



# The Knight Times

*Our Mission is to educate each child in a God centered environment.*

Vol. 6 No.4, October 17, 2007

The St. Thomas More Catholic School Parent, Teacher, and Student Newsletter

Chapel Hill, NC



Established in 1964

Accredited through Southern Association of Colleges and Schools



Dear Parents/Guardian,

I have been reading an article entitled, "The Curriculum Superhighway," by Tomas Armstrong, author of "The Best Schools: How Human Development Research Should Inform Educational Practices." Mr. Armstrong begs the question, "In the race to get kids to the finish line, let's not bypass their developmental needs. He compares the different age levels of development to ecosystems that are in danger of being destroyed if we don't allow time for "natural childlike preserve time."

The Early Childhood needs open-ended play in a rich, multimodal environment, with supportive facilitators and a minimum of adult interference. Children (ages 2-6) should spend most of their time playing on swing sets, in sand piles, in playhouses and with art materials and toys. He states that unfortunately the curriculum superhighway is delivering academic goods and materials as well as formal teaching lessons from the higher grades down to the preschool level and this would ultimately destroy this precious ecology.

The Middle Childhood development is inquisitive about how the world works. They want to understand the rules of this more complex world. Their brains have matured to the point where they can begin to learn the formal rules of reading, writing, and math; but they also need to satisfy their insatiable curiosity by learning how governments work, how butterflies grow, and countless other things.

The children's museum model of learning, recommended by Howard Gardner (1994), among others, is a good example of how we can preserve this developmental ecology.

In the Middle School years we need to be tender to the social, emotional, and metacognitive growth of the children. Reading material should include emotional themes that speak to the adolescent's inner turmoil. Collaborative and cooperative reading and writing assignments are needed to honor the social needs of early adolescence. We need to teach student how to monitor their own reading and writing habits.

Let us continue to pray for that balance in our children's lives so that there is time to pray, play and learn.

Sincerely,  
Sister Catherine  
Principal





LINK YOUR VIC CARD TO #1821 AND SPREAD THE WORD TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS.



INNISBROOK GIFT WRAP UPDATE

Thank you to all the families who purchased wrapping paper and other products from Innisbrook Gift Wrap. We raised over \$10,000 for our school!

The top three sellers were:

Mattis, Henry and Forbes Collier, \$898.00  
Shawn Stankavage, \$682.00  
Riley and Meredith Patterson, \$539.00

These families will receive a \$20.00 gift card to Southpoint Mall. Three classes earned an ice cream party. 1B and 4A tied for the highest participation and 6A had the highest sales. Congratulations! We would also like to thank all the volunteers and participants who made this another successful year.

Remember you can still order Innisbrook Gift Wrap on-line all year and STM receives 50% of every purchase. Make sure you use our school code 101003.



PARISH PRIDE DAY

Save the date!

This fall's Parish Pride Day will take place on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Bring your shovels, wheelbarrows, gloves and rakes and enjoy a day of healthy yard work plus great fellowship. We have some projects related to the beautification and improvement of school areas, like spreading mulch in the Pre-K and lower school playgrounds, and planting seasonal flowers in the school flower beds. The Knights of Columbus will, as is our tradition, supply refreshments and a hearty lunch. Please contact Carlos Lima, 942-6242 or via e-mail at [calima@st-thomasmore.org](mailto:calima@st-thomasmore.org), to let him know you are coming. More details are available in the church bulletin and on the website.



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

The librarians are in need of individuals to shelve books. There is a large turnover as your children are really reading and browsing well! At this time we have three individuals who volunteer their time to shelve books each week. This simple task can be done in less than an hour when several people volunteer their time! If you are available to help, we would appreciate your assistance.



Thank you  
Mrs. Williams / Mrs. Lopez

**HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL**



Jeepers Creepers, the **Halloween Carnival** has crept up on us again. You won't want to miss the extravaganza, Friday, **October 26<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.** Come ride the Whirly Bird, scale the towering rock climbing wall, or see how you stack up to the 15 ft. tall Fire Wizard. There will be all new game booths, entertainment, and food. Ticket sales have already begun. Pre-order by October 19<sup>th</sup>, or get tickets at the ticket table the night of the event.

