



# Knights News

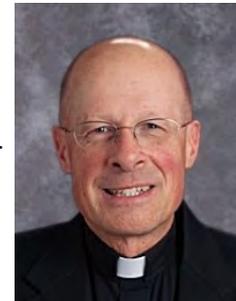
100 Years 1919—2019  
April, 2021 ♣ Volume 2020-2021 Issue 8

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

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

Message from Fr. Brethour	Pages 1 & 2
Calendar	Page 3
Principal's Message	Page 4
School News	Pages 5—29
Little Knights	Pages 42 & 43
Menu	Page 44
Accelerated Reader	Pgs 45/46

## A Message from Father Gary Brethour



Dear Parents,

Something occurred to me a few weeks ago as I walked down our school hallways. Our students do not have locks on their lockers by the classrooms. And we seldom have trouble with students' stuff in the lockers. That is counter cultural. That is great news.

We aim to be different, that is better. By that I mean holy. Treat each other well. Respect others and their stuff. By no means are we perfect. But a junior high having this freedom of locker use is wonderful. Compliments to our students and all our parents. Our students are a reflection of your homes and values.

Thank you to our students who rose to the occasion this year and sold a lot of GALA raffle tickets. Thank you to all who donated really neat auction items. Thank you to the volunteers on the committee who helped Cassie Spencer (who heads up our Development Office) put this event together. Thank you to all who participated by buying raffle tickets or bidding on auction items.

This year's trimmed down GALA turned out well and I thank and congratulate our GALA volunteers for their hard work. We are planning next year's GALA. Please set aside Saturday, March 19, 2022 for our next GALA. Please volunteer. It will take a lot of volunteer time to put on a full, in person event as we are planning at this time.

When we needed to make decisions regarding an in person or a virtual event for our March 2021 GALA, the committee had to go the way we did. Hind sight is 20-20. We did not have the luxury of knowing what the directed health measures would be in March 2021 when decisions had to be made many months ago. Thank you again to all who made our 2021 GALA a success in the face of many hurdles.

We are entering Holy Week and preparing ourselves spiritually for Easter. Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, the priests of our Diocese will gather with Bishop Conley at the Cathedral in Lincoln for the

Chrism Mass to celebrate the priesthood. We will renew our priestly promises. The bishop will bless the holy oils to be used in the sacraments this coming year.

Continued on page 2



- ◇ April 1—6—Easter Break
- ◇ April 4—Easter Sunday
- ◇ April 7—School Resumes
- ◇ Science Fair—open to the public 5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
- ◇ April 8—Track Meet @ Dundy Co/Stratton—10:00 a.m. Central
- ◇ April 11—1st Communion
- ◇ April 14—Hitchcock Co. Invitational Track Meet @ Trenton—10:00 a.m.
- ◇ April 15—History Night—5:30—6:30 p.m.
- ◇ April 19—Progress Reports
- ◇ April 20—Track Dual vs. Hitchcock Co. @ Trenton—1:30
- ◇ April 27—Non-Public Special Education Meeting
- ◇ April 28—Faculty Meeting

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



As I consider my priesthood and time with you and our St. Patrick School, I think about the role of a priest. It is to bring Jesus to you and your family. A priest is to be God's instrument to bestow sanctifying grace, the very indwelling of the Holy Spirit, through the sacraments of Jesus Christ's Church.

As we prepare our second grade students for 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion, our minds ponder the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, the Holy Eucharist. As I prepared to go to Confession to a brother priest for my own soul, I think about God's mercy. Jesus' mercy brings about not just a covering over, or God turning a blind eye to our sins, but a true transformation. The sins are gone. Our immortal soul is filled with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We can dare to pray, "Our Father."

I assume the Bishops of Nebraska will sometime this spring restore the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. But even before that takes place, prayerfully consider the example we are giving.

As a friend said many months ago, "If we can play, we can pray." My point is, if the family can attend social events and ballgames and be near others, we could also come to Mass and other religious events. You know how careful you need to be given the health situation of your family, loved ones and your employment. God knows our priorities. So do our students. Be careful to not get in a spiritually dark place where do not have Jesus as our highest priority and do not worship and keep holy the Lord's Day. Even during this time of the dispensation from Mass attendance, keeping holy the Lord's Day remains to do as best we can in the circumstances.

I pray this year's Holy Week is just that for all of our families. Holy. A time of spiritual awakening. There is a spiritual battle going on for our immortal souls. The stakes are high, eternally so.

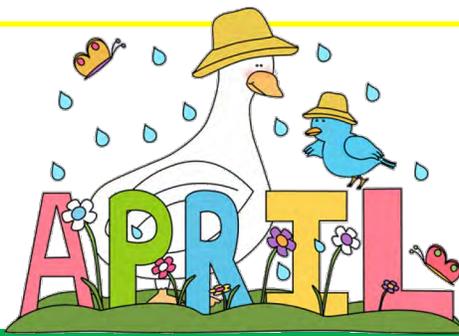
Our school is here to help all of you and your families regarding our eternal salvation. Jesus' life, passion, death and Resurrection is the reason for St. Patrick School and the Priesthood.

