

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A weekly newsletter for the school community

Volume 5, Issue 32

May 18, 2017



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Kim Vangel

Dear St. Raphael School Families,

By the time you read this column our 8th Graders will be finished with their schooldays at St. Raphael; they will have finished their final exams, enjoyed their Mystery Trip, celebrated their Graduation Dinner, and will be receiving their diplomas on Sunday at the end of the 10am parish Mass. We hope the SRA Class of 2017 will look back fondly on their time at St. Raphael the Archangel School, and that they will know we will always be their school and parish family. These graduates are all attending their 1st Choice High School and every single graduate is attending a Catholic High School - what a wonderful testament to the students' achievements and to their parents' commitment to a Catholic education! We thank the parents of these graduates for choosing St. Raphael School and for entrusting the education of their precious children to us. We expect great things from these young men and women and we can't wait to hear about their lives as they move boldly forward. Congratulations St. Raphael Class of 2017!

Our final upcoming school events for 2016-2017:

Friday, May 19th, 1st & 3rd Grade Field Trip to the St. Louis Zoo

Friday, May 19th, 8th Grade Dinner

Sunday, May 21st, 8th Grade Graduation, 10am Mass

May 22-24, Exams for 6th & 7th Grades

Monday, May 22nd, Preschool Program & Graduation, 6:30pm, Gym

Thursday, May 25th, Field Day, Last day for Preschool

Friday, May 26th, 8am Final School Mass, 10am Dismissal K-7, Last day of School

Peace,
Kim Vangel



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

All School Mass
8:00am
Friday, May 26
Kindergarten
Planning

Benediction 2:00pm
First Friday of the
month



May 19 – 9:00-2:00 Third & First Grades Zoo Field Trip
 May 19 – 8th Grade Graduation Dinner
 May 21 – 8th Grade Graduation Mass – Donut Sunday
 May 22,23,24 – 6th & 7th Grade Exams
 May 22 – 6:30-7:30pm Preschool Program
 May 22-June 16 Uniform Exchange-front vestibule of SRA
 May 24 – 3:15-4:15pm SRA Schola Rehearsal
 May 25 – Field Day Last Day for Preschool
May 26 – 10:00am Dismissal Last Day for K-7

June 2 – Report Cards Open

Thank you to everyone who brought in Tab Tops. I turned in all of the tabs at Tab Top Pandemonium. Thanks to all of you I raised 22 pounds of tabs to help the Ronald McDonald House. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Grace Goeddel



May Birthdays

Jack Berry-18
 Natalie Davis-19
 Emma Yehlen-19
 Steven Irons-21
 Adam Fuhr-21
 Emily Fuhr-21
Mrs. Ruggeri-25
 Liam McMorro-28
 Max Eberhart-29

Ms. Polson, St. Raphael Archangel’s Third Grade Teacher, is in need of a wheelchair for her 84 year old mother. If someone would like to donate a wheelchair, please call her at school 314-352-9474. Thanks, Ms. Polson

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!

4th quarter patrol schedule:



Week of May 22

Billy & Sean
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

Monday, May 22 Marti F. & Keith W.

Tuesday, May 23 Stephanie K. & Alana T.

Wednesday, May 24 Missy W. & Katie M.

Thursday, May 25 Field Day

Friday, May 26 Last Day of School



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.



Summer Camp

Don't forget summer is just around the corner and our summer camp is ready to be filled with kids. Registration is now open to all families. So please go to the summer camp website and take a look at all the different themes we have to offer from May to July. Thank you and I can't wait to see you in the summer!

Ms. Molly
314-606-5264



SRA 2017 PARISH DIRECTORY

**PLEASE BE SURE TO LET THE PARISH
OFFICE KNOW OF:**

- Any telephone number changes
- Any e-mail address changes
- Any address changes

**We need this information as
soon as possible, please.**

Mrs. Diane Gewinner: Learning Consultant

Farewell

I find myself very blessed to have been part of the St. Raphael the Archangel Community for the past eight years as Learning Consultant. Please keep me in your prayers as I begin my retirement from teaching. I wish all of you many blessings as your children move through the grades.

St. Raphael, pray for us!

St. Mary's High School
presents

Join us this summer for the best sports camps on the Southside!

From lacrosse to wrestling, we have the camp for your son.

We even have FREE camps!

For details, visit our website at [here!](#)

(Hit ctrl & open)

Mrs. Kim Westrich: Art

Next week, students will be taking home all remaining artwork they created. Please take some time to look at it with your child and ask questions about the process. Questions like: What was your idea when you started? How did you make it? Did you run into any problems? Which parts are you most proud of?

