



**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SCHOOL**

**624 DUBUQUE STREET**

**WEBSTER CITY, IA 50595**

**Volume 15 September 2023**

The school year has begun, and I decided to feature the STA staff in this newsletter. Hope this helps you get to know the persons a little better who spend quality time with your special kiddos. Happy Reading! Jeanne Hill, STA School Board President



**"Tidbits from Principal Theresa Schleisman"** – We are off and running! Big thanks to everyone who helped over the summer to make our school year start the best one ever!!

**Calendar Updates:**

September 4 – No school (Labor Day)

September 6 – First day of school for 3 yr. old Preschool

September 6 – Student Mass at 8:30 served by 5<sup>th</sup> Grade / Mass shirt orders due

September 8 – WC Homecoming 2023 (2 hour early dismissal)

September 11 – Patriot Day in honor of 9-11 Anniversary / students wear red, white & blue clothing

September 13 – Student Mass at 8:30 served by 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

September 17 – Fr. Anane's 25 Year Jubilee Celebration at 10:00 Mass followed by lasagna dinner

September 19 – School board meeting at 5:00 in Parish Center

September 20 – Student Mass at 8:30 served by 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

September 20 – Professional Development for Teachers (2 hour early dismissal)

September 22 – Picture Day



**Mission Statement:**

*St. Thomas Aquinas School serves Webster City and surrounding communities by offering a Preschool - 6th grade education. Our school incorporates faith and values through daily learning in a safe and nurturing environment. With support from parents and families, St. Thomas develops the spiritual, academic, physical and emotional growth of students who will be future leaders in our ever-changing world.*

**Vision Statement:**

*In a Christ-centered environment, St. Thomas empowers young people to build their personal foundation for lifelong learning, leadership and service to others.*

**“Current events from Teacher Kaeleen Stoneburner” – It rained a bit on the first day of school so we played Gaga ball in the gym. It was nice on the following Monday so we got to use the new Gaga Ball pit outside!**



**Fun photos from Kindergarten teacher, Miss Campbell and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade teacher, Mrs. Mitchell**



**Hello from Mrs. Reisetter: I am a returning staff member to St. Thomas as a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade religion teacher. I can feel the enthusiasm in the school for this year! We have an awesome "new look" in the building to go with some new faces. I have six grown children who live on both coasts and in between. This summer I traveled with a daughter-in-law and 3 granddaughters out to the Northern Pacific Coast and back to see my daughter. We saw many awe-inspiring things from oceans to mountains, waterfalls and deserts! Truly a trip of a lifetime!**



**From Mrs. Glenn: Wow, summer sure flew by, but I am so ready to get back into the classroom with my students for another great year of learning! This summer I had the privilege to attend a reading conference in Ames with Ms. Cobb, Mrs. Ricke, Mrs. Hayes, and Mrs. Schleisman. It was a great conference where I gathered a lot of great information! I was blessed to get to spend almost three whole weeks in North Dakota visiting my family. While there we went hiking, rode horses, went to the zoo, and had a lot of good quality time with family! I am blessed to be returning to St. Thomas for my fourth year and I am excited to help the students prosper and meet their goals!**



**Hi! My name is Mrs. Stoneburner. I am so excited to be your P.E. and Computer teacher this year! I've been teaching at this school for five years. I love being a teacher because I enjoy teaching skills and providing opportunities for practice. I am looking forward to this year. It's going to be great!**



**This summer I traveled to Gulf Shores, Alabama with my boyfriend's family. There we saw alligators, toured a battleship, went to the beach, and explored Fort Morgan. I also coached rec volleyball this summer in my hometown. Summer went by too fast, but I'm excited for a new year of growth with my students. – Miss Campbell**







Summer 2023 was a busy one. My husband, Harrison, and I got married at the beginning of June. A couple of days following our wedding we honeymooned in Jamaica. It was so much fun! That was my first time out of the country. The rest of my summer was spent going on walks with our dog, Milo and spending time with friends and family. The summer was filled with many memories and moments I will never forget. Looking forward to meeting my new 1<sup>st</sup> graders! Mrs. Hayes



Welcome back from Mrs. Pruisman (AKA Mindee): Here is some time spent enjoying laughs with the grandchildren, Ava and Henry, on our deck this summer!



Welcome back from Mrs. Hanus (AKA Lisa): one of my highlights from the summer was celebrating daughter Ally graduating from the Radiology Program at Iowa Central Community College with my husband and son!



Hi from Mrs. Schleisman: I had lots of fun with friends during our annual trip to PawPaw Michigan!!! My twin sister and two of our best friends since middle school enjoy one another's company as well as get caught up on our families and sharing old memories. Did some kayaking, shopping and laughing until it hurt! Blessed to have them in my life!!!

Hi from Lana Crawford: I just started at STA as the 3 yr. old preschool teacher and the 4 yr. old preschool teacher assistant. This is my 6<sup>th</sup> year teaching preschool! I spent the summer with my son Landon who is 17 years old & a senior this year & my daughter Payson who is 10 & a 5<sup>th</sup> grader. We went to Arkansas and Okoboji with family and spent most of our time living on the boat and loving the water!



