

# Saint Raphael the Archangel

## The Guide

A weekly newsletter for the school community

Volume 5, Issue 24

March 9, 2017



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Kim Vangel

Dear St. Raphael School Families,

We have finished the 3rd Quarter of the school year (the longest yard, in my opinion!), and we begin the 4th and Final Quarter of 2016-2017 next week. We are certainly not finished teaching and learning yet, but there is a feeling like we are heading into the final stretch of a long and productive race. Our 8th Graders are nearly prepared for high school, our Preschoolers in Miss Chris's class are excitedly looking forward to being in the "big school" as Kindergartners, and all of our students and teachers are beginning to look forward to the next school year.

I, too, am looking forward. This is my 5th year as Principal at St. Raphael the Archangel School, and I am very proud of the accomplishments we have made to improve learning for our students in these five years. This has been a total team effort between me, the faculty, the students, and parents; a great deal of "blood, sweat, and tears" have been shed during this process of improvement; I couldn't be more proud of everyone here and the advancements that have been made in standardized test scores, curriculum development, best practices in instruction and assessment, and the culture of learning that we have tried to build and nurture.

St. Raphael the Archangel School is on the right course for learning and education, and it is now time for me to turn the reins over to a new school leader for the next chapter of St. Raphael School's progress. I have accepted the Principalship at St. Clare of Assisi School in Ellisville, and will transition there over the upcoming summer. I will be sad to leave the many friends and colleagues I have made at St. Raphael, but at the same time, I am excited to bring new curriculum, instruction, and assessment development to the St. Clare of Assisi School community.

Please know that I will be working very hard to ensure a smooth transition from me to the next Principal at St. Raphael as I want nothing but the best for SRA. I ask you to keep Father Bob and the Parish leaders in your prayers as they begin their search for the next Principal; and I humbly ask for your prayers and support as I begin my next transition as well.

Peace,  
Kim Vangel  
Principal

### History Day News

Several of our Upper School students participated in the National History Day regional competition on Saturday, February 25. Each student worked very hard on their research skills and produced very good entries. These are the students who participated:

Annie Higgs, Bella Hogrebe, Gillian Neal - Performance about Phyllis Schlafly  
First Place

Sarah Brinkmann - Documentary about the Women's Air Service Pilots in WW II  
Second Place

Jenna Holik - Exhibit about Olympian Jesse Owens  
Ardian Hoxhaj, Sean Madden - Exhibit about the Boston Tea Party  
Third Place

Alyssa Schaefer, Rachel Schaefer - Exhibit about the Fair Labor Standards Act  
Liberty Kocsis, Anna Ojile - Exhibit about Jacques Cousteau  
Lucy Schlichting, Gabbi Smith, Miranda Sullenger - Exhibit about the Children's March in Birmingham, Alabama First Place



Congratulations to all students who entered this year's History Day contest. You all did very well and should be proud of your accomplishments. Good luck to the students moving on to the State Contest in April.

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



All School Mass  
8:00am  
March 16, 2017  
5th Grade Planning

Stations of the Cross  
Friday 2:00pm  
During Lent

Benediction 2:00pm  
First Friday of the  
month

- March 9 – 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club
- March 10 – End of Third Quarter
- March 10 - Wear sports jersey, shirt or sweatshirt day for two or more canned goods
- March 10 - 2:00pm Stations of the Cross
- March 10 – 3:00-11:30pm Lock In for Upper Grades
- March 13 – No School K-8 Records Day for Teachers  
Preschool is open
- March 14 – Spring Picture Day
- March 15 – 8:00-4:00 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Holocaust Field Trip
- March 15 - 3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal
- March 16 – 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club
- March 17 - 2:00pm Stations of the Cross
- March 17 - Report Cards open on ALMA
- March 19 – 10:00am Family Mass Donut Sunday
- March 20 – Bishop Dubourg Shadow Day 6th & 7th Graders
- March 20-24 SPRING BREAK K-8 Preschool is open**
- March 27 – 3:15-5:00pm STEAM Club K-3
- March 28 - 3:15-5:00pm STEAM Club 4-8
- March 29 - 3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal
- March 30 – 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club
- March 31 - 8:30am-1:30pm 1st Grade Field Trip to Missouri Botanical Gardens & Tower Grove Park



### March Birthdays

- Peyton Sorth-10
- Max Sarich-11
- Miss Imo-21**
- Ava Stolte-22
- Owen Abbott-23
- Charles Dirnbeck-23
- Miranda Sullenger-25
- Cillian Sheehan-25
- Miss Woods-26**



Seventh Graders are in charge of safety patrol at the corner of Bishops Place and Highfield. Students should arrive by 7:30 in the morning and again in the afternoon at 3:10.

