

# Newsletter October 2024



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 hope you'll be able to join us on this special day (October 21st at 1:45p.m.). 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. Bringing an SMS sweater or sweatshirt daily is a great idea! Please remember to put your last name on all school clothing.

We will be hosting our Annual Trick-or-Treat Night on October 24<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 27th from 7-9:00p.m. Students should start thinking of costume ideas!

As we start looking into November, term one will end on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Report Cards for students in grades 1-8 will be live on Renweb on November 8<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 5th. We'll offer online scheduling again this year to help accommodate families with multiple children. An email will be coming out shortly that explains that process. As a reminder, school is closed on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and there is no Ext. Day Care available. School will also be closed on November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veterans Day.

Our PTO just wrapped up our first big fundraiser, Rebecca Nut Free Cookies. Thank you to everyone who helped us exceed our fundraising goal as we sold over 1,000 boxes of cookies. Congratulations to the top-selling class! They won a Chocolate Chip Cookie Party! Coming up in November is our Thanks-for-Giving Raffle and then we take a break from big fundraisers for a while!

Do you know someone interested in sending their child to St. Michael School next year? Please let them know that we are hosting an Open House on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10a.m.-noon.

Happy Halloween!

*Sue Gosselin*

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



## *Hail Mary*

*full of grace, the Lord  
is with thee. Blessed art  
thou among women and  
blessed is the fruit of thy  
womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother  
of God, pray for us sinners  
now, and at the hour of  
our death. Amen*

## **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.



# Important Dates and INFORMATION

- October 21- Living Rosary at 1:45pm. (Hosted by grade 5)
- October 22- Uniform Exchange
- October 24- Trick or Treat Night (N-gr. 4)
- October 25- Halloween Dance (gr. 5-8)
- October 29-Banking Day
- November 5- Parent-Teacher Conferences (No school)
- November 7- STEM Night
- November 11- Veterans Day (no school)

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.



## 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).

# 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, 2024 to April 1, 2025**. 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.

# Halloween Happenings!

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 24<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 25<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.

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

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



# UMatter



The following students were drawn from the UMatter container this week.



Abby helped a friend pack up.



Peter helped a friend find a folder then hugged him to help him feel better.



Mia saw a kindergarten girl sad about her dress and told her she was beautiful.



Kyra saw a kindergarten student sitting alone in the bus area. She said to a friend, "She's lonely let's sit with her."



Elise is a friend to all.



Jack helped friend understand the assignment without being asked.

# UMatter



The following students were drawn from the UMatter container this week.



Gabe was mindful of including others who were looking for partner.



Will waited in the church parking lot with a friend who's ride was late.



Gianna volunteered to wash tables at lunch.



Riya helped a pre-K friend feel better.

## Honorable Mention

### Pre-K

Zachary

Aaron

Gio

Rowan

### Kindergarten

Emmett

Eleanor

### Grade 2

Caden

Julia

### Grade 3

Saarya

### Grade 5

Jonathan

Scarlett

### Grade 6

Nathan

Woody

### Grade 8

Saisha

Jack

# UMatter



The following students were drawn from the UMatteer container this week.



Alessandra held the door closed for and comforted her friend who was nervous about the new bathroom door.



Faye helped a friend who was having a hard time with their chromebook.



Johnny always follows directions and reminds others to do the right thing.



Gael offered to help the teacher clean up a mess made by someone else.



Colton D. was polite and let a teacher pass in the hallway.



Ava checked in on a faculty member to make sure she was okay when she wasn't feeling well.

# UMatter



## Honorable Mention

**Grade 1**

**Brayden**

**Grade 5**

**Camden**

**Grade 7**

**Dominic**

**Erica**

**Gianna**

# UMatter



The following students were drawn from the U Matter container this week.

Pre-K



Liam helped a teacher pick up leaves when she dropped them on the stairs.

1



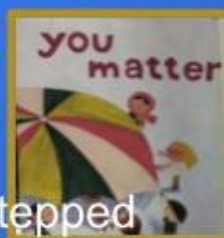
Christopher helped a classmate pack up when she was leaving early and cleaned up a mess he didn't make.

