

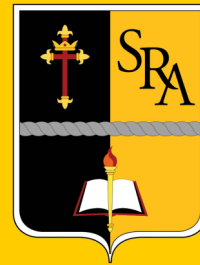
Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A weekly newsletter for the school community

Volume 5, Issue 28

April 13, 2017



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Kim Vangel

Dear St. Raphael School Families,

Happy Easter to all of you - I wish you a peaceful and love-filled holiday with your family and friends. And lots of chocolate from the Easter Bunny, of course!

We have an extended Easter Break at school this year in order to allow our faculty to attend the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) convention being held in St. Louis the week after Easter. This national convention offers teachers and administrators in Catholic schools the opportunity to learn from educational and theology experts from across the country. The SRA Faculty will spend one full day at the convention on Tuesday, April 18th and our students in grades K-8 will have the day off school. We are all looking forward to learning some new things at NCEA and bringing them back to make St. Raphael a better place. On Wednesday, April 19th our talented 5th Grade class will be performing at NCEA under the direction of our music teacher, Mrs. Caroline Zarinelli. They are performing a wonderful piece about the 3 branches of government, titled **Branch Boogie**. We are so proud of them!

As some of you know, our Learning Consultant, Mrs. Diane Gewinner, has announced her retirement at the end of this school year. Mrs. Gewinner has spent 40 years of dedicated service to children who learn differently and their families. She was a Special Education teacher for Special School District of St. Louis County before she stepped into her role as Learning Consultant with the Archdiocese of Saint Louis. We are very grateful to Mrs. Gewinner for sharing all of her talents with us at St. Raphael, and we will so miss her effervescent personality and her cheery smile and disposition!

We are not planning to hire a new Learning Consultant at this time, but will be providing needed services to our students with individualized education plans in a new way. We are currently looking for a full-time Reading and Math Intervention teacher to provide small group and individual services to students in Grades K-5; these intervention teaching services will take place both inside and outside the classroom, and will be closely coordinated with each classroom teacher. Students in Grades 6-8 will continue to receive as much individualized attention as possible from their teachers in each subject area. Some of the other duties typically covered by Mrs. Gewinner like organizing referral packets and following up on Student Action Plans will be taken over by teachers, the Upper School Director, and the Principal. We will keep you posted as we work out the particular details and communication logistics for next school year.

Thank you as always for your support, and please continue to keep our students and faculty in your prayers as we work through all of the transitions for next school year.

Peace,
Kim Vangel
Principal



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



All School Mass
8:00am
Holy Thursday
April 13
8:00am Living
Stations of the Cross
8th Grade Planning
In Church

Stations of the Cross
Friday 2:00pm
During Lent

Benediction 2:00pm
First Friday of the
month



April Birthdays

Madelynn
Schneeberger-14
James Browning-14
Amelia Sensmeyer-20
Madilyn Wilkinson-25
Giuseppina Naeger-26
Mrs. Connor-27
Eva Thompson-28

- April 14 – Good Friday No School Preschool – 8
 April 15 - 10:30am-12:30pm Easter Egg Hunt at Francis
 Park/Bicycle helmet sale/fitting
 April 15 – 9:00-11:00am 7th Grade Confirmation
 Service Project at Our Little Haven
 April 16 – Easter Sunday
 April 16 – 10:00am Mass Easter Egg Hunt after Mass
April 17 – Easter Monday No School Preschool – 8
April 18 – NCEA NO SCHOOL K- 8 PRESCHOOL IS OPEN
 April 19 – School Resumes Preschool - 8
 April 20 – 7th Grade Confirmation Service Field Trip
 April 20 – 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club
 April 20 – 7:00-10:30pm Ladies’ Club Quarter Auction
 April 21 – Second Grade Activity Day
 April 22 – SRA Men’s Club Disc Golf Tournament
 at Willmore Park
 April 23 – 10:00am Mass 7th Grade Confirmation Bow
 Sunday
 Donut Sunday after 10:00 Mass
 April 26 – 3:15-4:15pm SRA Schola Rehearsal
 April 26 – 7:00pm 7th Grade Confirmation
 April 27 – No School for 7th Grade
 April 27 – 6:00-7:30pm Second Grade Pot Luck Dinner
 April 30 – 10:00am Mass First Communion
 May 1 – No School for Second Grade



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 April 17

Billy & Sean
Hannah & Lucy



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, April 17 No School

Tuesday, April 18 No School

Wednesday, April 19 Katie M. & Missy W.