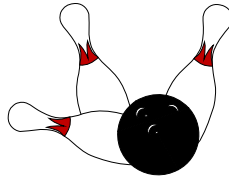


For information contact Sally Trauco at [strauco@nc.rr.com](mailto:strauco@nc.rr.com)  
Don't miss the Fright Night of the year!



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## MOTHER / SON BOWLING



COME BOWL A STRIKE!  
The First Annual Mother /  
SYMPHONY

Son Bowling Event is only a few weeks away!! Be a part of history and reserve your spot TODAY! Event to be held at the Mardi Gras Bowling Alley on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Just fill out your form that was sent kidmail and send it along with your check payable to "STM" to the attention of Cari Yentsch via Madeline in 5B.

## BLANKET OUR COMMUNITY

The Girl Scout troops at STM are helping our community sleep tight and stay warm this fall. They are collecting new or gently used blankets to be donated to shelters, foster homes, and other local community organizations in need. There will be collection boxes at the parish office, the lower school, upper school, and the church narthex throughout the month of October where you can drop off your contribution. Thanks in advance for your support!



Mary Jo O'Donnell (Brownie Troop leader)  
Darlene Tyndall (Junior Troop leader)



It's time to CLIP and SHOP to earn cash for STM!

CLIP Box Tops from hundreds of participating General Mills products and send them in to school. We'll be gearing up soon for the Box Tops submission deadline. Please send in your Box Tops TODAY so they can be re-

## TARGET VISA



Don't forget to link your Target Visa to the "Take Charge of Education" program by calling 1-800-316-6142 (our school code is 17852) or go on-line to [www.target.com/tcoe](http://www.target.com/tcoe). Under "How We Help," click on "Take Charge of Education." Click on "Enroll Now" or "Find/Designate a School." Enter our school code 17852. LINK YOUR CARD TODAY!

## NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY CONCERT FREE FRIDAYS FAVORITES SERIES 2007-2008



St. Thomas More students and families have the opportunity of attending a free concert on Friday morning, October 26<sup>th</sup>, the Friday we are off for the evening Halloween Carnival. The NC Symphony concert begins at 11:30 at Meymandi Concert Hall in Raleigh. I have acquired 175 tickets for this event; 150 student and 25 adult. Please contact me if you would like to reserve tickets for your family. I will meet you in Raleigh the morning of the concert between 10:30 and 11:30 at the concert hall entrance. The concert will begin promptly at 11:30. The first 175 people who contact me will be able to attend free. You may e-mail me at the school address or contact me by phone at 942-3344. Please leave a message and I will get back to you. Mrs. Waddell, music teacher. The program will include-  
Dukas: The Sorcerer's Apprentice  
Franck: Symphony in D minor.

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### GET READY FOR THE "HOLIDAY SHOPPE"

Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual "Holiday Shoppe" fine art and handicrafts bazaar on Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. in the school gym. This is a fabulous fundraiser for the school and a great way to show community spirit.



### CULTURAL ENRICHMENT UPDATE

The Cultural Enrichment Committee of the HSA, in conjunction with the Carrboro ArtsCenter, brings various artistic and culturally diverse performances to the school each year to enhance the student's learning experience.

The first program was THE LEGEND OF CHOCOLATE, a 50-minute performance based on an Aztec Legend about the Tolteca people, presented by the Ashville Contemporary Dance Theatre. This performance was given on September 27<sup>th</sup> and attended by grades 5-8.

The next performance sponsored by the CE committee will be a Native American storyteller presented on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am. Dovie Thomason of the Lakota and Kiowa Apache Nations has traveled throughout North America and abroad for more than 20 years, sharing the wisdom and humor of her heritage through traditional and original stories.