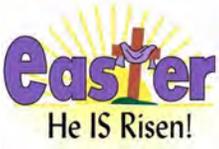
Happy Easter. Jesus is Risen. He is truly Risen.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Fr. Gary Brethour





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				<b>Easter Vacation</b>		
					 Good Friday	
4 Easter Sunday 	5 <b>Easter Vacation</b>	6	7 School Resumes Science Fair open to public 5—6 p.m. 	8 Track Meet @ Dundy Co/ Stratton— 10:00 a.m. Cen 	9	10
11 1st Communion— St. Patrick 9:00 a.m. St. Ann 8:00 a.m. Sacred Heart 10 a.m. 	12	13	14 Hitchcock Co. Invitational Track Meet 10:00 a.m. @ Trenton  Faculty Meeting	15 	16 History Night 5:30—6:30	17
18 CCD 1st Communion 9:00 a.m. 	19 Progress Reports 	20 Track Dual vs. Hitchcock Co. @ Trenton 1:30 	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Non-Public Special Ed Meeting	28 Faculty Meeting	29	30	



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE BY MRS. REBECCA REDL

Writing this newsletter, my thoughts go back to where we were last year at this time. No school, no Mass, and the fear that led us through the last weeks of Lent into Easter and into May. 2020 will be a year that is hard to forget, but what a difference a year makes, thanks be to God. We are not completely free of our COVID restrictions but we are headed in the right direction. I appreciate your patience as we navigate these uncharted waters and realize, that just like me, I wish we could be back to 'normal'. But I want to enter into this fourth quarter, just like our first, to complete this school year, 100% in session. Our school, teachers, and students have adapted well and continue to do well with our COVID restrictions, and happily, I can report, we are back to how we started school in August. Students are wearing masks in the hallways, in church, and to lunch, but when they are in their cohorts (classrooms) they are mask-free. We will always err on the side of caution, never knowing if we did too much but knowing if we did too little.

As we leave school on March 31, we are in the middle of Holy Week, which is the last week of Lent. As Catholics, we have an opportunity to share in the mystery of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection with our children during masses of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil. It is a time to help our children see the true beauty of our lives that God has given to us, how much He loves us, and how He wants us to be happy here on earth as well as with Him in Heaven. Celebrate this great redemption Jesus won for us by rising to eternal life. God so loved us, that He sent His only begotten Son to die for us so that our sins may be forgiven.

I pray your family will enjoy our break from school as we celebrate Easter. It is our church's greatest celebration of Christ's redemption over sin and death. I continue to pray for our school, our school families, and teachers and look forward to spring and what the Easter season holds for our school.





Surprising our Principal with this Blast from the Past! Yes! This is a photo that was uncovered of Mrs. Redl's wedding!



Jaxyn (left)



Corbyn (left)

Thank you Jaxyn, Corbyn, and Brekkan for bringing your baby goats to school for all to meet. Everyone had so much fun!

Brekkan (right)



## Special Education Meeting

On April 27th, 2021 at 3:30 PM, a meeting conducted by McCook Public Schools will take place at the St. Patrick's School library. The purpose of this meeting will be to provide an opportunity for parents who have parentally placed their child in an approved and/or accredited non-public school or exempt home school and representatives of non-public schools to participate in the development of a plan for providing special education services to children with disabilities who attend an approved and/or accredited non-public schools and exempt home schools which are within the McCook Public School district for the 2021-22 school year. Parents of a home-school child or a child attending a non-public school who has been or may be identified with a disability and attend an approved and/or accredited non-public school within the boundaries of McCook Public Schools, are urged to attend. If you have further questions pertaining to this meeting, please contact John Hanson, Director of Special Education at (308)345-2072.



**R** — **Rabbi**

**E** — **Eucharistic Lord**

**J** — **Jesus**

**O** — **Omnipotent Savior**

**I** — **Inri (Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews)**

**C** — **Christ**

**E** — **Emmanuel**

REJOICE –  
TO FEEL OR SHOW  
GREAT DELIGHT. :-)

“Death is swallowed up in victory.  
Where, O death, is your victory?  
Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin,  
and the power of sin is the law. But  
thanks be to God who gives us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- 1Cor 15:55-57

REJOICE my friends,  
our King has saved us.

MRS. JENIFER JACOBS  
LIBRARIAN



**MRS. LARA STEWART  
KINDERGARTEN**

**A**-all about Lent and the Stations of the Cross in we learned without fuss, we

pray and give thanks that God made all of us!

**P**-pieces of that banana split we are working so hard for-practice writing and

counting to 100 by 1's, 2's, 5's, and 10's-in May we will enjoy them before we

head out the door!

**R**-reading stories and sounding out words is so exciting to do, when I am at home

have me show it to you!

**I**-in math patterns and large numbers we have been saying, next comes money...

can we count any coins you have laying?

**L**-Lent is ending and Easter is near, the sounds of spring we are beginning to

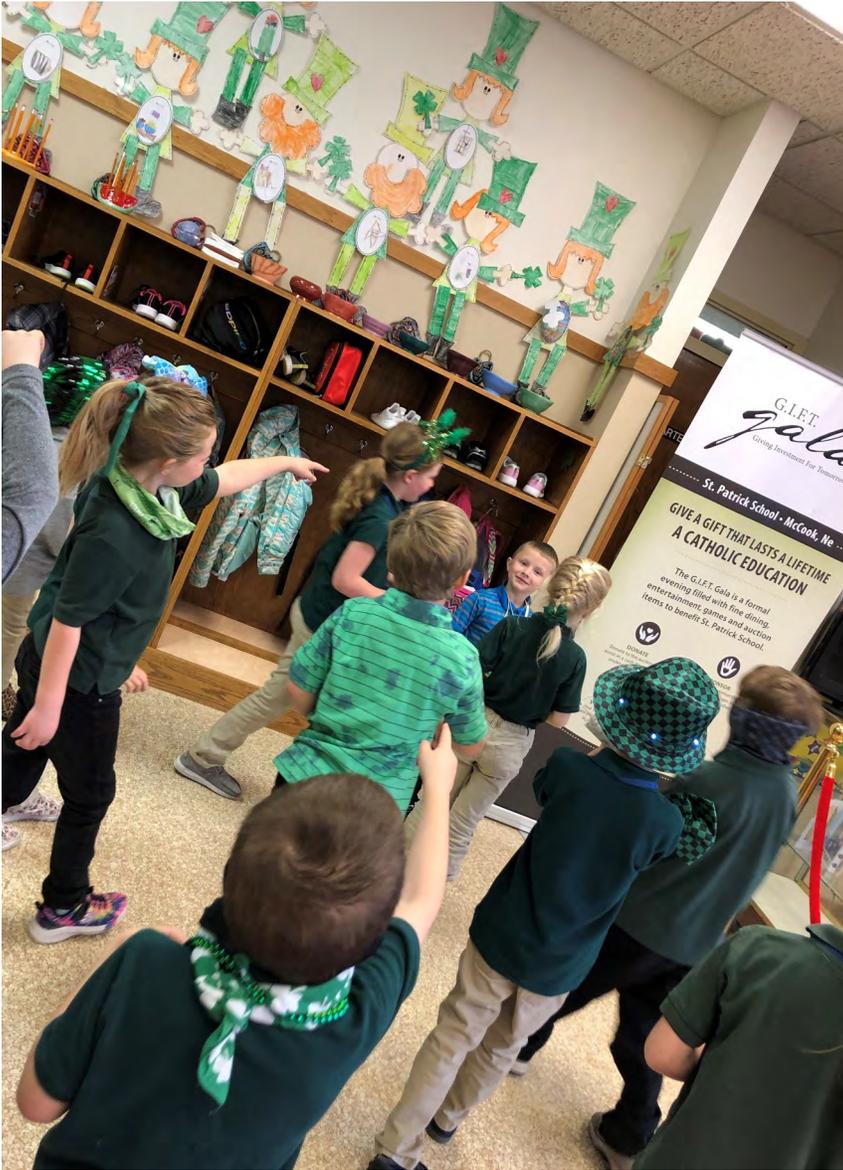
hear!

