

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

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December 2021



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

December 16, 2021

Dear SRA Families,

As we come to the end of celebrating the Advent Season at school, I want to wish all of our SRA families a Christmas Season filled with hope, love, joy, and peace. May each family find some downtime to enjoy the gifts and talents we each bring to our families--Not physical gifts, but the gift of oneself.

It is hard to believe that we have already completed half of the year. December 17th marks the beginning of Christmas Break at 3:10 PM. It also marks the end of the 2nd Quarter of the 2021-2022 school year. Once again, the faculty and staff are grateful to our families for your support as we navigated through changing times with Covid. Thank you!

During this past semester, our students from kindergarten to 8th-grade gained the availability of Covid vaccines. Whether to vaccinate a child is a parent's decision, not the school's decision. However, more families are sharing their child's vaccination status with us, so we ask families with vaccination cards for their children to either scan and email or send a paper copy to school to be kept on file. Knowing the percentage of students vaccinated in each class will facilitate future Covid related decisions.

When sending vaccination cards through email, address to secretary@straphaelarchangel.org. Mrs. Shaver is collecting and organizing this information. Otherwise, send a paper copy to the school office.

St. Raphael had to quarantine several grade levels this year as opposed to the previous year. Many factors come into play as to why, but mainly, more children were testing positive, and we experienced more classroom exposures this year. The St. Louis City Department of Health's policies remain consistent from last year to this year, and we have not heard of any changes in the near future.

As we move into next semester, having student vaccination cards on file at school becomes increasingly important. In the event that we have a classroom exposure to Covid, the students who are fully vaccinated (two weeks past the 2nd shot) will return to school the next day with a mask, barring no symptoms or positive Covid results. An unvaccinated student would continue to follow the current St. Louis City Department of Health 14-day quarantine guidelines. Even though this policy has been stated before, I felt it was helpful to revisit for families.

The Covid Task Team will meet once we return from Christmas break to revisit some of the current procedures, such as health screenings, lunch in the cafeteria, and other policies currently in place. But, again, having accurate vaccination information will be very helpful to the task team in making those recommendations to the school.

New Art Teacher- SRA is excited to announce we have hired a new Art teacher for the spring semester. Miss Gretchen Decker received a Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis in Graphic Design from Missouri State University. She has experience in traditional art methods: drawing,

painting, photography, printmaking, and mixed media. Miss Decker also has experience with Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, and Procreate for iPad Pro. Welcome, Miss Decker. We know you will love SRA!

Yesterday, we had to say **farewell to Mrs. Morice** and thank her for helping our school provide music classes for grades K-5 during the fall semester. We all enjoy her beautiful voice and musical talents playing the piano for our all-school Masses. Mrs. Morice, you made our liturgies a prayerful experience. SRA continues to search for a music teacher for the spring and beyond. So, put the word out to friends and families over the holiday break!

Reminders:

Today, December 16th, NO AFTERCARE (Due to faculty & staff Christmas Party away from campus.)

Friday, December 17th, Dismissal at 3:10 PM,
Christmas Parties 2:00 PM, **Christmas Accessories with uniforms.**

Monday, January 3rd, Classes resume

Friday, January 7th, 2nd Quarter Report Card Open

Christmas Blessings,
Mrs. Hayes



Announcements



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



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

January Birthdays

Ryan Stawizynski-2
Frank Koziacki-3
Mary Ellen Klos-5
Leo Rice-5
Anastasia Boxdorfer-6
Stella Ronshausen-7
Kerry Mense-9
Addison Pfeiffer-10
Gavin Eddingfield-13
Genevieve Kloos-15
Josephine LoBello-16
Rosemary Schmitt-18
Mitchell Jugo-25
Henry Kane-25
Mr. Kraudel-27

June 1/2 Birthdays

Lilliana Schoen-2
Emma Sitzes-4
Nolan Moellering-5
Sam Weiss-6
Paul Dougherty-7
Beckett Ottenad-8
Mrs. Roslawski-8
Eleanor Chitwood-12
Hannah Nguyen-13
Pippa Magee-17
Sofia Rizos-20
Elliot Ottenad-20
Henry Bradford-21
Jude Potts-23
Frances Steidley-23
Evan Ilg-23
Kennedy Richardet-24
Dalila Ramirez-25
Mrs. Tate-27
Isadora Hoglebe-28
Maggie Kleissler-29
Mrs. Finan-29
Sophia Molina-30



Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

- 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 3-School Resumes PreK-8
- 7-Report Cards Open
- 11-Home & School
- 17-MLK Day—No School K-8—Preschool Open
- 24-School Board
- 30-Catholic Schools Week Open House Sunday
- 31-Feb 4 -- Catholic Schools Week





