

# Newsletter October 2023



October is the month of the Blessed Mother and our dedication to praying the rosary. At the end of the month, we'll all gather at the church for the Living Rosary where we invite all families, friends, and parishioners to join us in praying the rosary. This is an annual event that is being organized by the fifth graders. We also encourage everyone to be praying the rosary this month at home with your family.

As the cool temperatures arrive and autumn really starts to roll in, we want to remind you that we will transition out of the shorts season on Nov. 1. The female students may continue wearing the skorts since the uniform company decided that we didn't need to add a skirt/kilt option if skorts could be worn during the winter with tights. Also, just like in all of our homes, the cost of heating the school will be on the rise! We strongly encourage the kids to wear a sweater/sweatshirt to school each day. They should continue to wear an SMS polo under the sweatshirt as some rooms are warmer than others. As a reminder, the Bedesign spirit wear is not part of our uniform so those sweatshirts should only be worn at recess.

Many thanks to everyone for selling our Rebecca's Nut Free cookies. YOU sold over 1000 boxes which is amazing!!! Coming up soon is the PTO Thanks for Giving Raffle. We ask that each family try their best to sell their pack of 10 tickets. The winners of the CASH prizes will be announced at our annual Grandparent's Day on November 22. As a reminder, ALL of the proceeds from fundraisers go directly toward the school, the teachers and the students!

We will be hosting our Annual Trick-or-Treat Night on October 26<sup>th</sup> for students in nursery through grade 4. Look for information inside the newsletter for details. Students in grades 5-8 are invited to attend the Halloween Dance on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm. Students should start thinking of costume ideas!

As we start looking into November, Report Cards will go live on RenWeb for students in grades 1-8 on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Students in our early childhood grades will receive a mid-year report card this winter. We will host Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 7<sup>th</sup>. We'll offer online scheduling again this year to help accommodate families with multiple children. As a reminder, school is closed on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> and there is no Ext. Day Care available. School will not be open on November 10<sup>th</sup> as Veterans Day is being observed.

Happy Halloween!

*Sue Gosselin*

# **Saint Michael School Mission Statement**

Saint Michael School offers an exceptional Catholic education to our students, nurturing their desire to achieve academic excellence and encouraging spiritual, artistic, and athletic development in a caring, family environment. We motivate our students to become well-rounded, moral young men and women who are prepared to live a faithful life with intellectual rigor and spiritual awareness.

## **St. Michael Church**

For the past several years the Catholic Church in the United States has encouraged all to reflect more deeply on the dignity of all human life. The month of October is especially dedicated to that as Respect Life month. We believe in the sacredness of human life, that we are made in God's image and likeness, and that we must be a voice for the voiceless in our society. During Respect Life Month and throughout the year, let's allow God to move our hearts with mercy for those who are marginalized, ignored, and especially those at risk of losing their lives. May God bless us with courage in all of our efforts to encourage a greater Respect for Life.

God Bless,

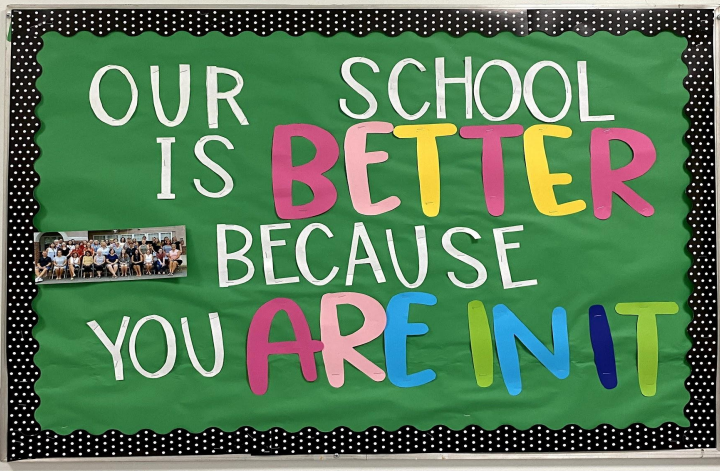
Fr. Deeley



# IMPORTANT

Upcoming Reminders

- October 19-20- Gr. 8 Retreat Days
- October 24- Living Rosary 1:45pm.-Gr. 5 hosts
- October 26- N-4 Trick-or-Treat Night
- October 27-Gr. 5-8 Halloween Dance 7-9p.m.
- November 1- All Saints Day Mass 1:45p.m. (8B hosts)



## Do Not Send Cash or Checks Into School

When paying for field trips, art projects, club, etc. for your child, all payments must be made through our Student Information Service Program, RenWeb/FACTS.

## Have An Idea or Suggestion?

We love to hear from you! If you would like to send us a comment or a suggestion, please email us at [info@comcast.net](mailto:info@comcast.net).

## Food Allergy Policy

Saint Michael School strives to be a nut free school. Please do not send in items that contain peanut butter or tree nuts. Please direct any questions to the Health Office. Thank you for your consideration.

## Notice

This notice is per the "Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act." An asbestos management plan has been developed for St. Michael's School which has asbestos containing material present. These plans are available and accessible to the public by contacting Nick Ippolito at 978-686-4050 at the Parish Offices as well as at the LEA administration office.

# Tuition Update

## How Do Families Receive a Parishioner Tuition Rate?

As a reminder, to be considered an active parishioner (and receive a parishioner tuition rate for the 2024-2025 school year) families must make a minimum total offertory donation of **\$500** to our parish beginning **July 1, 2023 to April 1, 2024**. This can be done on a weekly basis when you attend Mass **BUT** it must be made in a trackable manner. You **NEED** to be a registered parishioner. If you wish to receive offertory envelopes from the parish, please email [Dorothy\\_varga@saintmichael.com](mailto:Dorothy_varga@saintmichael.com).

You may also make donations on the parish online giving website <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/298>. Donations made at Easter and Christmas are for the benefit of the Clergy Trust and therefore do **NOT** count toward the annual \$500 donation to St. Michael Parish.

# UMatter Program



Our UMatter pledge is recited each morning:

*I pledge on this morning, as I begin this school day, to be thoughtful and kind in all I do and I say.  
To treat others with respect as I'd have them treat me. To be the kind person God wants me to be.  
To do one good deed and to all be a friend and to tell someone they matter before the day ends!*

**T.E.A.C.H.**

in**T**egrity

g**E**nerosity

f**A**ith

**C**ourage

t**H**ankfulness

*These 5 character traits will be focused on during the 10 months of school (one for every 2 months). Each time we see a student exhibiting or exemplifying a trait, we add their name to the UMatter container. Each week the office staff will randomly pick students from the container and they'll select a prize from the UMatter prize box.*

**September & October--- Faith**

**November & December--- Thankfulness**

**January & February--- Generosity**

**March & April---Integrity**

**May & June--- Courage**

# Halloween Happenings at Saint Michael School

It may seem too early to be chatting about Halloween but we wanted to share our plan for celebrating. We don't have children in costumes during the school day but we do have two separate events annually!

**Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> - Trick or Treat Night at School from 5-6p.m. (weather depending)**

Students in Nursery through grade 4 come to school in costume with their parents and trick-or-treat around the school grounds. This has become an outdoor event over the past few years. Younger siblings are always welcome to attend! Bring your own bag to collect your goodies.

**Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>- Halloween Dance from 7-9p.m. for Grades 5-8**

Students in Grades 5-8 celebrate Halloween with a Halloween Dance on Friday. Students who choose to wear costumes will have a costume contest to win prizes.

The cost of the dance is \$5.00 along with a non-perishable food item for the food pantry! Permission slips will go home prior.

**Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>- School wide Dress Down Day (free)**

We hope you'll join us for these "Spook-tacular" school activities!



# Thank you, Sr. Barbara!

We are all going to miss having Sr. Barbara Monahan with us every day. If you'd like to send her a card or drop her a note from time to time, her address is below. We know she will love hearing from you!

**Marillac Residency**

**125 Oakland St.**

**Room #106**

**Wellesley, MA 02481**







**NURSERY**



**PRE-K**

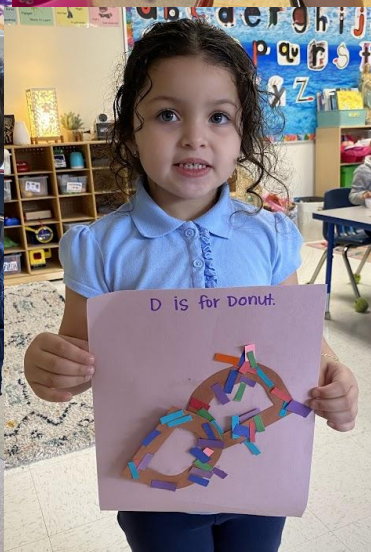
# Early Childhood

## Nursery, Pre-K, & Kindergarten



**KINDERGARTEN**





**We are growing so much every day! We are playing together and looking out for one another!**

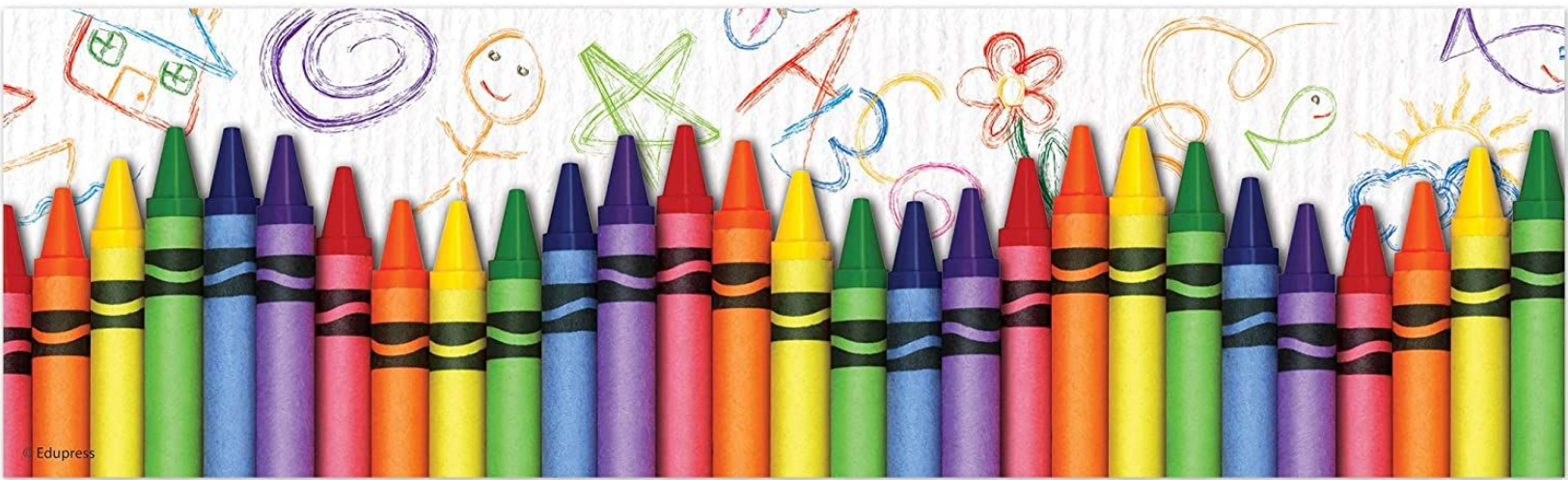




F is for family,  
firefighter, fish,  
frog, flower, fruit,  
firefly and **FOX!**

# PRE-K Mrs. Reinhard

The month of October was full of fun centers focused on Apples and Fall. We also enjoyed spending time with our 6th grade Reading Buddies.



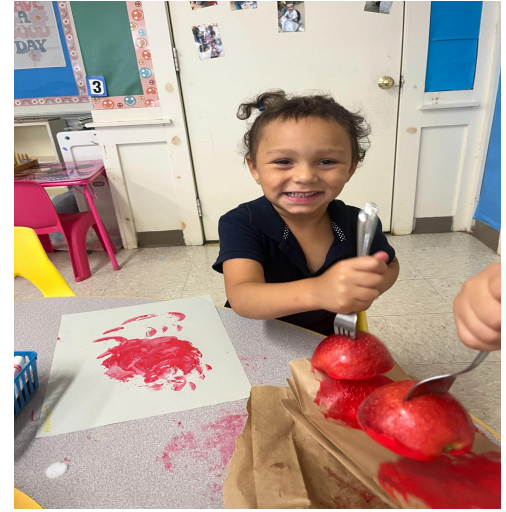
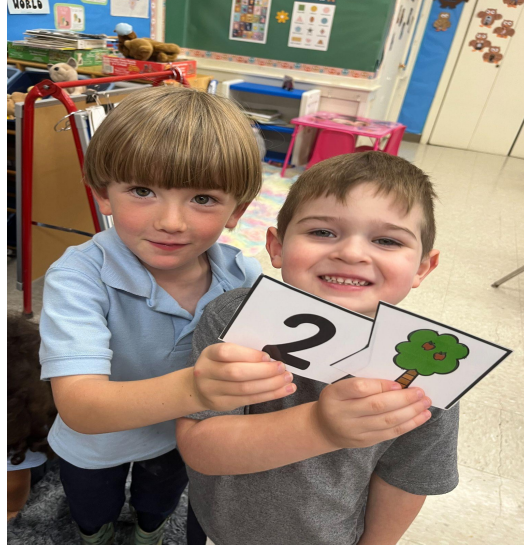
# PRE-K Ms. K



What fun we had learning about bears and apples! We also loved meeting our middle school reading buddies and making cards for Sr. Barbara! As we welcome the new month, we will talk all about fall leaves, fire safety, and pumpkins!



# PRE-K Mrs. Cali



We had so much fun this past month! We enjoyed learning all about apples by playing matching games, doing crafts, and more. We are looking forward to all of our fall fun activities coming up in the next month!



# Kindergarten!



## Mrs. Sleight

October brings fun activities with pumpkins, stem projects with leaves, and learning about Mindfulness! We also listened to Mrs. Smith play her violin and ukulele with us! We love hearing stories that Miss Megan reads to us!