2



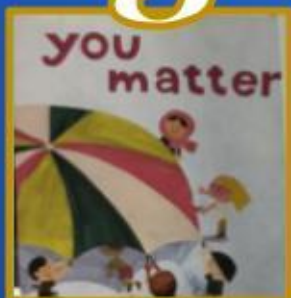
Jakobe picked up a lunch that a friend dropped.

2



Rocky stepped aside in the hallway to let the nursery students go by.

3



Teddy helped a friend that fell on the playground and then asked if he was okay.

4



Ben was kind to a friend that was sad.

5



Sebastian cleaned up in the classroom without being asked.

# UMatter



**Honorable Mention**

**Pre-K**

**Adrian**

**Brynn**

**Grade 1**

**Alessandra**

**Grade 2**

**Alexandra**

**Joseph**

**Grade 5**

**Jonathan**

# UMatter



The following students were drawn from the UMatter container this week.



Brayden helped in extended care without being asked.



Augustine found money and turned it in for breast cancer.



Matthew donated money to the bake sale without getting anything in return.



William gave a friend money to get a snack at the bake sale when he didn't have any.



Camden welcomed another classmate into his group who had no partner.



Noah cared for a first grader during Mass.



Gianna used extreme kindness in extended day.



**NURSERY**



**PRE-K**

# Early Childhood

## Nursery, Pre-K, & Kindergarten



**KINDERGARTEN**

# Nursery

Mrs. Siddiqui



**Happy October!**  
**Every year it amazes**  
**me how quickly our**  
**littles fall into the**  
**routine of school and**  
**this year is no**  
**exception! They are**  
**all loving Nursery**  
**and having a blast**  
**learning our letters!**



# Nursery

Mrs. McGovern

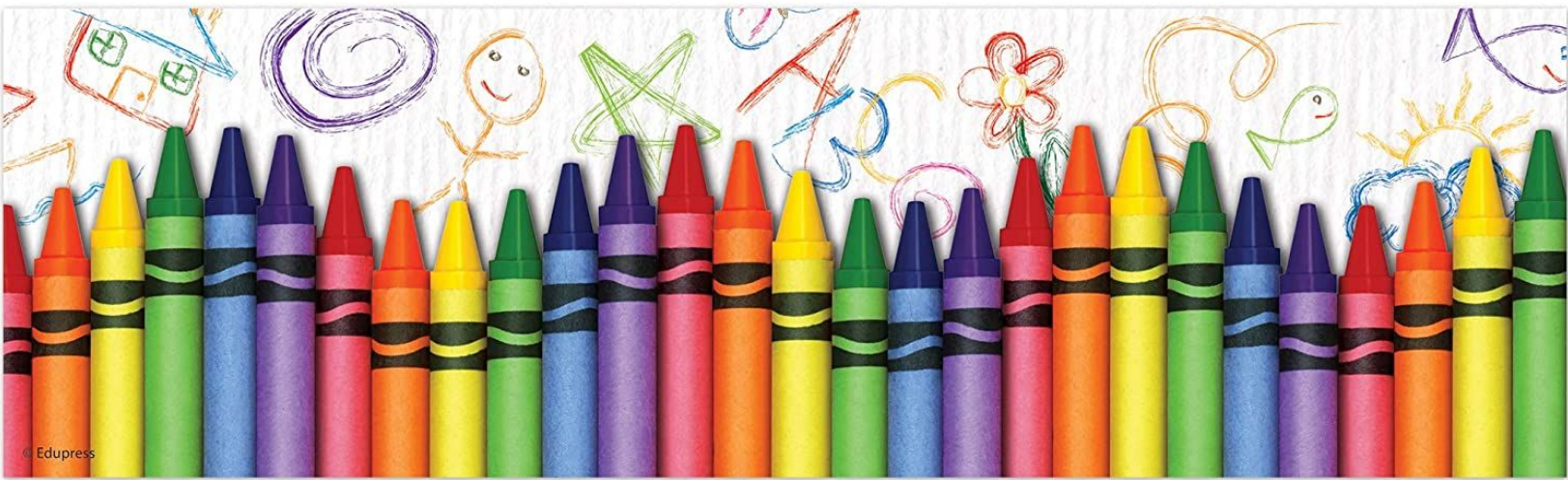
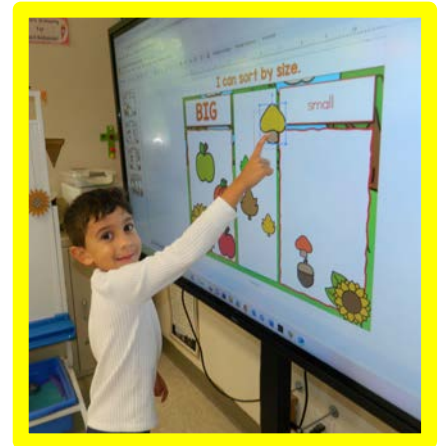


