

# Saint Raphael the Archangel

## *The Guide*

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 9, Issue 4

January 28, 2021



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

January 28, 2021

*"Beloved, let us love one another... The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love." 1 John 4:7-8*

Hello SRA Families,

It is hard to believe January is almost over, which means Catholic School Week is upon us! Yes, we are celebrating Catholic Schools this year more than ever. Our community should be so proud of how we came together during the pandemic and provided a positive learning experience for our children. Yes, we had many challenges. However, the successes far outweighed our missteps. One word that was spoken often throughout the past year during planning meetings was **PRUDENCE**.

Interestingly, **PRUDENCE** is the focus virtue during February. Living the virtue of **Prudence means a person is making good decisions in specific circumstances**. It continues to amaze me each month, when I reflect upon a new virtue, how the "Virtues in Practice" program speaks to my heart. As we progress through the third year, with the overarching theme being Community, we find our way back to our SRA Community by practicing this year's virtues. I know we are all anxiously awaiting those times we can all be together, but we must remain **PRUDENT!**

One of those times of the year when the SRA Community shines is our annual CSW Open House. That is always a fun day with lots of SRA excitement. Unfortunately, we cannot host our traditional event due to health guidelines, so we ask our families to spread the good news about SRA to family and friends. We will be posting regularly on social media, and individual tours can take place after school hours. Interested families can call the school office to schedule a tour time or through the posted SignUp Genius.

We are excited to announce - our new **ONLINE REGISTRATION FORMS** are now open today on the parish website, <https://www.straphaelarchangel.org/>. Look for the red box labeled "Announcements." Families now have the option to submit their child's registration through the online format, or if you prefer, the paper registration forms are still available in the office. We ask that you call/email Mrs. Mechler for the paper forms. All other documents that will need your signature or follow-up steps will be sent home in the weekly packets.

**Catholic School Week:** The week's schedule was sent home last week and is also attached to this Flocknote. Each day next week, we celebrate important members of our community with activities and dress down days. I need to clarify my wording on the schedule. Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday are dress down days because of the theme of each day. (Career Day, Grandparent's & PJ's Day) Wednesday is an accessory day-student may wear their favorite Sweat Shirt over their uniform.

**Spelling Bee:** The Spelling Bee date has changed to Tuesday, February 9. The Spelling Bee will take place in the cafeteria following 8:00 AM Mass. The students will be able to watch from their classrooms, and parents will be able to connect through the link on the parish website.

Finally, you may have noticed the flashing lights stationed at the corner of Bishops Place and Highfield. The police are keeping a careful watch over our parking lot for a few days. Last week a teacher noticed, while on recess duty, a vehicle driving slowly close to the parking lot. Father did place a call to our precinct, and we continue to keep a watchful eye. We have not seen the vehicle again, but it is nice to know the police are proactive with our children's safety.

Happy Catholic Schools Week,

Mrs. Hayes

Faith. Academics. Service.  
**Catholic Schools**

# Announcements



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



Catholic School Week  
January 31- February 5, 2021

## February Birthdays

Jacob Anstey-1  
Susan Irons-1  
Henry Boxdorfer-1  
**Mrs. Balicki-Smith - 4**  
Miles Mask-4  
Eleanor Browning-4  
Foster Mask-5  
Lily Merritt-5  
Matthew Franz-6  
Elizabeth Flavin-7  
Harrison Baker-8  
Leo Copiano-10  
Grace Ridley-10  
Clare Anstey-16  
Carmen Kriegshauser-17  
Isla Crocker-18  
Gavin Panka-20  
Emma Peters-20  
**Miss Molly-22**  
Addison Berta-23  
Lilly Bick - 25  
Sean Meier-26  
Genevieve Montoya-27

### Monday, February 1

### Celebrate our Parents



Morning Gift Bags to parents at drop-off  
**Dress Down: Career Day**  
(What do you want to be someday or dress as your parent's career)

### Tuesday, February 2

### Celebrate our Grandparents



Send letters/artwork to grandparents through the mail  
**Dress Down: Dress as your Grandparents**

### Wednesday, February 3 Celebrate our Teachers



Teacher- lunch provided by Home & School  
(Thank You!)  
Teacher Baby Picture Contest  
**Dress Down: Dress in your favorite Sweat Shirt**

