

Newsletter November 2023



Amazingly, we are nearing Thanksgiving which means preparations are underway for one of our favorite days of the year...Grandparent's Day! This month at our school is all about remembering those special people in our lives and giving thanks for all we have. It seems too often we forget to say thank you day to day to the people who make differences in our lives. Each November gives us the opportunity to recall how important being thankful is and we remember to let those people know how special they are to us. Our Grandparents will be specifically thanked at our annual Grandparent Liturgy held on November 22nd. It's a wonderful opportunity to let our grandparents experience what it's like to attend our school. We look forward to seeing their smiling faces and the faces of the parents who accompany them as well.

Parent-Teacher Conferences occurred at the start of the month. As always, if you ever have a question or concern, just send a note, make a call or shoot an email and the teachers would be happy to help you. Parents in grades 1-8 are also able to track their child's weekly progress using their parent portal. Under your preferences, click weekly gradebook updates. An automated email will be sent to you each Sunday night with a report that is similar to a report card.

We had a very successful food drive sponsored by the Student Council this month. All of your donations were delivered to Daybreak Shelter in Lawrence. Thank you for your overwhelming support!

Re-registration for the 2024-2025 school year is currently underway. We needed to start earlier than usual this year due to our very successful Open House. We have many families who are waiting to hear if their child has a seat next year so we had to ask our own families to re-register earlier than usual. As a reminder, re-registration is due December 1st. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Rogge.

In the upcoming weeks, you'll start receiving notices regarding how we anticipate helping others at Christmas time. Each year, we collect toys for local families in need and will continue to do so. We realize that during the Christmas season, your family will be asked to make donations to numerous organizations. As we do not wish to overburden your family, we kindly ask that you decide if your family is able to help. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated by the recipients of our gifts.

As we approach this season of giving, please know we recognize that some of our own school families are struggling. We are here to help. If your family needs some help at Christmas, please let me know and I'll do my best to help in any way that I can. Times are tough for everyone but our school family always comes together in difficult times to help the ones we love. Please know that any help that is given is kept strictly confidential.

If you haven't purchased your Thanks For Giving raffle tickets yet, please do so! This is by far, one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and we need each family to do their part and sell 10 tickets. If you can sell more, that is outstanding!

Sue Gosselin

On behalf of the staff of the school, I wish you many blessings today and throughout the year!

Saint Michael School · 80 Maple Avenue · North Andover, MA 01845 Tel (978) 686-1862 ·
www.SaintMichael.com · info@saintmichael.com

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

The month of November lends itself to the idea of giving thanks to God for all of our blessings. We do have one day this month to gather with loved ones to express and celebrate our thanks on Thanksgiving Day. This is a beautiful tradition that is so important to all of us. The Mass of Thanksgiving Day has a beautiful prayer that I think expresses very well how we can direct our thoughts to God this day and this month:

“ Father all powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service. Amen.”

Happy Thanksgiving!

Fr. Deeley



iMPOR+AN+ Upcoming Reminders

- November 13- PTO meeting 7p.m.
- November 22- Grandparent Liturgy 10:45a.m. in church
- November 22- $\frac{1}{2}$ Day Dismissal at 12:15pm
- November 23-24- No School
- December 3- Advent Begins
- December 8- Immaculate Conception Mass 1:45pm
- December 20- Nativity Program 1:45pm
- December 22- $\frac{1}{2}$ Day Dismissal at 12:15pm
- December 25-January 1- Vacation

Do Not Send Cash or Checks Into School

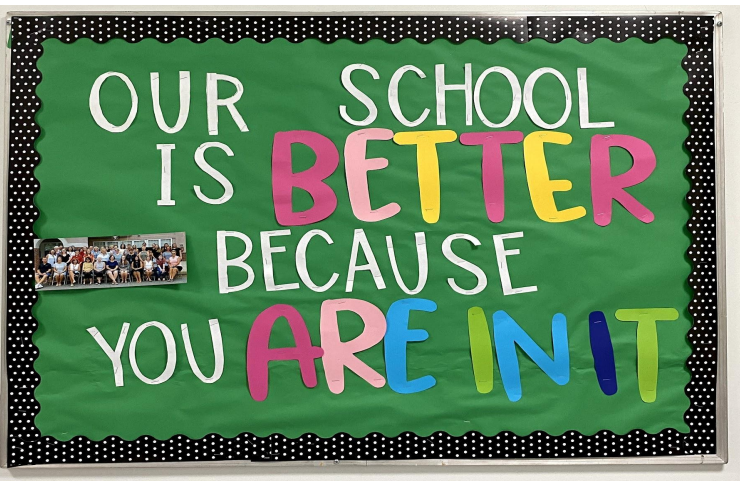
When paying for field trips, art projects, club, etc. for your child, all payments must be made through our Student Information Service Program, RenWeb/FACTS.

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.

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.

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.

We Remember

November is a time for remembering those who have left their mark on the hearts of many. We would like to take a moment to remember Mrs. Ursula Butler, who passed away 10 years ago.

Mrs. Butler taught Kindergarten for 32 years at St. Michael School. In fact, she started the SMS Kindergarten program. Our thriving Kindergarten program exists today because Mrs. Butler had the creativity, faith and courage to just do it. Her son Christopher, said at her funeral that growing up in his house was “like going to Kindergarten everyday.”

Mrs. Butler was a teacher of the tallest order. A petite power house to whom please and thank you mattered. She lives in our memories and hearts as a teacher who laid the foundation for learning with love.

In fact, our own Mrs. Kayla Cali, Pre-Kindergarten teacher was a student in her class. She remembers her classroom as a magical place, both precious and inspiring. She fondly remembers Mrs. Butler playing the piano as the class sang songs, voices strong and overflowing with pride and confidence. She said it was just one of the many gifts she gave her students.

This year at our annual Grandparents' Day, the Pre-Kindergarten classes will be singing “Dear Grandma, Dear Grandpa.” A song she wrote, for our first Grandparent celebration. I'm sure Mrs. Butler up in heaven would love that! St. Augustine said singing is like praying twice. I am sure Mrs. Butler will be singing in heaven with us! Thank you, Mrs. Butler - you remain in our hearts!!

Take time to remember your loved ones up in heaven!



Checkout this picture of
Mrs. Butler with
Mrs. Cali.
UMatter!

UMatter Program



Our U_Matter 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

Courage

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 U_Matter container. Each week the office staff will randomly pick students from the container and they'll select a prize from the U_Matter prize box.

September & October--- Faith

November & December--- Thankfulness

January & February--- Generosity

March & April---Integrity

May & June--- Courage



NURSERY



PRE-K

Early Childhood

Nursery, Pre-K, & Kindergarten



KINDERGARTEN



**Playing together
is our favorite
thing to do!**

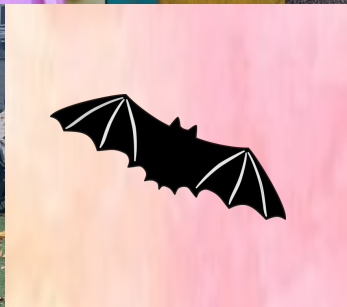


**We cannot wait for
Grandparents'
Day!**





We had so much fun this past month and we are growing every day!

