



# Knights News

100 Years 1919—2019  
November 2020 ♣ Volume 2020-2021 Issue 3

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

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- November 1, Sunday—Daylight Savings Time ends
- November 2, Monday—Bishop's Day Off—No School
- November 5, Thursday—Confessions
- November 6, Friday—First Friday Eucharistic Adoration 7:00 p.m.
- November 11, Wednesday—Veterans Day
- November 16, Monday—Progress Reports
- November 18—Faculty Meeting
- November 25, 26 and 27, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday—Thanksgiving Vacation

## A Message from Father Gary Brethour

This is a favorite time of year for me. Crisp fall weather. Football. And some more important special feasts and events.

Halloween, Oct. 31, was a huge event for me as a child. My friends and I got a real workout running from house to house for hours to gather as much loot as we could. It was also a time with family as we prepared our costumes around the kitchen table. The memories of the time and laughter with friends back then still makes me smile.

Now years later, I still enjoy seeing the children laughing as they ring the doorbell. I marvel at their creativity regarding their costumes. But I also now realize the importance of praising and adoring God and honoring the saints whom God gives us as role models. Give glory to God with your activities and costumes. Do not dwell on or give Satan and the other fallen angels undue attention. Don't try to dress up like a demon. We should want nothing to do with them. Rather, get to know the saints and make them your special friends.

Sunday, Nov. 1, is All Saints Day. Give God the glory by remembering the special friends of God who so wisely and faithfully served and adored God. Learn from the Saints and imitate their lives. And of course ask for their intercession on our behalf.

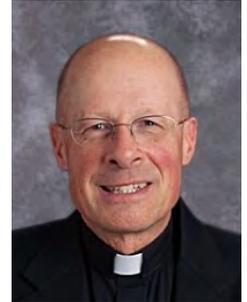
November 2 is All Souls Day. This day has special significance to us as we have so many family members and friends who have died. All Souls Day becomes even more profound as we realize **our** time on this earth is limited and we think about the last things: death, judgement, Heaven and Hell.

I assume most of us will experience Purgatory so as to be purified and prepared for Heaven because we died in the state of Sanctifying Grace, but we were not yet rid of pride and selfishness, etc.

Pray for the Poor Souls in Purgatory. They are called "poor" because they cannot pray for themselves. But we can pray for them and God in His abundant mercy allows this to be a part of their purification. (Sorry if this is a bad explanation. I can easily refer you to some excellent books and articles too long for this newsletter.)

November 3 is Election Day. A friend sent me a thought provoking article from Crisis Magazine, (Oct. 27, 2020), written by Fr. Peter Stravinskis, entitled: "For Catholics, There's Only One Choice."

This article makes it abundantly clear to me the need for Catholic schools and a well formed conscience. Continued on Page 3



Go to <https://www.stpatsmccook.com/st--patrick-elementary-school> for Newsletters, Menus, Calendars, Policies and more.



“James Madison, the primary author of our Constitution asserted: ‘We have staked the whole future of our political constitutions upon the capacity of each of ourselves to govern ourselves according to the moral principles of the Ten Commandments.’ John Adams declared: ‘The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: It connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity.’ A century later, Calvin Coolidge reaffirmed that truth when he wrote: ‘The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country.’ But isn’t that exactly where we are – ‘faith in these teachings’ practically gone from the public square?”

Fr. Stravinskas comments regarding the necessity of voting for candidates who are truly pro-life.

“And what about ‘all the other good positions’ a candidate may have, even if lacking in that one area? St. John Paul II, in *Christifideles Laici*, could not be clearer:”

“Above all, the common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights – for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture – is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination.”

“Following on Pope John Paul’s assertion, the bishops leave no doubt about Catholic social teaching on abortion and euthanasia: ‘The direct and intentional destruction of innocent human life from the moment of conception until natural death is always wrong and is not just one issue among many. It must always be opposed.’”

November 26<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. My parents gave our family a great role model. If it was possible, our Thanksgiving Days started with attending Mass at our home parish.

By attending Mass we adore, praise, thank and give glory to God in the way Jesus gave us when he fulfilled the Passover meal with what we term “the Last Supper.” Now we call this sacred event the Eucharistic Liturgy, or the Mass. (The Greek word for thankfulness is “eucharisteo.”)

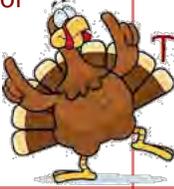
During the Eucharistic prayer the bread and wine are transubstantiated into the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. The Mass comes to a high point at the conclusion of the Eucharistic prayer when on our behalf the priest prays reciting or singing: “Through Him, and with Him, and in Him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.” And we all respond with what is called the great “AMEN.”

The blessing of living in the state of Sanctifying Grace is we can and should pray like this, and live this life in all we think, say and do “through Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor is yours Almighty Father.” AMEN.

Keep this in mind as we celebrate Halloween, All Saints Day, and All Souls day. And even when we vote.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 No School— Bishop's Day Off 	3	4	5 Confessions	6 First Friday Adoration  Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 	7
8	9	10	11 	12	13	14
15	16 Progress Reports 	17 Girls Basket- ball vs. South- west—Bartley in old gym 2:30 p.m. 	18 Faculty Meet- ing	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 No School 	26—Thanksgiving Thanksgiving Break No School	27 No School	28
29	30					



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE BY MRS. REBECCA REDL

All Saints Day and All Souls Day are November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. On All Saints Day, we celebrate the lives of people who have died and are in Heaven. All Souls Day, we the Church pray for and remember the faithfully departed throughout the entire year. What an awesome privilege we have to pray for our loved ones we have lost and our saints who spent their lives serving God.

Prayer is a great responsibility. How do we keep focused on prayer when life has so many distractions? On the website, *Holy Spirit Interactive*, it listed some ideas on focusing our thoughts on God and prayer. Try it out; see if it works for you. Prayer will transform your day and make it fruitful and fulfilling.

-God likes to converse with you the way you like to converse with others: He doesn't want you to rattle on and hardly notice him.

-Prayer is made of ACTS.  
A=Adoration, C=Contrition, T=Thanksgiving, and S=Supplication.

-Start by remembering God is present and telling him in your own words why you believe in Him, hope in Him, and love Him.

-Read a brief passage from the Gospels, and picture it happening. You can even imagine Christ sitting with you.

-If you get "stuck," you can slowly repeat the words of a simple prayer like: "My God, I adore your divine greatness from the depths of my littleness."

November is also the month of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for you, the parents of our students, for entrusting us with the education of your children. I am thankful for the extraordinary staff and teachers who work here. I am thankful for the chance to be a part of your students' education, to see their triumphs and trials, and witness God's goodness in everyone's gifts and efforts. May God bless you this November.