# Kindergarten!

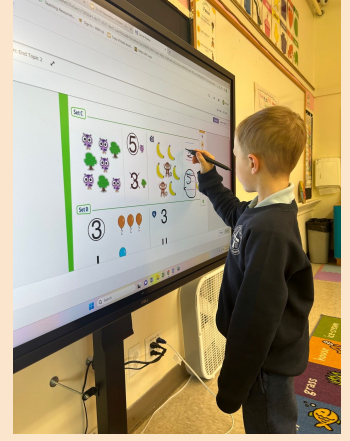
## Mrs. Polcari



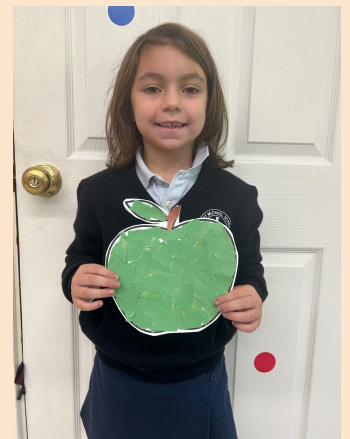
October has been so much fun! We have been learning how to retell stories and learn about their elements! As a class we made a collaborative poster for Halloween! The kids loved hunting for leaves for their writing. This was based on the book "When The Leaf Blew In".

# Kindergarten!

## Mrs. Kasberg



October has been fun filled!  
We have been busy learning  
how to count, compare, and  
write our numbers! We also  
learned about apples, leaves,  
and pumpkins! We also  
celebrated Sister Barbara with  
cards and hugs!







**FIRST GRADE**



**SECOND GRADE**

# Elementary School

## Grades 1-4



**THIRD GRADE**



**FOURTH GRADE**



# First Grade

1A- Mrs. Robidoux



**We are falling in love with first grade! Students are learning about the rosary this month as we honor Mary. We will also learn about communities and what makes each of us special. Students will continue to work on word problems and using strategies to add and subtract. Happy Halloween from all my little pumpkins in 1A!**



# First Grade

IB- MS. BEDARD

We have had an amazing month of first grade! The students amaze me every day with their creativity and hard work. This month we will celebrate Mary and begin Accelerated Reader!





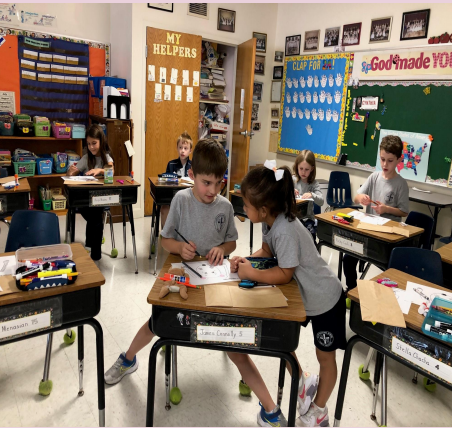
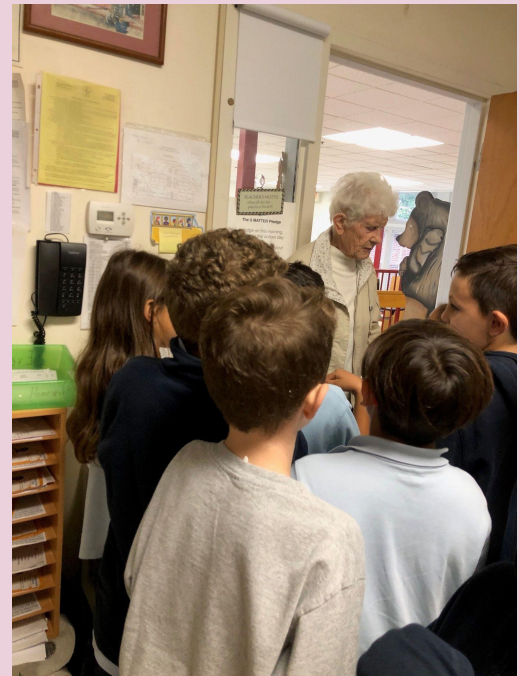
*Mrs. Caffrey 2A*

The children celebrated Johnny Appleseed's birthday by making applesauce. Thank you to the Smolak family and Mrs. Leary.



We enjoyed making puppets to go along with our author of the month, Kevin Henkes.

Sister Barbara came and sang with the class. We will miss her.





Grade 2B is working hard in all subjects. We had fun with even & odd numbers. We also enjoyed being outside in the nice weather.

*Mrs. Grant*



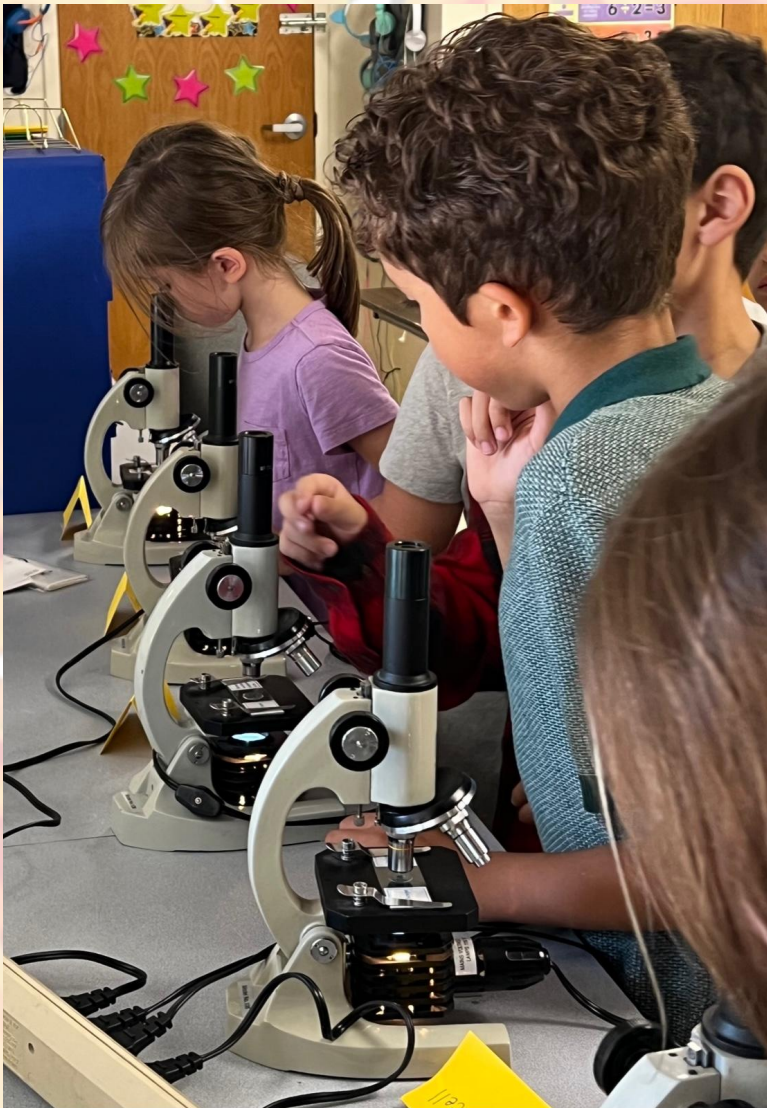
# 3RD GRADE

*Mrs. Torpey*

The third graders learned all about trash and recycling from Jack Golden. He came in and taught the students all about waste. His show was very funny and the students loved it! Ben was chosen to help him out on stage and did an amazing job!



