

# Saint Raphael the Archangel

## The Guide

A weekly newsletter for the school community

Volume 5, Issue 6

September 29, 2016



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Kim Vangel

Dear St. Raphael School Families,

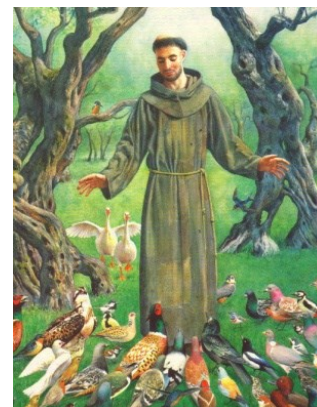
Welcome Fall, perhaps my favorite of our four seasons! I love the crisp air, earthy colors, changing leaves, and of course, **Football!** Many of you know that my husband and I are devoted Notre Dame Football fans and faithfully watch the Fighting Irish every Saturday. This is a difficult year to be an Irish Football Fan, but I'm happy to say that Coach Bruno, our new Upper School PE Teacher, joins me as a devoted ND Fan and we are having lots of fun teasing Mrs. Runiewicz about her precious Alabama Crimson Tide. Our faculty at SRA is distinguished in their abilities, their results, and in their commitment to one another. It's quite an extraordinary group of teachers, and although we don't all love the same college football teams, we are very blessed to be working together.

One of our goals this school year has been to find more ways to include the Preschool in our school activities. By working on this goal we want to erase some of the invisible walls between Preschool and the rest of the Early Childhood floor. The Preschool teachers are now included in our weekly Early Childhood staff meetings where we discuss learning strategies, behavior interventions, gaps and overlaps in our curriculum, and share ideas for improving learning. These professional conversations help us to focus on shaping our students from the time they begin our Preschool, some as young as 3 years old, all the way until they have finished 3rd Grade and are ready for the intellectual and social/emotional challenges of the Upper School. There is so much growth in children during these years, and our new Early Childhood Team of teachers is excited to be able to monitor and influence that growth all along the way.

We have assigned our Preschool students to our School Family Groups, and they have all been assigned "Buddies" from the Upper School. Family Groups attend Mass together every Tuesday (except for Preschool A) - it's absolutely heartwarming to see our older students caring for and nurturing these young children, showing them how to genuflect, helping them keep their hands folded in prayer position, staying focused on Mass, and praying a decade of the Rosary after Mass is complete. Then on Friday mornings, all of our Preschool students sit with their Buddies and Family Groups for our Prayer Services in the Gym. They stand up to sing and clap and dance; they accompany their Buddies when the older students are doing a reading or have a part in the Prayer Service. We're not sure who gets more out of these activities and relationships - the Preschool students or the Upper School students! This is just one more example of St. Raphael School practicing our school theme: **WE ARE ONE BODY!**

Don't forget our annual **Blessing of the Pets** on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. It's next Tuesday, October 4th on the parking lot just outside our Main School Entrance. We'll get started at 2:45pm and we will dismiss students straight after the Blessing of the Pets. All pets are welcome! Hope to see everyone there!

Peace,  
Kim Vangel  
Principal



**All School Mass**

**8:00am Mass**

**October 6**

Weekday Mass  
6th Grade Leading

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

Benediction 2:00pm  
First Friday of the  
month



**September Birthdays**

**Mr. Bob -29**

Annabelle Olsen-30  
Mollie Dirnbeck-30

**October Birthdays**

Sophia DiMartino-1  
Anna Wright-1  
Julia Panke-2  
Molly Fissel-2  
Katelyn Trim-3  
Emmy Kleekamp-4  
Olivia Hotze-5  
A J Cristlieb-6  
Vivienne Zinselmeyer-8  
Francine Benoist-10  
Vivien Smith-11  
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



Sept.29—8:00am Mass —St. Raphael, St. Michael &  
St. Gabriel Archangels—Popsicle Treats  
Sept.29— 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club Art Room  
Sept.30—7:00-9:00pm Preschool Parent party



Oct.3-7 Schoola Fall Clothing Drive & STUCO Canned  
Food Drive  
Oct.3—3:15-5:00pm STEAM After-School Club in  
classrooms  
Oct.4—2:45pm Feast of St. Francis of Assisi/Blessing of  
the Pets (Parking Lot)  
Oct.4—3:15-5:00pm STEAM After-School-School Club in  
classrooms  
Oct.5—3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal in church  
Oct.6—3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room  
Oct.7—Black & Gold Accessory Day  
Oct.7—Pink Shirt Day – Donate \$1.00 to American Cancer  
Association  
Oct.7—The Big Order Due  
Oct.7—2:00pm Benediction  
Oct.9—Men’s Club Fall Golf Classic

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!

