

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A weekly newsletter for the school community

Volume 5, Issue 4

September 15, 2016



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Kim Vangel

Dear St. Raphael School Families,

If you're reading this letter before Sunday, I encourage you to make plans to attend Family Mass at 10am on Sunday, September 18th. You'll be treated to lively music & singing during Mass, and donuts & coffee in the school cafeteria following Mass. Family Masses are meant to be especially welcoming to families with children, and we would love to fill up our church with school families on Sunday. Come and join the celebration!

Thanks to everyone who attended our SRA Curriculum Night - it was a great evening of information about what our students will be learning at school this year, and what life in our contemporary classrooms looks like day to day. Attendance at Curriculum Night is an important part of the partnership between home and school, and we appreciate our wonderful parent partners in education!

This next school week is a big one with our annual standardized testing - the Iowa Assessments. These national tests give students, teachers, and parents one way to measure student learning and overall school performance. We are very clear that standardized testing has some flaws and is not the only measure of a student's success; however, we are also very clear that these test scores are a benchmark for students to be accepted into private high schools, and for St. Raphael School to be evaluated on a local, regional, and even national scale. So, is next week a big deal? Yes, it kind of is a big deal.

At St. Raphael we create a testing schedule that is meant to take advantage of the best "thinking time" for students. The majority of the testing is accomplished in the mornings, while student minds are fresh. We start off the week with some of the less strenuous test, and end the week the same way, allowing for students to perform on the most difficult tests at their peak performance times in the middle of the week. For those students with diagnosed learning differences who need individualized accommodations on testing, we hire a small army of qualified substitute teachers who know our kids well, to help administer tests with accommodations. In addition, we have teachers without homerooms, myself, and Mrs. Gewinner, our Learning Consultant, assigned to small groups or individual students to provide those testing accommodations. We give classes extra free play time outside during this week, and we all do our very best to keep the atmosphere quiet and calm throughout the week.

To help from home, it's really important that your students eat a healthy breakfast packed with protein every day, and that they get to bed early for a good night's rest each night. Try not to put too much pressure on your kids regarding the Iowa Assessments; encourage them to always do their best, and to not give up. Remind your kids that you are proud of them for being true to themselves, and that has little or nothing to do with standardized test scores.

Teachers will share results of the Iowa Assessments with you at Parent Teacher Conferences at the end of October. I will be sharing overall school test data and trends around the same time; again, this information is useful for teaching and for determining curriculum direction, as well as for looking at patterns of academic performance for the school overall.

Thanks for your support as always, and I look forward to seeing you at Family Mass on Sunday!

Peace & Blessings,
Kim Vangel
Principal



All School Mass

8:00am Mass

September 15

Memorial Mass, Our Lady of Sorrows
4th Grade Leading

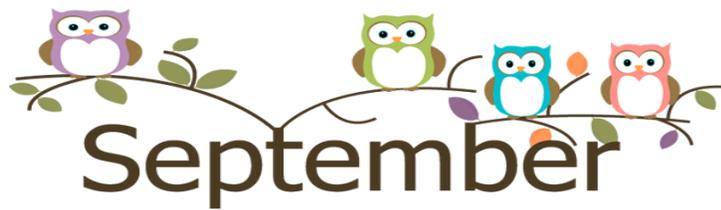
Daily Mass Time:
8:00am Grades K - 8

Benediction 2:00pm
First Friday of the month



September Birthdays

- Luke Will-15
- Andrea Mense-15
- Benjamin Mense-15
- Andrew Borowiak-16
- Lydia Bick-18
- Gabrielle Heitert-19
- Merritt Jugo-20
- Sarah Brinkmann-21
- Christian Bernadt-21
- Anna Mersinger-23
- Gavin Smith-26
- Mr. Bob -29**
- Annabelle Olsen-30
- Mollie Dirnbeck-30