Hello October! Let the leaves fall and the adventures begin! Our days have been filled with learning our letters, developing new friendships, fall activities, and growing closer to God.



# PRE-K Mrs. Reinhard

The month of October was full of fun centers focused on Apples and Fall, using God's gifts from nature.



# PRE-K Ms. K



We've been busy learning about teddy bears, apples, fall leaves, and so much more! We met our Grade 6 reading buddies and have enjoyed using lots of new materials in the classroom!



# PRE-K Mrs. Cali



We have loved learning all about Bears, apples and leaves! We met our sixth grade reading buddies and had so much fun together! We are looking forward to all the rest of our fall themed fun!



# Kindergarten!

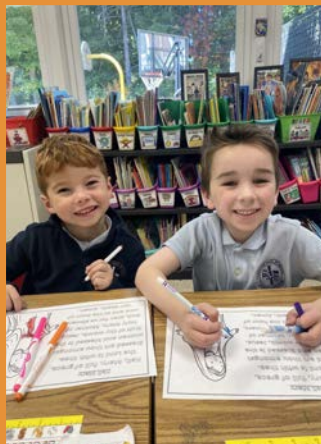
Mrs. Sleight



Kindergarten has grown so much just in the past month. We are learning about the parts of stories and the different kinds of schools around the world. Of course we are learning about pumpkins and all fun things about Halloween! The picture above is a favorite! These are our eighth grade buddies! Such a great help and friend to us!

# Kindergarten!

## Mrs. Polcari



Kindergarten has settled into their routines and have been learning so much already!

We celebrate the Blessed Mother in October by learning the Hail Mary and attending the Living Rosary.

At the end of the month we are excited to welcome our families to our classroom for a Halloween party.

# Kindergarten!

Mrs. Kasberg



Happy Fall! We have been busy learning about so much, but we focused in science on apples, pumpkins and leaves!



**FIRST GRADE**



**SECOND GRADE**

# Elementary School

## Grades 1-4



**THIRD GRADE**



**FOURTH GRADE**



# First Grade

1A- Mrs. Robidoux



This month we celebrate fall and Our Blessed Mother Mary. We are practicing Lively Letters, reading about communities and community helpers and learning new strategies in math. Our little pumpkins are growing more and more each day!



# First Grade

IB- MS. BEDARD



The children have settled into a nice routine. We are becoming better readers and amazing mathematicians! This month we will learn more about Mary and the Rosary  
Thank you for all you do!!!



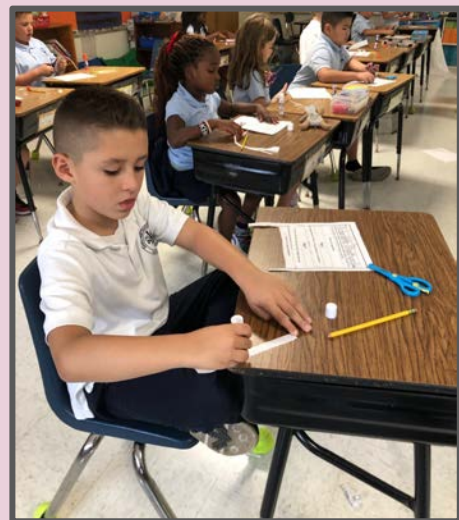
## *Mrs. Caffrey 2A*

The children have been saying the Rosary with Mrs. Dinuccio. Each child received their own rosary.

We welcomed Fall with apples from Smolak Farm.

