



Knights News

100 Years 1919—2019
February, 2021 ♣ Volume 2020-2021 Issue 6

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

401 East F Street ♣ P O Box 1040
McCook, NE 69001 ♣ 308.345.4546
www.stpatismccook.com

Message from Fr. Brethour	Pages 1 & 2
Calendar	Page 3
Principal's Message	Page 4
School News	Pages 5—26
Little Knights	Pages 27 - 29
Menu	Page 30
Accelerated Reader	Pages 31/32



February

- ◇ Feb 1—Messy Monday
- ◇ Feb 2—Tie-Dye Tuesday
- ◇ Feb 3—Western Wednesday
- ◇ Feb 4—Team Spirit Thursday—
First Confession for 2nd Grade
Confessions
Basketball—Home vs. Hitchcock Co
- ◇ Feb 5—No School—Eucharistic
Adoration
- ◇ Feb 6—BB Tournament at Hayes
Center 9:00 a.m.
- ◇ Feb 10—Faculty Meeting
- ◇ Feb 12—Valentine Parties
- ◇ Feb 12—BB Tournament at
Wauneta—Boys; Palisade—Girls
9:00 a.m.
- ◇ Feb 15—Progress Reports
- ◇ Feb 17—Ash Wednesday—2:00
Dismissal
- ◇ Feb 18—Parent/Teacher Conf.
- ◇ Feb 19—No School
- ◇ Feb 24—2:00 Dismissal—Faculty
Meeting

A Message from Father Gary Brethour

Dear Parents,

Congratulations. School is still in session with your children in our classrooms. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

A comment I heard way back in March 2020 regarding precautions caught my attention. “We will not know if we did too much. We will discover if we did too little.”

So, we are still being cautious. Some experts says kids will not get the virus. But our teachers can. So we are doing what advice has made some sense to keep the teachers healthy and school open. I hope we are rounding the corner. We are hoping the teachers will receive the vaccination in the not too distanced future.

The goal this year: Keep school open. Online or virtual school is not as effective as in person classroom instruction. Again, thank you for your help in making this a reality.

We are preparing for GALA 2021. The two main features will be the raffle and the online auction. We will be sending out more information about this very important fund raiser for our school.

The funds from our GALA are essential to close the gap in our school funding. The other factor helping to close the gap and stop the deficits is our tuition and scholarship program.

Remember a few years ago when we had meetings to introduce the new diocesan wide tuition and Good Shepherd Scholarships and our parish based scholarships. We discussed that some years in the recent past we had to withdrawal \$60,000 to \$100,000 from our savings to make payroll or other expenses. That is not a sustainable situation.

As we looked at the financial landscape, many of our income sources are stagnant and we cannot expect a big increase. However, our expenses keep going up as we continue increasing our teacher salaries and support staff wages. (Our payroll this year is approximately \$48,000 every two weeks.)

So, two new revenue sources have been brought into the picture: the tuition and scholarship program and our GALA. Please support both to ensure St. Patrick School will remain strong to serve Jesus and form disciples for God’s glory and to be holy citizens to lift up our great nation.



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



Our first GALA events were very successful. It gave us the funds to responsibly commit to salary increases. This creates an ongoing expense. We need your continued work for the GALA and donors generosity to ensure our future.

Very soon we will be asking you to complete the FACTS scholarship application. Our school and all our families benefit with every family that qualifies for the Diocesan based Good Shepherd Scholarship. We will also continue our parish based scholarships. But you have to apply using FACTS. Information will be coming out soon. The deadline is March 31, 2021. So do not put it off.

Lent is just around the corner. Please make time each day to pray with your children. We will be distributing a nice little book by Matthew Kelly to help everyone grow in their life of prayer. Meditation is essential to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ. As many authors and saints have made clear, meditation is needed to grow and advance beyond a superficial prayer life.

Please take advantage of the Lenten season extra devotions and prayer services and Masses. Bring the children. When they roll their eyes, remind them Jesus is waiting for them to come and adore. You and your children will be blessed. This is what makes all the difference in the world (and the next world) for our school.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Gary Brethour



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





FEBRUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2	3	4 Confessions Basketball 2:00 vs. Hitchcock Co. @ Home 	5 No School EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION 	6  BB tourn @ Hayes Center 9:00 a.m.
						
7	8	9	10 	11	12 	13  BB Tourn Boys@ Wauneta 9:00 A.M. Girls@ Palisade
14	15 	16	17  2:00 Dismissal Teacher Lenten Study	18 1:00 Dismissal  PARENT-TEACHER Conference	19 No School 	20
21	22	23	24 2:00 Dismissal Teacher Lenten Study	25	26	27
28	March 1—5, ITBS Testing					



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE BY MRS. REBECCA REDL

Catholic Schools Week is/was January 31 – February 5. This year's theme, "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service," focuses on the principles of Catholic education. Our students are enjoying a faith-filled Catholic education and are fortunate that have dedicated teachers who put in the extra hours and effort to make sure Catholic Schools Week and every week students are provided with educational opportunities to help them grow academically. But with our Catholic faith intertwined in our education, our students are given many opportunities throughout the year to be stewards of their faith and put their faith into the service of others. This year, though different with our Covid precautions, our students, as always, enjoyed a special week of themed

dress-up days, special activities with their big/brother big/sister, Religion Bowl, and bingo, just to name a few. Our McCook Daily Gazette article showed how the pandemic has changed our school days, but positively showed how we are thriving and doing our best with the new requirements. In my daily prayers, I pray for the Holy Spirit to fill our teachers, staff, and students to continue their work in using God's grace to spread our faith to others. I thank God for having St. Patrick School here for our students to attend. Most importantly, I thank you for trusting St. Patrick in educating your children and for your continued support of our school.



