

**Saint John the Baptist
Catholic School**

Established 1914

Home of the Saints since 2018



School Newsletter
March 1, 2024

Phone 715.352.3000

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Edgar, WI 54426

Website www.edgarcatholic.org

Facebook St. John the Baptist
Catholic Church & School
#SaintJohnSaints

The mission of Saint John the Baptist Catholic School is to educate God's children and promote Catholic values through academic excellence and service to others.

Upcoming School/Parish Events

- March 1** - First Friday Mass
- March 1** - Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- March 8** - Lenten Fish Fry
- March 8** - Jesu Vesperi - 6:00pm to 7:30pm
- March 22** - End of Quarter 3
- March 25-29** - NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
- March 31** - EASTER
- April 1** - NO SCHOOL Easter Monday

Jesu Vesperi

"Jesu Vesperi" is latin and is translated to "Evening with Jesus". Hosted by the Archangel Youth Group, we invite kids of all ages, parents included! You do not need to sign up, simply show up, have fun, and enjoy great fellowship!



Summer Program

Registration for our new Summer Program is now open! Registration is open for students who have completed 3K through 4th grade. Students who have completed 5th grade and up are welcome to help for the program. Check out the link in the email for more information.

Cold Weather Gear

With this winter having very unusual weather, please make sure your child(ren) have the correct clothes and winter gear for snow, rain, and the cold weather. Jackets are required if the temperature is below 40 degree.

School Staff Contact Info

- Father Alan - pastor@stjohnedgar.org
- Jessica Halvorsen - principal@stjohnedgar.org
- Juan Martinez - secretary@stjohnedgar.org
- Kris Riehle - kriehle@stjohnedgar.org
- Jenna Martin - jennamartin@stjohnedgar.org
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- Alex Radtke - aradtke@stjohnedgar.org
- Lois Wierzba - lwierzba@stjohnedgar.org
- Baylie Neider - bneider@stjohnedgar.org
- Julie Seubert - jseubert@stjohnedgar.org

2024-2025 School Year Registration

The online registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open. Please make sure to register your child(ren). There is a re-enrollment form for students entering 5K through 8th grade, to make registering your child(ren) easy. If you have any questions feel free to reach out to the school office. Links to the online forms may be found in the email.

Lenten Fish Fries

St. John's has delicious fish paired with french fries or potato salad. The wonderful coleslaw goes great with the dinner rolls served with your meal. The fish fries also bring a great opportunity to get some volunteer hours. Please consider helping out!



FEBRUARY NEWS FOR 3K

The month of February brings Valentine's Day and lots of hearts and love. Our classroom calendar reflects this love and reminds us that Jesus loves us with those words on each day of the month.

Our first day of the month began with the final day of Catholic Schools Week which included a red wagon parade highlighting a Bible story. Our 3K class chose Noah's Ark since we learned about Noah building the ark and all the animals that were on the boat. For our wagon we made an ark with a rainbow at the top where the 3K children cut pieces of colored paper and glued them to the rays of the rainbow. They also each chose an animal mask to color and then wore the masks for the parade posing as a variety of animals following the ark. They had lots of fun being part of this fun activity! Afterwards was the sweet treat raffle which also brought lots of smiles as they received all the delicious treats they were able to take home.

This month the children began Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and are able to learn more about Jesus and our Catholic faith one afternoon a week. They look forward to this new adventure.

