

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 10, Issue 4

December 1, 2021



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

Hello SRA Families,

As we celebrate the first week of Advent, we can reflect on the theme of HOPE. The virtue of hope is an important message to share with our children this year. Hope helps us to see that life's goodness is possible in our own life. Our children need to experience the joy of HOPE this Advent season.

This Sunday, we have two Advent events-- Cookies with Santa Pick-Up after 10:00 AM Mass and the Advent Glow hosted in the church Sunday evening.

We will celebrate the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Wednesday, December 8**. On this day, we honor the Virgin Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain. We do have school on this day and will celebrate with an All-School Mass at 8:00 AM.

The Christmas Program listed on the school calendar is **canceled** this year. Unfortunately, since the music classes were limited this year, it became difficult even to find enough time to prepare the students. We will try again next year!

The school is getting a new roof! This is exciting news and much needed, but it will mean we will have to make some adjustments from day-to-day for the next week or two. Arrivals each day will remain the same since the roofers will begin once the students arrive; however, recess and dismissal doors may change throughout the process. The school will notify families if something changes.

Tobias Aftercare will be canceled on Thursday, December 16, because the St. Raphael Staff Christmas party is after school. We want our entire staff able to attend. Aftercare will resume on Friday, December 17. Thank you for understanding.

Friday, December 17, is a full day with dismissal at 3:00 PM. The Christmas parties will begin at 2:00 PM. This day also marks the end of the 2nd quarter for the 2021-2022 school year.

Here are a few policies from the **Student-Parent Handbook** to review:

It is that time of year again -- Snow Days! In the event that school will be canceled due to inclement weather, TV stations 2 (FOX), 4 (KMOV), and 5 (KSDK) will carry these announcements. A school cancellation message will be sent via the Flocknote, emails, and text messages.

Sock and legging colors: Girls wear solid white, solid black, or solid navy-blue crew socks, knee socks, **plain leggings or plain tights, no logos.** Boys also wear solid white, solid black, or solid navy-blue crew socks.

The school cafeteria serves lunch daily beginning the first full day of school. Students may bring their lunch to school if they desire. **Fast food, soda, candy, gum, and beverages in glass containers are not allowed.**

Today's Guide is a combined November/ December issue. We will send out a short message closer to Christmas break with reminders for our return in January. The Advent Season passes quickly, so enjoy each upcoming week with Love, Joy, and Peace.

Blessings,

Mrs. Hayes

Announcements



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



November Birthdays

Everly Baker-2
Hannah Kratky-3
Jude Wulf-4
Teddy Adams-6
Maggie Niemira-8
Mrs. Schmidt-8
Ava Christlieb-11
Francie Berry-12
Rosie Hogrebe-15
Mrs. Polson-17
Mrs. Hayes-20
Josh Abbott-20
Alexis Young-20
Joseph Sullivan-21
Ruth Snodgrass-24
Frances Zougla-25
Fr. John-25
Patrick Meier-27
Dylan Bond-29

December Birthdays

Lydia Eddingfield-2
Sophia Bradshaw-12
Jio Raymo-12
Mia Bahr-14
Arabella Smith-14
Louise Zitko-15
Archie Geisz-17
Jonah Abbott-18
Andrew Sensmeyer-18
Theo Dowd-19
Brandon Young-19
Lucas Kuenzel-19
Aidan Flavin-20
Phoenix Murphy-22
Celeste Smith-26
Lauren Stawizynski-26
Ella Goodman-27
Liam Feldman-27
Oliver Sailor-28
Agnes Dougherty-28



Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

December 1-2nd Grade First Reconciliation
December 5-Cookies with Santa-Parking Lot
December 8-Feast of the Immaculate Conception-
All School Mass-7th grade planning
December 14-School Board Meeting
December 17-End of 2nd Quarter-
Christmas Parties-2:00pm
Christmas Break begins at 3:00pm
December 18-January 2 CHRISTMAS BREAK
January 3-School Resumes



Miss Molly: Preschool A

Preschool class Angels preparing for the Thanksgiving holiday! We are so thankful to have such a wonderful class and a bunch of great kids!



Mrs. Tate: Prekindergarten



Once again we have had a very productive month. We learned more letters and numbers. We went on a nature walk to Wilmore park and collected leaves and played on the playground. The class learned about healthy and unhealthy foods. We focused a lot on Thanksgiving. They learned about the first Thanksgiving and made lots of fun projects. It was fun to hear what they are thankful for. I am thankful for all of them and the SRA family.

Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee

In Kindergarten we are working on writing prompts using 1-2 sentences. We used a graphic organizer for a Thanksgiving writing piece about foods we enjoy for Thanksgiving dinner. We then wrote sentences using beginning sight words and 2 different foods. We have been busy in our daily literacy and math centers and are working on a sight word seek and find and counting teen numbers using ten frames.

Hope everyone had a safe and restful holiday!