Messy Monday



Tie Dye Tuesday



WILD WEST WEDNESDAY



Team Spirit Thursday



BABBLE

To *babble* is to talk rapidly and continuously in a foolish or excited way. Oh, and don't we love it. Isn't it funny how we feel we must be heard!! We (as a society) must make our point and we must make it repeatedly! I'm as guilty as the next and here I am babbling on about it. I think though that perhaps the problem is not that we need to be heard, I mean everyone is entitled to speak... right? The problem could be our lack of listening. To *listen* is to give your full attention to a sound. When was the last time you really listened to your child, parent, or spouse? I'm talking about really listening!!

No phone in hand, no television or radio in the background, no book, nothing at all to distract. Looking your child or spouse or parent in eyes **NOT** to talk, but to **LISTEN!!** How can we ever know what they truly need or seek if we are so bent in being heard. If we can't (or won't) listen to the people we love standing directly in front of us. How are we ever going to hear our LORD?? This Valentines my hope and prayer for myself and all of you is that we stop babbling and start listening!! It is only by listening that we can discern what is truth. Listen closely.

My dear brothers and sisters, **take note of this:**

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry

James 1:19





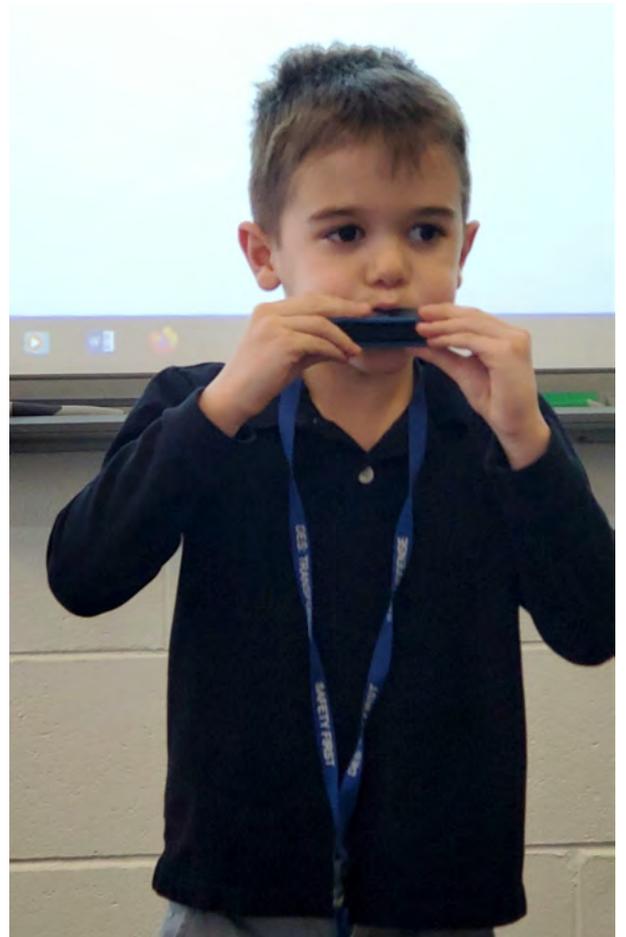
MRS. LARA STEWART KINDERGARTEN

Here we go, flying into February! Didn't we just have Christmas? Oh my! January was full of birthdays! We celebrated a birthday for Mrs. Stewart, Jacob, Isabella and Evelyn and ½ birthdays for Charlie and Makaylin. February will bring a birthday celebration for Jayce and a ½ birthday for Kensington. We have been working at becoming quite the readers in Kindergarten. Please help us practice our sight words in our folders. Watch for new words that are added! We are practicing for our banana split test that are kicked off during Catholic Schools Week. The students will have to correctly write the upper and lower case letters in order. They will also count and write by 1's, 2's, 5's, and 10's all the way to 100. February 2nd will mark 100 days for Kindergarten! I am so thankful we have made it this far! Have a fabulous February!



Kindergarten students create gingerbread houses







MRS. AMANDA PETERSON 1ST GRADE

Well, winter is certainly here! January was a busy month in the first grade room.

In January, we finished our 3rd unit in reading and learned about animal groups, changing seasons, space and we just finished a great unit on taking a trip! So the kids got to write their first real story about an exciting trip they took!

We have been working on adding more sight words to our list, and it is really important that they keep reading their library book each week and taking an AR test over the book. We will kick off our math mad minutes this week! Parents, your help is crucial in studying the math facts at home. The kids will be earning a part of their banana split every time they pass a math mad minute! We will celebrate with our banana splits at the end of the year.

As we head into February, we will begin a unit on subtraction in math. In reading we will discover where food comes from in our unit on agriculture. Of course February brings Valentine's Day, so we will exchange valentines and continue to learn about how God loves us all and wants to share His Good News and love with everyone!



Thank you to Mrs. Hilker and Mrs. Hinz for the wonderful photos that they provide each month.





