Uniform-- bring an offering for the Food Pantry Family Dance	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	NO School Institute	Pictur Retakes	Mass 1045 Athlete Blessing @ Mass 1:00 Dismissal with buses, NO ET		7th BBB Tournament End of 1st Trimester	LOTW Retreat
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
LOTW	2nd Trimester begins		Mass 1045	1st Reconciliatio n 6:30 @ Oak		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	PK-8 Student- Parent- Teacher Conferences 8am-8pm NO SCHOOL	Teacher Institute NO School	Thanksgiving Holiday NO School			
26	27	28	29	30		
			Mass 1045			

Praying with you and for you,

Mrs. Houston

Trimester 2 ELECTIVE CHOICES FOR GRADES 5-8

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Readers' Theatre (Tuesdays) 1:45 – 3:00

Kid Wind (Wednesday) 1:45 – 4:00 *need permission from Mr. Reiva*

Video Monthly Moments (Thursdays) 1:45 – variable end time

Parent Signature _____

Dismissal will be in the courtyard off Pierson St.

Please return no later than November 17.