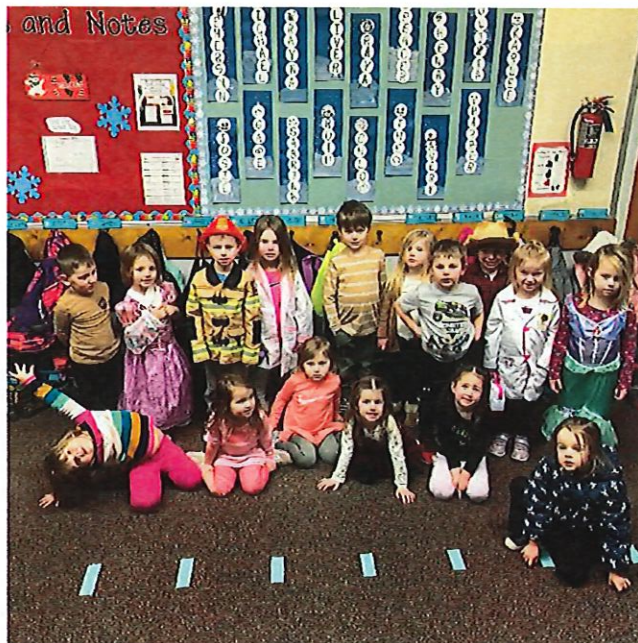
We began to prepare for our Valentine's Day celebration with each child decorating a bag for their Valentine exchange with all kinds of stickers. It was decided to celebrate a couple days earlier since Ash Wednesday was on February 14th. They were thrilled to share Valentines with each other along with special treats. We played some Valentine games too.

On Ash Wednesday we attended Mass together and received ashes on our forehead. Back in the classroom the children learned more about why they received those ashes and drew a picture of their faces on paper along with a cross. We have been learning that Lent is 40 days and we have a path that we follow each day of Lent where the children are taking turns putting stickers on each day until we arrive at Easter. We also have a jar that we are filling with dried beans that are added when we are good listeners or showing acts of kindness to each other. The label on our jar says "Pull out the weeds; plant good seeds" which is what they are striving to do with their good deeds. After Easter there may be a surprise in that jar for the children!

We have learned new letters! First, the letter O where we made orange octopus's and then came the letter P. One of our favorites, Pete the Cat, was back in the book we read, "Pete the Cat loves his White Shoes" where we learned about Pete's shoes that changed colors. We also heard the story "Mr. Pines Purple House." We found out some facts about penguins and through a science experiment discovered that their feathers have a special coating that keeps them warm even when they are in the cold water. To close our week of the letter P we enjoyed a treat of popcorn. Then following P came the letter Q and the 3K kids each colored the letter Q and then we put a beautiful picture of Mary in the center and the children learned that Jesus' mother Mary is Queen of Heaven and Earth. They each picked a crown sticker to add to the picture. Our final letter of the month was R and Pete

the Cat was back rocking in his school shoes. Each of the 3K kids made a robot out of a variety of colors and sizes of rectangles. Rhymes were enjoyed with silly stories and pictures and to close the week with R the children learned the number countdown with a rocket.

Even though this month is shorter we have been able to do a lot of activities and filled each day with new and fun things!



Our Mission

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February newsletter

4 YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

Lent has arrived!

At this time in the church calendar we begin to quiet our hearts. We look to the cross Jesus had died on and reflect on all the good he has done for us.

CLASS NEWS

PHONICS- A, B, C, and all through X, Y, and Z!! We have learned the ALPHABET! Now on to begin SIGHT WORDS.

MATH-We talk about numbers 10-20 and it has been so exciting!

Catholic Schools Week- We had WAY TOO MUCH FUN! It was awesome and exciting to not have class all day! Next year is going to be fun too!

WEATHER-God has blessed us this winter but, note it is always changing.

Please send your child(ren) with snow pants, boots, hats, and gloves. The school office does have extras.



St. John the Baptist
Saints
Est. 1914



Reminders

3/25-4/1

**NO SCHOOL SPRING
BREAK**

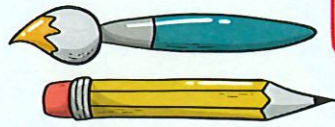
3/26 Easter Sunday
Happy Easter!





We made St. Valentine!

