



The Barrister

School News

First Holy Communion

Please keep our third grade students in your prayers as they receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 6 at the 10:00am Mass. May God bless them!

School Advisory, Parent Assn. & Athletics

Plan to attend the Parent Association meeting on Tuesday, May 9 at 6:30pm, in the Solar Room, to learn about these three important organizations, including their role at St. Thomas More and how you can get involved.

N.U.T. Card Sale

Last chance to purchase the \$5.00 Family N.U.T. card sold at Spring Fest. The dress down is for Friday, May 12th only. Must purchase in the School Office.

\$1 Earth Day Dress Down

In honor of Earth Day, May 9, STM students and staff will wear blue or green. Proceeds from this dress down will purchase flowers for the grounds of an area parish.

Eagle Dash

Join us for the annual Eagle Dash 5K Run & 1 Mile Walk on **Sunday, May 21 at 1:00pm at Wicker Park**. Registration form is attached. Register by May 5 to be guaranteed a t-shirt. If you would like to help or have any questions, please email Elizabeth Cipowski at elizabeth.cipowski@sbcglobal.net or Jennifer Feeney at jennhoke25@hotmail.com.



17-18 FACTS Tuition Payment Enrollment

See attached instructions to create and sign up for the FACTS Tuition Payment program for 17-18. **We need all returning families to register by today - May 5.**

Yard Signs

Yard Signs can be returned to the School Office anytime after May 10. Thank you for helping to promote our school.

Service Hours Opportunity

Volunteer slots are available for our Annual Eagle Dash on May 21 and the service hour credit will go toward the 2017-2018 school year! Please sign up today and help make this event a success!
www.tinyurl.com/stms2016-17

We would love to have you!

Looking Ahead

- May 6** First Holy Communion (Grade 3) - 10:00am Mass
- May 8** May Crowning at All School Mass - 8:30am
First Communion Breakfast after Mass (Grade 3)
- May 8-19** NWEA Map Testing
- May 9** Parent Association Meeting 6:30pm Solar Room
\$1 Earth Day Dress Down - Wear Blue or Green
- May 10** Hovland Family Dress Down
- May 11** Band Concert - Gym at 7:30pm
Spring Fest Tie-Dye Shirt Dress Down
- May 12** Spring Fest \$5.00 N.U.T. Card
Band Concert - Gym at 9:30am
Athletic Banquet - 6:00pm
- May 16** Spring Choir Concert - 7:00pm
- May 19** Honor/Awards Banquet
- May 20** Middle School Dance (Grades 7/8)
- May 21** Eagle Dash 5K Run/Walk - 1:00pm - Wicker Park
- May 22** Walk-A-Mile
Free Sports Physicals - 6:00-8:00pm Weis Center
- May 24** Kindergarten Fun Day
Pre-School Program
Pre-K Program
- May 25** All School Picnic
Field Day, Pre-K Fun Day, Pre-School Pizza Party
- May 26** End of 2016-2017 - Q4 Last Day of School
Fun Day Grades 1-3
KG Graduation Mass 8:30am
Baccalaureate/Graduation Mass 7:00pm

Athletics

SAVE THE DATE!

The Athletic Commission will host FREE Physicals for all CYO Student Athletes in grades 5-8 for the 2017-2018 school year on Monday, May 22, 6:00-8:00pm at the Weis Center. If you will participate in a fall, winter or spring sport please come for a free physical. Parents must accompany your student athlete.

We are in need of doctors and nurse practitioner for this event. Please email athletics@stm-school.com if you are able to assist.

Registration for Fall Sports (Girls Volleyball, Cross Country and Soccer) on Monday, May 22, 6:00-8:00pm at the Weis Center.

