

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community



Volume 12, Issue 2

Sept 2023

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

Hello SRA Families

We had a beautiful weekend for our Parish Picnic, and I think I can say it was a wonderful event for everyone! To the leadership and committee members for the St. Raphael Picnic, we must give you a round of applause. The time and energy you generously donated to St. Raphael and the picnic is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

It is hard to believe that September is ending this weekend, but we still have two final events this month.

Thursday, September 28th, is the SRA Blood Drive from 2-8 PM, located in the cafeteria. Here is the link to sign up if you would like to donate to the Blood Drive.

https://login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/119040

Friday, September 29th, is St. Raphael the Archangel Feast Day. In honor of our Feast Day, we will begin the day learning about St. Raphael the Archangel with our Family Groups, followed by Kona Snow cones during the lunch hour. Thank you to the Home and School Association for providing this delicious treat for us.

Over the next couple of weeks, we have a few events I would like to bring to your attention.

On Tuesday, October 3rd, the Home and School Association is hosting a guest speaker, Amy Maus, for our middle school parents at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria. Amy will share some of the trends she is seeing in her practice when working with young teens and hopefully provide a little wisdom and guidance to you as a parent of a middle-school-age child.

On Thursday, October 5th, we will host the Blessing of the Pets at 2:45 PM on the playground section of the parking lot. Those wishing to have their pet blessed can meet in this location, and then Father will begin blessing all the pets. Once all the pets have been blessed, we will begin dismissing the cars.

Remember, **Uniform School Pictures** will be on **Wednesday, October 11th**. The first pictures of the year are taken with the students in their uniforms; in the Spring pictures, the students can wear dress-up clothes. We usually begin with the preschoolers, so if your preschool child is not at school that day, you are welcome to bring your child up before 9:30 AM.

In the coming weeks, we will be practicing the required Active Shooter Drill as a school. I will be visiting the classrooms to present an age-appropriate video to prepare for this practice and answer any of the students' questions or hear their concerns. This drill is not intended to scare or alarm any child but to practice a procedure just like we do for fire and tornado drills. I wanted parents to know that we were having these discussions if they heard their child talk about the practice at home.

Now, I have a few concerns I would like to revisit with families.

Parking Lot Issues- We seem to be having parents/grandparents driving off the parking lot using the entrances by the church or upper gym doors. The parking lot protocol for dismissal is to park in a spot on the lot facing the school. Each row will be dismissed one at a time by either the principal/learning consultant/teacher. Please let the person picking up your child know about the correct protocol.

No cars are to move from their spot until directed by the staff member, and only in the direction of the school. No cars should be turning around if they are in the back of the lot, heading out the church entrance, or moving toward the open space to cut in front of the other cars following the protocol.

This is a safety issue for two reasons. We can't move cars until we have all students in a car because students do run between cars. We are also checking to make sure students have connected with their families. The option to park in the neighborhood in front of the rectory or on Jamieson is for the families that need to leave quickly for an appointment, but we are still watching to ensure they safely reach their car.

School Uniform Checklist- The SRA uniform policies are listed in the SRA Parent/Student Handbook sent to families in the summer. Parents are required to sign off stating that they have read and understand the policies in the handbook.

To be fair, when enforcing the uniform policies for all students, the school is adding a form to notify families when their child does not follow the SRA uniform policies this year.

Parents will receive the School Uniform Checklist when their child is out of uniform. We ask that parents discuss the policy with their child and correct the issue in a timely manner, as suggested by the administration. A sample copy of the form will be sent home in this week's Friday Packet.

The second half of October brings many events such as Red Ribbon Week, Halloween, Parent/Teacher Conference, and the much anticipated Fall Break. First-quarter report cards will be opened through ALMA the week of conferences, but you can view your child's grades now by logging into ALMA. Please call the office if you need assistance.

Hopefully, the fall weather will arrive soon, but until then, enjoy the summerlike days.