Thank you! **3rd quarter patrol schedule:**

**Week of March 13th**

Ellie & Gillian  
Lucy & Anna



**RECESS/LUNCH DUTY**

Want to spend an hour during the day helping out at recess or lunch duty at St. Raphael? We would love your assistance! The times of lunch and recess are as follows: 11:10am Preschool goes to lunch—11:15-11:40am (K-3) - 11:45-12:05pm Lunch (4-8). All volunteers must have completed their Protecting God's Children requirements. If you can help, please email Lori Stawizynski at [loristaw76@yahoo.com](mailto:loristaw76@yahoo.com)

Monday, March 13 No School

Tuesday, March 14 Mark P. & Stephanie K.

Wednesday, March 15 Missy W. & Linda K.

Thursday, March 16 Jenny D. & Dan S.

Friday, March 17 Terri B. & Stacy S.



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**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

The process for the 2017-2018 Kindergarten registration is now open. Children who are to be registered must be 5 years old by July 31, 2017. If you are interested in touring our school or would like to request a packet of information and the registration form you will need to complete, please call the school office at 314-352-9474. Registration packets may also be mailed if requested.



**Box Tops for Education**

Thank you for clipping and sending in your Box Tops. This latest shipment earned St. Raphael School \$265.30. That's free money for our school. So keep clipping and sending them in. Our next shipment will be processed at the end of May. Only Box Tops with expiration dates after that will be included, so don't wait until you have a big bagful.



We are in need of someone to take over the job of collecting and managing these Box Tops next school year. It is not too labor-intensive. You and your children can count and sort them while watching T.V. Shipments are processed twice a year. If you are interested, please let Mrs. Vangel know. Thank you, Mary Reck

Hello! My name is Grace and I am in Seventh Grade. For my Service Project this year, I am collecting aluminum tab tops which are the aluminum tops found on the tops of aluminum soda cans. These are for the Ronald McDonald House of St. Louis. The Ronald McDonald house helps those in faraway cities who are in need health care in St. Louis. It is also a place for families who need a place to stay near the hospital. The Ronald McDonald house takes the tabs to a recycling company and the recycling company gives back 100% of themoney. I have set up some containers by the main office for you to drop off any donations you have. I will be doing this project from September 19th 2016 to March 19th 2017. Thank you for your generosity and remember to bring in your tab tops.



**Mrs. Diane Gewinner: Learning Consultant**

**Boys Who Sit Still Have a Harder Time Learning to Read**

**Health Research by Belinda Luscombe**

Anybody who has seen boys tear through a hall, run around a playground, or ricochet off classroom walls, knows that they are exhausting. According to a Finnish study, this is all helping them to be better to be better readers. The study released November 30, 2016 in the *Journal of Medicine and Sport*, found that the more time children spend sitting in Grade One, the less time they spend being physically active, the fewer gains they make in reading during the next two years. In First Grade, a lot of sedentary time and no running around also had a negative impact on their ability to do math. Among girls, sitting for a long period of time without moving much didn't seem to have any effect on their ability to learn. The connection between exercise and learning is not new, but this study provides stronger evidence that the increased emphasis on sedentary academic activity among the youngest learners may be fruitless if it comes at the cost of physical activity.

**Mrs. Caroline Zarinelli**

**Math in Music and Drama**

The First Graders completed their Math in Music and Drama study with the "Place Value Dance". It is a game of self-discipline, non-verbal communication, strategy and teamwork. The class was playing against me for the points. Designated around the music room were three signs: 100s, 10s, and 1s. Also a "refrigerator" space was designated for leftovers. I would write a three-digit number on the board and the students danced (or moved) to form the proper amount of people in a circle under the place value number. If the circle of students had the number needed to represent the number on the board the remaining students (or leftovers) went to sit in the refrigerator. The students' number sense is on track.