Let's keep our students hydrated—please remember to send a water bottle to school with your child. Drinking fountains are available for refills throughout the day.



A reminder: Masks are required. Please send your child to school with a mask each day. The masks should be washed frequently.





MRS. JENIFER JACOBS  
LIBRARIAN

## CARVE

Pumpkins, Turkeys, Crafts and goodies. What are you “carving”? What are you “creating”? That is the question. Carving by definition is to cut in order to produce an object, design or inscription. Think about that in terms of Gods “craft”. To think about it blows the mind, or maybe I’m just easily blown away. :-) You be the judge.

In Genesis 1:1-4 it says, in the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. The story of creation moves on from there and becomes more amazing as it does.

Though we could never compare to this amazing work, we too are indeed making a story, creating and carving every day. It is difficult, and tedious at times. I’ll admit to not giving it much thought as a child, a teen, or young adult, but with everything we do or don’t do, we make a mark in our carving! I know my “craft” will have mistakes in it. I know that it won’t be perfect, but I hope there is beauty in it too. I hope with God’s grace I have touched a heart or two. I also hope that everyone realizes the difference they make in this world, good or bad. I know there is beauty and wonder in all of us. I pray that we will all strive to be ourselves and understand that “craft” is something unique and amazing. That we try to see Jesus in the eyes of all people!!

This Thanksgiving be thankful and giving and maybe ask yourself this, when you face Jesus at the end of this life what do you want your story to be? How do you want your carving to look?



### A NOTE from Fr. Brethour

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your wonderful cooperation as we make adjustments and adapt to keep school open during this Covid-19 situation.

Thank you for your participation with our scaled down Fall Festival. It was a great success!! The Auction profit was approx. \$11,000. The Drive through burgers and pie event brought in approx. \$7,000. Wow. It could not have been such a fun and successful time without our coordinators, workers, donors, patrons and buyers. Thank you one and all.

And thank you for your cooperation regarding masks and all the rest. Area health officials are telling school administrators during our online meetings that the spread is not so much at school, but outside of school time at family events, etc. So, please be prudent. Keep living your life, but be careful. Those precautionary measures do help.

We hear from some schools that they are getting “blow back” regarding school precautions. (I suspect this is especially true regarding athletics.) Remember, we are here to educate and form your children. We will do our best and we thank you for giving us your best. Thanks be to God, so far things are going pretty smoothly. Thank you for your help to make this odd time, a pretty good time. God bless you.

MRS. LARA STEWART  
KINDERGARTEN



During October we celebrated a birthday for Klarcy! This month we celebrate Lily, Quint and Aiden! In religion we are learning about the parts of the church and different members of the church.

In reading we are still working on recognizing and identifying the letters. PLEASE help your child practice them! By the end of the first quarter your child is expected to know all the letters. We will be diving into reading so be watching for the sight words to practice. Our unit will be about community workers. We continue to work hard on writing the letters using lines and spaces, top to bottom and left to right.

Math has focused on the reading, writing, and building numbers. By the end of this quarter our goal is to count to 60. In Science we learned about the seasons, focusing on Fall. We had a fun project learning about why leaves change colors and how they are different sizes, shapes and colors. We loved doing leaf rubbings!





# Knights News





October just flew by in Frist Grade – maybe it was because we have been learning so much! We have been busy in Math learning greater than and less than. We have also mastered sequencing numbers and we just started our unit on addition! In Reading we have been learning about fables and fairy tales like Jack and the Wolf, The Three Little Pigs and The City Mouse and the Country Mouse. Last week we finished a fun unit on how animals communicate and just in time for Halloween, we learned about how insects send messages and even made our own creepy centipedes! We have many new words on our high frequency list!!

\*\*Remember, it is very important to study those sight words! These are words that should be read quickly!

Wow our reading is improving – in Phonics we learned new sounds with /ck/ endings and how to break apart and build new words using the /r/ and /l/ blends! Please listen to your child read aloud – reading aloud really helps them become fluent readers!!!

In Religion we have learned about the promise God made to his people to send a savior and start the word over anew with Noah and Abraham. We had some good discussions on how difficult it is to wait for things we really want and how hard it must have been for Abraham and his people to trust God and wait for our Savior to come! We had fun sharing God’s love as me made some super cute fall decorations to share with the residents at Hillcrest!

TRUST and HOPE – two words it think we can all cling to in these difficult times in our world. All the changes we have had to endure the ability to be flexible is a must. I HOPE you all keep your TRUST in the LORD that he is watching us and we need to cling to his side as we walk this new path COVID is laying before us. Thank you parents for all you are doing to help your children in school- we really are a team and appreciate your help at home to keep your child caught up in class.





## MS. KHALEY LEE 2ND GRADE



October has come and gone! We have had an exciting time in second grade. I hope everyone had a happy and safe Halloween!

Second grade has been busy! In math, we have just started our chapter on exploring 2 digit addition. We are discovering regrouping and strategies to support our learning with 2 digit addition. The chapters that follow deal with 2 digit addition and subtraction.

Our reading series had a story called Super Storms that explained what the storms do and how to stay safe. Those

storms were thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, and blizzards.

Just in time for what is going on in our current events, we are learning about the different types of government in social studies. We will start out with local government and move our way up.

We have learned all about Earth's surface and Earth's crust, and now we are starting our chapter on the sun, moon, and Earth. There are so many wonderful activities that go with these lessons. Keep a look out for those and have your student tell you all about it!



**MRS. LINDA BREWSTER  
3RD GRADE  
2ND GRADE RELIGION**

A big thank you to all of the families that donated to our “We Love Chocolate” baskets for the Fall Festival! Also, a huge THANK YOU to Mrs. Bryn Jordan for driving us to our field trip to the McCook Arboretum! We appreciate your taking the time to do this for us! We had an educational and enjoyable time learning more about the plants and pollinators in our ecosystem! We even were given the chance to plant some grass and wild flower seeds! Thank you also to Mr. Mike Winkler and Mr. Tim Griffin of the NRCS offices for giving us this opportunity to learn in nature.





Third grader  
Corbyn enjoys  
some recess  
time.





The 4th Grade "Paint the Bus" Contest winners are:

Braxton (2nd place)

Presley (3rd Place)

Abel (1st place)



The fourth grade students used wet chalk to create sidewalk art. Inspiration came from one of the stories in their reading book.







Osage  
Orange  
Lab





FR. BRIAN WIRTH  
5-6 RELIGION



## “Be not afraid! Open wide the doors to Christ.”

Recently, the Church celebrated the Memorial of Saint Pope John Paul II. Of all the great papal statements from the late Saint and Holy Father, this phrase seems applicable more than ever.