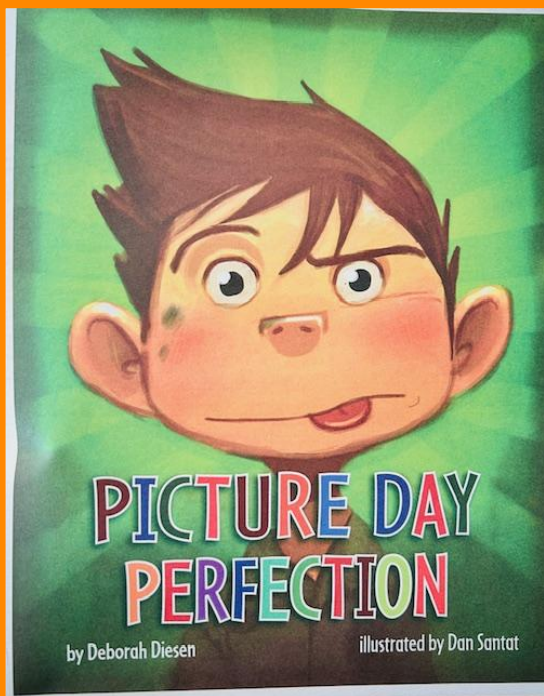
The children learned about fractions, ingredients, and reading recipes.

We completed our author of the month by making puppets.





# Mrs. Grant



Grade 2 had so much fun reading Picture Day Perfection and practicing our picture day **SMILES** and our picture day **SCOWLS**!



# 3RD GRADE

Mrs. Torpey

The third graders finished reading the book, *The Wild Robot*, just in time for the release of the movie. On October 8th, the students had a private showing of the movie at Showcase Cinema. They loved it! Upon return they discussed similarities and differences between the movie and the book and completed a Venn diagram. A great big “Thank You” to Mrs. Ordway for helping us make this happen!



# 3RD GRADE

Mrs. Grava



The students had a fabulous field trip to Showcase Cinema for a private showing of the movie, *The Wild Robot*. This was our first read aloud of the year. The students loved both the book and the movie! They enjoyed comparing and contrasting the two when we returned to school.



# 4A with Mrs. Andrewchuk

The children in 4th Grade learned about the importance of timelines in History. Then they created their own amazing timelines!



# 4B with Mrs. Sweeney



October has been so much fun in 4B! The students earned a "Sports Day" for filling our classroom shout-out board. We celebrated by having fun sports themed activities and by wearing our favorite sports jerseys! They also met our Grade 1 Buddies where they decorated fall themed bookmarks for one another!





**FIFTH GRADE**



**SIXTH GRADE**

# Upper School

## Grades 5-8



**SEVENTH GRADE**



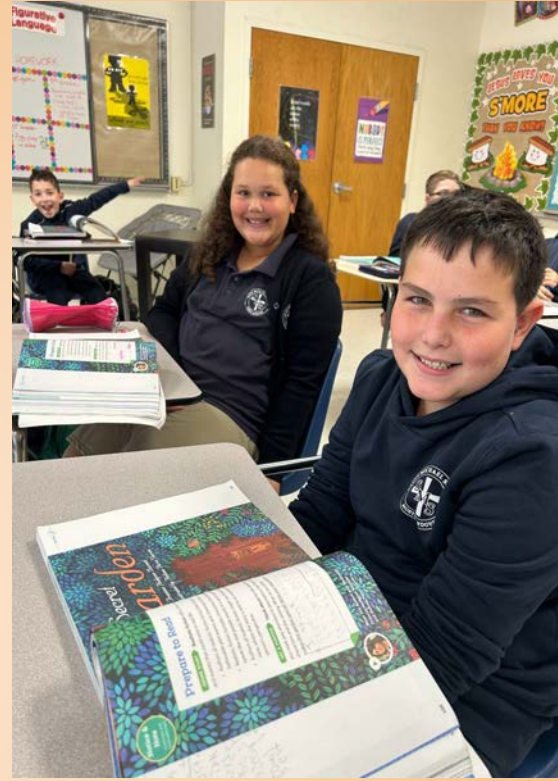
**EIGHTH GRADE**



# Mrs. Adam ELA



Our 5th Grade Essential Question - How does genre affect the way a story is told? They've read fantasy, realistic fiction, and soon a play.