**Mrs. Peggy Martin: Physical Education & Art Grades Pk-3**

This year is really MARCHing along.

The Jump Rope for Heart program has raised nearly \$900. Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Jump Rope event a success. The LAST DAY to bring in money is FRIDAY, March 10, 2017. I will complete the process and order the thank you gifts. Words can never express the kindness and generosity I see in the parents and children at St. Raphael's.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for FIELD DAY!!! MAY 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The more parents, the more fun we have. I am in need of two used bike inner tubes for one of my Field Day games.

This week we are going to continue our work on cardio endurance. Have a great week.

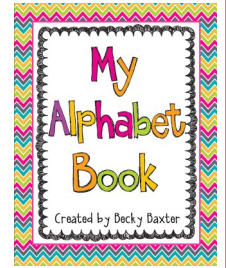
**Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education—Grades 3-8**

This past week the students worked with small parachutes that require them to work in groups of 4-5. Parachutes are fun and require all students regardless of skill, and strength to cooperate and be fully engaged in the activities. On Friday I took the students outside since the weather was perfect and we played a fun tag game called Blob Tag. Once again this was a cooperation game with all the students working together to protect one chosen student. We all enjoyed the game and the weather.

Working in either small or large groups has the added benefit of ensuring that students are willing to work with all their classmates. Let's keep up the good work! I continue to be impressed with the positive Christian attitude at St Raphael's.

### Miss Molly Preschool Room A

The Preschool has had a busy week learning the alphabet. The children are starting to make their own Alphabet Book. We have learned letters A, B and C. With each letter we do a project and then a letter worksheet. The children are doing such a good job, that now we call them the illustrators of their books. Have a wonderful weekend.



### Miss Chris Preschool Room B

This week the Bears have been learning all about Transportation during 'T Week'. We have had a terrific time talking about all of the different modes of transportation. We have read stories and created art projects about hot air balloons, trucks, trains, cars, boats, airplanes, buses, bicycles and construction vehicles.

We also have been talking about trusting God during our Jesus Club time.



### Kindergarten News: Miss Abby Morris & Mrs. Doyle

Hello SRA Community,

Kindergarten has been learning about how to praise God through our five senses. The students did a great job during Jump Rope for Heart! We made leprechauns in preparation for St. Patrick's Day.

Have a great week!



### First Grade News: Mrs. Louise Balicki-Smith

First Graders just finished their 3rd quarter reading assessments. The 3rd quarter and 4th quarter assessments are done later because these are the quarters students typically solidify their foundation skills and show the most growth. The 4th quarter assessment will be completed during the final weeks of school. This will show a full picture of each child's reading growth over the whole academic year and help Ms. Amsler to best prepare for her incoming students. I am so proud to share that EVERY student in First Grade showed significant growth from 2nd to 3rd quarter! As a teacher, I am beaming-our students are so proud of their efforts and I hope that you are too!



### Second Grade News: Miss Stephanie Amsler

It is the last week of Third Quarter. The year has flown by. Second Grade is busy learning about the Liturgy of the Eucharist and the items used during Mass in preparation for First Communion on Sunday, April 30th.

We continue our unit about animals as we research different animals that live in different habitats. We are also discussing why certain animals are able to survive in their habitats.



### **Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson**

Third Grade read an informational article about Egypt and King Tut. We answered some questions independently about what we read (skills such as: sequencing, finding main idea, supporting details and citing evidence from the text). We are studying the 50 states, their region and shapes. We tried guessing the name of some states in Morse Code after reading about the inventor, Samuel Morse. Elapsed time is a difficult concept in time telling but we love a challenge. Speaking of a challenge, Mrs. Martin has given us one in "Jump Rope for Heart." We had fun on the playground Tuesday afternoon .

### **Miss Patti Woods: Social Studies, Science, English (4-5)**

In Fourth Grade English we continue to focus on pronouns, relative pronouns and antecedents. In Social Studies, now that our journey west with Lewis and Clark has come to an end, we will begin learning about the Civil War and how it affected our great nation. In Science we will be trying out some computer coding skills using our new Ozobot.

In Fifth Grade English we will continue working on our unit of capitalization and punctuation. In Science we are also learning some coding skills using the Ozobot. In Social Studies we are working on the geographic regions of the United States.

