

# ST. PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

www.saintpaulschoolcranston.org

John F. Corry, Principal  
February 28, 2019



## Principal's News

Well I guess Winter has arrived!

As we prepare for the March winds, and with clocks springing ahead on March 10th and Spring officially beginning on March 20th, I've already had families asking me when the last day of school will be. I realize families are already starting to plan vacations and summer camps. As it stands right now, and with having already factored snow days in (just in case we get a snowstorm next month which is very possible), *our last day of school will be on Friday, June 14th.*

Speaking of summer camp, although we have had summer camp in the past (we didn't have it last year), we are not planning to have it as well this year just in case anyone was wondering. Due to not only low turnout and finding staff to work it, we will be having some work done this summer in our cafeteria and bathrooms downstairs which could cause some issues with students being here.

As you know already, our **Registration Forms** went home earlier this month for the 2019-2020 school year. Several families have already sent in their forms along with many new families for our Pre-K 3 & 4 yr. old programs.

## Continued Principal News...

Even if you don't have the **Registration Fee of \$150** at this time, please send in your registration form anyway. Families can make the payment by April 1st-just let Mrs. Keane know.

By the way, if I hadn't of already mentioned it let me say it one more time to everyone. Mrs. Keane is now the full-time Office Assistant from 7:00-3:00. Mrs. Yattaw will now be covering Art classes on both Monday and Friday's. She will also be doing after-school Enrichment Art as well on Monday's from 2:30-3:30 until the end of April. Mrs. Yattaw has a Degree in Art from the Rhode Island School of Design and had helped us several years ago with Art classes-good to have her back!

As I have said many times before, if you are looking for financial aid for your child for the next school year, please apply to [www.factsmgt.com](http://www.factsmgt.com) now. It only takes about 20-25 minutes to apply at a cost of \$35. You could receive anywhere from \$600 to \$1,200 of aid towards your child's tuition if you qualify. If you're asking for Parish Aid, this has to be done first.

With **Ash Wednesday** and the **beginning of Lent on March 6th**, we will not be having our regular 1st Friday of the month Mass on Friday, March 1st. Grade 8 will be hosting the Mass on Ash Wednesday. We will also be starting each and every Thursday beginning on March 7th until April 11th **Stations of The Cross** at 1:30 at St. Paul Church. All are welcome to attend.

**No School on Friday, March 29th**, it's a Teacher Professional Day. Teachers will be working on our upcoming New England and Association of Schools Colleges Accreditation (NEASC) visit next October.



March 6<sup>th</sup>  
Mass at 9:00  
Hosted by Grade 8



Every Thursday  
during Lent  
at 1:30  
Starting March 7th



### Pre-K 3 & 4 News

Happy February! We hope you all enjoyed the winter vacation. Although it was a short month, it was also a great time for learning. We learned about the groundhog and how shadows are created. We also learned a little about how our hearts work, and how big they are. We enjoyed talking about Valentine's Day and exchanging our valentines with our friends. We even talked about how much God loves us and how we can be good friends to each other. Lastly, we learned a little more about staying healthy and keeping our teeth healthy too! Pre-K 4 even turned their dramatic play into a vet office! Thank you to all who donated to our birthday bag project! We are excited for March, where we will talk about opposites, St. Patrick's Day, kites, wind and rainbows!



### Kindergarten News

This month in Kindergarten we started off by celebrating Groundhog Day. Students made predictions about whether they thought Phil would see his shadow or not. We made a graph to show our class prediction results. We continued learning about our Polar animals in Science and finished up with learning about penguins. We learned about penguins feathers and how they help to keep penguins dry and warm. We did a fun science experiment where we colored a penguin using crayons and then sprayed the paper with water to see how the water bounces off the waxy paper. We also had waffle races in the auditorium! In Kindergarten, we celebrated our 100th day this month! Students made shirts and brought in 100 items! We even got a look at how we would look when we were all 100 years old! It was a great day of counting and fun. This month we also learned more about love and how much God loves us. We created a "map" of our hearts and drew all the people and things in our life that we love.

