

ST. THOMAS

MORE

magazine

Oct. 2022 Vol. 7 Issue 2



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Kindergarten at Lee's Farm
Pumpkin Patch

SAVE THE DATE!
St. Thomas More's
48th Annual Spaghetti
Dinner is BACK!

Sunday
NOVEMBER 6th
4pm-7:30pm.

STM Gym



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair is BACK! The STM Library was transformed into a book store during the week of conferences. Students and parents shopped 'til they dropped all while raising money for STM! Thanks to everyone who shopped, donated books for teachers, and helped out. An extra BIG THANK YOU to our Book Fairies, Bethany Kelly and Desiree Keatley, for all their hard work to make this event a huge success!!!



HOPE.2022

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE EVERYDAY



Kindergarten will make bookmarks for Raleigh Hills Assisted Living. In addition, they will collaborate with Sugar Lump for Kindness to decorate sweet sugar lump stuffies filled with kindness messages for Friends of the Children.

1st graders will also make bookmarks for Raleigh Hills Assisted Living and collaborate with Sugar Lump for Kindness to decorate sweet sugar lump stuffies filled with kindness messages for Friends of the Children.

2nd graders are partnered with Rose Haven day shelter and community center. Students will be collecting donations for harvest food bags and hygiene items throughout the year.

3rd graders are partnered with Northwest Children's Outreach. Students will have the opportunity to sort and organize children's clothing and personal items for families in need.

4th graders will donate food and assemble lunches throughout the year for Transition Housing, a support program for non-parenting women who are at least 25 years old and experiencing homelessness as part of Catholic Charities of Oregon.

5th graders will decorate placemats and cards for Meals on Wheels, a non-profit dedicated to providing homebound people and seniors nutritional meals, friendly visit, and safety checks.

6th graders are partnered with The Neighborhood House, which offers innovative and high-quality education, anti-poverty and senior support services. Students will visit seniors, maybe learn a few dance steps, and help stock the food pantry.

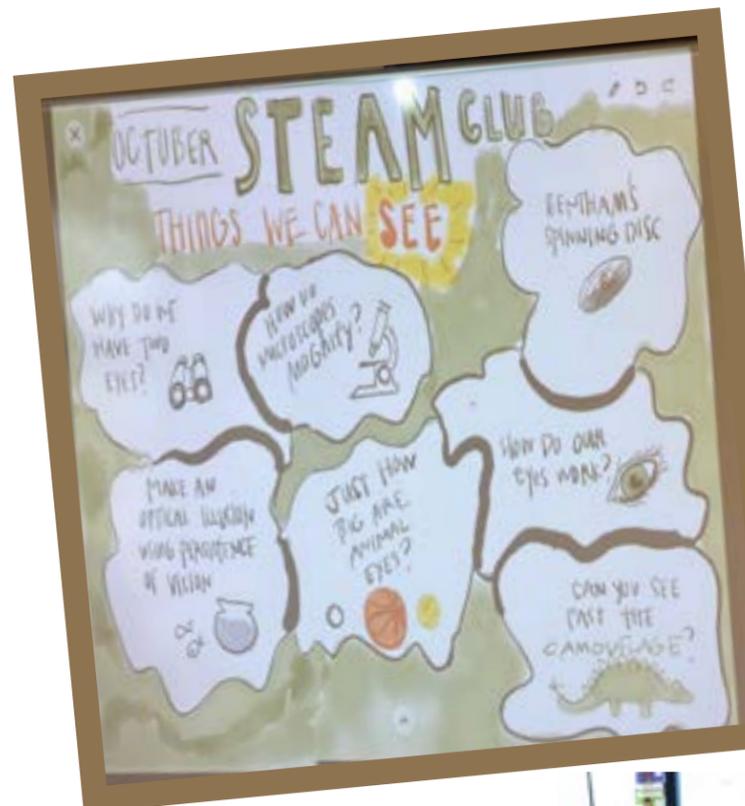
7th graders are partnered with the Eastside Learning Garden. Students will help grow, harvest, and organize nutritional produce for the Oregon Food Bank central sorting center.