**1st quarter patrol schedule:**

Week of October 3rd  
AM - Jenna and Annie  
PM - Billy 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](mailto:loristaw76@yahoo.com)

Monday, October 3 Donna V. & Kristina C.  
Tuesday, October 4 Stephanie K.  
Wednesday, October 5 Missy W. & Patrick J.  
Thursday, October 6 Stephanie K & Susie I.  
Friday, October 7 Mary Ann P. & Gary P.



**Saint Louis Art Museum**

There is a wonderful FREE art-making opportunity provided by the St. Louis Art Museum. The Saint Louis Art Museum will host a series of six puppet-making workshops for students and adults beginning Saturday, October 1, 2016, at Living Arts Studio in Maplewood.

Each workshop is FREE and all supplies are provided.

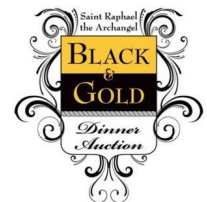
**WHO:** Children age 12 and older and adults  
**WHEN:** Saturdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and November 5  
**\*\*Participants may register for one workshop or all six sessions\*\***  
**TIME:** 10:00am to 3:00pm  
**WHERE:** Living Arts Studio  
2814 Sutton Blvd.  
Maplewood, MO 63143

To register, please contact Sherri Williams at [sherri.williams@slam.org](mailto:sherri.williams@slam.org) or by phone [314.655.5212](tel:314.655.5212)

**\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\*\***

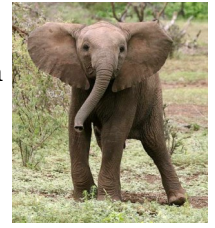
We are preparing for our biggest fundraiser of the year, our Black & Gold Dinner Auction, on Saturday November 5 th and Preview Night on Friday, November 4 th!

There are many ways that you can contribute to our parish school – are you able to purchase or sell 50/50 raffle tickets or ads for the program? Are you able to support with a donation for the live & silent auction? Sports memorabilia, jewelry, trips, experiences, time shares, event tickets, gift certificates are all popular and greatly valued!! If you have questions about the upcoming events or would like to donate items for the live or silent auction, please contact the Rectory.



### Miss Chris Preschool Room B

We welcomed Fall and the change in the weather this week. We spent some time reviewing our first four letters. We identified the letter sounds of A through D, as well as practiced writing them again. We also focused on writing our names. We began with our letter E theme and learned all about elephants by reading stories about these amazing animals. We created a couple of really exciting art projects that involved elephants. We discussed the fact that everyone is created Equal by God during our Jesus Club.



### Kindergarten News: Miss Abby Morris & Mrs. Doyle

The Kindergarten class started off their week with rainbow day. We created our own rainbow by using water and light. The students graphed different colors of candy and mixed primary colors to create other colors. This week, we have been doing several hands on math activities and handwriting letters.



### First Grade News: Mrs. Louise Balicki-Smith

First Graders really evolve from emergent to fluent readers over the course of the year. One of the best ways to build your child's literacy is by reading at home. Reading at home builds language, comprehension, and a love for reading in a supportive, loving environment. It also is a great way to be involved in your child's learning and reading interests.

Tips for Reading at Home:

- Sit next to your child while she or he reads so you can see the words & illustrations.
- Compliment him or her often and be specific with the compliment. Ex: "I liked the way you used your finger to track your reading."
- Make a point to support your child through the struggles. Help your child to take action and solve tough words by asking, "Does it make sense or does it sound right?"
- Talk about the story, the characters, and key events or facts.
- Have fun! Start a family book club or pair stories with fun activities!

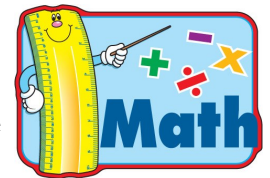


### Second Grade News: Miss Stephanie Amsler

This week Second Grade is reviewing verbs and working on identifying verbs in sentences. We know that verbs are action words or "doing" words. We are also working with words that are spelled with long o patterns like, o, oa, and ow.