### First Grade News

We have had a lot of fun this month in first grade! We had 3 birthday parties for our classmates and also had a Valentine's Day celebration. We celebrated the 100th day of school on February 4th and participated in many fun activities. Dr. Seuss's birthday is on Saturday, March 2nd and since he is one of our classrooms

favorite authors, we celebrated his birthday all week. We played many games during centers and read various books about Dr. Seuss, all in honor of his special day. In our ELF program, we got to send out our birthday bags that we created, to the food pantry.

Aside from all of the fun we have been having, we have also done a lot of learning! In math, we finished learning how to add and subtract up to 20 and will begin to learn about Geometry next. In Religion, we learned how the church welcomes new members and the special ways we celebrate Baptism. In Social Studies, we learned about two historical people, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and George Washington, and how they helped our country. Lastly in Spanish, Ms. Pena taught us how to say the colors of the rainbow and also how to count to 20!

### Second Grade News



Second grade has been working very hard. In Religion, we have been learning about Lent and students have been busy preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They have been learning how to examine their conscience by using the Ten Commandments. The students preparing for this sacrament will make it on Saturday, March 23rd at 1pm in St. Paul Church. We will keep these students and their families in our prayers as they grow in their faith. Our class have been learning about adjectives in their writing. They have been practicing adjectives that show

number, shape, and size. In Math, they have been practicing their addition and subtraction skills by adding money amounts. We continue to review regrouping skills everyday. All students are encouraged to practice their math skills daily. Websites like [www.mathplayground.com](http://www.mathplayground.com), [www.ABCya.com](http://www.ABCya.com), and prodigy math games are very helpful. Thanks to all my families for everything you do for your children. May you and your family continue to grow closer to Jesus everyday.

### Third Grade News



On the first day of the month we hosted monthly mass. Everyone did an awesome job! The Superintendent of Catholic Schools was in attendance and was very impressed with the students.

This month went by quickly and was packed with many activities to celebrate the 100th day of school and Valentine's Day. We wrote about a special person in our lives and thought of heartfelt acts of kindness. We wrote these acts on a heart that we decorated and placed on the bulletin board.

In Reading, we read biographies and non-fiction texts. We learned about text features and practiced finding and identifying each feature in many books. In Science, we finished our unit on Energy. We also started practicing cursive, which we really enjoy.

In Social Studies, we continued to learn about the three types of communities, rural, suburban and urban. We also celebrated Black History. We watched videos, read books and passages, and completed activities involving famous African Americans, such as, Ruby Bridges, Jesse Owens, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman and several others.

In Math, we are learning about different types of graphs and how to record, compare and plot data. We also continue to practice our multiplication and division facts. We will have our first Math Bee next month!!



### Fourth Grade News

I hope everyone had a wonderful February vacation! As we head into March we are continuing to be very busy.

In science, we've just completed a major unit on the systems of the body. We now have begun discussing weather patterns and hurricanes and tornadoes. The class has created their own bulletin board in the classroom called Colossal Twisters, they've added facts, information, and amazing imagery. This unit also crosses curriculum as we've just completed a story "The Storm", which focuses on how a young boy handles an approaching tornado as he's alone on his families farm.

In Social Studies, we are

completing our colonies history pockets and have begun a unit on the South. The class has been assigned Native American tribes from the South and will begin this week researching information and then presenting our projects to the class. Looking forward to a great Spring!

### Fifth Grade News

Welcome back from February vacation. I hope you all had a wonderful week full of rest and relaxation.

We will begin reading a new book called A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park. It is the story of a twelve-year-old boy growing up in Ch'ulp'o, a twelfth-century Korean town.

We have also begun creating our own books which will be sent out to a publishing company at the end of March. Please be on the lookout for an envelope and form, which will be sent home at the beginning of March. If all the forms are returned with a parent/guardian signature, it will guarantee that each student will receive a free copy of his/her bound book!

We are continuing our work with fractions and taking our knowledge of LCD to help us add and subtract fractions.

In science, we will be focusing on the digestive system and wrapping up our study of the human body. Soon, we will be moving on to studying about ecosystems.





## Middle School News

### Sixth Grade News

**Grade 6 Social Studies:** Students have just completed their unit on Ancient China (chapter 5). Our next unit will be on Ancient Greece - home of the Parthenon, mythology, and the Olympics. The next time you and your child are watching and reading about sports, lead a discussion about the Olympics.