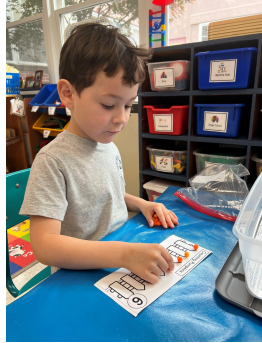


PRE-K Mrs. Reinhard

The month of November was full of fun centers focused on Farms, Farm animals and Thanksgiving. In December we will be focusing on Advent, the birth of Jesus and Christmas family traditions.



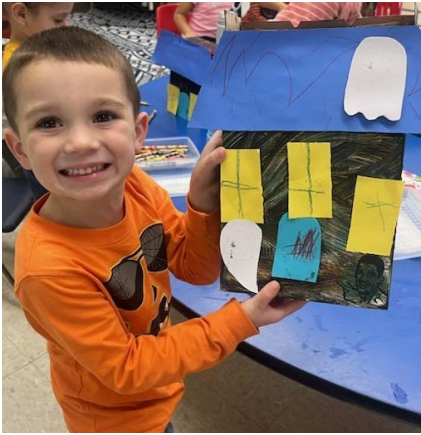
PRE-K Ms. K



What fun we had learning about falling leaves, pumpkins, fire safety, nocturnal animals, monsters and Halloween! As we welcome the new month, we will talk all about harvesting healthy food from the farm and preparing to celebrate Thanksgiving!



PRE-K Mrs. Cali



We had so much fun this past month! We enjoyed learning all about pumpkins and celebrating Halloween! We are looking forward to our next month full of learning about healthy choices, fall harvest and celebrating Thanksgiving! We can't wait for Grandparents Day!



Kindergarten!

Mrs. Sleight



The month of November we have been learning about Community Helpers, making cards for Veterans, and hearing about Mindfulness from Miss Erin. We also have been busy practicing at church for Grandparents Day! As we remember to be thankful for what we have Kindergarten wishes a Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

Kindergarten!

Mrs. Polcari



Happy Veteran's Day!

We thanked all Veterans for their service and all that they do for our country. We thanked them for keeping our country safe and strong. We honored them for all that they have done.

Thank you Veterans!

Kindergarten!

Mrs. Kasberg



The month of November we have been so busy learning about so much! Some things we learned about include; Veterans Day, community helpers, Saint Joseph, ways to make ten, and reading short sentences with sight words! We also have been learning Mindfulness by Ms. Erin!





FIRST GRADE



SECOND GRADE

Elementary School Grades 1-4



THIRD GRADE



FOURTH GRADE



First Grade

1A- Mrs. Robidoux

A thankful heart is a happy heart!

**In first grade our hearts are happy and full.
We are thankful for our families and grandparents.**

We are thankful for our school and our friends.

We are thankful for our country and our veterans.

We are thankful for our fun filled days.

Most of all we are thankful for you and all you do!





First Grade

1B - MS. BEDARD

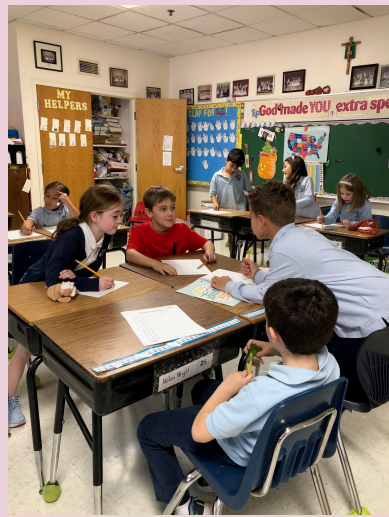
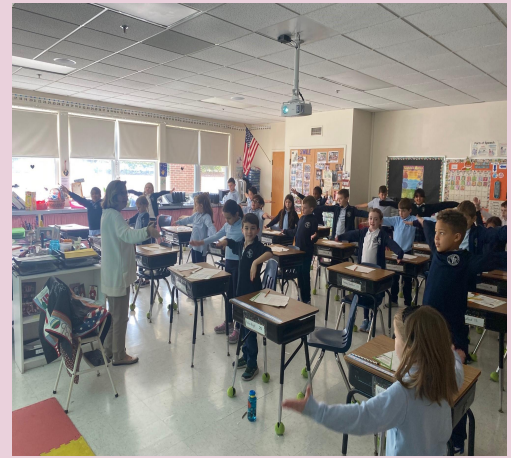
We have been working so hard and learning so much! We have been working on becoming better readers. We are so thankful for all the amazing people who love and support us!





Mrs. Caffrey 2A

The month of November is all about being thankful. The children in 2A are thankful for Mindfulness, all the fun activities at Halloween, enjoying snack outside during the beautiful weather, Veterans and learning together. We are looking forward to celebrating our Grandparents and being with family at Thanksgiving.





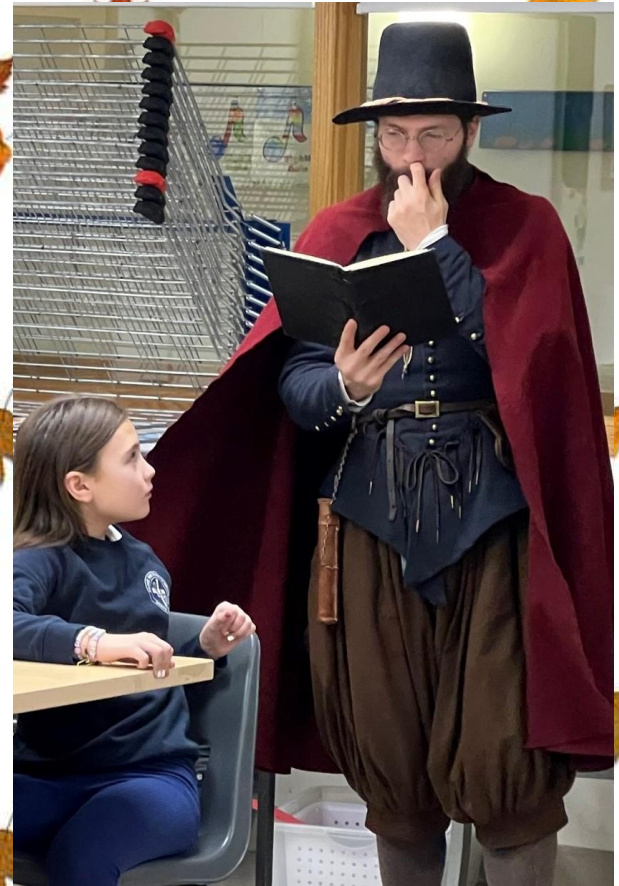
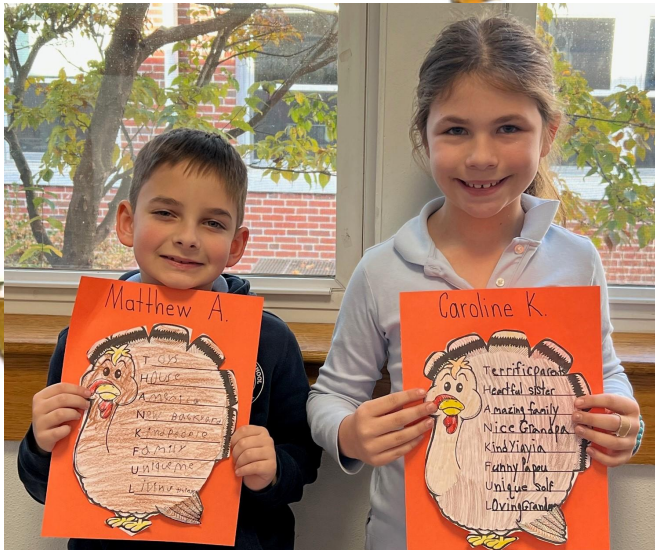
Inside recess fun-puzzles and being with friends is the best way to pass the time. Grade 2 enjoyed our visitor from Plimoth Plantation. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Grant



