



The Knight Times

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

Vol. 5 No. 5, November 1, 2006

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

Chapel Hill, NC



Established in 1954

Accredited through Southern Association of Colleges and Schools



Dear Parents,

Sister is recuperating from back surgery and so I am writing to you at her request.

We want to thank all the individuals who helped Sally Trauco organize a successful Halloween Carnival. The event was well attended in spite of the rainy weather.

We are gearing up for our fall conferences. Report card envelopes on Friday will contain conference times for students in grades 1-6. Seventh and eighth grade parents have already been notified of conference procedures for their child. Please do your best to arrive on time.

The sign-up sheets for the annual Orange County Thanksgiving Food Drive will be in each classroom during conferences. Please plan to contribute food to this annual service project. Your annual contributions provide food for 40 families.

The STM Scholastic Book Fair opens tomorrow evening with a wine and cheese social for adults only. This event begins at 6:30 p.m. The Book Fair runs on school days through Monday, November 13 at 2:30 p.m. Please come join us as we enter the Reading Rain Forest!

Since we do not have a Mass this Friday, we will celebrate our monthly Mission Day on November 10.

Please continue to keep Sister Catherine in your prayers as she recovers from her surgery.

Sincerely,
Judy Foster
Administrative Assistant



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

Uniform Resale

Now that the cooler weather has arrived...can old man winter be far behind? Come to the next **Uniform Resale on Thursday, November 9 from 11:30-1:30** to stock up on warmer uniforms and shop at the Scholastic Book Fair afterwards. Please bring any gently worn uniform donations to the lower school office. If you can help with this sale or have any questions please contact *Jean Pearce* at 919.350.0529 or jpearce@wakemed.org. As always, thank you for supporting the HSA.



Yearbook News

Book and ad sales for *The Shield* continue through Wednesday, November 15, 2006. **Be on the lookout for those order forms!** While there are 133 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 15, 2006** to ensure that your family receives its yearbook(s).



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 can be accessed at <https://portal.jostens.com/login.asp>; the user id is 1101439 and the password is shield07. **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!

ONE CAMPAIGN

For The Catholic Community of Saint Thomas More



We're closing in on achieving our goal! As of October 26th, the Saint Thomas More School ONE Campaign reached 62% of its participations goal! I know the kids enjoyed the Dress Down Day. We have reached 64% of our 1M goal!

We thank everyone who has helped -- parents, children, grandparents, families, friends -- each and everyone who has made a contribution. ***You are awesome!***

We invite those who have not yet pledged to pray, reflect on what Saint Thomas More School means to you, and decide on your sacrificial gift. Our ONE Campaign has only a few more weeks to go. Please send your pledge in by Friday, November 17, 2006.

Thank You for Your Generous Support



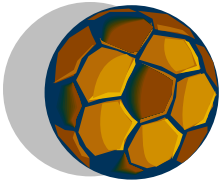
HOLIDAY SHOPPE

Mark your calendars for the 3rd annual "Holiday Shoppe" fine art and craft show on **Saturday, December 2 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** in the school gym. This is a wonderful fundraiser for the school and a great way to show our community spirit.

We need you! Are you (or someone you know) a crafter and/or artisan? If so, rent a booth for only \$40 (tables are provided). Contact **Joanne Vance** at 490-8493 or e-mail jvance@nc.rr.com for an application. The deadline to apply for "Holiday Shoppe" is **Friday, November 10.**

We need your craft donations! Do you like to craft and don't want to rent a booth of your own? If so, please consider donating your handcrafted item to "Holiday Shoppe." This year we will feature a booth showcasing (and selling!) fine art and hand-crafts donated from the STM community. For more information, please contact **Cathy Elmore** at 493-4157 or e-mail celmore@nc.rr.com. Deadline for donated craft items is **Wednesday, November 29.**

We need you (again!) We need volunteers to staff "Holiday Shoppe." We need help with set-up, tear-down, and to work the raffle table, STM craft table and more. Call **Joanne Vance** at 490-8493 or **Cathy Elmore** at 493-4157 if you would like to help with this fun and rewarding event.