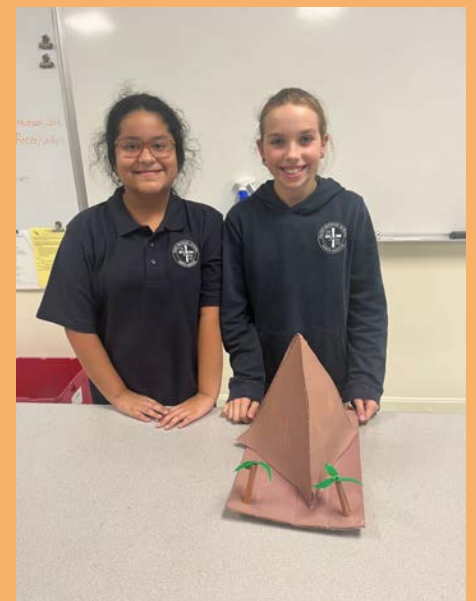
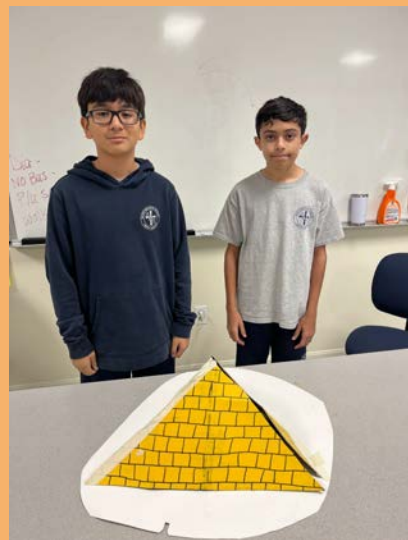
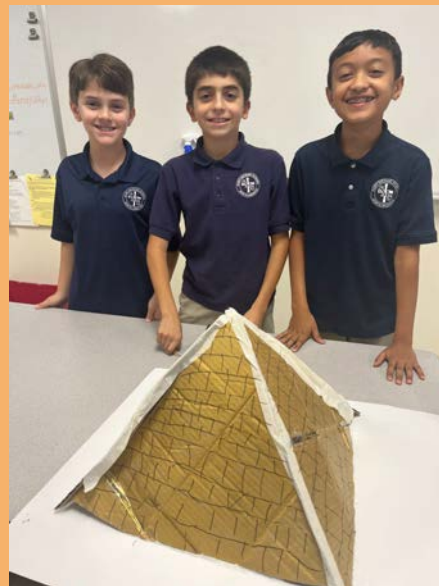
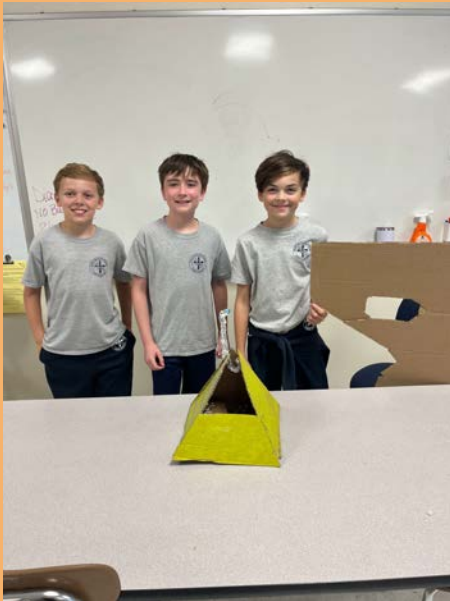
Our first Cocoa Cafe in 6th grade was a success! Congratulations to our first group of readers. Their stories were fantastic!

# Mrs. Clifford - 5/6 Social Studies

Grade 6 is learning all about Mesopotamia and the first civilization of Sumer. We are having lots of questions and class discussions.

