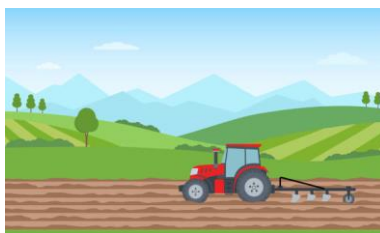


St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School



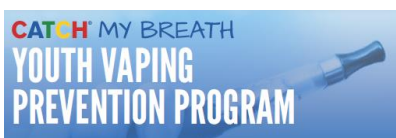
April 30, 2024

THE NOTE!

After a 3-day weekend, we are back at it this morning. The kids seem tired, but they know how close the end of the year is, so hopefully they'll stay motivated. The teachers and I enjoyed a day of reflection/retreat yesterday in Springfield. It was great to take time for Adoration and visit the beautiful grounds at the Priory. Thank you for understanding the extra day off.

We continue to pray for our farmers. May God bless you all with a safe and successful planting season!

Congratulations to 7th graders, Emma Schumacher, Bristol Pitcher, and Josie Vogt on winning the Vape Free Campaign Contest hosted by the Jasper County Health Department. This year the JCHD taught the 7th and 8th graders in Jasper County the CATCH program, which teaches the dangers of Vaping and Tobacco Use. They had the option of participating in the contest. The project is posted on the JCHD and St. Thomas Facebook pages. Way to go, girls!



St. Thomas had several winners in the annual **Catholic Daughters of America** Arts contest. They will be receiving their prizes very soon and we will post a picture. Those winners are:

Poetry 1: Adalyn Borgic 2nd place

Poetry 2: Anna Bierman 1st place and Alani Bergbower 2nd place

Art 1: Kyle Meinhart 2nd place and Hank Weber 3rd place

Art 2: Audrey Beals 2nd place

Photograph 2: Maleah Miller 1st place, Rozlynn Newkirk 2nd place, and Levi Gier 3rd place

Way to go, Saints!

This Saturday is our **Track Sectional**. We wish all of our runners, throwers, and jumpers the absolute best. Our prayers are that they all do their very best and are proud of what they accomplish. A big thank you to all of our coaches who make our program so amazing: Shasta, Charlie, Kasey, Amy, and Garrett. Also, thanks to all of the moms who have been helping all year to make the huge number of athletes a doable and safe opportunity!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Tuesday: Track practice

Wednesday: **K-2 Class Mass (2)**, Timely and Meaningful Special Education mtg. 4:00 in library, 6:00 School Board

Thursday: Track @ Cumberland (leave 3:15)

Friday: **All-School Mass (7)** followed by May Crowning, 8th grade to FLC 10:30

Saturday: Track Sectionals @ Okaw Valley 9:00, Mass @ St. Thomas 4:30

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

Monday: Track H 4:30 – 8th grade Night 4:10

ATTACHED/IN PACKET: Meyer Twin Art registration, Yearbook order forms, SBLHC physical flyers, May School Board Agenda, Booster Club minutes

- It seems only indoor sports have had **8th grade night** in the past, so we're changing that this year. Our track 8th grade night will be Monday, May 6th at 4:10. We will announce the kids and their parents.
- 4th graders will be coming home with **rental information for instruments** from Chesnut Family Music today in case anyone is interested.
- **Pizza orders** were due today! Please send yours in tomorrow for sure. Thanks for helping out the Booster Club.
- As soon as you get your **summer schedules**, share with me please! I love to watch the kids do what they love! I'll do my best to see everyone.
- Just a reminder that there will be a meeting for anyone interested in knowing what **special needs services** Jasper Unit #1 provides for our private school students and any homeschool students this Wednesday at 4:00 in our library. If you have any questions, let me know.
- **Field trips** continue. I've only heard great reports of our kids' behavior. Let's keep it up!
- Just a reminder to let us know if your **education plans** have changed for next year. If your kids will no longer be attending St. Thomas it is helpful for us to know as soon as possible as I begin the organization and ordering for next year.
- If you are a parent who wants to help on **Survivor Day**, please let me know. It's nice to have 8-10 parents around to help with everything. Thanks again this year to Sarah Schumacher for heading up this fun end to our year!

- Today each student and teacher was given a card and charm to remind us all of our focus virtue, **Reliability!** Thanks Mrs. Pitcher and Mrs. Boehl for these beautiful reminders. The cards says:

I am reliable. I keep my promises. Others can depend on me. Nothing can stop me from giving my best.

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord, and not for men.”

Colossians 3:23

- As I am finishing up teacher and staff evaluations, I am reminded of how lucky St. Thomas is to have such dedicated teachers. Our kids are getting an amazing education! Next week is **Teacher Appreciation Week**. I'll be sharing the details with you soon.
- I am thankful for our **Booster Club**, who met this past Wednesday evening. They work very hard to make sure our kids have all the extras. The group decided to raise the family Booster Club fee from \$125/year to \$200/year. Let me know if you have any questions.
- The School Board will meet this Wednesday at 6:00. They will be filling out my **principal evaluation**. If you have any input, please feel free to contact a school board member before tomorrow night's meeting: Aubrey Bergbower, Sara K. Bergbower, Kiley Borgic, Matt Bower, Jeffrey Finley, Leah Finley, Ryan Probst, Kelsie Green, Dennis Weber, or Father Paul.
- We will be looking for **2 new School Board members** for next year. Please let me know if you are interested. Thanks to Leah Finley and Dennis Weber for their 3 years of service!
 - Thanks to everyone who already completed **background check updates/trainings** through CMG. If you have any troubles, try creating a new account. If that doesn't work, let me know.
- Thanks to everyone who worked and supported the **garage sale** last week. Tracey and her committee did an awesome job! Thanks to Terri Brewer for her many years of leadership and all the positive changes she made to make our garage sale better every year!

PRAYER TO END A SCHOOL YEAR

God of Wisdom, we thank you for all the gifts you have given us throughout this school year. We praise you for giving us life, for saving us in Christ, and for choosing us to be your people.

As we come to the end of this school year, we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in us, and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.

We ask you to bless them in your love and give them refreshment and peace. We praise you, God, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.
Amen.