For almost a year now, our nation and the world has not unfortunately shut its doors in the face of COVID. However, these are not the only doors that have been shut during this unprecedented time. The gates to Memorial Stadium and high school athletic events have been closed. Access to city and small-town Nebraska festivals have been closed. Even more personally, the doors to our homes have been shut down, as well as the doors to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and hospitals, where our loved ones reside have been shut in for over half a year. And yes, for a time, the doors to the Church have been closed. All of this and more has caused us great stress, anger, fear, and anxiety.

And yet, despite experiencing all of these emotions, more than ever is the time to heed the wise words of JP II: “Be not afraid! Open wide the doors to Christ!” Despite the unprecedented times that we face, whether past, present, or future, as Catholics and through the merits of our Baptism, not only do we comprise the Body of Christ here on Earth, but we are strengthened and called open the doors of our mind, heart, body, and soul and proclaim the name of Jesus Christ to ourselves and to the world!

As the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders continue to prepare for their Confirmation this fall, we have been repeating this point constantly. Confirmation is the Sacrament of Christian Maturity. Being strengthened by the fullness of the Holy Spirit like Christ Himself at His Baptism, all of us as true members of the Church are called to exercise the missionary spirit of Jesus Himself and proclaim the Gospel Message in acts of Evangelization and yes, even Martyrdom. Though the physical doors to the Church may at times be closed, this should not deter us. On the contrary, in our own lives and in the lives of others, each of us are daily called as missionary disciples and sacramental witnesses to actively and yes, creatively, bring the presence of the Church to others, and most importantly, to bring the Divine Love of God to all persons we encounter.

Certainly, we live in challenging times. However, we are called to be witnesses and above all, we are called to be Saints. So again, encouraged by the words of Saint Pope John Paul II, I urge you:

“Be not afraid! Open wide the doors to Christ.”



*Please pray for our youth who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation*

## Confirmation

*Saturday, December 5th  
St. Patrick School Students  
10:00 a.m.—5th Grade  
2:00 p.m.—6th Grade*

*Saturday, December 12th  
10:00 a.m.—CCD Students  
2:00 p.m.—Sacred Heart CCD*



Do not be afraid!  
Open wide the doors for Christ!  
- St. John Paul II



MS. TAYLOR GEISLER  
 5TH GRADE HOMEROOM  
 MATH GRADES 5 & 6  
 READING 6 & 7  
 ADVANCED READING 8

## 5<sup>th</sup> Math

We are all about division here in 5<sup>th</sup> grade math. They are doing a marvelous job solving division problems, using basic fact patterns, estimation, and plain old long division. Remainders in division problems weren't a problem at all for the students. The best thing I can recommend to do at home is practice those multiplication facts!! Long division is difficult but knowing the facts will help immensely. Once we finish up division they will get a glimpse into Algebra. We'll start working with expressions and equations step by step. I know they will be pros at it and hopefully figure out algebra isn't a scary as it sounds!



## 6<sup>th</sup> Reading

We have moved onto Collection 2 which has the theme of animal intelligence. It seems to have the majority of students interested in the readings, we have several animal lovers in class. Every day the students work with and discuss new vocabulary words and reading concepts such as summarizing the text and deciphering the author's purpose behind different text features. The students are not afraid to jump into the conversation and add in any thoughts or ideas they may have about our current reading. We are still working on our skills of identify the different steps in the plot of each story and will continue to use those critical thinking skills. Our next objective will be analyzing persuasive techniques and arguments in the reading.

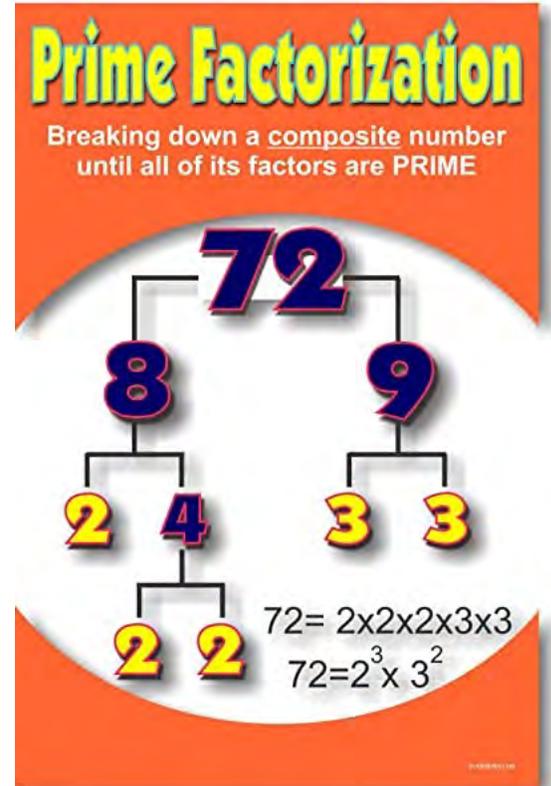
## 7<sup>th</sup> Reading

In seventh grade reading we began our second collection a couple weeks ago. The second collection is all about perception vs reality which means we will be reading some very interesting texts. So far I've enjoyed discussing the different ideas of perception with the students, they always come up with such creative ideas. We will not only learn new key reading concepts and phrases but maybe a couple small magic tricks as well!

## 8<sup>th</sup> Reading

The eighth graders finished their second book Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl a little while ago. The consensus seems to be Anne Frank's Diary was the most enjoyable read out of the books so far. Next up is Silas Marner by George Eliot which isn't a favorite by any means but it is a great read! The class discussions held every day are full of interesting takes on different events happening in the book. I'm always impressed with the ability of the students to put themselves into the character's shoes and relate the text back to their lives. Next up we will be reading The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien. The students are looking forward to this book, however they might be more looking forward to the movie!

