

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 7, Issue 4

November 29, 2018



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

"In His Name"

"Great and wonderful are your works, Lord God Almighty.

Just and true are your ways, O king of nations.

Who will not fear you, Lord, or glorify your name?

For you alone are holy.

All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed."

Rev. 15: 4

Dear SRA Families,

This year the calendar afforded us a week to prepare for the Season of Advent. Advent is a time to begin again. Kind of like a fresh start on our faith journey each year. May you be able to take the time to grow closer in your faith during this Advent Season. Hopefully, you will hear about the many ways we celebrate Advent at school from your child throughout the month. Also, the virtue for the month of December is *Generosity - Giving without counting the cost*. Maybe as a family, you can explore various ways of giving without counting the cost during this Advent. The saints for December are perfect examples of generosity - St. Nicholas, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. Maximilian Kolbe.

Here are a few key events this month:

On Sunday, December 2, we will begin Advent with Cookies with Santa. Thank you to the Home and School Association for sponsoring this fun event for our kids.

SRA Boys vs. Girls Funderwar Challenge begins on Monday, December 3 - The socks and underwear will be sent to the St. Louis area homeless shelters. This is another perfect example of giving without counting the cost! Items will be counted on the 14th and the winners will have a dress-down day on December 20th.

CYC Chess Team- Mrs. Flavin has offered to moderate a new SRA CYC Chess Team for all interested students. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Students in Grades 3-8 will attend Confessions on Wednesday morning, December 5 for Advent Season.

The Christmas Program will be Thursday, December 13 at 7:00 PM. We tried to keep the costumes and props simple this year. You should have received the flyer through Flocknotes before Thanksgiving concerning apparel for the program.

Exams for Grades 6th, 7th and 8th will be December 18, 19, & 20. The Upper School teachers will convey more details through the students.

Finally, Friday, December 21 is a Noon Dismissal for all grades Pre-K through 8thGrade. There will be No After-care on this day, so please make appropriate childcare arrangements.

May we keep the Joy of Advent in our hearts and our actions!

In His Name,

Mrs. Hayes



Announcements



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

December 6

Mass
St. Nick's Day
2nd Grade Planning

December 13

Mass
St. Lucy
7th Grade Planning

December 20

Mass
Advent
4th Grade Planning

January 3

Mass
Holy Name of Jesus
6th Grade Planning

Benediction/Adoration
2:00pm
First Friday of the
month



December Birthdays

Lydia Eddingfield-2
Justin Wingron-5
Mia Thompson-10
Sophia Bradshaw-11
Jiovanni Raymo-12
Noelle Mater-17
Jonah Abbott-18
Andrew Sensmeyer-18
Brandon Young-19
Aidan Flavin-20
Lauren Stawizynski-26
William (Liam) Feldman-27
Cate Guenther-28
Henry Cyr-28

June ½ Birthdays

Nolan Moellering-5
Sam Weiss-6
Paul Dougherty-7
Jacob Humiston-8
Jasmin Rizos-10
Eleanor Chitwood-12
Avery Bradshaw-19
Sofia Rizos-20
Kristin Nienhaus-23
Jude Potts-23
Frances Steidley-23
Evan Ilg-23
Dalila Ramirez-25
Isadora Hogrebe-28
Sophia Molina-30



DECEMBER



- Dec. 1 7:00-11:00pm SLH Winter Wonderland - School Gym
- Dec. 2 11:00am-1:00pm Cookies with Santa-cafeteria
- Dec. 2 8:00 -10:00pm Advent by Candlelight
- Dec. 3-14 Funderwar Challenge
- Dec. 4 3:15 - 4:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
- Dec. 6 St. Nicholas Day
- Dec. 6 2:00 - 4:00pm Dance
- Dec. 6 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room
- Dec. 7 9:30am-2:30pm Upper School Field Trip to Busch Stadium
- Dec. 8 SRA Chess Team at St. Peter in Kirkwood
- Dec. 11 3:15 - 4:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
- Dec. 13 2:00 - 4:00pm Dance
- Dec. 13 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room
- Dec. 13 7:00pm Christmas Program
- Dec.19-21 Semester Exams
- Dec. 20 Dress Down Day for Funderwar Challenge
- Dec. 20 2:00 - 4:00pm Dance
- Dec. 20 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room
- Dec. 21 End of 2nd Quarter
- 4th Annual STUCO Christmas Kick-off
- 11:00am -12:00pm Christmas Parties
- Noon Dismissal Preschool – 8 No Aftercare

Jan. 3 School Resumes for Preschool - 8

- Jan. 3 2:00 - 4:00pm Dance
- Jan. 3 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room

Upcoming Student Council Events

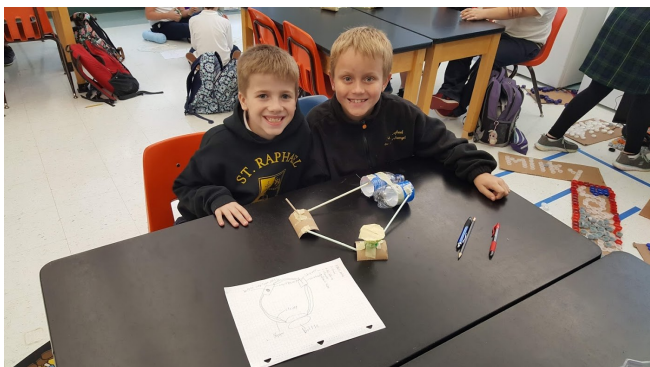
Thank you for your support of the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Because of your generous donations, we were able to supply 20 needy families with an abundance of food to help them through the holiday season.

