

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 8, Issue 4

November 22, 2019



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17

Dear SRA Families,

Let me begin by wishing our families a blessed Thanksgiving Holiday next week. We only have two full days of school, Monday and Tuesday. The school will be closed from Wednesday, November 27, for all grades, Pre-K through 8th. Classes will resume on Monday, December 2. Wow, it is hard to believe I just typed December!

Next Tuesday, we will celebrate our All-School Thanksgiving Mass. Parents are always welcome to join our school community in thanking God for the many gifts of goodness in our lives. Thank you to all the families for your support with the Thanksgiving Food Drive. It was a success!

Please keep Ms. Molly Indelicato's family in your prayers this week. Her mother passed away last week and the funeral is this weekend.

With Thanksgiving so late in the month this year, I know December will fly by quickly, but I want highlight a few December events. Our Second Graders will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Wednesday, December 4th. Cookies with Santa, hosted by the Home and School Association, will be on Sunday, December 8th. The Christmas Program will be Thursday, December 12 beginning at 6:30 PM. More information about the Christmas Program will be sent home next week. Finally, the last day before Christmas break is December 20. This is a noon dismissal day with Christmas parties beginning at 11:00 AM.

The virtue for the month of December is **PATIENCE - Waiting or enduring with complaint.** December is a perfect month to spend a little more time praying for God's assistance in helping us grow in the virtue of Patience. Hopefully, as we grow in patience we are less bothered by the difficult times or little challenges of our day. Also, think about the times we can model for our children the virtue of patience by waiting gracefully in the line at a crowded store or catching ourselves when we begin to complain about a situation. Patience is a virtue for all ages.

Patience
— the ability to put our desires on hold for a time —
is a precious and rare virtue

May your family enjoy many blessings during the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Blessings,
Mrs. Hayes



Announcements



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

December 5

Advent Mass
2nd Grade Planning

December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass
8th Grade Planning

December 19

Advent Weekday Mass
7th Grade Planning



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



December Birthdays

Lydia Eddingfield-2
Marie Reynolds-3
Sophia Bradshaw-11
Jio Raymo-12
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
Eleanor Chitwood-12
Avery Bradshaw-19
Kristin Nienhaus-23
Jude Potts-23
Frances Steidley-23
Evan Ilg-23
Dalila Ramirez-25
Isadora Hogrebe-28
Sophia Molina-30

Congratulations

Recently, St. Mary's High School students, who are graduates of St. Raphael (2016), were awarded the scholarships at our Fall Renaissance Awards. Senior Will Hannibal & Stephen Moelm received Bro. Mike Barber, S.M. Scholarships.



DECEMBER



- Dec. 1 7:00-9:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting at Francis Park
Dec. 3 3:15-4:15pm DeAngelis Choir Practice
Dec. 4 6:30pm First Reconciliation
Dec. 5 2:00pm Dance
Dec. 5 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club Art Room
Dec. 7 7:00pm St. Louis Hills Holiday Party School Gym
Dec. 8 11:00am—1:00pm Cookies with Santa
Dec. 8 6:00pm Advent by Candlelight
Dec. 12 2:00pm Dance
Dec. 12 3:15-4:15pm Chess Club Art Room
Dec. 12 6:30pm Christmas Program in Gym
Dec. 16 3:15-4:15pm SRA Garden Club
Dec. 17 3:15-4:15pm DeAngelis Choir Practice
Dec. 19 2:00pm Dance
Dec. 19 3:15-4:15pm Chess Art Room
Dec. 20 End of 2nd Quarter
Dec. 20 11:00am Christmas Parties

**NOON DISMISSAL FOR PRESCHOOL – 8
NO AFTERCARE**

Dec. 20 CHRISTMAS BREAK SCHOOL RESUMES JAN. 6, 2020

SRA School Volunteers

Volunteers are so important to the success of our school children, so that's why anyone who works or volunteers with children must be compliant with the Safe Environment Program of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis set forth by the USCCB. (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Compliance includes attending a Protecting God's Children Workshop, completing a Worker Registration Form to obtain a background check, and reading and signing a Code of Ethical Conduct. Each parish must have copies of individual background checks & code of ethics forms on file for all active volunteers and employees. Additional background checks may be necessary if you have lived out of state in previous years.

To register online for a Protecting God's Children Workshop, please visit www.archstl.org, scroll down and click on the Protecting God's Children link, then scroll down and click on View Workshops. You will be redirected to the VIRTUSOnline.org site to complete the registration process. The Code of Ethical Conduct and worker registration forms are available from your parish Child Safety Coordinator, Mary Steck (mary.a.steck@gmail.com) and may also be located on our parish website. If you have questions or need assistance with this process, please contact Mary or the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Program at 314-792-7272.

Missouri Background Checks are obtained when you begin your ministry and are updated every even numbered year. Please let the parish office know if you would like to be removed from the list of active volunteers. You must also contact the Missouri Family Care Safety Registry at 1-866-422-6872 with address changes.



