

SAINT THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MAY 1, 2024

THEME: DON'T GIVE UP, DON'T GIVE IN, GET ON BOARD AND TRY AGAIN!

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/stmsparks242?mibextid=9R9pXO>

Website: st.cec.edu.bs

Alumni: <http://cboe.cec.edu.bs/alumni/reconnect/>



CONDOLENCES

Prayerful condolences are extended to members of staff, students and parents/guardians whose loved ones passed away recently. Please be assured of our prayers and support. May God continue to guide and protect your families as you go through these difficult times. May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

May is a month traditionally dedicated to honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary. Saint Thomas More School celebrates May as a “**Marian Month**” with popular devotions in honor of the Mother of God. This Marian month falls during the liturgical season of Easter which will end with the feast of Pentecost on **Sunday, May 19, 2024**. Pentecost celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Church.

The Crowning of Mary takes place on Monday, May 13, 2024 during the 8:30 a.m. assembly.



SAINT THOMAS MORE SCHOOL PHONE LINES

Please be advised that all of our phone lines are still not working. The following email addresses can be utilized to communicate with the school:

Principal	rmortimer@cec.edu.bs
Vice Principal	sferguson@cec.edu.bs
Secretary	wwoods@cec.edu.bs



SCHOOL FEES

School fees for the third term are now **PAST DUE**. Fees can be paid at the Royal Bank of Canada account (Online only) or the First Caribbean International Bank account (Online only). Payment plans should be up-to-date.

Students will not be allowed in school on Monday, May 6, 2024 until school fees are brought up-to-date.



SCHOOL FEE SCHEDULE (2023-2024)

The school fee and due date for the third term at Saint Thomas More School are as follows:

TERM	TUITION	SPECIAL FEES	TOTAL	DUE DATE
3 rd term (2023-2024) (K-6)	\$952.00	\$250.00	\$1,202.00	PAST DUE



CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

Credit Card payments can be made using TuitionPay.io. Please remember to submit a copy of the payment/notification to a school official after making the payment.

Fees that are not paid in full (partial payments) are automatically charged a finance fee of \$50.00 per term. This fee is already built into the monthly payment plan option.



BANKING INSTRUCTIONS

Please see instructions below on school fee payment options for persons who have online banking with FCIB or RBC.

FCIB School Fee payments:

Account Name: RCANB Special Catholic School Account

Bank Transit Number & Account Number: 09786 1126917 (Palmdale)

Account Type: Checking

RBC School Fee payments:

Account Name: RCANB Catholic Education Centre

Bank Transit Number & Account Number: 05745 2897445 (Palmdale)

Account Type: Checking

BANKS OTHER THAN FCIB OR RBC

***If you do not have online banking with FCIB or RBC then you should use your respective bank's internet banking OR mobile app to do a third party online transfer/interbank transfer to FCIB or RBC.**

Please send proof of your payment to amjohnson@cec.edu.bs, rmortimer@cec.edu.bs, wwoods@cec.edu.bs or sferguson@cec.edu.bs.



TUITION REFUND POLICY

The policy of the Catholic Board of Education regarding tuition refund is as follows:

If a student leaves **within 1 – 2 weeks** from the start of the term, the parent is entitled to **75% refund on tuition.**

If a student leaves **within 3 – 4 weeks** from the start of the term, the parent is entitled to **50% refund on tuition.**

If a student leaves **after 4 weeks** from the start of the term, there is **NO REFUND.**

***REGISTRATION, TESTING, CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE.**



LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH (SHADES OF PURPLE)

May is Lupus Awareness Month. Lupus is a chronic (long-term) disease that can cause inflammation (swelling) and pain in your body. It is an autoimmune disease, which means that the immune system, (the body’s system that usually fights infections), somehow attacks healthy tissue instead. This disease commonly affects the skin, joints and internal organs such as the kidney and the heart.

Saint Thomas More School would like to show support of Lupus Awareness Month. This Friday, May 3, 2024, scholars are encouraged to wear a purple shirt (shades of purple), long jeans (no holes) and tennis for \$2.00. Scholars who do not have a purple shirt can wear a **pink** or white shirt. Proceeds will be given to adults in our community who are dealing with this illness. **Please note that dressing up for this cause is not mandatory.**





ARCHDIOCESAN SPORTS COMPETITION

The inter-school track and field competition will be held on **Friday, May 10, 2024** at the old Thomas A. Robinson stadium. **Kindergarten and grade one students who are participating in the track meet along with all of the students of Grades 2 – 6 will assemble at 8:30 a.m. in their P.E. shirt (Navy blue), P. E. shorts and tennis.** Students may bring a packed lunch or purchase lunch at the venue. Students should be collected by **2:00 p.m.**

COME OUT AND CHEER ON THE SPARKS!