3RD GRADE

Mrs. Tarpey



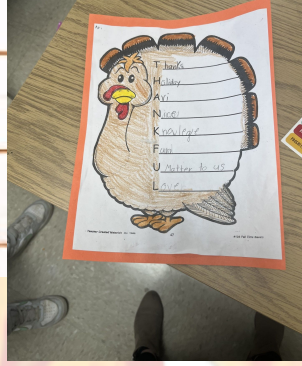
The third graders have been learning about poems. They each created a “thankful” acrostic poem for Thanksgiving!

They also learned all about the voyage on the Mayflower with John Howland, from Plimoth Plantation.

In science, the students are learning about animal structures. They researched an animal and wrote about the animal’s structures that help the animal survive.

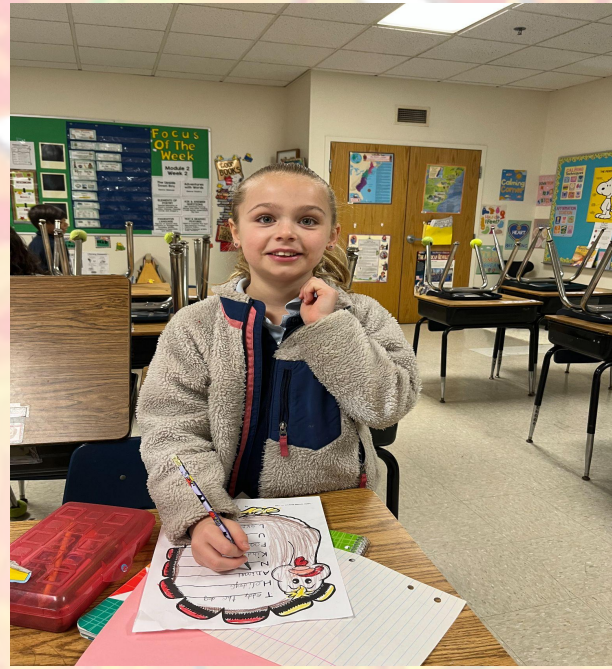


3RD GRADE



Ms. Puccia

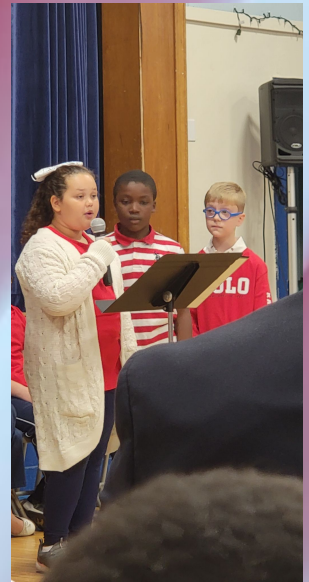
Hello from 3B! Last week we performed in the Veterans Day Assembly! We had fun performing for our friends and families who served for our country! We also had fun making our Turkey Crafts!



Grade 4

Mrs. Andrewchuk & Mrs. Sullivan

The children in Grade 4 performed an amazing tribute to Veterans!



Grade 4 is so **THANKFUL** for our **Veterans!**





FIFTH GRADE



SIXTH GRADE

Upper School

Grades 5-8

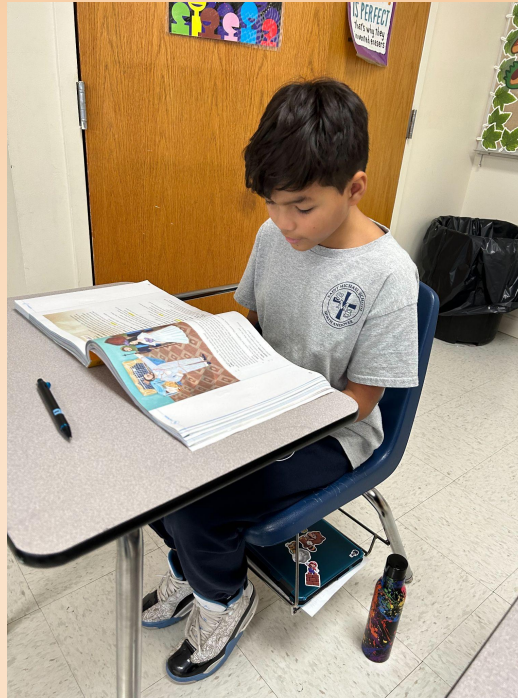
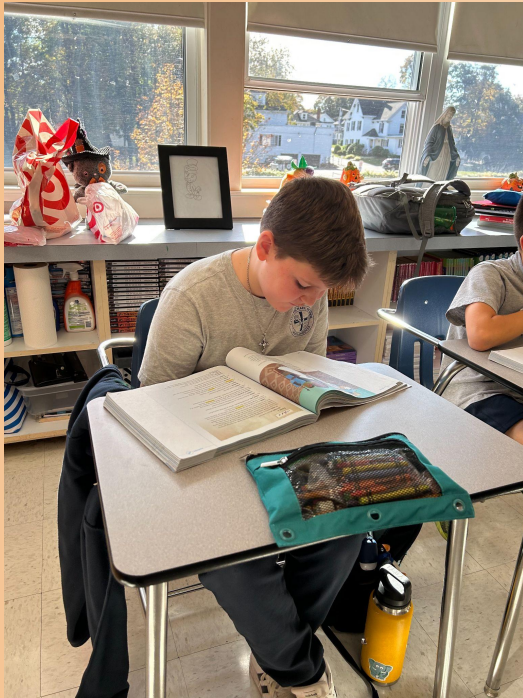
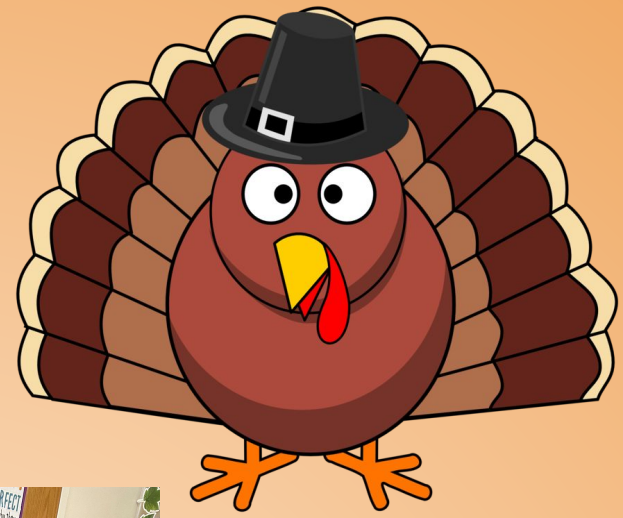


SEVENTH GRADE



EIGHTH GRADE

Mrs. Adam- 5th Grade ELA



The students work hard each week reading short stories and writing about them. This week they read "The Poem That Will Never End" and then wrote their own book of poems.

