

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community



Volume 11, Issue 9

April 2023

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

Hello SRA Families,

Oh boy, we have been waiting for Spring to arrive with its warmer weather and longer days of sunlight, but with those blessings of Springtime also come ALLERGIES and schedules packed with activities. I am sure your family's calendar is as crazy as mine! So let me take a moment in this message to highlight a few past activities along with events over the next two weeks.

Our 7th and 2nd- graders have been preparing for their respective Sacraments this past few months, and the classes received bows for their front doors announcing their preparation of the Sacrament. The 2nd-graders will receive the First Holy Communion this upcoming Sunday, April 30, and the 7th-Graders will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next Tuesday, May 2. Please keep these students in your prayers this week as they receive the special gift of Sacramental Grace.

Our 6th-graders enjoyed a fun-pack experience at Camp Manitowa this week. So, however tired they are today, they all shared that they had a wonderful time. Thank you to Mrs. Connor, Mr. Ilg, Mr. Pfeiffer, Mr. Koziacki, and Mrs. Pfeiffer for donating their time to chaperone at camp.

Today, our 5th-graders are attending Biz Town at Junior Achievement. They have been preparing for this day with classwork for weeks and even had to meet for an interview with the principal for possible positions. It was a great joy for me to meet with our 5th-graders, and I know they will have a wonderful experience today.

Next week, our 2nd-graders will be off school on Monday, May 1, and our 7th-graders will be off on Wednesday, May 3. This is because SRA traditionally gives the students a day off after they receive the Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion or Confirmation.

The NET RETREAT team is returning to SRA again next week. Our 7th- graders will spend the day with the team on Thursday, May 4, and our 8th- graders will have a retreat day on Friday, May 5. May the Holy Spirit speak to their heart, mind, and soul during their retreat day.

Last year, I received the gift of overwhelming joy while hosting the Net Team Leaders in my home, so I look forward to hosting again next week. Much appreciation goes to the parishioners hosting the NET RETREAT team this year! Thank You!

More information will be sent next week about May Crowning 5/11, Field Day 5/12, and our new event, "A Night of Entertainment 5/11."

I know parents need to look ahead when planning days off and vacations for the upcoming year. The 2023-2024 School Calendar will be sent home the final week of school this year, but here are a few important dates to put on your calendar for next year..

Aug. 13 Back to School Sunday
Aug, 15 1st Day of School - Noon Dismissal
Sept. 22-23 Parish Picnic
Oct. 30- Nov. 1 Conferences/Fall Break
Nov. 22-24 Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 21- Jan. 3 Christmas Break
Mar. 11-15 Spring Break
Mar. 28-Apr. 1 Easter Break
May 24 Last Day of School

Blessings,
Mrs. Hayes

Announcements

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

Monday - Thursday



May Birthdays

Dear Parents, Students, and Faculty,
Thank you, thank you, for the overwhelming response to our request for toiletries, household, and cleaning supplies! These items will directly help many people in our area who are going through a tough time and finding it hard to make ends meet. When a person faces unusual expenses because of a job loss, health crisis, car accident, or disability, they call our rectory seeking assistance with their bills. These calls are referred to a member of our St. Vincent de Paul Conference, who meets with them to assess how we may best meet their needs. Often, we can pay their expenses out of donations from St. Raphael parishioners and sometimes we refer to them to other agencies, including area food pantries. The supplies you collected are usually not available at food pantries and they are so appreciative when we show up at their homes with bags of items that they need but cannot afford. When we tell them they came from our school community, they are doubly grateful. Thank you for your generosity! Please keep the poor in your prayers.