HELP SUPPORT

ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL 8TH GRADE CLASS

WHERE 6607 Chippewa Street, St. Louis, MO 63109

WHEN Mon, Nov 25th

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.*

Ordering Online for Rapid Pick-Up or Delivery?*

Enter **"PRFUND"** as your Promo Code to have a portion of your proceeds donated to your organization.

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Rapid Pick-Up and Delivery only where available.

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Hello again, November has all but flown by us. The exciting work being done by the students in science is fun to see, not only their final products upon creation, but also their process in completing their work. Below is what each grade is currently in the midst of.

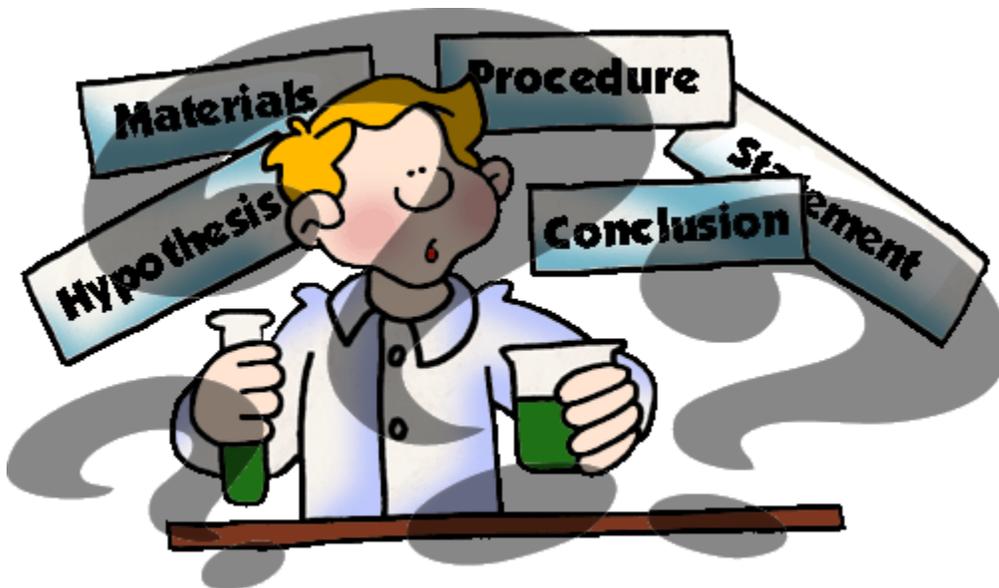
The 8th grade class is well into their final pieces of learning about the various different cells. Students are currently in the process of drafting a comic strip that must tell a story about the unique qualities and adaptations of both plant and animal cells. This synthesis of information requires students to bring together all they know of both cells and apply it in a more abstract way! Some comic strips I've already seen are off to an excellent start.

The 7th grade class is moving forward into the comic strip activity with the 8th graders as well. The students are expected to not only show me unique qualities and adaptations, but to create an illustrated and engaging story. I am really excited by the ideas I have already seen or talked about with students.

The 6th grade class just finished some microscope work to actually identify plant and animal cell parts. From here they are joining the two upper grades on beginning their work on the comic strip activity. Once again, this is another group to bring interesting and fun ideas into the activity.

The 5th grade is all but finished with the Earth, Sun, and Moon unit and will be taking a test in the coming weeks over all they have learned. Students have been expected to know the rotation, revolution, and tilt of the Earth and Moon. With looking at those, students are expected to know what those words mean and how they affect us every day.

The 4th grade has moved through learning about states of matter, physical, and chemical changes. Moving forward they will have a test in the near future over the material covered. Recently in class we also experimented with how vinegar and salt create an acid that removes the tarnish off of old pennies (Pre-1982) and how those copper particles can adhere to steel nails. It was a fun and exciting experiment for the students to do.



Miss Molly: Preschool A

This has been a beautiful fall season and the class has learned so much and had fun exploring. The prek A kids had a wonderful trip with their fifth grade buddies over to the park. We all walked over and enjoyed a wonderful fall day and explored all the fall colors and different leaves. This all fits in with us learning the letter F for fall. They are all doing well writing and learning the alphabet.



Miss Chris: Prekindergarten

Happy November! The Bears have been hard at work as they learn how to write real words along with learning how to read each other's names and other simple words. We have been working on our letters I, J, and K, and have enjoyed themes such as insects, Jesus, and kindness. The Bears are truly grateful for SRA and we hope everyone has a very blessed Thanksgiving!



Kindergarten News: Miss Lu Ann Domijan

In kindergarten we wrote things we are thankful that God has given us. We learned about trees, painted fall trees, and made extended patterns with foam leaves. We studied about the pilgrims, Native Americans, and Thanksgiving. Miss Domijan brought in her tepee which they were able to sit in and read books.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!



Mrs. Kathy Doty: Music The following are areas being covered in music

In preschool, we have been keeping the beat by marching and clapping (using our body as percussion instruments). We have been learning about the sounds different instruments make, such as scrapers, shakers, and the tapping of rhythm sticks.