MS. KHALEY LEE 2ND GRADE



January has been quite a busy month! Here is what second grade has been up to.

In math we wrapped up our chapter on probability. We learned about outcomes and how an outcome can be certain, impossible, more likely, and less likely. We are now into the next chapter which is money.

We finished our chapter of force and motion in science. Up next is sound and light. Then we will move on to our unit of health and safety.

Congratulations to the 2nd graders who will make their first confession next week!





MRS. LINDA BREWSTER
3RD GRADE
2ND GRADE RELIGION

We are continuing our Math chapters learning the multiplication facts. Remember to keep practicing the flashcards for **15 minutes every night**. For the students that have successfully memorized all of the facts, scramble all of the flashcards together and run through them once every night to prevent your forgetting them. Our study of the simple machines is almost complete.

Your student will be bringing home instructions for constructing a compound machine. They will bring this to school to demonstrate to the class and we will be displaying them at the school Science Fair in April.



MRS. TAMA KAIN

4TH GRADE

January has been a month of tremendous growth in writing skills for the 4th-grade. They have written fairy tales (some were quite long and detailed – up to 6 pages!), descriptive writing pieces, poetry, and critical thinking paragraphs using text evidence. It's evident that they enjoy expressing themselves because they never complain!

A unit in math on time was difficult for many of them, but they bit the bullet and plowed through, stretching their brains in the process. In all subject matters, I have seen great intellectual growth in the greater majority of these students, and I am quite pleased.

When the students learn new vocabulary words, their eyes are forever opened to these words, and they will run to me when they come across one in their AR books.

We are testing on multiplication skills daily, working toward banana splits. If you'd like to get involved in their education, please run through their flashcards with them at least three times a week.

Thank you for the abundant Christmas gifts bestowed upon on me. I love teaching your students and appreciate your generosity! Remember to pray to Joseph during this Year of St. Joseph. He is a powerful saint.



Knights News

Weather Poems



Best Blizzard

By Ashlyn, Payvn, and Emerson

Snow, Snow

Watch it blow,

Everywhere

It shall go

Watch out

It blows hard

Do not pout

It's okay

Tomorrow is

Another day

There will be ice

It will be nice

Today we can skate

It is our fate

Soon it will be Friday

I can't wait till that day

We will go ski

It sounds like me





First Snow

By Presley

Snow makes whiteness
Where it falls
The bushes look
Like popcorn balls.
And a place I always play
Looks like somewhere else today.

Rain

By Ellie, Presley, Cole

Rain, rain is like piles of grain.

Against my umbrella, drops of rain bounce off and hit the window pane.

I fall asleep listening to the sound of the calming rain pouring down.

Never say never when you are talking about the weather.



FR. BRIAN WIRTH
5-6 RELIGION

While it has been a busy last couple of weeks getting back into the rhythm of our schedules and school routines, the second half of the school year is off to a great start! The 5th and 6th grade classes and I have been learning about the Ten Commandments, what they are and how they apply to our own lives daily. Aided by the students questions, in class we have been able to create many “What-If” situations concerning the Ten Commandments in order to gain a better understanding of them as well as how to live our lives as faith-filled Christians.

Regarding the Ten Commandments, one of the points highlighted in class is that Commandments 1-3 specifically pertain to love of God, whereas Commandments 4-10 are directed toward man’s love of neighbor. This may initially seem like a commonly known or unsurprising fact, but it got me thinking: There is a reason the Ten Commandments are in the order that they are in. Quite simply, if we don’t get love of God right, then our ability to love neighbor is going to be extremely difficult if not impossible.

As Christians, it is essential that God is at the center of our lives. In our going to Mass, in our regular reception of the Sacraments, in our ongoing prayer lives, in our families, jobs, recreational activities, errands, and so forth. In other words, if we cannot love and give ourselves to God, who created us as His Own Beloved Children and loves us infinitely, how are we ever going to be able to love and serve our neighbor? Sadly, because of the difficult times that we live in right now, this is a challenging before our very lives right now. Many of us are on edge, afraid, stressed out, and lonely.

However, as I continue to point out to the students at Mass, the greatest grace that we have is being able to attend a daily School Mass. By beginning the day with Our

Eucharistic Lord at Mass, all of us have the ability to orient our lives as God eternally intends: By first loving Him as Our Father and Creator, and thus being sent out into the world to love our neighbor. Thus, the Sacrifice of the Mass proclaims the Infinite Power of the Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments lovingly, but lawfully remind us of our priorities. In our loving and serving God first and foremost, each of us will be strengthened by grace to radiate His love rather than our own to our neighbor. The Mass enables us to accomplish this feat.

I hope and pray that your Christmas breaks were full of peace, love, and joy and you were able to spend some much needed quality time with family. Having now been enlightened by the Incarnation of Our Lord, may we always place our sights on Him, and continue to recognize that despite the crosses that we currently bear in our country, we are at all times firmly **“One Nation under God.”**





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

5th Math

It's hard to believe we've moved on to our second semester already! Here in fifth grade math, we've spent this first month of the New Year working with decimals. They were excellent at adding and subtracting and are off to a good start with multiplying. My biggest tip would be to practice those multiplication facts whenever they have a spare minute, there is always a few facts we stumble on every day. Next up we will be dividing decimals by whole numbers then moving onto Unit 3 working with data and graphing. I see the students doing just as well in the next unit has they have been doing!

