

Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,

Welcome to the second week of Advent. This week we light the second purple candle of Advent known as the candle of Love. The light of this candle reminds us of the coming of Jesus, the light of our world who brings us hope and fills us with God's love.

The Catholic Virtue for December is *Hope*. This focus for this virtue is:

- ❖ I will trust in God's love.
- ❖ I will maintain a positive attitude and look for the brighter side of situations.
- ❖ I will rely on the grace of the Holy Spirit for patience and strength.

Holiday Food Drive: Non-perishable food items continue to be collected until Friday December 12. Items of need include diapers, formula, cereals, canned food items etc. All items can be dropped off to your child's classroom or in the front foyer. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support during this Holiday season.

Christmas Holiday Theme Week: STA will be having a Christmas Holiday Theme Week from December 15-19 to celebrate the Holiday Season. Please see the attached flyer for details. Monday December 15 will be Christmas in Hawaii Day where students are invited to dress in Hawaiian shirts, flowers and beach accessories. As part of this day, students will receive ONE free slice of pizza. The following pizza options are available to choose from, cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza and Hawaiian Pizza. Please complete the form below to indicate your child's pizza slice preference and return to the school by Monday December 8, 2025.

[Christmas Fun Week](#) [FREE Pizza Lunch](#)

Christmas Concerts: The Christmas Concerts will be held at the school this week. The FDK Christmas Concert is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00 p.m., and the Grade 1-3 & Singing Club Christmas Concert will take place on Thursday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m. All families are invited to attend. If possible, please consider bringing a non-perishable food item to support our Holiday Food Drive.

During each concert, a designated area will be set up in front of the stage. One family member per child may come forward during their child's performance to take photos or video. Once the performance is finished, we kindly ask that you return to your seat so the next family can have the opportunity to capture their child's moment on stage.

Lost and Found Items: There are several items in our Lost and Found Bin. Items will be displayed on tables in the foyer this coming week. Students are encouraged to visit the tables to pick up any lost belongings. Families may also visit the Lost and Found during the upcoming Christmas Concerts.

Hot Lunch Session January to March: The next session of the Hot Lunch Program will continue from January 7 to March 27. Our Hot Lunch program will consist of the following:

- Wednesday: Nonna's Lakeside
- Thursday: Riveredge Restaurant
- Friday: Pizza 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 19, 2025. Please call the school if you have any questions. **Please Note: Riveredge Restaurant will NOT be available for Hot Lunch Orders for the month of January.**

Kiss 'N Ride: The Kiss 'N Ride, located at the north end of the building, serves as a drop-off and pick-up loop. We kindly ask parents and guardians not to park, leave their vehicles unattended, or idle in this area. Please use caution in the parking lot and remain mindful of students, families, and staff.

With the addition of snow hills, the Kiss 'N Ride loop becomes narrower and more difficult to navigate. For this reason, families are asked not to stop before entering the loop or within the loop itself, as this creates a backlog of cars entering the parking lot area. If you are dropping off your child at the FDK doors, please drive all the way down toward the doors to allow for a smoother and quicker drop-off. To ensure student safety, we strongly encourage all children to exit the vehicle on the sidewalk side. Thank you for your continued support.

Parish News: For parish news/updates please see the bulletin attached. [Dec 7 Bulletin](#)

Upcoming Dates:

- December 9: Grade 3 Pioneer Village Trip
- December 10: FDK Christmas Concert (6 pm)
- December 11: Grade 1-3 & Singing Club Christmas Concert (6 pm)
- December 15-19: Christmas Spirit Week
- December 16: Santa Classroom Visit
- December 18: YCDSB STEAM Center Trip (Grade 2/3 Axford)
- December 20: Christmas Break Begins

Have a great week,

F. Rossy

Principal