Thursday, April 20 Jenny D. & Dan S.

Friday, April 21 Terry B. & Stacy S.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The process for the 2017-2018 Kindergarten registration is now open. Children who are to be registered must be 5 years old by July 31, 2017. If you are interested in touring our school or would like to request a packet of information and the registration form you will need to complete, please call the school office at 314-352-9474. Registration packets may also be mailed if requested.



Edward J. Naeger, Sr. and Karen (Jones) Naeger Scholarship Opportunity

Two scholarships will be awarded for the 2017-2018 school year - one for St. John Vianney High School and one for Nerinx Hall High School. Each scholarship is for \$1,000 and is based on community service that you have completed. This is open to 8th graders through juniors in high school who will be attending either of these schools for the 2017-2018 school year and meet the criteria. For more information and to apply, please go to http://naegerins.com/scholarship_information

St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association Annual Scholarship

The St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association is accepting applications for the 2017 SLHNA Student Award for scholarship, leadership and service in school, church and community. Three one-time scholarships in the amount of \$600 will be awarded. The application deadline is Monday, April 24, and requires submission of a 3rd quarter/ 2nd trimester report card. The applicant must be an eighth grade student or the daughter/son/legal dependent of a St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association member living within the boundaries of St. Louis Hills. The applicant's family must have a current history of membership in SLHNA, including 2017. The scholarship award is for the freshman year of high school only; it is non-renewable.

For more information and an application go to <http://stlhills.com>, membership/benefits category.



SRA Holy Week Schedule 2017

Holy Thursday, April 13th

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm

Good Friday, April 14th

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm

Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

Holy Saturday, April 15th

Easter Vigil 7:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 16th

Mass 8:00am & 10:00am

Summer Camp

Don't forget summer is just around the corner and our summer camp is ready to be filled with kids. Registration will be open until April 15th for our St. Raphael families. Then we will be open to all that register until the end of April. So please go to the summer camp website and take a look at all the different themes we have to offer from May to July.

Thank you and I can't wait to see you in the summer!

Ms. Molly

314-606-5264



Mrs. Caroline

MAD2 Spring Show

Seventh Graders auditioned today for supporting roles for our show. The Muse will be played by Gillian Neal who will provide much inspiration to our living works of art. Solos and duets in the show will be presented by Jenna Holik, Miranda Sullenger, Ellie Guenther, Billy Madden, Lucy Schlichting, and Gillian Neal. Be sure to save the date, Friday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. to see Kindergarten through Seventh Grade at our living museum!

Keep the two steps forward. Lose the one step back.

Summer learning loss puts students at a serious disadvantage. This is when skills and knowledge are lost over the summer months, causing students to move backwards instead of progressing.

By spending just minutes a day with Summer Solutions, students get the practice they need to keep moving forward. It was designed to help students return to school after summer break confident in the skills they've already learned and ready to master new ones.

Your child worked hard all year. Make sure that progress sticks. Give your child the advantage of Summer Solutions.

St. Raphael the Archangel School

To order go to www.summersolutions.net and enter H63109RAP

iPad Mini Give-a-way! Order before May 16. Every customer who orders is automatically entered to win. The drawings will be on April 17 and May 17.

Mrs. Diane Gewinner: Learning Consultant

The Guide Do Healthy Lunches Improve Student Test Scores?

FOOD FOR THOUGHT! In an article from the magazine ATLANTIC, by Melinda D. Anderson.