Happy April birthdays to Lexi and Elliot! I wish all of you a very blessed Easter. Enjoy your family time and the activities of the season. May God bless you.



Working on Math Mad Minutes to earn banana splits!





Looking for what the Leprechaun left us!



Leprechaun left us rainbow seeds!





The Leprechaun was here!



Finding what all the leprechaun has done!



Checking our the traps...empty!



LePrechaun



Traps!





## MRS. AMANDA PETERSON 1ST GRADE

We have been learning about the unique features of many different animals and here are some pictures of the kids moving along to “Mystery Science “ as we dance like an ostrich and a flamingo.



Gage keeps warm the frontier way.





The First Grade Class enjoying a fun new center thanks to a donation from Charlie Bortner.



First Grade has been doing a lot of writing. It is so fun to read the cute things they say. I am also proud of the spirit of generosity this class has!

If I had a pot of gold...

"I would buy 100 cars. I would buy 100 dogs. I would buy 100 balls." – Wade

"I would save it. The end." – Gage

"I would give some of it to the poor and give food to everyone who needs it." – Bentley

"I would get gifts for everybody on Earth and I would give it to the people with no house and people who cannot pay their bills. I would feel happy for everybody." – Sydnia

"I would give it to the poor so they can buy stuff they need. Then I would buy a secret hiding spot and that's that!" – Grace

"I would give it to the poor people. They could buy clothes and a house. The gold would make them happy." – Easton

"I would take it home and share it with my brother and live happily ever after." – Clayton

"I would have a zillion dollars and I would give all of my friends 100 bucks!" – Brody

"I would buy a bunch of remote control cars that would battle a battle bot. The battle bot has a blade that can hit all the cars and would shoot and knock down the drowns and the last one standing would win all the money!" – Cannon

"I would buy a mansion, a cat, and a dog. I would buy lots of candy and juice, then save the rest." – Katelyn

"I would be rich. First, I would buy all the toys in the world. Next, I will get a T.V. and last get rid of school." – Augie

"I will put it under my bed. Then I'd get some and bring it to school and buy candy at the candy day." – Kenlyn

"I would buy some toys for my sister and a new hat for my dad. My mom would get the rest." – Omar



MS. KHALEY LEE  
2ND GRADE



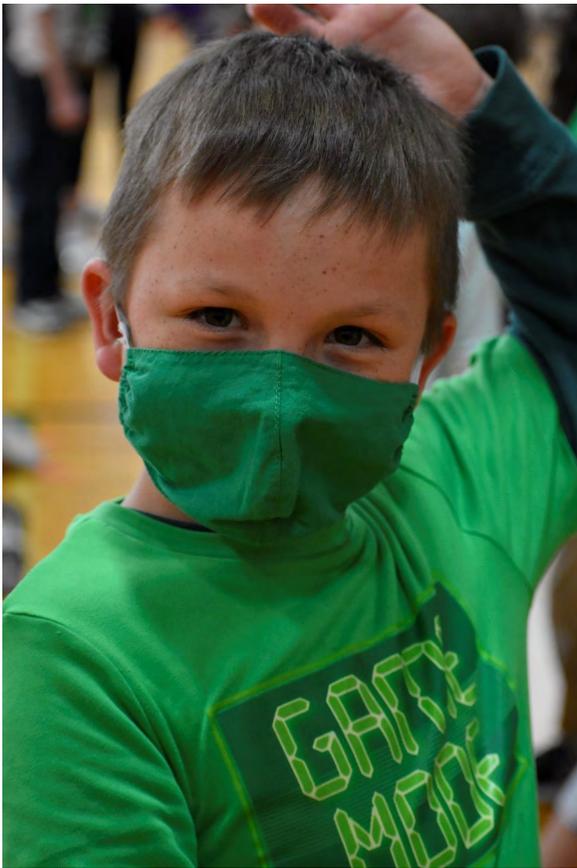
First Communion for 2nd Grade St. Patrick students will be Sunday, April 11, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick
- 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Ann

See the letter in this news-letter for more information, or call the school at 308.345.4546

First Communion Mass for CCD 2nd Grade students will be Sunday, April 18th at the 9:00 a.m. Mass.







After singing a Japanese Spring song, the 2nd grade students made pecking birds with Mrs. Hilker using the Japanese art of paper folding called Origami.