- Sept.15—3:15-4:15pm Chess Club in Art Room
- Sept.16—Dress Down Reward for Curriculum Night
- Sept.16—Pretzel Boy's Delivered
- Sept.15—8:00am Memorial, Our Lady of Sorrows
- Sept.18—10:00am Family Mass/Donut Sunday
- Sept.19-22—Iowa Testing-all week Grades 2-8
- Sept.22—Chess Club in Art Room
- Sept.21—3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal—Church
- Sept.23—Professional Development Day for teachers
No School K-8 Preschool is open
- Sept.23—8:00-12:00 St. Mary's Dragon for a Day
- Sept.26-27—Iowa Make ups
- Sept.28—3:15-4:30pm SRA Schola Rehearsal—Church
- Sept.29—8:00am Mass —St. Raphael, St. Michael &
St. Gabriel Archangels—Popsicle Treats
- Sept.29— 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club Art Room
- Sept.30—7:00-9:00pm Preschool Parent party



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! **1st quarter patrol schedule:**

Week of September 19th

AM - Jack & Ardian

PM - Anna & Ellie



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 (PreK-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, September 19 Alana T. & Katie M.

Tuesday, September 20 Stephanie K.

Wednesday, September 21 Missy W. & Patrick J.

Thursday, September 22 Linda K.

Friday, September 23 No School



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Kougar for a Day on Wednesday, October 5, 2016

7:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.

8th grade girls - come check out Rosati-Kain!

For those who would like to know a little more about the spirit of Rosati-Kain, join us for a half-day of class observation and discussion with faculty, students and ambassadors. Family tours are not required to join in this day!



Hello! My name is Grace Goeddel and I am in Seventh Grade. For my Service Project this year, I am collecting aluminum tab tops which are the aluminum tops found on the tops of aluminum soda cans. These are for the Ronald McDonald House of St. Louis. The Ronald McDonald house helps those in faraway cities who are in need health care in St. Louis. It is also a place for families who need a place to stay near the hospital. The Ronald McDonald house takes the tabs to a recycling company and the recycling company gives back 100% of the money. I have set up some containers by the main office for you to drop off any donations you have. I will be doing this project from September 19th 2016 to March 19th 2017. Thank you for your generosity and remember to bring in your tab tops.



STUCO News

Friday, September 16th: Pretzel Boy's delivered at 10:00

Friday, October 7th, 14th, and 21st: \$1 to wear pink shirt that will be donated to American Cancer Association

October 24-31: Red Ribbon Week - details coming soon



Miss Chris Preschool Room B

This week is C Week in Pre-K. We are learning all about caterpillars and how they turn into butterflies. We know words that are bigger than us...such as Metamorphosis, Chrysalis and Molting...and even can tell you what they mean. We found a Caterpillar out on our play-ground that we are watching in our bug box. Hopefully, we will have the opportunity to watch him build a cocoon and become a beautiful butterfly. We have created a class caterpillar to illustrate our school theme, "We Are One Body", and have it displayed on our classroom door. Our goal is to come up with 100 words that begin with the letter C and at the time of this writing, we are at 93 words.



Kindergarten News: Miss Morris & Mrs. Doyle

This has been an exciting week here in Kindergarten. Every day we have been focusing on a different color and performing a variety of activities with the color of the day. We have also been practicing sight words and poetry. I am looking forward to curriculum night. Have a great rest of your week.



First Grade News: Mrs. Louise Balicki-Smith

First Grade has adopted a dairy cow! We selected our calf through the National Dairy Council. The students named her Ruby; she is a two week old and currently lives in the calf hutch. Ruby is from Henrich's Dairy Farm in Breeze, IL; it is a third generation farm with a 230 cow herd. Students will follow her growth monthly, learn about the dairy process, the food chain and animal characteristics.



Second Grade News: Miss Stephanie Amsler

This week Second Grade is preparing for the IOWA tests next week. This our first time ever doing a test like this. We are doing practice tests to help us learn how the test is set up. We are also practicing filling in the bubbles on the test; we have to fill them in nice and dark so the machine can read our answers.

