

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 13, Issue 10

May 2025



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

May 22, 2025

Be joyful always, Pray continually, Give thanks in all circumstances
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Dear SRA Families,

Well, we are coming to the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Summer is almost here! I'm sure you can feel it, too! This is my final Guide message for the 2024-2025 school year. However, I will send another message through Flocknotes when the report cards open on Friday, May 30.

For the 2024-2025 school year, we will dismiss for the last time at 10 AM on Friday, May 23. We will gather together for 8 AM Mass, which the kindergarten class has planned, and we welcome all parents to join us for our final celebration. We will also take that time to honor the faculty and staff leaving us this year. Once Mass is over, the students will go back to their classrooms with their teachers until the 10:00 AM dismissal time.

We said farewell to our eighth-graders this past weekend at their graduation. We will keep you in our prayers as you journey to high school. Congratulations- Charlie, Jake, Christian, James, Ava, Henry, Evan, Susan, Francis, Hannah, Patrick, Ben, Addison, Helen, Javier Chase, Mac, and Clara.

We have faculty and staff who will be leaving us this year, too. We wish Mrs. Connor and Mrs. Shaver, who are both retiring, a retirement filled with peace, joy, and health. Just have time to enjoy life! Mrs. Meier is also leaving us as a faculty member, but she will still be with us as an SRA parent. The faculty has enjoyed having you as part of the team and working with you. We will miss all of you!

The 2025-2026 Calendar is going out today with The Guide. Like always, the calendar has a revision date in red on the second page. Please be sure to refer to the latest version. The school will send out the final version of the calendar at the end of July in preparation for the new school year, but here are a few dates for the start of next year.

Important August Dates to mark your calendar:

July 31 - PreK Meet and Greet at Francis Park at 6 PM

August 7- Kindergarten Popsicles Meet and Greet at Wilmore Park at 6:30 PM **

August 10 – Back to School Sunday – Mass 9 AM, followed by 10-11 AM School Open House

August 12 – First Half Day of School for PreK-8th Grade – Noon Dismissal – No Aftercare

August 13-14 - Full Days of school with Aftercare

August 15 - NO SCHOOL- The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

****This is the correct date. The date on the calendar for this event was a misprint on the copy sent home today.**

The **Student Supply Lists** for next year will be posted on the SRA website for your convenience next week. The Home & School Association will once again sponsor the **Back-to-School Supply Kits**. More information will be sent out later in June.

Summer Packets for the 2025-2026 school year will be mailed after July 20th. Be looking for the packet at the end of July or early August.

The St. Raphael the Archangel website will soon have a new look! Be watching for all the parish and school information presented in an easy-to-scroll platform for better access to our site. The 2025-2026 supply lists and calendar will be posted next week.

Report cards will be opened in ALMA on Friday, May 30. Please contact the school office if you need assistance viewing your child's report card.

Beginning next week, the school's summer office hours will be 9 AM—1 PM. We will post through Flocknotes when the school office is closed during the summer months. Please call beforehand if you need to speak or meet with Mrs. Schenk or me outside those hours.. In addition, parents can reach both Mrs. Schenk and me through email throughout the summer.

Mrs. Shaver's last day will be Friday, May 30th. Our new school secretary, Mrs. Katie Schenk, will begin on Monday, June 2.

Thank you to our families for all the kind and encouraging messages I received about my health. I am feeling better but still recovering. Your supportive messages touched my heart.

Again, thank you for a wonderful year, and enjoy the carefree days of summer—spend time with your family, read a good book, and just have fun!

Summer blessings,

Mrs. Hayes



Announcements



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL STUDENTS WHO WILL
BE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS
DURING OUR SUMMER BREAK!

STUDENTS WITH
BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE AND JULY WILL BE
ACKNOWLEDGED ON THEIR HALF-BIRTHDAY
DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.





ENJOY YOUR SUMMER BREAK!

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL NEXT
YEAR WILL BE AUGUST 12.**

**MORE INFORMATION WILL BE
SENT HOME IN THE SUMMER
PACKETS IN JULY.**

A Note from Mrs. Shaver:

My retirement this year is very bittersweet. While I look forward to this new chapter in my life, I am sad to say goodbye to SRA faculty, staff, students, and parents. I have truly enjoyed my years at SRA. Thank you for all your support during my time here. I will continue to pray for all of you, and you might just see me around at an SRA function!

With appreciation,

Kathy Shaver

Miss Molly: Preschool A

The Angels had a wonderful end of the year! We had fun making our Mothers day gift, making our end of the year packets and the best of all Field Day!! The Angels have come so far in such a short amount of time and I am so proud of them. They did a wonderful job at their end of the year program and brought down the house. It has been such a wonderful year and I wish everyone a great summer!



Ms. Tracy: Prekindergarten



Wow! This year went by so fast. Preschool B is ready to move on to kindergarten! We spent this month learning the letters X,Y, and Z as well as worked on handwriting and the teen numbers. The class planted flowers for Mother's Day and made cards. We also planted grass and gave them "haircuts". The Bears will be putting on an alphabet fashion show for their program and graduation. I hope everyone has a happy and safe summer.



Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee



We are so excited about our first all school mass on the last day of school! We've been preparing for a while and we feel lucky to be in charge of such a special celebration. We've been wrapping up our final math unit on measurement as well as our guided reading groups. We're ready for 1st grade! We said goodbye to our 8th grade buddies this month and loved making memories with such a sweet group. Wishing everyone a fun and restful summer!