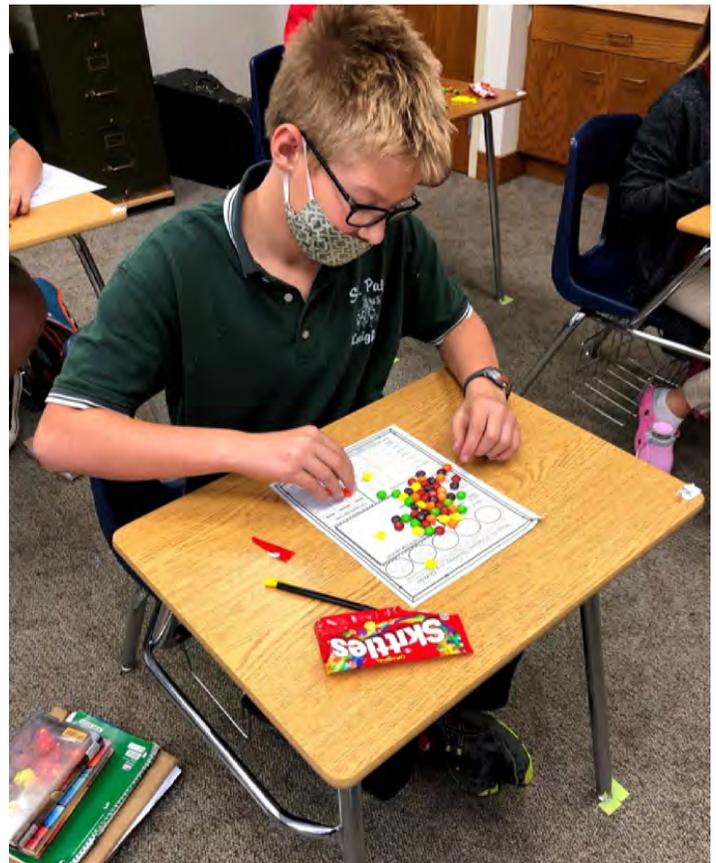




MS. TAYLOR GEISLER  
5TH GRADE HOMEROOM  
MATH GRADES 5 & 6  
READING 6 & 7  
ADVANCED READING 8

### 6<sup>th</sup> Math

The sixth graders are finishing up chapter three in our books, working with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division equations using inverse operations. Chapter four includes a bit more difficult concepts such as prime factorization, exponents, divisibility rules, greatest common factor, and least common multiple. These concepts seem to be a bit more time consuming and require a good amount of patience. We will take it step by step and throw in some hands on activities to get through them smoothly!





**MRS. TONI GERVER**

**K—8 PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION**

We had a nice long run of great weather but I think it has come to an end. The students really enjoyed all of our days out in the sun. With the change in weather and our COVID guidelines we are very blessed to have such a nice big gym to spend the cold days in. We are still working on volleyball and lead up games. We will change course to winter activities in two weeks. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.



**MS. STEPHANIE SYDOW**

**6TH GRADE HOMEROOM**

**READING GRADE 5—8**

**ENGLISH 5—8**

## English 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

Fall, pumpkins and EBW, Oh My! We have spent the entire month of October learning all about Evidenced Based Writing or EBW. In this type of writing, we learned that you must start with a claim (a statement that is arguable), followed by a premise (supports the claim), then some evidence (cited from the text) and finally justification (additionally supports the claim and premise). Add all of these parts together while using great transition words, stronger vocabulary and MLA citations and you have a higher level type of writing. We will write our EBW paper the first week of November.

We did take a quick break from EBW to revisit narrative writing. After reviewing figurative language, each class picked a spooky Halloween prompt from a choice board. The stories are absolutely “spook-tacular!”

## Reading 5<sup>th</sup>

We recently finished reading the famous, short story “Old Yeller.” We had some great discussions as we learned that

stories often times have a lesson that is learned by the characters AND the readers. We finished up the month with a STEAM activity. We listened to the traditional story “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” and then we watched the read aloud “Moldilocks and the Three Scares.” We completed a compare/contrast discussion between the two stories. Next, the kiddos had to “buy” supplies from the store to purchase the needed items. Finally, we collaborated to design a plan to build chairs for each of the characters in the second story. Everyone came up with some pretty creative ideas!

## Reading 8<sup>th</sup>

We spent the month of October reading spooky stories and studying the Horror Genre. We just recently read and annotated the short story, “The Monkey’s Paw.” We then spent some additional time with this story as we applied what we have learned in EBW. After looking for evidence in the story to support the claim, we held a mock trial. Are you curious as to who was found guilty? You will have to ask your student!



Dear Parents,

In the next few weeks our school will be participating the the Box of Joy program, a Christmas gift outreach organized by local Catholic schools, parishes and groups nationwide. By packing Boxes of Joy with toys and other gifts, your child will bless a child suffering from extreme poverty by sharing the joy of Christmas and planting seeds of hope through the Gospel. We are excited to learn more about compassion and share in our Lord's mercy through this experience!

Last year, we participated in the program and our students and parish did an amazing job! They were able to bless 100 children suffering from poverty in Haiti and Guatemala!

This year, we would like to help impoverished children the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Guatemala! There are several ways you can help You can pack your own box as a family and pray for the child who will receive the gift. Your child will choose the gender and age range of the child he/she wants to bless. Have fun on your family shopping spree to personally select the items you feel a special boy or girl would really like! Understandably, there is a small cost to transport each Box of Joy from our community to the receiving child (please write the \$9 check to Cross Catholic Outreach, not the parish.)

The deadline for returning your packed Boxes of Joy is Friday, November 13th.

OR—

If you do not wish to pack a box, we are also collecting items at the school and we will pack the boxes for you. Please drop off your items in the totes in the school lobby by Wednesday, November 11th!! For more info, contact me or check out [www.CrossCatholic.org/BoxOfJoy](http://www.CrossCatholic.org/BoxOfJoy).

Thank you!

Mrs. Amanda Peterson

308.340.1451



## GIFT IDEAS

**TOYS**

- Handheld toys
- Small plush animals
- Small balls (tennis, etc.)
- Ball (deflate) with pump
- Cars / Trucks
- Doll
- Mini puzzle
- Finger puppets
- Silly putty
- Bean bag / Hacky sack
- Unopened fast food toys
- Binoculars
- Legos
- Harmonica, kazoo or other small instrument
- Jump rope
- Paddle ball
- Yo-yo
- Slinky
- Mini board games
- Balloons
- Craft kit (beads, elastic, etc.)
- Pom-poms

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

- Pencils, colored pencils
- Solar calculator
- Sharpener
- Small board books
- Erasers
- Pencil case
- Crayons
- Pens, markers
- Ruler
- Glue stick (no liquid)
- Safety scissors
- Coloring book
- Notebooks
- Stickers
- Self-inking stamp
- Flash cards
- Dry paints (no liquid paint)

**HARD CANDY & GUM**

- Please seal in a Ziploc-style bag (No chocolates)

**KEY REMINDERS**

1. Use the provided gift box or any shoebox (approximately 12" x 5")
2. Fill out and attach the Boy/Girl label to box lid if needed
3. Include \$9 check (no cash please) in provided envelope. Place on top of gifts.
4. Secure the lid with a rubber band (no tape please).

**PERSONAL NOTES & PHOTOS:**

We encourage you to write a personal note or handmade Christmas card and share a photo of yourself or family (advisable for parent or teacher to review notes written by children).