In Religion we are learning about the ways God shows His love to us and ways we show our Love to God. We continue to learn about Jesus, God's Son, who was the ultimate sacrifice for us. We are excited to have Fr. Bob teach us Religion class this week.



Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

A BIG THANK YOU to the South Side Optimist Club of Saint Louis for their yearly donation of dictionaries to the Third Graders of St Raphael the Archangel School. Clearly they value education of our youth in their generous donation. Their teacher, Ms. Susan Polson has lessons on alphabetical order of words, word meanings, parts of speech and how to best use the dictionaries with her third grade. We use them faithfully and students are able to take these dictionaries home with them for their personal libraries. The students also write Thank You notes to Mr. J. Leshner at 4617 Hampton who is the South Side member sponsor for our school. Good luck as you move forward in your work; dispersing 12,549 dictionaries locally is a lot. Appreciatively, Mrs. Kim Vangel and Ms. Susan Polson on behalf of all the students and families at St. Raphael the Archangel



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

In Fourth Grade English we have been working on complete subjects and predicates in sentences. We then moved on to finding the simple subject and predicate in sentences. In Science we learned how to properly care for a triple beam balance and took a try at finding the mass of some common classroom objects. In Social Studies we discussed some of the reasons why America wanted freedom from British rule and why they disliked King George III. We also learned some test taking tips for our upcoming standardized tests and took some practice test to get ready for next week. Make sure to get plenty of rest, eat a healthy breakfast, and bring a healthy snack to keep our brains fueled for the tests.

In Fifth Grade English we have been working on common and proper nouns, as well as singular and plural nouns. In Science we learned how to calibrate a triple beam balance and why this is so important. We then practiced finding the mass of solids and liquids. In Social Studies we researched more about the Declaration of Independence looking for some facts not already known that we found interesting and then shared those facts with the class.

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

Fifth Grade: The Fifth Graders continued to explore the gospels and learned how Jesus worshipped and had an introduction of the seven Sacraments. The students did an excellent job multiplying multi-digit numbers. During Reading the students worked on sequencing our story.

Fourth Grade: The Fourth Graders have been working on adding and subtracting numbers through the millions in Math class. The students completed their work with the story "*Sleeping Ugly*." We are working on standardized test prep.

**Mrs. Peggy Martin: Physical Education Grades Pk-3**

Last week we had our first fire drill. It went well. In **PE** we are talking about the specific things that you do in the gym, that differ from a classroom. Preschool, Kindergarten, and First have learned a fun new relay. One student is the fireman and they run back and forth to save the children left in the burning building. So much fun.

The Second and Third grades will add volleyball to their repertoire. This is a game where we practice skills at this level, then actually playing a full game. We will practice how to set up, rotate, volley and serve.

Have a great week.

Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education-Grades 4-8

The next two weeks students will be working on volleyball skills. The skills will include passing, setting, hitting and serving. I will include several games that will require using the skills of volleyball. I believe students will enjoy playing a very popular game called King of the Court.

You're invited

to spend Friday, September 23, 2016
at Bishop DuBourg High School



This event is designed to provide students an opportunity to experience student life at DB!

Join us at 8am in your favorite grade school t-shirt for a free, fun day lled with exciting events! Find out what it's like to be a Cavalier!

Complimentary lunch and t-shirt provided!

8am—2:15pm

Listen to a Jazz Band jam session

Visit Family & consumer Science for a freshly-baked snack

Participate in athletic activities including soccer, volleyball & basketball

Go behind the scenes in the DBC Live TV studio

Act your heart out in the Guild Theatre

Take a turn controlling a robot with the Robotics Team

Compete in a Scholar Bowl competition

Attend a DB Pep Rally

Student Drop-off and Pick-up Areas

Drop-off 8am – Circle Drive (in front of school)

Pick-up 2:15pm – Clifton Lot (West side of school)

Please return this registration form to DB by Friday, September 16, 2016.

