

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A weekly newsletter for the school community

Volume 5, Issue 17

January 12, 2017



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Kim Vangel

Dear St. Raphael School Families,

Happy New Year! We are back in the swing of things at school and looking forward to our second half of the school year. I hope that 2017 brings you many blessings.

Our next big event at St. Raphael School is actually a full week of events: Catholic Schools Week is a national celebration of Catholic Education, from January 29 - February 4, 2017. Here at St. Raphael we begin with our annual Open House on Sunday, January 29th following the 10am Mass. Our school building is open from 11am to 3pm, and we welcome current families as well as prospective families to come and tour the school. Registration begins on this day for all students, Preschool through 8th Grade - Remember that ALL STUDENTS MUST BE RE-REGISTERED EVERY SCHOOL YEAR - register early and don't risk being left out!

NOW is the time for you to talk with your neighbors, families, friends, co-workers, and acquaintances about the incredible Catholic education being offered at St. Raphael the Archangel School. YOU are our best marketing! Please encourage them to come to our Open House on Sunday, January 29th and see for themselves - All Are Welcome!

Catholic Schools Week is filled with numerous activities planned by our very own Student Council and Service Club, and we will keep you posted with those details as plans are solidified. However one VERY IMPORTANT day during Catholic Schools Week is **GRANDPARENTS DAY**. We celebrate our grandparents and grand-friends on Friday, February 3rd, so please mark your calendars now and pass along that date to your student's grandparents and grand-friends. The day will begin with 8am Mass and then an hour or two of special activities in school. Students typically leave school early with their guests, and everyone is dismissed at Noon. Watch for more information to come home soon!

Stay warm out there and please keep our students and teachers in your prayers.

Peace,
Kim Vangel



St. Raphael the Archangel PTA Seventh Annual Marcia Matreci Memorial Trivia Night

WHEN

Saturday, February 4, 2017

• Doors open at 6:30 PM

• Trivia starts at 7:00 PM

WHERE

St. Raphael the Archangel Gym

6000 Jamieson Avenue / St. Louis, MO 63109

An incredibly fun PTA fundraiser - reserve your table now!

ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICING

\$180/table (up to 8 people)

Includes 3 mulligans & 2 table games

Includes soda & snacks

Beer available for purchase or BYOB!

RESERVATIONS

Make checks payable to: SRA PTA

Complete bottom portion

Return bottom portion with payment to:

SRA Rectory

6047 Bishops Place

St. Louis, MO 63109

314.352.8100

Table Name: _____

Contact Name , Number, & Email: _____

Table Members: _____

Daily Mass Time:
8:00am Grades K - 8
Monday - Thursday

Benediction 2:00pm
First Friday of the
month

All School Mass
8:00am
January 19
Pro-Life Mass
8th Grade Planning



January

January Birthdays

Isabella Pfeiffer-12
Miss Amsler-13
Jameson Riley-14
Lucy Divis-17
Liam Fahy-24
Mitchell Jugo-25
Brody Oliver-25
Lucy Oliver-25
Michael Menendez-27
Hannah Trachsel-28
Joey Sweitzer-31
Mrs. Berns-31

July ½ Birthdays

Emma Wilson-12
Flynn Monahan-13
Owen May-15
Walter Niermann-15
William Niermann-15
Charlie Adams-19
Mrs. Runiewicz-14
Liberty Kocsis-15
Lucca LoBello-20
Aiden Stawizynski-22
Morgan Kiel-23
John Winkelmann-24
Hazel Dougherty-28
Miss Diane-28
Carter Teeter-30
Hanley Erdtmann-30
Mrs. Martin-31