Dear Parents of First Communion Students:

St. Patrick School students and CCD students will be receiving their First Holy Communion on separate weekends. St. Patrick School student's celebration will be Sunday, April 11, 2021. School students will practice Friday morning after school Mass. There will be no practice on Saturday, April 10, 2021. (CCD Students will receive First Holy Communion Sunday, April 18, 2021.)

## DRESS CODE

**For First Holy Communion, the boys are to wear dark dress pants and a white shirt with a tie. Dress shoes preferred, no tennis shoes. The girls are to wear a white dress that covers their shoulders and a white veil. If the dress does not cover their shoulders a shawl or sweater must be worn during Mass. Dress shoes or sandals preferred and no flip flops.**

The children will line up in the school gym at 8:30 am on Sunday morning, April 11<sup>th</sup> to take group and individual pictures before First Communion Mass. The children will process up the aisle and genuflect as a group. The first few pews on each side will be reserved for the children.

Each family will be given a pew which will have the family name on it. The families will sit behind those receiving their First Communion.

At the end of Mass, Father will enroll the children in the scapular. We will provide scapulars for all the children.

Deonne Hinz Studio has been retained to take the pictures for First Communion on Sunday morning, April 11, 2021. She will be taking one photo of each child receiving the Body of Christ for the first time. **PLEASE NOTE:** The only pictures allowed during the First Communion Mass will be those taken by Deonne Hinz Studio. Please **DO NOT** take pictures during Mass.

The group picture and all other pictures will be taken in the school gym before the Mass. After the group picture is taken by Deonne Hinz Studio, families who wish to take pictures may do so. Following the group picture, individual pictures may be taken.

The picture of your child receiving Holy Communion for the first time will be a gift from the parish to you. Group pictures and other pictures may be ordered directly from Deonne Hinz Studio. Order sheets, with a price list are attached and also will be available during rehearsal as well as Sunday morning. You may order as many or as few pictures as you wish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Fr. Gary Brethour*



MRS. LINDA BREWSTER

3RD GRADE

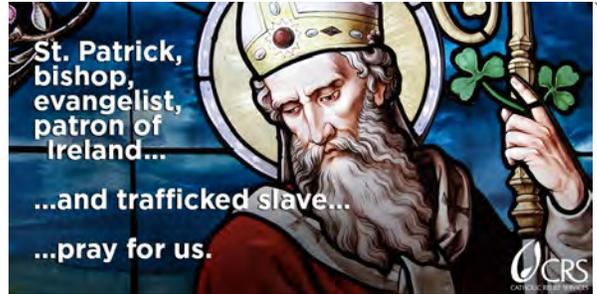
2ND GRADE RELIGION

We are almost finished working on the basic division facts in Math. Remember to keep practicing the basic multiplication flashcards each day. We will be starting to learn about fractions soon. Remind your student to practice their spelling words each week, as the list are getting harder and may need more repetition to spell correctly. We will be studying rocks and sand in Science this month also. Have your child practice the prayers for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade each night at bedtime. We need to have these memorized by the end of the year in order to earn the picnic!



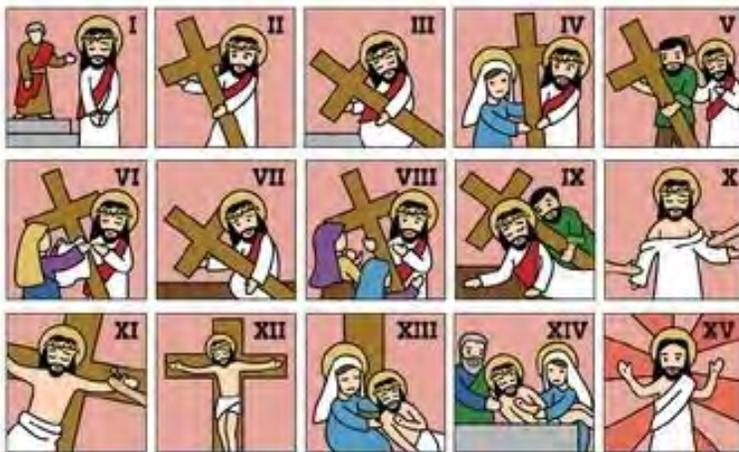
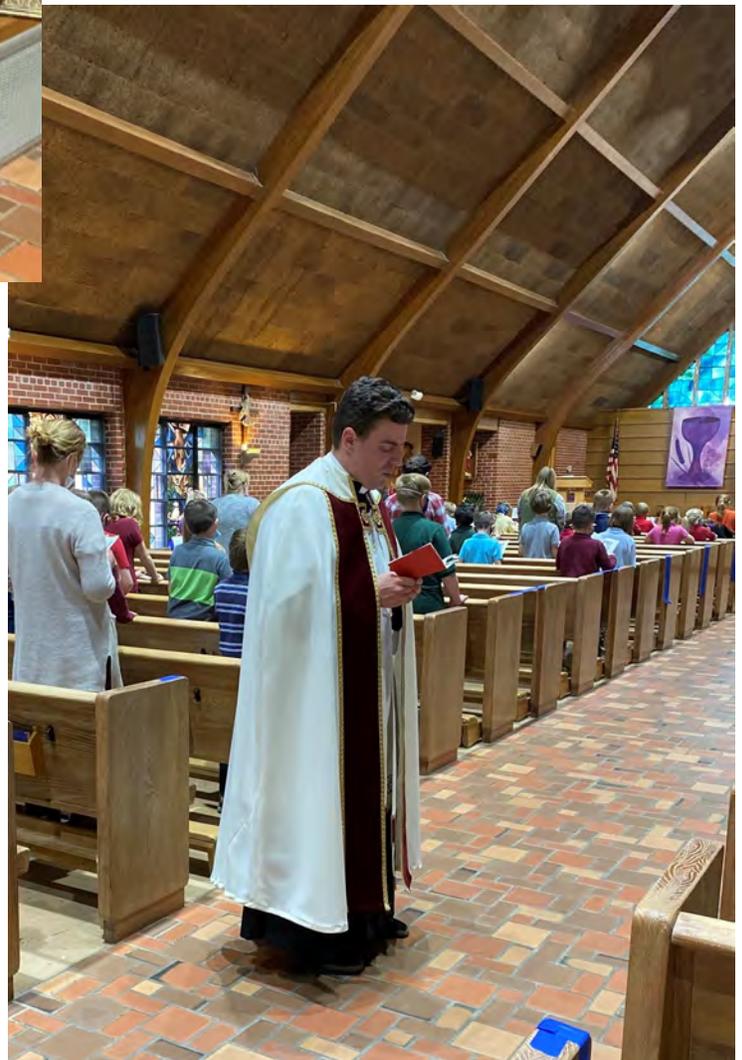