6th Math

The sixth grade math students will probably tell you they are sick of fractions right about now but there is a light at the end of the tunnel. We are working on multiplying and dividing fractions and mixed numbers. The class has been moving very smoothly through this chapter as I knew they would. Along with fractions we will shortly be learning how to convert between customary units of measurement, so if you need any help converting measurements while baking, I'm sure any of these eighteen students will gladly help out!

6th Reading

We have almost finished up Collection 3 here in sixth grade reading. The students are doing a wonderful job of discussing each story, analyzing poems, and sharing their opinions and experiences throughout the reading. Here in a couple weeks the students will have the opportunity to write a poem of their own which the majority of the class is excited for as am I.

7th Reading

In seventh grade reading we have been working quite a bit more with poems and informational text. The students are not afraid to dig deep when it comes to looking for a hidden meaning in poems. They also do well reciting new information and details from nonfiction readings. As we



read through the several texts in each unit we are focusing more on the best test taking skills, trying to improve our critical thinking and compression skills as well. They just finished up writing their own poem and I would encourage you to read theirs, they did a marvelous job!

8th Reading

The eighth graders finished up *The Hobbit* last semester which allowed us to watch the animated movie after break. Half the class thought the book was better while the other half favored the movie. After finishing up the movie we started on Charles Dickens' book *A Tale of Two Cities*. The students are a bit weary of this novel, more so than the others, but we will work through it together and take it day by day.





MS. STEPHANIE SYDOW
6TH GRADE HOMEROOM
READING GRADE 5-8
ENGLISH 5-8

the concepts of hooks, summary, evidence and justification and how this ties into Problem Solution Writing.

LOVE is in the air! Love of being back from a LONG quarantined break. Love of seeing my kiddos eager to get back into the swing of things. And Love of celebrating St. Pat's the first week of February.



We will also try our hand at some poetry this month as well as a Valentine's Day themed writing assignment. I don't know about you but I just LOVE this time of the year!

Reading 5

We switched it up a little and started reading a short, fiction novel, *Hound Dog True* by Linda Urban. We annotate daily for word choice and write down any questions that might come up in the story. We discuss stronger vocabulary and search for answers to the questions that we have. I enjoy our daily classroom discussions as well as watching the kiddos polish their RTL skills (think Response to Literature or Evidence Based Writing in English).

English 5-8

During the month of December we spent several weeks learning about Descriptive Writing. In this genre of writing, one uses great descriptive words or adjectives to paint a detailed picture so to speak for his/her audience. We then practiced this genre by working as a real estate agent to write a descriptive flyer to sell a gingerbread house. Of course, we had to make our own yummy gingerbread houses as a culmination to this unit. I am pretty sure that just as much frosting and candy got into our mouths as it did on the houses! Either way, they turned out awesome!



We returned from Christmas break and read a short story about second chances and the importance of a fresh start. We wrote a New Year's Resolution that we each hope to work on in 2021. We also learned about a second type of Expository Writing; Problem Solution. We will craft our skills as we review

Reading 8

We have been reading the fiction novel *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. This has been a very interesting read for us. We annotate and discuss daily as we look for figurative language, word choice, characterization and asking any questions that we might have. Our classroom discussions help us with higher level comprehension skills like inferencing and compare/contrast. We will finish this book soon and will start a new novel in the near future.





MRS. TONI GERVER
K-8 PHYSICAL
EDUCATION



What about this weather? The students and I were happy having classes outside and now winter is finally upon us. Since coming into the gym we have been working on ball handling and shooting skills at all levels. Kindergarten has used bouncy balls to learn to dribble and shoot at mini hoops. Kindergarten is doing very well for their age. First grade has worked on the same skills with our youth basketballs. The youth balls were purchased a few years ago. The balls make it much easier for the students learning ball skills. Second grade has followed first grade at learning basketball skills only more advanced. The second grade's favorite game is soccer. Third and fourth graders are really turning into excellent shooters. Grades 3, 4, 5, 8 held pig tournaments (horse) last week. I can't wait to see the final results. Sixth and seventh grade are also working on basketball and if you have watched the Knights play, you know how well they play.



MRS. DEONNE HINZ
ART K—8 COMPUTER 5—8



It is amazing how quickly the year is going by, and just like the saying goes, “time flies when you are having fun”. In art there is so much to be done that I hope we will be able to get everything completed, but before time passes too quickly there are several important activities and projects coming up that you need to be aware of:

March is Youth Art Month and the students will be taking advantage of some fun activities in art this month.

- **McCook Art Guild Student Open Division Art Show** – 7th and 8th grade students will be participating in the art exhibit in March. They will be working hard to complete quality pieces that they will enter into the art exhibit.
- The younger grades will be working on three dimensional projects as well as learning about several living artists that use hearts as their favorite subject matter to create their art in honor of Valentines Day.
- The upper grades students are working with pottery as well as fused glass and stain glass medias of creating art.