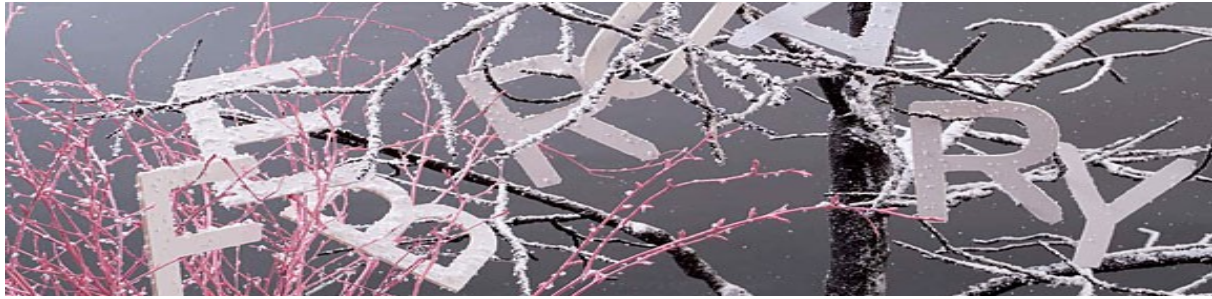
### Thursday, February 4

### Celebrate our Students

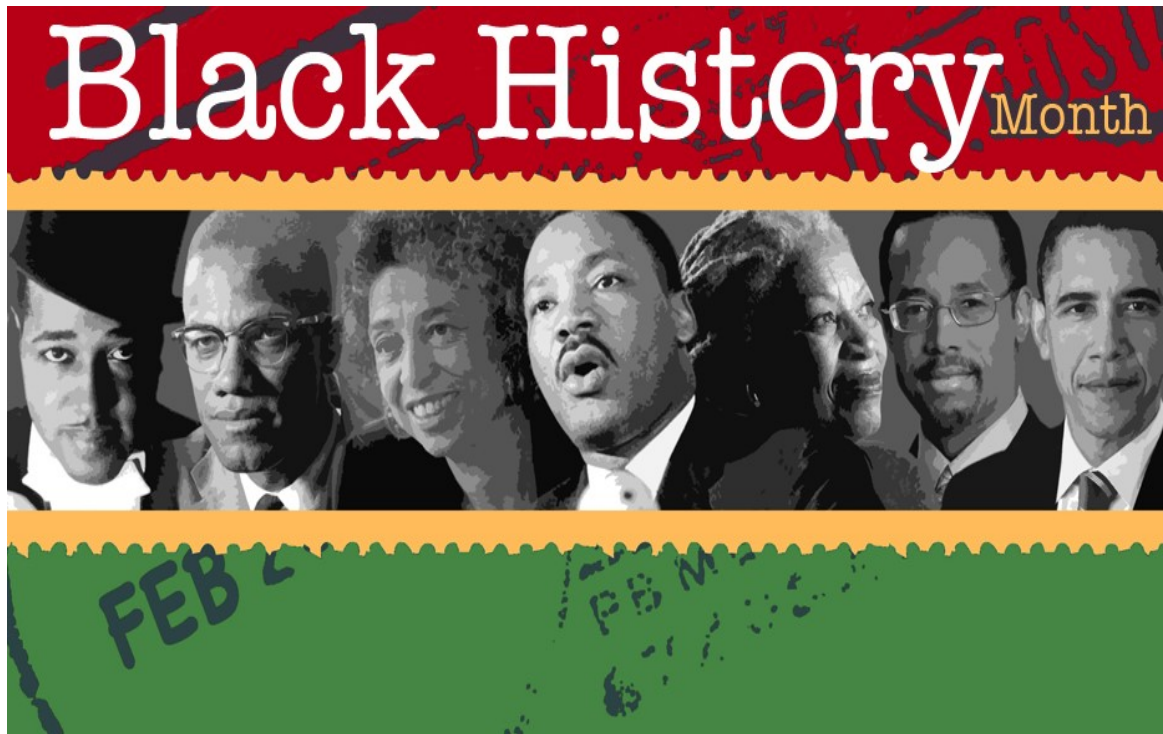


[This Photo](#)

Movie Day- Each teacher will plan for their class.  
Movie Snack  
**Dress Down: PJ's Day**



- Feb. 9 9:00am Spelling Bee (Virtual)
- Feb. 11 Book Fair Ends
- Feb. 11 2:00pm Valentine's Party
- Feb. 13 SRA Black & Gold Auction
- Feb. 15 President's Day No School K-8  
Preschool is open
- Feb. 17 Ash Wednesday



## Catholic Schools Week Family Service Projects

Catholic Schools Week is traditionally a time of the year when our students and families give back to the community through our service projects. This year will look a little different because of our limitations with Covid-19, but our community's needs do not diminish. One of the most important lessons in a Catholic School is learning to serve others.