In kindergarten, we are busy learning the words to our Christmas songs for the Christmas program. We are also finishing up music with a steady beat or no beat at all.

In first through third grades, we have been concentrating on the lyrics of our Christmas songs. We are also listening to different styles of music with our songs.

In fourth through eighth grades, we have been working on the memorization of the words for our Christmas songs. We are also listening to the various styles of music and how each song is either the same or different.

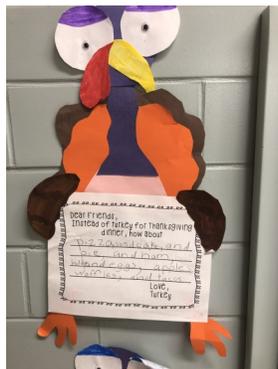
In eighth grade, we are reading through the script for the Christmas program, in which each student has a part. We are also rehearsing our two songs that will be sung.



First Grade News: Mrs. Theresa Schmidt

First grade has enjoyed using their writing in a creative way for Thanksgiving. They disguised a turkey for Thanksgiving and wrote a story about their turkey. They also created their own list of foods that they think should be served on Thanksgiving. They really came up with some great ideas. Just recently they read a book about wild turkeys and learned the difference between fact and fiction. Next week they will be learning more about the history of Thanksgiving.

In math, we are working on subtraction fluency and using subtraction strategies. We are also going to start learning about fact families. The students are very excited about starting our animal classification unit in science. We hope everyone has a blessed thanksgiving with their family and friends. It is hard to believe but when we come back from our Thanksgiving break we will be moving right into the Advent season!



Second Grade News: Mrs. Leslie Lewis

Second grade has been very busy getting ready for First Reconciliation on December 4th. They are doing a great job learning the Ten Commandments, Sacraments, and Act of Contrition. The book and video Blessed, My First Reconciliation is awesome!



They are reading, writing great stories, doing terrific spelling and phonics work. Math is getting more challenging, expanded form is next. Soon we will be regrouping to add and subtract.

Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

Third grade made some beautiful autumn placemats with leaves for the Gratitude Dinner for the parish. We really enjoyed sharing all our tree projects with one another. Ms. Polson said, "They turned out TREEmendous!" We have been busy writing, editing, and typing on the Chromebooks. Our final copies are very nice and so are our illustrations. We even attempted a difficult form of poetry called limericks and were somewhat successful. Surprisingly we have mastered multiplication facts $\times 0$, $\times 1$, $\times 2$, $\times 4$, $\times 5$, $\times 10$, $\times 11$. Some of us use a chart and some of us just know those "easy" facts. We are grateful to be in third grade. 'Tis the season!



Miss Patti Woods: English (4 - 7)

We took a little time outdoors to enjoy the beautiful fall foliage.



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 discussing in-depth why we do and say the things we do during the liturgy. During math, the students have been working on their decimals unit. 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.

Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education

Over the past few weeks, the students in physical education class have been working on Frisbee skills. They practiced a variety of lead up activities that broke down the different skills of this sport. The students worked with partners and in team games. The students have taken a liking to the Frisbee activities including: Frisbee golf, ultimate Frisbee, and no-outs Frisbee baseball. The primary students also played a game of pick up the trash, using Frisbees as trash. They worked in small groups and were timed during the game. They had a lot of fun!

The students are now playing field hockey. We have just completed working in stations and breaking down certain skills of the game. During the upcoming weeks, classes will be working on football skills. As always, 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 a part of the class.

I hope everyone has a safe and blessed Thanksgiving.

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

Religion: We are learning about Moses and how the Israelites received the Ten Commandments.
Social Studies 5: We are beginning to learn how the English colonies were founded.
Social Studies 6: The sixth grade students are looking at the ancient civilizations of India, China, and Japan.
Social Studies 7: In seventh grade, we are looking at the results of the American Revolution and how the United States government was formed.
Social Studies 8: We are working on a timeline about the Panama Canal and will soon be learning learn about the causes and effects of World War I.

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

In standard math, we are identifying GCFs and writing fractions in different forms.
In challenge math, we are performing operations with fractions and decimals, as well as solving equations.
In pre-algebra, we are converting, finding, and applying percents.
In algebra, we are writing, solving, and graphing linear equations.
In algebra II we are simplifying rational expressions.

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 how Mary is the perfect example of what holiness looks like.
7th grade religion has been learning *Jesus Christ the Truth*, where we learned from teachings and examples 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. Unit 6 test is Tuesday, November 26th and the cumulative test over Units 1-6 is Tuesday, December 10th.

Upper Grade Exam Schedule

Tuesday, December 17th
6th-grade English
7th-grade English
8th-grade English and Literature
Wednesday, December 18th
6th-grade Math
7th-grade Math
8th-grade Math
Thursday, December 19th
6th-grade none
7th-grade Literature
8th-grade Social Studies