**APPAREL**

- Socks
- Shorts
- Underwear
- T-shirts
- Flip flops
- Bandanas
- Hats
- Shoelaces
- Plastic poncho

**HYGIENE / HOME**

- Comb / Brush
- Forks & Spoons
- Cup / Bottle with lid
- Bar Soap
- Toothpaste (in the box)
- Toothbrush and floss
- Bandages
- Hand wipes (no gels)
- Tissues
- Lip balm
- Manicure kit
- Nail clippers / Emery board

**ACCESSORIES**

- Watch
- Purse or wallet
- Sunglasses
- Necklace
- Hair ribbons
- Hair / Head bands
- Barrettes
- Bracelets
- Earrings
- Scarf
- Cross or Rosary

**USEFUL ITEMS**

- Sewing kit
- Utensils
- Compass
- LED keychain
- Duct tape
- No-battery flashlight
- Drawstring bag

**DO NOT PACK**

Food or Beverages • Medicines or Vitamins • Liquids (shampoo, nail polish, etc.) • Gels (antibacterial, etc.)  
 Chocolate • Military / Police Toys • Toy Weapons • Glass / Breakables • Knives / Tools



**MRS. DEONNE HINZ**  
**ART K-8 COMPUTER 5-8**



As we begin our second quarter of school, we need to remember the importance of art to everyone, and how it is relevant in so many subject areas. Eric Gibbon said it best.

**Art is the meeting place of all subjects...**

When we grid, measure, and draw – we use **geometry**.

When we make sculptures – we use **engineering**.

When we mix colors – we reveal information about **physics and science**.

When we create illustrations for stories – we learn about **literature**.

When we review the styles of art from da Vinci to Banksy – we teach **history**.

When we write about art – we strengthen our **writing** skills.

When we create works of art – we solve complex visual problems in creative ways.

When we look at art – we create a bridge between **language** barriers and **cultural** differences.

**Art happenings in the classroom:**

Kindergarten – Learning about the Element of Art called color.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Learned about Japanese artist Yayoi and her fascination with dots.

3<sup>rd</sup> grade – Learning the skills to painting a simple landscape.

4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Using their imaginations to create a silly holiday themed work of art.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Radial symmetry and the science behind a kaleidoscope.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Gridding a picture to learn proportion.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Creating a color wheel from only using the primary colors and black and white.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Painting a value scale portrait.



The 5th grade students made kaleidoscopes.





## Report to PARENTS

## Encourage Your Child's Creativity to Flourish

**C**reativity has been called a key 21st century skill. That means it—along with skills like communication and critical thinking—will help students navigate the increasingly collaborative and information-rich world that awaits them once they leave school. The arts have been shown to boost students' academic performance, perseverance, self-confidence, and more. Here are strategies for supporting your child's creativity.

**Take stock of your toys.** Flashy electronic toys are fun, but they don't offer children opportunities for open-ended, imaginative play. Make sure to have basic art supplies—paper, crayons, glue, clay—at home, along with toys like building blocks, puzzles, or costumes for dress-up.



**Cut the screen time.** Set limits on TV and iPad time. Try designating a certain time during the week when your entire family will put down cell phones and work on a creative project.

**Embrace mistakes.** Children who are afraid of failure are less likely to think creatively. Teach your child that mistakes are opportunities for growth. Ask, "What could you do differently next time?" Be patient with your child—and model patience as he or she learns new skills or tries a new project.

**Encourage curiosity.** Don't squelch kids' natural curiosity by being frustrated when your child asks lots of questions. Embrace it! Ask, "What if" questions, and encourage your child to use his or her imagination.

**Offer constructive praise...** Too much praise can make a child "hooked" on success. Instead of offering general praise ("You're so smart!"), offer specific feedback that praises your child's effort or the process he or she used ("You found a great way to paint that scene," or "I can tell you've been practicing.") Offer non-verbal praise (a hug

or a thumbs-up), or implicit encouragement by displaying your child's work on the refrigerator.

**...but step back sometimes.** If a child feels constantly watched, he or she may be less likely to try new ideas. Give your child space to play on his or her own. Wait until your child is finished drawing to ask what he or she has made.

**Look for community resources.** Check your local library, museum, or community center for art

classes or workshops to try new creative skills. Keep an eye out for poster or story contests offered by community organizations, too. Or, try teaming up with a neighbor or friend to host an art playdate. Some projects can be time-consuming or expensive, but working together with other families can help ease the burden.

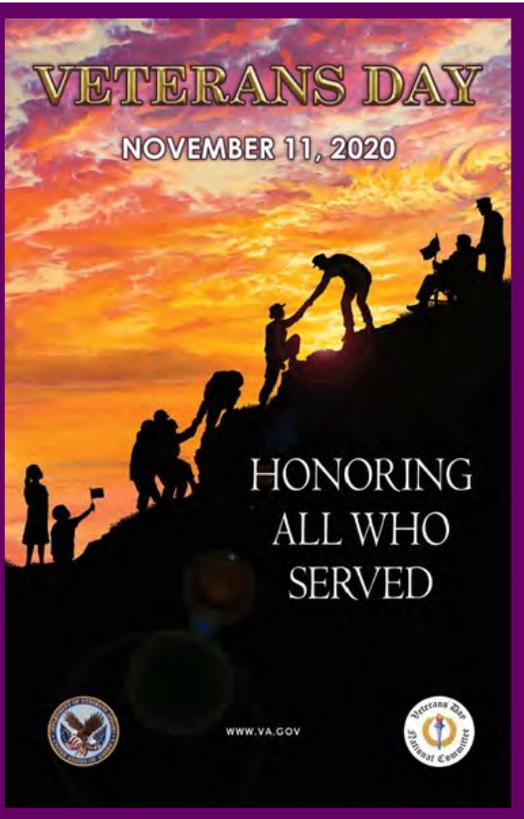
### Web Resources

Visit Crayola's **Creative Parenting Web page** for activities and tips to spark creativity at home.  
[bit.ly/creativeparenting](http://bit.ly/creativeparenting)

The **Tinkerlab** offers dozens of hands-on art, science, writing, and craft ideas for families to try.  
[tinkerlab.com/](http://tinkerlab.com/)

At **The Artful Parent** blog, explore interviews with children's art experts along with lists of the best supplies.  
[artfulparent.com/](http://artfulparent.com/)

Please remember to pray for Veterans and Active Service Members.



