

Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,

This week we welcome the month of October! This month reminds us of the many things for which we continue to be grateful for. The St. Thomas Aquinas Staff and Administration would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for the continued support of our school community. Thank you for making St. Thomas Aquinas CES a special place to *Live with Love and Learn with Joy!*

Catholic School Council 2025/2026: Congratulations to the newest members of our Catholic School Council. We look forward to another successful year as we work in partnership on many initiatives for our students and school. I am pleased to announce the following members to the 2025/2026 Catholic School Council:

Executive

- Johanna Silva – Chair
- Natalie Floyd – Co-Chair
- Paula Swirla – Treasurer
- Kaitlyn Haslam – Secretary

Parent Representatives

- Johanna Mejias
- Bessie Beteta
- Xana Wellington
- Danuta Jeyathurai
- Robert Kemp
- Amber Akl
- Sandra Haba
- Sandra Witty
- Helder Aparicio

Terry Fox Walk/Run: The annual Terry Fox Walk/Run has been rescheduled to take place on Monday September 29 2025. We have currently raised \$1100! Way to go, STA! Donations can be made at the following link: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/StThomasAquinasSchoolKeswick>. Students and staff are invited to wear red and white or Terry Fox T-shirts on this day.

Safety Awareness Week: This week, September 29 - October 3, has been designated as “Safety Awareness Week” for the YCDSB. As part of our safety initiative at St. Thomas Aquinas, we will be practicing safety procedures with students and staff. We will be rehearsing a variety of emergency school procedures to acquaint students and staff with the precautionary steps to take in the event of such things as a warning of severe weather, or an intruder.

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation: On Tuesday September 30, 2025, St. Thomas will commemorate the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day). Students have participated in discussions and lessons within the classroom along with a school wide activity which will take place on September 30. Staff and students are invited to wear Orange shirts on this day to acknowledge the impact of the residential school system, raise awareness and honour Indigenous communities, and to promote reconciliation.

Fresh From The Farm Fundraiser: St. Thomas is pleased to offer Fresh from the Farm. Fresh from the Farm is a unique fundraising partnership between the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association and our school community. By purchasing fresh apple and vegetable bundles, you can enjoy healthy, local produce for your family while also supporting Ontario farmers. The fundraising campaign will run from September 29 to October 14 where 40% of the sales of each bundle sold comes back to the school. This will help to support the purchase of various resources and initiatives for our students. The following bundles will be available for sale:

- 14lb Vegetable Bundle with 5lb bag of potatoes, 3lb bag of Sweet Potatoes, 3lb bag of Orange Carrots and 3lb bag of Yellow Onions at \$22.00
- 8lb Apple Bundle with 8lb bag of Ambrosia variety apples at \$24.00

All bundles ordered will be delivered to the school during the month of November. The date of pick up will be communicated once delivery has been confirmed. All orders can be placed online at the following link: [Fresh from the Farm Fundraising Link](#) Please call the school if you have any questions.

“You’re The Chef” Program: York Region Public Health along with St. Thomas Aquinas is pleased to announce the continuation of the “You’re The Chef,” Program at our school. The ‘You’re the Chef’ program is an afterschool food skills program for students in grades 4-6. Students will learn about food prep and cooking skills that focus on using fruits and vegetables as the main ingredients. Grade 4 students will be invited to participate in the first session of the year, taking place in late October and early November. At this time we are looking for parent volunteers to assist with the after school sessions and planning once the program begins. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact the office.

Save the Dates: CSC will host a Halloween Dance for all families on Thursday October 23, 2025 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This is a fun family event for all to enjoy. Further information will be shared this week

The annual CSC Christmas Market will take place on Saturday November 22, 2025 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 for our school and students. All donations can be brought to the school office. If you are interested in being a vendor at the market, please contact the school.

Parish News: Communion Registration for students in Grade 2 and up is now open. Please see the attached information and registration form for further details. [First Holy Communion Information & Registration](#)

For parish news/updates please see the bulletin attached. [Sept 27 Bulletin](#)

Upcoming Dates:

September 29-October 3: Safety Week

September 29: Rescheduled Terry Fox Walk/Run (wear red and white or Terry Fox T-shirt)

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

October 1: Cross Country Meet at Bruce's Mill

October 3: Grade 1 & 2 Trip to Forsythe Farms

October 6-10: CCAT Testing (Grade 4)

October 13: Happy Thanksgiving

October 14: Dental Screening

October 16: CSC Meeting

October 17: Thanksgiving Mass at OLL parish

Have a great week,

F. Rossy

Principal