Michael L. Anderson, an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, collected data from the California Department of Education. The data revealed that healthy meals could raise student achievement by 4% on average. The data was collected for the school years of 2008-2009 to 2012-2013. There were 1,192 schools used in the study. The schools contracted an outside company to provide lunch. Then the study team hired the Nutrition Policy Institute to score the lunches. The data showed that contracting with a healthy meal vendor correlated with an increase of study performance in both advantaged and disadvantaged students. The results were not huge, but notable.

Mrs. Kim Westrich: Art

Seventh Grade students viewed artwork from American artist, Valton Tyler. The artist believes that his art ability is a gift from God and he is merely the vehicle through which such a divine gift must be dutifully expressed. We talked about how we all have gifts from God that should be used for good. Students also analyzed his artwork and related it to images they knew.



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

The students have been enjoying a reward system I set up to help them improve their sportsmanship in PE class. At the end of each class, I ask the children what things we did to earn a chip. They tell me examples of good sportsmanship and they also give examples of things that were not worthy of a chip. The chips are poker chips, and either we all get one for good sportsmanship, or no one does. However, if someone goes above and beyond, they can earn an extra chip for their team. The chips are collected in a container and when it is filled they get an extra gym time. God Bless and enjoy the Easter Season.



Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education—Grades 3-8

Last week in physical education class, the students participated in a few team sport activities, team handball and crab soccer. The students seemed to really enjoy the two games. Playing crab soccer required the students to use several different muscles that they are not used to working. They found the movements challenging and fun. I also introduced team handball to the Seventh and Eighth Grade classes. The sport required them to use three team sport movements: Basketball, Baseball and Soccer. The game is played at a fast pace, using shooting skill motion and had everyone involved and participating.

I hope everyone has a safe and Blessed Easter.



Miss Molly Preschool Room A

Happy Easter. In Preschool A we have been focusing on the true meaning of Easter. We have read from the children's bible and other story books. The class's favorite book is, "*Easter Bunny's Amazing Day.*" We made an Easter egg using a three color pattern. The kids also experienced the stations of the cross with their prayer partners. That was very special to witness. Have a wonderful Easter and enjoy the time with family and friends. Thank you and God Bless.



Miss Chris Preschool Room B

What a special week this week. We have been learning all about Holy Week and Easter. We have been reading a lot of books about Easter, and our favorite, which I highly recommend to everyone, is Easter Bunny's Amazing Day. We understand that it is fun to have the Easter Bunny come visit us at Easter and bring us goodies, but we know that the most special part about Easter is that Jesus died and rose from the dead. Jesus loved us so much. The Bears would like to wish everyone a very blessed Easter!



Kindergarten News: Miss Abby Morris & Mrs. Doyle

Hello SRA Community,

The students have been learning about Holy Week and the Stations of the Cross. We did an activity about this with our Eighth Grade partners. Have a great Easter!



First Grade News: Mrs. Louise Balicki-Smith

This week students imagined what it would be like to walk with Jesus as He traveled up to Calvary. We enjoyed being a part of the living Stations of the Cross and prayerfully examined His journey. We are looking forward to the Triduum on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to close out our Lenten journey with Christ.



Second Grade News: Miss Stephanie Amsler

This week Second Grade is vigorously working on our class book. Remember those new species of animals we discovered? Well, we are making an informational book so that others can learn about our new discoveries. Parents of Second Graders, remember to email me if you would like to order a copy of our class book. Orders are due Thursday, April 20th, 2017.



Keep us in your prayers as we continue to prepare for First Communion on Sunday, April 30!

Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade is finishing up our Lenten Journey posters. Father Bob came in last Thursday to discuss Holy Week – the Paschal Triduum. Our class has written some poetry and stories; we drew illustrations to go with our writing. Student Treasures will be publishing our class book: Poems and Miracles. Some students submitted a design for the cover; we will vote for our favorite. All parents have an opportunity to purchase a copy of this memory book. In order to receive our FREE class copy, Ms Polson must have all the forms returned and sent back to the company (yes OR no). Please turn them in ASAP and if you order online let Ms Polson know. Thanks. Happy Easter to All.