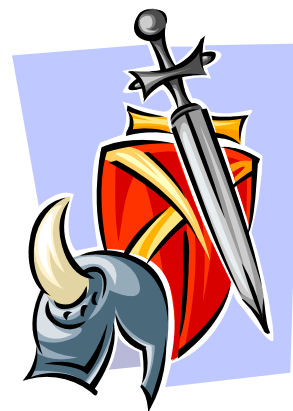
### **WE NEED YOU AGAIN!**

We need volunteers to staff "Holiday Shoppe." We need help with set-up, tear-down, and to work the bake sale table, raffle table, "Reindeer Cafe" and more. Call Cathy Elmore at 493-4157 or e-mail [celmore@nc.rr.com](mailto:celmore@nc.rr.com) if you would like to help out with this fun filled and rewarding event.

Thank you for your support!  
Cathy Elmore and Joanne Vance  
HSA Special Fundraisers Co-Chairs

### YEARBOOK NEWS

Extra! Extra! The 2008 edition of the STM yearbook, *The Shield*, will be in full color. You won't want to miss out, so order your copy soon! Both book and ad sales for *The Shield* officially begin today, Wednesday, October 17, and continue through Wednesday, November 14, 2007. **Be on the lookout for those order forms!** While there are still about 140 memory-making days left in this school year, there's only a limited time to ensure that you capture them, so please complete and return your order form(s) and payment (checks made payable to: STM) by **November 14, 2007** to ensure that your family receives its yearbook (s). If you have any questions, contact yearbook adviser, Mrs. Dekle ([ndekle@st-thomasmore.org](mailto:ndekle@st-thomasmore.org)).



Again this year, *The Shield* has its very own "community photo site." If you take digital photos of your student and his/her class or other STM students and events, these can be uploaded directly to the site. From there, the editorial staff can view the photos, then download those chosen for inclusion in our yearbook. The community photo site has been activated (and will be through March 31, 2008) and can be accessed at <http://images.jostens.com>. The user id is 1137642 and the password is shield08. **Note: We're anxious to begin creating our yearbook pages, so don't delay—upload those photos today!** We look forward to seeing and using your photos soon!



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# October 2007

## St. Thomas More



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
	<b>1</b> Student Council Officers mtg. at 11:30 in the science lab	<b>2</b> Feast of Guardian Angels	<b>3</b> \$ 1.00 Dress Down Day; 1:45 Dismissal; The KNIGHT TIMES is published on the STM website	<b>4</b> Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi	<b>5</b> 4B Mass 10:30 and Mission Day	<b>6</b>																																																																																																																
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<b>7</b> NO Faith Development; Pancake Breakfast in the gym	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Kdgs. go to the Fire Station in the a.m.; SA meets @ 7:00 p.m. in the Library	<b>10</b> Upper School Mtg after school	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5A Mass 10:30; First Upper School Dance in the gym from 7:00-9:30 p.m.	<b>13</b>																																																																																																																
<b>14</b> Faith Development	<b>15</b> Full Student Council mtg. at 11:30 in the science lab	<b>16</b> "Reality Check" Program for 6-8 graders and their parents in the gym at 7:00 p.m.	<b>17</b> The KNIGHT TIMES is published on our school website	<b>18</b> 4th / 5th graders recorder club	<b>19</b> 4A Prayer Service 10:30 8th Graders trip to Busch Gardens	<b>20</b>																																																																																																																
6th Grade overnight to Asheville																																																																																																																						
<b>21</b> Faith Development	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> School Board meets @ 7:00 p.m. in the Library	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 4th / 5th graders meet at 7:30 a.m. for Recorder Club; 1st Quarter ends	<b>26</b> NO SCHOOL- Carnival	<b>27</b> Parish Pride Day through 11:30 a.m. First Communion Retreat Day																																																																																																																
<b>28</b> Faith Development	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Report Cards go home	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">September</th> <th colspan="7">November</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			September							November							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1						1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	30													
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