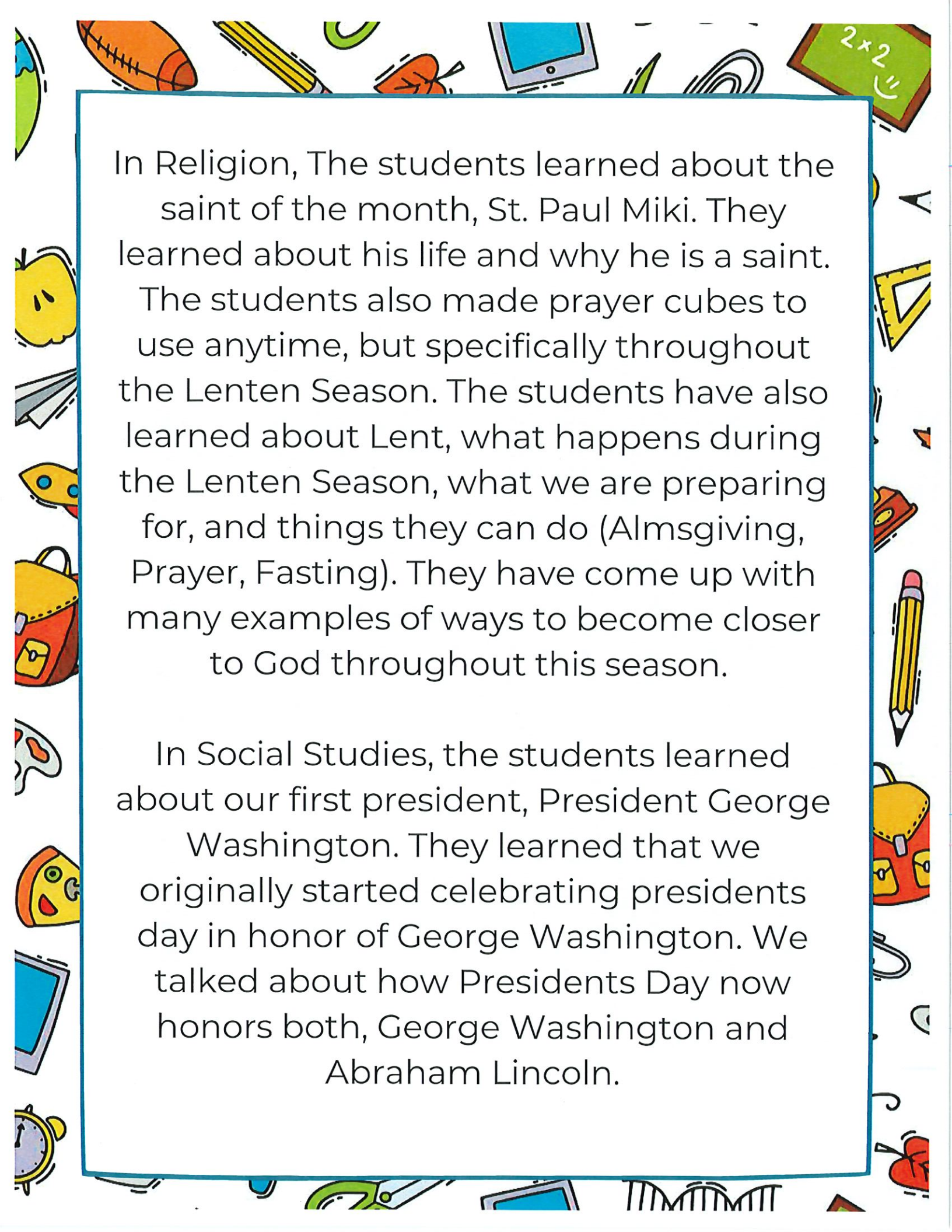




HELLO FROM THE K/1 HOMEROOM!

In Superkids, the kindergarteners have moved on from meeting Superkids to learning and reading about the Superkids Club! They are reading about a problem the Superkids are having- where to have their clubhouse. The students came up with a list of words that describe clubhouses and gave ideas of places a clubhouse could be. They used this list to help them draw a place that could be a spot for a clubhouse. They then wrote about it! The students have also been practicing and learning many new sight words!

In Math, they have practiced and become familiar with composing and decomposing numbers. This has helped them become more fluent in their addition and subtraction facts. We have just started looking at numbers 11-19. The students are learning that these numbers are made up of 10 ones and some more ones. They will work on expressions and equations to represent these numbers.