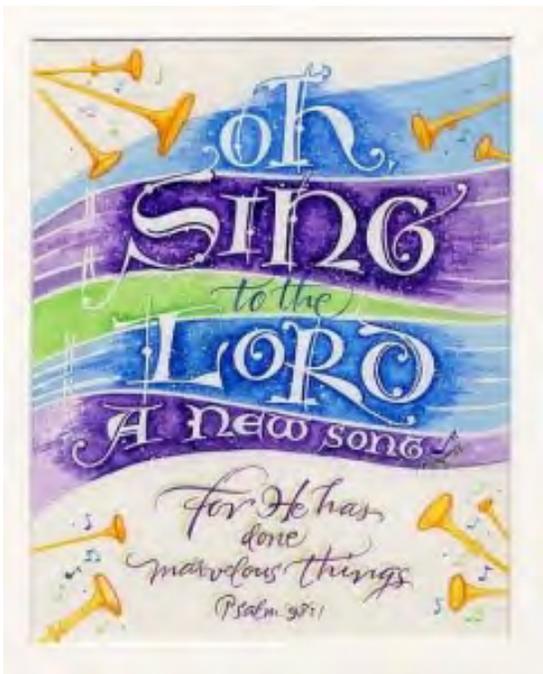
5th and 6th Grade Computer

We have been applying our typing skills learning some basic software using Microsoft Office programs as well as Office 365. Student will be learning how to insert tables into a document, as well as editing a story.





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

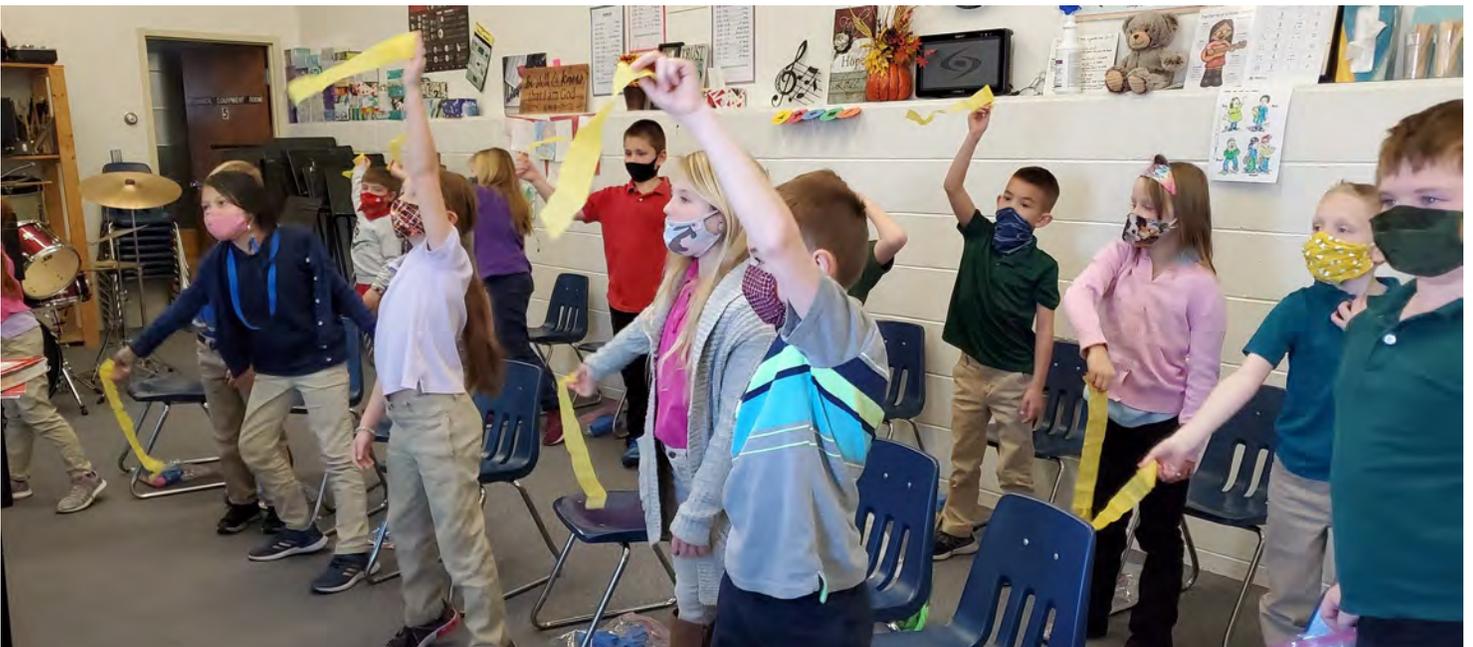


Since school started back up we've been working on a variety of concepts in the general music classes: Call and response singing, spirituals, expression, repeated patterns and harmony. 1st and 2nd graders will begin playing bell sets once a week in February, and 4th graders will be preparing for recorders.

The 5th grade Band is coming along very nicely. They have a range of over an octave and have progressed to playing songs that contain harmony! The 6th - 8th grades Band has been working on playing a variety of music and developing better rhythm reading skills.

Normally at this time of year we begin preparing for the Middle School Music Festival that alternates between Cambridge and Arapahoe. We've decided this year that we will instead have a recital here for students who would like to sing and/or play solos or in small ensembles.

No Spring Program is currently scheduled, but we will keep making music and we will keep you informed! God Bless you all!





MR. ZACH WIESER

7th HOMEROOM; 7—8 SCIENCE; 7—8 MATH; 8 ALGEBRA
BOYS BASKETBALL COACH

7th Math

In 7th grade math, we have been hard at work. We spent all of January solving equations and then learning about rates and proportions. Equations are something that can be difficult for students when they first start to truly solve them, and the 7th graders did a fantastic job of picking it up rather quickly.

