

ST. PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

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John F. Corry, Principal
November 30, 2018



Principal's News

Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving! The month of November always seems like the shortest month, at least it seems that way. Most of our after-school programs are up and running now. And speaking of short months, during the month of December we will only be in school for three weeks. The last day of school before **Christmas Break** is on **Friday, December 21**.



We begin the season of Advent this weekend with the **Blessing of the Advent Wreath** on **Monday, December 3** in the school auditorium at 8:15. Beginning that week, be prepared for many events leading up to Christmas. Teachers in classrooms may be preparing students on everything from the Christmas Concert to writing cards to members of our Military Service throughout the world.

Continued Principal News...

Please be on the look-out as well for **2nd Quarter Progress Reports** going home on **Monday, December 10**. Once again I may ask that parents sign-off on these reports and send them back in with your child. Teachers informed me that several parents didn't even review or sign-off on either of their child's progress reports last month or 1st Quarter Report Cards that went home a few weeks ago or even asked about them for that matter. Then when it comes May/June, these same parents want to know why their child is failing? It's too late then. Please take the time now.



Hopefully we get a good turnout at our **Jingle & Mingle** night out on **Friday, December 14** from **6:00-9:00** at the **Imperial Room** at **One Rhodes Place, Cranston**. There will be raffles along with live & silent auctions (for example: a pair of New England Patriot Tickets will be auctioned off!). Food and drinks will be available too! Tickets are \$25 each. If you are interested which I hope you are, please contact *Erika Monahan* at 338-4988 or email her at emonahan@stpaulcranston.org All proceeds go to St. Paul School!



Our **Christmas Concert** is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 19** beginning at **6:30**. Students have been practicing with Mr. Gonzalez, our Music Teacher for the past month or so. Hopefully we don't have to contend with the weather that night. In the thirteen years that I have been here, we only had the show cancelled once because of a snow storm. If the weather is bad, we will certainly contact you ahead of time.

And last but not least, we will be having **Santa Claus** visiting St. Paul School on **Friday, December 21st**, the last day before we begin our Christmas Break. Students from Pre-K 3 to Grade 8 (Group picture) will be having their pictures taken with Santa that day. At the end of the school day on that Friday at 2:00, **Fr. Young** will address students in the auditorium with a **Christmas Prayer**. Dismissal will follow immediately after.



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Pre-K 3 & 4 News



Happy November! We had a quick month with a lot of learning about being thankful and grateful for all of our blessings that God has given us.

Thank you to all of the families who made donations to our feast, as well as those families who were able to donate their time to help serve our feast! Your help was all greatly appreciated. We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family. As we head into December, we are looking forward to celebrating the season with our friends and family. We will learn about the season of Advent, preparing our hearts for the birth of Baby Jesus. We will also learn about how different countries celebrate Christmas. Please be sure to check our class calendar for the special events we will be having for the month of December!



Kindergarten News

This month in Kindergarten, we started the month off with an awards ceremony honoring the children with perfect attendance. We talked about Veteran's Day and who Veterans were and what they did and are doing for our country. Mr. Boie came in to talk to the students about what he does as a Marine. We also made cards for him to take back to his fellow Marines.

Towards the end of the month we celebrated Thanksgiving together at our feast. We had lunch all together in the auditorium; it was delicious and fun! We had so many amazing helpers that donated food and supplies needed to make it such a successful event as well as helpers to help pass out food and make sure the students were happy. Not only was the feast a special day, but the whole month was because we chose, as a class, something we were all

thankful for each day of the month and posted it on our door. It was a great reminder about all that we have been blessed with.

We started a big Social Studies project called Me on The Map that students enjoyed. They learned about exactly where they live; the town, the state, the country, the continent, and the planet. They put together a nice book to bring home to their families about all they learned. We also celebrated our 50th day of school this month! Students (and teachers) couldn't believe we have already been in school for 50 days! We counted to fifty by 2s, 5s, and 10s. We also colored pictures of ourselves to show what we thought we would look like and what we would be doing when we were 50 years old.

Grade 1 News

This month flew by in first grade! We have been making tremendous progress with our marble jar and are so close to earning free recess. We finished learning about addition in chapter 2 of our math series and will be learning about subtraction next. We began writing workshop this month and have been working very hard

learning how to write properly.

Since Veterans day was this month, we wrote letters thanking all the men and women who have served and are continuing to serve for our country.

With it being the month of Thanksgiving, we spoke a lot about the things we were grateful for and how God blesses us with everything we have.

Before Thanksgiving break, the ELF program had a Thanksgiving feast in the auditorium. We had so much fun eating and spending time with other students and teachers!



Grade 2 News

Second grade has been very busy this past month. The students made cards for the Veterans that live at VA Hospital and Nursing Home. We were also able to share the play "The Strongest One" to the school. Students designed their costumes with Mrs. Liu in art class. They also created a song which

they sang at the end. It was so great to be able to invite parents and families to our class so we could show them all the hard work our class put into our production.

We also learned about the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag tribe. The students were excited to make special headpieces for the Thanksgiving feast. Thanks again for all the donations you provided to make the feast a success!

In Religion, we have been talking about the word *Eucharist* which means "to give thanks". We have shared different ways we can thank God the Father for His many gifts and blessings. Students also made a beautiful "Thankful Journal" during the days leading up to Thanksgiving. They even created their own prayer! I'm so proud of my students!

Please remember that all donations for our "Art Lovers Basket" are due by Friday, December 7. Thanks for all your support. God bless!



Grade 3 News

November was full of many activities. We began the month discussing saints and all their wonderful traits.

Then we made a saint person and listed some of those traits. We also decorated the room with cornucopias, pilgrims, Indians, and turkeys, which we wrote what we are thankful for on the feathers.

We even made a potato turkey centerpiece to take home!

