

SAINT THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

THEME: THE POWER OF A SPARK

(Strength, Passion, Achievement, Resilience, Kindness)

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmssparks/242?mibextid=LQQJ4d>

Website: st.cec.edu.bs

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



ADVENT

Advent reminds us to keep our minds fixed on Jesus. This will enable the promises of God to be fulfilled within us. There is a two-fold character to this season. First, it commemorates the advent of the Messiah even as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas. Second, it reminds us that we are in the advent of the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in glory. Advent reminds us that the time to be faithfully prepared is all the time. God continues to be Emmanuel. God is always with us. **Advent begins on Sunday, November 30, 2025.**



ORDINATION OF DEACON VINCENT MUNGAI

The Ordination of Mr. Vincent Mungai is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 3, 2025** at Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral. It will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Please keep Deacon Mungai in your prayers and plan to attend this joyous celebration.

Archdiocese of Nassau

The Most Rev.
Patrick C. Pinder, STD, CMG, KC*HS
ARCHBISHOP OF NASSAU

Joyfully Announces The

ORDINATION

Of

Rev. Mr. Vincent Mungai

To The Sacred

PRIESTHOOD

3 Wednesday
December, 2025
7:00 P.M.

St. Francis Xavier
Cathedral,
West Hill Street,
Nassau, The Bahamas



PRAYERS

Condolences are extended to members of our school family who lost loved ones recently. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



SCHOOL FEES

Second term fees are due on or before Monday, December 1, 2025. Payments can be made through the Royal Bank of Canada (Online only) or First Caribbean International Bank (Online only). **Credit Card payments can be made using Tuitionpay.io. Please remember to submit the proof of payment to the office. Effective immediately, students will not be allowed in school until fees are brought up-to-date. Payment plans should be current.**

The proof of payment can also be emailed to the following persons:

Ms. Andrea Johnson (Bursar)	amjohnson@cec.edu.bs
Ms. Judith Russell (Bursar)	jrussell@cec.edu.bs
Dr. Renee Mortimer (Principal)	rmortimer@cec.edu.bs
Mrs. Santiala Ferguson (Vice Principal)	sferguson@cec.edu.bs
Mrs. Winifred Woods (Secretary)	wwoods@cec.edu.bs



SCHOOL FEE SCHEDULE (2025-2026)

The school fee and due dates for the 2025 – 2026 academic school year at Saint Thomas More School are as follows:

TERM	TUITION	SPECIAL FEES	TOTAL	DUE DATE
2 nd term (2025-2026) (K to 5)	\$952.00	\$250.00	\$1,202.00	On or before December 1, 2025
2 nd term (2025-2026) (Gr. 6)	\$952.00	*\$325.00	\$1,277.00	On or before December 1, 2025
3 rd term (2025-2026) (K to 6)	\$952.00	\$250.00	\$1,202.00	On or before March 3, 2026

***Includes \$250.00 for special fees and \$75.00 for the graduation fee.**



BANKING INSTRUCTIONS

Please see instructions below on school fee payment options for persons who have online banking with First Caribbean International Bank (FCIB) or Royal Bank of Canada (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.**



TUITIONPAY.IO (CREDIT CARD PLATFORM FOR THE PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES)

INSTRUCTIONS

GO TO TUITIONPAY.IO

- Click on **Make a Payment** at the top
- Scroll all the way to the bottom

LOGIN TO PAY (For persons with Username & Password) – Follow further Instructions. This is for persons paying the actual school fee amount.

MAKE A PAYMENT (For persons without Username & Password) This is for persons making Annual or Partial Payments, Capital Development fees and more.

- **Fill in the “Complete Form”**
- **Select School** (St. Cecilia's – St. Thomas More – Xavier's etc.)
- **Invoice Number** (Insert 5 zeros!) This information can also be used for the Zip Code/P.O. Box)

NOTE: For student email, enter the students firstname.lastname@cec.edu.bs (Eg. jane.doe@cec.edu.bs)

SELECT TERM:

- First (**June 30th**)
- Second Term (**December 1st**)
- Third Term (**March 2nd**)

SELECT GRADE (The student's current grade should be selected.)

SECOND PAGE – Fill in Parent Information

THIRD PAGE – Enter Credit/Debit Card Information

SUBMIT

For more information, please see the FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) or check the website at cboe@cec.edu.bs for updates.



