Dear STA Parents,

Now that the weather is getting cooler, we seem to be getting more rain! If you find your family spending more time indoors now, **please consider playing a board game as a family.** There are important skills that need to be developed in elementary school that take place during a board game. Here are some of the skills the teachers and I see are needed: determining who goes first, taking turns, how to resolve a dispute during the game, being a good sport when you lose, being a good sport when you win – just to name a few! STA students play a variety of games in learning centers during the day. **Homework: Play a board game together!**

Big Announcement: St. Thomas Aquinas School is a 2016 *Let's Move* Active Schools award winner! The *Let's Move*! Active Schools National Award, part of First Lady Michelle Obama's initiative, is the nation's top physical education and physical activity distinction for K-12 schools. STA received this award for our commitment to physical activity during the school day – walking/biking to school, K-8 recess, PE classes, classroom brain breaks with movement, alternative seating, neighborhood walks, active clubs like Karate and Flamenco, CYO sports, etc. Only 544 schools across the country achieved this prestigious honor in 2016. **STA is the only Catholic School in Indiana to receive this award, and one of four total Catholic schools nationwide!**

It is VERY important that we have as many students walk to school on Wednesday, October 5th! STA has the opportunity to **win $500 in a regional competition**. Join a Walking School Bus route or walk your own safe route. **Think you are too far away?** Park a few blocks from school and complete the journey on foot. Please join us in the gym at morning arrival for a special banner hanging and news about an exciting contest!

Next week: Saturday, 10/1 5:30pm Youth Mass; Tuesday, 10/4 1:00pm Dismissal and Hot Dog Lunch; Wednesday, 10/5 National Walk to School Day; 7:45am Parents' Prayer Group in the Bethany Room; 8:05am Mass (all parents welcome and encouraged to join us!); Saturday, 10/8 STA Gala – Do you have your ticket?

Attachments: Summary Reading Participation List; Important Book-It! Information

Have a great weekend!
Mrs. Swinefurth

SCHOOL SCOOPS

September 30, 2016

"Tell me, if you know all: Which is the way to the dwelling place of light and where is the abode of darkness, That you may take them to their boundaries and set them on their homeward path?"
– Job 38:18-21

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR NEXT WEEK! – OCTOBER 3rd – 9th

Visit the book fair in the Bethany Room next week to support the STA school and classroom libraries. Our students LOVE this event, and so do our teachers! Please take some time to view the

Teacher Wish Lists and consider donating a book to your child's classroom. This is a great way to keep our kids excited about reading!

Shopping Hours:
Monday, 3-4
Tuesday, 1-3
Wednesday, 3-4
Thursday, 3-6
Friday, 3-4
Sunday, after both Masses

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY – OCTOBER 5th

This is a global event that involves communities from more than 40 countries walking or biking to school on the same day. It began in 1997 as a one-day event. Over time, this event has become part of a movement for year-round safe routes to school and a celebration – with record breaking participation – each October. Today, thousands of schools across America, from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, participate every October.

Please join **St. Thomas Aquinas School** in celebration of International Walk to School Day by walking or biking to school. You can take advantage of our friendly walking school bus drivers to get you there safe and sound.

GREEN ROUTE: Begins at 43rd/Illinois at 7:25am and travels north on Illinois St to school.
PURPLE ROUTE: begins at 44th/Pennsylvania at 7:25am – travels north on Penn, west on Meridian Place, north on Meridian and then west on 46th St.
ORANGE ROUTE: begins at 49th/Pennsylvania at 7:30am, traveling west on 49th and then south on Illinois St.

If you are interested in participating, simply find the route that is most convenient to you and meet your friends either at the start of the route or anywhere along the way. No need to make reservations – just come when you can! Please remember, too, that kiss-and-walk participants are welcome too – meaning that if you live too far away to walk from home, consider dropping your student off along one of the routes to join in on the fun. Our teachers tell us that when kids walk to school, they arrive alert and ready to learn, which makes a great day for everyone!

We hope to see you on the sidewalk on Wednesday!!

FOOD PANTRY WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 12th

Since walking or riding a bike makes it a little more difficult to carry non-perishable items for the Boulevard Place Food Pantry we have moved our October collection day to October 12th. With the cooler weather settling in, chunky soups are a popular item at the pantry. Also needed are cereal, baked beans, canned mixed fruit and cake mixes. Thank you for your support.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION – 2017-2018

We are taking Kindergarten applications for the 2017-2018 school year. If your child will be 5 years of age by August 1, 2017 she/he meets our cut-off date. The registration form can be found at

www.staindy.org. Print it, fill it out and drop off or send it to the school office. Questions or to schedule a tour? Mrs. Cara Swinefurth, cswinefurth@staindy.org or 317-255-6244.

Parents who would like to observe in the Kindergarten classroom are invited to come between 8:15 and 10:00 a.m. on October 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 25th, or 27th. We limit the number of visitors per day and ask that you call our school secretary, Mrs. Sochacki, at 317-255-6244 to make a reservation. Visiting is not a requirement and if you recently had a child in Kindergarten, you may choose not to visit.

STA SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10th – 1 to 5 p.m.

Our best marketing tool is "word of mouth" and we need your help!! If you have family, friends or neighbors who would like to learn more about St. Thomas Aquinas School please let them know about our Open House. There will be tours of the school, parents to talk with and the opportunity to meet Mrs. Swinefurth. She will be happy to make appointments with parents who want more in-depth information about our school. Contact information: cswinefurth@staindy.org or 317-255-6244.