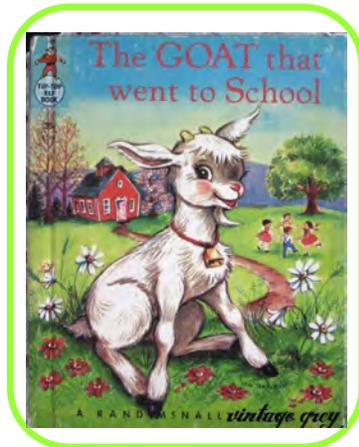
# St. Patrick's Day Mass





# STATIONS OF THE CROSS









Right:  
Ms. Sydow  
“Zooms” a stu-  
dent at home  
so that they  
can see the  
goat!



THE EVENT IS VIRTUAL. THE NEED IS REAL.

### TOP 10 SELLERS

1. Bronson—166
2. Brody—143
3. Lily—126
4. Payvn and Clayton—  
75 each
5. Kylie—67
6. Amya—65
7. Braxton—62
8. Oliver—57
9. Vivie—46
10. Jaylea—42 tickets  
sold

The students in the 100 Ticket Club and the Top 10 sellers are invited to a Pizza Party on Friday, April 9th at 11:30 a.m. to celebrate your accomplishments! Great job!

I'M ROOTING  
FOR YOU



Congratulations on an amazing job selling raffle tickets! Wednesday, March 31st during lunch, we celebrated with root beer floats for everyone! Thank you Loop Brewery for the root beer.



The bake sale sponsored by 3rd and 4th grade students was able to raise **\$322 for each organization**—One Life One Rose campaign for the Knights of Columbus and for the Hope of the Poor. Above: a photo of some of the girls who worked baking and selling at the bake sale.

MRS. TAMA KAIN

4TH GRADE



Spring has arrived, and the students are even more chipper than before. I love their enthusiasm for life! Even with the nice weather, they have been working hard. Having mastered division, they will soon be moving on to fractions and decimals. Learning about open and closed electrical circuits has led to interesting discussions of the beauty and dangers of electricity and the need to understand it. Class discussions are frequent with this group in all subjects. In religion, they have numerous questions about mortal and venial sins. They've been taught not to judge others, but to be good examples, help others to know the Truth, keep their own souls clean, and if they fall, to make a sincere confession. Their hard-earned contributions to the poor show their love of Christ!



Above right: Braedyn with the bird house he made. Below, Braedyn has sold his birdhouse, and is placing the money he raised into the jar where funds are growing for the “Hope of the Poor” mission.



# Knights News

100 Years 1919—2019



As many of you know, our St. Patrick's School Students celebrated our Patron Saint's Solemnity on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Due to previous years Lenten schedules or St. Patrick's Day falling on a Saturday or Sunday, we have not celebrated a School Solemnity Mass for St. Patrick for four years until this year. Granted then, when I was given charge to celebrate the Solemnity Mass with the 8<sup>th</sup> Graders leading as servers, candle-bearers, readers, a thurifer, etc. I was honored and excited to say the least.

As a first-year priest having been ordained within the midst of COVID, many liturgical celebrations have been taken away from myself and the faithful people of God, so it was a great blessing to be able to celebrate our Parish's Feast Day with all of our St. Patrick students and families. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders (and several 7<sup>th</sup> graders) did a fantastic job serving the Mass and it made me proud to say the least. The lower grades were also very impressed with the Mass. When they were in Music class, they all exclaimed to Mrs. Hilker that "it was so cool to see all of the servers holding candles and kneeling before the Altar (throughout the Eucharistic Prayer) and with the incense and the cross, etc.... They looked like a bunch of soldiers!

While I personally did not need further confirmation that our Feast Day Solemnity Mass was a success, this was icing on top of the cake. I am glad that our students enjoyed the Mass and as I know many of our parents know and

believe, that the ability to attend Mass on a daily basis is the greatest gift that we as Catholics and as Christians are able to receive in this lifetime.

And truly, the kids are right. As united to Christ and His Church, we are soldiers for Christ. As Christians, we are called to boldly proclaim the Gospel Truth at all times, just as St. Patrick did as a missionary. St. Patrick was so zealous for the faith and loving toward the people, that they desired to have him become a Bishop. For St. Patrick, the most important thing was to be a soldier of Christ. Such faith led to his composing the "**St. Patrick Breastplate**" Prayer.

Therefore, to our entire St. Patrick School Family, as we are about to wrap up this Lenten Season, I want to personally encourage you to not lose heart in these difficult times. Rather, following the example of St. Patrick and St. Joseph, (whose Solemnity was March 19<sup>th</sup>) may we follow each of their saintly and fatherly examples. May all of us we be soldiers, but even more, may all of us be true imitators of our Beloved Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. God bless you all.

