

# Saint Raphael the Archangel

## *The Guide*

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 7, Issue 5

December 20, 2018



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

***"Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign:  
The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." Luke 7:14***

Dear SRA Families,

The Christmas joy is all around us now. The many happy smiling faces and the sharing of gifts are proof that Christmas is almost here! In walking through the halls this week, you will see gingerbread men and beautiful Christmas art creations all over the walls. Gingerbread houses fill the first grade classroom right now. Christmas music is coming from the gym during P.E. and the music room. The Holy Family has been moving from room to room throughout Advent, and of course, we do have the Elf on the Shelf showing up every day. Yes, we have been blessed with Advent and Christmas Joy. The excitement is building!

All good things have to come to an end at some time, so remember **tomorrow** is a **NOON DISMISSAL**. There is **NO AFTERCARE** tomorrow. The Christmas parties will begin at 11:00 AM. **The students will have a Christmas Accessory Day tomorrow. They may wear Christmas accessories such as shirts, hats, and socks with their uniform.**

We hope we were able to bring a little the Christmas spirit to you with the Christmas Performance last week. The kids were awesome, and I am so proud of their hard work. We asked them to be the best they could be, and they were! Thank you to the teachers, especially Mrs. Doty, for all the extra time planning and practicing for the performance.

Classes will resume on Thursday, January 3, 2019. We will begin the new year with Geography Bee on January 10th and report cards on January 11th. It is hard to believe we will be in the final year of this decade.

Let me take this moment to send warm Christmas wishes to all of the SRA families. May the love of Christ be with you and your family over the Christmas Break.

With Christmas joy,  
Mrs. Hayes



## Announcements



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

### **January 3**

Mass  
Holy Name of Jesus  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Planning

### **January 10**

Mass  
Prolife  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Planning

### **January 17**

Mass  
St. Anthony Abbot  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Planning

### **January 24**

Mass  
St. Francis de Sales  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade Planning

### **February 1**

Mass  
Grandparent's Day  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Planning

Benediction/Adoration  
2:00pm  
First Friday of the  
month



### **January Birthdays**

Ryan Stawizynski-2  
Josefine Carril-3  
Hanleigh Gurley-3  
Frank Koziacki-3  
Sydney Browning-6  
Anastasia Boxdorfer-6  
Stella Ronshausen-7  
Addison Pfeiffer-10  
Isabella Pfeiffer-12  
Gavin Eddingfield-13

### **Miss Amsler-13**

Mitchell Jugo-25

### **July ½ Birthdays**

Helen Potts-2  
Corinne Pendry-5  
Vanessa Bess-6  
Reese Pinkerton-7  
Deacon Clark-10  
Flynn Monahan-13

### **Miss Jane-13**

### **Mrs. Runiewicz-14**

Nathaniel Freivogel-16  
Charlie Adams-19  
Lucca LoBello-20  
Aiden Stawizynski-22  
Morgan Kiel-23  
Ada Wichmer-23  
Katelynn Feldman-24  
John Winkelmann-24  
William Morrell-25  
Hazel Dougherty-28

### **Miss Diane-28**

Carter Teeter-30

# January

- Jan. 3 School Resumes Preschool – 8  
 Jan. 3 2:00-4:00pm Dance  
 Jan. 3 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room  
 Jan. 8 ACRE Testing for Grades 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Jan. 8 3:15-4:15pm De Angelis Children's Choir Rehearsal  
 Jan. 10 Prolife Mass  
**Jan. 10 2:00pm Geography Bee in Gym**  
 Jan. 10 2:00-4:00pm Dance  
 Jan. 10 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room  
 Jan. 11 Report Cards Open  
 Jan. 11 3:00pm Set Up for Snowflake Ball  
 Jan. 12 6:30-8:30pm Father-Daughter Snowflake Ball  
 Jan. 14-18 Canned Food Drive  
 Jan. 16-20 Prolife Pilgrimage to Washington D. C.  
 Jan. 17 2:00-4:00pm Dance  
 Jan. 19 SRA Chess Team at St. James the Greater  
**Jan. 21 NO SCHOOL K-8 MLK Day Preschool is open**  
 Jan. 22 9:00-10:15am Little Angels  
 Jan. 22 3:15-4:15pm De Angelis Children's Choir Rehearsal  
**Jan. 22 12:00-7:00pm Preschool conferences**  
 Jan. 23 7:00pm Parent Confirmation Meeting – School  
 Jan. 24 2:00-4:00pm Dance  
 Jan. 25 6:30pm Mouse Races  
**Jan. 27 11:00am-3:00pm Open House Registration for 2019-2020 School Year**  
**Catholic Schools Week begins**  
**Jan. 29 2:00pm Spelling Bee in Gym**  
 Jan. 31 2:00-4:00pm Dance