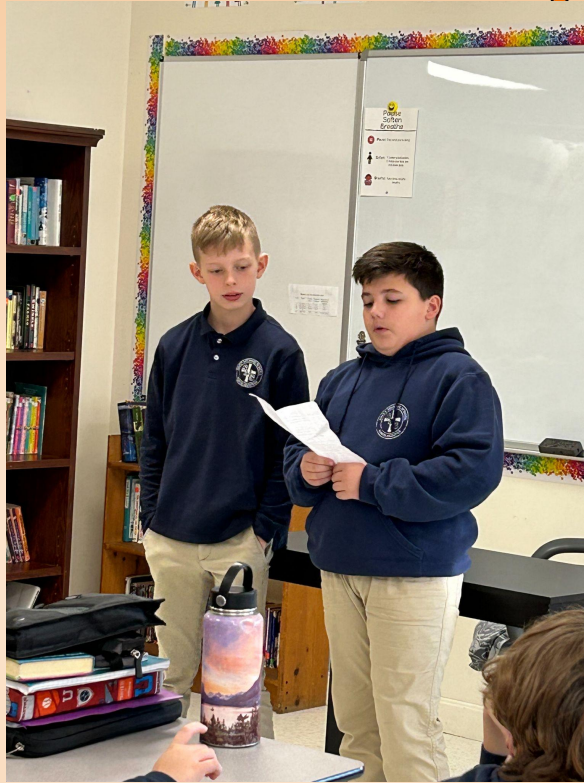


Fun with pumpkin decorating!



They all had a great time at the Halloween party!

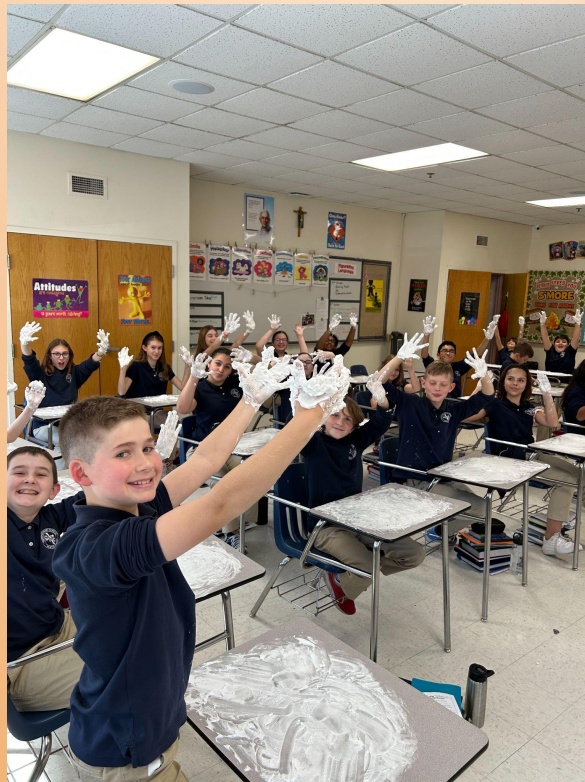
Mrs. Adam- 6th Grade ELA



Each groups task was to cite evidence from *Fish in a Tree* to support the theme they were given. They did a great job!

The students worked so hard throughout the novel, it was time to play a little!

The main character has dyslexia. One way she learns is by writing in shaving cream. We thought we'd give it a try!



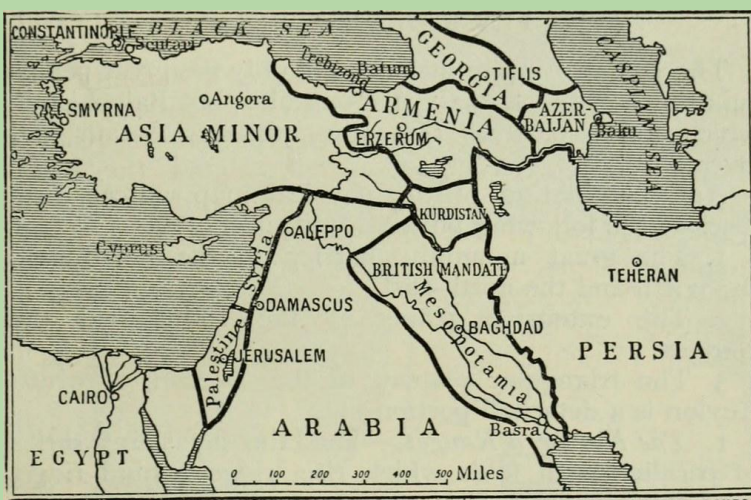
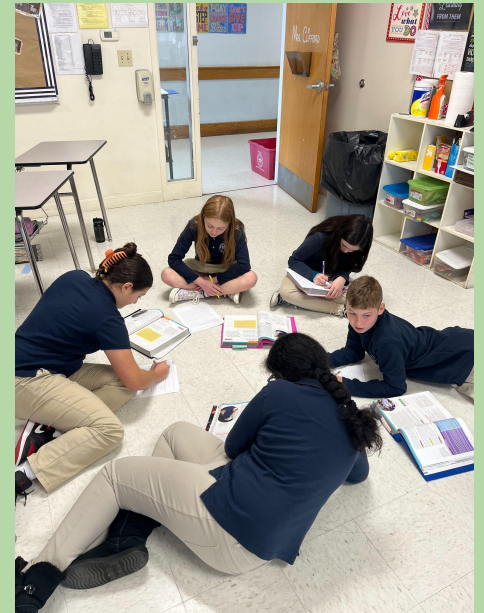
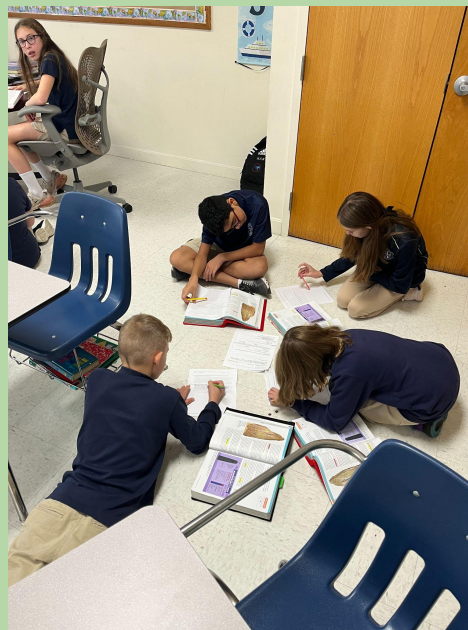
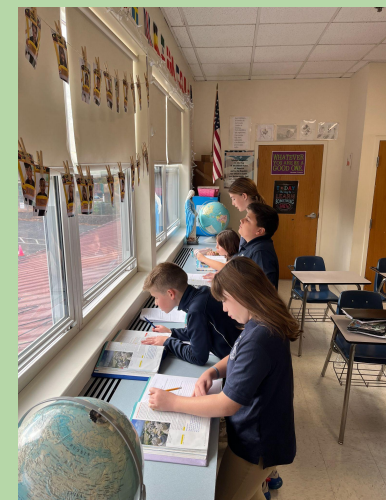
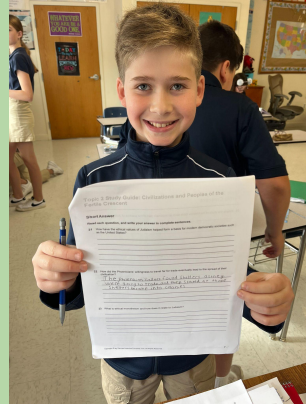
Mrs. Clifford- Grade 5 Social Studies