With Teaching for Artistic Behavior/Choice-Based Art, the emphasis is on the idea, process, learning, and independence.

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

Thursday, May 25, 2017

After 8:00am Mass



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

I took a personal day and with the school picnic, I was not able to meet with any of my classes last week. I plan to continue working with activities that I believe the students will enjoy and have fun for these last two weeks. Let's keep up the good work and really encourage one another to enjoy a great end of the school year.

Thank You,
John Bruno

Miss Molly Preschool Room A

Hello to all. This will be our last article. It has been my pleasure to be the teacher of Preschool A. I love all these beautiful children and want to thank all their parents for being so kind to me during this confusing year. I think all went well and we will go out with a bang this year. Thanks to all who have helped me through the year and especially Ms. Chris and Mrs. Vangel. Have a great summer be safe and can't wait to see you next year! Thank You and God Bless.

Good bye



Miss Chris Preschool Room B

We have been practicing all week for our end of the year performance. We will be singing several songs as well as performing "Oh the Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss. Our performance is next Monday night at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us.



Kindergarten News: Miss Abby Morris & Mrs. Doyle

Hello SRA Community,

Kindergarten has been keeping Eighth Grade in our prayers. We wish them the best of luck in High School. We are working on finishing up the Kindergarten year. The students are very excited for First Grade!



First Grade News: Mrs. Louise Balicki-Smith

Many parents have inquired about summer learning camps, especially in the area of reading. Here are a few options I have found for our first graders:

Summer Learning Opportunities

- ◆ **Tutoring through Churchill School:** <http://www.churchillstl.org/tutoring/>
- ◆ **SLU Reading Program:** <https://www.slu.edu/summer/reading-skills-program>
- ◆ **SLU Camp Invention** (teaches problem-solving skills in a hands-on way): <https://www.slu.edu/summer/camp-invention>
- ◆ **Lindenwood University Camp Read-a-lot** (taught by Reading Specialists): <http://www.lindenwood.edu/academics/beyond-the-classroom/summer-camps/camp-read-a-lot/>
- ◆ **Abra-Kid-Abra Math and Reading Camps:** <https://www.abrakid.com/academic-summer-camps-st-louis/>

Second Grade News: Miss Stephanie Amsler

This week Second Grade received our class book about New Animal Discoveries. We are excited to share them with everyone.

We are reviewing learned skills in Math and ELA to ensure our readiness for Third Grade.

In Science, we are finishing our unit about force and motion.

Congratulations to our Eighth Graders on all their accomplishments here at SRA. Best of luck in High School!



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

This week Third Grade took their last chapter tests in Math on Multiplication and Division and English on Pronouns. Yipee! We all had a wonderful time at our St Raphael School Picnic. On Mother's Day we each had a beautiful hand designed mug to give to our moms. We cannot wait for our Field Trip on Friday, May 19. We will be touring and taking a class "Who Eats Whom" about food chains and the web of life. One of our Science standards is: Classify populations of organisms as producers or consumers by the role they serve in the ecosystem.

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

In Fourth Grade English, we are working hard to finish the unit on using pronouns appropriately. In Science, we are all taking turns looking through the microscope at various slide samples. We are going to try to make a few samples of our own. In Social Studies, in the classroom, as well as in Music Class, we are working on learning more about our great state of Missouri.

In Fifth Grade English, we finished our unit on adverbs and prepositions and will be taking the unit test on Friday, May 19. In Science, along with Fourth Grade, are using scientific tools to look at slide samples using the microscope. We are also learning how and why scientists use beakers, graduated cylinders, and handheld lenses. In Social Studies, we are learning about topics in the world around us and discovering new subjects that may affect our future history.

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

Fifth Grade: This was a very special week for one of our Fifth Graders, Skyler Lashley. Skyler has been preparing to join the Catholic family and this past Sunday he became Baptized in Christ and received his First Holy Communion. The Fifth Graders are so excited for him! In Religion the students are continuing their discussion about communication, change, and the sacredness of life. During Math, the focus is on finding the perimeter, area, and volume of shapes. The students worked on summarizing the beginning of the book Number the Stars in Reading class.



Fourth Grade: The Fourth Graders are continuing their work with measurement conversions. They created a "gallon man" to help them remember capacity conversions. During Reading, the students read a story entitled "Yagua Days." The students worked on comparing and contrasting setting and describing events.