# Knights News



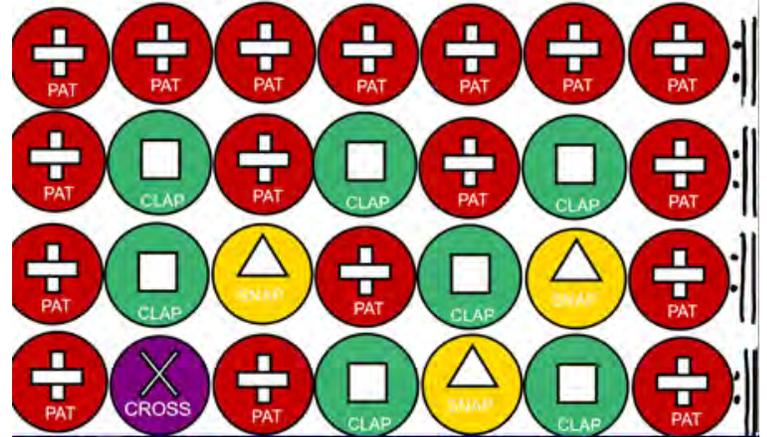
MRS. LORI HILKER

VOCAL MUSIC K-8

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 5-8



## SEVENS



Music students have been playing a rhythm game called 'Sevens'. Ask your student(s) to teach it to you!

B – Blending our sounds together makes for good music.

A – Articulations such as accents and staccatos give the music more energy.

N – Need to balance melody, harmony and percussion.

D – Developing our skills takes time and practice.



M – Melodies can move by stepping, skipping, leaping, or repeating the sounds.

U – Ugly sounds don't belong in our songs.

S – Service members will be honored in our hearts this year. Our annual program is cancelled due to Covid-19.

I – In-tune singing is a primary goal.

C – Clapping, tapping, snapping, and stomping are elements of body percussion.



Socially distanced 5th Grade Band



5th Grade Cup Song





**MRS. LORI HILKER**  
**VOCAL MUSIC K-8**  
**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 5-8**

Every year the 3rd grade sings a Czech song called Stodola Pumpa. We mark the occasion with kolaches! Fr. Lorenz brought some peach and blueberry kolaches to us made by Leticia Hernandez of our parish. Thank you! They were delicious! Such fun!



**MRS. LAURA NOKES**  
**RESOURCE TEACHER**

Mr. Dauwen created several protective plexiglass shields to be placed around the school—the cafeteria, the office, the library, and this cool design made especially to be able to continue to work safely with 3 students during the pandemic.





**MR. ZACH WIESER**  
**7th HOMEROOM; 7–8**  
**SCIENCE**  
**7–8 MATH; 8 ALGEBRA**  
**BOYS BASKETBALL COACH**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Math**

In 7<sup>th</sup> grade math we have just begun our fractions chapter. Fractions are something most students do not enjoy, but these kids are doing extremely well, so I am very pleased. The kids are working hard and that is all you could ask for.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Math**

In 8<sup>th</sup> grade math we are working on solving equations again. We already learned how to do this in the previous chapter, but now we have added decimals. The students were kind of worried about that, but they have adjusted and have been doing amazing. They are working hard and I couldn't ask for more.

### **Algebra**

In Algebra the students are learning about slope, x-intercept, and y-intercept. We have just taken a

test and will begin our next chapter on how to write equations in slope-intercept form and point-slope form. These students have been on a grind learning so many new concepts. It has not been easy, but they continuously adjust and persevere.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Science**

In 7<sup>th</sup> grade science we are still working in astronomy. The students have learned a lot about our solar system and are currently learning about the different planets and moons. We will soon begin to look inside the Earth!

### **8<sup>th</sup> Science**

In 8<sup>th</sup> science, the students have been working hard on the periodic table. They have almost made it through this part and will begin learning about energy in motion soon!





**MRS. LANAE FRITSCH**  
**EIGHTH HOMEROOM,**  
**SOCIAL STUDIES 5—8;**  
**SCIENCE 5 & 6**

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

The fifth grade Science class started studying the cycles of the ecosystems and the different biomes this month. Each student will be making a replica of their favorite biome and we will display it up front in the school. Before Thanksgiving we will complete our study of the Earth and all of its resources. We are planning many different experiments with this section. I know the 5<sup>th</sup> graders are looking forward to it.



5th grade science student, Angel, brings a scorpion crafted by his father to science teacher Mrs. Fritsch.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science students have finished studying of microorganisms and fungi. We are now in the process of plant processes and plant life. I know it sounds boring, but right now we are studying photosynthesis, the reproduction of flowering plants and their responses to the environment. We will finish this section up with the characteristics of plants and seeds with pollination and fertilization. We will also be in lab more next month with dissecting different plants. I know the 6<sup>th</sup> graders are looking forward to more lab work!



## 2020-2021 Student Council

The Student Council is assisting the Lincoln Diocesan Council of Catholic Women with the **Annual Diaper Drive** for the McCook's ABC Pregnancy Center and Pregnancy Centers approved by the Bishop's Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities and Catholic Social Services and the LDCCW. The Student Council will deliver all the donations to bins in the old Baptistery at the church. Diapers of sizes 3, 4, and 5 are in particular demand, but any diapers donations are appreciated. Thank you for helping us to have a successful 2020 Diaper Drive!



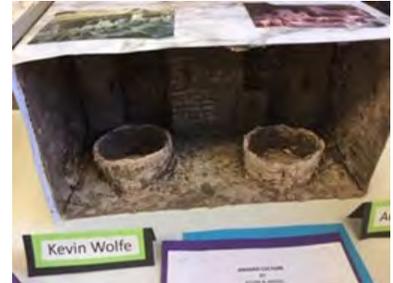
Not pictured: Becca & Laney



**MRS. LANAE FRITSCH  
EIGHTH HOMEROOM,  
SOCIAL STUDIES 5—8; SCIENCE 5 &**

## 5th Grade Social Studies

We have finished up with Native American studies. Now, the 5<sup>th</sup> graders are studying about the North American Spanish and English colonies, the Pilgrims and Puritans in New England, and the daily life of each of these colonies. Then we will travel on in our studies and explore “Life in the Eastern Hemisphere.” Veterans Day is November 11<sup>th</sup>. We will not be celebrating it with a program on November 11<sup>th</sup> as we have in the previous years. We will however be making Veterans Day cards for the students to take home to their veterans. If you would like a card for your veteran, there will be extra cards in the office for you. We will be making “thank you” cards for our veterans and plenty of extra. The students can give their card to their special veteran!



## 5th Grade Social Studies

The 6<sup>th</sup> graders come up with some great reports on Canada and their Canadian Cuisine choices were unbelievable! I wish we could have made them and shared them in class! Our next stop is Mexico. For our cultural adventure while studying Mexico’s culture, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will take a field trip to El Puerto here in McCook. They will have an opportunity to experience the Mexican cuisine at its finest! We will venture into Central America and South America before the Christmas break. Veterans Day is November 11<sup>th</sup>. We will not celebrate it on November 11<sup>th</sup> with a program in the gym as usual because of Covid, but we are making cards. If your child has a relative or friend that is a veteran we will be making “thank you” cards for our veterans.



