



St. Thomas Regional School

is full **S.T.E.A.M.** ahead!

Arts Integrated Learning

January 20, 2017

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!! I would like to thank you all for the holiday treats and well wishes. On behalf of the faculty, staff, and parish I would also like to thank you for your generous donations of various toiletry products throughout the Christmas season to the St. Thomas Church food pantry.

We have a number of exciting developments to report as we begin 2017. First, we are thrilled to announce the opening of the parents' portion of our new school computer management system, **RenWeb ParentsWeb** – a private and secure parents' portal that will allow parents to see academic information specific to their children, while protecting their children's information from others. All you need is an Internet-capable computer to view information such as: daily grades, school calendar, progress report cards, homework, school calendar, school and classroom announcements, and other useful school information. Then create an account on ParentsWeb by going to <https://www.renweb.com/rwlogin/ParentsWeb-Login.aspx>. You then enter the district code STR-RI (case sensitive) and then create a user name and password. Please be sure to login as a parent. Please find the RenWeb ParentsWeb tutorial attached to guide you once you have accessed your child/children's student page.

Our Tablets for Technology Program has proven to be a huge success. Thanks to the efforts of the PTO and your support, all students in grades 5- 8 currently have been given a Microsoft NuVision Tablet. We have ordered tablets for the students in grades K-4 and are anxiously awaiting for them to arrive. Use of the tablets will vary from grade level to grade level. Students in grades 5- 8 will be given technology instruction provided by Microsoft. As a result our students are on the cutting edge of technology. This is amazing news!!

Finally, as you know St. Thomas Regional School is moving "Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead". We have created a new logo and incorporated new school colors in order to properly represent our transformation to a S.T.E.A.M school. The excitement is contagious. In keeping with our new logo and school colors, blue, purple, and white, **the school uniform will receive a complete update for the 2017-2018 school year.** I guarantee you will be as excited as the students are for the change. Keep your eye out for the new order forms.

As we move through the month of January we need to anticipate the possibility of snow. In the case of inclement weather, announcements regarding our school closings and early dismissals will be made through our School Messenger System, as well as **WJAR Channel 10** under the category **RI Catholic Schools** as "**St. Thomas Regional School**". School closings will also be posted on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. If you do not see the name of the school specifically then we will be in session as usual. Please note that Providence buses DO NOT run when Providence does not have school. If you have not already done so, please go to **Turnto10.com** and register to receive an immediate text message regarding cancellations and early dismissals. Once you have registered your cell phone you will immediately receive a text message announcing any cancellations, and more importantly, early dismissals. This is the easiest and fastest way to know of any changes in the school schedule. When coming to school please make sure your child is dressed properly for cold weather; jacket, hat, mittens, as we try to get them outdoors as much as possible during these cold months.

Our annual Open House is Sunday, January 29th, 2017, from 11- 1. All our welcome. If you have a child who will be entering Pre-School (ages 3 and 4) or Kindergarten in the fall please join us for the Open House. Re-registration packets will be sent home on February 3rd for the 2017-2018 school year.

Catholic Schools Week is January 30th – February 1st. The theme for this year is "**Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service**". We have planned a number of activities for the children based on this theme. The Catholic Schools Week calendar will be sent home soon.

Reminders:

- Registration packets for 2017-2018 school year go home the week of January 30th.
- Final tuition payment for the 2016-2017 school year due February 1st.
- Catholic Schools Week Mass and Parent Visitation – Friday, February 3rd.
- FACTS deadline- February 17th.
- Contract and commitment fee for 2017-2018 school year due – February 17th.
- Winter recess- February 20th – February 24th

Peace and Prayers,

Mrs. Mary DiMuccio, Principal