Grade 5B built their versions of the Statue of Liberty



Mrs. Clifford- Grade 6 Social Studies

Grade 6 is studying Ancient Egypt and geography from that region.

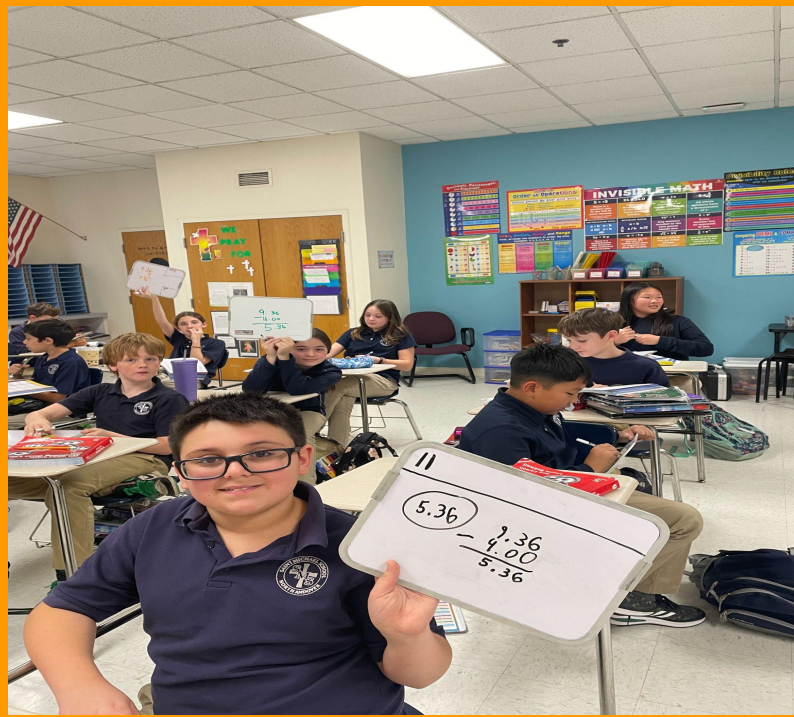


Grade 5 Presents the Living Rosary



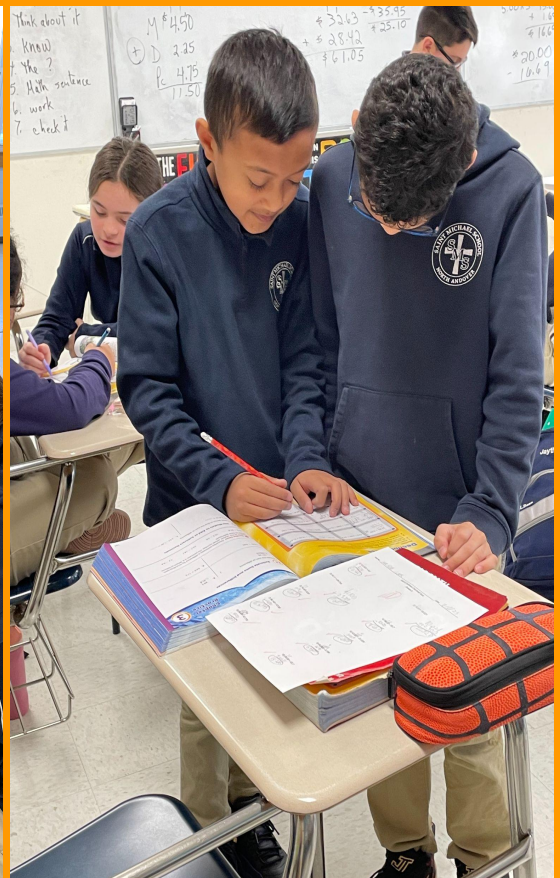
Grade 5 Living Rosary



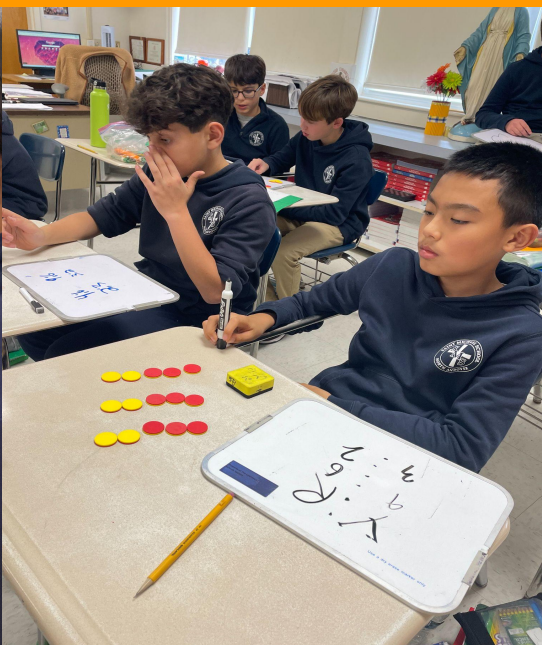
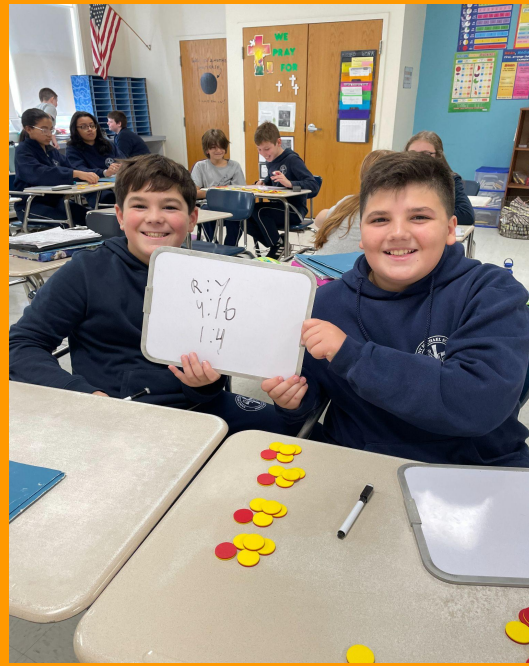


Grade 5 Math

Grade 5 students work at reviewing adding and subtracting decimals by using game boards. The player with the most correct boxes is the winner. They like to review for a test by beating Ms Decoteau at Math problems. They're great at winning as a class.