Bishop DuBourg | 5850 Eichelberger | St. Louis, MO 63109 | Attn: Cav for a Day

This form can also be filled out electronically on our website under Admissions>

Cav for a Day and/or emailed to Admissions Coordinator, Mr. John Schwartz.

Student Name _____ Gender M F

Grade School _____ Grade _____ DOB _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Parent Email _____

Emergency Contact/Relationship _____

Emergency Phone _____

Allergies/Medical Issues _____

I would like my child to shadow (please check one)

If no selection is made, the student will be matched with a DB student ambassador.

Sibling Relative Neighbor Friend

Name _____

Interests (*check all that apply*):

Academy of Advanced Studies/Honors Classes Student Leadership

Theatre Music/Band Art

Technology Campus Ministry Robotics

Clubs: list if known _____

Athletics: list sport/s of interest _____

Other _____

T-shirt Size: Youth L Adult: S M L XXL

The applicant named above is able to participate in Bishop DuBourg's Cav for a Day event, and I know of no restrictions, physical impairments or any other factors which in any manner limit his/her participation in the program.

I hereby waive and release Bishop DuBourg from any liability for any injury or illness sustained during the event.

My child has permission to be photographed. The photographs may be used for marketing purposes.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

My child has permission to walk home after the event.

My child has permission to be photographed at the event.

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

Religion: Students in Grade Six will complete the section about creation in their class this week. They are also learning what it means to be good stewards of the earth.

Students in Grade Seven continue to look at how Jesus is a friend to them. They have also begun the Confirmation program.

Students in Grade Eight are discussing the six models of the Church and how those models apply to the Church today.

Social Studies: Grade Six students are learning about population distribution and density. They are also looking at how human distribution patterns are affected by the distribution of natural resources.

Grade Seven students are continuing their investigation of the European explorers and their impact on the New World's environment and people.

Grade Eight students are studying the impact of new inventions and the role of developing businesses in early twentieth century America.

History Day students have chosen their topics and categories. It's really important that they get to libraries and begin their research as soon as possible.

Mrs. Laura Berns: Science (6-7-8) Standard Math (6-7-8)

6th grade SMath

Students have been working with decimals and fractions. They will have a quiz later this week over adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions.

7th grade SMath

Students will have a test over Unit 1 on Friday. This will cover operations with rational numbers (fractions, decimals, integers) and order of operations.

8th grade SMath

We are continuing to work with equations - solving one-step, two-step and multi-step. Students will have a quiz over these concepts later this week.

Science

All grade levels just completed a test over Chapter 1. Sixth Grade will be discussing viruses and bacteria. Seventh Grade will be investigating weathering and soil formations. Eighth Grade will be covering changes in matter.

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

Literature: *To Kill a Mockingbird* is causing a great deal of discussion with in our Eighth Grade literature circles. We are soon to hit the trial which, as we all know, is the most exciting part of this novel. Please encourage your students to keep up with the reading and review questions.

Seventh Grade has been researching the meaning of the slave songs used to navigate through the underground railroad. They will be presenting their own songs with a message in class on Friday.

As we accompany Jonas on his journey as the Receiver of Memory, the Sixth Grade is captivated by the impact that "sameness" would have on our society.

Vocabulary Workshop: Assignments are due on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students should all have the schedule either taped/stapled to their vocabulary book cover or in their assignments books. I have also shared the schedule with each of them on Google Drive.

Miss Schaaf: Science (6-7-8) Challenge Math (6&7) Algebra 8

This week in Math my Sixth Grade has finished up the last two sections of chapter 1. They will be testing over the Chapter 1 material tomorrow. It entails scientific notation, simplifying expressions, solving simple equations, metric measurements and reading and writing expressions.

My Seventh Grade has started Chapter 2. This entails rational numbers, converting from fractions to decimals and vice versa, evaluating expressions for given variables and adding and subtracting rational numbers.