### **Miss Amanda Imo: Reading, Math (4-5)**

Fifth Grade: The Fifth Graders are learning about how God calls each of us individually to a vocation. During Math the students learned how to add and subtract mixed numbers. The Fifth Graders have been very excited to share their Historical Figure Projects and learn from their peers about important people in history.

Fourth Grade: The Fourth Graders have continued to work hard on comparing and ordering fractions. The more we practice the easier it is getting for the students. The students finished reading Shiloh. They loved finding out how it ended. The students are going to watch the movie Shiloh and compare and contrast the book to the movie.

### **Mrs. Christy Connor: Social Studies & Religion (6-7-8)**

**English:** All classes will be completing their unit on verbs this week. Next week they'll all begin the unit on modifiers.

#### **Social Studies:**

Grade Six students have begun the unit on Medieval Europe. They are learning about how the fall of the Roman Empire led to the development of feudalism.

Grade Seven students are continuing their study of the Lewis and Clark expedition. They will be looking at the list of supplies that the Corps of Discovery took with them on their journey as well as a letter written by Meriwether Lewis to his mother, Lucy Marks.

Grade Eight students will be completing the unit on civil rights in the United States. They are learning that civil rights are extended to all groups of people. They groups that they are studying include the elderly, Mexican Americans, the disabled, African Americans and Native Americans.

**Mrs. Laura Berns: Science (6-7-8) Standard Math (6-7-8)**  
**Miss Ashley Schaaf: Science (6-7-8) Challenge Math (6&7) Algebra 8**

**Sixth Grade Math**

In Challenge Math we are converting between fractions, decimals, and percents. We are also exploring solving percents.

In Standard Math we are wrapping up our unit on area, perimeter, surface area and volume.

**Seventh Grade Math**

In Challenge Math we are continuing with components of geometry. We are exploring angle and side measures, as well as congruence.

In Standard Math we are continuing to work with percentages.

**Eighth Grade Math**

In Challenge Math we are exploring polynomials and learning to factor and multiply them.

In Standard Math we are working on solving a variety of problems involving scientific notation.

**Sixth Grade Science**

Students just completed the vertebrate/invertebrate assessment. We started a new book, *Environmental Science*.

**Seventh Grade Science**

Students just completed a test over the ocean waters and are currently building an ocean habitat.

**Eighth Grade Science**

In Science this week we are taking a Chapter 1 test over Cells. Then we are exploring cell processes and energy.

**Mrs. Jennifer Runiewicz: Literature (6-7-8)**

**Literature:** As we wrap up the Third Quarter, we are also bringing our Holocaust unit to a close. Although it's been a very emotional unit, we have learned a great deal about the characters, both fictional and nonfictional and the struggles they faced during the reign of Adolf Hitler. The Eighth Grade will commence this unit by visiting a synagogue, the Holocaust Museum and the touring the Cathedral Basilica on Wednesday, March 15th.

**Vocabulary Workshop** schedule should be taped/stapled to their vocabulary book cover or in their assignments books. I've also shared the schedule with each of them on Google Drive. Our Unit 12 spelling vocabulary test will be Friday, March 17th.

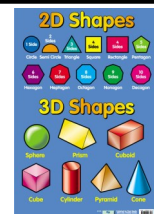
**Religion: 6th** - Establishment of kingdoms in Israel - Symbolism of Anointing

**Religion: 7th** - Confirmation - One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church

**Religion: 8th** - The Great Western Schism and the Protestant Reformation

**Mrs. Kim Westrich: Art**

Third Grade students looked at different kinds of maps and their features. We discussed the differences and similarities and what makes a good map. Students can then choose to work individually or with a peer to make a map of the school. Students can also use any art materials and make it 2D or 3D.