**6<sup>th</sup> Social Studies Class  
Fuller’s Family Restaurant  
American Cuisine**



## 7th Grade Social Studies

The 7<sup>th</sup> graders are studying the foundations of our government. We are working in several different projects and looking forward to our group debates. I am amazed at the caliber of debaters we have in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. They do not like to back down from a good debate. With the election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we have been reviewing our rights to vote, our three branches of the government, and the history behind our freedoms and liberties. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade Civics class will be in charge of the voting for president in the school. We will have our own voting booth and each student will get the chance to cast their own vote! The 7<sup>th</sup> graders are pretty excited about the upcoming election! They ask that you all take the time to get out and VOTE! The 7<sup>th</sup> graders are working on their own "Bill of Rights" for the school. They will be displayed on the wall outside of Mrs. Fritsch's room when they are completed!



## 8th Grade Social Studies

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are right in the middle of studying the Civil War. We did our research on different battles and also important people of the Civil War and then reported it in our alphabet books. They displayed these along with their replicas of the different battles in the front foyer of the school. Along with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be playing a major role in the election here at the school. We have also been reviewing voting rules, presidential election rules, and the entire government process for electing a United States President. They are excited to get a chance to vote in our mock voting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will not be celebrating Veterans Day with a program on November 11<sup>th</sup> as we have in previous years. We will, however, be making Veterans Day cards for the students to take home to their veterans. If you would like a card for your veteran, there will be extra cards in the office for you. We will be making thank you cards for our veterans with plenty of extra. The students can take them home and give it to their special veteran!





## MRS. GALE SLATTERY HEAD COOK

Here we are in November already! It's looking and feeling a lot like winter, though! I was enjoying the mild fall myself. The trees seemed more vibrant to me this year. Maybe all the craziness of this pandemic has allowed me to see things from a different perspective.

I would guess everyone has heard or seen in the news that the USDA has extended the waivers for allowing free lunch for all students thru the end of the 2020-21 school year. I have been waiting on the state for further instructions and guidelines. I will pass them along as I receive them. I just want to stress, though, that free lunch only includes one milk with the meal. Seconds, extra milk and milk with a cold lunch from home are NOT included. We are required to charge for these. So if your children bring home a lunch bill please understand that it is because they have been taking seconds or extra milk or bringing their lunch and getting a milk. I know that can seem confusing but that is what we are required to do to cover our expenses.

Due to food  
availability  
watch for:



With all the craziness of the pandemic we have had some issues getting food and supplies from our distributors. We will do our best to stick to the menu but there are going to be times when we have to change what we are serving. Mrs. Redl and Mrs. Bortner have been very helpful at relaying that information to you. We will continue to keep you informed if there is any changes. Thank you for your patience and understanding through all this.

Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving!





# Accelerated Reader™





Above: Greyson, Celia and Hayden.

2nd Grade: Celia 17.1 points; Greyson, 12.2 points; and Hayden 8.4 points

Right: Penelope, Annabelle and Vivie

3rd Grade: Annabelle 37.2 points; Penelope 27.9 points; and Vivie 27.6 points



Above: Clara, Kevin and Cassidy.

Clara 65.2 points, Kevin 31.1 points and Cassidy 13 points.

Right: Emma, Jude and Addy.

7th Grade: Jude 85.6 points; Addison 32 points and Emma 27.1 points.



## Accelerated Reader™

### Top Point Earners

# News of the Little Knights



MS. LAURA MILLER  
PRESCHOOL TEACHER  
VOLLEYBALL COACH

Happy Fall! October has really flown by!

In the preschool class, we've started learning about colors and shapes. So far we've learned about red, yellow, and blue for colors and circle and triangle for shapes. We've also been working very hard on counting. The preschoolers also made Halloween crafts to decorate our room. We made torn paper candy corn!

The PreK classes have been working so hard and learning so much! So far, we've been focusing on our colors, red, yellow, blue, green, orange, and purple. We've practiced counting and one-to-one correspondence. We learned about positional words top, middle, and bottom. For Halloween, we practiced our cutting by making monsters and pumpkins! We also read Scholastic magazines about firefighters and pumpkins. We went on a leaf hunt and saw all of the beautiful colors of Fall! We also helped Evelyn celebrate her birthday this month.

For the Fall Festival, we made rosaries to sell! They were a GREAT fine motor activity for us and turned out super cute.

All of our classes learned about Fire Safety. We learned the number to call in an emergency is 911!

Thank you to everyone that donated to our scholastic fund so we could receive a book every month. We were so excited for our first one!

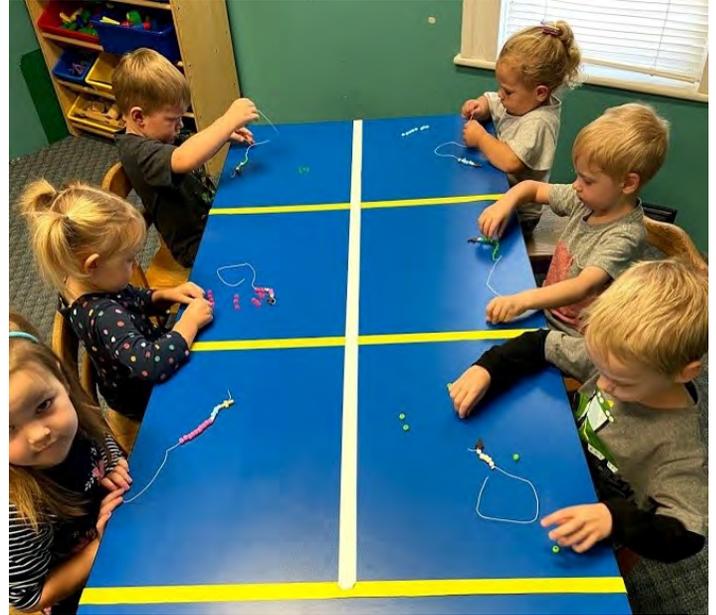


PreK 3 Class on a leaf hunt (above) and in their fire hats as they studied fire safety (left.)

# News of the Little Knights



PreK 4 on a leaf hunt!



Preschool making rosaries.



PreK 4 with rosaries they made for the Fall Festival



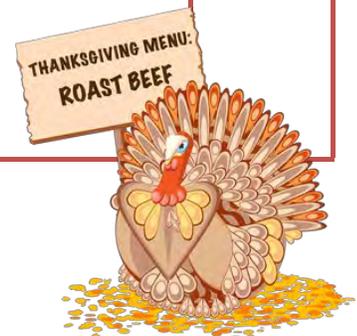
Preschool making rosaries.