December 3rd - 14th Funderwar - Collection of new socks and underwear for St. Patrick's Center

December 21st - 4th Annual STUCO Christmas Kick-off

November STREAM Projects

4th Graders had to create a scale model of a simple circuit using recyclables



5th Graders designed an entire outfit using newspaper and masking tape



Mrs. Kathy Doty: Music

Kindergarten through eighth grade have been working on their Christmas songs for their program on **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018 AT 7pm.**

Your child has been given a packet that includes the words to all of the songs they are singing. All music classes have been working toward the goal of learning their songs and memorizing their lines for those that have speaking parts.

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the season and enjoy listening to songs of Santa and most importantly the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

God Bless,
Mrs. Doty



Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education

I hope everyone had a blessed and safe Thanksgiving. During the last few weeks, the students were introduced to field hockey. This was a new sport for a lot of students. The skills involved require eye and hand coordination. Learning to control the stick a certain way was very challenging for most students. They seemed to accept that challenge and grew more confident with each class. With the help of Mrs. Abbott, who played high school and college field hockey, we were able to incorporate the sport into our physical education curriculum. I will continue to stress to all of my students that the main objectives of physical education are to get everyone active, to have fun, and to feel like an important part of the class.



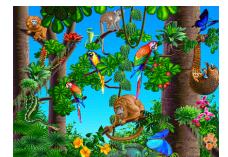
Miss Molly Preschool A

November has been a busy month for Preschool A. They have learned about fall and the leaves of fall. They went to the park to hunt leaves for a leaf project. They are starting to learn individual letters. We have started with the letter L. We did a lollipop experiment, played leap frog, made lions, and learned to write the letter L. The best part was spending time with Fr. John learning about thanks and giving for the Holiday season.



Miss Chris Prekindergarten

The Bears certainly have a lot to be thankful for. We hope that everyone had a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving. We have had a lot of fun this month. One of our highlights was our STREAM activity we did in our classroom for the letter J. We turned our classroom into a jungle by working in groups to imagine, create and construct habitats for the animals that can be found in the jungle. We look forward to a wonderful December as we joyfully await the birth of Jesus.



SRA Chess Team

Competing via CYC

Divisions for

K-2 3-4 5-6 7-8

Qualifying Tournaments

December 8 – St Peter (Kirkwood)

January 19 – St James the Greater

February 9 – St Louis University

March 2 – St Margaret Mary Alacoque

Finals

March 23 – CBC

Cost: \$10 / tournament

Compete in as many or as few tournaments as you want
Participation in Chess Club not required

Contact Rachel Flavin to register
Rachel.flavin@gmail.com or 314-496-8303



Kindergarten News: Lu Ann Domijan

During the month of November the kindergarten class has studied pilgrims and Native Americans, turkeys, and wrote what they are thankful for. The class was able to use Miss Domijan's tipi during reading.

In STREAM, the class went on a leaf hunt and made turkeys out of the leaves they collected.

December will be a very busy month with Advent and our gingerbread unit. Please stop by to see our hallway filled with our hard work.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



First Grade News: Mrs. Theresa Schmidt

November went by very quickly in first grade. Students wrote some creative pieces about how they could disguise a turkey from being eaten at Thanksgiving. They came up with some great ideas and enjoyed sharing them with their fellow classmates. The students also came up with what they would like to have on their own Thanksgiving menu, if it was up to them. Some of them listed a few traditional items on their menus, but most of them had their own unique menu choices. In math, the students are finishing up a chapter on subtraction. They have also started rocket math to help them with their fact fluency and they are doing a fantastic job. This month we started having spelling tests. In science, we are finishing up a unit on animal classification. Stop by our room and see the collage of animals we have outside our door. The Advent season snuck up on us, and we are busy getting ready to celebrate Jesus' birthday very soon.



Second Grade News: Mark Messmer

It is hard to believe it is already December. November has been jam packed with wonderful learning opportunities. This month, our school-wide virtue was stewardship - with this, we began learning about how we can share our time and talent with others. With the season of Thanksgiving, we also began learning about exploration in America and the life of various Native American tribes. At the end of our unit, we even got to create replicas of various dwellings from different tribes using recyclables.

Finally, we have been preparing for our First Reconciliation all month long - thank you so much for keeping us in your prayers.



