

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community



Volume 11, Issue 6

January 2023

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

Dear SRA Families,

January threw us a little surprise this week! A snow Day!! Every year, I am always surprised by just how busy January can be. As soon as the new year arrives, I have one foot in the current school year and the other in the following year. So even though the daylight is short, the days are busy! I think we can agree that the snow day was a welcome pause for many.

Online Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is open today. Mrs. Shaver, Mrs. Halbert, Fr. John, and I have been concentrating our energies on the registration process to hopefully make it seamless for our families both on the registration end and the financial side of FACTS. Time will tell if our efforts paid off.

Fr. John mentioned in his tuition letter the due date for registration is **February 28, 2023**. This is also the date to apply for TTEF scholarship grants for next year. So just mark your calendar for this important date, **February 28th**.

As always, we want to be here for families to assist with tuition when needed, but we need families to first apply for assistance to the **Today and Tomorrow Education Fund** before requesting assistance from the parish. Even if you don't think you will be approved for assistance from TTEF, going through the process is still helpful if or when you might need assistance from the parish. View the information through the links below.

Scholarship Resources

Please review the following documents on our [website](#).

[Information for Families – 2023-2024 Application Cycle](#) (For New and Re-applying Families!)

[Beyond Sunday Fellows Program FAQs](#) in English and [Spanish](#)

[MOScholars](#) application opens February 1st, 2023. Click [here](#) for more information

Our Eighth Graders will learn about their acceptance from their first-choice high school today. We wish them well, and I'm sure you will join the faculty and staff in congratulating their success. Way to Go!

We will end January and begin February with a huge celebration for Catholic Schools Week.

On Sunday, January 29, the school will host our **Open House** from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. We will have guided tours for new families and the in-person **Scholastic Book Fair** to kick off this year.

The rest of the Catholic School's Week agenda was already sent home and is also in the issue of **The Guide** today. However, on the next page, I have a few updates and additional comments about the week.

Blessings,

Mrs. Hayes

Monday, January 30



Service Day! How Can SRA Help?

Bring a Hat — Wear a Hat! New hats sent to Children's Hospital.
Blessing Bags for the Homeless — \$1 Donation for the bags
Classes plan future service projects for their class.
Additional information went home in a flyer this week.

Tuesday, January 31



Celebrate our Parents & Families Day

Morning gift bag for families at drop-off
8th Grade Region 1 Mass at St. Gabriel 9:30-Noon
Spelling Bee @ 1:45 PM – Parents are welcome to attend.

Another change on the agenda is on **Student Day**. The students may wear pajamas.

A Pajama Day!!

Wednesday, February 1



Celebrate our Students

Pajama Day (Appropriate for School)
AM - Movie Time in the Gym
PM - Dance Party in the Gym
Special Lunch Treat

Friday, February 3



Celebrate our Grandparents' Day **Noon Dismissal**

8:00 AM Mass with Grandparents in the church.
9:00 AM Grandparents can move freely from the activities below.
Donuts, coffee, tea, and milk served in the gym and cafeteria.
Grandparent Activity- Bingo in the gym,
Bookfair Shopping in the cafeteria
Visiting the classrooms with your grandchild.
12:00 PM Dismissal – Noon Dismissal

Grandparents are to go to the Church first, and their grandchildren will join them wherever they are seated. Once the Mass is over, grandparents and students will proceed to the school. They can enter through the cafeteria doors, gym doors, or the school's main entrance, which has a ramp and an elevator. Grandparents can do all or just some of the activities listed above.

Donuts will be "nut-free," but grandparents are welcome to bring a different treat for their grandchild with allergies if they like.

Grandparents and their grandchildren can leave anytime during the morning, but we ask that they sign out at one of those three entrances. We will have a teacher stationed at each door with a signature sheet.

Finally, all students must either leave with their grandparents or parents must pick up their child by Noon Dismissal. There will be no aftercare on this day.