In science, the students have been learning about living things. Students used microscopes to look at cells and parts of plants and animals.

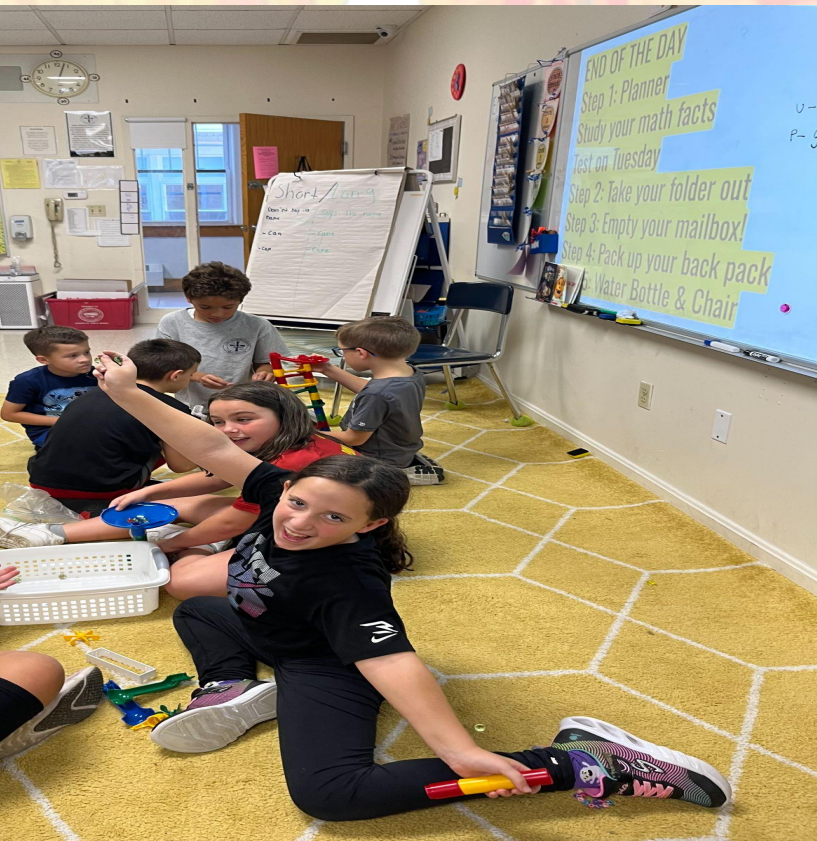


# 3RD GRADE

*Ms. Puccia*

**3B has enjoyed engaging in tinkertime at the end of the day a few times a week.**

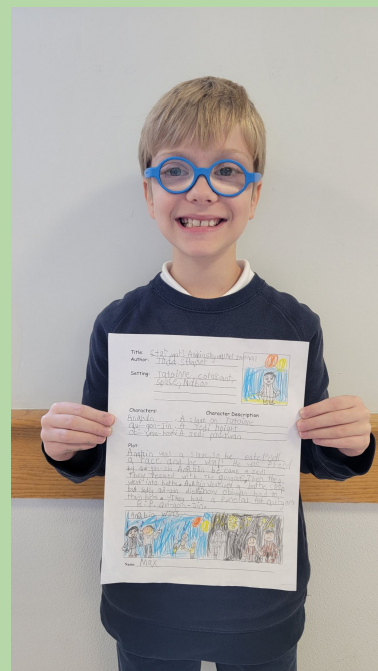
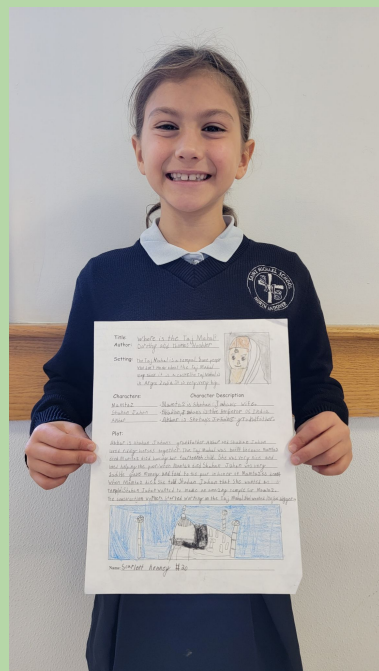
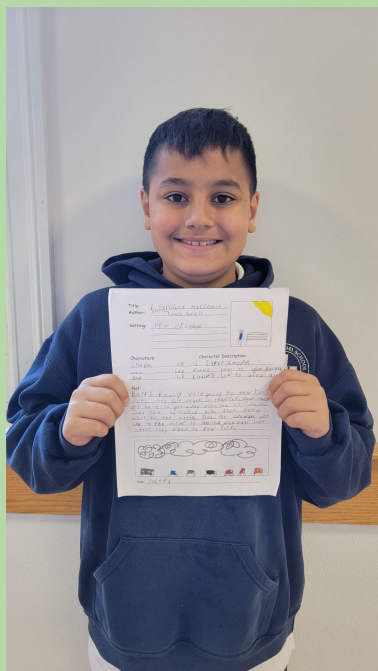
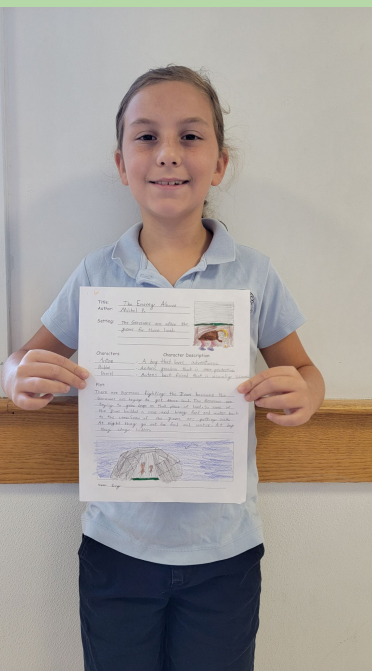
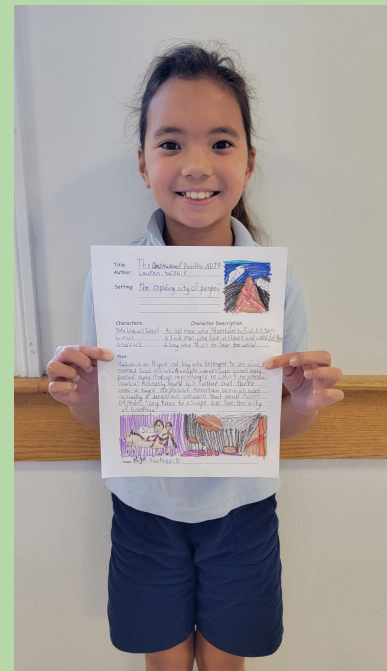
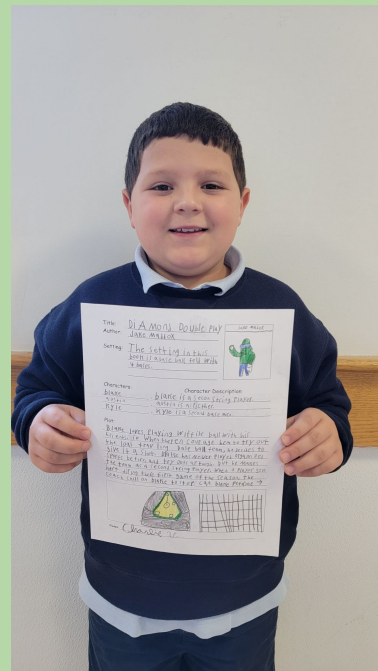
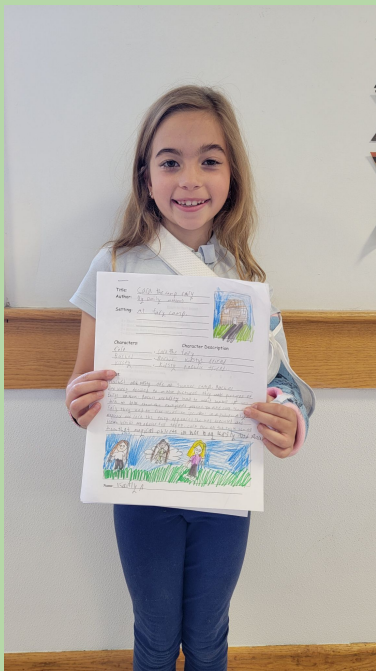
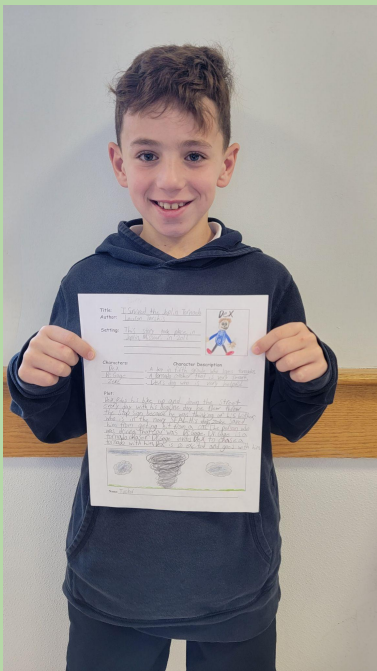
**The students are having fun making marble run tracks and designs with the GeoBoards.**







