

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A weekly newsletter for the school community

Volume 5, Issue 8

October 13, 2016



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Kim Vangel

Dear St. Raphael School Families,

I hope you all have been able to purchase your tickets for this year's Black & Gold Dinner Auction, the biggest fundraiser of the year for our school. A highly successful auction is absolutely critical to the financial health of our school, and it's a lot of fun! All of the teachers and I are working on different projects for the auction, volunteering to help in various ways the night of the auction, and preparing special items and experiences for you to bid on that night. Let's make this the best Black & Gold Dinner Auction ever!

I've been receiving some questions about the new position we created this school year, the part-time Recess Coordinator, and I'd like to try to answer some of those questions for you here. First, the idea for adding this position came in response to a great deal of feedback from parents over the past few years regarding problems at recess for our students. Of course we have been aware of many of these problems and have been trying different strategies to address them. The main problems we see and hear about from parents are: kids arguing about the games they are playing, kids ganging up on one another when there is a conflict, and some kids being left out of play. For anyone of us who has gone to school at some point in our lives, we know that these issues on the playground are not new. These conflicts and learning to deal with them are a part of growing up, and schools play a large part in teaching kids how to manage these conflicts.

We have had many parents over the years generously volunteer their time to help out at our lunch recesses by signing up for "Yard Duty," and we are most grateful for their continued presence there. However, these volunteers are rotating, and because they have busy lives, are not always there often enough to have a consistent presence at recess. We have teachers scheduled to supervise at every recess, but again, it's a rotating schedule. If you have ever had success at changing behavior in kids, you know that consistency is critical to that process. So when we decided to tackle this more aggressively, we knew that having one consistent person at every recess would be critical to our success in reducing harmful behavior at recess.

We have a very tight budget at St. Raphael School so we knew we had to find someone who would be willing to work for very little money, and who would be dedicated to the mission of reducing harmful behavior at recess. We also knew that we needed to keep the boundaries of the job fairly tight so that it could be accomplished. So the Recess Coordinator is not in charge of scheduling the Yard Duty Volunteers. The Recess Coordinator is not responsible for helping in the cafeteria. The Recess Coordinator is not working in classrooms on a regular basis or being present anywhere except at **Recess**. This Coordinator's job is to implement a simple 3-step response system to incidents of harmful behavior, to work with students in resolving conflicts, to help organize the structure of recess for the benefit of the students (e.g. rotating classes through popular games, assigning playground areas to certain classes, helping to clarify and implement game rules, ensuring that all students have someone to play with), and to be in communication with the volunteers at recess and the teachers when needed. It's a 2-hour a day job requiring presence at every recess M-F, and the pay is minimal.

I asked Angela Cierpiot to consider taking the position because she has been a vocal and active proponent of reducing harmful behavior at school since I came to St. Raphael and before. She was very involved in the Olweus Anti-Bullying program at SRA and received training through Barnes Hospital, as well as helping with the Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline program now encouraged by the Archdiocese and she went through their training as well. Angela was a strong voice for making cost-effective improvements at recess on the Parent Advisory Group last school year, and she led efforts to have more game outlines painted on the parking lot. We were thrilled when Angela agreed to accept this very important and very non-glamorous position! She did so because she cares about the kids at SRA, and because her hopes and dreams include more people in this world being kind to one another.

I hope that helps to answer some of your questions. We very much value our Yard Duty volunteers, and we both want and need them to keep helping us at our lunch recesses. We are trying to accomplish a great deal with very limited finances, and to be good stewards of your hard-earned money. Thanks as always for your support!

Peace,
Kim Vangel
Principal

All School Mass

8:00am Mass

October 20

Weekday Mass

4th Grade Planning

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

Benediction 2:00pm
First Friday of the
month



October Birthdays

Charlotte Schunzel-13
Annie Higgs-14
Alyssa Schaefer-14
Carter Luebbers-15
Lillian Weber-20
Jack Zinselmeyer-21
Rory Barnawell-22
Rachel Schaefer-25
Samantha Koziacki-25
Joseph Cyr-26
Clara Thompson-26
Brendan Cierpiot-27