***Kindergarten and Grade one students should remain at home unless they are participating in sports day. They are invited to attend once they are accompanied by an adult.**



SPRING PRODUCTION

Saint Thomas More School’s Spring Production is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at Loyola Hall, Gladstone Road under the theme “Spring Into The Good News”.** It will begin promptly at **7:00 p.m.**

All participants are asked to be at the hall no later than 6:00 p.m. The evening promises to be a grand event and we do hope that you will join us. The cost of admission is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children (12 and under), which is payable at the entrance. School will be dismissed at NOON so that preparations can be made for the event. Please come out and support the production. Refreshments will be on sale.



STAFF MEETING

The monthly staff meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 3:10 p.m.** Please note that all after school clubs/activities will be cancelled. Students should be collected promptly at 3:00 p.m.



STAFF APPRECIATION

Staff Appreciation will be celebrated from **Monday, May 27, 2024 – Friday, May 31, 2024.** **Additional details will be forthcoming.**



G. L. A. T.

The Grade Level Assessment Test for Grades 3 and 6 is scheduled to take place on the following dates:

GRADE 3

Monday, May 13, 2024 –Thursday, May 16, 2024

GRADE 6

Monday, May 13, 2024 – Friday, May 17, 2024

***Students should be present and on time. Sharpened #2 pencils are required for these exams.**



FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Final examinations are fast approaching. The examination period should not be taken lightly. **Students with outstanding school fees will not be able to take final examinations.**

The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Archdiocesan Mathematics Examination Kindergarten – Grade 6

Thursday, May 23, 2024

Language Arts Final Examination Grade 6

Thursday, May 30, 2024

Language Arts Final Examination K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5



RULES AND REGULATIONS - HAIR

The policy handbook of Saint Thomas More School speaks about the hair of our scholars. **All** students must comply with the following rules and regulations:

GIRLS:

NO weave or hair extensions

NO hair beads or jewels

NO nail polish

NO hair coloring or dyes

***Braided hair is allowed but must be all natural – no shingles or locked styles!**

BOYS:

Traditional hair cut

Short and neatly trimmed

(No afros or braided hair, no locs, designs, faddish paths, dyes, tails or buds)

Hair length must be above the collar of the shirt

SCHOOL UNIFORM

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Students are to be dressed in complete uniform at all times. Girls are allowed to wear one pair of **KNOB** earrings and a watch. Hair extensions, nail polish, body piercings and tattoos are not allowed. The boys are allowed to wear only a watch. Boys are not allowed designs or plaits in their hair or earrings. No other jewelry is allowed.

Girls in Kindergarten to Grade 3 must wear jumpers with a wide flare skirt with the school's STM monogram on the upper left breast of the jumper, along with a white Peter Pan collar blouse.

Girls in Grades 4 - 6 must wear wide flare skirts with a navy blue belt. A white Peter Pan collar blouse with the school's STM monogram on the left pocket is to be worn.

Boys in Kindergarten to Grade 3 must wear navy blue dress pants (**short**), a black belt and a white cotton shirt with the STM monogram on the left pocket.

Boys in Grades 4 - 6 must wear a navy blue dress pants (**long**), a black belt and white cotton shirt with the STM monogram on the left pocket.

***ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR NAVY BLUE SOCKS AND BLACK SHOES WITH THE SCHOOL UNIFORM. White socks should be worn with the P.E. uniform. ALL STUDENTS SHOULD COME TO SCHOOL DRESSED IN THEIR P. E. ATTIRE FOR CLASS. P. E. KITS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE FOR \$30.00.**



SUMMER CAMP

All students from Kindergarten – Grade 5 are strongly encouraged to attend the summer camp program at Saint Thomas More School. **It will be held for four (4) weeks from June 24, 2024 - July 19, 2024, Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Language Arts, Writing, Mathematics and Science will be emphasized along with other activities. The brochure and application forms are available in the office.

The cost for the four (4) weeks of Summer Camp is \$360.00 which is due on or before Friday, June 21, 2024. **Weekly payments of \$100.00 are due on Mondays.**

Online payments can be made directly to the school fee account. Please remember to reference the child's name and indicate that the payment is for Summer School.

Please send screenshots of the payments to the following email addresses:

amjohnson@cec.edu.bs, rmortimer@cec.edu.bs, sferguson@cec.edu.bs or wwoods@cec.edu.bs.



SUMMER CAMP (BANKING INFORMATION)

RCANB Special Catholic School Account

Account Number: 1126917

Checking Account

Transit Number: 09786

First Caribbean Bank



PAYMENT PLANS

Parents who would like to remain on the payment plan for the **2024-2025** academic year and those who would like to join the payment plan should submit the request in writing to the principal by *Monday, May 27, 2024*.

Effective, Wednesday, May 8, 2024, parents may come to the school’s office to sign the payment plan contracts.



FRUIT, VEGETABLE AND WATER INITIATIVE

Saint Thomas More School continues with the fruit-vegetable-water initiative at break time. We are focusing on healthy food choices. Every student at break time is encouraged to eat fruits, vegetables and drink water. Other snacks can be eaten at lunch time. We look forward to your complete cooperation.



