



ST THOMAS AQUINAS SCHOOL

October 2017

Important Dates:

Wednesday, Oct 4	Picture Day
Thursday, Oct 5	Thanksgiving Mass 2:00 pm
Friday, Oct 6	No School
Monday, Oct 9	No School, Thanksgiving
Friday, Oct 20	PD Day for Teachers, No School for students

****DATE NOTE****

Please note that **STA does have school on Thursday, Oct. 5.** The Public School does not have classes on this day so we are aware that there may be some confusion. *Buses will be running.*

Three other dates that **STA will have classes are Friday, Feb 23, Friday, April 20 and Friday, May 11.** Again, the Public School does not have classes on these dates.

Thanksgiving...

Food will be collected for Thanksgiving food hampers from now until October 5. Please give generously. Please join us for our Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, October 5 at 2:00 pm.

Picture Day...

Will take place on Wednesday, October 4. Anyone wishing to get pictures of their 0-4 year olds is asked to wait until retake day which will take place on November 13. Thank-you.

*There are no forms to be filled out before picture day. You will be able to make all of your pose and background selections after picture day.

2017-18 Yearbook Orders are due by October 30...

There are two payment options this year:

1. **Purchase online:** Please see the following attached document for the Online Cash Parent Instructions *or*
2. **Pay with cash or cheque:** Please print and fill in the attached form, and send the payment and form to school.



If your family does not wish to buy a 2017-18 yearbook, please let your child's teacher know, or email Mrs. Appel (tylene.appel@ecacs16.ab.ca).

NOTE: There are a few extra copies of the 2016-17 (from last year) yearbooks available. If you would like to purchase one, please email Mrs. Appel.

Thank-You...

To the parent council for supplying everyone with a free lunch! We are lucky to have such a wonderful group of people involved in our school!

Classroom News...

It has been so exciting to get to meet all the new Jr. Kindergarten students! The students are full of funny stories and excitement as we spend our mornings together. They have been practicing their names; singing songs about how special they are and making crafts with so far is spending gym! It is going to be them. Our favourite thing time in the super-secret a great year.

It has been all apples Kindergarten room learning new



and leaves in the this month! Along with routines and adjusting to full days at school we have celebrated both "Apple Day" and the beginning of Fall! We have daily excitement trying to guess which letter we will learn and which puppet friend will come for a visit. With each new letter comes a letter log craft to make and sometimes even a drawing lesson to show off our artistic skills. We are practicing printing our numbers, decorating the halls with beautiful crafts and even getting to play a little! With October right around the corner; we have a lot more fun and learning to come!

The grade ones have had a great start to the school year! We've been spending a lot of our time working on reading. We are able to read color words and number words, and love spending time reading with our new grade 4 buddies. We've been learning about different colors and what happens when we mix them. Our class has been working hard on our printing, and it's looking very neat already! The grade one's had a few special visits from Zero the Hero, who helped us practice writing our numbers to ten. We spent some time outside observing what fall looks like, and even did some fall artwork! One big highlight from September was our Grandparent Day celebration. We were so lucky to have a lot of special Grandma's and Grandpa's come spend time with us! Our class is very excited for October, as we will get to do many Thanksgiving and Halloween activities!

Autumn has arrived quickly and our Grade 2ers have "FALL-en" into class routines and learning with ease! We've been busy reviewing short vowels, consonants, and basic addition and subtraction this month. Our magnet unit has really created a lot of interest for the kids as they explore the world of magnets . . . the kinds and shapes, their polarity, objects that attract, how they are used in homes, and of course, the Earth, itself! Dictionary skills and narrative and expository writing have also been touched upon. The kids showed their artistic talents, too . . . Check out their sunflower projects on the hallway bulletin board! You'll love them!



We are off to a great start in the grade three classroom! The students are all very excited and eager to be back at school and learn many new things. Reading about "Flat Stanley" and all of his adventures was a perfect way to begin the school year. The students have created their own Flat Stanleys and mailed them to a friend or relative in a different part of Canada or the world. The students have also become experts at distinguishing between a narrative and expository books in writing. In social studies, the grade threes learn about four different countries around the world. We have been doing map work to locate these countries as well as learning about the continents that they are in. In Science, the students have begun their first unit "Rocks and Minerals" with Mrs. Appel. The first month of school has flown by and we are looking forward to many exciting activities planned for the upcoming months.