Miss Morris-29

Elena Davis-30
Henry Dirnbeck-30



- Oct.14 – 9:00-1:30pm 8th Grade World Food Day
Oct.14 - Pink Shirt Day – Donate \$1.00 to American Cancer Association
Oct.14 – End of First Quarter
Oct.15 – 6:00-10:00pm Sports Trivia Night in School Gym
Oct.16 – 10:00am Family Mass/Donut Sunday
Oct.17 – No School K-8 Records Day for Teachers
Preschool is open
Oct.18—5:00-8:00pm Culver’s Night-10200 Big Bend
Oct.19 – 3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal in church
Oct.19 – 7:00pm 1st Reconciliation Parent Mg.
Oct.20 – 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room
Oct.21 - Pink Shirt Day – Donate \$1.00 to American Cancer Association
Oct.21 – Reports Cards Open
Oct.21 – 6:00-8:00pm Trunk or Treat
Oct.23 – 10:00am Mass 50th Anniversary Cornerstone SRA 11:00am Anniversary Brunch in Gym
Oct.24-27 – Red Ribbon Week
Oct.24 – 3:15-5:00pm STEAM After-School Club K-3 in classrooms
Oct.25-3:15-5:00pm STEAM After-School Club 4-8 in classrooms
Oct.26 – 3:15-4:15pm SRA Schola Rehearsal in church
Oct.27 – Noon Dismissal for Preschool – 8
1:00-8:00pm Parent/Teacher Conferences
Oct.28 – No School Preschool – 8
Oct.31 – 2:00pm Halloween Parties



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! **2nd quarter patrol schedule:**

October 17th:

Grace and Will
Jack and Ardian



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 (PreK-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, October 17 No School K—8

Tuesday, October 18 Danielle C. & Stephanie K.

Wednesday, October 19 Candice O. & Bobbie S.

Thursday, October 20 Linda K. & Dan S.

Friday, October 21 Gary P. & Mark P.



Veteran's Day Prayer Service

All veterans are invited to join the school community for a Veteran's Day Prayer Service in church on Friday, November 11th at 8 am. The Prayer Service will be followed by a reception in the school cafeteria. Veterans interested in celebrating with us and attending the reception should contact the school office at **314-352-9474** and should leave their name and number of people coming. Please RSVP by Friday, November 4th.

Participants are to gather in the back of church for a procession. We will also be remembering the veterans we have lost. Please send in a name and possibly a picture of any loved veterans who have passed away so we can honor them during our service. You can send that information to imo@straphaelarchangel.org. We are looking forward to seeing you on November 11th.



Recess Update – Angela Cierpiot

Any parent who has volunteered at recess knows one of the biggest challenges we have is the balls rolling into the street and our kids chasing after them. While supervising the kids as they retrieve them is always paramount, this is a MAJOR safety issue during recess. Last week, one day only, we counted 64 balls into the streets. At least 20% of the time, Early Childhood students were running after the balls and stopped beyond the boundary of the blacktop – almost into the street, with about the same percentage of Upper School kids running after balls without checking both ways. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Mrs. Vangel and Fr. Bob for your approval to make the necessary changes to keep our kids safe and improve their recess at SRA!! I am happy to report, after some creative thinking and research on DIY projects, a simple and inexpensive solution has been created and will be in place very soon. See you at recess!

STUCO News

Thank you for your donations to the canned food drive and support of the American Cancer Society this week.

Friday, October 21st: \$1 to wear pink shirt that will be donated to American Cancer Association

October 24-31: Red Ribbon Week

October 24: Too Smart for Drugs - Nerd Accessories

October 25: Team Up Against Drugs - Sports Team Accessories

October 26: Aloha to Drugs - Hawaiian Accessories

October 27: Give the Boot to Drugs - Cowboy Accessories



Black & Gold Dinner Auction

Mark your calendars for the Black & Gold Dinner Auction!

We are just weeks away from our biggest fundraiser of the year! In addition to attending the Auction & Preview Night, there are plenty of ways to get involved:

- **DONATE:** At the heart of the auction's success are the many awesome donations up for bidding. If you have an item or service you would like to donate, let us know! Some past donations have included event tickets, gift certificates, time shares... you name it!
- **VOLUNTEER:** There will be lots of opportunities for volunteering before, during, and after the event. If you are interested in helping out in any way, please let us know!
- **SPONSOR:** Know of a business or organization that would like to sponsor the auction? Sponsorships support the event, brings name recognition to 200+ attendees, and allows for ad placement in the auction catalog at different levels. More information on pricing and options are available!
- **50/50 TICKETS:** Show your support for SRA by purchasing or selling Black & Gold Dinner Auction 50/50 tickets. Tickets are \$20 each, drawing will be held on November 5, 2016. Additional tickets are available at the Parish Office. Tickets can be sent to or dropped off at the Parish Office, School Office or in the Sunday collection basket.

