

## **Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,**

On Wednesday, January 28, we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Thomas Aquinas, the patron saint of our school. This special day honours his remarkable intellect, deep faith, and lifelong commitment to the pursuit of truth. St. Thomas Aquinas is one of the most influential theologians and philosophers in the history of the Catholic Church. He is the Patron Saint of booksellers, learning and knowledge, Catholic education, philosophers and theologians, as well as Catholic schools, universities, and colleges.

To mark this day, Mlle. Miguelo's Grade 4 class will lead the school community in a liturgy celebrating the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas. The liturgy will take place at the school at 11:00 a.m., and all are welcome to attend.

**You're the Chef Sessions:** The second session of *You're the Chef* successfully began this past week and will continue for the next four weeks. A sincere Thank You to York Public Health, as well as to the teachers and volunteers, for their time, dedication, and support in organizing this after-school program for our students. A special Thank You to Zehrs and Food Basics for their generous gift card donations, along with the grant provided by York Region Public Health, to help fund the purchasing of essential items needed to run this valuable program in our school.

**Winter Walk Day:** Winter Walk Day is taking place on Wednesday February 4th in schools across Ontario! Students and families are encouraged to walk or wheel to school during this day, or any day during the month of February. The aim is to celebrate active school travel and to spend time outside in all seasons – especially the cold ones! Be sure to wear the proper winter gear to keep warm! Learn more about Winter Walk Day at <https://ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/winter-walk-day/>.

**Friendship/Valentines Day Dance-a-thon:** On Friday February 13, 2026, St. Thomas Aquinas will be having a Friendship/Valentine Dance-a-Thon Fundraiser. Each class will have a 30-45 minute dance session in the gym! We have set a school goal of \$6000 to support various resources/purchases for our school such as:

- Literacy, Numeracy, and Art Resources
- Upgrade the gym equipment
- Assist in subsidizing programs/workshops and excursions for our students.

Each student will receive a pledge envelope which is to be returned by Friday February 13, 2026. There are many great prizes and school wide incentives such as a Family Day Pass to Canada's Wonderland, BMS Karate School Voucher, Imagine Cinema Gift Card, Principal for the Day, Hawaiian Fun Day with a Free Pizza Lunch and so much more. Please see the attached flyer and letter for further information. Thank you for your continued support of our school initiatives.

[Dance-a-thon Flyer](#)   [Friendship/Valentine Dance-a-thon Letter](#)

**Valentine Treats:** If you are purchasing Valentine treats for your child's(ren's) class, a reminder to please refrain from sending any food items to school as we have many students with various allergies. Any food items will not be distributed and will be returned.

**SAVE THE DATE Grade 6 Composite Photo:** On Wednesday March 4 the grade 6 students will be taking their composite photo. Girls are encouraged to wear a white collared shirt and boys are encouraged to wear a tie.

**Parish News:** For parish news/updates please see the bulletin attached. [Jan 25 Bulletin](#)

**Upcoming Dates:**

- January 28: St. Thomas Aquinas Feast Day Liturgy
- January 29: YCDSB STREAM Center Trip Grade ½ Masse
- January 29: You're the Chef Session #2
- January 30: P.A Day (no school)
- February 4: Winter Walk Day
- February 5: "You're the Chef" Session #3
- February 9-13: Carnaval Week
- February 10: Term 1 Report Cards available to parents via Portal
- February 12: "You're the Chef" Session #4
- February 13: Valentine/Friendship Dance-a-thon
- February 14: Valentine's Day
- February 16: Family Day (no school)

**Have a great week,**

***F. Rossy***

**Principal**