**We are called to act with justice.**

**We are called to love tenderly.**

**We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**

*David Haas lyrics- We are Called*

We will have two service projects that we ask our families to support. Any and all help is welcomed...nothing is mandatory. Just giving from the heart!

1. St. Raphael the Archangel School will be collecting items in charity for St. Vincent de Paul Church's Lunch Window. Please see the attached flyer for further explanation and list the items for each grade level to donate. **Due by Thursday, February 4.**

2. Our 2nd service project invites our school families to **prepare a casserole or dessert for local homeless shelters**. Prepare it, freeze it, then drop it off at school on Thursday, February 4. SRA has generous volunteers who have offered to help deliver to the service organizations in need of these meals.



**Please follow the directions below exactly:**

### **Casseroles--Baked and Frozen**

Wrap securely in aluminum foil to prevent leakage and freezer burn



Mark on top what kind of casserole it is & the date-- **February 4, 2021**

### **Desserts--Baked and Frozen**

Ensure they have a secure lid (no plastic lids), so they do not get smashed.

Wrap securely in aluminum foil to prevent leakage and freezer burn

Mark on top what kind of dessert it is, and the date-- **February 4, 2021**

Students/Parents can place on the carts on the sidewalk during drop-off on **Thursday, February 4th.**

Remember to wear a mask when dropping off your dish. Thank You!

***"Lord help me to do all the good I can, by all the means I can, in all the places I can, to all the people I can, and as long as ever I can."*** Anonymous



## Catholic Schools Week Service Collection



This year St. Raphael Archangel School will be collecting items in charity for the St. Vincent de Paul Church's Lunch Window. The Lunch Window serves 75-125 lunches a day, 6 days a week, to those in need. Currently, the lunch window is most in need of individual lunch sized bags of chips and individually packed drinks. Please send these items to school during Catholic Schools Week:

**(February 1st-February 4th).**

**PreK-3rd Grade:** Lunch size Pre-packaged chips  
**4th-8th Grade:** Beverages (juice boxes, water, soda, etc)

For more information about St. Vincent de Paul Church's Outreach Programs:  
<https://www.vco-stl.org/>

Questions about the collection? Contact Mrs. Smithicki  
[balicki-smith@straphaelarchangel.org](mailto:balicki-smith@straphaelarchangel.org)



# ST RAPHAEL ARCHANGEL SCHOOL Scholastic Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair is online from **January 29-February 11!** Support our school and help your child discover new books, favorite characters, complete series, and more! You'll love the fun new option to shop for Book Fair exclusives directly from the interactive book-list and enjoy free shipping on book-only purchases over \$25.... let's instill a love of reading through great books!

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/straphael>

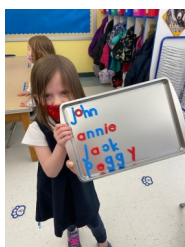
### Miss Molly: Preschool A

January is flying by and the Little Angels are working hard on their letters and math. We are also learning about the weather and the fun we can have in the snow. We have four new angels to add to the class and they are wonderful. We have been lucky so far and have been able to go out and play on the playground, which is the highlight of the day!!



### Mrs. Liz: Prekindergarten

We've been busy in Preschool B. We learned about the letter O this week and made letter projects turning our O into an octopus. We're focusing on letter sounds and practicing our zoo phonics song each day, saying an animal's name and the sounds for each letter. We are little mathematicians and are practicing our number skills using a number line and estimation each day. We have new center rotations happening each week and our current favorite center is the writing desk. The children love writing their friends letters and delivering them to their cubbies.



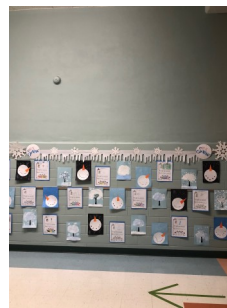
### Kindergarten News: Miss Lu Ann Domijan

Kindergarten is learning how to identify long and short vowels, retelling stories in order of events, and writing fact books.

We are studying about snow, polar bears, and penguins in science. With our snow unit, we painted winter pictures and made beaded snowflakes. In social studies we are learning about all the different holidays we celebrate throughout the year.

We are looking forward to Catholic Schools Week.

Thank you parents and teachers who have made it possible for us to have so much fun and fond memories.



