



# SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS SCHOOL

May 2018



## Important Dates:

April 30-May 4	Education Week
Wed. May 2	Try A Trade for Gr 10 in Lloydminster "Hats on for Mental Health" Day – wear a hat!
Sat. May 12	Graduation
Tues. May 15	Local Track Meet (Elementary in afternoon only)
May 17, 18, 21	No School
Wed. May 30	Division Track Meet in Wainwright (Grades 4-9)
Friday, June 8	Students' Union BBQ

## Achievement Exams for May:

Wednesday, May 9	Gr. 9 ELA Part A	Gr. 6 ELA Part A
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## June Exam Schedule...

For Grades 7-12 is attached to this newsletter and can also be found on the STA website under Resources, Students.

## Education Week...

April 30 – May 4 is Education Week in Alberta. At St. Thomas Aquinas school we have much to celebrate! Our school has a wonderful partnership with home and church all united in the common goal of creating life-long learners. Our teaching staff, assistants, maintenance and custodial staff work diligently to create an environment that is safe, nurturing and conducive to learning. In addition, we have an energetic spiritual leader in Father Mahesh. We are fortunate to have a School Board, School Council and many volunteers who are extremely generous with their time and efforts on projects throughout the year. Let's continue to work together and be grateful for everyone who contributes to making S.T.A. a wonderful school!



To celebrate Education Week we are planning a few school spirit days!

[Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>- School colors day](#)

[Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>- Hats On for Mental Health](#)

[Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>- Dress up as a teacher or favorite teacher](#)

[Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>- Dress up as your future occupation](#)

## Track Meet...

Grades 4-9 from both STA and PPS will be participating in our track meet on May 15. Provost Public School Parent Council will be organizing/running the booth this year.

### Share Lent...

Way to go students! We raised \$648.00 for Share Lent. What a big difference a few coins can make!

### Congratulations...

To the Grad Class of 2018. We have 20 graduates this year!



### Volunteer Driving...

Field trip season is approaching. Just a reminder that if you want to be a volunteer driver you must have all of your volunteer paperwork in as well as a volunteer driver form, a copy of your driver's license and a copy of your insurance showing \$2,000,000.00 liability. Please call the office if you have any questions.

### Classroom News...

This month has flown by. The Jr. Kindergarteners were so excited to finally see some nice weather so we could get outside and play on the playground! We got back to learning letters the past month: for H we made a Hippo with marshmallow teeth and practiced our hoola hooping skills in gym. The kiddos created inchworms for I and for J we made sparkly jellyfish and jogged in gym. The Jr. K kids always enjoy special visitors and we were so lucky to have Jessie bring in her new baby chicks for show and tell! Mrs. Paulgaard and Mila also came for a visit and talked about feelings. We are sad that our imagination journey will be wrapping up soon.

'Once upon a time' was something the Kindergartens heard often this month with our Fairytale unit! We read many classic stories and created some fun crafts to go along. The students enjoyed reading their favorites and hearing some ones they haven't heard before. The kids have completed all their blends and digraphs and are proud they can tell you who all the characters are on our Animated Literacy wall! The kids are putting their language skills to work by writing in their Book of Great Ideas. We have finished learning our numbers to twenty and are starting addition. These kids have grown so much!



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Spring has arrived in grade one! We had some special visitors this past month for show and tell... baby lambs, baby chicks, and baby brothers - to name a few! The grade ones have been busy skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s! We've been working on long vowel sounds in phonics. We celebrated Earth Day by discussing how we can take care of our planet and trying to pack a garbage-free lunch. In social, we've been learning about changes in families and communities. We looked at pictures of Provoost in the past and imagined what it must have been like! The grade ones have also explored a variety of traditions from across Alberta, and shared their own. We are looking forward to celebrating Mother's Day with our grade 4 buddies and our families.

Grade 2: Another month at S.T.A. has quickly flown by! We kicked off April with a well-deserved Easter holiday and then it was back into the classroom for some great learning experiences and fun activities. We began our first week back with an “Easter Treat” party. The students then got busy learning about 2D shapes and 3D objects in math and enjoyed constructing these using straws and play dough! The students also have recently completed a science unit on “Hot and Cold Temperatures”. A building tour helped them to better understand how our school is heated and through various experiments, the class learnt about insulators and how to use thermometers to measure temperature. A farm safety presentation as well as some Earth Day art and writing activities were also highlights of the month. Perhaps, one of the best experiences the students had was the opportunity to walk and talk with many of our community’s seniors at Crescent Point Place on April 18! A busy April it has been and now our class looks forward to the warm spring days of May and some outdoor fun!