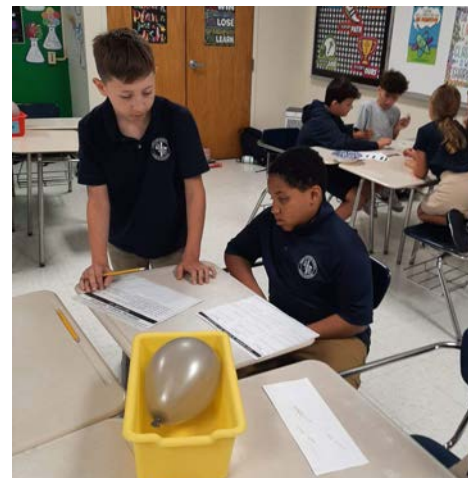
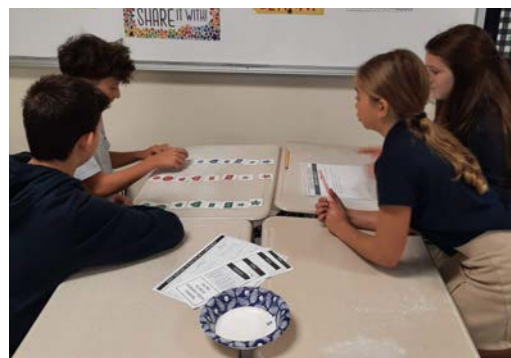
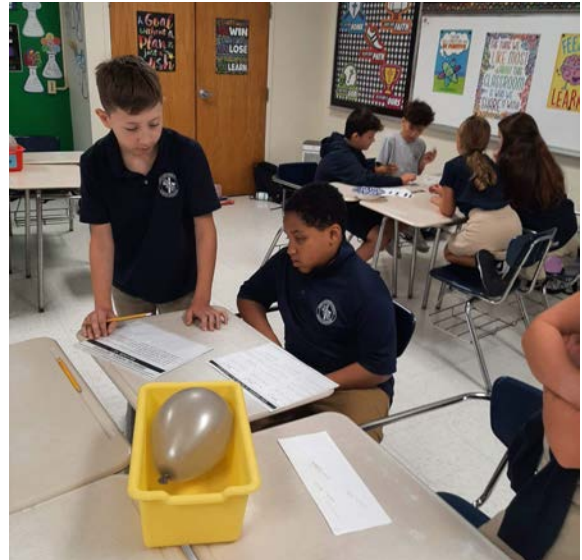


Grade 6  
Enrichment  
classes are  
working on their  
first project of  
the year.  
Egyptian  
pyramids!



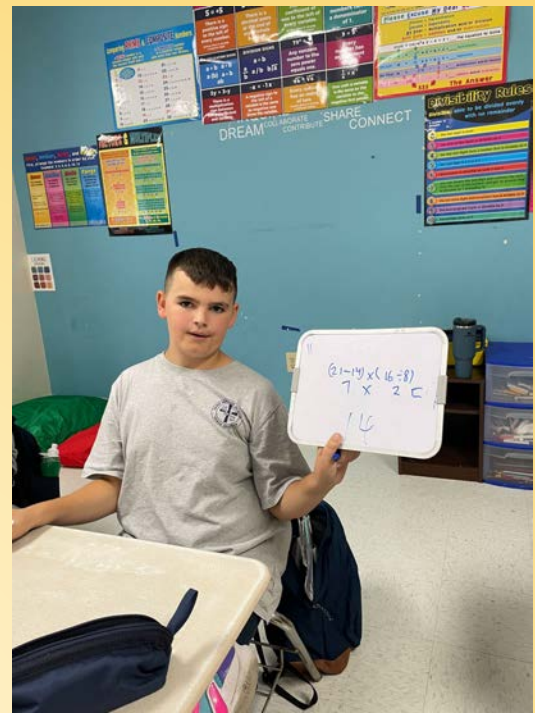
# Mrs. Berard 5th/6th Grade Science

**5th Grade had their first lab on Properties of Matter. They went to 7 different stations to learn about different properties.**



