

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 11, Issue 1

August 2022



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

Dear SRA Families,

Well, as August has come to an end, I think it is safe to say that the opening of school for the 2022-2023 school year was a success! SRA began the year as "normal" as possible since the beginning of the pandemic, and it feels so good! Classes have smoothly transitioned back to school, and teachers and students have had the chance to get to know one another and all the new procedures that come with moving up a grade.

We are excited to bring back our Thursday All- School Masses with the inspiring music of Ben Allen, and Friday Prayer Services with our school families. We met in families groups for the first time last week and it was so much fun! The teachers and I are excited to provide this unique prayer experience each week with our young scholars. Next week, we will begin Family Masses on Wednesday when the students attend Mass with their school family.

Parking Lot Dismissal Procedures- Please remember that all cars once on the parking lot must remain parked during the entire dismissal procedure. Cars will be dismissed by faculty once all students are safely in their cars, and will exit by way of the exit next to the double yellow lines to Bishops Place. No cars should be exiting through any other exits on Jamieson and Highfield. No parking is allowed on Bishops Place next parallel to the school. Those families needing to leave quickly for an appointment, must park on the streets over by the rectory or on Jamieson. We have the smoothest dismissal process than any school that I have been at over the years, however, it may still feel long to you. Thank you for your patience and helping to keep our kids safe.

September bring several key events to note on the calendar: IOWA and NWEA Assessments, Parish Picnic, History Day Parent Meeting, Uniform Picture Day, SRA Feast Day, and Impact Life Blood Drive.

This year St. Raphael will pilot a new standardized assessment, NWEA Assessments (Northwest Education Association) in our 2nd, 3rd and 5th grades. This assessment will be given three times this year, September, January, and May. The NWEA will be administered to those classes next week, so we will send additional information this week..

The familiar IOWA Assessments will be administered to the 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades during the week of September 19-22. As with both assessments, having breakfast and plenty of rest is helpful during testing weeks.

Enjoy the upcoming Labor Day Weekend. School will be closed on Monday, September 5. Classes will resume Tuesday, September 6.

Blessings,
Mrs. Hayes

Announcements

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



August Birthdays

Andrea Mense-1
Ethan Bozada-1
Mac Teeter-2
Lucas Mense-3
Lucas Feldman-3
Mae Roth-5
Leo Colona-7
Rosalina Maxfield-8
John Curtin-11
Charlie Ridley-13
Joseph Reynolds-14
Daniella Giambrone-13
Claire Fuhr-15
Caroline Fissel-18
Dervla Sheehan-20
Oliver Mask-22
Lillian O'Mara-27
Miss Franks-27
Jack Delf-28
Mary Hicks-29
Lucas Fuhr-29
Samantha Zouglas-29
Mae Klein-30

September Birthdays

Kelly Farley-2
Lucy Howard-2
Clayton Floyd-3
Maxwell Winters-4
Archie Fissel-4
Isaac Potts-5
Ryan Schoen-6
Gus Boxdorfer-7
Ryan Schneider-7
Thomas Wilkinson-9
Sloane Teeter-10
Linus Cyr-10
Grace Berta-11
John Hinton-13
Michael Gresick-13
Ms. Hopfinger-14
Ben Mense-15
Liam LoBello-17
Nathan Kuenzel-18
Caroline Klein-20
Christian Bernadt-21
Adriana Kurtovic-21
Madelyn Liddy-23
Maisy Cyr-23
Noah Murphey-25
Allie Lowery-28
Drew Stein-29
Mr. Bob-29
Mollie Dirnbeck-30



Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

Sept 2-Noon Dismissal-Faculty PD

Preschool Open-Aftercare till 4pm

Sept 5-Labor Day, No School Preschool-8

Sept 6-History Day Parent Meeting 6:30pm

Sept 13-Home & School 6:30pm

Sept 19-School Board 7pm

Sept 19-22-Iowa Testing, Grades 2-8

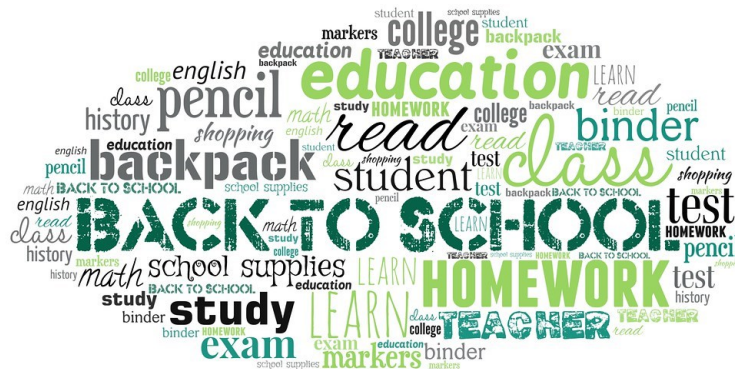
Sept 23-No School K-8 PD for Teachers

Sept 23-24-Parish Picnic

Sept 28-Uniform Picture Day

Sept 29-SRA Feast Day

Sept 29-Impact Life Blood Drive 2-7pm



Miss Molly: Preschool A

We are back at school and I have a great new group of friends. They have done so much already. They went to church, gym, had art and met their seventh grade buddies. For the first two weeks we have been working on the school rules, following directions, manners and our emotions. They made some beautiful emotion monsters that will help them talk about how they are feeling throughout the day. We have such a great group of kids and it is always so fun to get to know each and every one of them!

Thank you and God Bless



Mrs. Tate: Prekindergarten



Pre-K B is in full swing. The beginning of the year has been full of new faces, getting to know each other and learning the rules. We have worked on name writing and shapes so far. It's going to be a great year!



Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee

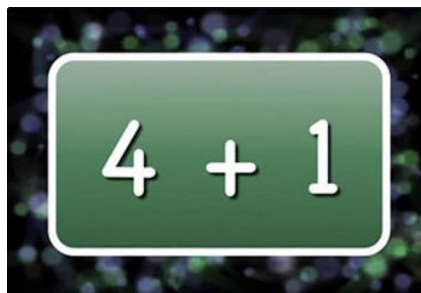
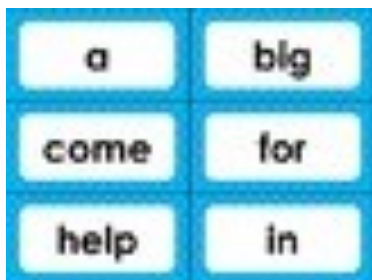


We've been busy in Kindergarten! We're working on learning our daily routines and getting to know our new friends. We've been working hard building a strong classroom community and practicing our classroom motto, "Our classroom is a family". We're counting down to the 100th day of school and are using an abacus and a 100s chart to practice counting by 10s and noticing groups of 10.



First Grade News: Mrs. Jessica Klein

First Grade is having fun learning new routines, having desks, being back at Mass and meeting our family groups! We are also getting back into the swing of learning sight words and math facts!



Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks



If these first two weeks are any indication of what's to come, Second Grade is in for a great year! We have spent the first two weeks getting used to a new teacher, classroom, and set of expectations. We especially look forward to our upcoming Sacraments! Please keep us in your prayers during the beginning of our school year.



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Graders have created vertical and horizontal bar graphs and know how to make tally charts. We played Red/Black with our playing cards in math (reviewing addition). Another fun educational game is Ready, Steady, Throw to practice number sentences in small groups with Mrs. Finan. We are learning about Trees & Leaves and have begun a long range project for science. There are many new people to meet here at St. Raphael this year. It will be a great year!

Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

Welcome back! It's been an exciting time to welcome back the students into the art room and also introduce new faces to my classroom! I have new plans and recurring plans for the students this year that I'm excited to teach them.

For August, I have Early Childhood Students making summer projects to learn the elements of art in a fun interactive activity to learning about MrDoodle! For Upper Class Students, I gave them an opportunity to design our school's theme t-shirt and started off their first project of recreating their own Mona Lisa, Van Gogh Sunflowers, Piet Mondrian Painting, Seaview, or assigned artist artwork. There's lots of art going around and more to come!