## February

- Feb. 1 8:00am Mass & Grandparent's Day Noon Dismissal Preschool-8  
 Aftercare till 3:00pm

### *Upcoming Student Council Events*

Thank you for your generous donations of socks and underwear. Through your donations, we were able to send over 800 pairs of socks and over 500 pairs of underwear to Suds of Love (St. Vincent DePaul Church) and Church on the Street.

January 14-18 Canned Food Drive

### **Mrs. Kathy Doty: Music**

PreK- The students are doing circle activities with music. Direction (left, right, etc.), motions and movement to each of the activities and playing instruments using quarter and half notes.

Kindergarten- The students have been continuing tempo, rhythm, and melody.

First Grade – Eighth grade- The students learned various elements of music while preparing for their Christmas program. The variety of styles of music, how a song is composed using (repetition, verses, refrains, coda, tempos, rhythm.) We also discussed the meaning of the lyrics used to tell a story through song.

Kindergarten – Eighth grade did a wonderful job with their program. With the help of Mrs. Hayes and all staff we were able to share an evening of storytelling and song. Thank you for your support.

May you have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



### **Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education**

The students finished working on field hockey skills that included: dribbling, passing, and shooting. I believe most of the students enjoyed the sport that was new to most. They really caught on to the game and had fun with it.

The students are now working on football skills such as: throwing, catching, and running. One activity that stands out as a favorite is the game called the “Gauntlet.” The activity consists of running and dodging other players. Who knows maybe we have some NFL running backs down the road!

The primary students participated in a game called “Broken Field.” Each student had to hike the ball back to their teammate and the last person had to then run with the ball while holding the ball in the proper way, which we call “Eagle Claw.”

I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful Holiday!



### **Miss Molly Preschool A**

Preschool A had a wonderful month. It flew by with the excitement of Christmas. The kids learned the true meaning of Christmas with making an Advent wreath, calendar, and reading many stories about baby Jesus. We also had fun making Christmas globes, gingerbread houses, and a class effort to make a trap to catch an elf. Sadly, we did not.

From our class to your families, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

God bless and thank you



### **Miss Chris Prekindergarten**

The Bears have learned a lot about the season of Advent. We have been counting down the days of Advent with Jesus’ mom, Mary. We created a special Advent Calendar that says “Waiting With Mary.” Each day, we add 1star sticker around a picture of Mary, that we colored and glued onto a beautiful background that we painted with blue, green, and purple watercolors. The Bears would like to wish everyone a very blessed and joyous Christmas! We will see everyone next year!



### Kindergarten News: Lu Ann Domijan



We learned about Advent and made paper wreaths with candles on which we placed a paper flame each week. We listened to stories about Advent and know an Advent poem. Kindergarten is anxiously waiting for the birth of Jesus.



This was the night of our concert.



Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Polar Express Day!

### First Grade News: Mrs. Theresa Schmidt

First grade has been busy this Advent season. We have been adding hay to our mangers outside of our classrooms each time we do an act of kindness so Jesus will have a nice bed on his birthday. The students did a fantastic job performing at this years Christmas play. Each student brought in some candy and they created beautiful gingerbread houses. Before they started, they created a plan for how they would be constructing their house. These are just some of the many activities we have been doing in the classroom. We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!



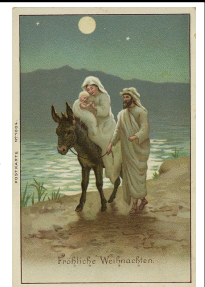
### Second Grade News: Mark Messmer

December has been a busy month in second grade. We started the month by learning about how solids can turn to liquids with a STREAM ice activity with Ms. Amsler and Ms. Schaff. This month, we also were able to plan a Mass on St. Nick's Day after learning all about St. Nicholas' works. Thank you again to everyone who prayed for us leading up to our Reconciliation - we celebrated the wonderful sacrament the last week of November.



### Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade learned all about Advent and the Liturgical Calendar Year in religion class. For STREAM this month, we created mazes for a marble to travel through, simulating a safe passage for Joseph and Mary past Herod to find a stable for Mary to give birth to the Christ Child. In English, we wrote and typed Acrostic poems (using our first and last names) on the Chromebooks. We plan to illustrate them and create a class book. We worked hard singing with Mrs. Doty to be ready for our Christmas play and turned out a wonderful performance for our parents and SRA community. We do love to entertain! Have a blessed Christmas one and all!





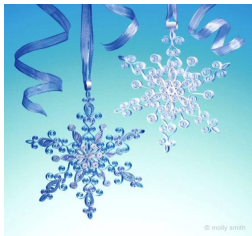
**Miss Patti Woods: English (4 - 8)**

Our fourth graders are participating in a 50 state and United States Territory postcard exchange. We've written all the postcards for our end of the bargain after a bit of research and finding some interesting facts about Missouri and the rich heritage we have right here in St. Louis. We've received a few from other states and eagerly await for the mail carrier daily to see if more arrive. In addition to that, we've just received Christmas cards from our penpals in New York. We'll write back to them when we return from our Christmas vacation.

**Miss Amanda Imo: Religion, Math, Reading, Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)**

Fifth Grade: In religion, the students have been studying the parts of the Mass. We are discussing why we say certain words and do particular actions throughout the Mass. During math, the students have been working on solving problems that included decimals. In literature, the students worked on researching an endangered animal. They created a slideshow about their animal to teach the class about the characteristics and reasons for endangerment. They also created a google drawing and made a recyclable model of their animal.

Fourth Grade: In math, the students have been working hard on learning how to estimate and divide larger numbers. I have loved seeing "the light bulb come on" for several students. During literature, the students have finished reading There's a Girl in the Boy's Bathroom. I loved hearing the students laugh and get so engaged in a book.

**Mrs. Christy Connor: Religion (6) Social Studies (4-8)**

Religion: Our sixth grade students continue to learn about Moses and Israelites and the difficulties they faced while going home to Canaan. They will also review the Ten Commandments.

SS 4: Students in grade four experienced their first classroom Geography Bee this past week. They are working on the U.S. states as well as how our state and national governments work.

SS 5: Our fifth grade students continue to learn about the early English colonies. They have completed work on the New England colonies and have begun to explore the Middle colonies.

SS 6: Students in grade six are learning about ancient Greece and ancient Rome. They will be creating some Greek pottery as part of the class.

SS 7: Students in our seventh grade are completing their study of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. They will soon begin to learn about the administration of our first President, George Washington.

SS 8: Our eighth grade students are beginning to learn about the causes leading up to World War II. They have completed writing their research paper and will work on adding footnotes as well as a bibliography.

Merry Christmas to everyone and God's blessings for a happy and healthy New Year.

**Miss Ashley Schaaf Standard Math & Challenge Math (6-7-8) Pre Algebra, Algebra (7-8)**

**Standard Math**

We have been working with fractions, and just finished up a chapter test. Next we will be exploring measures of central tendency and proportions.

**Challenge Math - 7th grade**

We have just started exploring ratios and unit rates.

**Algebra**

We have begun work with systems of equations. We are looking into the three ways of solving them.

**Pre-Algebra**

We just finished multi-step equations and inequalities, as well as systems of equations in its most basic form. We will be moving on to linear equations.

**Challenge Math - 6th grade**

We have started working with writing and finding ratios and units rates.

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

We've made it halfway through the year! Wishing each of you a blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Literature:** We will begin to work on our Holocaust novels in January. Although this topic is a difficult one to read and discuss, it is important for our students to understand the atrocities of this time period.

Vocabulary Workshop schedule should be taped/stapled to their vocabulary book cover or in their assignment books. I've also shared the schedule with each of them on Google Drive. We will start back up with Vocabulary Workshop after Christmas Break with Unit 7 test on January 17th and Unit 8 on January 31st.

**Religion:** 8th grade will continue their journey through the history of our church.

7th grade will begin their preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. Please watch for information about necessary documents and required assignments.

