

St. Thomas More School



Principal Newsletter - Week 12 - November 17 to 21, 2025

Important Dates

Thu, Nov 20 - Parent Teacher Interviews

Quick Links

St. Thomas More

<u>OCSB</u>

CSPA

OSTA

Parish Links:

St. Bernard Parish

Weekly Bulletin

613-738-1943

St. Thomas More is a



Scent Free School

STM is a scent-free environment. Be careful to avoid sending products with added scents with your child, especially scented hand sanitizers or scented products that are sprayed. Please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne when visiting our school.

Principal Message

Dear St. Thomas More Parent Community,

As we move into the heart of the fall season, we pause to reflect on the blessings and growth we have witnessed in our school community. The spirit of collaboration, rooted in our Catholic faith, remains our greatest strength as we walk this journey together.

I want to sincerely thank our entire teaching and support staff for their incredible dedication and hard work in preparing the recent **Progress Reports**. This process requires deep commitment, careful observation, and detailed reflection on each student's unique journey. Their professionalism ensures that these reports provide valuable insights into your child's learning process.

We are now greatly looking forward to **hosting you next week** for our Parent-Teacher Interviews. These conversations are vital because they solidify the partnership between home and school, which is essential for student success.

At St. Thomas More, our primary goal is to **build bridges of support**. In doing so, we aim to improve the well-being of every student, focusing equally on their **academic, personal, and spiritual growth**. By working together, sharing insights, and aligning our efforts, we ensure that every child feels known, valued, and empowered to reach their fullest God-given potential.

Mr Byrne

Informing the School of Absences and Early Sign-Out Times

A gentle reminder to parents and guardians to review the protocol for reporting absences and early sign-out times:

If your child will not be attending school for any reason, please call the school daily at **613-739-7131** and/or email Thomas.More@ocsb.ca. Parents are encouraged to cc the teacher on the email, but the primary point of contact should be the office. Oftentimes, the teacher may not see the email. Therefore, the office is the primary point of contact.

Additionally, please contact the office:

1) If you know in advance that your child will be away,

Products labelled
"fragrance-free" or
"unscented" are
acceptable. Thank you in
advance for your support
in keeping our students
and staff safe!

- 2) If your child will be leaving school early for any reason. Please inform the office as early as possible, preferably in the morning, so there is sufficient time to organize for the early transition.
- 3) If there is a change in the routine (ex, a different person picking your child up).

Messages can be left on our answering machine. Any child arriving after 8:35 am must be signed in by an adult, using the QR code (bring your device). This is an integral part of our attendance procedures to account for the safety of all children.

Please try to avoid picking up your children between 2:30 and 3:05 pm, as this is a prime transition time for students and the office is extremely busy.

Ottawa 67s Game Day

"He shoots, he scores!" The Ottawa 67's won, and the School Game Day was a success! The building was buzzing with energy and excitement! Our STM students had a ball! A special thank you to our staff, student teachers, and parent volunteers for making the outing possible for our students!

Anti-Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week 2025

During the week of Nov 17 to 21, STM will be holding an Anti-Bullying Awareness/Prevention Spirit Week. We encourage all of our Wolfpack members to join in! See the Anti-Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week 2025 for details.

La Vie Est Musique

On Thu, Nov 20th at 1:10 pm, STM is excited to present <u>La Vie Est Musique</u> for our students. Parents and families are welcome to attend, too. Duration is 45 minutes.

Progress Reports and Parent-Teacher Interviews Timeline

- Thu, Nov 13 Progress Reports are on Parent Portal
- Fri, Nov 14 Booking Parent-Teacher Interview opens at 8:00 am
- Tue, Nov 18 Booking for Parent Teacher Interviews at 12:00 pm
- Thu, Nov 20 Parent Teacher Interviews
- Use the STM Parent Teacher Interviews booking LINK

Parent-Teacher Interviews

When considering booking a parent-teacher interview, please keep in mind that there are limited spots and that a quick phone call with your child's educator may be sufficient for an update on the suggested next steps. Please consider your learner's demonstrated level of achievement before scheduling. Students who are progressing well or above expectations do not usually require a formal interview. Thank you in advance for your support!

School Council Updates

Our school council met on Tuesday, Nov 11, to discuss some upcoming events at STM to including:

 Pizza Day - If the buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, pizza day will be postponed to the next school day.

- Angel Tree Fundraiser Month of December Details to follow.
- Student Christmas Dance Dec 12, Blocks 3 and 4
- Christmas Spirit Week 15th to 19th (last week of school before Holiday Break.

More details to follow soon.

STM Choir Performing the National Anthem at the Ottawa 67s Hockey Game!

We are thrilled to announce an outstanding opportunity for our students! St. Thomas More School Choir has been invited to perform the National Anthem at an **Ottawa 67s OHL hockey game**. The event details are as follows:

- Opponent: Ottawa 67s vs. Peterborough Petes.
- Date: Sunday, January 18, 2026.
- **Time:** The game starts at **3:00 PM** at The Arena at TD Place.
- **Deposit:** The school has a deposit for the Anthem performance, which includes 100 tickets in Section 27.
- Family and friends are encouraged to attend and support our student performers.
- Stay tuned for details on the cost and how to purchase tickets in the new Principal Newsletter.
- For now, please save the date in your calendar.

Pat's Christmas Craft Fair

We are happy to share a festive invitation from our friends at **St. Patrick's High School** for their annual Christmas Craft Fair! This popular event is a wonderful community tradition that brings together families and supports student initiatives.

With over **100 local vendors**, festive activities like face painting, raffle prizes, and a canteen, it's a great opportunity to get a head start on your holiday shopping while supporting our shared school community.

We encourage you to join the fun!

Event Details

What: St. Pat's Christmas Craft FairWhen: Saturday, November 22, 2025

• **Time:** 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

• Where: St. Patrick's High School (2525 Alta Vista Drive)

• Admission: \$2 per person

Thank you for your continued partnership. We hope to see many of our families enjoying this event!

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Coming Up:

- Tue, Nov 18 Interview booking window closes
- Thu, Nov 20 Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 to 5:00; 5:40 to 7:30)
- Thu, Nov 20 Fr Rick Visit Grade 3s
- Mon, Dec 1 Anti-Bullying Magic Show
- Fri, Dec 5 PD Day
- Fri, Dec 12 Christmas Dance (blocks 3 and 4) Details to follow.
- Holiday Break Dec 22 to Jan 2 See <u>School Year Calendar</u>
- Jan 21 to 23 Luv to Groove Details to follow.
- Feb 11, 2026 Term 1 Report Cards
- Jun 19 Grade 6 Year-End Trip Details to follow.

Please visit us at stm.ocsb.ca for all school calendar events.



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