In Math we are working with 2-digit numbers. We know how to write number names and are learning how to write numbers in expanded form. We are also learning how to compare numbers using phrases like "less than" and "greater than".

In Religion we are learning about Jesus as the Son of God. We can use this analogy when thinking about God and Jesus: God is the tree, Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches. We are also continuing our discussion about Baptism.



### Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade is busy studying about trees and leaves. All their classwork will be sent home on October 14<sup>th</sup> so it can be included in their final notebook. The project is due on Wednesday, October 26. We are also reading about our saints. Father Bob has asked that Third Grade wear their school uniform (with black and orange accessories) to school and Mass on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Afterwards we will change into our saint costumes, take some photos and share our information with some classes. We are ready to make our Apostle Booklets and take a quiz on these 12 men and their symbols in church art on Friday, October 7. Our cursive handwriting is coming along nicely.



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

Both Fourth and Fifth Grade have finished up their measuring lessons on the proper usage of a triple beam balance. Everyone has had a chance to find the mass of either a solid, liquid, or a powdered chemical (baking soda). In Fourth Grade English, we are in the beginning stages of a narrative story entitled, "Falling into Autumn." We have been brainstorming as a class and have quite a great list of pre-writing ideas to use for our stories. In fourth grade Social Studies, we have elaborated more on the Bill of Rights and why it is such an important document. In Fifth Grade English, they too will be writing a narrative story entitled, "The Mysterious Switch." Their brainstorming will be on their own, but we will be using all five steps of the writing process to complete this task. In Social Studies, we will be finishing our unit on the Constitution of the United States and discussing the importance of the Declaration of Independence as well as the Bill of Rights.

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

**Fifth Grade:** The Fifth Graders have been studying the Sacrament of Baptism. They learned about the sacraments used and their significance to Baptism. They should be working on their Sacrament Page for Baptism that will be used when we create a book on the Sacraments at the end of the year. Our focus in Math is division. This week the students have been dividing with 1-digit divisors. During Reading, the students read a story titled *The Third Gift*. The students had discussions about the gifts the villagers received and ways that we could describe them to our grandchildren.

**Fourth Grade:** The Fourth Graders have begun working with our algebraic standards. They began with learning about various properties and then worked with solving expressions and equations. They are very excited that they know how to do algebra which they associate with "big kid" math. The students read a story about a young boy that saves the town parade. They became reporters and wrote a news article summarizing the event. We also worked on visualization.

### **STUCO News**

Friday, October 7th, 14th, and 21st: \$1 to wear pink shirt that will be donated to American Cancer Association

October 3-7: Food Drive



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

This week the weather was so beautiful we went out to the front lawn of school and ran old fashion relay races. The sack race is always so much fun. The little ones are working on over under and playing games that are fun with the volleyball net up. The others are leaning a little bit about volleyball, while we continue to play Kickball, T-ball and soccer. We try to go outside whenever we can.

#### **ART**

The students will continue to study mixing color. All levels will be painting. I am in need of some yellow finger paint if anyone knows where to get it. I miss Bradburns. The Kindergarten is mixing orange to cut into a large Jack- O- Lantern. The Second and Third Graders will mix color for an ocean background to put the fish in that they are creating.

### **Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education-Grades 4-8**

The students will finish up with volleyball this week and will begin working with the frisbees. Throwing and tossing the frisbees with accuracy and control will be the main objective throughout the program. Students will also be introduced to activities such as ultimate frisbee, frisbee golf and no outs frisbee baseball. I hope the students enjoyed volleyball and will look forward to working with the frisbees.

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

**Religion:**

Students in Grade Six are looking at the stories in Genesis that teach us how sin and evil entered the world. They are also learning how God promised to send a Redeemer to save us.

In Grade Seven, students are learning about the world that Jesus lived in, including other religious groups and daily life in Palestine.

Eighth Grade students are looking at different forms of prayer and how important prayer is in our lives.

**Social Studies:**

Grade Six students are completing their study of how humans adapt and live on Earth. They are also learning about the economic concept of scarcity.

Grade Seven students have begun to study about the early colonization of the United States. They are also reviewing map-reading skills.

In Grade Eight, the students are completing their study of the coming of immigrants to the United States in the late 18th century and early 19th century. They have also begun to learn about the economic concept of the business cycle.