SPRING 2016 ISTEP+

We have received hard copies of student reports for parents/guardians. They were sent home in brown catalog envelopes today. If you had an 8th grader last year that report is also in the envelope. WE DID NOT RECEIVE SCHOOL COPIES! Please put the reports in a safe place so you can find them later if copies are needed. We do not have any reports here that we can copy for you.

SOCKTOBER

Student Council is asking everyone to help them celebrate Socktober. During the month of October the STA Student Council will collect new socks for the Holy Family Shelter. All sizes of socks are needed!! It kicks off October 3rd and will run until October 31st. Donation boxes will be located outside the gym.

CYO BASKETBALL FOR ALL BOYS IN GRADES 4 - 8

What: CYO Boys Basketball Tryout (4th-8th Grade)

Where: STA Gym

When: Oct. 8th (4th-6th 11:00am-12:15pm); (7th/8th 12:30-2:00pm)

Dear Parents of STA Students and Parishioners,

CYO Boys Basketball tryouts, for STA students and parishioners in the 4th-8th grades, will be held at the **STA Gym on Saturday October 8th**. Boys in the 4th thru 6th grade will have tryouts from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Boys in the 7th and 8th grade will have tryouts from 12:30-2:00 p.m. All boys wishing to play basketball will make a team; tryouts are for organizing the various STA teams.

A goal of CYO basketball will be to help build stronger classrooms. As such, where possible and as skill appropriate, teams will consist largely of students from the same grade. Where numbers and skill discrepancy dictate however, some teams may include players for different grades.

Team members will be announced within a week following tryouts. If you have any questions regarding CYO boys basketball, or your player is unable to make tryouts but wishes to play CYO basketball, please e-mail Duane Marks at duane.marks@outlook.com. More information regarding CYO basketball, as well as registration information, can be found at the CYO website available at http://www.cyoarchindy.org/Athletics_ParticipantRegistration.aspx.

Sincerely,

-Duane Marks – Boys' Basketball Coordinator

BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Parish Information Night

Please join Bishop Chatard on **Tuesday, October 11th from 7 – 8:30 p.m. in the St. Thomas Aquinas School Science Lab** for an information gathering for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and parents of St. Thomas Aquinas. This is an opportunity to learn about life as a Bishop Chatard Trojan and meet BCHS parents, students and administrators.

Jr. Trojans Girls Basketball

North Deanery 4th-8th grade girls' basketball players are invited to participate in the Indy Girls Hoops League (IGHL) with the Jr. Trojans! Call-outs are **Sunday, October 9th from 1-3 p.m.** at Bishop Chatard High School. If you are unable to attend the call-out or would like more information, contact Coach Katie Fisher at kfisher@BishopChatard.org. You can also visit http://www.hometeamsonline.com/teams/?u=IGHL&s=basketball for more information.

Open House

All interested students and parents are invited to attend the BCHS Open House on **Thursday, November 3rd from 5:30 – 8 p.m**. While on our campus, you will have the opportunity to tour the school, talk with teachers about diverse class offerings, learn about extracurricular club, athletic and fine arts programs, and gain a deeper understanding of the value of learning in a high school focused on faith.

Placement Exams

Bishop Chatard will offer the High School Placement Exam on **Saturday, November 12th and Saturday, December 10th.** The placement exam is a requirement for all students applying to BCHS.

Please visit www.bishopchatard.org/admissions for information about all of these events and other enrollment activities, including student shadowing and parent shadow sessions.

BREBEUF JESUIT – EARLY ADMISSIONS DATE – OCTOBER 1st!

Just a reminder for all students who have taken the HSPT, and scored in the 80th percentile of higher, we invite you to apply to Brebeuf through our Early Admission program. Please submit all your application materials (application, teacher recommendations, 6th, 7th and first quarter of 8th grade transcripts, and essays) to Brebeuf by October 1st. Admissions decisions will be mailed to students by Thanksgiving.

If students have not taken the HSPT, they may test at Brebeuf Jesuit on October 8th. If they receive a score in the 80th percentile or higher, we are happy to consider them for early admission. Students should still have all their application materials into the Brebeuf Admissions Office by October 1st.

Our regular admissions deadline is December 1st, with HSPT Test dates at Brebeuf on November 5 and December 10. Registration for the HSPT can be found on the Brebeuf website, www.brebeuf.org.

Focus on Faculty- October 4th - 7**- 8:30 p.m.**
Please join us on October 4 to hear Brebeuf Jesuit faculty discuss our rigorous curriculum and what makes a Brebeuf education unique. As a college preparatory school, Brebeuf Jesuit teachers are dedicated to challenging students and preparing them for college and beyond. This event is a great opportunity to get to know some of our outstanding faculty members- the same teachers that will be guiding and mentoring your students at Brebeuf. Be prepared, there might be a pop quiz! To RSVP, please contact Liz Otteson, Director of Admissions, lotteson@brebeuf.org.

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER…ONLY 5 SPORTS REMAIN IN TENNIS PROGRAM AT BUTLER BUBBLE
DETAILS: TO REGISTER: www.midwestteamtennis.com by OCTOBER 2 OR ONCE CLASS IS FILLED...WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

SUNDAYS, OCT 16, 23, 30, NOV 6, 13, 20 FROM 10-11COST: $90.00 INCLUDES NEW RACQUET, T-SHIRT AND SIX LESSONS. QUESTIONS: lauren@centralindianatennis.com