# Grade 4 completed their first book report of the school year. They did an amazing job describing the literary elements of their books!





**FIFTH GRADE**



**SIXTH GRADE**

# Upper School

## Grades 5-8



**SEVENTH GRADE**



**EIGHTH GRADE**

# Mrs. Adam- 5A

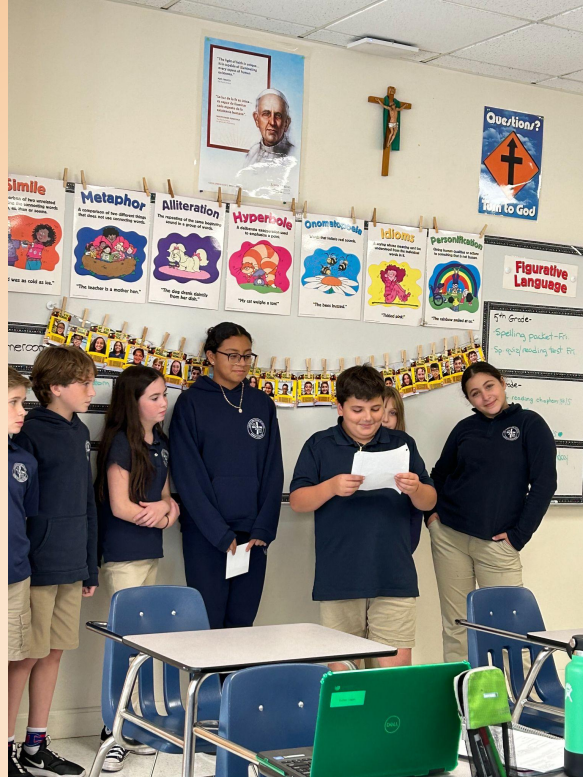


Best wishes Sister Barbara in your new home!



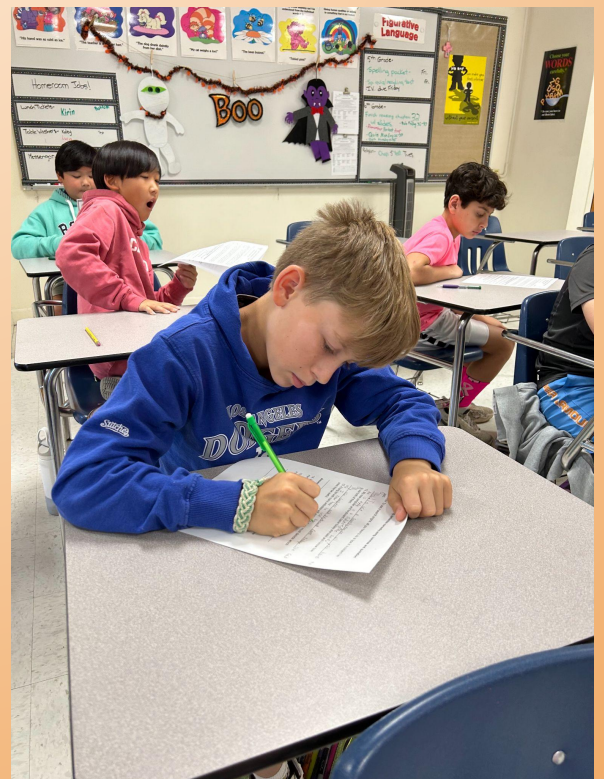
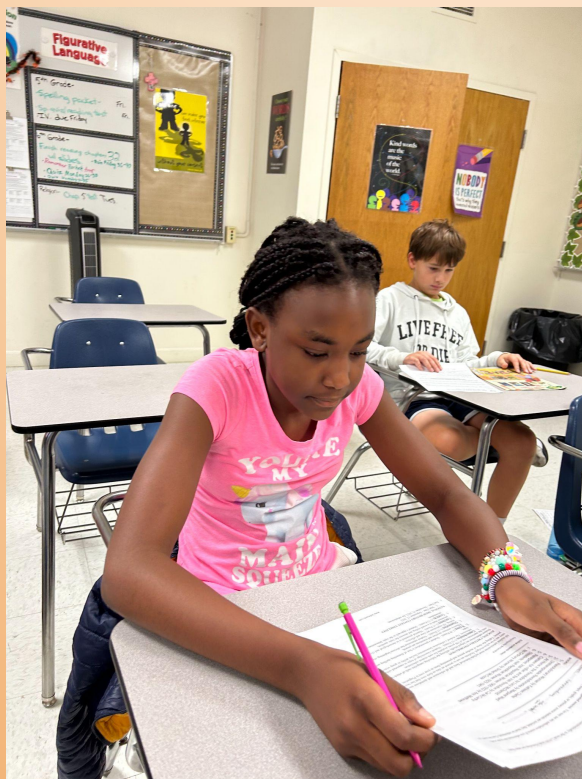
Cocoa Cafe was a success! They enjoyed listening to each others stories.