Gratefully,

St. Raphael's Conference for the Society of

Miss Michele-1
Addison McMorrow-1
Elizabeth Anstey-2
Xavier Cyr-4
Douglas Adams-5
Mara Rooney-7
Hattie Zitko-9
Russell Powderly-10
Mason Lansing-11
Leo Kurtovic-12
Nurse Alex-13
Ethan Bradshaw-15
Caleb Bernadt-15
Rory Meier-17
Jack Berry-18
Harry Bradford-21
Steven Irons-21
Adam Fuhr-21
Emily Fuhr-21
Will McCartney-28
Mr. McDermott-28
Mark Boeckmann-29

MAY

Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

5/1-2nd Grade No School

5/2-7th Grade Confirmation 7pm

5/3-7th Grade No School

5/4-NET Retreat 7th Grade

5/5-NET Retreat 8th Grade

5/9-Home & School 6:30pm

5/11-May Crowning

**5/12-Field Day-Noon Dismissal-
No Aftercare**

5/14-Mother's Day

5/15-School Board 7pm

5/17-8th Grade Last Day

5/18-8th Grade Mystery Trip

5/19-8th Grade Graduation Dinner

5/21-8th Grade Graduation Mass

**5/26-Last Day of School-10am Dismissal-
No Aftercare-End of 4th Quarter**

Miss Molly: Preschool A



Pre K A has had a busy April. We worked on Easter projects and had Fr. John come by our classroom and talk about why we have Easter. We had an Easter egg hunt in the classroom before they left for Easter break. When they came back we got back to work working on letter C and O. We made books so they can read "If You Gave A Mouse A Cookie" We had fun making our room into a circus. Learning to juggle and walk a balance beam. They went fishing in the Ocean for numbered fish. They really enjoyed watching an Octopus escape from a jar. They are a great bunch of kids!!



Ms. Tracy: Prekindergarten



Pre-K B has been busy working on skills to get them ready for kindergarten. They have been continuing to work on letters, sounds and numbers. Everyone can write their first names and have been working on writing their last. The class has learned about the life cycle of a butterfly, Earth Day as well as the parts of a plant. Next month will be just as busy!!



Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee

We have been busy in Kindergarten as we prepare for the last month of school! We're working on measurement in math and have been doing measurement scavenger hunts with items found in our classroom as well as measuring things found in nature. We continue to work on sentence structure and beginning and ending blends in our English Language Arts centers. Fr. John visited our class this month and talked about the 3 archangels: Saints Raphael, Michael and Gabriel. As a class we will be in charge of the final all school mass and are working hard to prepare for



First Grade News: Mrs. Jessica Klein

First grade learned about different types of poetry this month. We read various poems, practiced writing poems and then together as a class made a published poetry book! In math, we became experts on counting coins and started to get the hang of telling time. We are excited for the end of the school year and leading one more school mass!



Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

April sure flew by! During Lent, Second grade had the privilege of leading the Stations of the Cross. In Math, we spent a lot of time outside learning about Area and Perimeter, and in Science we are learning about the Solar System!

Second grade has had a busy month preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion! We had a wonderful Bow Sunday with our families, and look forward to the First Communion on April 30. We have been waiting for this day all year! Thank you for your continuous prayers during this important step in our faith journey.

Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Grade Three has been working on a Trash Service Project. We pick up all sticks and trash on our school grounds. We continue other learning experiences related to Earth Day April 22. We have learned a few card games called "Go History." We also know a Concentration game called National Parks. Mystery Doug sends us short science lessons. We always enjoy watching. How do optical illusions trick us? Endangered Animal Species showed us a "bug library." We made 3-D paper flowers that actually open. During Family Groups we watched flowers actually bloom in time lapse photography. We watched a bible story acted out called Veggie Tales. We learned about 3 characters: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

We're almost there! The Upper Students have started on their final assignment and the Early Childhood Students completed an Edgar Degas Mural, Easter Bunny and are about to finish a Pointillism Project! There is a lot of artwork displayed out in the hallways for those who stop by the school.

Miss Patti Woods: English (4 & 5) Religion (4 & 7) Social Studies (4)

During Catholic Schools Week, each class was asked to come up with and complete a service project. The fourth graders worked hard before Easter to complete this project. They used pipe cleaners, beads, and silk flowers to form crosses. They each made at least six crosses. These were sent to Delmar Gardens South to distribute as an Easter gift to the residents. They also made one to send to their pen pals in Iowa. I know the crosses were graciously accepted at Delmar Gardens and the residents enjoyed them. We are hoping to get one more letter back from our pen pals before school is out for the summer.

In fourth grade social studies, we are learning about where each state is located on a map, and what is special in each state. We have covered the northeastern states, southwest states, and southern states. Students will be quizzed on where all 50 states are located after practice and memorization.