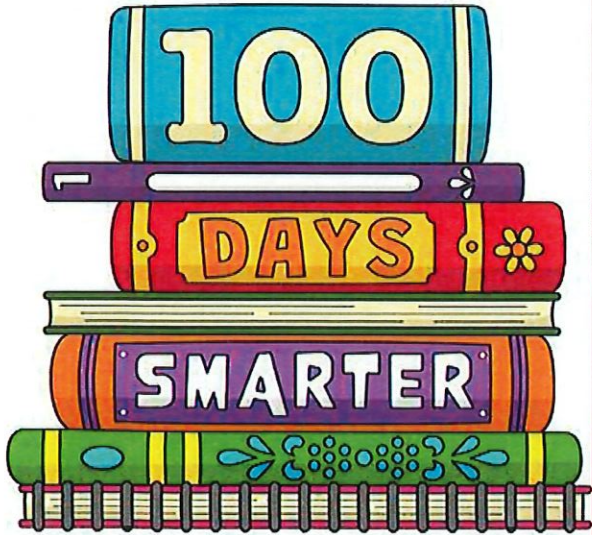
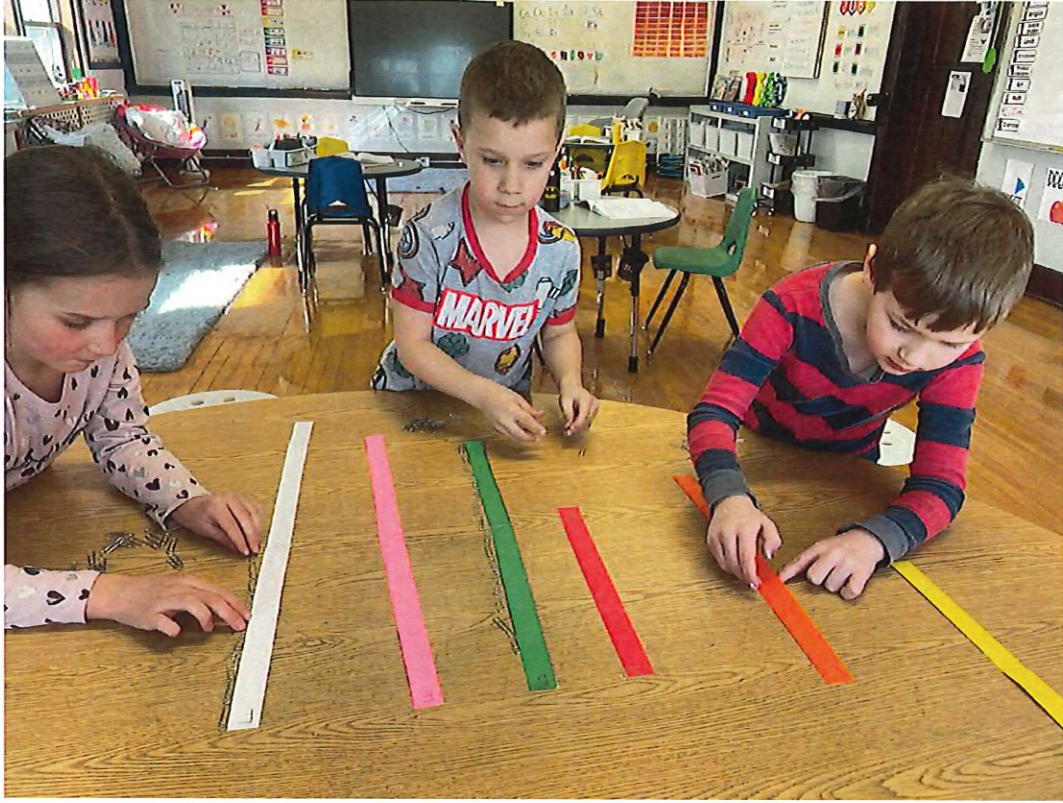
In Religion, The students learned about the saint of the month, St. Paul Miki. They learned about his life and why he is a saint. The students also made prayer cubes to use anytime, but specifically throughout the Lenten Season. The students have also learned about Lent, what happens during the Lenten Season, what we are preparing for, and things they can do (Almsgiving, Prayer, Fasting). They have come up with many examples of ways to become closer to God throughout this season.