# Mrs. Adam- 6th Grade ELA



Groups worked together to answer questions about *Fish in a Tree* and presented their findings to the class.

Working hard on a grammar test!



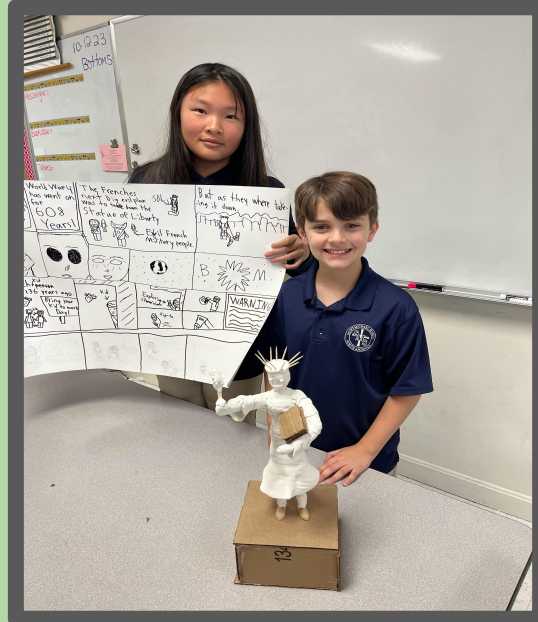
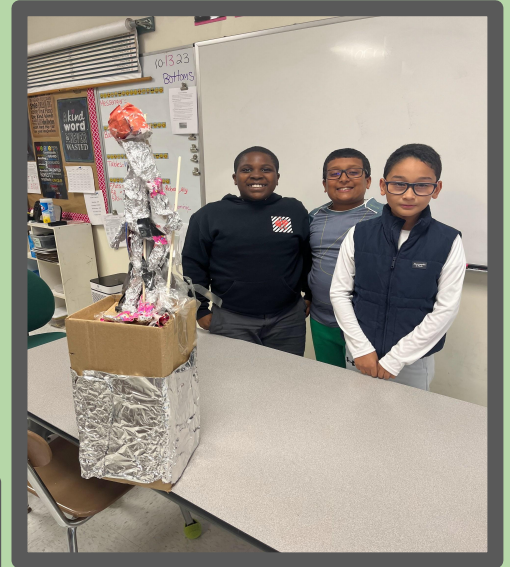
# Mrs. Clifford- 5B

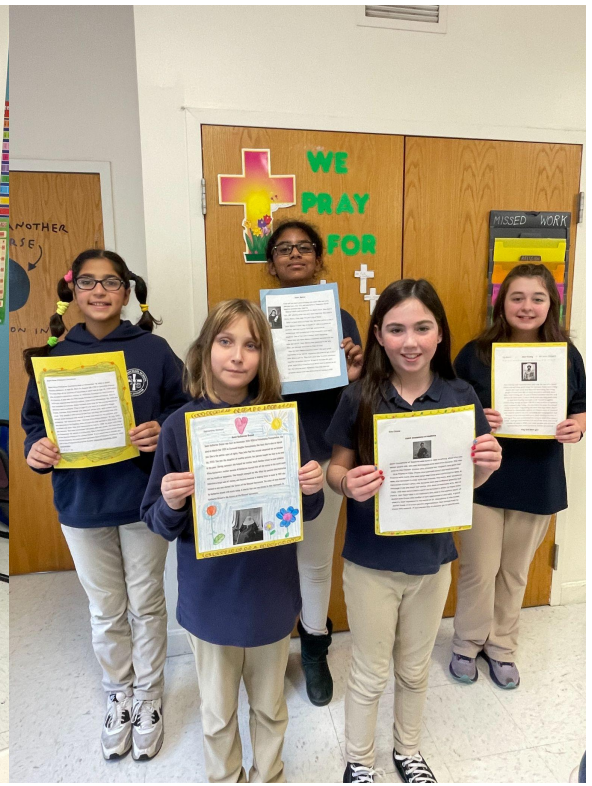
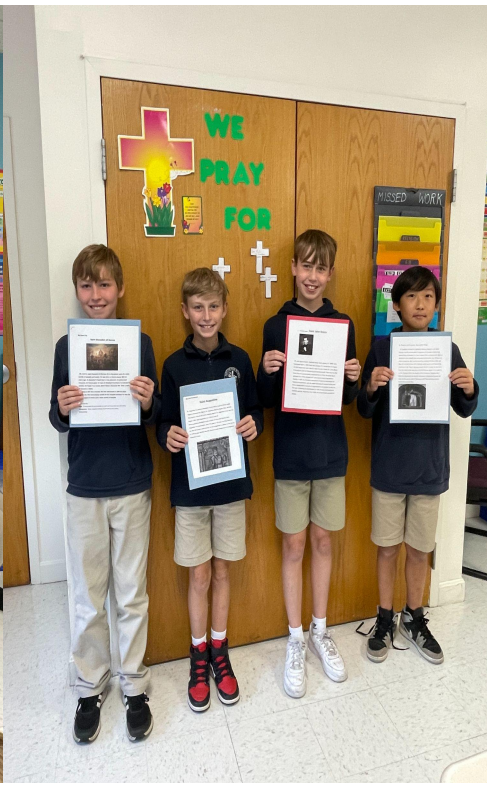
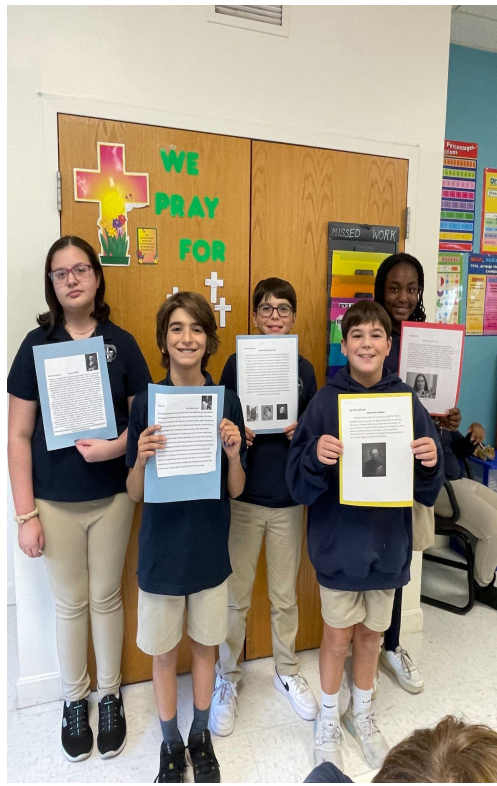
We LOVE Sister Barbara and we wish her well in her retirement.



# Mrs. Clifford 5B Enrichment Class

The students  
created The  
Statue of  
Liberty.

