



St. Thomas Aquinas CES

Week at a Glance: October 14-18

Live with Love!

Learn with Joy!

Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,

October Is International Walk to School Month. International Walk to School Month (IWALK) is an annual event that takes place in October to raise awareness about the benefits of walking and other types of active transportation to get to and from school. It is a great opportunity for students, families and the school community to be part of a global event to celebrate the benefits of active transportation. If it is safe to do so, we encourage all students to WALK to and from school or to and from bus stops for the month of October.

Cross Country 2024: We are proud to announce that STA placed 2nd and brought home a Board Finalist pennant! Congratulations to our Cross Country team who represented STA at Bruce's Mill. All runners demonstrated great sportsmanship and perseverance. We are so proud of the hard work and dedication shown by all the athletes! A special congratulations to the following students who placed the top five in their group and will represent our school at Board finals: Stella, Harper, Hunter B., Graham, Carly! Thank you to Mrs. Olar, Mlle. Miguelo, Mrs. Swirla, Mme. Alvarez, Mrs. McGirr-Scholl and Mrs. Weaver for their ongoing commitment to our students through the many practices and the final meet at Bruce's Mill. *Way to go STA!*

Terra Cotta Snack Fundraiser: We are pleased to announce Terra Cotta Cookie Snack Fundraiser. The Terra Cotta Chocolate Chip Cookie and the Vanilla Sprinkle Snowman Cookie are available to purchase. All funds received will be used to purchase resources to support literacy, numeracy, art & STREAM, physical activity programs, gym equipment and technology. Students will receive their cookie every Thursday from November 7, 2024 to Thursday December 19, 2024. The total cost for these weeks is \$14.00/student. All orders are due Monday October 21, 2024. Orders can be placed online through the School Day Cashless system, cheque (made payable to St. Thomas Aquinas) or cash. Please see the attached letter for further information and ingredient list. [Terra Cotta Snack Fundraiser](#)

CSC Halloween Dance: The CSC is hosting a Halloween Dance for all STA families. The Halloween Dance will take place on Friday October 25, 2024 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the school. As this is a family event, all children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Tickets and food combos must be pre purchased and are due by Friday October 18, 2024. Please see the link below for detailed information. All purchases can be made through the School Day online cashless system, cash or cheques (made payable to St. Thomas Aquinas CES). If you require a hard copy of the form please contact/visit the office. [CSC Halloween Dance Order Form](#)

Halloween Costumes: As we look forward to Halloween Day students are invited to wear costumes or the colours orange and purple on this day. If students choose to wear a costume please note the following reminders when choosing a costume to wear to school:

- All students are reminded that costume props, and/or replica weapons including, but not limited to, toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc., may not be brought to school.
- Masks as part of a costume are not to be worn at school as they present a safety risk, and some masks may even be quite scary to the younger students.
- Costumes should be respectful of the diversity in our communities and therefore should not reflect symbols or objects representative of another person's culture and/or race that may trivialize, devalue, or appropriate any culture or race. Costumes that mock social identities through stereotyping are also unacceptable.
- Students are discouraged from wearing costumes that are not appropriate to the moral tone of our Catholic schools.

If students are unsure about their costume idea, they should speak with their classroom teacher and/or administration. We are looking forward to a fun and respectful Halloween for all.

Loonie/Toonie Sports Day: The York Catholic District School Board's first Annual Loonie/Toonie Day Fundraiser in support of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is being held on October 17, 2024. The Attendance Counselling Services Team (ACS) at YCDSB assists identified students who face significant financial challenges that impact their school attendance. This fundraiser aims to raise awareness and provide essential support, such as food, housing, clothing, and transportation, to students and families in need through our Board attendance counselling services. Students and staff are invited to participate by donating a Loonie or Toonie to help make a difference in our community. This event will raise funds to provide more equitable access and responsive service to students and families experiencing financial distress, to increase regular/compulsory school attendance in pursuit of overall academic achievement. All staff and students are invited to wear their favourite team jersey, sports t-shirts or team colours on this day. We hope you will join us in a message of love and compassion for those in need within our YCDSB Community through this Loonie/Toonie Sports Day Fundraising Event.

CSC Christmas Market- Donations needed: The annual CSC Christmas Market will take place on Saturday November 9, 2024 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the school. At this time CSC is asking for donations for the silent auction. All money raised will be used to support initiatives and resources in our school. All donations can be brought to the school office.

Centos Photos Online for Purchase: All school photos are available online for purchase. Please see the attached flyer for further details. The school retake day for photos is November 8, 2024.

[Photo orders](#)

Our Lady of the Lake Open House: Mark your calendars! Our Lady of the Lake will be hosting an Open House for all Grade 6 students on Thursday November 28, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Parish News: Registrations for First Holy Communion have begun. The registration form (see attached link) along with a baptismal certificate are due in the parish office by October 31, 2024. Please call the church if you have any questions. [First Holy Communion Registration](#)
For Our Lady of the Lake Parish news, please see the attached bulletin. [Parish Bulletin Oct 13](#)

Upcoming Dates:

October 14: Thanksgiving Day (no school)

October 16: Arbour Day Presentation (Grades 1-4)

-CSC Meeting 6:30 pm in the library

October 17: Loonie/Toonie Sports Day (YCDSB Fundraiser)

October 21: P.A. Day (no school)

-TerraCotta Cookie Snack Fundraiser Orders due

October 24: Dental Screening

-Grade three trip to Georgina Pioneer Village

October 25: CSC Halloween Dance (6:00 pm-9:00 pm)

October 31: STA Halloween Dance

Have a great week,

F. Rossy

Principal