First Grade News: Mrs. Theresa Schmidt

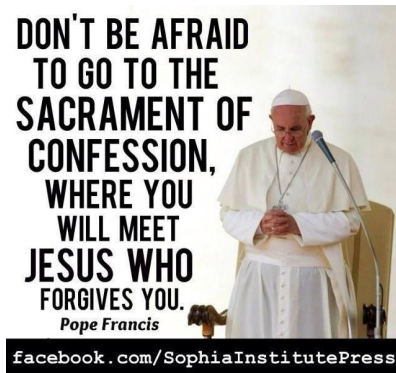


First grade just finished working on strategies to add three numbers together. We are currently working on addition and subtraction fact families. We have gotten pretty good at using the short vowel sounds and now we are studying the long vowel sounds. The students are growing into stronger readers and writers every day. See the picture of a creative writing assignment the students did. They all disguised a turkey so it would not be eaten on Thanksgiving. As you can see they did a fantastic job! In religion, we will be studying the Advent season. With Christmas so close it is hard to believe that it also means that first grade is almost half over. In science, we have started our unit in animal classification. We want to wish everyone a blessed Advent season. Please pray for us, as we will continue to pray for our SRA community.

Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

Second grade had a great fall season. We made the most of our last nice days to go to the park for Fun Friday and to do some learning outside! Miss Franks was impressed by our mastery of Addition and Subtraction-with up to four digits! While we will miss the warm weather, our excitement for the coming of Jesus is growing!

Please keep our class in your prayers as we make our First Reconciliation on December 1!



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Hoping your Thanksgiving holiday was wonderful! Mrs. Polson's Third Graders, a class of Saints, are ever so grateful for all that God has blessed us with!



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

As I stop to think of all the things for which I am thankful, this school community certainly comes to mind. Thank you to all my colleagues, the kids I teach, and the families with whom I work. I am truly blessed to be in this environment.

In fourth grade religion, we are beginning our studies of the Ten Commandments. We've only completed the first one so far. We will be creating a slide show in class as we go through each of the commandments.

In seventh grade religion, we are finishing up the sacraments of healing (Penance and Anointing of the Sick) and will be moving on to the Beatitudes (The Sermon on the Mount).

In English, the fifth and sixth graders will continue their studies of verbs in all their various forms and will then be moving on to write a persuasive essay.

In fourth grade social studies, we just finished our studies of the Louisiana Purchase and will be moving on to the Lewis and Clark Expedition/Westward Expansion.

Mrs. Amanda Knauer: 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 through each part of the Mass and are discussing 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.

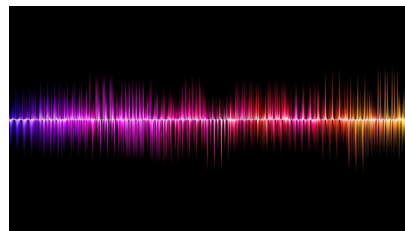
Fourth Grade: In Math, the students have been diligently working on solving multiplication problems. I am so proud of how quickly and accurately the students can solve basic multiplication facts. During Literature, the class is currently reading *There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom*. The students have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

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

4th grade is learning about Sound Waves and the different parts of waves: Amplitude, Frequency, Wavelength, etc...

5th grade is finishing a Google Slide Presentaton with a partner on the World's Tallest Skyscrapers they will present to the class.

6, 7, 8th grade are learning about severe weather; tornadoes and hurricanes, and meteorology (doppler radar) and weather fronts, isobars and isotherms.



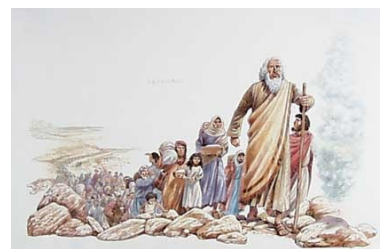
Mrs. Christy Connor: Religion (6 & 8) Social Studies (5-8)

Religion: Students in Grade Six have begun to learn about Moses and the Exodus.

Eighth grade students are completing the four marks of the Catholic Church.

Social Studies: Students in eighth grade will be completing a unit on Reconstruction. They will then begin to study the Industrial Revolution.

Students in grade seven and grade five are learning about the thirteen British colonies. In grade six, we are learning about ancient China and will soon be moving on to studying ancient Japan.



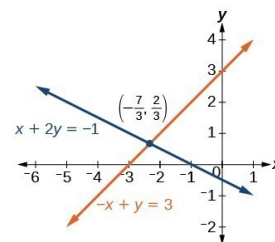
Mr. Zach Almeida: Standard Math & Challenge Math (6-7-8) Pre Algebra, (7-8) Algebra (7-8)

Challenge: Students are working on solving rate problems and graphing linear equations by identifying the slope and y-intercept.

Pre-Algebra: Students are solving problems with percentages.

Algebra 1: Students are solving systems of linear equations.

Algebra 2: Students are simplifying rational expressions.



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

The 6th, 7th & 8th graders have been working on their long writing piece for NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month), which ends on November 30. They have had to work on their writing stamina, their character development and their plot. Once they got into their story, some of them had to find some strategies to stretch the story. How about writing a backstory for one of the characters? How about your story involves some travel, which would necessitate the writer doing research on the places that are visited. How about writing an epilogue? A Prologue? The possibilities are virtually endless.



This picture is Hazel, a 6th grader at SRA who participated in a write-in at the St. Louis Central Library.

Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education

This month we have been working on basketball skills including dribbling, passing, and shooting. We've done this through a variety of games. With the young classes we have also been doing 9-square, so they have another game they can play at recess.