Both fourth and fifth grade classes are working on an essay in English. This will be a comparison/contrast essay. Fifth grade recently finished the unit on Capitalization and Punctuation and have taken the test for this unit. The fourth grade class is working on adjectives.

In fourth grade religion, we have finished our studies of the Ten Commandments and have taken the unit test. Now, our focus is on the beatitudes.

In seventh grade religion, we are wrapping up our preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please say a prayer for these students who have been working hard to discern how the Holy Spirit will inspire

Mrs. Connie Holbrook: Religion (5), Math (4-6), Literature/Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)

Fifth Grade: It is hard to believe that the end of the year is almost upon us. It has been a great year! Religion class will be spent working in the *Family Life workbook and studying the 50 days of Easter leading to Pentecost*. In math class the students will review what was learned at JA BizTown. They will also continue with the geometry concepts. In literature the students are reading stories in the third book, reviewing all of the reading strategies they learned all year.

Fourth Grade: The focus continues to be fractions, particularly adding and subtracting with unlike denominators, which often requires a lot of practice. In literature class, the next unit theme is all about family. We will continue to learn about different literary elements.

Sixth Grade Standard Math: The students worked hard on their miniature golf projects last month and not only used their knowledge of geometric shapes and angles, but worked together as a group very well. The end of the year will be spent learning about customary and metric units of measurement as well as measurement of geometric figures.

Mr. Leonard Kraudel: Science/STREAM (4-5-6-7-8)

6/7/8th Grade- They are finishing their Science Fair Project and are presenting their Google Slide Presentations of it to class. Also we are finishing the Unit on Newton's 3 Laws of Motion and the next Unit is on Magnetism and Electricity.

5th Grade - Is learning the reasons and the names of the different Moon Phases as it waxes and wanes.

4th Grade - Is learning the different kinds of Weathering of Rocks, and about Erosion and Deposition.

Mrs. Christy Connor: Religion (6 & 8) Social Studies (5-8)

Religion: Students in grade six are learning about the prophets Elijah and Amos.
Eighth grade students have completed their study of the history of the Church and are beginning to learn about some of the moral teaching of the Church.

Social Studies:

Sixth grade students continue to learn about Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica. We have begun a section on the Great Barrier Reef.

Students in grade seven are looking at how imperialism led to the development of colonies for the world's established nations.

Students in fifth and eighth grade are learning about World War II.

Mr. Zach Almeida: Standard Math & Challenge Math (6-7-8) Pre Algebra, (7-8) Algebra (7-8)

Algebra 2: Students are working on solving right triangle using trigonometry.

Challenge: Students are solving and graphing one and two step inequalities.

Algebra 1: Students are learning how to use trigonometry to solve for the missing side of a right triangle.

Pre-Algebra: Students are graphing linear, exponential and quadratic functions by making a table and plotting the resulting ordered pairs.

Mrs. Sioux Roslawski: Literature & English (6-7-8)

6th-8th ELA

The 6th and 8th graders just came back from the Civitas General Assembly (a mock United Nations session). Students from each class presented their country's resolution, answered questions from the other "delegates," compromised on amendments, and then the resolutions were voted on.

The middle-schoolers are working on their "Write Outside Your Door" piece (sponsored by the Missouri Botanical Garden). The deadline is May 8, and the students will have a link so they can submit their piece. The pieces are all nature-inspired, they should be about St. Louis or Missouri nature, and they can be a poem, a story or an essay.

Bellarmino Speech

We had our final speech meet on Saturday, April 22, and it was tougher than the previous ones because each performance--the morning and the afternoon one--was judged by *two* judges. So, each student was judged by 4 judges that day.

Mark Boeckmann and James Browning each earned a red ribbon. (They did humorous solos.) Emmy Kleekamp and Madi Wilkinson earned blue ribbons (they did a duet.) Congratulations to Mark, James, Emmy and Madi!

Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education

This April we finished our handball unit. We are close to finishing our spikeball unit. Spikeball is a popular backyard game that shares a lot with volleyball. In May, we will be doing baseball/wiffle ball as well as pickleball.