Preschool with their donated books!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	3 Burritos Beans Salsa Fruit Tortilla Chips Milk	4 Salisbury Steak Potatoes Vegetables Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	5 Deli Sandwich on Flatbread Salad Baby Carrots Fruit Milk	6 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Vegetable Fruit Milk	7
8	9 Chicken Nuggets Sweet Potato Fries Vegetable Fruit Cookie Milk	10 Walking Tacos Beans Salsa Fruit Churro Milk	11 Pork Chop Potatoes Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	12 Chef Salad Ham & Cheese Vegetables Fruit Breadstick Milk	13 Omelet French Toast Sticks Hashbrowns Fruit Juice Milk	14
15	16 Hamburger on a Bun Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Milk	17 Meatballs Pasta Spaghetti Sauce Broccoli Fruit Garlic Bread Milk	18 Roast Chicken Mashed Potatoes Vegetable Dinner Roll Fruit Pumpkin Dessert Milk	19 <b>COOK'S CHOICE</b>	20 Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Vegetable Fruit Milk	21
22	23 Chicken Fajitas Vegetables Fruit Tortilla Chips Milk	24 Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans Vegetable Fruit Milk	25 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	26 <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b>	27 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	28
29	30 Chicken Quesadilla Beans Salsa Fruit Birthday Cake Milk					



**\*Menu Subject to Change\***

**This institution is an equal opportunity provider.**



“Paint the Bus” Contest winners: Kindergarten: 1st, Kensington; 2nd Lexi; 3rd place Aiden  
First Grade: 1st Milania; 2nd Clayton; 3rd Cannon

The Knights of Columbus purchased a new bus for the Little Knights Preschool through Lucky Irish Calendar sales and other fundraisers. They then held a “Paint the Bus” Contest.





“Paint the Bus” Contest winners: 2nd Grade, Above: 1st Place, Charlotte; 2nd Place, Matthew (not shown); 3rd Place, Adelyn.  
3rd Grade, Below: 1st Place, Vivie; 2nd Place, Jed; 3rd Place, Annabelle





The Knights of Columbus purchased a new bus for the Little Knights Preschool through Lucky Irish Calendar sales and other fundraisers. They then held a “Paint the Bus” Contest.



**Paint the Bus Coloring Contest Winners**

4th Grade: (Above)

Braxton, 2nd Place,

Presley, 3rd Place,

Abel, 1st Place

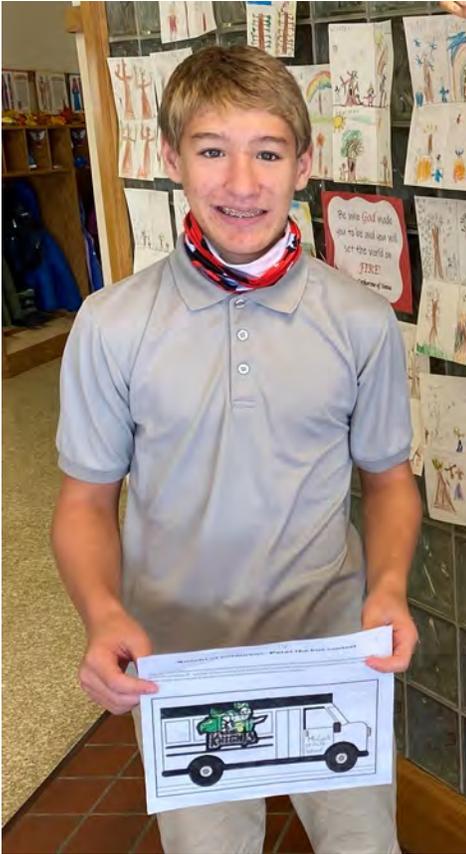
5th Grade: (Left)

Mya, 1st Place (Not Shown\_

Caleb, 2nd Place

Jack, 2nd Place

Teagan, 3rd Place



### Paint the Bus Coloring Contest Winners

7th Grade:

Noah, 1st Place

Addison, 3rd Place

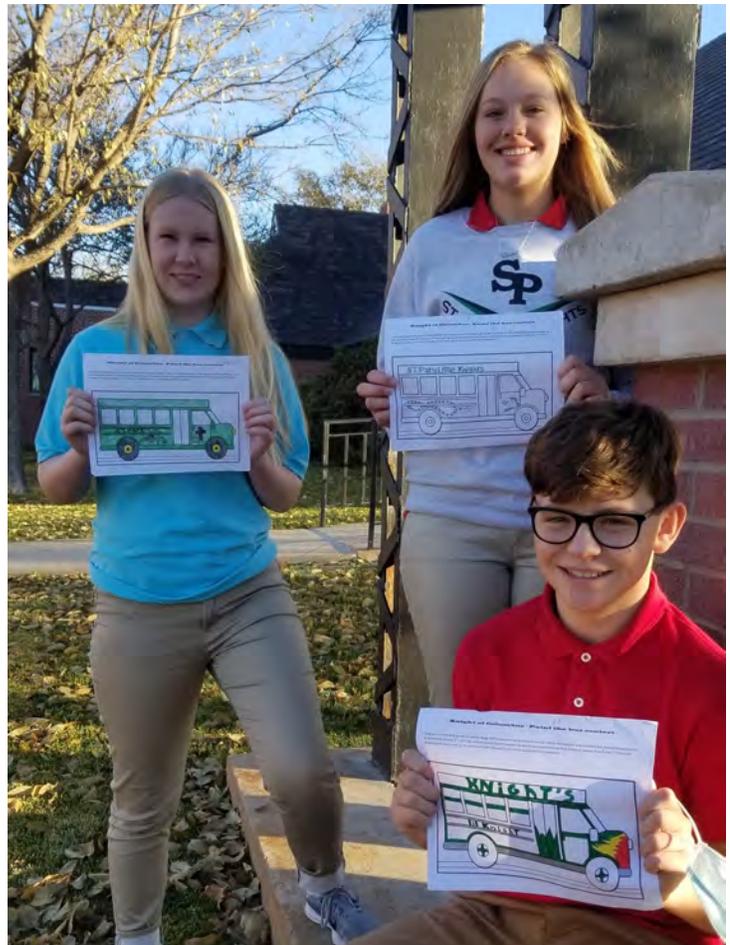
Addy, 2nd Place

8th Grade:

Becca, 1st Place

Rebecca, 3rd Place

Jack, 2nd Place





“Paint the Bus” Contest winners: Above: Grand Prize winner, Cali Crawford  
Below, 6th Grade winners, Grand Prize, Cali, 1st Place, Gwen, 2nd Place, Kaela, 3rd Place, Asher