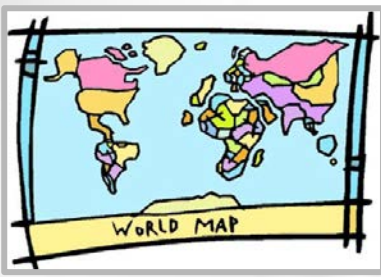
# Grade 5/6 MATH

Ms Decoteau



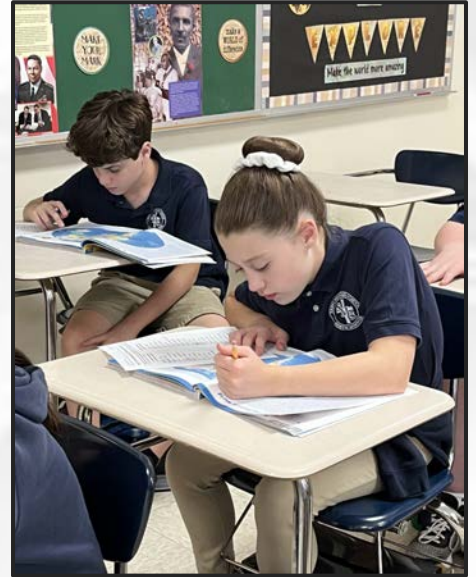
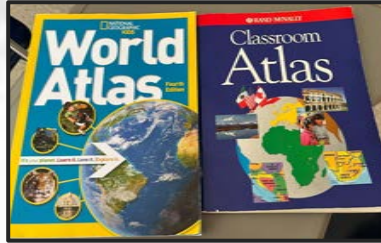
Grade 5 has taken their knowledge of Order of Operations to a new level. They like the challenge! During Enrichment, 5A designed Math games with a focus on FRACTIONS!





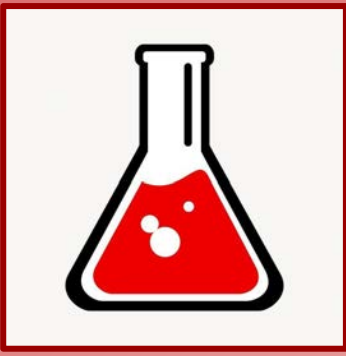
# Mrs. Nagle: 7/8 Social Studies

Students in grade 7 have been exploring the 5 Themes of Geography. They have also been learning how to use the themes region and location to identify characteristics of places using different atlases.



**MRS. ORDWAY - ENRICHMENT GRADE 8**  
**USING ROOT WORDS TO EXPAND OUR VOCAB**





# Mr. A: Science 7/8

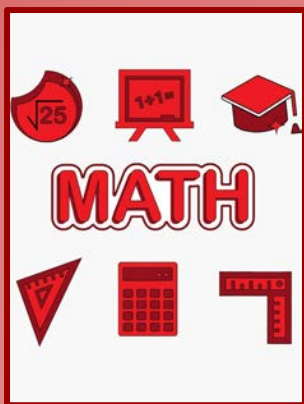
The school year is in full swing. The students are working hard. In grade seven the students will be learning about different types of Energy and how to conserve it. In grade eight the students will be learning about the different layers of the Atmosphere and their functions.

A new Volleyball club will be starting for each grade. The club was so popular the grades had to be grouped separately. The club will meet on Thursday for grade seven and Friday for grade eight.



Volleyball is an activity that many of our grade 7 and 8 students enjoy at recess! They are able to show off the skills that they learned in volleyball club.



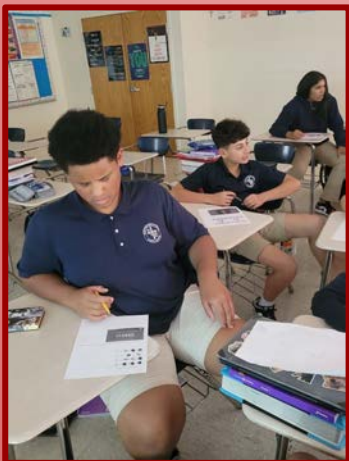


# Mrs. Parker: 7/8 Math

The students are now used to the school routine and are working hard. Hopefully they continue to put in a strong effort and practice all of the skills that will help them to be successful.

The students in Grade 7 have been working on all of the operations with rational numbers. We've been using different songs and dances to help us remember the rules for the different operations. We will be starting some algebraic work in our upcoming chapter.

The students in Grade 8 have been working with inequalities. Many of the skills we studied with equations have been used for inequalities. We are going to be moving into work with functions soon.



Enrichment is a time where students get to collaborate on challenging questions with more than one approach. They have to think in different ways and problem solve together.