In Social Studies, the students learned about our first president, President George Washington. They learned that we originally started celebrating presidents day in honor of George Washington. We talked about how Presidents Day now honors both, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

First Grade

In Superkids, the first graders have been reading and learning different reading rules. They do a very good job applying these rules to their reading! The students have started learning about plays as our most recent stories were actually plays! The students have learned what props are and have learned that there is a narrator who describes what is happening in a play.

In Math, the students have been working on adding within one hundred. They are able to add two two digit numbers. They are able to do this with and without composing a new ten. They are also learning how to neatly show their work as they work through these longer problems. The students have just started measuring and have been comparing the length of different items around the classroom.



SECOND GRADE NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024

THIS WEEK

After all the activities and excitement of Catholic Schools Week, it was back to work in all the "regular" subjects! In Superkids we worked on some more tricky vowel patterns and double consonants. Our book club book, Zapato Power~Freddie Ramos Takes Off, helped us use our imaginations to think about what it would be like to have super powers. This week we started our new SUPER Magazine~Color Crazy. In Math we have been working with 2-D and 3-D shapes. In one of the activities, we had to create different polygons with pattern blocks. The photos below show that each of us created a different polygon with four rhombuses.

COOPER'S HEXAGON



MAX'S NONAGON



KLAYTON'S HEPTAGON



MISSION STATEMENT

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FIRST AND SECOND GRADE NEWS

THIS MONTH

In Social Studies we have been honing our map skills. We learned that mapmakers have to use scale to make a map of a large area fit on a much smaller space. We then used scale to find the distance between places on a map of the state of New York. We have also been working on identifying the continents and oceans on a world map. In Science, we are looking to the sky for answers to why it looks different to people in different places as well as why it looks different to us at different times of the day. On Tuesday, we traced the shadow of a sign outside school every hour from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. We learned the shadow moved the same amount each hour because the earth spins at the same rate all the time...that is why we don't feel it spinning! We planned to check if the shadow was in the same place each hour the next day, but the weather had other plans~the snow washed away our chalk lines!

TRACING SHADOWS



LENT

We have been on a Lenten journey called The Jesus Tree. Using passages from the Gospel of Matthew, we reflect daily on the life of Jesus, challenging ourselves to Take It to God with prayer, almsgiving, and sacrifice inspired by His life. Each day we put our efforts on a Lenten Ladder. By the end of Lent, we will have climbed through 40 days of good deeds and prayer (remember Sundays don't count) so we will be ready for Easter!

SAVE THE DATE

One Friday, March 15th, it will be our turn to lead a Lenten Prayer Service. We will lead the Rosary, praying the Sorrowful Mysteries, after the morning Mass~about 8:40 am. We hope you can join us in prayer.

📖 Happy February!

As we finished off February with Saint Paul Miki, we certainly can continue to work on the challenges from the month. We knew our **Guardian Angel Prayer**. That definitely is a perfect prayer to pray often. The remaining challenges with Saint Paul Miki are to **embrace some small sufferings to offer to Jesus, to pray for the missions, and to read the story of St. Francis Xavier**. Those challenges fit so well as something to continue with during the church's liturgical season of Lent that we started mid-month as we pray, fast, and give alms. For the Lenten season, we are using a couple additional resources from Catholic Sprouts: the Jesus Tree according to Matthew, Cor Jesu, and Lent with the Martyrs. 3/4 loved creating their very own chain of martyrs that was nice decor for their desks.

The Mass remained as the important featured topic for our next few chapters in Our Life With Jesus Religion text. In our most recent chapter, we reviewed our belief that **Jesus Comes to Us in the Holy Eucharist**. How blessed and deeply loved we all are!

