

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 10, Issue 7

March 3, 2022



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

Dear SRA Families,

I think we can all agree that the beautiful weather is an excellent way to begin the month of March. February was a rough weather month in which we exhausted all of our snow days, had two delayed starts, and one virtual day. Whew...lots of decisions for a principal!

It is hard to believe, but March can also have some weather events that could close schools. If that happens, we will be calling virtual days whether devices are sent home or not. We have no snow days left in our calendar year. Teachers will direct students through Google Classroom, which they can access from any device.

Thank you, thank you for the outstanding participation and support for our Catholic Schools Week service project- Penny War Between the Even and Odd Classrooms- in honor of Ben Polson. The St. Raphael community collected \$3,130.58 for the BackStoppers, Inc. This is just an amazing donation to a wonderful cause close to many of our hearts.

Odd Number Classrooms collected a total of \$1,682.30 in pennies, silver, and bills. They also collected the most silver coins. I was reminded of the extra recess prize today! Even Number Classrooms collected a total of \$1,417.67 in pennies, silver, and bills. In addition, we had a few donations from outside of the classroom settings.

Early enrollment of returning students and applications for new students are in progress now through FACTS. Discounted registration fees are due by Mar 11, 2022 . After that date, your first child's registration fee will be \$350, and additional children will be \$250 each. Registrations fees can be paid by check and sent through the school office. Any fees not paid by June will be added to the monthly tuition payments.

Summer Camp-St. Raphael is planning on hosting Summer Camp again this summer, but we are still looking for a Summer Camp Director. Ms. Indelicato has decided to step down from this role this year. To be clear, Ms. Molly is not leaving us and will continue to be our Preschool Director and Preschool "A" teacher next year. Please let the school know if you know of a possible candidate for the Summer Camp Director position.

We have gathered a large selection of sweatshirts and belongings in our Lost & Found. Items are located in two places: in the cafeteria on the bookshelves and in a basket in the stairwell next to the gym. If your child has been missing a sweatshirt, you might want to check our selection. Label all uniform clothing.

COVID-19 Up-date: On February 17, we reported to the Archdiocese 3 positive student cases, and on February 25, we reported one positive student case.

Mask Mandate- The St. Louis City Department of Health will allow the mask mandate to end on Sunday, March 6th. St. Raphael is meeting with the Covid-19 Task Team tonight to finalize our updated plan. The updated plan will then be submitted to the St. Louis City Department of Health for approval. SRA families will receive notification of the new school protocols before changes are implemented.

Please keep Miss Woods and her family in your prayers this week. Her father, Patrick Woods, journeyed home to be with Jesus last Friday, Feb. 25th. The funeral Mass is Friday, March 4, so I am sure she would appreciate prayers during this difficult time.

Finally, you may not have seen me as much this week, and when you did, I was using a cane or crutch again. So let me share a little personal story. Last Sunday, my husband and I were driving home from the Lake of the Ozarks when he suddenly passed out while driving. The event was scary because we did go off the road, but we were able to return to the road and travel to a hospital. We had many Guardian Angels looking after us because we were okay. My husband spent a couple of days in the hospital, and my knee was strained, but the car survived. We feel very blessed these days!

Lenten Blessings,

Mrs. Hayes

Announcements



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



February Birthdays

Jacob Anstey-1
Susan Irons-1
Henry Boxdorfer-1
Mrs. Balicki-Smith-4
Miles Mask-4
Nora Browning-4
Foster Mask-5
Lily Merritt-5
Matthew Franz-6
Elizabeth Flavin-7
Harrison Baker-8
Vincent Queathem-8
Leo Copiano-10
Grace Ridley-10
Clare Anstey-16
Isla Crocker-18
Gavin Panka-20
Emma Peters-20
Maizy Magee-22
Miss Molly-22
Lilly Bick-25
Sean Meier-26
Genevieve Montoya-27
Ms. Geraghty-27

March Birthdays

Carly Weiss-1
Maggie Anstey-2
Rosie Klos-11
Charlie Ronshausen-12
Kate Ilg-14
Serena Barrett-16
David Hiatt-17
Ava Roth-18
Mrs. Knauer-21
Owen Abbott-23
Charlie Dirnbeck-23
Cillian Sheehan-25
Piper Wright-25
Miss Woods-26
Mrs. Magee-26
Maura Kleissler-28
Louie Niemira-31
Bernie Powderly-31

MARCH

Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

2-Ash Wednesday
8-Home & School
11-end of 3rd quarter
14-18 Spring Break-Preschool-8
21-School Board
25-Report Cards Open



Miss Molly: Preschool A

February is almost over and the Angels have been hard at work! We have finished the letter I and H and now we are working on the letter C. They have learned about hibernation and how it starts with the changing of the season to winter. They had a wonderful time at the Valentine party. Thanks to all the parents for making all the parties special! Thank you and God Bless!



Mrs. Tate: Prekindergarten

Pre-K B has been having a lot of fun while learning! We continue to learn letters, sounds and numbers. Finishing Catholic Schools Week was very exciting. We learned about community helpers, what they do and why they are important. We have played many games with letters, sounds and alphabetical order.



Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee



Kindergarten has been busy this winter! We celebrated the 100th day of school, are working on a money unit learning coins and their value and we are beginning guided reading groups this month. We are looking forward to the upcoming Lenten season and are planning a fun service project!