- Jan. 13 – 2:00pm Geography Bee in Gym
 - Jan. 15 – 10:00am Family Mass & Donuts
 - Jan. 16 – NO SCHOOL K – 8 Preschool is open
 - Jan. 18 - 3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal in Church
 - Jan. 19 - 8:00am Pro-Life Mass
 - Jan. 23 – 3:15-5:00pm STEAM Club K-3
 - Jan. 24 – 3:15-5:00pm STEAM Club 4-8
 - Jan. 25-29 8th Grade Pro-Life Pilgrimage
 - Jan. 25 - 3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal in Church
 - Jan. 26 – 7:00-8:30pm Confirmation Parent & Student Meeting - Rectory
 - Jan. 29 – 10:00 Family Mass & 11:00-3:00 Open House – Catholic Schools Week Registration for 2017 - 2018 Scholastic Book Fair all week
 - Jan. 30 -3:15-5:00pm STEAM Club K-3
 - Jan. 31 - 2:00pm Spelling Bee in gym
 - Jan. 31 – 3:15-5:00pm STEAM Club 4-8
- Feb. 3 - Grandparent's Day**

Save the Date!

Father-Daughter Snowflake Dance
February 11, 2017
All girls K-8 at SRA are invited.
Invitations coming soon.
Sponsored by the Girl Scouts.



Seventh Graders are in charge of safety patrol at the corner of Bishops Place and Highfield. Students should arrive by 7:30 in the morning and again in the afternoon at 3:10.

Thank you! **3rd quarter patrol schedule:**

Week of January 16
Ardian H. & Billy M.
Anna M. & Hannah T.



RECESS/LUNCH DUTY

Want to spend an hour during the day helping out at recess or lunch duty at St. Raphael? We would love your assistance! The times of lunch and recess are as follows: 11:10am Preschool goes to lunch—11:15-11:40am (K-3) - 11:45-12:05pm Lunch (4-8). All volunteers must have completed their Protecting God's Children requirements. If you can help, please email Lori Stawizynski at loristaw76@yahoo.com

Monday, January 16 NO SCHOOL K-8 Preschool is open

Tuesday, January 17 Nicole R. & Stephanie K.

Wednesday, January 18 Missy W. & Patrick J.

Thursday, January 19 Jenny D.

Friday, January 20 Terri B. & Stacy Schicker



Mrs. Caroline Zarinelli:

Thanks to all the students for a fabulous performance in *Miracle On Jamieson!*

Also many thanks to the teachers for their unending support during rehearsal. Special thanks to Mrs. Runiewicz for being stage manager; Miss Schaaf for running backstage and stage right lighting; Mrs. Mechler, Mrs. Cierpiot, Mrs. Gewinner, and Mrs. Martin for costuming; Mr. Bob and Mr. Josh for setting up the gym and assisting with set; PTA for providing the magical theatrical lighting; and the amazing Mrs. Vangel for running lighting. It takes a village!!

Recess Update – Angela Cierpiot

Happy New Year!! A huge thank you to our PTA for their donation for our new Pop-up soccer goals! This new equipment is a great addition to our recess program! #SRA Strong. See you at recess.



STUCO

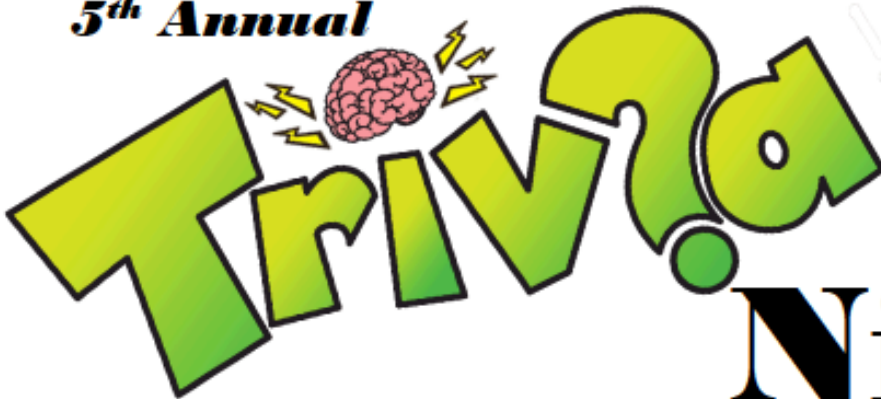
January 4th - 27th - Winter Wonderwear! Please gather all your gently used coats, hats, scarves and mittens and bring them to school for Winter Wonderwear.