For more information please contact the Parish Office 314-352-8100 or auction@straphaelarchangel.org

Please Join Us

PREVIEW NIGHT

Friday, November 4, 2016
at 7:00pm
\$20 per person



AUCTION NIGHT

Saturday, November 5, 2016
at 5:30pm
\$50 per person

Visit www.straphaelarchangel.org to purchase auction tickets. Preview Night Tickets can only be purchased with cash or check. Donation or Auction/Preview Night payments can be sent to the rectory: 6047 Bishops Place, St. Louis, MO 63109.

For more information, call the rectory at 314-352-8100.

Checks made payable to St. Raphael.



Show your support for SRA by purchasing or selling Black & Gold Dinner Auction 50/50 tickets.

Tickets are \$20 each, drawing will be held on November 5, 2016.

Additional tickets are available at the Rectory. Tickets can be sent to or dropped off at the Rectory, the school office or in the Sunday collection basket.

The students of SRA are thankful for your continued support and generosity!

 <p>St. Raphael the Archangel Black & Gold Dinner Auction 50/50 Drawing <i>Drawing to be held on November 5, 2016 during the Black & Gold Dinner Auction</i> \$20 per ticket <i>Need not be present to win Maximum of 500 tickets sold Make checks payable to SRA</i></p>	50/50 Drawing to benefit Saint Raphael the Archangel School	NAME _____	PHONE NUMBER _____	\$20 per ticket
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Join us at the Black & Gold Dinner Auction November 5th
and raise your paddle high for our school!

The goal of the Black & Gold Dinner Auction is twofold. We raise money for our school AND build community. The St. Raphael community is strengthened as a whole when working together towards a common goal, making the best school for our kids, our future. Our Parish & School families play the starring role in making the Auction a success.

Please Join Us

Limited Seating! Register & Purchase your tickets today!

PREVIEW NIGHT Friday, November 4, 2016 at 7:00pm \$20 per person		AUCTION NIGHT Saturday, November 5, 2016 at 5:30pm \$50 per person
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Visit www.straphaelarchangel.org to purchase auction tickets. Preview Night Tickets can only be purchased with cash or check. Donation or Auction/Preview Night payments can be sent to the rectory: 6047 Bishops Place, St. Louis, MO 63109. For more information, call the rectory at 314-352-8100. Checks made payable to St. Raphael.

2016 Student Raffles

Show your support for SRA and buy your chances for the 2016 Student Raffles!

CRAZY FOR CANDY RAFFLE

GIFT CARDS GALORE RAFFLE

Tickets are \$1 each and will be available for purchase during lunch October 17th – November 4th. Tickets can be sent to or dropped off to the school office, Rectory or in the Sunday collection basket.

For more information call the Rectory 314-325-8100
or email auktion@straphaelarchangel.org

BLACK & GOLD DINNER AUCTION
STUDENT RAFFLE \$1 PER TICKET
NAME: _____
PHONE: _____ GRADE: _____
 CRAZY FOR CANDY GIFT CARDS GALORE
DRAWING WILL BE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2016

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2016 STUDENT RAFFLES

Show your support for SRA and buy your chances for the 2016 Black & Gold Student Raffles - tickets are just \$1 each! Raffle tickets will be in The Guide each week and will be available for purchase during lunch! Winners will be announced on Friday afternoon, at school dismissal, November 4th.

Tickets will be available at Donut Sunday, October 16th - Friday, November 4th. Tickets can be sent to or dropped off to the school office, Factory or in the Sunday collection basket. Winner does not need to be present to win. Make checks payable to St Raphael the Archangel.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE STUDENTS, PARENTS AND FRIENDS WHO PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS SUPPORTING OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER!

CRAZY FOR CANDY
ALL YOUR GUNDROP WISHES & CHOCOLATE COVERED DREAMS CAN COME TRUE!
WILLY WONKA AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY DVD, \$25 AMC GIFT CARD, \$25 TOYS R US GIFT CARD AND A SWEET STACK OF CANDY!

GIFT CARDS GALORE
TRUE NORTH INSULATED SRA CUP OVERFLOWING WITH OVER \$125 WORTH OF GIFT CARDS
AMAZON, AEROPOSTALE, ITUNES, VINEYARD VINES & MORE... THERE'S SOMETHING HERE FOR EVERYONE!

Miss Chris Preschool Room B

We learned about Gardens this week during our 'G Week'. We read stories about all the things that we can grow in a garden, we completed some gorgeous art projects relating to gardens and we even got to go out and work in our school garden.

We learned the story of the Good Shepherd during our Jesus Club.



Kindergarten News: Miss Abby Morris & Mrs. Doyle

Our Kindergarten students concluded the apple unit by using our five senses to discover the differences of apples.