**Whose game is it anyway?
A guide to helping your child get the most from sports.**

R. Ginsburg, S. Durant, A. Baltzell
Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, NY, 2006

Enjoy the moment and enjoy your kids. That's what life and sports are all about!

Loving presence of parents is the foundation for children to become emotionally healthy people.

When your child is 21, what kind of person do you want him or her to be?

What role will sports play in your child's future development?

Child's capacity for dealing with other people is the single most important aspect of growth.

Helping children understand that they are worthy people whether they play sports or not may be parents' most important task.

- ◆ Participation in sports forms a crucial learning experience while it enhances a child's social, physical and emotional health.
- ◆ Organized sports give children the opportunity to face challenges that will help them learn important lessons in life.
- ◆ Children who have fun and enjoy sports are more likely to have a productive experience.
- ◆ Accurate praise (5:1 praise vs criticism) not just for good plays or successful outcomes, but for virtuous behavior will build skillful, confident, coachable team-oriented kids.
- ◆ Good character is painstakingly built through relationships. No one activity or sport magically confers the reward of good character. Sports don't build character - people do!
- ◆ Too much emphasis on any single aspect of a child's life can cause instability.
- ◆ It is children's job to play, learn and take delight as their abilities increase. Confidence comes from increased mastery of a task.

Age 1-5: Safety and the joy of movement

Competitive sports should not be a requirement for a 5 yr old; unwillingness to try new things will not last throughout childhood; goal should be to make memories of physical activities as happy as possible;

Age 6-12: Building competencies, exploring interests and making friends

Parents and coaches frequently demand a performance level in children that they are not capable of producing.

Avoiding specialization in a single activity or sport is wise during elementary school years.

Key to success is the development of good habits, as opposed to winning or excellent individual outcomes.

Parents exercise their authority by setting clear, protective guidelines and consequences for straying from them.

Ages 13-18: Identity development, independence and achievement

Reward adolescents with more freedom and independence as they demonstrate the capacity to learn from mistakes. Adolescents need understanding, but they also count on parents to help maintain their confidence to keep trying. A sign of maturity in athletics is bouncing back from failure.



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Upcoming 6th-8th Grade Dance

Mark your calendars for the St Nicholas Dance on Friday, December 8 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. in the STM gym. Wear your holiday sparkles to this holiday dance!

If you have not already done so, be sure to purchase a DANCE PASS for \$10.00 before the next dance. A \$10.00 DANCE PASS grants admission to all upper school social dances for the equivalent of \$2.50 each. Dance admission will be \$4.00 at the door with no dance pass.

To purchase a dance pass please send a check made out to St Thomas More School via kidmail to: Nora Berendsen c/o Grayson Powell, Killian 7B. Your new pass will be mailed to your home.



November

- 1** All Saints Day Mass; 1:45 Dismissal
- 3** First Quarter Report Cards; NO MASS
- 6** Nov 6 - Nov 10 Scholastic Book Fair
Math Counts Members meet after school
- 7** BOB members meet after school
- 8** Picture retakes (in uniform)
- 9** Nov 9 - Nov 10 Conferences
11:30 Dismissal; Uniform Sale from 11:30-1:30
- 10** Mass and Mission Day; 11:30 Dismissal
- 11** Safe Environment Training from 9:30-12 in the gym
- 13** Math Counts Members meet after school
- 14** BOB members meet after school
H S A meets at 7:00 p.m.
- 17** Mass
- 20** Collect food for Orange County Social Services by 8:30
- 22** Nov 22 - Nov 24 Thanksgiving Break
- 27** Math Counts Members meet after school
- 28** BOB members meet after school
School Board meets at 7:00 p.m.