8th graders are partnered with Bybee Lakes Hope Center, a transitional housing facility in the Wapato Correctional Facility to provide food to community members experiencing homelessness. Along with the Bybee Lakes project the 8th grade class will help with a supply drive for Rose Haven.

The **2nd Grade** creates recipes to go along with books they read. They read "The Runaway Pumpkin" and then made Jack-O'-Lantern Yogurt Parfaits. Students love the connection and the delicious treats!



By Ms. Simpson



MORE magazine

This month, **4th Grade** has been hard at work learning about energy. In this lesson we explored energy storage, release, and transfer by creating mini Rube Goldberg chain reaction machines. Students were challenged to create ramps, levers, and obstacles for their marbles to navigate, culminating in a sign flipping to reveal a hidden message



By Mrs. Powvalla

St. Thomas More's got Talent

update

ONE DRESS REHEARSAL:
Friday, November 18th
Time TBD morning

ONE SHOW:
Friday, November 18th
Time TBD afternoon

for more information bcooper@stmpdx.org

 **Teacher
FEATURE**



JENNY DERN

I am so excited to be returning for my second-year teaching at St. Thomas More School. I am Aunt Jenny to 3 nieces

and 1 nephew, who I love spending time with when they can fit me into their busy schedules of activities. During my summers, I try to visit a National Park. This past summer, I checked off my list The Olympic National Park in Washington. Growing up in Oregon, this is one place I have never visited and is such a beautiful part of the Pacific Northwest. I have yet to visit a National Park that was not beautiful.

I am blessed to spend my days with the students of first grade who bring such joy and excitement to all we do each day.



**CATHERINE
SCHUSTER**

I am the 8th grade homeroom and 7th/8th grade math teacher. In the years I've been at St. Thomas More,

I've taught a number of other things such as technology, 6th grade math, and religion. I attended STM from kindergarten through fifth grade, and it is awesome to continue to be a part of this community years later! I love to sing, play board games with family and friends, and visit new places. Some of my favorite places I've visited are Spain and Italy, and I hope to be able to visit both again some day!

KINDERGARTEN
ANNUAL TRIP TO LEE'S FARM



Washington D.C.

The **8th grade** got up early, packed their bags, and traveled with Mr. Molnar, Ms. Schuster, and a team of parents to Washington D.C. They spent a week surrounded by US history, soaking in the stories and monuments created to honor and inform them about our great past. The trip was a whirlwind of

fun, the students bonded, shared experiences and stories, and enjoyed themselves immensely. One of many highlights was the laying of a school-colored wreath at the base of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers. We are so lucky to have this opportunity to continue this great tradition!



By Mr. Molnar



Each fall the **second grades** reads "Owl at Home" by Arnold Lobel, a story about an Owl who lives alone but has many visitors.

The students write about the book and create beautiful artwork to demonstrate their understanding of what they've read.

By Ms. Simpson



An important part of our school community is our SLE's.
(School-wide Learning Exceptions)

A Graduate of St. Thomas More...
serves responsibly
treats other in a Christian
manner
makes learning a life-long
endeavor

This year we've added virtues to
help us better understand and
demonstrate each SLE.

Treats Others in a CHRISTIAN manner

demonstrates familiarity
with scripture and Catholic
Social Teaching
applies Christ's teachings
answers the Church's call
to social justice
resolves conflicts
peacefully
respects self and others

virtues

Humility
Honesty
Sincerity
Affability
Prudence
Loyalty



The **sixth graders** enjoyed beautiful weather at Camp Westwind on the Oregon coast during their week of outdoor school. This was the first year that Westwind was used as an outdoor school site, and we certainly hope it won't be the last.

Students started their adventure with a two mile hike into camp and then moved

into their cabins. Each day consisted of field studies (plants, animals, water, soil), recreation time which included beach hikes and archery, and we ended the night with campfire songs and skits.

Learning science in an outdoor environment is a true blessing and the students were able to let their personalities shine!



By Mrs. Bauman