**STUCO**

March 1 - April 13 - Lenten Mission Project - Queen of Peace Center  
March 6-10 - Canned Food Drive  
March 10 - Sports jersey, shirt or sweatshirt day for two or more canned goods



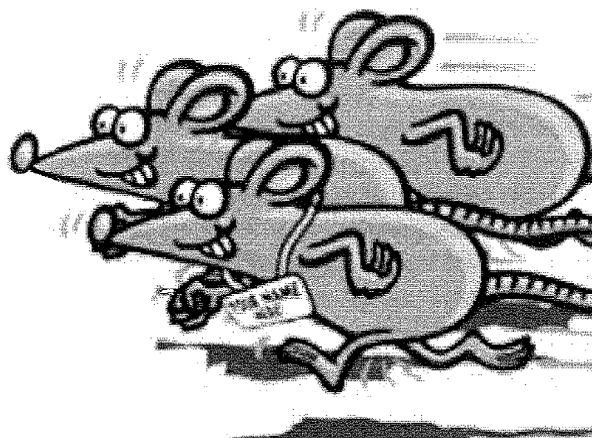


# A Night at the SRA Mouse Races

## Saturday, April 1, 2017

Benefitting the SRA 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class

Beer and Soda  
Provided!  
Raffle Prizes!



Location: St. Raphael Gym  
6000 Jamieson Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63109

Doors open at 6:30  
Races begin at 7:00

Coolers and Food welcome

Contact: Lisa at lisabrinkmann@sbcglobal.net

\$15  
per Person  
\$150  
per Table  
Checks payable to SRA

Table Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Amt Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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**Challenge your gifted child!**

**Gifted Resource Council**

**Summer 2017 Academies for K-8**

*Pick one program from each session:*

**June 12-23**

**Math, Marvels & More** [completing grades K-2]

Equations, Energy and Expression

**ECO Academy** [completing grades 3-8]

ECO-nomics + ECO-logy

**June 26-July 7**

**Jr. Science Searchers** [completing Kindergarten] From Outer Space to Ocean Depths

**Ancient Academy** [completing grades 3-8] Ancient Egypt: Scarabs, Sculptures and Scripts

**GRC's Space Academy** [completing grades 1-5] Colonizing the Cosmos: Is There Any Place Like Home?

**GRC's Advanced Space Academy** [completing grades 6-8] Colonizing the Cosmos: Is a Galaxy in Your Future?

**July 10-21**

**Academy Americana** [completing grades 1-3] Colonial Times: Hamilton and Friends!

**Jr. Science Searchers** [completing Kindergarten] From Dinosaurs to Tropical Rainforests

**Ancient Academy** [completing grades 3-8] Ancient Egypt: Tales, Tombs and Tut

**GRC's Space Academy** [completing grades 1-5] Cosmic Catastrophes: Novas, Supernovas & Black Holes

**GRC's Advanced Space Academy** [completing grades 6-8] Cosmic Catastrophes: Natural & Human-made

***Kids Explore!***

**Ecology/Economics Math**

**Rocketry / LEGOs® Science**

**Ancient Egypt Colonial Times Physical Activity**

Held at Wydown Middle School Cost: \$475 per 2-week session

6500 Wydown Blvd. [partial scholarships available]

Clayton, MO 63105 9:00-3:30 M-F [*Extended care available*]

**Go to the GRC Web site:**

**[www.giftedresourcecouncil.org](http://www.giftedresourcecouncil.org)**



# Summer is right around the corner!

*Register for Creative Arts Camp today*



**July 31— August 4 &  
August 7— August 11**

- Campers entering Pre-K\*— 5th**
- Monday—Friday: 9am—3pm**
- New City School**  
5209 Waterman Blvd. 63108
- Drama, Visual Art,  
Movement & Music**  
Register by June 1, 2017 & Save \$20!

\* Children must be at least 4 years old on or before July 31, 2017.

**CLICK HERE to register online**

Creative discovery is what it's all about at Creative Arts Camp! Campers enjoy fun-filled days exploring drama, visual art, creative movement and music with professional teaching artists. Each Friday afternoon, campers share highlights of their week with family and friends! [Check our website](#) or [download the flyer](#) for more information.

## Creative Arts Camp Sessions:

**July 31-August 4 & August 7-August 11**

You can [register for Creative Arts Camp online](#) today! Want to give the details to a friend? Here's the breakdown:

- *Who:* Campers Entering Pre-K through 5th Grade
- *What:* Drama, Dance, Visual Art, Music, Creative Discovery
- *When:* Monday-Friday 9am-3pm
- *Where:* New City School, 5209 Waterman Blvd. St. Louis, MO
- *Cost:* \$250/week\*

\*You can save \$20 by registering on or before July 31, 2017