To Jesus through Mary & Joseph,  
Fr. Wirth



*Christ with me,  
Christ before me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ in me,  
Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ on my right,  
Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down,  
Christ when I sit down,  
Christ when I arise.*

- "St. Patrick Breastplate"  
Prayer



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

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

Can you believe it is already April? In fifth grade math we are just beginning Chapter 10 which is all about graphs. Last chapter we worked on collecting and analyzing data such as mean, median, and mode while looking at charts and graphs. Now we get to make our own graphs! This is a fun switch up from working with decimals like we did all quarter three. Here soon the students will get to be a part of a fun graphing activity. I can tell already that graphs will be a piece of cake for them!

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

We are moving onto Chapter 8 in sixth grade math. Chapter 8 works with Geometry, which is a nice change of pace! Just completing the introduction section of this new topic I can see the students will do great with it. We will be taking a look at points, lines, segments, rays, angles, and triangles. They will learn how to find special angle pairs and classify triangles. I know they are excited to get away from fractions, finally!

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

Currently we are just finishing up Collection 4 in sixth grade reading. We are moving to Collection 5 which has the theme of “Decisions That Matter”. This collection is

made up poems, a fictional short story, news articles, and an autobiography. The discussions about the reading will be focused on making the right choices and how to decide what that right choice is.

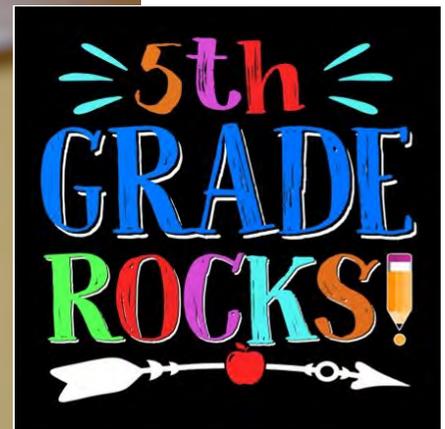
At the end of the collection students will have the opportunity to write a personal narrative about an important decision in your life. Please remind them to keep reading their AR books in order to get their banana split at the end of school!

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

We are working our way through Collection 5 in seventh grade reading. The theme of this collection is “The Stuff of Consumer Culture”. We’ve had some serious discussions about the few readings we’ve done so far, the students can be very insightful. The stories focus on things our generations are putting importance on and whether they are really worth all that attention. Please remind them to keep reading their AR books in order to get their banana split at the end of school!

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

The last book we will read in advanced reading is Hiroshima by John Hersey. So far the students are enjoying this book more than the last. A Tale of Two Cities was a tough read but they made it through well. Our current book can be a bit gory in some chapters but they are handling it well. Hard to believe we are down to a little over a month, I’ve so enjoyed all our discussions. Please remind them to keep reading their AR books in order to get their banana split at the end of school!





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

SPRING is finally here! I am excited for some sunshine, warmer days and smiles 😊 This time of the year I think everyone is just a little happier. Students know that the end of the school year is drawing near and summer is right around the corner. Teachers can reflect on the year and see the progress that has been made in the classroom (and we might be a little excited for summer break too!). So with warmer days, we will be spending some class time outside as much as we can...the kiddos just loved doing this last fall! And we will continue to learn as much as we can as we make more memories.

### English 5-8

We will continue with argumentative writing this month. This genre of writing follows EBW except for we include a counterclaim in the second (or third) body paragraph(s). We still cite evidence and provide justification but we stick with our first claim (thesis) of our paper to prove our point.

We have now learned all the parts of speech in grammar; articles, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections. We have also been practicing how to diagram sentences with these parts of speech. We will spend a few weeks putting all of this together in a fun and engaging unit on capitalization and punctuation! These skills and tools will be very helpful as we move into our final type of writing, research writing, with a project based learning activity.

### Reading 5

We continue to read stories in our Journeys' textbook. We are becoming very skilled at annotating for characterization, word choice, figurative language and asking questions. We have MANY great discussions on the literature that we read. The kiddos are also becoming experts at looking for evidence with proper citation from the text and they now KNOW that I will always ask them to justify EVERYTHING! I have even caught them asking each other WHY, please explain! It is just so awesome to see them grow as readers this year. I hope the kiddos are sharing all that they are learning with you at night...they have worked so hard.

### Reading 8

We are finishing up our last section in the Collections' textbook. We have learned to annotate, look for evidence, cite with MLA formatting, and justify EVERYTHING! We will spend most of April and all of May reading our second novel, *The Hobbit*, by J. R. R. Tolkien. The kiddos are equally excited to read our second novel. We will watch the movie as well and write a short compare/contrast article between the book and movie. I can't wait to see which one each of them will pick!



6th grade football intramural interest meeting at McCook Junior High cafeteria this **Thursday April 1st at 3:45 p.m.**



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 dates coming up that you need to be aware of:

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>** – all 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students need to have all projects completed in order to exhibit them for the Art Show and the student judging of Artist of the Year.

**April 26<sup>th</sup> through April 28<sup>th</sup>** – The 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be setting up their art work displays for Art Show judging which will be held on April 30.

Winners will be announced at the Awards Day.



A special “Congratulations!” goes out to all the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students that participated in the McCook Art Guild Student Show and Competition. First place winner for the Junior High division was awarded to Rebecca P. Honorable Mention Awards went to Reese, Brianna and Raedin.

**5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Computers**



In computers, so far the student have been working on how to improve their typing skills as they apply those skills creating a word document and a PowerPoint Presentation as well as learning Excel. Students are learning that there is much more to using a



computer than just playing games. As we finish up the school year student will be going back to working on the Type to Learn program and well as working with internet safety and computer etiquette.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Computers**

Well the year is starting to come to a close, and the students have not been able to have much computer time through the month of March as we celebrated the Lenten Season. There is still so much to be done in class. Students are finishing up their PowerPoint assignment and will need to be aware that the final due date for completing the project is **April 17<sup>th</sup>**.



## **M**AKING STAINED GLASS CROSSES

at the McCook Art Guild





**STAINED**

**GLASS CROSSES**

Project Complete! Beautiful!