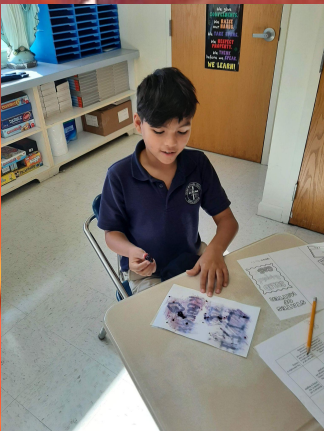
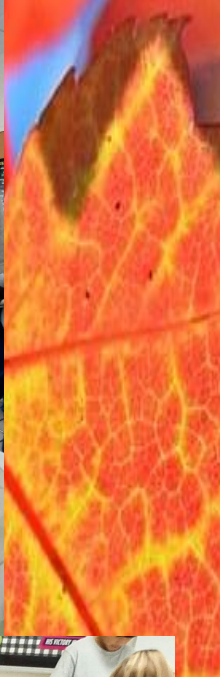


Grade 6 began exploring ratios in Math class. We work with partners to make sure everyone understands new concepts. We made models of ratios, and formed equivalent ratios using multiplication and division. Using what we know about factors and multiples sure came in handy.



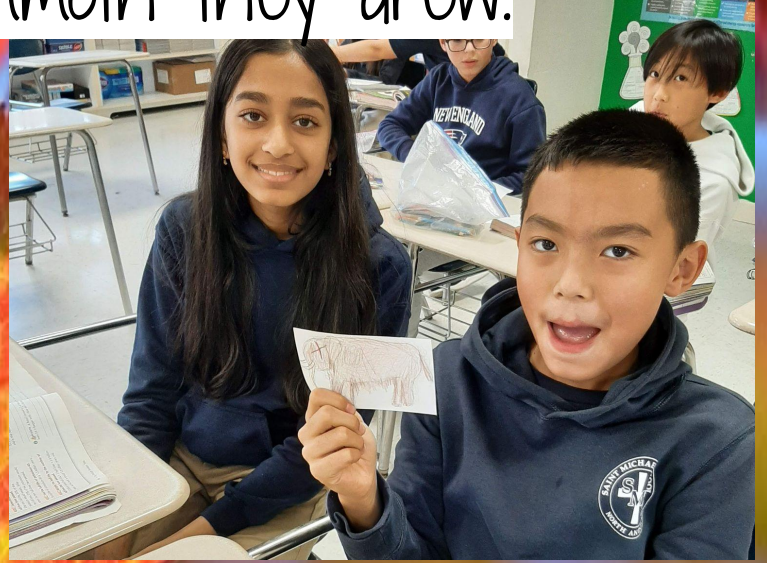
Mrs. Berard 5th Grade Science

Grade 5 had a "Potions Class" lab where they got to experiment with physical and chemical reactions



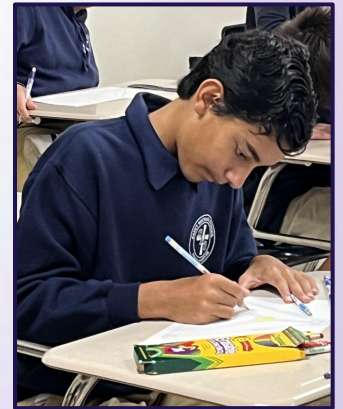
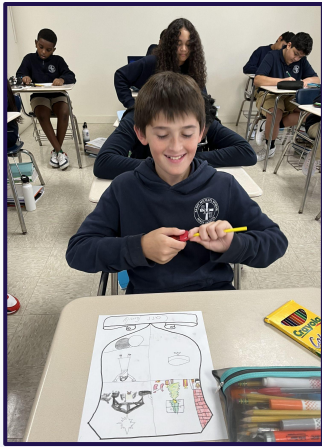
Mrs. Berard 6th Grade Science

6th grade had a Carbon Dating lab using a Woolly Mammoth they drew.

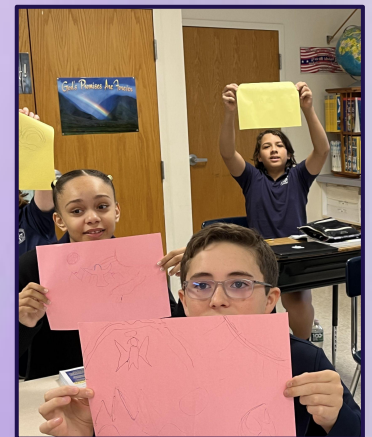
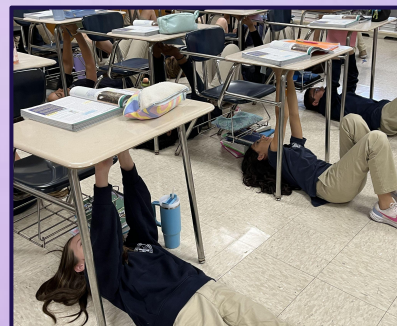
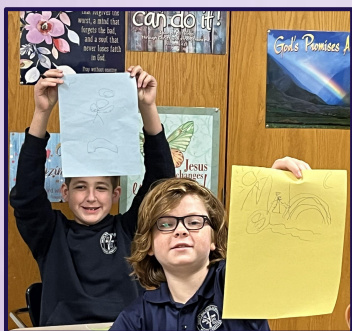
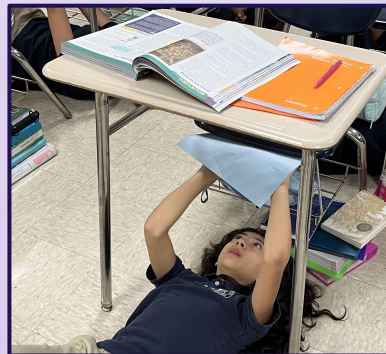


Mrs. Nagle: 7A Religion

Students designed a family emblem representing scripture and tradition within their family.