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

**Sixth and Seventh Grade Standard Math:**

Students are completing their unit 1 (the number system/rational numbers) assessment.

**Eighth Grade Standard Math:**

We have been enjoying the beautiful weather by having class outside. Students have been solving and graphing multi-step inequalities on the black top with chalk.

**Science:**

Students have been asked to bring in a 1/2 inch binder for science fair materials.

Sixth Grade is discussing and analyzing viruses and bacteria. Make sure you check out our image on the black top. We enlarged a pin head and virus to determine how many viruses could fit on a pin head.

Seventh Grade is doing a lab to determine the effect weathering. We will investigate which will weather more: limestone soaked in water, limestone soaked in vinegar, limestone soaked in water then shaken or limestone soaked in vinegar then shaken. Eighth Grade is investigating states of matter. This week we are examining the different states of matter, particles within that matter, and how different elements such as pressure, volume, and temperature are related. We are also exploring how to graph these relationships and determining proportional and inverse correlations.

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

**Literature:** It's so nice to be back in the swing of things after testing. We are pressing along in all novels, discussing themes and diving deep into a study of our characters and their development throughout the stories.

**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 3 test is Friday, September 30th.

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

**Spanish:**

Fourth and Fifth Grades are having their first Spanish test. We will be finishing up our introduction to phonics.

Sixth Grade is finishing up numbers with summative assessments this week and next.

Seventh and Eighth Grades continue working on verb conjugation with group projects.

**Writing/Grammar:**

All classes are working on the writing process. We have all chosen topics to practice the writing process in class.

Sixth Grade is working on subject and predicate.

Seventh and Eighth are working on kinds of nouns.

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**Mrs. Caroline Zarinelli: Music**

Parable of Shapes – Third Grade

The Third Graders have been bringing the readers theatre piece, *Parable of Shapes* to life in class. The cast of characters include circles, pentagons, squares, triangles and an organic shape...the blob. It is a geometric learning experience, as well as a tool of diversity and understanding. The students top off their readers theatre experience with the song, *Everybody Dance Now!*

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

Sixth Grade is working more with integers this week. They are comparing, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing integers. We have started the next chapter, chapter 2.

Seventh Grade is dividing fractions and decimals, solving equations with rational numbers, and solving two-step equations. We will finish chapter 2 this week and will review for the test. Our chapter test will probably be Monday or Tuesday.

Eighth Grade is working with percent of change, finding and estimating square roots, and the Pythagorean Theorem. We will finish chapter 3 this week and will review for the test. The chapter test will either be Monday or Tuesday.

**Mrs. Kim Westrich: Art**

Third Grade students explored mixing complimentary color pairs (red & green, yellow & purple, blue & orange) + black & white. Students chose a pair of colors to mix and then we discussed our results. The students found that no matter the complimentary pair, the colors mixed to make neutrals (browns, grays) depending on how much of each color was added. Instead of mixing paints some students chose to draw, collage or even collage after they mixed paints. However, all students were involved in the discussion and reflection of the results.

**Mrs. Diane Gewinner: Learning Consultant**

This week I will share with you the process of diagnosing a potential special need. This process begins with the teachers, Learning Consultant and the parents. Once a concern is noted by the parent or teacher, I go into the classroom and do several observations on the student. This information is then shared with the parent and the teacher. At this point there is a discussion among the parent, teacher, and Learning Consultant as to implementing some classroom strategies. If strategies are implemented with success, then monitoring those strategies will be on going throughout the school year. If the strategies have been unsuccessful, then an agency that does Educational Evaluations would be looked into for finding the child's strengths, weaknesses, how they learn and if the child has a learning disability. Parents are given a list of agencies to choose from. I assist parents with filling out their portion of the informational gathering packet, as well as assisting the teachers with filling out their part of the packet. When all the data has been collected I forward it on to the agency of choice. Parents are notified when to make an appointment to bring in their child for the evaluation. Following the evaluation, parents are sent a copy of the results. The school is also given a copy by the agencies, while other agencies have the parents send a copy to the school. The results are reviewed by all and then a meeting is scheduled for the parents, teacher and Learning Consultant to share the results and form a Student Action Plan.

Stay tuned for the answer to the following question. What is a Student Action Plan?



**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**

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

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**Snacks and Beverages will be available for purchase.**

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**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**