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.**



HARVEST/THANKSGIVING

Saint Thomas More School will celebrate Harvest on **Thursday, November 27, 2025**. Each child has been asked to donate at least **two (2)** canned goods/non-perishable items for the celebration. These items will be blessed by Father Junior Calixte at a designated time. **Additionally, all classes are responsible for decorating a large box which will hold the canned goods and non-perishable items.** The items will be given to those in need. **Students should begin bringing in canned goods immediately.** Please be as generous as your means will allow.



CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

Saint Thomas More School's Christmas Production is scheduled for **Thursday, December 4, 2025 at Loyola Hall, Gladstone Road under the theme "A Global Christmas Celebration"**! It will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. The classes involved in the Christmas Production are as follows: KC, KS, 1C, 2P, 3D, 4S, 5C, 6J, 6S.

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 \$15.00 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.



FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Students with outstanding school fees for term one will not be able to take final examinations. The schedule is as follows:

November 18	Writing Final Examination	Kindergarten – Grade 6
November 19	Language Arts Final Examination	Kindergarten – Grade 6
November 20	Mathematics Final Examination	Kindergarten – Grade 6



P. T. A. MEETING

Our second general **P. T. A.** meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the hall. The new pavilion and other important matters will be discussed. Please plan to attend!



CROCS & SOCKS DAY

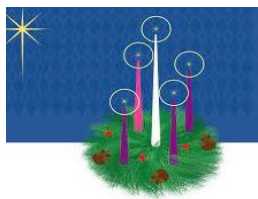
The Math Lab presents the Crocs and Socks day which will be held on **Thursday, November 27, 2025**. Students will wear their school uniform or P. E. uniform and add the crocs and socks for **\$4.00**. **All participants will receive a free jibbitz or wristband.** The proceeds will aid Numeracy Day and replacing the air condition units in the hall. Please note that Crocs and Socks day is not a mandatory activity. Interested scholars are encouraged to participate.



BASKETBALL SEASON

The playoffs will take place this **Friday, November 21, 2025 at Loyola Hall, Gladstone Road**. The games begin at 4:00 p.m. **Teams will play for 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th place.** The entrance fee is as follows: **\$5.00 (Adults); \$3.00 (Children under 12).** **Students going on the bus are asked to dress in their P. E. shirt, long jeans, and tennis.** The bus leaves the campus at 2:45 p.m. **The cost for taking the bus is \$5.00 (inclusive of entrance fee and transportation).** Parents should collect students from the hall by 7:30 p.m. **Consent forms are available in the office.** The basketball schedule for the boys and girls is as follows:

Friday, November 21, 2025	Playoffs (All Teams Play)
Tuesday, November 25, 2025	Championships (Game 1) (All Teams Play)
Thursday, November 27, 2025	Championships (Game 2) (All Teams Play)
Friday, November 28, 2025	Championships (Game 3) (All Teams Play (If Necessary))



ADVENT PARTY AND WHEELS DAY

Saint Thomas More School’s Advent party takes place on **Thursday, December 11, 2025**. Our scholars will wear shades of **purple, pink** or **white** in keeping with the Advent liturgical colors and bring along a **NEW** gift for those in need. Please note that Wheels Day is not a mandatory activity. Interested scholars are encouraged to participate

A list of suggested gift items are as follows:

SANDILANDS GERIATRIC HOSPITAL (ELDERLY)

Tams, blankets, socks, hand sanitizers

THE NAZARETH CENTRE (CHILDREN)

Shampoo, soap, comb and brush sets, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, children’s underpants (boxers/jockeys or girls’ underwear), undershirts (children’s sizes), socks hand sanitizers, towels, washcloths

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (FOX HILL)

Underwear (boxers/jockeys), undershirts (men’s sizes: small, medium and large), undergarments (women’s), shampoo, soap, deodorant, flat comb and brush sets (no tail combs), lotion, toothpaste, towels, washcloths, feminine sanitary napkins

Advent party details regarding food, games and treats will come directly from the classroom teacher. The cost for Wheels Day is \$5.00. Bikes, skates and scooters are acceptable. Please remember to bring your protective gear.



SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH RAFFLE

The Parish Community of Saint Thomas More Church held its Annual Raffle, Bazaar and Bingo on **Saturday, October 25, 2025 on the school grounds**. A special “**Thank You**” is extended to all parents/guardians, students, faculty and staff who supported this fundraising initiative. The raffle results are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Cleon Camegie | 2025 Chevrolet Groove |
| 2. Sheika Joseph | \$1,000.00 Grocery Voucher |
| 3. Richard Hackett | Round Trip for 2 to New York |
| 4. Tracie Fountain | \$500.00 Petrol Fuel Voucher |
| 5. 427-3674 GD | \$300 B. P. L. Voucher |
| 6. S S | 65’ Smart TV |

***All raffle books (sold and unsold) should be returned to the school’s office immediately. The school must be able to give an account for the books entrusted into their care.**



RAFFLE INCENTIVES

The incentives for the top three (3) sellers over fifty (50) books are as follows:

1 st Prize	Cayden Moss (2P)	\$700.00 School Fee Credit
2 nd Prize	Reno Lewis Jr. (2C)	\$600.00 School Fee Credit
3 rd Prize	Chloe Brathwaite Simmons (5H)	\$500.00 School Fee Credit



SECURITY MEASURES

- A security officer is posted on campus from **8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**, Monday through Friday.
- Please respect the authority of Mr. James Cepoudi who has been placed at Saint Thomas More School for your child’s safety.
- The area on the side of the 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 very few parking spaces, so please limit your time on campus. Drop your child off and allow him/her to walk to the class. Please do not block the entrance of the rectory. Father Junior must be able to move in and out freely, especially in the mornings and afternoons.
- Visitors on the campus of Saint Thomas More School are first asked to “**Sign in**” at the Security booth then proceed to the office.
- Parents who are collecting students ahead of dismissal must report to the school’s office to receive an early dismissal slip before proceeding to the classroom to collect the child.
- **Parents who are sending someone to pick up their child before dismissal must send an email to administrators giving authorization for such person to take the child. Authorization must be given before the child is taken from the premises of the school.**

- **Parents are strongly advised not to leave valuable possessions in their car at any time. It is important to be proactive and prevent incidences of theft occurring on our campus.**



FRUIT, VEGETABLE AND WATER INITIATIVE

Saint Thomas More School will continue 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 such as yogurt, fruit snacks and nuts can be eaten during the lunch period. We look forward to your complete cooperation.



COLD WEATHER

Please be advised that **buttoned-down navy-blue jackets or sweaters** should be worn during the cold season. ***Hooded sweaters and jackets are discouraged at Saint Thomas More School. Jackets (\$45.00) are available in the school's office in limited sizes.**



P. E. KITS

P. E. kits are available in the school's office. The cost is \$30.00 for the set.



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 becomes sick during school hours.**
- All medical information is **private and confidential.**



HEALTH ASSESSMENT

It is important for all scholars to be healthy in the school environment. Students should **remain at home** if they are exhibiting any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (Above 100.4° F)
- Sore Throat
- Headache
- Loss of Taste or Smell
- Persistent Cough
- Fatigue/Lethargy
- Shortness of Breath/Difficulty Breathing
- Body Aches/Pain
- Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea



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*



D. E. A. R. (DROP EVERYTHING AND READ)

Our students will **D**rop **E**verything **A**nd **R**ead from Tuesday – Friday between the hours of 8:45 a.m. – 8:55a.m. **There will be no movement on campus at this time.** Students are encouraged to have reading books available in their desks as well as in their school bags. Our members of staff will also read to our students over the P.A. system. We look forward to your complete support with our reading initiative.



OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Students should be collected **no later than 15 minutes** after dismissal unless they are engaged in a supervised after school activity. Please pick up our scholars on time.



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.** 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.** After school care provides students with homework assistance for all subjects.



POWERSCHOOL

The parent portal is closed during the examination period. The portal reopens on Monday, January 26, 2026.



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

***Students will not be allowed in class until the hair infractions have been corrected. Let us comply with the rules and regulations of the school.**



BIRTHDAYS

Parents should request permission from the classroom teacher to have cupcakes and/or party bags on the occasion of a child's birthday. Forms are available from the classroom teacher and the school's office. **A kind donation of a new storybook to the school's library is requested of students choosing to celebrate their birthdays at school.**

***NO MASCOTS! NO BALLOONS!**



CANS 4 KIDS

Saint Thomas More School has teamed up with **Cans 4 Kids** Bahamas. We are asking all families to get on board by saving your aluminum cans and bringing them to school. Let us help to keep our Bahamas clean and teach our children about the need to reduce, reuse and recycle. Your donations of cans should be communicated to the classroom teacher. Thank you for your support of this initiative.



