

# THE SAINT THOMAS MORE TIMES

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*For Indeed, the Kingdom of God is within you.*

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## Walkathon

The STM Walkathon happened recently, on the 11th of October. The Walkathon is a big yearly fundraiser in which people donate money to our school and the students and faculty walk around the school, play games, and have fun. Each Walkathon has a theme, and this year's theme was *Once Upon a Walkathon*.

At the rally, the Walkathon theme logo was revealed and the winner was McKayla O'Brien. Congratulations, McKayla! Our school's students played fairy-tale themed games. The walkathon took all afternoon and we walked around campus and down the block to Relevant Church. Afterwards, we played games in the parking lot. Each student got a cup of Rita's Italian Ice which we voted on before the Rally. The 2 winners were Blue Raspberry and Mango. There were many games, like corn hole and hula hoops to play. There was also a DJ that played music and many students enjoyed dancing. One student, Nicolo, from 8th grade, said, "It was emotional since it was the last one and it was fun", explaining how much he enjoyed the walkathon. The Walkathon is very important in keeping our school running and is a blast!

# Veteran's Day

STM had it's Veteran's day assembly on Friday, November 8th. Colonel David Wong spoke to the students and showed us a slideshow about his personal experience in the military. The overall poetry contest winner was Olivia Krzton, grade 6. She, along with the grade level poetry contest winners, read their poems at the assembly. Roger Arnold and Peter Kant performed Taps, and some of our 8th grade Boy Scouts presented and retired our flag. In all, 33 veterans attended the assembly. We are extremely thankful for all the sacrifices they made so that we could be free.



## Teacher Feature Officer Sabulsky

St. Thomas More School is proud to welcome a new member to the STM family. Officer Sabulsky is a resource officer for our school. He has been a police officer for 7 years. He enjoys being a police officer because he gets to help the community and others. When he is not on duty he enjoys spending time with his daughters and wife. Welcome to STM, Officer Sabulsky!



## STM Field Trips

### Ellis Island, 5th Grade New York Trip

The fifth grade class explored the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island in New York on October 10th. Together they learned about a variety of history just from a small chunk of the Big Apple. Mr. Swider and Mrs. Swider were just two of the chaperones that enjoyed this trip as well as the children. Unfortunately, they were unable to make it to the Statue of Liberty but they really enjoyed Ellis Island. I am sure that anyone who got to the Statue of Liberty had a great time. Students learned new facts about the hospital at Ellis Island that held immigrant patients. It kept windows open everyday all day during every season. This happened to reduce the germs coming in and out of the hospital. They also learned that another efficient solution to keeping out bacteria and germs was to construct the building with no ninety degree walls or ceilings. We hope all of the fifth graders had a wonderful time as well. Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Swider for being a fun addition to St. Thomas More Times.



### Jacobsburg 8th Grade Field Trip

On Wednesday October 9th, the 8th grade class went to visit Bushkill Creek in Jacobsburg. They rotated between 3 stations: chemistry, physics, and biology. In the chemistry station, they collected water samples from the creek and tested it for things like PH, oxygen level, and calcium level. In the physics station, the 8th grade class measured the width of the river in a 5-meter sample area. They measured the depth and speed of the water. In the final station, the biology station, the 8th graders used a net in the creek to collect animals. They then classified the animals living to know if the creek is healthy or not. It was! We hope they had fun!

## Pumpkin Patch Field Trip

On Wednesday October 9th, the Pre-k and Preschool students went on a very fun trip to the Savidge Farms. At Savidge Farms they had towering corn stalks and there were some barns scattered around the farm. The students had lots of fun picking out pumpkins, climbing a very big green tire, and also playing on a playground made from a real old tractor! When they were at Savidge Farms they also watched a movie that explained to them how pumpkins were grown in the fields. The reason for this trip was to teach the students the process of growing pumpkins. The Pre-k and Preschool teachers set up this amazing field trip for the younger students. Fun was had by everyone.

## 7th Grade Padre Pio Field Trip

On October 10th, the 7th grade went to the National Centre for Padre Pio Shrine, where they learned about St. Padre Pio, Blessed Carlo Acutis, and the Eucharistic Miracles exhibit created by the soon-to-be saint Carlo Acutis. There was a museum on Saint Padre Pio's life and later in the day the students played on the large fields on the property. When asked what he enjoyed most, a student answered "praying the rosary together", which the 7th did do, in the presence of one of Padre Pio's gloves! At the end of the trip they were blessed by a priest with that glove. Overall it sounds like an awesome field trip.