PARKING

The area on the side of the new hall (old church) has been designated as **TEACHER PARKING**. Parents/guardians should find other places to park in the mornings and in the afternoons. The lanes in front of the pavilion area are for dropping off only. **Please do not ignore the ‘NO PARKING SIGNS’.**

Parents should be considerate when driving on the school grounds and obey the parking rules. **DO NOT BLOCK THE ENTRANCE AND EXIT GATES.** We have a limited amount of parking spaces, so please limit your time on campus. Drop your child off and allow him/her to walk to their class. Please do not block the entrance of the rectory. Father Junior has to be able to move in and out freely, especially in the mornings and afternoons.

PROFILE OF THE BAHAMAS CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION GRADUATE

- *A Christian Leader*
- *An Academically Capable Person*
- *A Centered, Well Rounded Person*
- *A Loving Person*
- *A Lifelong Learner*
- *A Healthy Person*
- *An Environmentally Conscious Person*
- *A Financially Adept Person*



FUN DAY

Fun Day is scheduled for **Thursday, June 6, 2024**. Additional information will be forthcoming in a separate letter.



SICKNESS PROTOCOLS

- **Children with a fever, cough, runny nose or congestion are not allowed in school regardless of a possible history of allergies or asthma.**
- A child who is **off sick** for any reason should not return to school until he/she is free of all symptoms.
- **When a doctor's letter confirming that a child is fit to return to school has been requested, a copy of this letter must be reviewed by the school nurse before the child can be admitted to school.**
- **Students are encouraged to keep masks in their school bags as they will be needed if the scholar feels sick during school hours.**
- A child who comes to school sick or who develops symptoms during the school day will be seated on the bench near the office and a parent or guardian will be called to collect the child. The office has a clear view of the child sitting on the bench.
- Additionally, please be reminded that **children should not come to school with medication in their bags.** Only prescribed medication with a pharmacy label, the child's name and the dosage will be administered. This includes over the counter medication.
- All medical information is **private and confidential.**
- Feel free to email Nurse Hawkins at **ehawkins@cec.edu.bs.**



AFTER SCHOOL CARE

After school care runs from 3:00 p.m.– 5:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday. The facilitators are Mrs. Chea (tchea@cec.edu.bs) and Miss Philips (sphilips@cec.edu.bs). The cost is **\$10.00 per day**. After school care provides students with homework assistance for all subjects.

Persons who are not engaged in an afternoon activity will automatically be placed in after care at 3:30 p.m. and charged the daily rate.



MAY LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
		Chicken & Fries	Curry Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	PIZZA
6	7	8	9	10
Hamburger Sandwiches & Fries	Spaghetti & Meatballs	Sandwiches Noon Dismissal	Curry Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	PIZZA
13	14	15	16	17
Hamburger Sandwiches & Fries	Spaghetti & Meatballs	Chicken & Fries	Curry Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	PIZZA
20	21	22	23	24
Hamburger Sandwiches & Fries	Steamed Pork Chop, White Rice & Veg.	Nuggets & Fries	Curry Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	PIZZA
27	28	29	30	31
Hamburger Sandwiches & Fries	Steamed Pork Chop, White Rice & Veg.	Chicken & Fries	Curry Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	PIZZA

***HOT PATTIES AND SANDWICHES ARE SOLD DAILY!
Beef Patties (\$2.50); Chicken Patties (\$3.00); Sandwiches (\$2.50 and up)**



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY

RESPECT

- 3 **Lupus Awareness Day; Dress Up Day; \$2.00**
(Shades of Purple, long jeans & tennis)
- 8 **Spring Production; Loyola Hall (Noon Dismissal)**
- 12 **Mother's Day**
- 13-17 **G. L. A. T. (Grades 3 & 6)**
- 20 **WHIT MONDAY (Public Holiday)**
- 21 **School resumes at 8:30 a.m.**
- 22 **ARCHDIOCESAN MATHEMATICS EXAMINATIONS (K – 6)**
- 23 **Language Arts Final Examination (Grade 6)**
- 27-31 **STAFF APPRECIATION**
- 30 **Language Arts Final Examination (K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)**
- 30 **Mommy & Me Sip and Paint; 6:00 p.m. (School Hall)**
- 31 **Wheels Day**

JUNE

ENTHUSIASM

- 5 **EXODUS MASS (GRADE 6)**
School is closed for Kindergarten – Grade 5.)
- 6 **School resumes at 8:30 a.m. (FUN DAY)**
- 7 **SIR RANDOL FAWKES LABOUR DAY**
- 10 **School resumes at 8:30 a.m.**
- 12 **Father's Day Assembly; 10:00 a.m. (School Grounds)**
- 13 **Last day for Students (Distribution of Report Cards)**
- 16 **Father's Day**
- 22 **FEAST OF SAINT THOMAS MORE**
- 24 **Summer School begins: 8.30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**
\$360.00 (4 weeks); \$100.00 Weekly

JULY

- 19 **Summer School Ends**