The Grade 4 class is into the swing of things! There are already 5 people who have made it to the 144 Club! You can join this club by knowing your times tables up to 12x12. Wonderful job kiddos! In ELA the students are learning to read for understanding. We are looking back at the stories to ensure we know what is really going on in written passages. In writing, the students have been handwriting and looking to see if sentences are complete sentences or not. They are also fixing the sentences if they are not complete sentences. In science we have been learning about Waste in our World. We have been learning the 3 Rs - reduce, reuse, and recycle. These students are really passionate about their environment! In social, we have been learning about the six natural regions in Alberta and how they are each very different. We have learned how to use a direction rose and measure distances on a map. In math, we have been learning patterning and pattern rules. In art, the students are making a string art cross. We have excellent helpers this year in the Grade 9 class helping us hammer in our nails and tie our knots for us! The students are looking forward to the Terry Fox run and our field trip to the landfill.

For the month of October the grade fives will be starting to experiment with different kinds of circuits. They are brushing up on their multiplication before we dive in with two feet. We are learning about the first region settled in Canada; the Atlantic Region and reviewing our grammar. October is where we finish reviewing last year's material and start to immerse ourselves in our first tastes of grade five work! Buckle up and enjoy the ride!

In grade 6 we are mid-way through our air and aerodynamics topic and have done multiple experiments involving thrust and pressure zones. One involving a balloon shooting across the room. Social studies has been comprised of how we make decision as a democratic society as well as government and what services they provide for us. Weekly English is going strong as we have some great readers in the classroom, one student already has 10 novels read in September! Math we have been looking at some input/output tables and working with coordinate planes. We have some very artistic people in our room as we have recreated some Disney characters in art class. Overall the class is having a lot of fun while learning all new topics. We are most definitely looking forward to October.



Extra-Curricular News...

STA Art Club Starting in Early November

The STA Art Club for students in Grades 2 to 6 will be starting up soon for another year of fun and creativity! Parents and students interested: please watch out for announcements and information coming out the last week of October. As in past years, Art Club this year will be after school in the Art Room every Monday from 3:30 to 4:30 PM, beginning Monday, November 6th and continuing to Monday, February 5th. We can't wait to see you and to get started having fun while creating amazing pieces of art! See you next month! *Mr. Taming and Mrs. Olson*

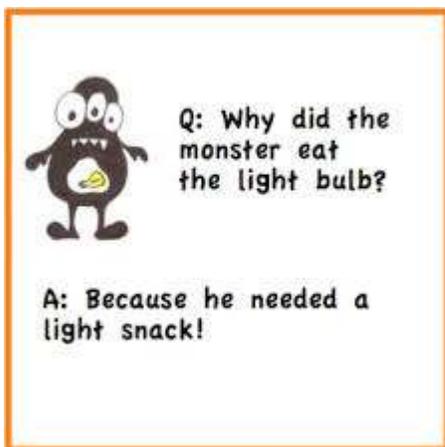
Jr. Girls Volleyball

We have so many enthusiastic Jr. Girls playing volleyball this season that we have split them into two teams. Both teams competed in a home tournament on Sept. 23rd where they improved their skills and worked on court play. The tier 2 girls had a



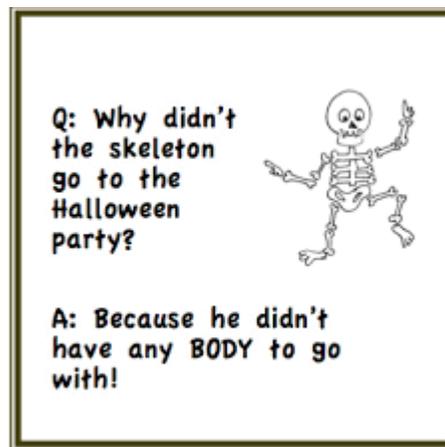
fantastic tournament winning many sets, improving immensely as the day went on, and winning silver medals! The tier 1 girls played well in the tournament as well, dominating some of the teams and winning gold medals in the final. It was a great tournament with a wonderful group of girls and a wonderful group of parents helping out. The Tier 1 team is competing in the Buffalo Trail League and has started the season off with a League win against PPS. The coaches and the girls look forward to an exciting volleyball season.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN...



Q: Why did the monster eat the light bulb?

A: Because he needed a light snack!



Q: Why didn't the skeleton go to the Halloween party?

A: Because he didn't have any BODY to go with!