April was certainly a busy month in the grade three classroom! We are wrapping up our unit on Multiplication and Division in math and our upcoming Geometry unit is sure to be a big hit! Students will be learning about geometric objects and finding these shapes in their everyday world. Story writing is getting better and better every week, as students are producing creative and interesting written work. This month we have also continued reading the novel study entitled “The Mouse and the Motorcycle”. This is an exciting book for the children as they enjoy the many adventures Ralph the Mouse encounters. In Science, the students have moved on to a new unit called “Hearing and Sound”. Furthermore, the students spent a fun-filled day dedicated to our Earth where they dressed in blue and green, packed litterless lunches, picked up garbage around the community, and discussed the many ways they can do their part to keep our Earth clean. We are anxiously awaiting the final two months of grade three and can’t wait for the excitement they hold!

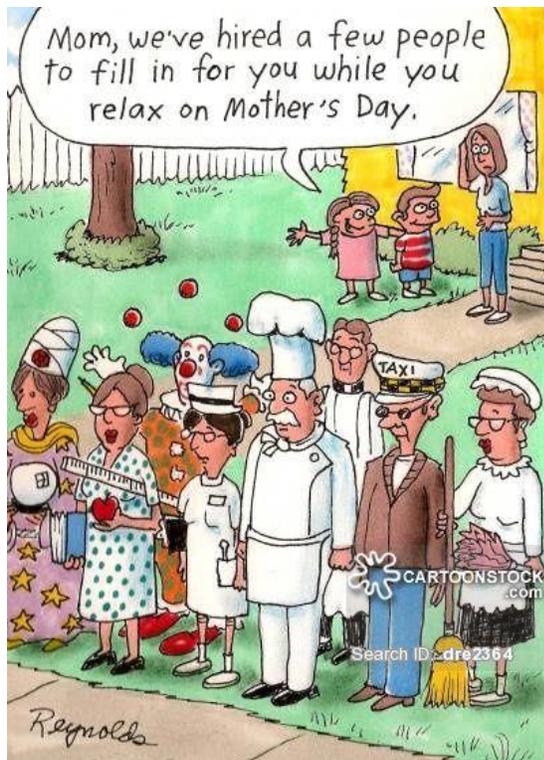
The Grade four class had a busy April! In Math, the students finished their unit on 3D objects and symmetry and are beginning their unit on graphing. In ELA the students finished reading Mice at Center Ice and watched the movie. We noticed lots of differences between the movie and the book. The students made board games, dioramas, and posters to show their favorite part of the book. We just started reading our book Loser by Jerry Spinelli. In science we are learning about plants in our environment. We planted gladiolas to see the life cycle of plants and have a root viewer in which we planted onions, carrots, and radishes in. In social studies we are learning about preserving wildlife and land in Alberta by studying the national and provincial parks in Alberta. The students really enjoyed the Easter egg hunt and a break from school for Easter.



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During the month of May the grade fives will likely spend most of it staring out the windows, wanting to be outside, ha-ha :) But seriously, we are on the home stretch and we will be busy getting our courses wrapped up. We will be looking at Fractions and Decimals, Wetland Environments, and the history of our great nation. We will be practicing for our Drama presentation, working on the novel Maniac Magee, and learning how the skills they possess can help them in choosing careers when they are older. We will be competing in local and divisional track and we will be going on our annual trip to Dillberry, run by Inside Education and Ducks Unlimited, to experience first-hand what a wetland all has to offer. Let's pray for nice weather as spring is now truly upon us.

Spring has sprung in the grade 6 room. The month of May is a busy one as we begin to prepare for PAT's and confirmation. In science we are about to begin our final unit dealing with trees and forest. Thanks to the weather we hope to get lots of hands on experience with different plants and those who use them as habitats. English Part A, PAT is closing in and we are ready! We have become great narrative and expository writers throughout the year. Math has become a matter of probability lately, with the odds in our favor for success. Social is all about participation. We cannot wait to be more involved in our school, communities, and home life after understanding its importance. The grade 6 is excited and looking forward to the month of May!



Happy  
Mother's  
Day!