Hi, I'm Melissa Gillette, the new general music teacher and string teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas. This summer, I mainly spent time gardening and visiting my family. Highlights included catching a Taylor Swift concert with my youngest daughter and touring the Iowa State Capitol building with my husband, oldest daughter, and her husband. We also spent some time visiting with my middle daughters who are in Minneapolis and Waverly.

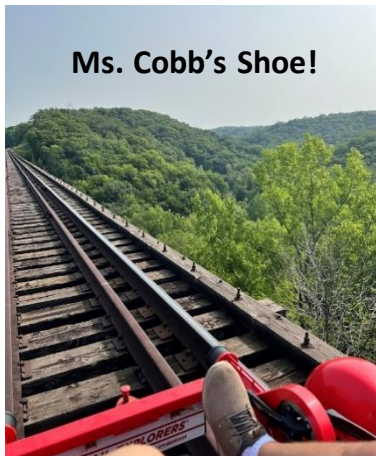


**READ! READ! READ!**

**Your Students Will Benefit!**



## Ms. Cobb's Shoe!



From Ms. Cobb: This summer I mostly worked on some bigger house cleaning projects and relaxing but I did get a chance to go on a couple of short trips. Over the July Fourth holiday my brother, aunt and I went on a trip to Indiana to visit my other brother and my cousin and his family. Then in August I took a short trip with friends to Mason City to tour the Music Man Museum and a Frank Lloyd Wright Hotel Museum. Both very interesting tours. One more fun day trip was to ride the rail cars in Boone! I would highly recommend this fun family day trip.

Hello from Mrs. Mitchell. I am the 2nd grade teacher and I am excited to begin my 4th year at St. Thomas Aquinas. My husband Ted and I have two children, Cameron and McKenna, and our dog, Rosie. We had a busy but fun summer spending time with family and friends. One highlight from our summer was a trip to Chicago and a visit to one of my favorite museums, The Art Institute of Chicago. Welcome back to school everyone!



Hi from Ms. Wagoner: My summer was great and went by in the blink of an eye! It started out with a trip to Mexico because my uncle got married! Once I got back from Mexico, my time was spent at the softball field. I coach JV softball for WCHS and I am an assistant for the Varsity team. It is always hot but I enjoy every minute of it. I am excited to be back and get the school year rolling! This year I will be teaching 4th grade.



From Mrs. Smith (AKA Sharon): I am returning to STA for my 33rd year as school secretary / bookkeeper. I have watched St. Thomas School just get better and better over the years with wonderful renovations, updates, great staff additions, etc.

This summer I did work a few days each week at school (boy is it quiet with no students or teachers). My husband, Curt and I did some camping at the Ledges and of course Briggs Woods. We will do more once the weather is cooler. We also spent time with our kids and our grandson Matthew, and our 2 Foster Grandsons (hope to drop the "Foster" part of that soon). A big highlight was getting together with ten gals I graduated from high school with for a great afternoon of catching up! I also found time to do lots of reading and even some CrossStitching! It is good to be back! We know this will be a great year!



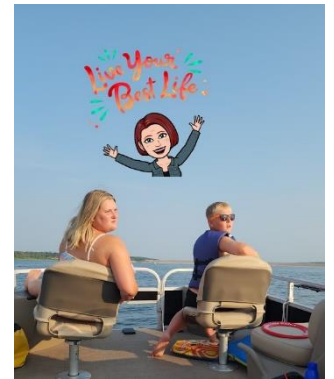
**"Loving to Learn" and "Learning to Love" all happening at St. Thomas Aquinas School!**





It's wonderful to be back for another fabulous year! I'm Mrs. Ricke, and this is my 7th year teaching third grade at St. Thomas! I live by Williams, have a husband named Ted, two children named Makiah age 21, and Reece age 17 and a senior at South Hamilton (he keeps us busy but especially during basketball and track season), a 6-month-old granddaughter Paisley, and two dogs, Sox and Pebbles! Some highlights from my summer included our granddaughter's baptism and Mrs. Hayes' wedding! I am so excited to be at St. Thomas! It is a blessing and a privilege to teach your children!

Hello from Kim Johnson: We went on a family vacation to Tennessee where we saw bears crossing the road in front of us. Went to lots of shops, had wonderful meals together, and did lots of different things. Enjoyed our trip so much that I would love to go back!



Hello from Randy Andrews: I have been working at STA school over the past 3 years as a substitute teacher and now have started working as a recess monitor. This summer started off with performances for high school graduation celebrations in Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois. My family, consisting of wife Katie and three daughters, also took day trips to Des Moines, Dubuque, and Cedar Rapids this summer enjoying quality family time together.

From Julie Irvin - So happy to be back with the preschoolers! This summer my family and I spent a lot of time on our pontoon boat. This included many days at Saylorville Lake and even a trip going down the Mississippi River. Being outdoors together is our favorite way to spend time!