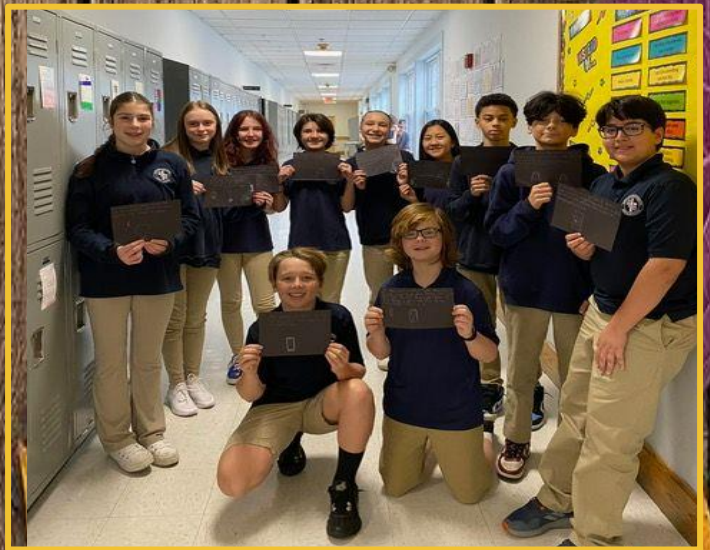


Students learned about creation and the struggles Michelangelo faced while painting God's Creation of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.



MRS. ORDWAY Gr. 7 ELA

GR. 7 enjoyed creating suspense by writing and sharing 2-sentences stories.



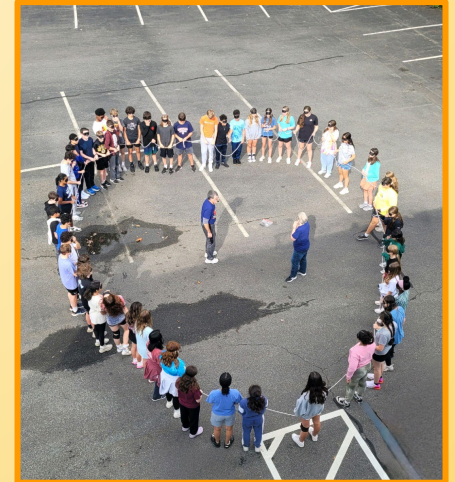


Mr. A: 7/8



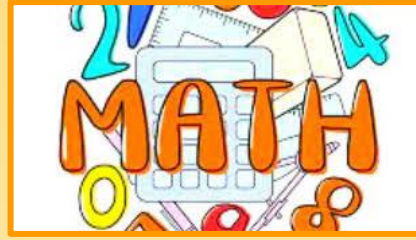
It is hard to believe that we are close to the holiday season. Grades seven and eight continue to progress nicely in their respective science classes. Grade seven will be learning about Earth Science. The students will learn about the causes of pollution and different ways to protect the environment. Grade eight will be learning about the weather. The students will learn about different types of storms and how to stay safe when these storms occur. The students will learn how meteorologists predict the weather and the specific tools that they use.

Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.



The Class of 2024 had a great time on their retreat. The Ice Bucket Challenge was a success! Thank you to everyone who came out to support the class of 2024!

Mrs. Parker: 7/8



The students in grade 7 have been working with adding and subtracting like terms, using the distributive property and factoring linear expressions. All of these concepts will be used as they prepare for Algebra 1 in 8th grade.

The students in grade 8 have been working with linear functions. They are learning how to graph linear equations written in various forms. We will soon be focusing in on slope and other characteristics of lines.

The 8th grade had an amazing two days for their retreat. Their class theme is “we grow together” and the students have been proudly wearing their class shirts throughout the school. I am thankful for all of the wonderful students in the class of 2024!



The Class of 2024:
We Grow Together!





SCHOOL COUNSELOR



MUSIC



GYM

School Counseling and Specials



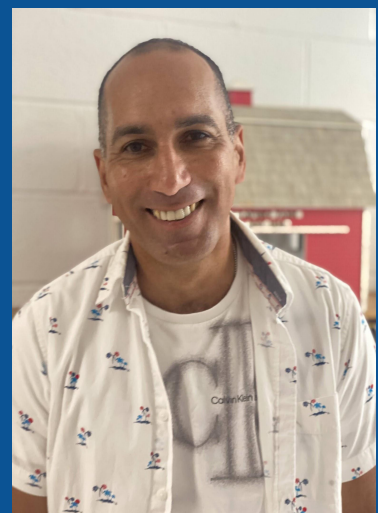
TECHNOLOGY



ART



STEM



SPANISH

Saint Michael PE

NEWSLETTER

!GO ARCHANGELS!

WOW the school year is flying by and after an amazing run of weather **WINTER** seems to be ready to move on in!!!! **IT** is very important to come prepared for colder weather as we will head outside for PE as long as we can! Our morning programs are a ton of fun and a great way to start your school day. We are just finishing up Pre-K/K and 1st and 2nd grade basketball, these little stars rocked it!

SNOW TIME! Registration for Ski and Board Club is open and we expect a big turn out so don't miss out!

Mr. Diaz



“Winter is not a season, it’s a celebration.” — Anamika Mishra

NOVEMBER MUSIC

Congratulations to Grade 3&4 for an outstanding performance at the Saint Michael Annual Veteran Day Tribute Program! A special thank you to our Veterans and their families.

Nursery/Pre-K4/Kindergarten Students are busy learning Grandparents Day songs and seasonal music.

Grade1 Students are learning new music skills.

Grade 2 Students are preparing for the Saint Michael Christmas Pageant.

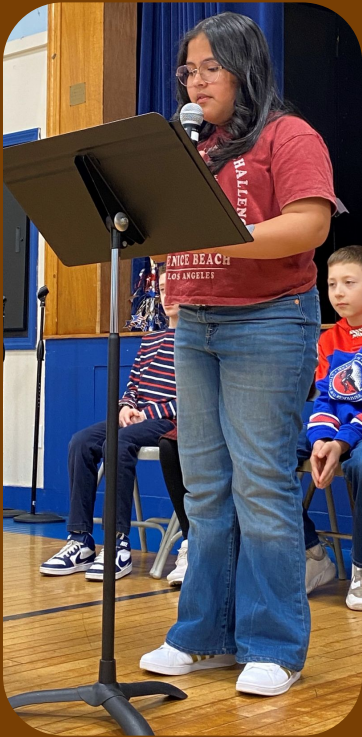
Grade3 Students are introduced to the simple instrument “the recorder”.

Grade4 Students continue the study of the recorder.

News Note Flash: Christmas Concert Choir members perform at the Saint Michael School Nativity. Happy Thanksgiving to All!

“Excellent... As Usual!”

