

Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,

Thank you to our families, staff and students for a great start to the 2024/2025 school year. It has been wonderful to welcome back our students and feel the excitement and anticipation of another school year. On behalf of the staff at STA, we look forward to working together as a community in making this year the best one yet.

The 'Week at a Glance' communications are posted on our school website each week on Sunday afternoon. The school website, <https://sta.ycdsb.ca/>, also contains updated special news/events and our school Google Calendar. In addition, you may wish to follow the school instagram account, <https://www.instagram.com/stthomasces/> or our school X account, [@STA_ycdsb](https://twitter.com/STA_ycdsb) for up to date information and upcoming events occurring at the school.

Student Entry:

- Supervision begins at 8:55 am. *In order to maintain the safety of all students, parents/guardians are asked not to enter the playground between 8:55 am and 9:10 am.* During inclement/indoor procedures students can directly enter into the school.
- Kindergarten students will continue with direct entry into their classroom using the main door by the Kiss 'N Ride. A staff member will be at the doors to assist students with entry to the classroom.
- Students arriving late must use the front/main school doors. Parents/Guardians must sign their child(ren) in with the office.

Bus Loop: The bus loop is at the front of the school building. Please do not enter the bus loop during morning entry (8:55 am - 9:10 am) and afternoon dismissal procedures (3:30 pm - 4:00 pm).

Parking Lot Safety: The safety of students, and staff is paramount at St. Thomas CES. The Kiss 'N Ride, located on the north end of the building acts as a drop off/pick up loop. We ask that parents/guardians not park/leave their vehicles unattended, use caution when in the parking lot and be mindful of students, families and staff

Safe Arrival: Parents and guardians are required to report their child(ren)'s absence or late arrival in advance, or before bell time for the current day by accessing the Elementary Safe Arrival Program using any of the three methods below:

- Toll Free Safe Arrival Phone Number 1-855-856-7862
- The Safe Arrival SchoolMessenger website: go.schoolmessenger.ca
- The SchoolMessenger App from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store

Anaphylactic Allergies and Medical Concerns: If your child has specific anaphylactic and/or medical concerns, please notify the office so that all information and forms are kept up to date. Please contact the office if you have questions.

Curriculum Night/CSC BBQ: *Save the Date!* Curriculum Night/CSC BBQ will take place on Thursday September 19, 2024. More information will follow this week.

School Day Cashless System: The School Day Cashless System at STA is continuing this year. The School Day Cashless System provides real-time, secure access to up-to-date information and the ability to:

- complete online payments for trips, hot lunch and other activities;
- avoid the risks associated with sending money to school with your child;
- approve permission forms instantly online;
- reduce the environmental impact of photocopying permission forms and announcements;

New families to St. Thomas Aquinas will have received an email this past week with instructions and the Secure Match Key for your child(ren) to register onto School Day. Please contact the school if you require assistance.

2024/2025 School Agenda: All students have received the 2024/2025 School Agenda this past week. School agendas are \$5.00 each. Payment can be done online through the School Day Cashless system, cheque (made payable to St. Thomas Aquinas CES) or cash.

Upcoming Dates:

September 17: New School Year Liturgy

September 19: Curriculum Night/Open House at 6:30 pm- 7:30 pm

-CSC BBQ at 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm (information will follow this week)

September 24: CSC meeting in the library at 6:30 pm

September 27: P.A. Day (no school)

September 30: National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day)

October 4: Picture Day

Have a great week,

F. Rossy

Principal