First Grade News: Mrs. Theresa Schmidt

First grade is moving right along and cannot believe that second grade is right around the corner! This week we read in church for the first time and did a great job! Next week we will be reading again on Ash Wednesday. Come and join us if you can.

We are learning how to tell time to the hour and half hour. We also are almost finished with our symbols of America unit. If you want to know what we would do if we were the president, come down our hallway and read our responses. Lastly, we have had it with all of the frozen weather and are ready for spring!



Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

Second grade had a wonderful time celebrating TWOSDAY on 2/22/22. We dressed as twins and did plenty of partner activities! We have spent the past month learning about the world around us in so many subjects! Our Science, Social Studies, and Math units have been focused on the Food Chain, Black History Month, and Time!

Second grade has officially begun Sacramental preparation for our First Holy Communion! Please keep us in your prayers as we take this huge step in our faith journey.



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third graders are getting good at Spelling Oral Dictation. We can listen to sentences and write them out on paper in our most beautiful cursive. Valentines Day was fun; we had a little party and played Bingo. We made a heart that hugged you and enjoyed looking at all our Valentine cards. Catholic Schools Week left us with many good memories. We raised a lot of money for Backstoppers in Ben Polson's name. The day that was really fun was dressing up like a teacher. In Social Studies we are learning about the three branches of government.



Mrs. Polson would like to thank everyone for all of their thoughts, prayers, cards, and gestures of sympathy. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

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

4th Grade: In religion, we are continuing our study of the Ten Commandments and we are making a slide show presentation to go along with each Commandment. In Social Studies, we are continuing our studies of events leading up to the Civil War, slavery, and the Dred Scott Case. In English, we are beginning our unit on punctuation and capitalization.

5th Grade: In English, we are working on our unit on punctuation and capitalization.

7th Grade: In Religion, we are continuing with our preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Mrs. Amanda Knauer: Religion, Math, Reading, Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)

Fifth Grade: The fifth graders are studying the Sacraments at the Service of Communion. They are learning about how to listen for their calling and the various types of vocations. During Math, the students are learning how to add and subtract mixed numbers. The students read a non-fiction article about Abraham Lincoln during Literature. We worked on determining fact and opinion within the article. The fifth graders are working on a historical figure project. They were able to choose someone who has impacted our history and research about his/her life and will teach the rest of the class about their person.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders have continued work with fractions during Math. The students have been adding and subtracting fractions with both like and unlike denominators. During Literature, the students are learning about the iconic author Beverly Cleary. We read one of her short stories and worked on finding figurative language within her writing.

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

4th Graders are learning about the types of Weathering of Rocks, and Erosion.

5th Graders are learning about constellations, stars, galaxies and our sun.

6th, 7th, and 8th Graders are learning about Alternative Energies and just completed a poster on advantages and disadvantages of one of the types.



Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

Pre-K art students got to learn about Piet Mondrian & the Primary Colors. The next 2 weeks we will create a drawing of what "Paradise" looks like to them from either going to Disney World or to the Beach. Early Childhood students have completed their 2nd project! They drew a Magic Treehouse where they included different places from a playground to a hotel & also created VIP guests like Shawn Mendes & Ariana Grande! The students had a fun time with this project. These students will learn about Shel Silverstein for the next project & will create their own scene of interests/people that are important to them with Word Association.

Upper classes have completed their first Art Test! After testing how well they know their Art terms, they are prepared for their next big project completing a one-point perspective design or surreal scene. These students learned how to create their own one-point perspective along different drawing techniques that will help them succeed in their next project. I look forward to seeing what they create with their own imagination!

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

Grade Six religion students are about to begin studying about the period of the Judges in Israelite history. Religion students in Grade Eight are beginning the second part about Catholic Church history.

The students in Grades 5,7, and 8 social studies classes are continuing with American History. Both the Grade Five and Grade Seven students will be learning about the United States Constitution. Students in Grade Eight are completing their study of World War I.

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

Challenge: Students are identifying angle relationships to solve problems.

Pre-Algebra: Students are solving multi-step equations and inequalities.

Algebra 1: Students are factoring quadratic equations.

Algebra 2: Students applying the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, and Descartes' Rule of Signs to find roots of polynomial equations.

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

Bellarmino Speech Meet: The following SRA students competed, and these are the ribbons they earned:

James Browning-red ribbon

Addison Pfeiffer-blue ribbon*

Clara Thompson-blue ribbon*

Claire Fuhr-red ribbon

Helen Potts-red ribbon

*These two students were just 1 point shy of getting a perfect score.

One of Lydia Eddingfield's photographs-a picture of a piece of petrified wood-is going to be featured in an ekphrastic poetry collection published by the Gateway Writing Project. Ekphrastic poems are writing pieces inspired by artwork.

SRA middle-schoolers are submitting poems to this anthology. The art-some were photos, some were paintings/drawings, some were sculptures-was sent to schools all over the St. Louis area. The published collection will represent student writers from all over the city and county.

Middle schoolers are just about to begin looking at essays along with writing them. They will begin several, and then will decide which one they want to revise, edit and polish.

Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education

Your child should have brought home an envelope for the American Heart Challenge. This event ends on March 4th. All donations go to the American Heart Association. Inside the envelope is information about the program and prizes. Please reach out to me if you have any questions!