MEDICATION

Only prescribed medication will be issued from the school's office. The medication should be sent in a Ziploc bag that is labelled and should have the correct dosage and spoon. The medicine should be collected at the end of the day. Over the counter medication without a proper label **will not be allowed** at school.



G. L. A. T. RESULTS

G. L. A. T. results for the year 2025 are now available in the school's office between the hours of **8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** Parents/guardians will sign for the results.



CHERYL'S KITCHEN

The breakfast and lunch program have been outsourced to Mrs. Cheryl Ford Major and her team. All matters dealing with breakfast, lunch and snacks should be addressed in the kitchen. Breakfast is served from 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. at a cost of **\$3.00**. Tuna, sausage, mackerel, corned beef, grits and pancakes will be offered. Eggs are available upon request. **Parents are allowed to purchase breakfast from the kitchen.** Lunch orders are taken during the homeroom period.

Students who arrive late and wish to order lunch should proceed to the kitchen to place their orders.



NOVEMBER LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
17	18	19	20	21
Cheeseburger or Hot Dog & Fries	Steamed Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	Nuggets & Fries	Curry Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	Pizza
24	25	26	27	28
Spaghetti & Meat Sauce	BBQ Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	Chicken & Fries	Curry Chicken, White Rice & Veg.	Pizza

FAST FOOD LUNCHES SUCH AS MCDONALD'S, WENDY'S, KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN, SUBWAY, BURGER KING AND THE LIKE ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE SCHOOL'S CAMPUS.

COOKED FOOD SHOULD NOT BE BROUGHT ONTO THE CAMPUS.

Please note that there will be no warming of food. Students can purchase hot lunches from the kitchen, bring a packed lunch or utilize a thermos for hot meals.





IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER

APPRECIATION

- 18 Writing Final Examination
- 19 Language Arts Final Examination
- 20 Mathematics Final Examination
- 20 World Children’s Day
- 21 Basketball Playoffs; Loyola Hall, Gladstone Road; 4:00 p.m.
- 22 FEAST OF ST. CECILIA
- 23 FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING
- 25 Basketball Championships Begin at Loyola Hall
- 27 THANKSGIVING/HARVEST SERVICE; 9:00 a.m.
- 27 CROCS & SOCKS DAY; \$4.00 (Free Jibbitz or Wristband)
- 30 First Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER

KINDNESS

- 1 WORLD AIDS DAY
- 1 First Day of Second Term - School Fees are due.
(K-5, \$1,202.00; Grade 6 \$1,277.00)
- 3 FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
- 3 Ordination to the Priesthood (Deacon Vincent Mungai);
7:00 p.m. – Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral
- 4 Christmas Production; Loyola Hall (NOON DISMISSAL)
- 7 Second Sunday of Advent
- 8 FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- 8 MARY STAR OF THE SEA FEAST DAY
- 9 Spelling Eliminations (Top Five); 9:00 a.m. (Hall)
(Dress in Yellow, Black or White)
- 11 ADVENT PARTY & WHEELS DAY (Donations to Charity)
- 12 Carol Service at 9:00 a.m./Christmas Vacation begins at
12:00 p.m.
- 12 Distribution of Report Cards; 9:00 a.m. – 12: 00 p.m.
- 14 Third Sunday of Advent
- 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
- 26 BOXING DAY HOLIDAY

JANUARY

PERSEVERANCE

- 1 NEW YEARS’S DAY HOLIDAY
- 2 Faculty & Staff Retreat
- 5 School resumes at 8:30 a.m.
- 5-30 Registration for Admission to Catholic Schools (Kindergarten)
- 12 Majority Rule Holiday (NO SCHOOL)
- 13 School Resumes at 8:30 a.m.
- 16 Grade Level Retreat (Grade 3)
- 19 Aquinas College Entrance Examination (Grade 6)
Parents should drop and collect their child.
- 24 Saint Francis de Sales Feast Day
- 27 59th Annual Archdiocesan Spelling Contest
- 28 Saint Thomas Aquinas Feast Day
- 29 59th Annual Archdiocesan Spelling Contest;
- 30 Saint Augustine’s Entrance Examination (Grade 6)
Parents should drop and collect their child.
- 25- 31 Catholic Schools’ Week