

Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,

Happy Thanksgiving! I hope everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving weekend with family and friends. The STA Thanksgiving Food Drive continues this week until Friday October 17 in support of the local food bank. Non perishable food items can be dropped off to your child's classroom or the front office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

On Friday October 17, STA will be celebrating Thanksgiving mass with Father Dunstan at Our Lady of the Lake Parish. Mrs. Cuccurullo's Grade 4 class will be leading the mass which will begin at 11 am. All are welcome to attend as we continue to celebrate Thanksgiving in this season of gratitude.

YCDSB Eradication of Poverty Fundraiser: On October 17, all schools in the York Catholic District School Board join organizations across the globe in observing the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Food insecurity is a growing reality in York Region and has become an obstacle to school attendance. Last year, \$41,115.25 was raised by YCDSB families, staff and community members. Aligned with our Catholic Social Teachings, 100% of the funds were used to support families in need. These funds have been instrumental in supporting regular student attendance by reducing barriers. If you are able, we ask for your support in the 2nd annual Loonie/Toonie Civvies Day fundraiser in support of our neighbours. **We will be having a Team Jersey or Team Colours day on Friday, October 17, 2025.** The Attendance Counselling Service team will access these funds to provide individualized assistance to help students attend school regularly.

Library Learning Commons Update: The LLC will be undergoing some renovations over the next couple of weeks. These renovations will enhance the learning space for our students. As we prepare for these renovations to begin, please note that library book exchange/visits will be on pause for this week.

CSC Halloween Dance: Orders for the CSC is hosting a Halloween Dance are due Monday October 20, 2025. The Halloween Dance will take place on Thursday October 23, 2025 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 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. [CSC Halloween Dance Form](#)

Halloween Treats: Kindly refrain from sending in any food related treats on Halloween day. As we have many students with allergies and dietary restrictions, any food related treats will not be distributed and will be sent back home with your child. Please speak with your child's teacher about alternate items that may be purchased if you wish to bring in Halloween treats for your child's class.

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.

CSC Christmas Market- Donations needed: 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 in our school. All donations can be brought to the school office.

Parish News: For parish news/updates please see the bulletin attached. [Oct 12 Bulletin](#)

Upcoming Dates:

October 13: Happy Thanksgiving (no school)

October 14: Dental Screening

October 16: CSC Meeting

October 17: Thanksgiving Mass at OLL parish

-Eradication of Poverty Fundraiser (Jersey & Team Sport Day)

October 20: Photo Re-Take day

-Photo Orders due

October 23: CSC Halloween Dance

October 24: P.A. Day

Have a great week,

F. Rossy
Principal