

# Saint Raphael the Archangel

## The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community



Volume 11, Issue 3

October 2022

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

October 27, 2022

Hello St. Raphael Families,

***My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word.***  
*Psalms 119:28*

I would like to begin today by sharing a little more information concerning the school shooting event that happened this week at a neighboring city school. Information was sent home the day of as to how St. Raphael responded that day, but I also received a few questions about our school safety after that message. Let me share a little more information with you.

The school reviews and practices fire, tornado, earthquake, and active shooter drills each year. Over the past few years during the pandemic, many of the drills were discussed in class and/or virtually viewed within the classrooms. As the principal, I felt the students had enough to be concerned with virtual and modified classroom settings during that time. But this year, the emphasis must return to more active, hands-on drills and practices.

This week the teachers will present an age-appropriate Active Shooter video from the Archdiocese of St. Louis to their classes, followed by class discussions. After seeing the video, the school will practice the Active Shooter Drill in the classrooms the following week. The videos and practices are not intended to scare or worry our students but provide a measure of control over a very scary situation. Teachers, students, and parents each have an appropriate video to view.

Here are a few links that may be helpful to our parents.  
The corresponding Active Shooter Parent Link can be viewed by clicking on the link below.  
<https://www.archstl.org/education/parent-videos>

**St. Louis Counseling Services** also sent the articles in the links below that may assist in your parent-child discussions.

**Helping your children manage distress in the aftermath of a shooting**  
(American Psychological Association)

<https://www.apa.org/topics/gun-violence-crime/shooting-aftermath>

**10 Strategies for Talking to Children about School Shootings** (Psychology Today)

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/when-your-adult-child-breaks-your-heart/202112/10-strategies-talking-children-about-school>

As a Catholic community, we must keep the families affected by this tragic event in our prayers as they mourn their loss and begin to reset their lives. May St. Raphael the Archangel be by their side to help these families heal. St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

**I know this is a larger message than usual, so please keep reading!**

● **School Spirit Shirts** order forms are going home in the Friday Packet this week. Our school theme this year is “God is on the Move”. Ms. Decker provided an opportunity for the students to create the logo for our new spirit shirts, and the students and faculty voted on the logo that we are using. Thank you, Hazel D., in 7th grade, for her vision in creating our new logo.

● Thank you to all of our families for participating in the **Pietro Night** a few weeks ago. St. Raphael the Archangel received a very generous donation of \$1,000.00 because of your help. What an awesome surprise!

● Monday, October 31, is Halloween, if you forgot! The **Halloween Parties** begin at 2:00 PM. Thank you to all of our Room Parents for donating your time and creative energy. The kids always have fun!

● **Tuesday, November 1, the school will be closed in observance of All Saints Day.** No classes for PreK through 8th Grade.

● This past spring, we hosted a t-shirt fundraiser in honor of fallen Firefighter Ben Polson, an SRA alum and son of Ms. Polson, our 3rd-grade teacher. We would like to make the 3rd Thursday of each month Ben Polson Day, and all students, faculty, and staff who purchased a t-shirt are welcome to wear them on this day. In doing this, we are able to continue to honor Firefighter

Polson’s heroic efforts and come together as a school community to show support. If you are still interested in purchasing a Ben Polson t-shirt, our Men’s Club graciously purchased a large lot of shirts, of which we still have many sizes available. Please contact Mrs. Magee ([magee@straphaelarchangel.org](mailto:magee@straphaelarchangel.org)) if you would like to purchase a t-shirt. All sizes, both youth and adult are \$15 each.

● On Friday, November 11, our 5th-grade class is preparing a celebration for Veteran’s Day by honoring our veterans at an all-school Mass followed by a small reception in the cafeteria. The 5th-grade class is asking our school/parish families to invite the veterans in your family to join the school in honoring their service. Invitations to this event can also be found in the bulletin.

● Also, on **Friday, November 1, School will dismiss at 12:00 PM Noon** for faculty professional development. We will offer aftercare until 4:00 PM. Students staying for aftercare must bring a lunch because no lunch will be served that day.

● Saturday, November 12 is Marcia Matreci Memorial Trivia Night. Door open at 6:30 PM.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Red Ribbon Week. I know it can be taxing to find dress up accessories for a whole week, but the kids really have fun!