St. Patrick's Center is particularly in need of new underwear and gently used or new socks. Thanks!



St. Mary's High School

5th Annual



6th-8th Grade

**Boys
&
Girls**

Night

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017

6:30 P.M.-8:30 P.M.

St. Mary's High School Cafeteria

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.

\$2.⁰⁰ per student or table of 8 for \$15.⁰⁰

6th-8th Grade Boys & Girls Welcome!

St. Mary's High School invites you to our Fifth Annual Trivia Night for 6th-8th grade students. Come enjoy a night of trivia and games with your friends. Drinks and light snacks provided with a pizza delivery later in the evening. Participants are welcome to bring their own food.

NOTE: Parents are asked to come into the cafeteria to pick up their son or daughter at 8:30 p.m. **Students will NOT be allowed to leave the cafeteria without a parent.**

In the event of inclement weather, please visit our website for additional details.

**For more information or to
RSVP contact Katie Albin,
Director of Admissions, at
314-481-8400 x110 or
admissions@stmaryshs.com.**

www.stmaryshs.com



ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL
on the West J. Bormann Campus

Mrs. Diane Gewinner: Learning Consultant

THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING HANDWRITING

By: Louise Spear-Swerling

After a long period of neglect in education, attention to teaching handwriting in the primary grades may finally be returning. This attention can benefit many youngsters, including those with learning disabilities involving handwriting, which may accompany reading disabilities, writing disabilities, nonverbal learning disabilities, and attention deficit disorder.

Although word processing programs and assistive technology are undeniably boons to children with writing problems, technological advances do not eliminate the need for explicit teaching of handwriting. Furthermore, very modest amounts of instructional time in the earliest grades - kindergarten and grade one - may help to prevent later writing difficulties for many children.

Handwriting is important for many reasons. It is a basic tool in many subjects, therefore, poor handwriting can have a pervasive effect on school performance. Handwriting in the earliest grades is linked to basic reading and spelling achievement.

Here are a few ways you can encourage handwriting skills:

- Use a continuous stroke when possible.
- Focus on motor patterns rather than perfect legibility or size.
- Separate reversible letters such as b and d.
- Whether the student is using manuscript or cursive, speed should not be emphasized.
- Speed and legibility will eventually be developed efficiently for tasks such as note and test taking.

Mrs. Peggy Martin: Physical Education & Art Grades Pk-3

In PE we are playing hockey in all the Early Childhood grades.

February is National heart ♥☐ Month. We will be doing Jump Rope for Heart.



Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education—Grades 4-8

I hope all the students enjoyed their holiday break and wish everyone a Happy New Year. The students for the next few weeks will be working on basketball skills. Skills will include dribbling, shooting, passing and small group basketball activities. I will introduce games that I hope the students will enjoy and make basketball a fun activity even for those that do not regularly play this sport. I'm very excited to be working with the Third Grade class this quarter and look forward to getting to know each student.



Mrs. Kim Westrich: Art

This quarter, students will be focusing on the Studio Habit Express. When artists use their art to communicate an idea, feeling or personal meaning they are expressing themselves in their art. Some classes discussed commonalities among humans that many artists use to give meaning to their art. These commonalities include work, using symbols, searching for purpose, seeking social bonds, connecting to nature and experiencing a life cycle. We also saw examples of artists conveying their ideas about these subjects in the art they created.

Miss Molly Preschool Room A

Hello to everyone and Happy New Year.

We are starting the New Year with a bang. We are beginning to learn our names and learning the alphabet. In the center area we have the alphabet swat game and matching alphabet Duplo blocks, sand writing and the alphabet center with pictures and the letters. The letter S is the letter we are working on and Dr. Seuss is the author of the week. They enjoy all the crazy rhyming words.

I would like to welcome two new students that have joined us for the rest of the year. First we have Amelia Boyd and then we have Owen May. They are both a great addition to the classroom and are a joy to have. Please say hi to the parents and make them feel welcome to our great SRA community.