**SCHOOL COUNSELOR**



**MUSIC**



**GYM**

# School Counseling and Specials



**TECHNOLOGY**



**ART**



**STEM**

# Saint Michael PE

Fall has finally arrived! Time to start planning out winter activities! Don't miss out on SMS Ski Club! The six-week program is for Grades 3-8 and will run on Tuesdays starting in January at [www.Skibradford.com](http://www.Skibradford.com)

Thank you to all the Coaches who have volunteered to help with our basketball program. Our 4th-8th grade teams will compete in the MVCBA. We will blast out the schedules as soon as they are released so you can go cheer on the Archangels!



A time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings,  
and, best of all, leaping into leaves."

-A.A. Milne, Winnie the Pooh

# October Music

*“Music is life itself. What would this world be without music? No matter what kind it is.” -Louis Armstrong*

- ★ Nursery/Pre-K-4/Kindergarten Students continue learning the role of the conductor. Using non-pitched instruments, keeping steady beats with finger-plays and seasonal songs. Learning the difference between Beat and Rhythm.
- ★ Grade1 Students are learning to use performance terms and rhythm stick to play along with activities using Smartboard.
- ★ Grade2 Students are performing Autumn themed songs from the classic movie, “The Wizard of Oz”.
- ★ Grade3&4 Students are preparing for the Annual Veteran’s Day performance. Program consists of narration, poems, and American Patriotic Songs.

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



# STEM ROBOTICS



Grade 7 students were excited to build their robot and then compete against their classmates in the arena!





# STEM DRONES



Grade 8 students have built, learned to fly, and competed through an obstacle course with their drones!



# Technology

*Kindergarten students are doing so well adjusting to the use of Chromebooks. They are learning to log in using a username and password, and becoming comfortable using the mouse pad to navigate educational websites that reinforce reading and math skills.*

*It has been so much fun!*

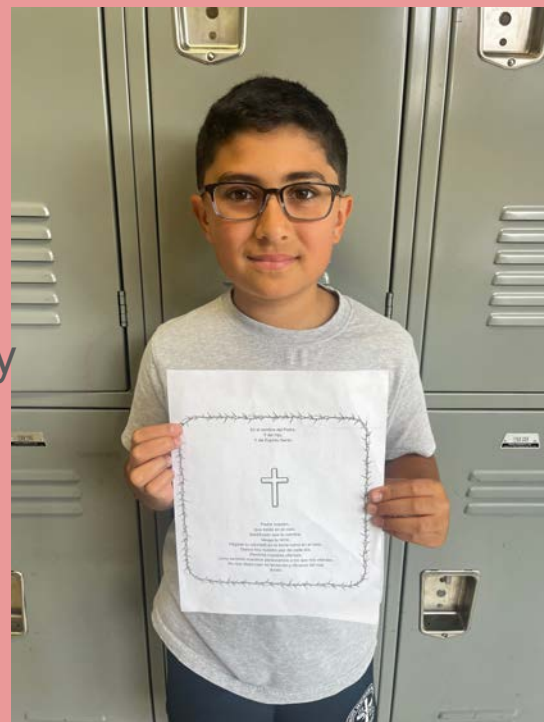




Padre nuestro,  
que estás en el cielo.  
Santificado sea tu nombre.  
Venga tu reino.  
Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal.  
Amén.



All grades have  
been starting  
class everyday by  
saying the Lord's  
Prayer in  
Spanish!



# Spanish Grades 5-8



Grade 8 has been  
presenting "About Me"  
slideshows in Spanish!

In grade 7 students are  
practicing how to say the date  
and other calendar terms!



# ART CLASS

*With Mrs. Donegan*



**Students have been very busy in the art room so far! Kindergarten worked hard on making their Line Monsters. Fourth Grade learned about Zentangles and talked about the different parts of leaves. They made their very own Leaf Zentangles. All students have been working so hard and should be proud of what they have created this year!**



# Counselor's Corner With Mrs. Rowley

We have hit the ground running in the Counseling Office this school year! We have started our lunch groups to get reacquainted after the summer. Our students had some wonderful experiences during their time off!



Homerooms in grades 3-8 picked their Student Council representatives. We have a really great group of students this year - please keep an eye out for our future Student Council projects throughout the school year!