Questions-please email John Power at athletics@stm-school.com

Attachments

- 2017-18 Bus Registration
- 2017-18 Uniform Policy
- Eagle Dash Registration



Week of May 8, 2017

Weekly Menu

Daily Menu

Monday, May 8

Chicken Nuggets
Macaroni & Cheese
Broccoli/Green Beans
Fresh Fruit Salad, Milk

Monday Volunteers

Marie Ramirez
Kara Ford

Tuesday, May 9

Hot Dog/Chili Dog
Baked Beans
Veggie/Dip
Peaches
Fruit Snack, Milk

Tuesday Volunteers

Aubrey Velasquez
Celeste Peltzer

Wednesday, May 10

Pizza Choice:
Pepperoni or Cheese
Salad Mix
Pears/Raisins
Rice Krispie Treat, Milk

Wednesday Volunteers

Josie Cullars

Thursday, May 11

Beef Tacos- Hard/Soft
Lettuce/Cheese
Tater Tots
Applesauce, Milk

Thursday Volunteers

Kelli Galanos
Grace Menclawicz

Friday, May 12

Hot Pretzel with Cheese
Cottage Cheese
Yogurt Choice
Salad Mix
Pineapple Tidbits, Milk

Friday Volunteers

Yesenia Olivencia
Elizabeth Cipowski
Stephanie Ramirez

Ala Carte

Salads: Large - \$2.50/Small - \$2.00
Yogurt: \$.70
Milk: \$.50
Water: \$.50

Reminders

- **Menu subject to change**
- **Hot Lunch Prices:**
Student - \$2.20
Adult - \$2.85
- **Cash or Check Payments Accepted**
Checks made out to STM are accepted.
- **Families with more than one student:**
Eating hot lunch are encouraged to send in ONE check (or cash) in one envelope.
Money will be divided between siblings accordingly.
- **There is a \$10.00 charge limit per account**
If students do not bring in money after 5 charges, they will not be allowed in the hot lunch line until payment is made. However, students will be offered a cheese sandwich if they have nothing else to eat.
- **Students should turn in payment in a SEALED envelope labeled as follows:**

Lunch Money
Student's First & Last Name
Homeroom Teacher's Name
Amount Enclosed
- Check the St. Thomas More School website for the Monthly Menu under the tab: "Student/Nutrition".
- Check the weekly Barrister for the weekly menu and volunteer list.
- Go to www.myschoolbucks.com to check your student's account balances and to make credit card payments.
- State requirements mandate that sweetened/artificially sweetened carbonated beverages are not sold nor made available during lunch periods. **Please note if a student has soda or pop, it will be disposed of and they will be able to purchase milk or water.**



ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

8435 Calumet Avenue • Munster, Indiana 46321-2595

Phone: (219) 836-9151 • Fax: (219) 836-0982

www.stm-school.com

Email: schooloffice@stm-school.com

April 20, 2017

Dear Parents:

Since the success of our school and the quality of its programs are of the utmost importance, we are always seeking ways to make improvements to benefit everyone. As we discussed in January, we have contracted with FACTS Tuition Management Company to help us manage our tuition payment program. FACTS Tuition Management is very similar to the Smart Tuition Payment Program that you have been using. One of the biggest improvements is that FACTS integrates directly with RenWeb. You will have a single login for both programs. We are excited to be working with FACTS and RenWeb!

Some of the advantages of FACTS are:

- You can select a payment method that works best for you. Recurring automatic payments can be from your bank account (no fee) or credit card (2.85% fee applies)
- Receive e-mail payment reminders before your payment is due
- Incidentals (field trips, etc.) including Kids Time will be billed through FACTS
- The annual enrollment fee is \$50 if you choose to pay monthly or quarterly and it is \$20 if you choose to pay annually or semi-annually. The fee will be drawn with your first payment. Remember that the shifting of the payment processing fee to parents was discussed when the tuition was set in January.
- Choose from multiple payment options – number of payments and time of month drawn
- Web-based interface for account viewing

To sign up for Facts, please log into RenWeb. Under the Family Information Tab on your left, choose “Go To FACTS” to get started. Follow the directions for Families new to FACTS to create an account and then to set up a payment plan. Remember to choose the 2017-2018 school year. You will continue to make payments through Smart Tuition for the remainder of this school year. Please create your FACTS account no later than Friday, May 5th. No payment is due prior to August 1st.