Thank you and have a blessed day.



Miss Chris Preschool Room B

Happy New Year from the Bears! We were all happy and excited to get back to school and get back to having Oceans of fun. Speaking of Oceans...that is our theme this week as we learn about the letter O. We are turning our classroom into an Ocean exhibit with all of our projects we are making this week. It will be OUTSTANDING!



Kindergarten News: Miss Abby Morris & Mrs. Doyle

We hope you all had a blessed Christmas and wonderful New Year. Kindergarten has been working hard. We continue to learn about 3D shapes and created snowmen for our art projects. We learned about the Three Wise Men and went on a tour of the Church with Father Bob.

Have a great rest of your week,



First Grade News: Mrs. Louise Balicki-Smith

This week First Graders read Author, A True Story by Helen Lester. In the book, she shares her true struggles to become a writer, beginning in elementary school. This story helped us to understand better the process and challenges involved with writing. Our young authors then wrote a short and humorous tale based on a picture. These great authors learned about revising and editing. We edited a sample piece of work so that we could fine-tune our eyes to look for those mistakes! Now students are in the process of publishing their own work. Look for this work to come home next week.



Second Grade News: Miss Stephanie Amsler

This week Second Grade is learning about irregular plural nouns. We know these are nouns that don't follow the normal rules of becoming plural. We are also learning how to properly use sequence words in our writing. We are using sequence words when describing the life cycle of a plant in science. We are excited to get our own indoor plant on Friday so that we can chart the growth and development versus an outdoor plant.

In Math we are working with three-digit numbers. We know the place value of a three-digit number and can represent the numbers using base ten blocks. This will help us add two three-digit numbers when using regrouping.



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Happy New Year 2017! This semester Third Grade will be taking a P.E. class with Mr. Bruno on Wednesdays at 10:15. Third Grade has done a fine job thus far with all their leadership roles for the Early Childhood students. We put down the chairs every morning for lunches in the cafeteria. We help to take in classes after recess and lead students to their classrooms. We help in the restrooms as needed, giving reminders etc. We have kindly assisted in holding the school doors open to make entering easier. Our responsibility in these areas makes the SRA community run smoother. We will be taking our Chapter 3 Test in English on Verbs and Subtraction in Math this week.

Miss Patti Woods: Social Studies, Science, English (4-5)

In Fourth and Fifth Grades this week, we had our classroom Geography Bee and Spelling Bee. After many rounds of geography questions and spelling words, I was finally able to narrow it down to those going on to the school wide competitions. Congratulations to Fourth Graders Will, Henry, Mateo, Joey, and Alex for advancing to the Spelling Bee, with Chase as an alternate. Fourth Grade Geography Bee winners are Lydia and Henry, with Will as an alternate. The Fifth Grade Geography Bee winners are Tommy and Andrew, with John as an alternate. Those going on to the Spelling Bee competition are Tommy, Madalene, Lanie, Aiden, and Avery, with Rory as an alternate. Congratulations and good luck to all these boys and girls for all their hard work!

Miss Amanda Imo: Reading, Math (4-5)

Fifth Grade: The Fifth Graders are getting right back to work after a relaxing Christmas break. In Religion the Fifth Graders are learning about the Communion Rite. We discussed the importance of being able to receive Jesus and what occurs while that happens. The students also took the ACRE test. It is a test used as a religious education assessment tool used by Catholic schools. It serves as a tool for assessing the effectiveness of religious education and to summarize how well students have learned that basic teachings of the Catholic church. Our focus in Math is learning how to find the least common multiple and the greatest common factor. They also learned divisibility rules that will help them when reducing fractions. The students are getting excited about their Book Club books. Many predictions and comments about the books continue to fill classroom discussions.

Fourth Grade: The students have been working hard on learning how to estimate and divide larger numbers. We will continue to practice but already I have seen “the light bulb come on” for several students. In Reading the students read a short story about a fictional baseball game. We focused on technical words and how to summarize an event.