**Grade 6 Literature:** We have read up to chapter 25 of Jennifer Nielsen's *The Shadow Throne*, in which King Jaron of Carthya is trying to protect his country from the combined forces of Avenia and the Pirates. Ask your child whether they think Jaron is a good leader, and why. Ask your child if they think Jaron and Amarinda should honor their betrothal and get married.

#### Grade 6

**Vocab:** In Vocabulary, the students had their Unit Review test on units 7,8, and 9 before vacation. The students will be starting Unit 10 when they come back from break. As previously mentioned you can follow your students progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

**Science-** In science, the students have been working hard on their science fair projects. They have just handed in their research paper for their project and will be starting running tests this week. The

science fair will be on March 22. Also, the students will be starting a unit on owls.

### Seventh Grade News

**Grade 7 Social Studies:** In Social Studies, we are reviewing the events leading up to the American Revolution. Please ask your child about **Natural Rights**, and ask them what is considered the **key issue behind the taxation of the colonies**. Ask them about consent, and why the colonies were unable to consent to taxation.

The ideals of revolutionary America still play a major role in shaping the society we live in. For example: Americans still exercise their right to protest laws they view as unfair. Citizens have the right to present their views freely. Lastly, Citizens have the right vote, and elect representatives.

**Grade 7 Literature:** In Literature, we have just finished reading "Puritan Girl: Mohawk Girl", by John Demos, which recounts the true story of the capture of Eunice Williams in 1704 by Mohawk Native Americans, and her assimilation into the tribe. Ask your child if you think Eunice should have returned to Massachusetts, or if she should have stayed in Canada.

When we return from break, we will be reading "The Color of my Words" by Lynn Joseph, which is set in the Dominican Republic. In this story, the protagonist witnesses the denial of Natural Rights by the government, including the freedom of speech. Ask your child what free speech means to them. Share with your child any information or stories you have about the Dominican Republic.

#### Seventh Grade

**Vocab-**In Vocabulary, the students had their Unit Review test on units 7,8, and 9 before vacation. The students will be starting Unit 10

when they come back from break. As previously mentioned you can follow your students progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

**Grade 7 Science-** In science, the students just finished learning about the uses of water in the world. They will start to learn about how water is polluted and ways to prevent it. In addition, the students have been working hard on their science fair projects. They have just handed in their research paper for their project and will be starting running tests this week. The science fair will be on March 22.

### Eighth Grade News

#### Grade 8 Vocab:

In Vocabulary, the students had their Unit Review test on units 7,8, and 9 before vacation. The students will be starting Unit 10 when they come back from break. As previously mentioned you can follow your students progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

**Grade 8 Science:** In science, the students are studying Newton's Laws of motion through hands-on activities. Also, the students have been working hard on their science fair projects. They have just handed in their research paper for their project and will be starting running tests this week. The science fair will be on March 22.

#### Grade 8 Social Studies:

In Social Studies, we have been looking at the Civil War. Ask your child to tell you three causes of the Civil War. The war itself introduced modern military innovations such as railroads, the telegraph, and conscription. The Civil war permanently changed the nation by abolishing slavery, strengthening the power of the federal government, and putting the burden of an unprecedented death-toll on the fractured nation.

**Each student has been assigned a specific battle to research, along with a topic of their choosing, and have been assigned a Google Slides presentation due March 1st.**

Ask your child what their battle assignment is, when the battle took place, and who won the battle. Also, ask your child what their topic is, and why they chose that topic.

**Grade 8 Literature:** In Literature, we have been reading *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain. Some essential questions during this unit are: How can one influence positive changes in social behavior? What prejudices are people taught? What is a person's responsibility towards his or her actions? How are people products of their society?

**Ask your child if they think Huck Finn is racist. Why or why not?**

The sixth grade **Math** class is beginning a unit the addition and subtraction of fractions as the seventh grade prepares for a chapter test on a unit covering exponents, factors, and fractions. The eighth grade class continues to explore the wonders of slope intercept form.

In **Religion**, the sixth grade class continues its' study of the reign of Solomon and the impact he had on the development of the nation of Israel. Jesus in His role as a physical and spiritual healer is the topic of discussion in the seventh grade focusing on our responsibility to act in a similar way. The eighth grade class is learning that Monasticism not only had effect on the Church but would impact social thought from the Middle Ages to Modern times.