



St. Thomas More Catholic School

A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE



11400 Sherbrook Drive ★ Baton Rouge, LA 70815
Week Ahead: October 27, 2017

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Dear Parents and Students,

November is a month of remembering and thanksgiving. We remember in our hearts and in our prayers those who have died. On November 1, we remember all of our saints during grade level Masses and on November 10, we will remember the men and women who have given so much of themselves to ensure safety and freedom for all of us. We are thankful for the bounty of blessings in our lives, and we pray in gratitude, especially for you and your families. There are so many reasons for us to be thankful here at St. Thomas More Catholic School. We thank you for choosing STM for your child's education and for your many services and support. STM is built upon the sacrifice, courage and dedication of many and continues to thrive because of the importance of our ministry.

Again, I thank you for all you've done to make today's Mission day a success. Students were able to respond to Father Pat at Mass this morning about why we support missions and where some of these missions are located. This day would not have been possible without your support and time. Thank you!

Classroom Activities: Please "like" us on our official STM Facebook page (www.facebook.com/stmbr.org) where you may follow more of our daily activities, events, and pictures.

Kindergarten students enjoyed celebrating the 50th day of school with a sock hop during PE, classroom activities including listening to 50's records, playing with hula hoops and hopscotch, and watching an episode of the original series "Dennis the Menace".

First grade students enjoyed "Louisiana Day" as they learned about the culture of our wonderful state with lessons on Mardi Gras, food and symbols.

LSU chemistry students will visit Mrs. Mitchell's first grade class to do a demonstration with polymers. They will assist the students in making silly putty! In math class we are using playdoh to learn subtraction, and Friday is our Louisiana Day.

Mrs. Chustz's second grade math class has been using iPads to practice their math facts! They partner up and play the games, which also teaches cooperation and teamwork.

Second grade is currently finishing descriptive paragraphs. They will be displayed in the hall for others to come read.

Third graders are currently working with a partner to research a saint in class. They will create a poster all about their saint and present this information to the class. On presentation day, the students will be coming to school dressed as their saint.

Fourth grade students held a prayer service in their religion classes for those who suffered from the recent natural disasters and tragic events in our nation. After the prayer service, the fourth graders created a prayer book.

Fifth grade students using cartoon characters are exploring the process of passing down inherited traits. There was even a case of mistaken identity solved in science class using a Punnett square!

Fifth grade Spanish is learning vocabulary of items we find in the classroom.

Fifth grade students are focusing on types of prayer including Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication using the A.C.T.S. pattern of prayer in their religion classes. They also learned to use the Five Finger prayer to help them develop *daily prayer* with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and their hand when they cannot find the words to start.

Sixth grade Mathcounts elective students participated in a “Rock, Paper, Scissors” tournament and then mathematically proved that the game is fair. Students worked out the probability of winning or losing.

Sixth grade is learning to write descriptive sentences using subject pronouns, the verb SER (to Be) and different adjectives.

Sixth grade literature classes are learning the parts of a plot in a story. To use the knowledge they’ve gained, they were then asked to write a “short story” using all the parts of the plot they’ve studied. The short stories were edited by classmates using the skills they learned from the Perfect Journal Project in English classes, printed, and assessed based on a rubric the students helped to make

Sixth grade religion classes prepared and performed skits about “Creation”. Their team work and enthusiasm are great to see.

Seventh grade Spanish is learning how to tell time.

Eighth grade Spanish is learning phrases describing the weather.

Seventh grade religion students are working in groups where they are creating a stain glass illustration to symbolize the beginning of each of the Gospels. The illustrations will be presented to the class on Friday.

Eighth grade students watched “The Entire Story of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima” and discussed the 100th Anniversary of Fatima.

In our eighth grade social studies classes, students are analyzing political cartoons from historical periods as well as current times. Students use higher order thinking skills to understand the symbols used and to determine the message of the cartoon. The historical cartoons help students develop a better understanding of the people and culture of those times, and the current day cartoons provide students with opportunities to develop their own opinions and values about current day affairs.

Co-curricular/Service Activities

November and December Service Project Information: The Angel Tree

The St. Thomas More Angel Tree Project permission slips will be sent home next week. Please return them to school by November 6th. Angel Tree is an incredible opportunity to give to the less fortunate in the community. This is the school’s 10th year participating in Angel Tree as the All-School Service Project. The project provides our students an opportunity to focus on the meaning of the season while benefiting the

underprivileged members in our community. Annually, thanks to your generosity, STM School was able to serve over 500 individuals with gifts from our school families.

During the week of November 13th, the Angel Tree ornaments will be selected after morning assembly, based on the permission slips. The permission slips will provide details on gift selections and how to return the gifts!

Spotlight & Spotlight, Jr. are looking forward to their November 14th performance!

The STM Student Council has been busy spreading school spirit and providing school service. On Monday, October 30, the Student Council will sponsor the Fall Pep Rally in honor of all fall sports teams including football, girls' basketball, and cross country. The Student Council, along with the band and cheerleaders, have planned a celebration full of fun and spirit for the 5-8 graders. On Halloween day the Student Council will visit lower grades to present Halloween Safety Talks and a "ghost pop" treat to kindergarten through fourth graders in hopes that they all enjoy safe Trick-or-Treating.

Calendar Items: (Athletic schedules are posted on the webpage under the specific sport.)

Sunday, October 29	STM Parish Picnic
Monday, October 30	Angel Tree Permission Slips will be distributed to all students. Baton Rouge Fire Department will visit Kindergarten. Fall pep rally for students in grades 5 – 8 5:30 Monday Night Football "Under the Lights at STM" for the 5/6 and 7/8 football teams
Tuesday, October 31	Black and orange accessory day for students Student Council Halloween Safety talks in grades K – 3
Wednesday, November 1	Boys Scouts may wear their scout uniform to school. 8:45 All Saints Day Mass for grades 5-8 Noon All Saints Day Mass for grades K – 4
Thursday, November 2	7 th /8 th grade field trip to the River Center to watch "Poe, Twain, and More" performances 2:40 MathCounts 2:45 – 3:30 Beta Club Meeting
Friday, November 3	First Friday Spirit Day and Candy Sale
Sunday, November 5	9 – noon Book Fair Open in the Library

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Judy

Judy H. Armstrong, Ph.D.
Principal