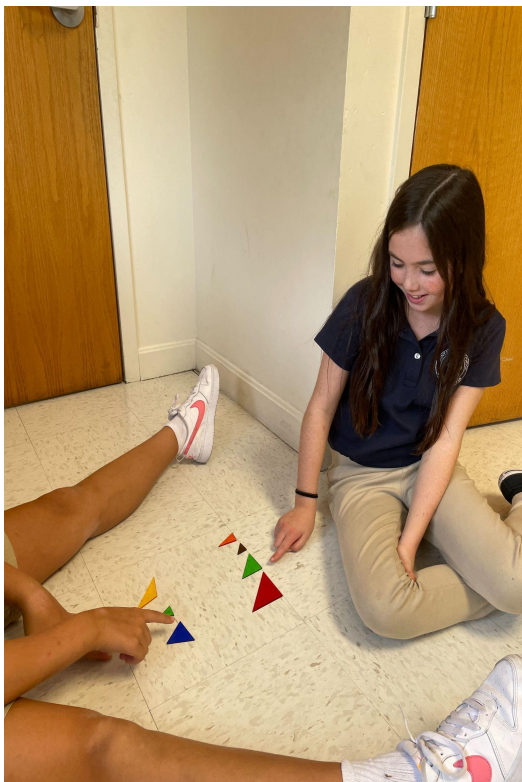




## Grade 6 Religion and Math Ms. Decoteau

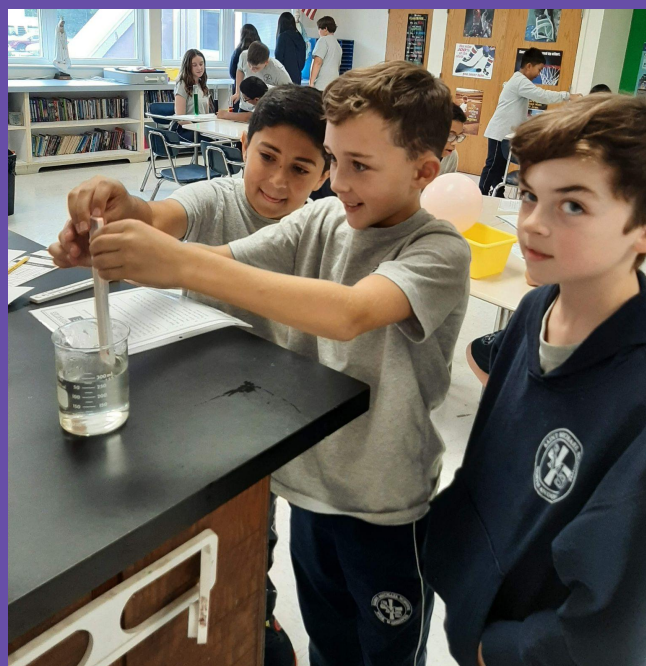
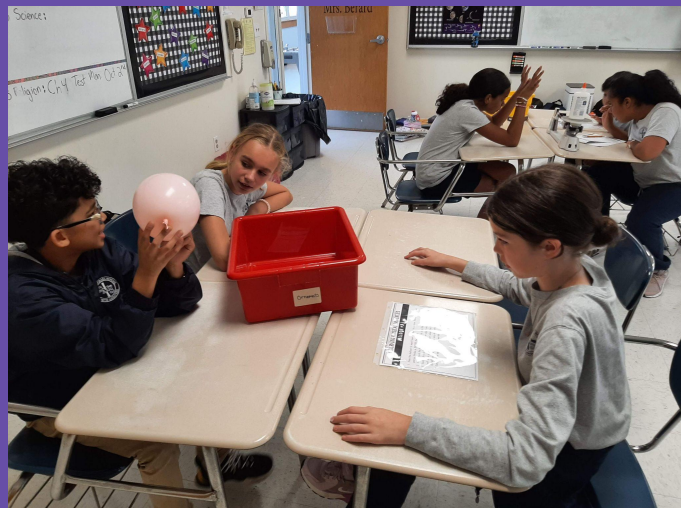
Grade 6 students completed a special project in Religion. They learned about patron saints. We celebrate All Saints Day on November 1.

Grade 6 also spent some extra math time learning about different geometric shapes like angles, rectangles, and circles. We identified them, classified them, and used them to make geometric art work.



# Mrs. Berard 5th/6th Grade Science

5th Grade worked on observing properties of matter in a 2 day lab.



The 6th Grade lab was measuring jumps on Earth and with some calculations figuring out the distance they would jump on the other planets.





# Mrs. Nagle: Grade 7/8 Social Studies

## Spotlighting

## 8 Yellow Enrichment: Basic Sewing Techniques

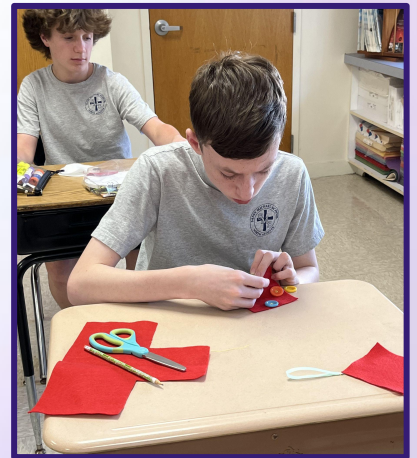


*Designing patterns*

*Attaching ribbons*

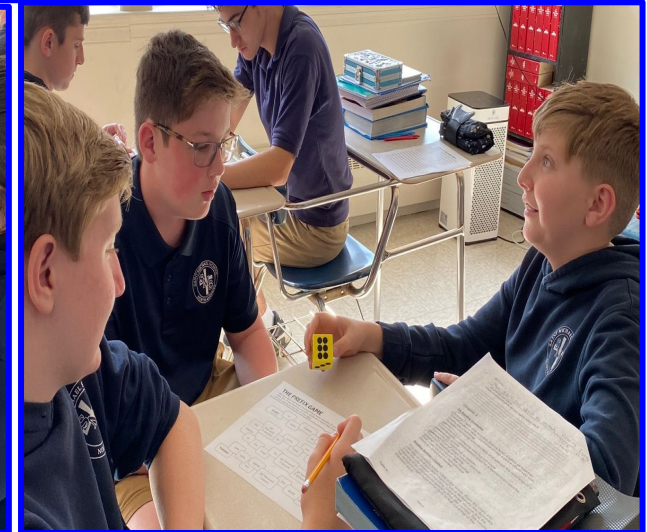
*Sewing two and four hole buttons*

*Sewing in filler to create a 3-D decoration*



# MRS. ORDWAY GRADE 8 GREEN

We're growing our vocabulary in Enrichment through games and dialogue!

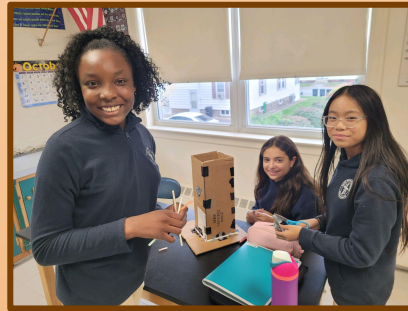


# Mr. A: 7/8 Science



Middle School science continues to progress nicely for both grades. Grade seven has just finished a chapter on earthquakes. The grade seven enrichment class has made earthquake proof buildings, fault models, and monitoring devices. The class will be able to try out their models in the upcoming classes. The seventh graders will now study about volcanoes.