## Seiple Farms

The 2nd graders went to Seiple Farms to pick pumpkins before Halloween in October. First, they went to a petting zoo inside a barn. They had a lot of fun petting the chickens and goats. Then, they took a hay ride to the pumpkin patch to pick their pumpkins. Everyone got their pumpkins and hopped on the hay ride back to the barn. Over all, it sounds like a lot of fun!



# Fall Happenings



## Fire Prevention at STM

On October 10th, the Western Salisbury Firefighters visited Kindergarten through Fourth grade to talk about fire prevention. Chief Wells taught the kids about smoke detectors and other fire prevention tools. They also went over the equipment on the fire truck which looked like fun! After Chief Wells finished, all the kids got either a coloring page or activity book to grow their knowledge. We hope you all enjoyed the presentation!

## Halloween Time

It is Halloween time at STM! The middle schoolers had their annual Halloween Party on October 18th. There was dancing, games, food and more. At the dance, the middle schoolers raised over a hundred dollars for Hurricane Relief which went to areas that were affected by the recent natural disasters. Our younger grades had a Halloween parade. Grades K-2 went around the STM parking lot showing off their magnificent costumes while 3-8th grades and parents watched and cheered them on. The teachers enjoyed showing off their costumes as everyone cheered at whose was the best. We hope everyone had a happy, safe, and spooky Halloween!



## Book review: The Wild Robot

The Wild Robot is an elementary grade book written by Peter Brown. This book is engaging and you will feel a bond with the characters. It is about a robot named Roz who tries to adjust to her environment after being shipwrecked on a deserted island. She meets many friends along her journey. However, Roz might not be safe after all. Read the book to find out! The second graders who read it all said that it was a great book and they really liked it. They also said that they would recommend reading it, so pick up a copy today! It is available in the STM library, or in many stores worldwide.



The 2nd graders went on a fun field trip to see the movie "The Wild Robot" after reading the book in class together. Most students agreed the movie was good, but the book was much better!

Be sure to check it out!

### Spelling Bee

The District 2 Spelling Bee was hosted at St. Ann's Emmaus on October 20. At the Spelling Bee, STM was represented by Addison Chyu in 6th grade, Jack Kloiber in 7th grade and Micheal Bigush in 8th grade. Jack and Addison then moved on to the Allentown Diocesan Spelling Bee on November 10th at St. Peter and Paul Church. Jack Kloiber won second place at the Diocesan Spelling Bee! Congrats to all of the contestants at the Spelling Bee!



### This Month in History

#### November

- November 1 is All Saints' Day where we celebrate all the saints who don't have a feast day.
- On November 11, 1918, the 'War to End All Wars' ends, known in Europe and other countries as Armistice Day, but we call it Veteran's Day.
- On November 19, 1860, Abraham Lincoln, gave the famous Gettysburg address at the Gettysburg Cemetery 4 months after the battle.
- On November 25, 1863, the decisive battle of Chattanooga was fought in Tennessee where the Union captured a key Confederate supply railroad.
- On November 27, 1895, Alfred Nobel finalized his will, creating the Nobel Prizes when he dies.
- On November 30, 1874, Winston Churchill, England's prime minister during WWII, is born.

## The Rosary Month of October

During the month of October and May we celebrate Mary, Our Mother in Heaven and all she did for us. The rosary is a blessed symbol of Mary. It has five decades and has fifty-nine beads in all. The rosary is meant to bring us closer to understanding Mary. One class in eighth grade walked over to church during their Religion period to help the Kindergartners say the rosary. Thank you to them for helping others grow closer to God.

# STM Sports and the World Series

## STM Soccer

The STM Boys U14 played a long, hard season. Their record is as follows: Win 1, Draw 1, Loss 8. They finished the season bottom of the league. They did, however, finish 3rd in their tournament. Their team includes 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Their practices took place on Mondays and Thursdays, from August to November. The STM Boys U11 soccer team has a winning season, with their record being Win 6, Draw 0, Loss 3. Their players were 4th and 5th graders, with weekly practices on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

All players worked hard to earn their place in the team. We are so proud of them!

## Volleyball and Cross Country

The STM Volleyball and Cross Country Seasons have recently ended. The STM Cross Country and Track Team did very well, with many students medaling throughout the grades. The 7th and 8th grade Girls' Varsity Black Volleyball team had a great season, placing first in District Playoffs and winning the Diocesan Championship!