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

English:

Grades Six and Seven are learning about prepositional phrases and clauses. They will be taking their exam next week. The exam will cover the information that they learned during this semester.

Grade Eight students took their exam on Wednesday. They finished the year by learning about adjective, adverb, and noun clauses as well as essential and nonessential clauses.

Social Studies:

Grade Six students are completing their study of China, Japan, and India. They are now working on information about Australia, New Zealand, and many of the South Pacific islands.

Grade Seven students are learning about the final events that led to the Civil War. These include the Dred Scott decision, the Compromise of 1850, and the Kansas-Nebraska Act.

Grade Eight students took their semester exam on Monday. The exam covered events from World War I to the Civil Rights Movement.

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

6th grade

In Standard Math, students are being introduced to operations with integers. We will start reviewing for the exam this Friday.

In Challenge Math we are identifying types of angles and angle measures. We will have a quiz over Chapter 8 Thursday.

In Science, students are investigating solid waste, recycling, and hazardous waste.

7th grade

In Standard Math, students are creating and interpreting box and whisker plots. They are also being introduced to compound probability.

In Challenge Math, we are analyzing populations and samples, as well as measures of central tendency. We will have a quiz over Chapter 9 Thursday.

In Science, students are reviewing for their Chapter 4 test this Wednesday.

8th grade

In Standard Math, students took their final exam this past Tuesday.

In Challenge Math, we are reviewing for the final exam Tuesday. The exam will cover the second semester, Chapters 7-10.

In Science, we are reviewing for the final exam Wednesday. The exam will cover their current textbook, Cells and Heredity, Chapters 1-4.

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

It's that time again, time to say goodbye to my 8th grade class. The Class of 2017 has been, let's say "spirited." They are wonderful people, filled with faith, friendship, and loads of FUN. I will definitely miss this class full of personality and shenanigans.



Literature: Seventh Grade continues to work through *The Merchant of Venice* and learn about the religious inequalities during Elizabethian times. Sixth Grade is enjoying watching *The Taming of the Shrew* and comparing it to the written works of William Shakespeare.

Religion: Sixth - Family Life - Family Economics and Worldwide Family

Religion: Seventh - Family Life - Gender and Wellness

Mrs. Caroline Zarinelli: Music

Fourth Graders are learning our state song, *The Missouri Waltz*, also know as *Hush-a-bye, Ma Baby*. It was adopted as our official state song on June 22, 1949. The melody was written in 1914 by John Valentine Eppel and scored by Frederic Knight Logan. Two years later, James R. Shannon added his lyrics. For a little spice, the students sing a jazzed-up version on the second verse as we salute our "Show Me" state!

Thank you,
Caroline



Co-Parenting During the Summer Break

Jennifer Van Luven, MSW, LCSW, CDM

Summer is one of the most dreaded times for divorced parents. It is challenging to manage the child custody arrangements. The school year equates to a set parenting schedule, with designated days, times and transitions. But in the summer months, that set schedule is not as necessary and needing to be so defined. Communication with your co-parent is important for both kids and parents to get the most out of their time. Before school lets out for the summer, review the co-parenting plan with your co-parent. Even the most detailed parenting plans will need some adjustments while the kids are on summer break.

Children really look forward to summer. After a long, hard school year, they are looking forward to spending days in the sun, playing with their friends and having fun. For your kids to have a carefree summer, it requires careful consideration, planning and flexibility by both you and your co-parent. Here are some simple guidelines to follow for a less stressful summer for everyone:

Plan Ahead In order to avoid conflict, it is best to plan the summer months and schedules far in advance. This alleviates conflict over vacation dates and family get-togethers. Come to an agreement on how you will divide the time with the children. Working out a custody schedule that works best for the children and your selves is the way to go. When working on the schedule, remember to put your children first and keep in mind that this is a fun time of the year for kids, the time when most memories are made.

For older children and simplicity matters, most families agree to divide the summer in half. Younger children do best with a shortened length of time, such as two weeks with each parent, which tends to be long enough away from the other. Often parents with a good co-parenting relationship prefer to avoid schedules during the summer months, but this can often cause stress. It's better to have a well-defined schedule that allows for flexibility rather than have no schedule at all. This will also be helpful if you want to book a trip in advance. Once you have your parenting time agreed, you'll have more flexibility to make your summer plans.

Speak to the Kids It's important that you involve your children and their input in making summer plans. That way you can factor in their needs and what they would like to do. This is especially important for older children. Ask them about the things they would like to do this summer. Work with your co-parent to take everyone's wishes into consideration.