MRS. LORI HILKER

VOCAL MUSIC K-8

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 5-8



Will there be a Spring Program this year?

This is a question that has been running through my mind. As I write this, the answer is, "I don't know." Last year ended in such a strange fashion and it took a while before it settled into my brain. So many things swirled around in my mind. How long would this virus last? Would we be back to finish the year? As it turned out, the answer to that last question was "no". We were so blessed, however, that in August we were able to return to in-person learning! That was such good news! We were able to make modifications to how we do things at school, but erred on the side of caution and did not have our Veterans Day or Christmas programs. This brings me back to the question of having a Spring Program and Art Show.

By the grace of God, I'm going to be optimistic! We decided to do a Recital at school this year for upper grade Music students instead of competing at the

Middle School Music Festival. Band students and some upper grade vocalists are busy preparing for the Recital which may be Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> in the gym.

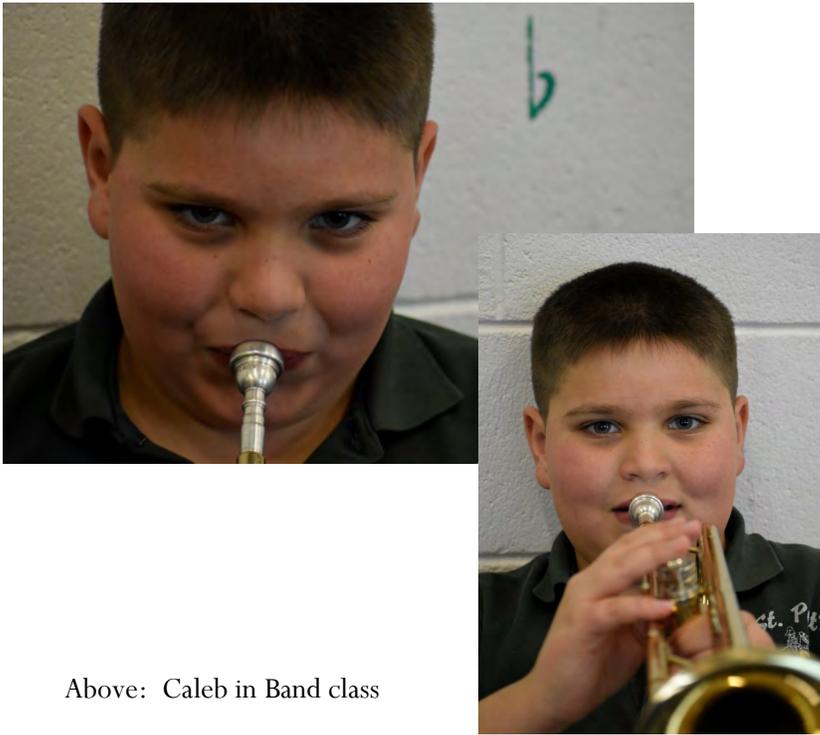
We are still learning in the Music room and are working toward the possibility of having our program. Elements of music such as steady beat, rhythm, loud/soft, high/low, melody, harmony, note-reading and more continue to happen. Kindergarteners love moving to music. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are continuing to read music by playing bells, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are playing recorders, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades are learning music theory.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade spent time learning about instrument families. All band students are getting better at improving their tone quality and reading music, and the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been working on the traditional 8<sup>th</sup> grade final song, The Memories Remain.

It will be exciting when we can perform again. So, ask our Father in Heaven who knows how to give good gifts if it is His will that we have the Spring Program.



HAVE A BLESSED EASTER!!



Above: Caleb in Band class

Right and below: After singing a Japanese Spring song, the 2nd grade students made pecking birds with Mrs. Hilker using the Japanese art of paper folding called Origami.





## MR. ZACH WIESER

**7th HOMEROOM; 7–8 SCIENCE; 7–8 MATH; 8 ALGEBRA  
BOYS BASKETBALL COACH—TRACK ASSISTANT COACH**

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

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter is here! This year has definitely flown by, and I am so thankful that we have made it this far with as much “normalcy” as possible. In 7<sup>th</sup> grade math we have officially started geometry! We are currently learning all about angles and triangles. It is a lot of vocabulary, but the students have been picking it up very well!

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

In 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, we are working through equations for a second time. However, this time is much harder because we added fractions and decimals, along with some negatives. I’m not sure anyone is too fond of any of those things, but the students have picked it up very well and are doing an amazing job working through the difficult problems!

### Algebra

Algebra students continue to impress me on a daily basis. They pick up the material so quickly and work so hard, I

couldn’t be any prouder. The chapter we are on is all about graphing parabolas. It isn’t the most fun, and is probably the most challenging chapter they have had, but they are doing extremely well.

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

In 7<sup>th</sup> grade science, it is all about the science fair. The students have been working very hard to get their projects completed and done well. We are on the last leg of the project, as the science fair date is set for April 7<sup>th</sup>. They have been putting in a lot of effort and time to make these projects be successful, and I can’t wait for them to be able to show off their hard work after Easter break.

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

In 8<sup>th</sup> grade science, it is all about the Science Fair. The students have been working very hard to get their projects completed and done well. We are on the last leg of the project, as the Science fair date is set for April 7<sup>th</sup>. They have been putting in a lot of effort and time to make these projects be successful, and I can’t wait for them to be able to show off their hard work after Easter break.