Blessings,  
Mrs. Hayes

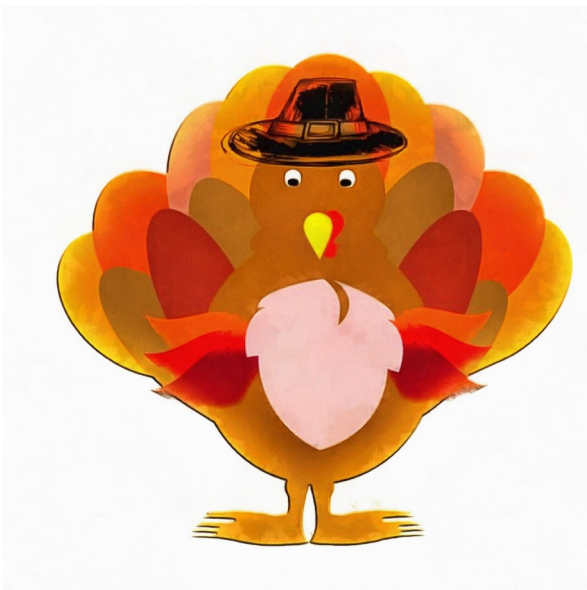
## Announcements

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



### November Birthdays

**Everly Baker-2**  
**Hannah Kratky-3**  
**Teddy Adams-6**  
**Maggie Niemira-8**  
**Ava Christlieb-11**  
**Francie Berry-12**  
**Ms. Polson-17**  
**Mrs. Hayes-20**  
**Alexis Young-20**  
**Joseph Sullivan-21**  
**Frances Zougla-25**  
**Fr. John-25**  
**Patrick Meier-27**





## **Important Calendar Dates and Notes:**

**11/1-ALL SAINTS DAY; NO SCHOOL PK-8**

11/8-Home & School 6:30pm

11/11-Veteran's Day Mass-

**NOON DISMISSAL-TEACHER PD**

**PRESCHOOL OPEN-AFTERCARE TILL 4PM**

11/12-Trivia Night

11/21-School Board 7pm

**11/23-11/25-THANKSGIVING BREAK**

**NO SCHOOL PK-8**

11/27-Advent Begins

11/30-2nd Grade First Reconciliation Meeting  
6:30pm

### Miss Molly: Preschool A

October has flown by! The bears have been busy working on letters L and F! They have helped by making the Halloween bulletin board and the Welcome To Our Farm bulletin board in the hall. They are really becoming close friends with their classmates. The kids had a special treat. The fire department came by with their big truck. The firemen were great with the kids and showed them the whole truck and talked about fire safety. I'm sure the Halloween party will be fun with lots of games and great costumes! We will show them to you next month. Have a Spooky Halloween!!



### Mrs. Tate: Prekindergarten

The Bears have had a busy October. The students have been working hard coming up with words for the word wall. I have seen great improvement in writing their names and numbers.



We learned about fire safety and had a visit from the firemen. We are now learning about fall, pumpkins, and getting ready for Halloween!



### Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee

We've had a busy month in Kindergarten! We learned about fire safety and had a special visit from the St. Louis City Fire Department last week. The students loved seeing the firefighters, asking them questions, sharing what we've learned and getting to see the truck! We have been working on adding combinations of 10 in our math centers and working on beginning sounds in words. We will start sight word practice this month in preparation for guided reading group work after Christmas.



### First Grade News: Mrs. Jessica Klein



First grade is starting the second quarter with assignment notebooks, homework and spelling tests! We are continuing to learn our math facts, as well as adding sounds to our sound wall and words to our word jail! We are excited for Halloween and are enjoying using pumpkins and candy to learn!



### Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

Second Grade has had a busy fall! We completed several hands-on projects to strengthen our understanding of pretty difficult math concepts, Addition with Regrouping! In Social Studies we made our voices heard by voting as members of a Class Democracy! We took advantage of our last few nice days to observe the trees as they changed for Fall. Second grade has begun preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. Please keep us in your prayers as we take this big step in our faith journey!

### Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade have researched a saint of their choice. We each wrote a report about our saint's life. On October 28 we got to dress up as that saint. The Feast Day for our parish was our day to plan the All School Mass. Three students dressed as the 3 Archangels: St Gabriel, St Michael and St Raphael. We also got to eat Kona snow cones to celebrate our school's Feast Day. Thanks to HSA! We are still working on our Tree & Leaf Projects. We are adding & subtracting fractions with like denominators. It is hard to believe that  $\frac{1}{4}$  of our school year is over. Everyone is looking forward to Halloween!



### Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

As 1st Quarter comes to an end, more art is being displayed in the hallways from Rainbow Fish Watercolor Paintings to Abstract Sculptures! Early Childhood learned more about art museums, how to use watercolor and got to end the month with fun pumpkin painting and showing them to their friends in school. Upper Classes finished off their Still Life Project that wowed lots of students and fellow staff, then created an abstract sculpture in groups. Lots of learning and fun ac-

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

4th-grade Religion: We are beginning our studies of the Ten Commandments. We will be creating a slideshow, one slide for each of the Commandments.

4th-grade English: We are continuing our work with nouns in all forms: singular, plural, proper, common, singular possessive, and plural possessive. A test on the unit will be next week.

4th-grade Social Studies: We are going to be beginning our studies of the Civil War and how Missouri had an impact on it.

5th-grade English: We are continuing our work with nouns in all forms: singular, plural, proper, common, singular possessive, and plural possessive. A test on the unit will be next week.

7th-grade Religion: We are working our way through the Sacraments of Initiation as we get ready to begin preparing for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. We will be researching saints and begin narrowing down the choices of the saints that interest us, or "speak to us" to use as our Confirmation saint.

**Mrs. Connie Holbrook: Religion (5), Math (4-6), Literature/Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)**

Fifth Grade: In Math, November will be focused on decimals, particularly the basics and adding and subtracting. This is a life skill in order to work with money, therefore we will work on money skills often. Reading class will be spent reading stories in book A. There will be a unit test before we begin book B. Vocabulary tests have also started and occur the week after the spelling tests. The Eucharist is what will be discussed in Religion class in November.

Fourth Grade: During Math class, the big push will be multiplication, beginning with multiplication facts. I am hoping to include some fun projects as well as teach some strategies for memorizing multiplication facts. During Literature class they have been reading stories from book A about hopes, dreams, and wishes. They will have a unit test for book A this month before book B is started. Vocabulary tests have also started and occur the week after the spelling tests.

Sixth Grade Standard Math: The students have done a great job working on decimals. A final review of the decimal concepts will happen in November and a test will be given. After that the students will study frac-

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

4th Grade Science is learning about Energy, the different kinds (electrical, light, sound, mechanical, chemical) and how they transfer from one type to another. Also the difference between potential and kinetic energies.

5th Grade is learning about Chemical Formulas of Compounds.

6-7-8th Grades are learning about Acids, Bases and the pH Scale .

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

Religion: Grade six students are learning how the Israelites arrived in Egypt through the story of Joseph and his brothers. The eighth grade students are learning about the four Marks of the Church.

Social Studies: Students in grade six will be completing their study of European geography and cultures.

Grade eight students are about to begin their study of the Civil War.

Grade five students are working on the original thirteen British colonies.

Students in grade seven are completing their study of the history of Ancient China.

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

Algebra 2: Students are solving systems of linear equations and inequalities.

Challenge: Students are multiplying and dividing rational numbers.

Algebra 1: Students will work on solving and graphing compound inequalities.

Pre-Algebra: Students will solve problems using the Pythagorean Theorem.

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

The middle-school students are prepping for NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month)--a month-long writing project. They are outlining their stories, getting suggestions from their peers on plot events they can include, and figuring out who their characters are. These are longer stories--for example, the 6th graders' stories will be at least 5,000 words long. This may seem like a daunting task, but this is the only thing we will do for one 45-minute session each day--we will work on our stories.

The Bellarmine Speech League performers are practicing for the first meet in November. Most duets/soloists have memorized their piece, and are now refining it with gestures, facial expressions and movement.

**Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education**

I am very excited to be starting our next unit! We will be starting our basketball unit. We will be practicing dribbling, passing and shooting. The older kids will be playing full scrimmages in class. I am excited to see everyone develop their skills!