In Math, we finished our subtraction unit and have started practicing our multiplication facts. In our reading program, we learned about compound words, consonant digraphs, words with 3-letter blends, and possessive and plural-possessive nouns. Along with our daily writing, we wrote friendly letters and how to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. We even got to make one following the directions we wrote and ate it during snack time!

In Science we are learning about the water cycle and clouds. Soon we will be able

to identify all the types of clouds. We even made a cloud in a jar!!

In Social Studies we focused on the pilgrims and Native Americans and compared their way of life, including their environment, food, houses and clothing. We decorated Native American headbands and vests and wore them to our Thanksgiving Feast. The feast was a big success thanks to all the parents who donated food and drinks and helped that day. Thanks again.

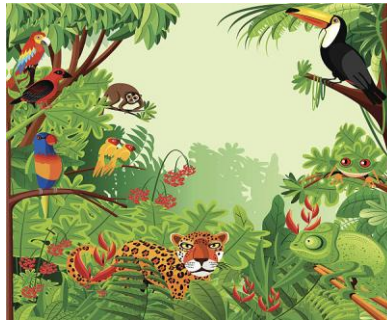


We began practicing every day for our Nativity presentation. We can't wait to share it with you on December 19th at our Christmas concert.

Grade 4 News

Hope everyone had a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving! Our school year is going very well and the children are working very hard.

In Science, they've just completed their diorama ecosystems. Each student had to choose between the desert, tundra, forest, tropical rainforest, and the grasslands. They did research and then presented their final project to Grade 5. I'm very proud of all of their hard work.



In Social Studies, we've just begun our unit on Colonial America. The class has begun history pockets based upon the colonies. Our first pocket discusses the introduction to colonial life and then heads into the first settlements. We are hoping to have a field trip in the Spring based on Colonial America. Excited for a busy December!

Grade 5 News

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving! It truly is a wonderful reminder to be thankful for our many blessings and to live each day with a grateful heart.

Grade 5 will be hosting the school mass Friday, December 7th. This ties in beautifully with our religion classes as we are learning about the parts of the mass.

As we continue to review the basic operations, our main focus is now division. We will review and practice each step and incorporate this knowledge into solving word problems.

We are in the midst of a science investigation involving yeast and various liquids. We will be learning about single-celled organisms, sugars and carbon dioxide.

In our study of the foundations of democracy, we just held a "town meeting" to reinforce what we have learned about authority.



And finally, we are collecting items for our "Deck the Halls" Christmas themed basket for the Jingle & Mingle Night. Any donations are appreciated!

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Middle School News

Sixth Grade News

In sixth grade Science, the students have finished chapter 9 which dealt with classification; the students had a test on that chapter the Wednesday before leaving for Thanksgiving vacation. Upon their return the students began chapter 14, which deals with animals and their behavior.

In Vocabulary, the students have finished unit six and had a quiz on that unit last week, they will begin the unit review which encompasses units 4,5,and 6. The students will take the unit review test the first week back from vacation. As previously mentioned you can follow your students progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

With Christmas fast approaching, the sixth grade

Math class is hard at work finishing a section on Median and Mode.

The sixth grade Religion class is currently studying the composition of the Liturgical year beginning with (you guessed it!) Advent.

In grade 6 Social Studies, we have been learning about the exciting history, culture, geography and religions of Ancient India. Our unit will end with an exam, followed by some Indian cuisine.

In grade 6 Literature, we have been reading "The Runaway King". Students have been making predictions, solving problems, and are eager to find out just how King Jaron will avoid a war with Avenia.

Seventh Grade News

In seventh grade Science, the students just began a new chapter dealing with climate and weather, their first quiz in this chapter was the week they returned from vacation.

In Vocabulary the students have finished unit 6 and will have the unit review test on sections 4,5,and 6 sometime this week. As previously mentioned you can follow your students progress in

Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

The seventh grade Math class is moving on to a study of two step equations.

In the seventh grade Religion class, students are beginning a chapter focusing on the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, Jesus Christ.

In grade 7 Social Studies, we have been looking at how each of the 13 colonies were founded and settled. We have discussed the push and pull factors of immigration, and have looked at how the royal colonies, charter colonies, and proprietary colonies differed.

In grade 7 Literature, we have started reading Charles Dicken's classic, "A Christmas Carol."

Eighth Grade News

In eighth grade Science the students have finished chapter 19 which dealt with the formation of the solar system. Prior to leaving for Thanksgiving vacation the students researched various planets and presented their findings in a power point to their classmates. Upon returning from vacation we

began a new chapter dealing with the universe.

In Vocabulary, the students recently took a quiz on unit 6 and will have the unit review test on sections 4,5,and 6 this week. As previously mentioned you can follow your students progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

The eighth grade Math class has completed a section on equations and is beginning a section on the simplifying of algebraic expressions by combining like terms.

The eighth grade Religion class has started a chapter on the fourth, fifth, and sixth commandments which are the foundation of our honoring life and creation as followers of Jesus Christ.

In grade 8 Social Studies, we have finished our unit on Whaling, and are now studying the women's movements and the abolitionist movements in the antebellum United States. Students have been showing mature deference as we discuss issues such as racism, sexism, and intersectionality within the contexts of then and now.

In grade 8 Literature, we are nearing the end of Louisa

May Alcott's "Little Women." Students have grown to know Meg, Jo, Beth, Amy, and Laurie, and are eager to read what choices these five very different people will make as the story concludes. On December 12, we will be celebrating the end of the novel with an all-day "Little Women binge-watch", in which the class will view the full PBS mini-series based on the book, as well as the 1994 film. Students are invited to dress-down that day, and we will be having Christmas cookies as well. The assignment following this day will be asking students to critically compare and contrast the series, the film, and the novel.