### First Grade News: Mrs. Theresa Schmidt

First grade just finished our unit on telling time and will be moving on to adding and subtracting two digit numbers without regrouping. In social studies, we are learning about important American symbols and some of our presidents. First grade will begin preparing for the Lenten season very soon. We will be learning about the importance of forgiveness. We also just picked our topics for our personal narratives. Next week we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week and all the people who make our school so special. Thank you to our wonderful parents for sending us to SRA. For first grade, 2021 has started out fabulous and we hope that everyone has a healthy and happy new year.



### Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

Second grade has had a busy beginning to the New Year. In math, we are working with money and are excited to apply our money knowledge to our classroom store. In science, we are studying the kingdoms of living organisms and learning so much about the world around us. Second graders are eagerly awaiting the beginning of our Sacramental preparation for First Communion. Please keep them in your prayers as we continue into our third quarter.



### Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade is glad to ring in a New Year 2021. We have read many good books together: *My Brother, Martin* by Christine King Farris, *Grow, Secrets of our DNA* by Nicola Davies, *Capital: Washington DC from A to Z* by Laura Krauss Melmed, and *Mind-Boggling Numbers* by Michael Rosen. Fr. John came to our class and we performed the Nicene Creed as a choral reading for him. We played MO Tree Bingo and Brain Game. At a Google meet some of us shared presidential facts from our research. Our reports are not due officially until Thursday, February 4. Mark also shared his arrowheads with us since we were reading about them in our English workbooks. We even learned our times tables for 7, 8, and 9s, and took another chapter test in math.



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

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the School-wide Spelling Bee. It won't look like it has in years gone by, but it's still an honor and a privilege to make it this far. Let's join together and send thoughts and prayers to these fine young students!

4th Grade:

Charlie, Jake, Ava, Henry, Clara, and alternate Paddy.

5th Grade:

Teddy, AJ, Linus, Ella, Jude, and alternate Elizabeth.

6th Grade:

Charlie, Claire, Lucas, Ethan, Mason, and alternate Miles.

7th Grade:

Conor, Sydney, Lilly, Adam, Cillian, and alternate Lauren.

8th Grade:

Henry, Emillie, Joey, Mateo, Kasen, and alternate Isabella.



Tuesday, February 9

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

Fifth Grade: In religion, the students have been studying the parts of the Mass. We have studied all of the parts now and then talked about how we can all glorify the Lord by our actions. During math, the students worked on solving problems that included decimals. During literature, the students are reading the book Bud, But not Buddy. It is about a boy who is on a journey to find his father. I love hearing predictions as we go!

Fourth Grade: The students have been working hard on multiplying large numbers. We have also started working on division. The students read "The Turtle Who Wanted to Fly." With this story, the students worked on cause and effect. They also read a story about a smart, but overconfident fourth grader and her experience with a class assignment. We worked on character traits and making reasonable predictions.

**Mrs. Dana Lahm: Science/STREAM (4-5-6-7-8)**

4<sup>th</sup> grade has been studying how the processes of weathering, erosion, and deposition are constantly changing Earth's landforms.

5<sup>th</sup> grade has been learning how to use physical properties in order to classify the different states of matter. Additionally, students are studying how phase change provides evidence of atomic theory.

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade have been studying cell theory, cell structure, and function, and the biological levels of organization in living organisms.

**Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education**

In January, with the start of the Blues' season, we have been working on hockey skills. This includes puck handling, passing, and shooting. Also, we have been playing hockey games with most of the grades.





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

Students in sixth grade religion will be learning how the Israelites returned to Canaan and what they had to do to take back the land. We will also be focusing on the Ten Commandments. Eighth grade religion students are beginning to learn about the early history of the Catholic Church.

Students in fifth grade social studies have completed their work with the Bill of Rights and are learning about Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. In grade six social studies, we are beginning to study about ancient Rome. Grade seven social study students are completing their study of the American Revolution and will begin to look at the creation of the United States Constitution. Eighth grade social students will be completing work on the Gilded Age and will begin learning about the Progressive Era.

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

In standard math, we are working with proportions.

In challenge math, we are working with proportions and percents.

In pre-algebra we are exploring linear equations.

In algebra we are working with systems of equations.

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

Each of the middle school students chose a person of color who has made an impact on our country history. Their choices ranged from Scott Joplin to Ceasar Chavez, from I.M. Pei to Tupac Shakur, from Michelle Obama to Misty Copeland. They researched their subjects and learned a great deal about their subject during the process.

Elizabeth, Ryan and Eleanor each earned a red ribbon for their performances in the Bellarmine Speech competition.

