

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community



Volume 11, Issue 7

February 2023

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

February 27, 2023

Hello SRA Families,

Did the Lenten season sneak up on us this year? That is how I felt. We were so busy with Catholic School Week and kicking off the enrollment season for 23-24 that when we turned the corner after the Auction and Valentine's Day...Lent was now upon us!

Last Wednesday, the students received ashes when they attended Ash Wednesday's Mass. Each week during Lent, the teachers will focus on Lenten themes in the classroom, and on each Friday, the Family Prayer Service will also have a Lenten focus. Then on Friday, the family groups attended guided Adoration in the church, and classes will pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent.

Tomorrow, February 28, is an important registration and scholarship application day through the Today and Tomorrow Education Fund. The SRA \$100 registration discount ends after February 28, so please complete the online enrollment form in FACTS by tomorrow. We ask all families who intend to return to SRA to complete the enrollment form as soon as possible. Thank you to the many families who have already enrolled!

We encourage all families to apply to the **Today and Tomorrow Education Fund**, especially if financial assistance is needed. Some scholarship applications end by February 28, and Alive in Christ funds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For those families who received a scholarship in the past, you will still need to reapply for the upcoming school year.

Registration fees do not go through FACTS. Registration payments can be made by check by sending them to the school or stopping by the school/rectory. You may pay registration fees with a credit card only at the rectory.

Summer Camp Registration forms are on the St. Raphael website under the school heading. Complete and send to school with your child or drop off at the school office.

Parents of a 2nd, 3rd, and 5th-grade student are invited to an information session Wednesday, March 8, at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria to discuss the new NWEA Assessment your child participated in for the 2022-2023 school year.

St. Raphael volunteered to pilot this **new NWEA Assessment** to measure student growth in your child's class this year. With this program, the students assess three times yearly, in September, January, and May. Since the first assessment was considered a baseline assessment, we had to wait until the second assessment to receive results. Now that we have results for your child, we would like to provide this opportunity to present the information and answers parent questions. We hope you will be able to attend this meeting.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Friday, March 10

Monday-Friday, March 13-17

Monday, March 20

Noon Dismissal End of 3rd Quarter

Spring Break

Classes Resume

Have a great week,
Mrs. Hayes

Announcements

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

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



2nd Annual Ben Polson Memorial Hockey Game

STLFD vs STLPD

All Proceeds benefit Backstoppers

March 31, 2023

Face Off: 7:30pm

Affton Ice Rink

10300 Gravois

Tickets available from players at the front door. Come out and support a great cause, and see some great



March Birthdays

Carly Weiss-1

Maggie Anstey-2

Ayden Bardho-10

Rosie Klos-11

Charlie Ronshausen-12

Kate Ilg-14

Serena Barrett-16

Ava Roth-18

Owen Abbott-23

Charlie Dirnbeck-23

Piper Wright-25

Miss Woods-26

Mrs. Magee-26

Maura Kleissler-28

Louie Niemira-31

Bernie Powderly-31

MARCH

Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

3/10-End of 3rd quarter

3/10-Noon Dismissal-Faculty PD

Preschool Open-Aftercare till 4pm

3/13-3/17-SPRING BREAK PreK-8



3/20 School Board 7pm

3/21-Home & School 6:30pm

3/24-Report Cards Open

Miss Molly: Preschool A



Well February has been a whirlwind! The preschool got a chance to experience their first Catholic school week. They had a Valentine party, and we have moved on to writing our curve letters. Such progress!! For the Lenten season the preschoolers also received ashes with their buddies at mass.



Ms. Tracy: Prekindergarten



February was filled with lots of fun and learning. We continue to work on letter numbers and handwriting. The class made volcanos for science and the letter V. We had a fantastic Valentine's Day party. Thank you to the parents who planned and helped with all of our parties. We also had the privilege of watching a live play out on by high school students from Vianney and a few girls schools. Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day was very entertaining. The class loved it.



Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee

We've been busy in Kindergarten! We are hard at work in our new guided reading groups, learning about sentence structure, rhymes and we're reading chapter books as a class for our read-alouds. We love the Magic Treehouse series so far! This past month we learned about Ruby Bridges for Black History month and we also learned about the history of Mardi Gras and made fun masks to celebrate. We are looking forward to working on packets as we journal about our upcoming Lenten Journey as a class.



First Grade News: Mrs. Jessica Klein

First grade wrapped up our animal classification unit by doing a report on an animal which then came together for a class book. In honor of President's Day we learned about the job of being president and wrote all about why we would make a good president. We are now moving on to talk about elections and voting. We are ready to begin the Lenten season and are prepared to make a Lenten promise to God.

Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

Second grade had a great and busy February! We began our research unit with a Black History paper and really enjoyed learning how to research independently! In Math we mastered telling time and blew Miss Franks away with how quickly we grasped the concept. This busy month was complete with our favorite day, TWOSDAY (2/22) where we celebrated all things twos!