Announcements

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



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

Elizabeth Murphey-8

Harrison Baker-8

Leo Copiano-10

Grace Ridley-10

Henry Wegman-14

Clare Anstey-16

Isla Crocker-18

Gavin Panka-20

Emma Peters-20

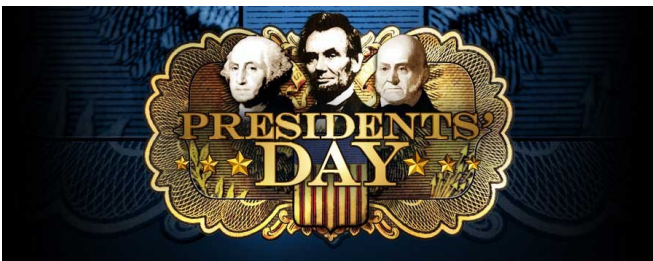
Bruno Franco-21

Maizy Magee-22

Miss Molly-22

Sean Meier-26

Genevieve Montoya-27





Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

1-3 Catholic Schools Week

3-Grandparents Day

3-NOON DISMISSAL PK-8 No Aftercare

6-Gym closed for Auction

8-Class/Club Picture Day

10-NOON DISMISSAL K-8-PD for teachers

Preschool open-Aftercare until 6pm

11-SRA Black & Gold Auction

14-Valentine Parties 2pm

14-Home & School 6:30pm

15-7th Grade Confirmation parent meeting
6:30pm

20-NO SCHOOL PK-8-Presidents Day

21-School Board 7pm

22-Ash Wednesday

23-2nd Grade 1st Holy Communion parent

Miss Molly: Preschool A



Angels are having a great time at school! We are keeping busy keeping up with learning their numbers and letters. Since we have been back the kids have worked on letters I and T. We learned about icicles, igloos, trains, T-Rex and much more. We are looking forward to Catholic School Week and have some fun!



Ms. Tracy: Prekindergarten



In January we continued to learn letters, sounds, and numbers. The Bears have been working on name writing, address, phone number and birthdays as well. We have also been observing a bald eagles nest that's in California. They now have 2 eggs and we are anxiously awaiting the eggs to hatch.



Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee

Kindergarten has been busy preparing for our 100th day of school celebration! We have been practicing counting by 10s since the beginning of the school year in anticipation and celebrated with lots of fun activities this week. We counted to 100 licks of a tootsie pop, brought in snacks of 100 things, and made 100th day t-shirts. Each student's shirt was unique and it was so much fun seeing their creativity shine through! We also enjoyed a visit from Father John this month as he explained the different church seasons. We are excited about the upcoming Catholic Schools Week at SRA!



First Grade News: Mrs. Jessica Klein

First grade had a busy month learning about place value, sneaky “y” who steals vowel sounds and animal classifications. We are starting to work on our animal reports and are loving getting to use chrome books!



Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

This month in Second grade was all about getting back in the swing of things after Christmas Break! We brushed up on our classroom procedures and expectations, and set goals for ourselves for the rest of the school year! In Math we are learning how to tell time, and we are eager to begin our Black History Month reports. Please keep us in your prayers during this winter season!

Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson



Third Grade is off to a great start in 2023. We celebrated the Epiphany and made and wore gold crowns. Friday Family Groups are always enjoyable. We got to dance to our schoolyear theme song “God is On the Move.” We learned about the 7 Sacraments and made our Reconciliation in church (see the photos). Fr John came and spoke to our class about the Liturgical Calendar. In grade 3 presently we are preparing for our leadership role in reciting the rosary. We are making little booklets about the Mysteries of the Rosary from our religion book.



Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

A great start to the year! The upper class students had start their 3D Initials Project once we got back and will finish them during Catholic School Week. You can preview finished work of those in the Art Room during open house! Early Childhood students are finishing up their Claude Monet artwork by creating a similar artwork to “Water Lilies”. Overall, all the students also contributed ideas for the Black and Gold Artwork! You will get to see that artwork in the near future.

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

We are working hard in 4th grade! We are continuing to work our way through the Ten Commandments, currently working on ways to honor our mother and father. In English we continue working on verbs. In Social Studies we are learning more about the Dred Scott Freedom Trials held here in Saint Louis in the Old Court House.