As always, we thank you for your continued loyalty to St Thomas More School and for your support in our efforts to fulfill the mission of exemplary private Catholic education for our students.

Sincerely,

Noreen A. Bickel
President



FACTS
A HELMUT COMPANY

Tuition Management

FACTS provides flexible payment plan options to families at private and faith-based schools. Families can budget their tuition, making private school more accessible and affordable. Our process is simple, convenient, and secure.

To set up your payment plan, log into RenWeb and choose "Go to FACTS" located under the Family Information Tab to the left.

FACTS Confirmation Notice

Once your information is received and processed by FACTS, you will receive a FACTS Confirmation Notice. This notice will confirm your payment plan information. Please check this information for accuracy, and contact your school or FACTS with any discrepancies.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Is my information secure?**
Yes. Your personal information, including payment information, is protected with the highest security standards in the industry. For more information on security, visit FACTSmgt.com.
- **When will my payments be due?**
Your payment schedule is set by your school, and your financial institution will decide the time of day your payments are processed.
- **What happens when my payment falls on a weekend or a holiday?**
Your payment will be processed on the next business day.
- **What happens if a payment is returned?**
Returned payments may be subject to a FACTS Returned Payment Fee; watch for a returned payment notice for additional information.
- **How do I make changes once my agreement is on the FACTS system?**
Changes to your address, phone number, email address, or banking information can be made at <https://online.factsmgt.com> or by contacting your school or FACTS. Any changes to payment dates or amounts need to be approved by the school and the school will then need to notify FACTS.
All changes must be received by FACTS at least two (2) business days prior to the automatic payment date in order to affect the upcoming payment.
- **What is the cost to set up a payment plan?**
If an enrollment fee is due, the amount of the fee is indicated when setting up your agreement. If applicable, the nonrefundable FACTS enrollment fee will be automatically processed within 14 days of the agreement being posted to the FACTS system.

FACTS Customer Service

We are committed to doing all we can to provide you with the highest quality customer service in the industry. Whether you want to view your account online or speak with one of our highly trained customer service representatives, FACTS is dedicated to serving you.

To view your payment plan details, login to your FACTS account at online.factsmgt.com. Customer Care Representatives are also available to assist you 24/7.

For more information, visit FACTSmgt.com/payment-plans





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17-18 BUS REGISTRATION

Munster Residents Only

Dear Parents:

Spring 2017

Bus registration begins today for students in grades Kindergarten-8 for the 2017-2018 school year. Pre-school / Pre-Kindergarten students are not permitted to ride the bus at any time due to state safety regulations. If you are a Munster resident and do wish to use bus transportation for the coming year, please complete the form below in its entirety and return it to school. If you are planning on possibly moving, or in doubt about riding the bus, **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU REGISTER AT THIS TIME SO THE ROUTES CAN INCLUDE YOUR STUDENT/S.** Please be advised that you must live more than one mile from St. Thomas More School and within an existing bus route. Please indicate this on the form and we will be happy to call you before final routes are made. If you decide to not ride the bus, please advise the school office in August.

Please specify your current stop and the nearest corner where you prefer to have the bus stop. You have a choice as to using the bus service only in the morning, only in the afternoon, as well as both ways for the entire school year. There is an entry on the form for this purpose. Please check one of the appropriate spaces – "AM only", "PM only", or "Both Ways". There is no fee for bus service at this time.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU REGISTER EARLY. Late-comers can make some bus routes longer and unnecessarily crowded, causing changes to be made in the schedule just before school begins which causes confusion and routing problems. If a bus fills, no additional stops will be created. All bus registration forms must be returned to the school office no later than May 19, 2017.