Mrs. Christy Connor: Social Studies & Religion (6-7-8)

Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 are reviewing simple subjects and predicates, compound subjects and predicates and compound/complex sentences.

Grade Six students are completing the unit about the Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas. They will soon begin their study of African empires.

Grade Seven students are learning about the Declaration of Independence and the American Revolution.

Grade Eight students have been working on activities concerning World War II in both Europe and the Pacific.

Mrs. Laura Berns: Science (6-7-8) Standard Math (6-7-8)
Miss Ashley Schaaf: Science (6-7-8) Challenge Math (6&7) Algebra 8

This week in Challenge Math...

6th grade is finishing up Chapter 4 over tables, graphs, and functions. They will take their test on Tuesday.

7th grade is finishing up Chapter 5 over ratios/rates, proportions, and similar figures. Thursday we will do the last section over scale drawings and models. The Chapter Test will be next Wednesday.

8th grade is continuing with systems of equations. We are solving by substitution and elimination, and then will be moving on to inequalities.

This week in Standard Math...

6th grade is beginning their Geometry unit.

7th grade is exploring both identifying and solving proportions.

8th grade is reviewing and taking a quiz over slope-intercept and point-slope equations.

This week in Science...

6th grade is learning about the six classifications of animals.

7th grade is exploring water treatments, and will be creating their own filters as a lab.

8th grade is finishing up Chapter 3 in Chemical Interactions. We will continue to explore and review acids, bases, and solutions. They will have a Chapter Test sometime next week.

Mrs. Jennifer Runiewicz: Literature (6-7-8)

Literature: We've begun our Holocaust unit in all literature classes. Eighth Grade is reading *Between Shades of Gray*, a book about a Lithuanian family in 1941 living the nightmare of the reign of Stalin. Seventh Grade is reading *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, a book about a boy who finds himself living just outside of Auschwitz. Sixth Grade is reading *Anne Frank, A Diary of a Young Girl*.

Vocabulary Workshop schedule should be taped/stapled to their vocabulary book cover or in their assignments books. I've also shared the schedule with each of them on Google Drive. Our Unit 8 spelling and vocabulary test will be Wednesday, January 18th.



Raging Rivers A's Days 2017

Raging Rivers is kicking off a new program, A's Days, for our 2017 season.
Students from kindergarten through high school are encouraged to
work hard in school so they can play all summer long!

To celebrate hard-working students, the park is offering one day FREE admission during our A's Days on June 17-30, 2017, to individuals providing a 2016-2017 report card with at least one 'A'. If students cannot come out to play during one of the special A's Days, they can bring their report card with an 'A' on it to receive \$10 off their admission price on an alternative day during the 2017 season. The A's Days Program will replace Raging Rivers' Raging Reader program which has been offered for the past several years. We look forward to debuting the new program and to welcoming all of the region's A students during the 2017 season!



Scholarship Programs for the 2017-18 School Year

Families have the opportunity to apply for all the scholarships listed below using the unified online application at no cost. To make the process easier for families and schools, one application is now being used for all scholarships funded by the Catholic Education Office, the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri, and the Today & Tomorrow Educational Foundation. The Scholarship Office at TTEF will review your application and determine if your family is eligible for any awards based on each program's guidelines and funding availability.