Please keep Second grade in your prayers as we begin our First Communion preparation. We have been waiting for this since the beginning of Second grade and are so excited it's finally time!

Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade had so much fun during Catholic Schools Week! We got to plan and prepare the Mass for Grandparents Day. We had a grand time at the Book Fair and playing BINGO. And we all loved the donuts. The Dance Party was a good time in the gym and watching Babe, the movie. The treat bags were a big hit. We cannot forget the Faculty Feud in the gym, watching teachers answer questions. Go YELLOW!! And a BIG Thank You to our Room Moms, dads and parents who helped out at our Valentine Party. We have little plants to remind us of their love for us.

Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

Great month for art! First, congratulations to those who won the class artworks at the Black & Gold Auction! The Upper Students finished their 3D Initials and are displayed in the hallways if you stop by the school. Now they're finishing up Art History Posters that display an array of art styles from Prehistoric Art to Modern Day Art! Then the Early Childhood students got to read a book called "An Artist's Eyes" and learn a little bit more about Color Theory.

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

We have been working hard in class. The fourth and fifth grade classes in English have just finished an essay. The fourth graders chose one of the movies we had watched as part of our Civil Rights unit and wrote a reflection on it. The fifth graders wrote about what was at the end of a mysterious bridge. We are finishing verbs in fourth grade and adjectives in fifth grade.

Fourth grade religion class continues to study the Ten Commandments. We took some time also to discuss Ash Wednesday and Lent. Each student has decided what sacrifice they are making, or what they will be doing that is extra during this Lenten Season. Some fourth graders eagerly wait to be trained to serve our parish as altar servers. Training begins on February 24.

In fourth grade social studies, we are moving into geographical elements, learning where each of the states is located, and working on map study skills.

In seventh grade religion, we continue working on our studies of why we are receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. The students have all chosen their patron saint and are researching them to write their saint report and assemble their shield.

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

Fifth Grade: The Sacrament of Holy Orders will be our focus this month in religion class, as well as Lent. They will learn about different types of religious orders, especially those prominent here in St. Louis. In math class the students will work on all adding and subtracting with fractions this month. We also started 'training' for JA BizTown, which will happen at the end of April. During literature we will continue to read stories in their textbook, as well as learn more about biographies and autobiographies.

Fourth Grade: The students will finish working on dividing larger numbers in math class. After that, they will start learning about fractions. During literature class, they will read stories from their textbook and start a project that they will complete in class based on the next set of stories, which is all about families.

Sixth Grade Standard Math: The students are working very hard in class. Geometric relationships are the concept that the students will continue to work on. Solving word problems is an important

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

4th Graders are learning about animal's shelters and defenses.

5th Graders are studying plants and will be going into learning constellations, solar system, and sun.

6-7-8th Graders are finishing up with types and parts of waves: transverse waves and longitudinal waves.

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

Religion: Grade six students have begun a section on the kings of Israel. They also learned how Samuel was the last and greatest judge.

Grade eight students have looked at the Council of Trent and the reforms made by the Catholic Church after the Protestant Reformation.

Social Studies: Grade 6: Sixth grade students are continuing their study of the continent of Asia. They recently have begun looking at Southeast Asia.

Grade 7: Seventh grade students are learning about society during the Middle Ages. They have studied manorialism and feudalism.

Grades 5 and 8: Both classes are looking at early 20th century America. The eighth grade is learning about the Progressive Era and the reforms of that time. The fifth grade are looking at the beginning of World War I.

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

Algebra 2: Students are graphing quadratic functions in vertex and standard form.

Challenge: Students are identifying angle relationships to solve for an unknown angle measure or variable.

Algebra 1: Students are factoring polynomials to find roots.

Pre-Algebra: Students are simplifying algebraic expressions, and solving single and multi-step equa-

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

6th-8th ELA

The students are working on a variety of writing pieces. They are conducting research for their Civitas project. (The 8th graders will be going on a Civitas field trip on April 4. The 6th and 7th graders will be going on a Civitas field trip on April 21.) This project involves finding a problem that revolves around the kind of issues the United Nations is concerned about. Then the students research ways to solve the problem (theoretically), they write a resolution, create a budget, and then (some of them) get to pitch the resolution to the group.

The students are also continuing to work on their ekphrastic poems (for possibly getting published in an anthology).

The 6th graders are reading *Maniac Magee*, which is contemporary fiction. The 7th graders are reading *Hatchet*, which is also a novel. The 8th graders are reading *Booked*, which is a story told in a series of poems.

Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education

We are starting hockey and the Kid's Heart Challenge. We will be working on hockey skills and games in K-8. The Kid's Heart Challenge is running from 2/21 to 3/3. Funds raised will help research with the American Heart Association and will help our school.



**American
Heart
Association.**