Math 3 explored strategies for using all four operations to solve problems with larger numbers. Coming up we have a unit on fractions, and March 4 we will join a 10 week national competition hosted by Splash Learn. **ELA 3/4** is moving on to adverbs. Adverbs are quite the modifier! We will be finding out how adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, other adverbs, or even whole sentences. For **Social Studies 3/4** we moved into the region of our home state of WI. What region do we live in again? In **Reading** after we finished up Owls in the Family, we did a quick review of The Trouble with Lent before starting Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing. For SS and Reading we were eager to accept invitations to the presentation by author/illustrator, Don Tate early in February, and Grace from Wausau East on Ag last Thursday 🐻🐻

🎵 Music 345678 started filling out their Sousa's March Mania Brackets. We will want to have our brackets finalized before the competition starts on March 4. 32 MARCHES. 4 WEEKS. 1 CHAMPION. Follow the 1st link to join in on the mania and the 2nd link to read about each march & access a youtube: <https://www.marineband.marines.mil/Educational/Sousas-March-Mania/>
https://www.marineband.marines.mil/Portals/175/Docs/March%20Mania/2024/march_mania_music_notes2024.pdf



St. Peter's Chains Prayer

© God, Who caused St. Peter, the apostle, to depart, loosed from his chains and unhurt, loose, we beg You, the chains of our sins, and graciously keep all evils far from us.

Bless us this Lent and give us the faith of the martyrs. We ask this in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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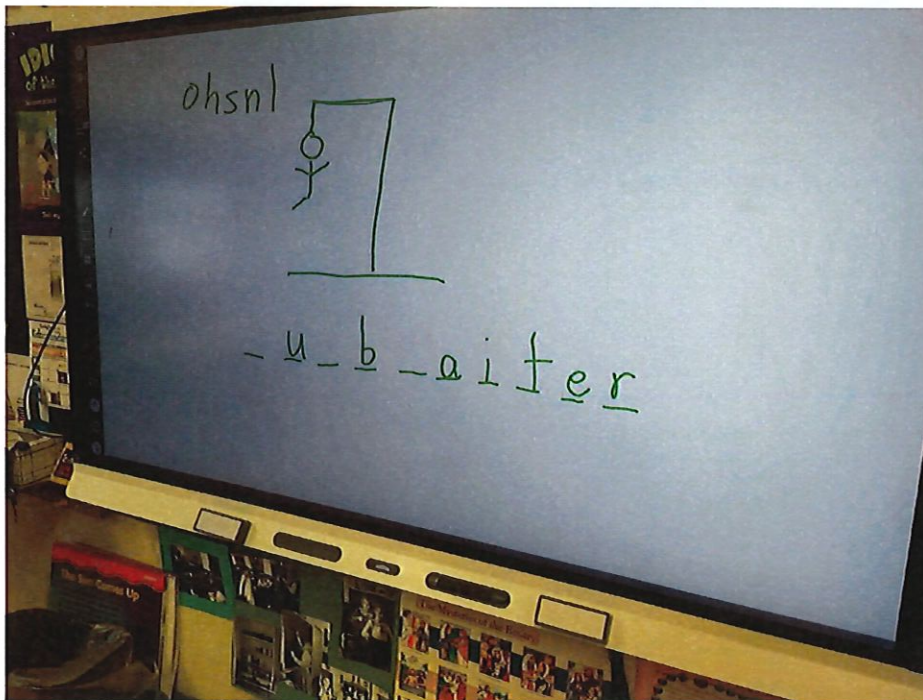
Above left--Don Tate presentation, Above right--Martyr Chains
Below--Check out those eyes on our owls!



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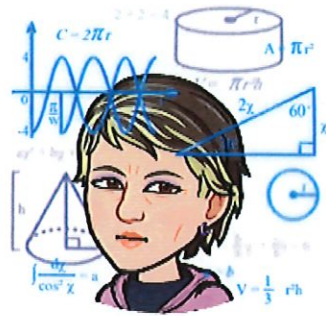


Top--Art award presented to Ruthie! 😊 CSW wagon float: We are called, we are chosen!
 Bottom left--SS hangman, do you know what Thomas Jefferson had in his home??
 Bottom right--Getting a closer look during the FFA/Ag presentation.