My Eighth Grade has started Chapter 3 this week. We are covering multi-step equations, ratios and unit rates, proportions and similar figures and problem-solving.

Miss Bussmann: Writer's Workshop (6-7-8) Spanish (4-8)

Spanish:

Fourth and Fifth Grade have been making phonics posters to practice the sounds the letters make. Sixth Grade is working on numbers. We will be doing some math problems this week. Seventh and Eighth Grades are reviewing the basics of verb conjugation and pronouns.

Writing and Grammar:

Sixth Graders are writing memoirs. They are recording significant events in their lives. Seventh Grade is writing a descriptive essay about Buxton, Canada which is the setting in their novel. Eight Grade is writing an analytical essay comparing different forms of discrimination in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Mrs. Gewinner: Learning Consultant

This week I have been preparing and coaching the students in grades Four to Eight for the IOWA Assessments to be given the week of September 19th.

Some of the Tips include the following:

- Listen to the directions carefully as your teacher reads them aloud.
- Answer every question.
- Mark only one space for each question.
- Use scrap paper for math computation, key words in reading, remembering questions you have skipped and want to come back to.
- If you must change an answer, erase thoroughly.
- Have two sharpened #2 pencils and a clean eraser ready.
- NO MECHANICAL PENCILS PLEASE.

As parents your role is very important. We are asking that you encourage your child to do their very best during testing week. Take a few moments to write a special note of encouragement to your child or children involved in the testing. Look for more details in the Friday packet on September the 16th.

Mrs. Zarinelli: Music

Week of September 19 King Bidgood's in the Bathtub - Kindergarten

Kindergartens have been acting out the story *King Bidgood's in the Bathtub*, by Audrey Wood. It is an interactive, repetitive story in which the students take turns playing King Bidgood, the Page, the Queens, the Dukes, the Court and the Knights. The students are learning about performing in-the-round, pantomime, voice projection and articulation. They culminate their royal experience with the song, *Splish Splash*.



Mrs. Kim Westrich: Art

Second Grade students are being introduced to collage techniques through puppetry. Using paper bags, papers, fabrics, ribbons and other materials, students will be creating a puppet. Students will spend time thinking about the character and its personality. Students will talk with each other about their puppets before starting construction. Later, students will be encouraged to make homes, cars or accessories to go with their puppet.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Hosts 8th Annual Friends of the Poor Walk

St. Gabriel's and St. Raphael's Conferences of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) will co-sponsor this event to help those living in poverty in our neighborhoods.

On Saturday, September 24, we will begin gathering at 8:30 a.m. on the church steps of St. Gabriel, pray together, then start off on the fun walk at 9:00 a.m. Our 2 1/2-mile walk will take us to St. Raphael, through some of the neighborhoods of both our parishes, before returning to St. Gabriel's for light refreshments. The cost for participating is a voluntary amount, and all proceeds and donations from the event will directly benefit the people in our area served by SVdP; no administrative fees are associated with the event. Anyone interested in participating or making a pledge can visit www.fopwalk.org and indicate the parish conference you wish to assist. You may also sign up on-site the day of the race. For questions, contact Lynette Olwig (St. Gabriel) at 591-1784 or Mary Reck (St. Raphael) at 353-8697. Won't you walk with us to serve the poor?





**Trunk-or-Treat
Friday, October 21
6pm - 8pm
\$15 per family/car**

Come and enjoy an evening of Halloween fun!

Festivities include:

Trick-or-Treating from Car to Car

A Parade of Costumes

Music

Prizes for the Best Dressed Child, Best Dressed Adult, and Best Decorated Car

**Please avoid violent themes. Bring your own chairs, blankets, flashlights,
trick-or-treat bags, and treats to pass out to the children.**

Snacks and Beverages will be available for purchase.

All Proceeds benefit the 8th Grade ProLife Trip and Graduation Celebrations.

Family: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

#of children participating: _____

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Benoist @ 314-537-7032