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Ms. Polson and the third graders have studied the author Patricia Polacco and enjoyed her works. In English, we are focusing on verbs in Unit 3. All of us know and can rapidly say our 23 being verbs. We are identifying the 4 verb tenses. For social studies we are studying power struggles over land and England's early attempts to colonize the New World. We know what indigenous peoples are. We read about Roanoke and are presently looking at Jamestown from different points of view. In the science lab, we created catapults and launched candy pumpkins 188 inches forward (and quite high in the hall as well). In math, we know that multiplication is repeated addition. We have figured out that the order of the factors can be switched around and the product will not change. We are grateful for the opportunity to have spent time with friends and family over Thanksgiving.



Miss Patti Woods: English (4 - 8)

Congratulations to the following students who made it into the 2019 Spelling Bee.

Grade 8: Lillie W., Olivia H., Jasmin R., Marybeth T., Mia T., and Katie C.

Grade 7: Thad B., Avery B., Tom F., Lanie D., John W., and alternate Rory B.

Grade 6: William H., Joey R., Emillie M., Henry C., Mateo S., and alternate Kasen W.

Grade 5: Conor F., Cillian S., Josh A., Lilly B., and alternate Lauren S.

Grade 4: Emma Y., Charlie D., Mies M., Deacon C., Mason L., and alternate Steven I.

Please pray for our spellers as they work hard studying for the school Spelling Bee to be held on Tuesday, January 29 at 2:00. Join us in the gym if you can!

Miss Amanda Imo: Religion, Math, Reading, Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)

Fifth Grade: The fifth graders have been studying the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We discussed where the Sacrament comes from and the meaning behind it. We are now going to go through each part of the Mass and discuss in depth why we do and say the things we do during the liturgy. During math, the students began their unit on decimals. They have learned how to read, write, order, and compare them. We are now working on solving problems that include decimals. In literature, the students have been very excited about "Book Club." Each student is expected to read a portion of the book and complete a job that they will share with the rest of the group. The jobs will help the students with asking questions, connecting text, summarizing, finding and learning the meaning of interesting words, and visualizing.

Fourth Grade: In math, the students have been diligently working on solving multiplication problems. I am so proud of how quickly and accurately the students can solve basic multiplication facts. During literature, the class is currently reading *There's A Boy in the Girl's Bathroom*. The students have enjoyed laughing about the characters and are discussing each part of the story in great detail.

**Mrs. Christy Connor: Religion (6) Social Studies (4-8)**

Religion: Our sixth grade students will begin a unit about Moses and the Exodus. They will learn about the ten plagues and how the Israelites escape from Egypt and slavery.

SS 4: Fourth grade students are working on how state and local governments work. They are also learning about the Midwest states.

SS 5: Students in grade five are learning about the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies. They are also discovering how the colonists came up with different ideas for self-government.

SS 6: Grade six students will begin a unit on Asia with an emphasis on ancient India, Japan, and China. They will continue to work on geography skills, especially dealing with latitude and longitude.

SS 7: Students in grade seven will begin the Citizenship Handbook. This deals with parts of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

SS 8: Eighth grade students are learning about some of the causes that led to the stock market crash and the Great Depression.

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

Standard Math

We have been working with fractions, and just finished up a chapter test. Next we will be exploring measures of central tendency and proportions.

Challenge Math - 7th grade

We have just started exploring ratios and unit rates.

Algebra

We have begun work with systems of equations. We are looking into the three ways of solving them.

Pre-Algebra

We just finished multi-step equations and inequalities, as well as systems of equations in its most basic form. We will be moving on to linear equations.

Challenge Math - 6th grade

We have started working with writing and finding ratios and units rates.

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

Literature classes have been reading *A Separate Peace* (8th), *And Then There Were None* (7th), and *Tangerine* (6th). All three are stories about mystery and life choices. These books will take us to the end of the quarter. Please encourage students to read every night. We will begin our Holocaust books when we return from Christmas break.

During this last month, 8th grade religion has focused on the Marks of the Church, One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic. In our next unit, we will begin to explore the history of the Church starting with the builders of the early Church. We will also learn about Mary being the perfect example of what holiness looks like.

7th grade religion has been learning *Jesus Christ the Truth*, where we learned from teachings and example of Christ how to live according to the commandments, the Beatitudes, and His new law of love, the Gospel. Our next unit, entitled *Jesus Christ the Life*, where we will study about the spiritual journey, a personal faith journey that is developed through a growing friendship with Jesus and that will be completed in the fullness of eternal life.

Vocabulary Workshop schedule should be taped/stapled to your student's vocabulary book cover or in their assignment notebooks. I have also shared the schedule with each of them on Google Drive. Unit 6 test is Thursday, December 6th and Unit 7 test is Tuesday, December 18th.

Upper Grade Exam Schedule

Tuesday, December 18th

6th-grade English

7th-grade English

8th-grade English and Literature

Wednesday, December 19th

6th-grade Math

7th-grade Math

8th-grade Math

Thursday, December 20th

6th-grade none

7th-grade Literature

8th-grade Social Studies