2017-2018 BUS REGISTRATION

AM ONLY _____

PM ONLY _____

BOTH WAYS _____

CURRENT STOP:
(RETURNING STUDENTS) _____

NEAREST
CORNER: _____

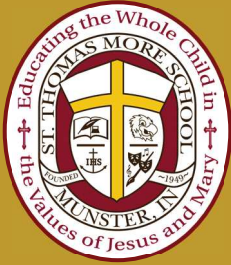
LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE NO.: _____

Child(ren)'s Name(s)

Grade in Fall 2017

Special Notes:



St. Thomas More School

A State-Accredited Catholic Grade School — Preschool to 8th Grade

Dress Code/School Uniforms

“A” Rating
from the
State of Indiana
Department of Education
AdvancEd Accredited

As a Roman Catholic School, we emphasize the importance and virtue of modesty in behavior and dress. Our school uniform represents the St. Thomas More School educational community and is worn by our students in Preschool through 8th grade (with modifications for Preschool and Pre-K). The STMS Dress Code is in effect from the first day of school to the last with the occasional exception of specified out-of-uniform days. Uniforms can be purchased at any store. “St. Thomas More plaid” items can be found at area uniform stores. No visible manufacturer’s insignias are permitted. Students are expected to always look presentable with shirts tucked-in, belts and neatly styled hair.

Girls Dress Code



Top:

- Maroon or white polo shirt, turtleneck or blouse (short or long sleeve)
- Maroon V-neck cardigan, pull-over sweater, sweatshirt or vest

Bottom:

- Shorts: Navy (PS-6) or medium khaki (7-8) or “STMS Belair Plaid” (until November 1st and after April 1st)
- Pants: Navy (PS-6) or medium khaki (7-8) uniform pants with belt loops (corduroys are acceptable)
- Jumper or skort in navy or “STMS Belair Plaid”

Accessories/Shoes:

- Socks: Navy, maroon or white ankle socks, knee socks or opaque tights. Socks must be worn with all shoes. Ankles must be covered at all times.
- Shoes: Navy, black or brown dress shoes. Heel height not to exceed 2” (no sling-backs, clogs, flip flops, deck shoes or sandals).
Solid white or solid black athletic shoes. No secondary color allowed!
- Accessories: One small ring, small stud earrings (one piercing per ear), simple crucifix or medal on a chain is allowed. Watch with small, modest face allowed. No bracelets or other jewelry permitted.
Navy, maroon, black, brown, gray or white solid-color barrettes, headband or scrunchie allowed.
Belts must be solid black, navy or brown with a small buckle.

Boys Dress Code

Top:

- Maroon or white polo shirt or turtleneck (short or long sleeve)
- Maroon V-neck cardigan, pull-over sweater, sweatshirt or vest

Bottom:

- Shorts: Navy (PS-6) or medium khaki (7-8) shorts (until November 1st and after April 1st)
- Pants: Navy (PS-6) or medium khaki (7-8) uniform pants with belt loops (corduroys are acceptable)

Accessories/Shoes:

- Socks: Navy, white or black crew socks. Socks must be worn with all shoes. Ankles must be covered at all times.
- Shoes: Navy, black or brown dress shoes. No deck shoes.
Solid white or solid black athletic shoes. No secondary color allowed!
- Accessories: Simple crucifix or medal on a chain is allowed. Watch with small, modest face allowed. No other jewelry is permitted.
Belts of solid black, navy or brown with a small buckle.

Prohibited

Hiking boots, combat boots or boots with lug soles • Moccasins • Sling-back shoes, clogs, flip flops/sandals
Deck shoes • Hats worn inside • Facial hair • Hair longer than mid-ear for boys • Cornrows/shaved head
Cargo pants or cargo shorts • Make-up/nail polish • Spray bottles of perfume/hairspray • Carrying of a purse
Temporary or permanent tattoos

Modifications to this dress code for Preschool & Pre-K:

Belts not required (elastic waist allowed), colorful shoes allowed.

Revised May 2017

