



***St. Thomas Aquinas CES***  
***Week at a Glance: December 2-6***

***Live with Love!***

***Learn with Joy!***

**<https://sta.ycdsb.ca/>**

**Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,**

Welcome to the month of December and the liturgical season of Advent. Advent is the season of waiting and looking forward to something special. This week we light the first candle, the hope candle to symbolize the hope that shines in our lives and guides us through this season of joyful expectation.

***God of Hope;***

***We praise you during this season of Advent and always.***

***Draw us into your light as we journey.***

***May we be filled with trust.***

***May our anticipation of the joyful coming of your Son ever increase.***

***May our hope grow with each passing moment.***

***We ask this through your Son, who was born in a stable in Bethlehem.***

***Amen***

**Holiday Heroes Toy Drive:** The Holiday Heroes Toy Drive continues this week until December 4th. We are continuing to accept donations of new and unwrapped toys and clothing and gift cards. These can be dropped off to your child's teacher or the front office. Thank you to our Luke 4:18 club for bringing this great cause to our school community during this Holiday season.

[Holiday Heroes Toy Drive](#)

**Winter Weather Reminders:** As the temperatures continue to cool down and Mother nature begins to bless us with snow and flurries, please ensure your child(ren) is prepared for the weather with coats, hats, gloves and boots. Extra socks, mitts/gloves and clothes are also recommended as these items can become quite wet during recess play. Also please ensure that your child(ren) has indoor shoes and outdoor boots so that we may keep our classrooms and school safe and clean for staff and students.

**Christmas Holiday Theme Week:** STA will be having a Christmas Holiday Theme Week from December 16-20 to celebrate the Holiday Season. Please see the attached flyer for details. [STA Holiday Theme Week](#)

**Primary Dance Workshops:** To complement the Dance Program, the Primary Division ( FDK-Grade 3) will be engaged in dance workshops from the Travelling Stage Company. The workshops will take place at STA for six weeks beginning January 13 to February 18 with a final performance on February 26, 2025 at the school. These workshops will take place during the instructional day for each class. The theme for these workshops is Dancing Through the Decades where each class will learn a style of dancing from a specific decade. Students will learn basic dance skills and choreography which will enhance the curriculum and dance program. The cost for these workshops is \$20/student. Payment and consent forms can be completed online through the School Day app and are due by Monday December 9, 2024. We are aware that there was a glitch in using the online system for payment and consent. This has since been corrected. Please contact the office if you have any further questions.

**Hot Lunch Session January to March:** The next session of the Hot Lunch Program will continue from January 6 to March 7. We are pleased to announce that we have added another Hot Lunch vendor. Bailey's Homestead will be offered every Thursday with various menu options which include 3pc chicken fingers, hamburger and a Jumbo Hot Dog. All menu options come with a side option of either a Caesar Salad or wedge fries and an apple juice drink box. Each menu option is \$8/meal. Subway, Nonna's Lakeside and Quick Pizza will continue with the same menu options. Our Hot Lunch program will consist of the following:

- Tuesdays: Subway
- Wednesday: Nonna's Lakeside
- Thursday: Bailey's Homestead
- Friday: Quick Pizza

Payments can be made online through the School Day app or cash or cheque (made payable to St.Thomas Aquinas) and are due by December 20, 2024. Please call the school if you have any questions.

**Social Media and Online Safety Evening for Parents:** Our Lady of Good Counsel is hosting a parent information evening with Paul Davis on December 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm. All parents of the STA community are invited to attend. If interested in attending please complete the link to RSVP, [RSVP for parent info meeting](#). Please see the attached flyer for further information. [Paul Davis Information Night Flyer](#)

**Parish News:** For Our Lady of the Lake Parish news, please see the attached link [Bulletin Dec 1](#)

**Upcoming Dates:**

Holiday Heroes Drive continues until December 3

December 1: First Sunday of Advent

December 2: YCDSB STREAM Center visit for Mrs. Colantonio's Grade 5 class

December 5: Advent Mass at Our Lady of the Lake Parish (All are welcome to attend)

December 16-20: Holiday Theme Week [■ STA Holiday Theme Week \(1\).pdf](#)

December 17: FDK Christmas Concert at 6:30 pm

December 18: Grade 1-3 Christmas Concert at 6:30 pm

**Have a great week,**

*F. Rossy*

**Principal**