Scholarship	Description	Open to All Faiths
Alive! In Christ	For students of income-eligible families to attend any archdiocesan parish elementary school. Students of new families are eligible in grades K-4. Students of existing families are eligible in all grades. Scholarship is renewable through grade 8 and maximum award is \$2,000. FIRST COME – FIRST SERVED!	✓
Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow	For students of income-eligible residents of the City of St. Louis to attend grades K-8 at any private or parochial elementary school in the City of St. Louis. Scholarship is renewable through grade 8 and award amount is based on tuition. Maximum award is \$2,000.	✓
Futures	Full scholarships for students of income-eligible families to attend grades K-8 at the following schools: Most Holy Trinity School & Academy, St. Cecilia School & Academy, St. Louis Catholic Academy, and St. Louis the King School. Scholarship is renewable through grade 8.	✓
Beyond Sunday Elementary	For students of middle-income families to attend grades K-8 at any Catholic elementary school (archdiocesan, parish, or private). Preference given to Catholic families registered in a parish of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Scholarship is renewable through grade 8. Application period is open January 30 – February 28, 2017.	✓
Beyond Sunday Fellows	For students of middle-income families to attend grades 9-12 at any Catholic high school (archdiocesan, parish, or private). Preference given to Catholic families registered in a parish of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Scholarship is renewable through grade 12 and all recipients participate in one faith experience and one service activity together. Application period is open January 30 – February 28, 2017.	✓
SOAR!	For students of income-eligible families who wish to attend grades K-12 at select Catholic elementary and high schools in the City of St. Louis and North Saint Louis County. Elementary scholarships are in the amount of \$3,800 and are renewable through grade 8. High school scholarships are renewable through grade 12 and the maximum award is \$4,000.	✓
Catholic Family Tuition Assistance	For students of income-eligible, registered Catholic families to attend grades K-12 at any archdiocesan or parish school.	
Parish Employees Endowment Fund	For students of income-eligible parish employees working 1,000 hours or more per year to attend grades K-12 at any archdiocesan or parish school.	✓

APPLICATION AVAILABLE JANUARY 30, 2017!

See Reverse for Important Additional Information

T: 314-792-7777 | F: 314-792-7629 | E: ttef@archstl.org

Important Additional Information

- Individual students may not receive more than one scholarship if awarded, not including Catholic Families Tuition Assistance and Parish Employees Endowment Fund. These funds may be awarded in addition to the other scholarships listed. Families may have multiple children receiving scholarships.
- Documents needed to complete applications include:
 - o High School Students are required to submit an essay and contact information for two references at the time of application to be considered for the *Beyond Sunday* Fellows Program.
 - ESSAY PROMPT: In 250 words, please describe why you want to be a *Beyond Sunday* Fellow.
 - REFERENCES: One from your pastor or leader of a Catholic program or organization of which the applicant is a member of, and the other from a teacher or principal.
 - For more information about the *Beyond Sunday* Fellows Program, please visit www.ttef-stl.org.
- o Proof of residency (St. Louis City residents only): ONE of the following documents
 - Missouri Driver's License
 - Utility Bill
 - House/Apartment Lease or Deed
 - Bank Statement
 - W2
 - Federal Tax Return Form 1040
 - Government Assistance Award Letter
- o Proof of Income (see table below)

Type of Income	ONE of the Following Proofs are Required for EVERY Type of Income You Receive
Adjusted Gross Income (Wages from employment and all other income reported on Federal Taxes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pages 1 & 2 of your 2016 or 2017 Federal Income Tax Return (Form 1040) <i>If you do not file taxes you may submit...</i> <input type="checkbox"/> 2016 W2 for all places of employment for you and your spouse <i>OR</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Three paystubs from 2016 or 2017 for all places of employment of you and your spouse
If applicable, please provide proof of any supplemental income your family is receiving.	
Business Income	<i>NOTE: If this income is already claimed on your taxes, do not list the amount as additional Business Income on your application and do not submit additional documentation or your income will be calculated higher than it should be.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of your business tax return, financial statements or a notarized letter stating your total earnings

Child Support	<input type="checkbox"/> If court ordered, provide documentation stating amount of support and your name <i>If not court ordered, you may submit...</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Transaction record displaying your name and monthly or annual amount
Public Assistance Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Award letter displaying name and award amount <i>OR</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Transaction record displaying your name and monthly or annual amount

Food Stamps	
Social Security/SSI	
Unemployment/Worker's Comp	
Other (includes but is not limited to adoption or foster subsidies, tuition support from family, friends, or employer)	<input type="checkbox"/> If you have other sources of income not reported elsewhere, please provide notarized letters from your employer, family/friends providing financial assistance stating the annual amounts.