Blessings,
Mrs. Hayes

Announcements

Daily Mass Time: 8:00am

Grades K-3 T/W/Th

Grades 4-8 M/W/Th



October Birthdays

Tommy Kosta-1

Anna Wright-1

Julia Panka-2

Molly Fissel-2

Elizabeth Kleissler-2

Emmy Kleekamp-4

A J Christlieb-6

Amos Abramczyk-7

Wilson Pendry-8

Vivien Smith-11

Allison Colin-14

Sasha Winters-16

Sophia LoBello-17

Brett Cronin-18

Lillian Benner-18

Chloe Janis-20

Quinn Zitko-23

Miss Decker-23

Clara Thompson-26

Anne Gresick-28

Henry Dirnbeck-30

Church Music Leadership Program For Young Catholics

Musical, Pastoral, and Liturgical formation for Junior-high and High School singers and instrumentalists will begin in October. This program is directed to young people who experience a call to take a leadership role in the Church using their gift of music. Rehearsals will include learning the appropriate use of music in liturgy as presented in the General Instructions of the Roman Missal and other Church documents. Students will also have the practical experience of leading the music for Mass once a month at Sts. Peter and Paul Church. Enrollment is limited. Audition required for vocal or instrumental participation in the program. Contact Fr. Bruce Forman for additional information: revycm@charter.net or 314-231-7464.



Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

TBD-First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

10/6-PreSchool Social 7pm

10/10-Home & School 6:30pm

10/11-Uniform Picture Day

10/16-School Board 7pm

10/18-End of 1st Quarter

10/23-Red Ribbon Week

10/27-Halloween Parties 2pm

10/30-Parent Teacher Conferences

No School PK-8 / No Aftercare

10/31-11/1 — No School PK-8-Fall Break



Miss Molly: Preschool A

Preschool has had a busy month!! We have worked on colors, shapes, body and senses. They have done a great job going to church with their buddies and enjoying time with them. They all told me they had fun at the picnic and I think the Fun House was the favorite for my group! They are all doing a great job of becoming friends and learning to play with each other. Preschool has two new students this month; Cora and Felicity. The girls are enjoying meeting new friends and coming to school.



Ms. Tracy: Prekindergarten

The Bears have been adjusting very well to pre-k and we have been very busy. We have started our word wall and letter of the week. We have graphed our favorite color apples. Third grade visited with a ladybug trick that we all loved. The Bears began church this month as well as family groups. We have loved getting to know our families.



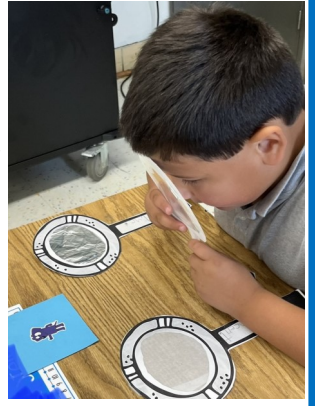
Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee

Kindergarten has been busy this past month! We've been working on estimation in math and we will begin learning about the Rosary in Religion this week. In our weekly learning centers we're working on number sense and in literacy our focus has been on lowercase letter identification and basic sight word building. We began a unit on apples this week and graphed the different kinds each student brought in to share. We will do a writing and art activity about our apples this week!



First Grade News: Mrs. Jessica Klein

First grade is working on learning the tricky rules of when to use c, k or ck when spelling words. We are also practicing our addition math facts and learning all about light. The most fun part of this unit has been adding a lava lamp to our classroom and using magnifying glasses with different coverings to learn about objects that are transparent, translucent or opaque.



Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

Second grade has had a very exciting first month of school! One highlight was Writing Bootcamp, where we did Writing Basics training! It was a great way to review and practice new skills! In Math we are reviewing and expanding on our Place Value knowledge with a game of Jenga! It's been a very exciting start to the year.



Please continue to keep us in your prayers during this fall season!



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third Grade has learned to subtract fractions with like denominators. We created a Pictograph of Picnic Colored T-shirts in Math. We have also talked about horizontal & vertical bar graphs. We are reading several stories by an author/illustrator Dick Gackenbach: King Wacky, Harvey, the Foolish Pig and Harry and the Terrible Whatzit. In Science we identified inherited traits and discovered some of us have widow peaks and some do not. Some have ear lobes attached and some unattached. Many fun learning experiences before Fall begins on September 23.

Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

Lots of artwork hanging up in the hallways! I have the first assignment up for the Upper Classes- then watercolor paintings from the Early Childhood Classes. The Upper Classes are completing a Tempera Painting Project right now and the Early Childhood Students are starting "Art Stations", where they make small projects at each station. Lots of projects coming along!

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

In seventh-grade religion, we recently learned more about the Infancy Narratives of Jesus and how the gospel writers chose to write them. We have taken the end-of-chapter test in 7th Grade Religion. We are now focusing on the gospel accounts of the baptism of Jesus.

In fourth-grade religion, we are delving deeper into the Our Father and how we can serve the church.

In fourth-grade social studies, we have been learning about some of the events leading up to the Revolution. We will take a unit test on October 4.

In fourth-grade English, we are wrapping up unit one, *The Sentence*, and will be taking the test on September 29. Next up is the unit *Nouns*.

In fourth-grade literature, we have been reading the book *Frindle*. We are close to the end and will be finishing it soon! The students have enjoyed reading the book.

In fifth-grade English, we recently finished the first unit, *The Sentence*, and are now working on unit two, *Nouns*.

Everyone had a great time at the parish picnic. We had great weather for it! We are hoping for some cooler days to come around soon!

Mrs. Katie Meier: Religion (5), Math (4-6), Literature/Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)**5th Grade**

Math~We are working through long division problems with two digit divisors. We are almost experts!

Religion~We are studying the Sacraments of Initiation and creating a sacrament book with important information about each sacrament.

Literature~We are about halfway through reading our first novel, *The Homework Machine*. We are excited to see how it ends!

4th Grade Math~We are branching out into algebraic expressions and solving for missing pieces of math problems.

6th Grade Standard Math~We were adding and subtracting decimals. We are moving into scientific notation and multiplying and dividing decimals.

6th Grade Challenge Math~We learned about adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing positive and negative integers. We are moving into prime factorization and greatest common factors.

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

4th Grade will be doing a quick Lesson on Tree Identification.

5th Grade is getting ready to TEST on Atoms, Elements and Periodic Table.

6th, 7th, 8th will be going into cell division, (Mitosis) and diffusion/osmosis and passive and active transport in cells.

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

Religion: Grade six students are learning about some of the early stories found in the book of Genesis. Students in Grade eight have studied the images and models of the Church and will soon be starting on the four marks of the Church.

Social Studies: Students in Grades five and eight are beginning their journey through American history by learning about the indigenous people of the United States. We will soon begin looking at the role of the explorers in our country's history.

Students in grade six began their exploration of the continents with the geography of the United States and Canada. We are also learning about the cultures of these two countries.

Students in grade seven have been introduced to the people and history of ancient Mesopotamia.

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

We have been busy in the middle school math classes! The 7th Grade Challenge class is working on evaluating expressions and solving one-step equations. The Pre-Algebra class is working on solving equations with rational numbers. The Algebra I class is working on solving multi-step equations and using ratios and proportions to solve problems. The Algebra II class is working on solving inequalities and proving theorems.

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

6th-8th ELA

The 6th graders are reading *The Tiger Rising*. The 7th graders are reading *And Then There Were None*. The 8th graders are reading *Just Mercy*. All the students are working on memoir pieces.

We've also started an argument unit, which we will touch upon throughout the school year. We're learning that "argument" is not something done in anger--at least not the argumentative process we're talking about. Arguments are all around us. Arguments involve listening to others, and then responding to what they said. What's the impact of not eating breakfast? What's the best way to train a dog to play fetch? What's the right amount of sleep for middle-schoolers? This process of looking at what a text says, formulating our response to the text, and then writing about what they said and what we say will help us when writing informational pieces as well as persuasive ones.

Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education

After finishing volleyball, we have been working on various frisbee games. With the older students, we played ultimate frisbee. With the younger students, we worked on our throwing techniques. We practiced backhand, forehand, and a hammer throw.