First Grade News: Mrs. Jessica Klein

First grade had a quick and busy May! We wrapped up vowel teams in phonics, did double digit addition and subtraction in math, wrote lots of poems in writing and learned about several US monuments. We ended the month with second grade training camp, and as sad as Mrs. Klein is to send the class off, they are ready for second grade! Have a wonderful, safe summer!



Second Grade News: Mrs. Toni Jackson

What a big month for second grade! On May 4th, we finally celebrated our First Communion—it was such a special and joy-filled day! In writing, we wrapped up our dream house projects and had so much fun sharing our imaginative creations with each other. In math, we explored geometry by diving into 2-D and 3-D shapes and discovering symmetry in 2-D shapes—so many cool patterns and designs!

As the year winds down, we're busy making welcome notes for the future second graders and creating memory books to capture all the amazing things we've learned. We also followed along with the Papal conclave and are keeping Pope Leo XIV in our prayers. We're excited for all the adventures summer will bring— and we can't wait to come



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade has been doing a LOT of writing and TYPING on our Chromebooks. We also interviewed each other and asked & answered questions. Then we actually typed & shared our interviews. It has been a busy month of May!

We prayed for beautiful weather on Friday May 9. Field Day was fun!! The Orange Team, Bartholomew won for the second time in 2 years! A big Thank You to all the parents who helped make it a success.

We finished the year with a State Poster/Report.

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

7th grade religion class is wrapping up Theology of the Body this week. It has been a great year. The students have worked hard and have grown so much in their faith.

5th grade English has worked hard. They just finished writing and sharing their last written piece of the year and will be taking their last test this week.

4th grade religion class has finished the regular textbook, Christ Our Life, and are now finishing the year working through Theology of the Body.

4th grade literature completed reading the book The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. They will be enjoying watching the movie before school is out.

4th grade English class has brought them to their last written piece about an imaginary Leprechaun and the crazy adventures he has gone on while spending time with him.

It has been a great year! It's hard to believe the year is over. Everyone have a relaxing, but safe summer!

Mrs. Katie Meier: Religion (5), Math (4-5), Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)



Thank you for blessing me with two wonderful years of teaching in the SRA Community. There is truly no better place.



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

Religion:

In Grade Six, we will be completing our study of the Prophets in the Old Testament.

Students in Grade 8 ended the school year by learning about the Catholic Church in North America.

Social Studies:

Grade Eight and Grade Five students completed the school year by learning about the Great Depression, World War II, and Civil Rights.

Grade Six students will continue with their study of Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica this week.

Grade Seven students will finish up the school year by learning about the Scientific and Industrial Revolutions.

I want to wish everyone a safe and happy summer vacation. I've enjoyed my time here at St. Raphael the Archangel school. Please keep me in your prayers as I begin a new phase in my life. I will certainly keep you in mine.

Mrs. Anne Stein: Standard Math & Challenge Math (6-7-8) Pre Algebra, (7-8) Algebra (7-8)

The middle school students finished the year strong in math! The Algebra II class learned about writing equations for and graphing quadratic functions. The Algebra students studied exponential functions and had an introduction to polynomials. The Pre-Algebra classes practiced using the laws of exponents and were introduced to the Pythagorean Theorem. The 7th Challenge class used probability to predict the outcome of certain events. The 6th Challenge class learned about positive and negative numbers. Have a great summer!

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

6th-8th ELA:

We finished our last novels, and are preparing to have a wonderful summer. Hopefully everyone is planning on doing some recreational reading over the summer break. Most of the area libraries have a reading incentive program--check them out! If you have an out-of-town relative or friend, they'd probably love a handwritten letter from you. Since you're off school, you'll have time!

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



5TH Grade Solar Ovens and S'mores

Mr. Kraudel's Science classes had a guest Speaker last Friday, Mr. Heitkamp, who has a Masters Degree from the University of Lincoln Nebraska in Bee Keeping and a Bachelors in Science from Mizzou. He gave a great presentation on bees and brought in a contained beehive for the students to observe. They all really enjoyed it.



Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

WE'RE FINALLY HERE! It's the end of the school year and I'm so glad to see how far everyone has grown this year! Everyone from Preschool to 5th Grade participated in a Mother's Day Art Project from keyrings, tote bags, and clay items. I hope all of the moms out there enjoyed them :) Next, the early childhood students and preschool students learned about Hokusai who created "The Great Wave off Kanagawa" and made their own fingerpainting or drawing project about this artwork. 4th and 5th grade made their own polymer clay projects after making their Mother's Day ones. Then the 6th through 8th graders finished their Year-Long Projects. I hope you all like paper bowls!

Thank you so much for another wonderful year at SRA and always happy to see your kids grow their creative minds! See you all during summer camp or next year! :)

Mr. Jeff Klos: PE

The 8th and 7th grade classes faced off in a volleyball game before the 8th graders last day. The 8th grade dominated the game.

We had field day on Friday the 9th and it was a big success. The parents were wonderful preparing, planning, and cooking for the school.

We will finish out the year playing various sports and every student will be graded on their participation over the year as well as sportsmanship towards their classmates.

Mrs. Jena Copeland: Music

The month of May has been a fun one in music! Preschool has been working on repeating rhythms on various instruments, Kindergarten started composing and performing their own stick notation rhythms, 1st grade and 2nd grade have been composing and performing their own 2 measure Boomwhacker/xylophone melodies, 3rd grade has been hard at work learning to play the recorder, and 4th and 5th grade have been playing whole songs on Boomwhackers.