We learned about St. Teresa and ways we can try to live by her example.

The students continue to learn about the season of Fall.



Second Grade News: Miss Stephanie Amsler

This week is the last week of First Quarter! Second Grade is busy learning how to use pronouns and contractions in our writing. We learned that an apostrophe is used to combine two words to make a contraction.

We are also learning how to regroup ones as tens when adding two 2-digit numbers. We use base ten blocks at our desks to help ourselves visualize what the numbers do when we have to regroup.

In Religion we are beginning to learn about the Ten Commandments so that we can begin to fully understand sin and begin identifying our own sins. We are only a month away from Reconciliation!



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade has completed their study of Jesus' Twelve Friends and their symbols in Church Art. We especially enjoyed playing "Guess Who's Late for Supper?"

We completed Unit 1 in English on sentences (text pp 31-58) and took our Math Test in place value (Chapter 1) text pp 29-62.

We enjoyed the Blessing of Pets and read all about Saint Francis. Each of us is studying the Saint we chose and those reports are due October 24.

The Living Rosary our entire student body created on Friday was a fun Family Activity. Our school also got Holy Cards and Mother Teresa medallions from a generous donor in the parish. Time is going very quickly for us.



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

The highlight of this week was taking advantage of this beautiful weather. Both Fourth and Fifth Grade took a nature walk for Science. We used our senses to find and explore things in our neighborhood that are in nature. We will be using these notes taken to complete a writing assignment for English. We will be working hard at finding our main idea and supporting details to write our paragraphs, making sure to use plenty of adjectives to enhance our writing.

In Fourth Grade English, we will continue working on nouns. In Science we will continue working on force and motion. In Social Studies we will be finishing our unit on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

In Fifth Grade English we will continue our study of verbs. Science will be a continuation of states of matter and the role of solar and thermal energy in changing the states of matter. In Social Studies we will continue discovering the diversity of Native American cultures before Europeans came to the United States.

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

Fifth Grade: The Fifth Graders have concluded our focus on the Sacrament of Confirmation and are now discussing the importance of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. They are learning about the various vestments and vessels used. During Math the students have been practicing solving expressions using the Order of Operations. They have concluded that if you don't follow the correct order then the answer will turn out completely different. The students read a story about Mary Poppins this week during Reading class. Our focus was on being able to make predictions based on prior knowledge.

Fourth Grade: The Fourth Graders have begun our multiplication unit. It is crucial that all Fourth Graders know their facts. They should be practicing daily until they are fluent. During Reading, the students are working with setting and mood with our new story entitled *The River that Gave Gifts*.

Mrs. Kim Westrich: Art

Students in Art this week spent some time reflecting on the discoveries and artwork they made this quarter. We talked about the Studio Habits of Develop Craft and Stretch & Explore and how well each student incorporated these habits into their work. We also discussed planning for more complete artwork, things that we like about the new choice-based art room and things we can improve.



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

We are really enjoying the beautiful weather. Our stretches outside are done on the bike rack, which we use as a bar. It provides us with enough stability to even do our pushups for an upper body workout. We are beginning our unit on frisbees. This week we played Frisbee Bocce.



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

The students this past week played Frisbee Golf and the parking lot was a great golf course. We played nine holes with each hole being a par 4. The kids seemed to enjoy playing the game. The main objective of Frisbee Golf is that the students try to toss the frisbee into the hula hoop/hole within four tries. It was fun seeing all the students working together and participating.

Let's keep up the good work. St Raphael's school is a fun, faith filled environment for both teachers and students.



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

Religion:

Sixth Grade students have completed Unit 1 and are beginning Unit 2 with a look at Abraham and the covenant he made with God.

Seventh Grade students are continuing to work on their Confirmation program.

Eighth Grade are reviewing the Images and Models of the Church and will soon begin a study of the history of the Church.

Social Studies:

Sixth Grade students have started their investigation of the United States and Canada. They are completing the study of the geography of those two countries.

Seventh Grade students are learning about the early English colonies in what will become the United States.

Eighth Grade students are completing their look at some of the reforms made during the late 19th century. They are also learning about the Progressive movement at the beginning of the 20th century.

Mrs. Laura Berns: Science (6-7-8) Standard Math (6-7-8)

Sixth SMath and Science:

In Math, students are working on evaluating expressions using order of operations.

In Science, students just completed a test over chapter 2. We began chapter 3 by collecting water samples from around the neighborhood and looking at them under a microscope. We saw some interesting things.

Seventh SMath:

In Math, we are writing and translating algebraic expressions.