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Newsletter from Substitute2, Mrs. Marcis



Math 5 has been working with decimals and long division.

In ELA we are working on Expository Writing, ask your child to read their work. In Grammar we are finishing up Verbs and how many different ways to use them and change sentences around to make a better point or restate our point.

EXPOSITORY TEXT

tells people something.
It contains facts about
real people,
things, or
events.



7-8 Geography
Counties in Europe and Asia. Each student researched a country and shared with the class presenting their findings along with information on the country's government, sites to see, languages spoken, and religious groups.

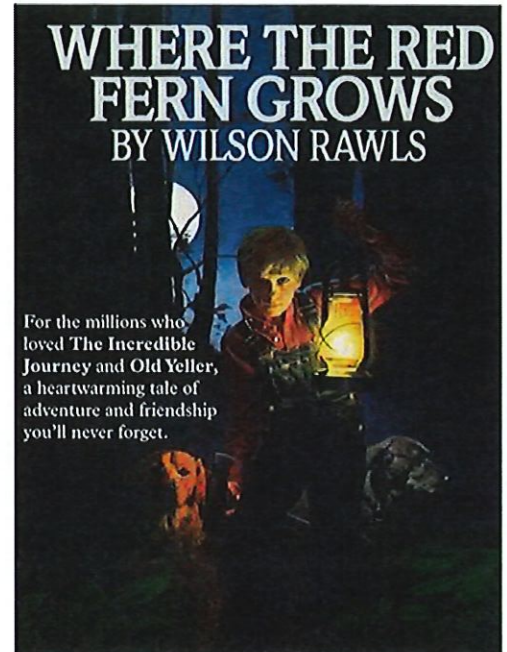
Clap *Clap*
Clap *Clap* *Clap*



5-6 Social Studies we just finished studying China and the Dynasties. There aren't any plurals or verb tenses in Chinese which may make English easier if we had that.

Reading/AR

We have been reading *Where The Red Fern Grows*. We are nearly finished with the book and will soon be going into discussions about the book as a whole. It also has been assigned that your child has a reading sheet that they have to fill out 4 times a week outside of the school day. We are in week 3-4 now. If you have not seen it please ask your child as it is worth points. It also is worth asking your child about the books they are reading as by being able to teach/talk about their book has been proven to help them with comprehension and remembering of what they have been doing long term.

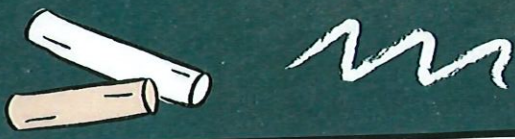


School Newsletter

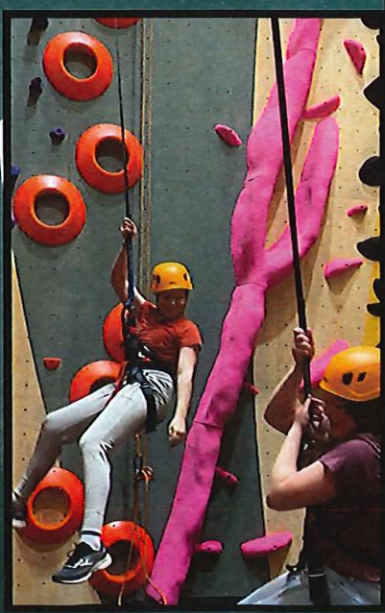


This Month In 7/8 Homeroom

February was another busy month for the middle school! Not only did they celebrate Catholic Schools Week, the students also went on TWO field trips! The end of the month brings an introduction to the Forensics program and increase in faith as we continue Lent. Keep working hard, students!