8th Math

The 8th grade math students are working so hard and doing very well. I have been so impressed throughout the year at how much they know and the rate at which they pick things up. I think that is a testament to their knowledge and hard work, and past teachers. We have been hard at work solving equations with fractions. Fractions are definitely not a favorite of theirs, but they are doing great!

Algebra

In algebra, the students are working through geometric sequences, and exponential functions. I am always

so pleased with the pace at which we work through a chapter. These kids skipped so much math, going from 7th grade to algebra, and they took it and ran with it. We are getting ready to get into quadratic equations, one of my favorite topics!

7th Science

In 7th grade science we are working through rocks and fossils. They are learning how geologists study rocks and fossils, and how they know how old different rocks and fossils are. We also are getting ready to begin research for the science fair!

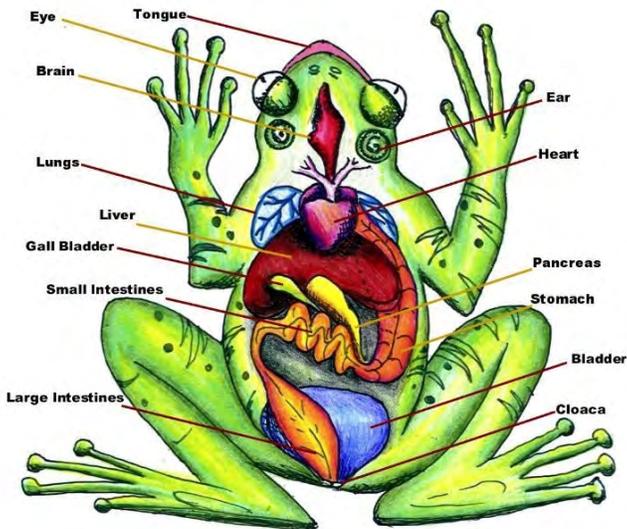
8th Science

In 8th science, the students are studying about different forces and how fluids affect those forces. We just went through a section learning about how planes work, including how they get off the ground using thrust. The 8th graders are also getting ready to start their work for the science fair!





Frog Dissection





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

5th Grade Social Studies

The month of February brings a very busy time for Social Studies. We had Martin Luther King Jr. day on January 18th. The students wrote their own “I Have a Dream Speech”! I challenged each of the students to write a paper on their “Dreams and Wishes” if they could change something in our world today. I am amazed at what they came up with. We have displayed them outside of the classroom, and will leave them up until Presidents Day. If you are in the school, stop by and check them out. The students did an excellent job on their speeches.

The 5th grade students participate in “History Day”. They each selected a state in the United States that they would like to report about. We have started working on our research of our chosen states and will complete a report and then start working on our display board. Sometime after Easter we will display our finished projects to our parents and classmates. We just finished up our first nine chapters in our Social Studies book. They learned a little about the Civil War and the Reconstruction and now we will begin the expansion of the United States, touch on immigration, World War I and II, the Cold War. The Geography Bee was cancelled for school year 2020-2021. Hopefully next year we will be able to continue with it as I know the students really enjoy it!

6th Grade Social Studies

The sixth graders finished up with their study on Australia. What a cultural change. We have started studying about Africa and then will move into Europe and Asia. I know the students are excited about this as some of them have chosen different countries in Africa and Asia to complete their “History Day” projects. We will be working on their History Day projects the next couple of months off and on. They will choose a country and make a recipe of their favorite food from that country. They will then display it during History Day along with their reports and display boards. History Day will be held toward the end of April. The Geography Bee was cancelled for 2020-2021, so the 6th graders did not participate this year. They did join in on the celebration with Martin Luther King Day. Once again, stop by and see our wall of tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. . . .

7th Social Studies

The seventh grade finished up with their Civics class right before the break and now we are learning about our “Roots of American History!” We will be studying the Thirteen Colonies, the French and Indian War, and the American Revolution in the 3rd quarter. Then we will continue with the American Revolution right up to the Civil War. The seventh graders also joined in on the celebration with Martin Luther King Day. Stop by and see our wall of tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. They have some great speeches on what their dreams and wishes would be today. We are looking forward to Catholic Schools week, which is the first week of February!

8th Grade Social Studies

The eighth graders have just start studying about World War I, will move on to the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and then onto the World War II Era. We definitely will have our hands full this 3rd quarter. We honored Pearl Harbor Day on December 7th with watching a video on Pearl Harbor, and we completed reports for this day of remembrance. January 18th was Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the eighth graders also joined in on the celebration. If you are in the school, stop by and see our wall of tribute to Martin Luther King Jr... All the students did a wonderful job in enlightening us with there “I Have a Dream” report. The 8th graders are super excited about Catholic Schools Week! This will be their last Catholic Schools Week at St. Pat’s, so they are really looking forward to it!