Coordinate Vacations You will probably both want to take the kids away for a vacation at some point during the summer. Coordinate with each other as early as possible and try to be co-operative. If your co-parent is planning a vacation with the kids, tell them to have a great time! Encourage your children to have fun with their other parent. Let them know that you want them to have a healthy relationship with both parents. Kids will often feel guilty. They may be reluctant to go on the trip if they think it's going to leave a parent alone and feeling bad.

If you're taking the kids away for a vacation, be respectful and considerate of the other parent's feelings. Make sure they have a complete itinerary and all the information they need and feel completely comfortable with the plan. It's not fair to leave a parent wondering where their child is. If either of you are planning a vacation with the children, the other parent absolutely has the right to be given a specific itinerary and a way to contact their child. Work with your co-parent to set up the logistics to make this happen so that you both feel comfortable.

If you both want to take the children on vacation during the same week, this can be problematic. It's a good opportunity to really consider what is best for your children and what they might prefer to do. A conversation with both parents and the child can be helpful in this situation. Try to look for the compromise and discuss ways you can accommodate each other's wishes.

When on vacation, remember that there will be times when your kids miss the other parent. Respect your children's feelings and show them that you understand that even though vacations are fun, the change in routine and missing the other parent can cause kids added stress. Allow them frequent contact with other parent to alleviate the feelings of missing them. In the end, this will help the child to have a good time and reduce the upset.

Summer Camps and Childcare If you're both working, decide who is going to organize summer camps and childcare. You can each take responsibility for organizing camps and childcare during your parenting time. Or you can plan out the summer camps that your children will be attending and share the responsibility of signing up and paying for the camps. It's best to agree upfront how you're dividing costs and how you're choosing activities.

Be Flexible While making your summer plans, always think about giving your kids lasting summer memories. If your heart is set on doing something with the kids this summer, and your co-parent doesn't agree, take a breath and try to find a compromise. Work together to find an agreeable resolution. If you cooperate with each other, you will be able to find a solution that everyone is happy with. Eventually, the two of you will figure out a plan that works for everybody.

Making Memories Whatever your summer plans, remember that what children want most is to spend time with you. This becomes even more important for kids moving between two homes. Whatever time you are spending with your children this summer, give them your full attention and make the most of it. If they are spending time with the other parent, let them enjoy it. Do not inundate them with phone calls and constant checking in. When they return, be sure to ask them all about it without prying or digging for gossip. Show that you're interested in what they're doing when you are not together. Make sure they know you support their relationship with their other parent. Let them know that their happiness is what really counts. Make sure your kids know that you both love them. Take this break from routine to create some wonderful memories that will last them a lifetime.



Jennifer Webbe VanLuven, MSW, LCSW

received her Master of Social Work from Saint Louis University with a concentration in family systems and law. Jennifer provides private therapy dealing with adult issues, depression, anxiety, marital and relationship issues, as well as adolescent development/ behavioral issues. Jennifer has extensive experience in family law and court room testifying. She assists couples in a peaceful resolution, where continued communication is imperative for raising healthy children. Along with private therapy services, Jennifer provides services to families who are in the midst of transition, as a Parent Coordinator, Co-Parent Counselor, Custody Evaluator and a Divorce Consultant.



Uniform Exchange

When - May 22 - June 16
Where - Front vestibule of St. Raphael School
What to bring - New and gently used SRA uniforms
Contact - [Nicoleromano@gmail](mailto:Nicoleromano@gmail.com) to donate or purchase

Gifted Resource Council's Summer Academies

Minds-on and Hands-on Learning for High Achieving Students



- Eleven 2-week academic day camps.
- In-depth study of Colonial Times, ecology, space science, Ancient Egypt and more.
- Students love these hands-on, thought-provoking summer camp sessions.
- Students get to interact cooperatively with other academically talented students.
- Students can attend 2, 4 or 6 weeks.
- The focus is on learning *how* to think rather than on *what* to think.

- Ages: Completing kindergarten through 8th grade
- Dates: June 12-23, June 26-July 7, July 10-21
- Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Childcare: Available before and after camp
- Location: Wydown Middle School in Clayton
- Tuition: only \$475!!

What parents should know

For more information:

- Visit <http://giftedresourcecouncil.org/pdf/S17.pdf>
- Call Gifted Resource Council at [314.962.5920](tel:314.962.5920)
- Email at info@giftedresourcecouncil.org