Camp Forest Springs



- ### Upcoming School Activities
- Lenten Prayer Services
 - Forensics Program
 - Saint of the Month

Your paragraph

Middle School Subjects

Students continue to work hard in Math. Sixth grade is learning about multiplying and dividing with decimals. 7th will soon take a test on positive and negative number calculations. 8th graders have been learning about functional relationships. In Science, 5/6 grade students have started a new unit on the water cycle. The 7/8 graders also started a new unit. They are learning about solids liquids and gases. In religion, the students are learning about the 7 sacraments.



Students testing a salad dressing recipe. Notice the 2 opinions: thumbs up and thumbs down.



Woodson History Museum and Yawkey House Museum

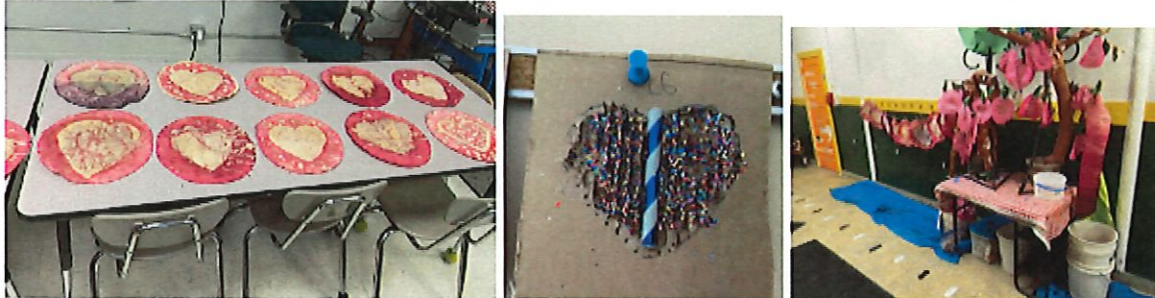
A Note From Ms. Wozny

I know I keep saying it, but it is true: I'm really proud of the middle school students! They continue to grow in maturity and respect, especially when they represent St. John's School out in public. On several occasions (Mass at Newman, Camp Forest Springs, History museum), I saw the students make good, respectful decisions! I see more field trips in our future!



Hello from Art

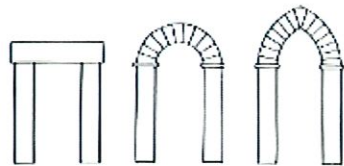
In January and early February, art students made all kinds of Valentine's Day cards for Veterans and learned about the Batik process while making decorations for both the couples dinner and the father daughter dance. Thank You students for sharing your talent for these special events!



Since lent also began on Valentine's Day, older students (grades 3/4/5/6/7/8) spent a day with ashes in the form of charcoal learning how to draw a landscape.



Currently, grade 3-8 students are creating paper collaged decorations out of black cardstock paper and various colors cut from magazine pages. These are then glued down and outlined with sharpie markers to mimic the look of stained glass windows with an Easter theme of their own design. Not only will these be a nice touch for upcoming Holy Week decorations down in the parish cafeteria, but the project is also meant to reinforce learning about how, over time, the post and lintel arch of the stone age gave way to the rounded arch of the Roman time which in turn developed into the pointed arch of the Gothic Era. What does the pointed arch of the Gothic Era have to do with Stained Glass Windows? Everything! Those pointed arches and the flying buttresses (those wall supports on the exterior of the cathedrals) are what allowed builders of the time to make higher ceilings and thus the larger open areas between the supports for all those glorious windows.



Meanwhile, also contributing to Holy Week decorations, students in **grades 4K-2** made collages of a different kind out of all sorts of torn green magazine paper put in the shape of the palm branches people used to honor Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. They learned the word "Hosanna!" and could add this to their collages. Soon I hope to hear them shout it as we celebrate this holy day!

Blessings, Mrs. Wierza



P.E. NEWSLETTER

Middle School



Middle school is finishing up their gymnastics unit and are excited to be learning all about weight lifting in the next week or two.

Elementary School



Elementary school has been learning so much in their jump rope unit. They are exceptionally excited about their endurance club challenge.

Preschool



Preschool has been learning more throwing and catching skills along with jumping. They loved the week we played parachute games!