The 5th and 6th Grade volleyball teams worked and played a successful season, we are very proud of them. We commend all student athletes for their dedication and hard work

To the left: The Girls Varsity Black Volleyball championship team.



# MLB World Series

The 2024 MLB season ended recently on the last day of September. The MLB Playoffs bracket was set then and started on October 1st. In the wildcard round, which is a 3 game series, the Detroit Tigers beat the Houston Astros in 2 games with a sweep in the 1st American League, or AL, wildcard series. In the 2nd AL Wildcard, the Kansas City Royals also swept the Baltimore Orioles to move on. The in NL, or National League, the New York Mets beat the Milwaukee Brewers in 3 games and the San Diego Padres swept the Atlanta Braves. The next AL round, or AL division series, is a 5 game series. The Yankees beat the Royals in 4 games and the Guardians beat the Tigers in 5 games to both move on to the ALCS, one series away from the World Series. On the NL side, The Padres fell to the one-seed Dodgers in 5 games and the Mets upset the 2-seed Phillies in 4 games. Back to the AL, The Yankees won the first 2 games of the AL Championship Series, and though the Guardians won game 3, the Yankees would win the next 2 games to win the series in only 5 games. In the NLCS, the Mets and Dodgers split the series 1-1 after the first 2 games, but the Dodgers would win the next 2 to go up 3-1. The Mets would take game 5, but the Dodgers would hold on in game 6 to win the series 4-2. The 2024 World Series kicked-off between the Yankees and Dodgers. The Dodgers won the first 3 games, but the Yankees won game 4. The Yankees were up by 5 runs in game 5 but the Dodgers came back to win 7 - 6 winning the 2024 World Series.





## Country Quick Facts

### Canada

Oh, Canada! Our neighbor to the north, Canada is probably most well known for ice hockey and maple syrup. And while Canada is certainly famous for these things, this picturesque country has so much more to offer. It is the second largest country in terms of area and one of its cities, Montreal, is the second largest internationally French speaking city, behind Paris. Its capital is Ottawa, Ontario, and it has the largest continual coast line in the world. Finally, the fact everyone was waiting for, Canada's national sport is ice hockey.



### World Events: The Summer Olympics

Over the summer our world held the 2024 Olympics in Paris, France. Many teams and countries competed against each other in various sports and activities. The total number of medals won was 329. The overall winner was the United States with a total of 126 medals throughout the sports. Simone Biles, an American gymnast, returned this past Olympics after being gone for four years. She came back strongly, receiving a silver medal. Let the games begin!



# Trimester Treats: Pumpkin Cake

## Cake ingredients:

- 2 cups (250g) all purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons of baking powder
- 1 teaspoon of baking soda
- 1 and 1/2 teaspoons of ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons of pumpkin pie spice (does not need to be homemade)
- 1 cup (240ml) of vegetable oil
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup (200g) of brown sugar
- 1/2 cup (100g) granulated sugar
- 1 (15 ounces) of canned pumpkin purée
- 1 and 1/2 teaspoons of pure vanilla extract

## Directions:

1. Preheat your oven to 350 Fahrenheit.
2. Whisk the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and pumpkin pie spice together in a large bowl and then set it aside.
3. Whisk the oil, eggs, brown sugar, granulated sugar, pumpkin, and vanilla extract together until combined. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and use a mixer or whisk until completely combined.
4. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and use your whisk or some tool to mix until completely combined.
5. Spread batter in a pan. Bake for 30-36 minutes. Baking times vary, so keep an eye on yours. The cake is done when a toothpick is inserted inside the center of the cake and comes out clean. If you find the top or edges of the cake is browning too quickly in the oven, cover it loosely with aluminum foil.
6. Remove the cake from the oven and set the entire pan on a rack. Allow to cool completely. After about 45 minutes, you might want to place the cake in the refrigerator to speed things up a little bit.
7. Make your **frosting**: In a large bowl using a whisk attachment, beat the cream cheese and butter together on high speed until smooth and creamy. Add the confectioners sugar, vanilla, and salt. Beat on low speed for 30 seconds, then switch to high speed and beat for 2 minutes. If you want the frosting a little thicker, add the extra 1/4 cup of confectioners sugar. Spread the frosting on the cooled cake. Refrigerate for 30 minutes before serving. This helps set the frosting and makes cutting easier.
8. Cover any leftover cake tightly and put it in the fridge for 5 days. Enjoy!



## Frosting ingredients:

- 8 oz. softened cream cheese
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 3 cups Confectioners Sugar
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 1/8 tsp salt

# Credits

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