In fifth grade English the class just completed their test on verbs and will begin a writing activity.

In seventh grade religion we have begun our work in preparation for Confirmation. Please pray for these 12 students who are taking this step in their Catholic formation.

In addition to all that, we are preparing for an exciting week ahead, Catholic Schools Week. Come join us on Sunday for our Open House!



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

Fifth Grade: During religion the students will be studying the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. They did a great job on learning the parts of mass, and even used their final project to teach their 1st Grade buddies about it! They are continuing to learn about fractions in math class. The focus during literature has been about non-fiction stories, which will continue through much of the month.

Fourth Grade: Dividing larger numbers will be what the students will be learning this month in math class. The students have been doing a great job on their book reports each month for literature class, and they are also reading realistic fiction stories.

Sixth Grade Standard Math: The students continue to work hard in class, and they did well on adding and subtracting fractions. They are working on multiplying and dividing fractions during February.

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

6-7-8th Grade are learning the different types waves of the Electromagnetic Spectrum and about the properties of Light: absorption, reflection, and refraction and transmission.

5th grade is learning about energy flow in the ecosystem; food chains, food webs, and food pyramids along with importance of apex predators.

4th grade is learning the Scientific Classification System, Binomial Nomenclature, and importance of adaptations of different animal species for survival.

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

Religion: Grade 6 has been looking at how the Israelites have returned to the Promised Land and are settling into their homes.

Grade 8 is continuing their study of Church history. Currently they are learning how the Church survived through the Dark Ages into the Medieval Era.

Social Studies: Grade 6 students have begun to look at the geography and cultures of East Asia.

Grade 7 students are studying the various empires in West and East Africa.

Grade 8 students are completing the period of Reconstruction after the Civil War and will soon begin learning about the Industrial Revolution and the Progressive Era.

Grade 5 students are looking at the causes of the Civil War.

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

Algebra 2: Students are working on simplifying radical expressions and complex numbers.

Challenge: Students are working with different forms of organizing and displaying data. Students will be conducting a survey of their peers and present their results to the class.

Pre-Algebra: Students are calculating the area and circumference of circles.

Algebra 1: Students are solving exponential growth and decay word problems.

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

The students finished their informative pieces, and peer edited them. The 7th and 8th wrote argumentative pieces as well. They are now working on beginning poems for the anthology that is a collaborative effort between the Gateway Writing Project and Artists First. Last year, some of SRA's students were featured in the poetry collection--both as writers and as artists (Lydia Eddingfield's photo was one of the inspirational pieces of art). This collection is composed of ekphrastic poems--poetry inspired by paintings/drawings/pieces of sculpture. Needless to say, being published when you're in 6th-8th grade is pretty exciting.

The 8th graders just finished the book *Just Mercy*, a wonderful memoir about social justice. The 7th graders just finished *Chains*, a historical fiction novel about the Revolutionary War. And the 6th graders? The 6th graders are almost finished with the dystopian novel, *The Giver*, which often ends up being the favorite book they read all year.

Most of the 8th graders went to a Generation Life event at the Chaifetz Arena, and their behavior was phenomenal. They were respectful audience members and participants, they handled loose parameters with maturity, and they made Father John, Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. R extremely proud. Without exception, they displayed exemplary behavior.

SRA is hosting a Bellarmine Speech meet on Saturday, February 4. The following students will be competing: James Browning, Clara Thompson, Addi Pfeiffer, Adriana Kurtovic, Madi Wilkinson, Addi McMorrow, Emmy Kleekamp and Mark Boeckmann. Please wish them good luck in their competition. They've been practicing very hard.

And a final note: There will be a bake sale after the Saturday Mass (Feb. 18) and both Sunday masses on Feb. 19. Plan to stop by for some delicious treats--for people as well as for dogs. It's an 8th grade fundrais-

Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education

We started the new year by finishing our soccer unit. Next up is hockey!