5th Science

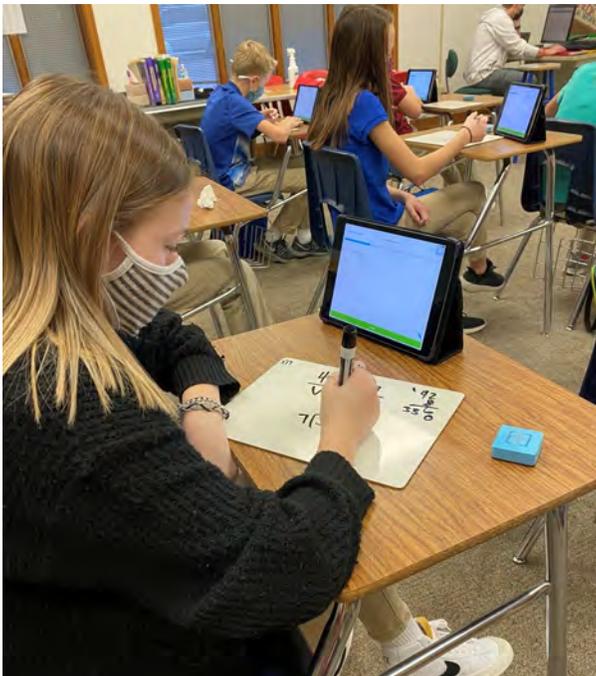
The 5th grade students finished the chapter on “Earth and its Resources”, and, all truth be known I think this was one of the more interesting units we will study in Science this year in 5th grade. I am positive that the students would agree! In this unit we studied Earth’s landforms, plate tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes, and tsunamis. The 5th graders had a choice of which one of these they wanted to write a report on and make a replica of it. Yes, they chose volcanoes. Each group created their masterpieces of a famous volcano. What a great learning experience for the students and Mrs. Fritsch!!!

Our next unit is “Protecting Earth’s Resources” and then we will move into “Weather and Space”. It will be a very busy second semester.

6th Science

The 6th grade Science students are right in the middle of their section on animal behavior including fish, amphibians, reptiles, vertebrates, and invertebrates, the difference between hibernating and migrating animals, plus innate and learned behavior. I know the 6th graders were looking forward to dissecting a few of these. We decided to dissect frogs and this was really a learning experience for all of them, plus Mrs. Fritsch learned a lot about frogs! The next unit we will move into will be Cells, Heredity, Genes, and DNA!







Student Council

The Student Council joined the church and parish in the ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Walmart on December 19th.

The basketball season is in full swing after the first of the year and the Student Council members enjoy helping by running the entrance. They would like to open the concession stand, but that will need to be shelved until after the pandemic.



MRS. GALE SLATTERY HEAD COOK

Welcome to 2021! How did it get to be February already!? School has been moving right along. Thankfully Covid has not stopped classes from being held. The Summer School Food Service (SFSP) waiver from the USDA is allowing us to continue to offer free lunch to all students thru the end of this school year. Just a friendly reminder that it does NOT include milk with cold lunch or seconds or extra milks. So please don't be alarmed if your student brings home a lunch bill.

Even though lunches are free to all this year it is still important to apply for free or reduced price lunches for next school year if you believe your financial situation has changed. If you apply and qualify it will take effect immediately so that when school resumes in the fall your stu-

dents will be able to hit the ground running, so to speak. Unfortunately this year we will not be able to have the usual Visitors Day chili lunch during Catholic Schools Week. We will, however, plan to have the chili and cinnamon rolls for the students and staff. They are eagerly looking forward to it! Pray that there aren't any issues getting the items from our distributor. There have been a few times that we could not get items we had on the menu. So I am hopeful this will not be one of those times!

If you have any questions about your lunch account balance or the free/reduced applications please give me a call. 308-345-5542. All I ask is that you call before 10am or after 1pm. During lunch it is difficult to answer the phone. Thank you and wishes for a blessed 2021!

News of the Little Knights



MS. LAURA MILLER
PRESCHOOL TEACHER
VOLLEYBALL COACH

Wow! Hard to believe January is already over! We have been very busy during the months of December and January. In the preschool class, we learned about and made D ducks, E eggs, F flowers, G grass, and H hearts. We made shaving cream snowmen, fingerprint nativities and ornaments for Christmas. We've worked on the letters in our name, our shapes, and our colors. In December, we celebrated Braxtyn's birthday! And in January, we celebrated Micah's birthday and Luke and Brinley's half birthday's!

We've been very busy in the PreK classes too! We've learned about the letters L, F, E, H, T, and I. We've been working really hard on our numbers and letters every day. In December, we learned about Advent, made a Christmas tree and snowflakes. We made a mosaic nativi-

ty scene to hang in the windows and a reindeer ornament. In January, we've been learning how to write our name in title case. We learned more about winter and what we wear in winter. In December, we celebrated Zade's birthday in the PreK3 class. In the PreK 4 class, we celebrated Alexander, Tabor, Leah, and Lucas J's birthday's! In January, we have celebrated Rosalie's birthday in the PreK 3 class and Lucas G's birthday and Rebecca and Emily's summer birthdays in the PreK 4 class!

Thank you to everyone who bought cookie dough from any of our preschoolers. We're still picking out the perfect new item for our classroom!