Grade eight just finished a chapter on the Earth's system and will now be learning how different types of rocks and minerals are formed and classified. The eighth grade retreat is this month. It is always a great time for the students. I am sure that this year will not be any different. I am looking forward to spending time with the eighth graders.



Working hard on their earthquake proof buildings in Enrichment.

# Mrs. Parker: 7/8 Math



The students in grade 8 have been working with solving and graphing inequalities. They have been doing a great job remembering the special rules for the different operations.

The students in grade 7 have been multiplying and dividing rational numbers. They did a great job doing our new PEMDAS dance. All of these skills will be used in high school and beyond!

7 Red has been working on a lot of different projects in Enrichment Class. We explored which is the strongest shape, conducted a classroom scavenger hunt and have been working on a budgeting unit.





**SCHOOL COUNSELOR**



**MUSIC**



**GYM**

# School Counseling and Specials



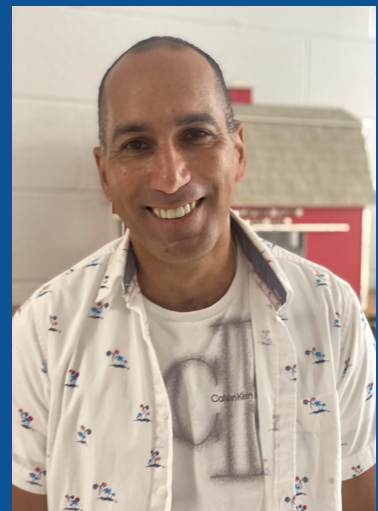
**TECHNOLOGY**



**ART**



**STEM**



**SPANISH**

# Saint Michael PE

## NEWSLETTER

**!GO ARCHANGELS!**

This has been a great fall and the students have been very active in PE class, as well as in our popular morning programs.

To start the school year, all grade levels have been working on both hula hooping and jumping rope as our warmups!

Soccer, handball, track, dodgeball, and volleyball were all well attended in the morning. Basketball for prek to grade 2 is going on now. They are having a blast!

Mr. Diaz



**“Be humble. Be hungry. And always be the hardest worker in the room.” - Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson**

# OCTOBER MUSIC

**Nursery/PreK-4/Kindergarten** Students learn to follow conductor, seasonal fingerplays and the Steady Beat!

**Grade1** Students enjoy playing October rhythm stick play-along activities.

**Grade2** Students continue to develop seasonal repertoire. Learning to explore moods and styles of music, ex; happy/sad.

**Grade3&4** Students are busy preparing for the Annual Veteran's Day Program. The program consists of narration, poems, and treasured American Patriotic songs.



**“Excellent... As Usual!”  
Musically yours,**



**Ms. Lavallee**



Ms. Bryant

# STEM NIGHT

Oh What A Night!!! The gym was lit with black lights and our Grade 7 volunteers glowed at every station! Let the games begin!!!

Congratulations to Gabe N in grade 3 for making the best guess on the Lego Tube and winning the grand prize!









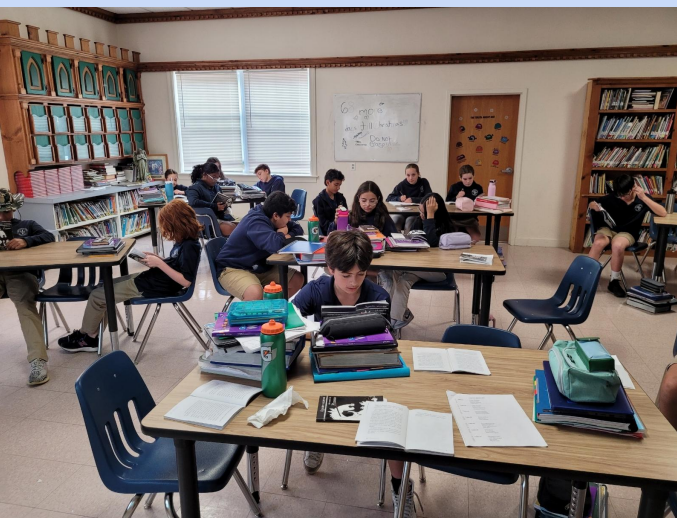
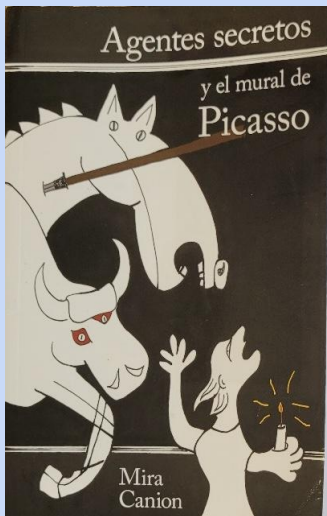
# Spanish

## Clase de Español con el Señor Mercedes

Grades 6 and 7 are practicing for a play based on the book

“Secret Agents and The Mural of Picasso”

These kids are amazing!

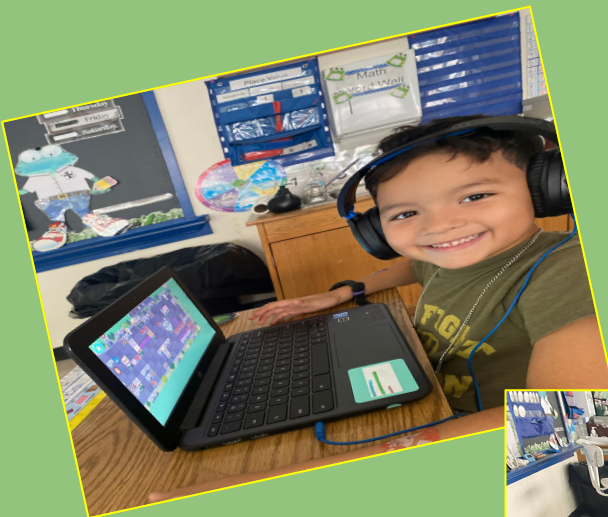


Mrs. Lesofsky

# Technology



We have fun researching topics and using Google slides to share.  
We love to play educational games to strengthen our reading & math skills.



# ART CLASS

*With Mrs. Donegan*



**Nursery and Pre-K students are learning about shapes and the artist, Wassily Kandinsky.**

**Kindergarten and first grade are learning about lines.**

**Second graders are making their own “Starry Night” pumpkin patches, inspired by Vincent Van Gogh.**

**Third and fifth graders are making haunted houses using lines and shapes.**

**Fourth grade is making pumpkin Zentangles.**

**Lots of fall fun is happening!**





# Counselor's Corner with Mrs. Rowley



October is Bullying Prevention Month. Grade Three participated in a Bullying Prevention lesson called "A through Z". They creatively worked together to come up with a bullying prevention measure for each letter of the alphabet which lead into a thoughtful discussion on bullying and the impacts it can have on students.

**Great Job Grade 3!**



The Student Council Members have been picked from Grades three through eight. Please keep an eye out throughout the year for projects that are sponsored by the Student Council for the betterment of the community. Thank you in advance for your ongoing support!