In Science, students recently completed a lab comparing the effects of vinegar and water on rocks. They also just completed their chapter 2 test.

Eighth SMath:

In Math, students just completed their test over unit 1. Unit 2 will cover the basic concepts of functions.

In Science, students recently completed a lab investigating physical and chemical changes. They also just completed their chapter 2 test.

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

Literature: Eighth Grade students have had the opportunity to compare the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* with the movie starring Gregory Peck. It's interesting to hear the viewpoints of the students on the similarities and differences.

The Seventh Graders have begun the much anticipated *And Then There Were None* written by Agatha Christie.

Sixth Grade has also had the opportunity to compare and contrast *The Giver* novel with the movie. It's always nice to hear them say that they like the book better than the movie.

Vocabulary Workshop schedule should be taped/stapled to their vocabulary book cover or in their assignments books. I have also shared the schedule with each of them on Google Drive. Unit 4 test is Wednesday, October 19th.

Mrs. Caroline Zarinelli: Music

Reader's Theatre in MAD ² (Music. Art. Drama. Make. A. Difference.)

Students in First, Second, Third, and Fifth grades have been experiencing Reader's Theatre during the first quarter. Reader's Theatre is an integrated activity that requires students to read a script aloud bringing the text alive through voice inflection and facial expression. Reader's Theatre requires no sets, costumes, props, or line memorization. It's a great way to help students develop fluency, increase comprehension, and promote cooperative learning. As students gain confidence in fluency, their characters come to life!



Miss Elise Bussmann: Writer's Workshop (6-7-8) Spanish (4-8)

Spanish:

Eighth Grade is working on the verbs ser and estar. Seventh Grade is reviewing pronouns in Spanish and English. Sixth Grade will begin talking about people.

Writing and Grammar:

As we are finishing up the quarter all Writer's Workshops will be turning in notebooks and free writing. Eighth Grade is going to begin work on verbs, Seventh Grade is going to begin work on pronouns and Sixth Grade is finishing up work on nouns.

Miss Ashley Schaaf: Science (6-7-8) Challenge Math (6&7) Algebra 8

This week my Sixth Grade Math class is covering greatest common factors, least common multiples, and equivalent fractions and decimals. They will finish chapter 2 this week, and a chapter test will be expected sometime next week.

My Seventh Grade is reviewing ordered pairs, coordinate planes and graphing linear equations. They just started the next chapter (chapter 3) this week.

My Eighth Grade is covering inequalities, both single- and multi-step, and graphing them on a number line. This is the beginning of chapter 4.

Eighth Grade Science just took their chapter 2 test yesterday, over changes in matter; the relationship between pressure, volume and temperature; and physical and chemical changes.

Mrs. Diane Gewinner: Learning Consultant

The Classroom Observation Process

As a Learning Consultant I lend an extra set of eyes and ears to the classrooms. By doing a classroom observation on a student or several students, I see things in an objective light. I report what is currently going on in the classroom.

To begin this process parents or teacher will request that I do a student observation. Parents usually request an observation via phone call or email. Teachers fill out a form and specify what skill or behavior they wish for me to observe.

During the observation notes are taken. These notes are then typed and shared with the teachers and parents at a meeting. It is then decided if more observations are needed or if the observation is clear enough to have the student proceed with a formal educational evaluation.

CULVER'S SHARE NIGHT

Our 8th grade class is sponsoring a Culver's Night to help raise funds for their upcoming ProLife Pilgrimage to Washington DC. The class will join thousands of other Archdiocesan students for the March for Life in January. Culver's Restaurant, located at 10200 Big Bend (by Sam's) **will donate 10% of the sales on Tuesday, October 18 from 5pm to 8pm back to the class** for their fundraising efforts. Students and parents will be on hand to deliver food and wipe down tables. This is available for dine-in or drive-thru, no flyers are needed for the evening. Thank you in advance for your support of the SRA Class of 2017 and their efforts to protect the lives of the unborn.





**Trunk-or-Treat
Friday, October 21
6pm - 8pm
\$15 per family/car**

Come and enjoy an evening of Halloween fun!

Festivities include:

Trick-or-Treating from Car to Car

A Parade of Costumes

Music

Prizes for the Best Dressed Child, Best Dressed Adult, and Best Decorated Car

**Please avoid violent themes. Bring your own chairs, blankets, flashlights,
trick-or-treat bags, and treats to pass out to the children.**

Snacks and Beverages will be available for purchase.

All Proceeds benefit the 8th Grade ProLife Trip and Graduation Celebrations.

Family: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

#of children participating: _____

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Benoist @ 314-537-7032