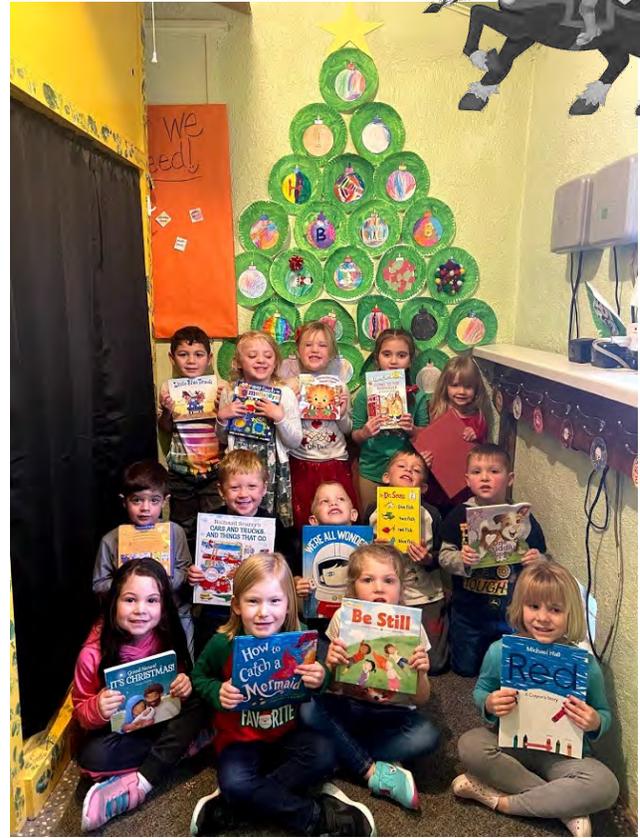
Isabelle and Rosalie playing in the birthday celebration discovery center.



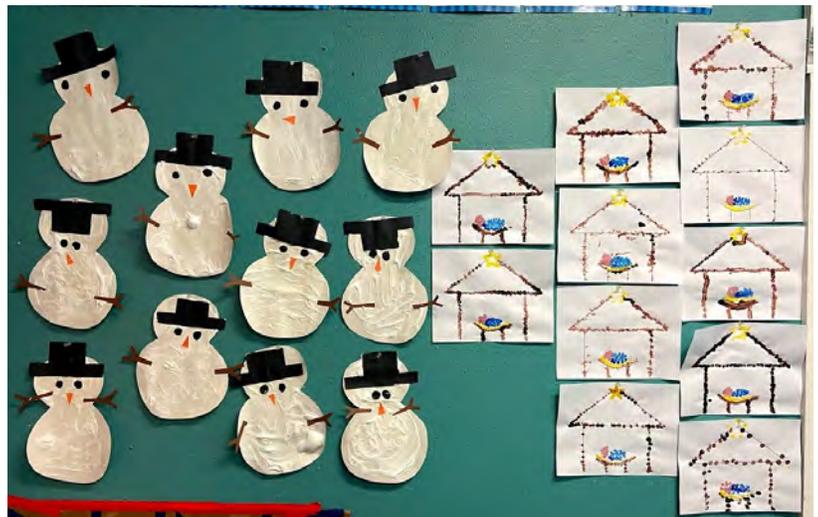
Evelyn, Raiden and Tabor work on their cutting skills.



News of the Little Knights



Showing off books from Christmas!



Snowmen and Nativity pictures.



Nativity Mosaics





February



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Hamburger on Bun Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Dirt Pudding Milk	2 Chicken & Rice Casserole Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	3 Chili Cheese Stick Cinnamon Roll Baby Carrots Peaches Milk	4 Pancake on a Stick Yogurt Hashbrown Fruit Juice Milk	5 NO SCHOOL	6
7	8 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans French Fries Fruit Cookie Milk	9 Walking Taco Beans Salsa Fruit Churro Milk	10 Pasta Spaghetti Sauce with Meat Salad Fruit Garlic Bread Milk	11 Mandarin Orange Chicken / Fried Rice Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	12 Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Vegetable Fruit Milk	13
14	15 Burrito Corn Salsa Fruit Milk	16 Tator Tot Casserole Vegetable Fruit Muffin Milk	17 <u>Ash Wednesday</u> Peanut Butter & Jelly Or Tuna Salad Sandwich Salad Vegetable Fruit Milk	18 Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans Fries Fruit Milk	19 NO SCHOOL	20
21	22 Pulled Pork on Bun Baked Beans French Fries Fruit Birthday Cake Milk	23 Sloppy Joe on Bun Vegetables Fruit Milk	24 Deli Sandwich on Flatbread Salad Vegetable Fruit Milk	25 COOK'S CHOICE	26 Fish Macaroni & Cheese Coleslaw Vegetable Fruit Milk	27
28						

Menu Subject to Change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Accelerated Reader™



Top Left: 1st Grade: Canon (on right) 11.1 pts; (not pictured Milania, 3.2 pts.) Auggie (left) 5.6 pts

Top Right: 2nd Grade: (not pictured, Celia, 7.2 pts); Adelyn (right) 6.1 points, Hayden (left) 5.1 pts.

Bottom left: 3rd Grade: (not pictured, Annabelle, 30.7 pts), Vivie (right) 28.3 pts.; Addyson, 19.9 points

Above; 4th Grade: Ashlyn, 52 pts; Payvn 26 pts and Aidyn 21 points.



Top Point Earners



Top Left: 5th Grade: Clara 23 pts.; Oliver 18 pts., Teagan 17 pts.

Top Right, 6th Grade: Aaron 88.8 pts.; Derick 84.5 pts.; Grace 49.1 pts.

Center, 7th Grade: Jude 80.1; Addison 29 pts. (not shown); and Jaylea 21 pts.

Right, 8th Grade: Beckett 35.1 pts., Zach 35 pts. and Bella 25 points.