Musically yours, Ms. Lavalley

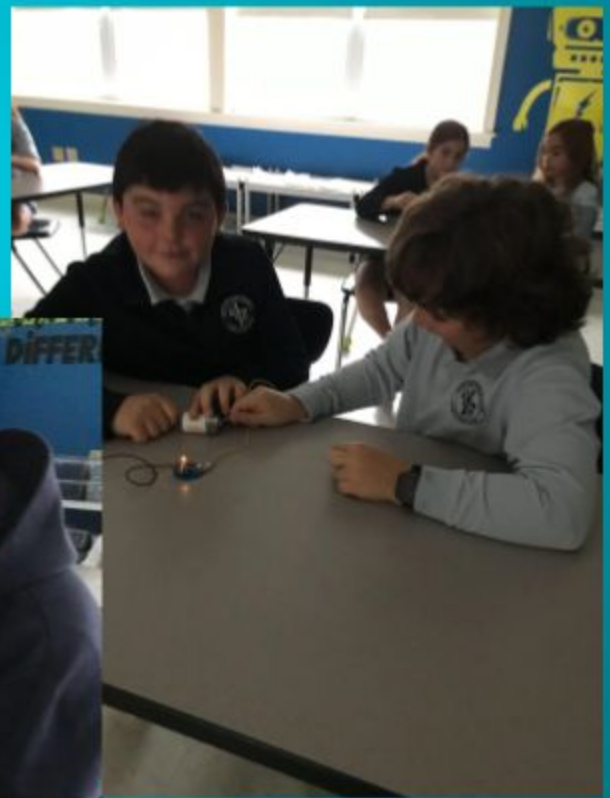


STEM

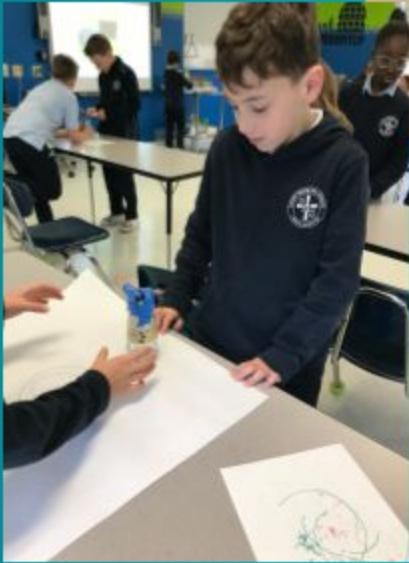
with Ms. Bryant

Grade 4 students learned about how electricity is created. First, they learned the difference between conductors and insulators, then they created a complete circuit and finally they added in a motor to build a Doodle Bot. This small motor powered bot uses an unbalanced force to create a “work of art!”

STEM becomes STEAM!



“The most important light is the one you cannot see!”



Spanish

**Happy Thanksgiving from the Spanish class at SMS
Check out some student poetry**

Cultivemos la generosidad y la unión familiar por un feliz Día de Acción de Gracias.

El Día de Acción de Gracias en un momento de amar y familia. El Día de Acción de Gracias también te muéstralo agradecido que debes estar por lo que tienes. Cole, Grade 7

El Día de Acción de Gracias es un momento para el amor, las fiestas, y lo más importante, la familia. Addi, Grade 8

Oh Señor Dios, que me das vida, préstame un corazón lleno de gratitud para apreciar lo dado.

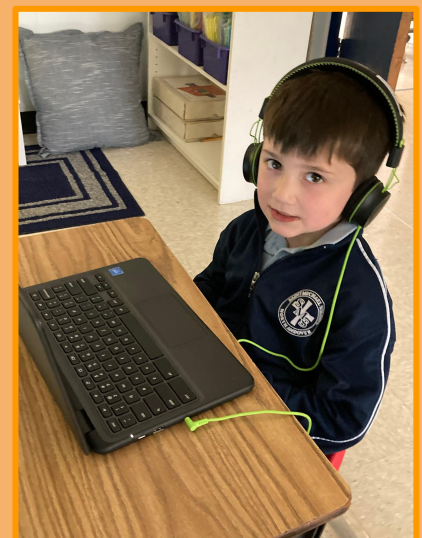


Technology

with Mrs. Lesofsky

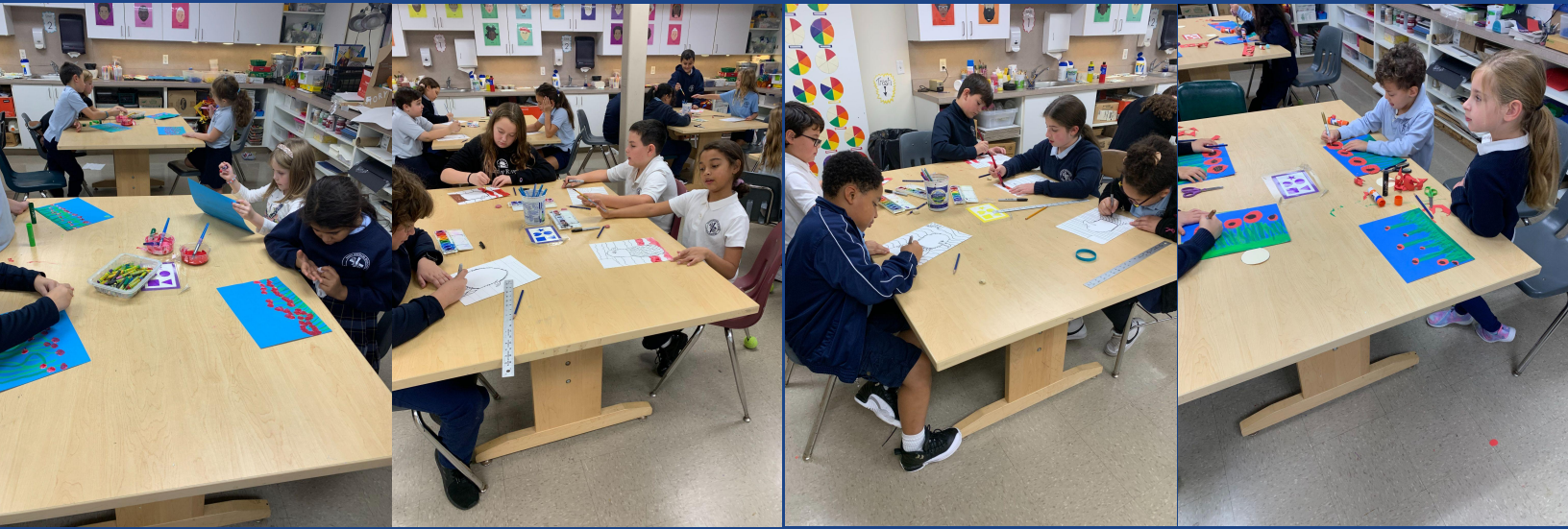


Kindergarten is doing an amazing job navigating their Chromebooks. Together we have fun playing math and reading games.



ART CLASS

With Mrs. Donegan



Kindergarten students through fourth grade all made artwork for the Veterans Day performance.
Kindergarten made hearts with Kwik Stix
First Grade made poppies using construction paper
Second Grade made poppies using paint
Third Grade made stars and decorated them with metallic Sharpie
Fourth Grade made eagles
Thank you to all of our Veterans for their service!



Counselor's Corner with Mrs. Rowley

In preparation for Veteran's Day the Student Council hosted a dress down day where students and staff could give a voluntary donation of \$1.00 to be donated to the Fisher House-Boston (FHB). The FHB provides housing for military members and their families while they seek medical attention in the Boston area free of charge. We were able to send the check to the FHB this week and as a school community are so grateful for our Veterans and the opportunity to support such a great foundation.

Thank you to all who donated!