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

We are off to a great start in 4th grade. We are all excited to be back in school and are easing our way into a new schedule, learning new routines, and switching classes on the “big kids floor” with the upper grades. It’s quite an adjustment but we are making it work.

In 4th grade Religion, the students are ready to take their first chapter test, how God reveals Himself to us. Next up is how God speaks to us through Scripture.

In 4th and 5th grade English, students are learning about sentence structure, the four main types of sentences, and the difference between the subject and predicate of a sentence.

In 4th grade Social Studies, students are starting to learn about the First Americans and how they were here long before written history.

In 7th grade Religion, students just took their first chapter test which was about the impact Jesus has in their lives. They will now begin to study their friendship with Jesus.



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

Fifth Grade: The students are doing a great job in Mass, and we continue learning about God during Religion after Mass. The students are learning about the Archangels and Saints. Every week they will learn a new saint of the week. In Math, the students are taking an in depth look at place value and compare and order large whole numbers. They are listening to the novel *The Wish* and discussing reading strategies to best comprehend the story. Part of class they are working in their vocabulary books which are strictly online, and studying for weekly spelling tests.

Fourth Grade: During Math class. The students are reviewing place value and comparing and ordering large whole numbers. During Literature class they are listening to the book *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, while applying reading strategies, such as visualizing and predicting. Other reading strategies we will cover are asking questions, clarifying, and summarizing. They are also working in their vocabulary books and studying for weekly spelling tests that occur every Friday.

Sixth Grade Standard Math: The students are reviewing concepts from last year, and focusing on exponents. We will also discuss word problems and strategies to successfully solve them.

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

4th Grade Science reviewed Scientific Method and are learning about Force and Newton’s Laws of Motion.

5th Grade Science are learning about Properties of Matter, like calculating Density of objects.

6-7-8th Grade Science are learning elements, parts of the atom and the Periodic Table.

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

Welcome to a new school year! This is what we'll be working on in religion and social studies:

Religion: Students in Grade 6 are beginning their study of the people in the Old Testament. Students in Grade 8 are learning about the images of the Catholic Church.

Social Studies: Students in Grade 5 will be working on American history this year. They have started to learn about the indigenous people of the United States. Students in Grade 6, who will focus on world geography, are currently learning about regions of the world. They are also being introduced to the Discovery Education program. Students in Grade 7 will be studying world history. They are learning how people began to form communities. Students in Grade 8 are continuing their study of American history. They are reviewing information about the American colonies. Both 7th and 8th Grades will use the Discovery Education program.

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

Algebra 2: Students are applying properties of real numbers to simplify expressions.

Challenge: Students are using order of operations to simplify expressions.

Algebra 1: Students are simplifying expressions involving rational numbers by substituting for a variable.

Pre-Algebra: Students are simplifying expressions involving positive and negative integers and absolute value.

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

The 8th graders have been busy the first two weeks. They chose a hoodie color and a saying (along with a logo). They had a buddy session with their kindergarten buddies, and each 8th grader did a phenomenal job with them. Some of the small kids were scared of the new faces and the tall bodies, but the 8th graders did a wonderful job easing into things and reassuring them.

In 6th-8th ELA the students brought in pieces (photos, trophies, etc.) that said something about themselves. They then created "museum displays" for the rest of their class to view. (Later, they wrote a piece addressing a question one of their peers had.)

The middle schoolers also worked on a piece of writing that incorporated a photo of themselves. It was supposed to have some repetition, with the lines "Someday this kid..." or "One day this boy/girl will..." It was also supposed to be very dense, text-wise. This piece was inspired by a piece of art that is now in the St. Louis Art Museum as part of the *Catching the Moment* exhibition.

Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education



After a short summer, it is great to be back! We have spent the first two weeks at school doing team-building, cooperative games. We have reviewed and introduced games students can play at recess. Take a look at the pictures of the 2nd and 3rd grade students who built two-story hula hoop huts!