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

In Fourth Grade English, we are working on Capitalization and Punctuation. We will be finishing this unit shortly after Easter and taking the unit test after a review when we return. In Social Studies, we are working hard at memorizing our lines for the reenactment of the Dred Scott Trial which will be Tuesday, May 2. The children are doing a great job and are looking forward to the trip to the Old Courthouse. In Science, we are going to be taking a look at ecology when we return after Easter Break.

In Fifth Grade English, we are continuing our work on adverbs. In Social Studies, we are finishing our work on the regions of the United States and when we come back after Easter, we will be working on economics. In Science, we will be identifying and researching the tools meteorologists use to collect weather data, and how these tools have changed through the years.

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

Fifth Grade: The Fifth Graders discussed the importance of Holy Week and what happens during the Triduum. The students continued their work on measuring and drawing angles, line relationships, and polygons during Math. The students are finishing up their Book Club books this week. I have heard many great discussions about the events in the stories.

Fourth Grade: The Fourth Graders are learning about how to round, add, and subtract decimals during Math. The students were excited to share their sequels during reading this week!

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

English:

Students in grades Six, Seven, and Eight will be completing the unit on capitalization and punctuation next week. They are almost finished with the unit on pronouns. Each class has been working on diagramming sentences using compound subject, predicates, and sentences.

Social Studies:

Grade Six students have completed the unit on Medieval Europe. In addition to learning about the people and the way of life at that time, the students have learned about the Crusades. They have created their own coat of arms and have done research on castles built in Great Britain during the middle ages.

Grade Seven students are learning about developments in the industrial North and the agricultural South during the decades leading up to the Civil War.

Grade Eight students have completed the chapter about the Vietnam War. They are learning about Presidential administrations from Gerald Ford to George W. Bush. They will also study about the end of both the Cold War and the Soviet Union.

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

MATH:

In Sixth Grade Standard Math, students are completing an activity to investigate the difference between experimental and theoretical probability.

In Challenge Math, we are exploring bar graphs and histograms.

In Seventh Grade Standard Math, students are identifying and naming key geometry terms.

In Challenge Math, we are reviewing Simple Solution Lessons and quizzes before we move on to new material.

In Eighth Grade Standard Math, students are working with transformations.

In Challenge Math, we are also reviewing Simple Solutions Lessons and quizzes.

SCIENCE:

In Sixth Grade Science, students are wrapping up their biome project.

In Seventh Grade Science, students are working on a booklet for their buddies to help describe the phases of the moon.

In Eighth Grade Science, we are continuing our study of genetics and chromosomal make-up.

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

Literature: Iambic Pentameter - the rhythm of Shakespeare. Students are becoming more acquainted with Elizabethan English. They seem to be enjoying the stories and characters and learning how different life was during those days of yore.

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 14 spelling a vocabulary test will be Wednesday, April 26th.

Religion: Sixth - Lord of all nations.

Religion: Seventh - Confirmation - What happens to us at Confirmation?

Religion: Eighth - Stations of the Cross/Responding to a Changing World

STUCO NEWS



Friday, April 21st - Officer Interest Meeting

Wednesday, May 3rd - Officer Elections

Week of May 8th-12th - Canned Food Drive



Gifted Resource Council's Summer Academies



Special Opportunities for Your High Achievers and Highly Motivated Students

- Eleven 2-week academic day camps.
- In-depth study of Colonial Times, ecology, space science, Ancient Egypt and more.
- Students love these hands-on, thought-provoking summer camp sessions.
- Students get to interact cooperatively with other academically talented students.
- Students can attend 2, 4 or 6 weeks.
- The focus is on learning *how* to think rather than on *what* to think.

What parents should know:

- Ages: Completing kindergarten through 8th grade
- Dates: June 12-23, June 26-July 7, July 10-21
- Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Childcare: Available before and after camp
- Location: Wydown Middle School in Clayton
- Tuition: only \$475!!

For more information:

- Visit <http://giftedresourcecouncil.org/pdf/S17.pdf>
- Call Gifted Resource Council at [314.962.5920](tel:314.962.5920)
- Email at info@giftedresourcecouncil.org