## 7<sup>th</sup> Social Studies

The seventh graders are studying the Thirteen Colonies, the French and Indian War, and the American Revolution in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. We will then continue with the American Revolution right up to the Civil War. Catholic Schools week was a huge success as I am sure you can tell from all the pictures and the student's comments. ITBS Testing is finished and it went well. The seventh graders did join in on the celebration of St. Patrick's Day and also wrote a report on what St. Patrick's Day means to them. Before you know it March is over and right into Easter.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

The eighth graders are right in the middle of studying World War II and will finish it up by Easter. We will then move into the present day history. We will be discussing 911, the Vietnam and Korean wars, the Persian Gulf War, the Oklahoma City bombing, the Pandemic, and the Boston Marathon bombing just to name a few. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders participated and helped Father Wirth with the St. Patrick's Day Mass. They all did a wonderful job and from all their comments, they really enjoyed it. The 8th graders also joined in on the celebration of St. Patrick's Day and also wrote a report on what St. Patrick's Day means to them. Before you know it March is over and we are right into April and the blessed Easter Season. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are looking forward to graduation and the end of the year festivities.

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

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

As I mentioned in the March newsletter, the 5<sup>th</sup> graders do participate in "History Day". They each selected a state in the United States that they would like to report about. We have completed our state reports and are all working on our display boards. After Easter we will display our finished projects to our parents and classmates. History Day will be on April 15<sup>th</sup> this year. As we get closer, I will give all of you more details on History Day. The fifth graders did join in on the celebration of St. Patrick's Day and also wrote a report on what St. Patrick's Day means to them.

## 6<sup>th</sup> 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 are working on their History Day projects. They chose a country this year and will make a recipe of their favorite food from that country. They will then display it during History Day on April 15<sup>th</sup>, along with their reports, and display boards. The sixth graders did join in on the celebration of St. Patrick's Day and also wrote a report on what St. Patrick's Day means to them.

2021 Football Spring Meetings are going to be held on the dates provided below. Please attend your designated class meeting time slot if you plan on participating in football for the upcoming 2021 season. Any questions please contact coach Joe Vetrovsky.

Monday, April 12, 2021.

Next year's Freshmen will meet @ 7:00 p.m. at McCook High School, Conf. Room B.  
 (Freshman bring a Parent/Guardian)





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

The 5<sup>th</sup> graders finished the Chapter 7 of this unit, which explored how thunderstorms form, tornadoes or twisters take shape, hurricanes, and cyclones! We have since moved into the Earth and sun and learning about what keeps the Earth moving around the sun and what causes night and day. We will also review about the different phases of the moon, what causes eclipses, and of course we will study the planets and the solar system. It should be full of excitement!

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

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science students have just started studying the human body systems and health. The first section in this unit is the skeletal system, along with the muscular system, and then the integumentary system. The integumentary system consists of your skin, hair, and nails. We have a new addition to the classroom to help Mrs. Fritsch teach this unit. This person's name is Dr. Bones (our homeroom skeleton)! He dressed up for St. Patrick's Day and is now helping teach the 6<sup>th</sup> graders about the different types of bones, muscles, tendons, and ligaments in the human body. Dr. Bones has become quite an asset to our 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science classroom!







## MRS. GALE SLATTERY HEAD COOK

Happy Easter! We hope everyone had a Blessed Easter! Welcome to spring as well! The school year is almost over. Where did the year go? We can tell the students are eager to be outside by the voices in the lunchroom! They are definitely excited for spring!

We encourage you to get outside with your students and enjoy the beautiful spring weather. Maybe take them to the grocery store to pick out a healthy snack

for after their schoolwork is done. It's also a great time to start planning a vegetable garden! Have your child help you choose some new vegetables to plant and try this summer!

Another reminder to check backpacks for lunch bills. The free lunch waiver does not include seconds or milk with cold lunch. We appreciate everyone's cooperation this year. It has been very different for all of us. Hoping and praying next school year will be closer to the normal we are used to!





Former students Evan Mai and Grant Cappel are shown here coaching the track team in high jump. Grace Wilhelmson and Lainey Schmidt are assistant coaching our track team as well. Such a blessing to have their help!



## TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

- Thurs, April 8, 10:00 Dundy Co/ Stratton at Benkelman
- Wed, April 14, 10:00, Hitchcock Co Invite at Trenton
- Tues, April 20, 1:30 p.m. , Hitchcock Co Dual at Trenton
- Mon, May 3, 10:30 a.m., Wauneta/Palisade Meet @ Wauneta

All times listed are Central Time



# News of the Little Knights



MS. LAURA MILLER  
PRESCHOOL TEACHER  
VOLLEYBALL COACH

Wow! I can't believe that it is already April! In the preschool class, we celebrated Scarlett and Kayla's birthday and Jana's summer birthday! We learned the letters M, N, O, P, and Q. We made M mountains, noodle N's, orange O's, popcorn P's, and quilt Q's! We've also been working hard on our numbers and shapes! We are really starting to be able to write our names also!

In the PreK classes, we celebrated Tinley, Carter, and Leiya's birthday and Isabelle's summer birthday! We've learned the letters O, Q, G, S, J, and D! We read Scholastic magazines about spring and wind. We've been working on our numbers with a really fun pizza game, and we made greenhouses to grow bean seeds. Some of them are already sprouting! For St. Patrick's Day, we made leprechauns and talked about what we would do if we found his pot of gold!

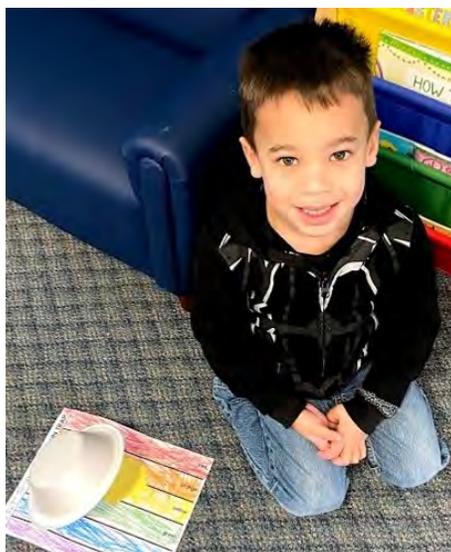


All of the classes made leprechaun traps, but none of us were lucky enough to catch him. :-). He made quite the mess out of our room, but left us candy to make up for it!

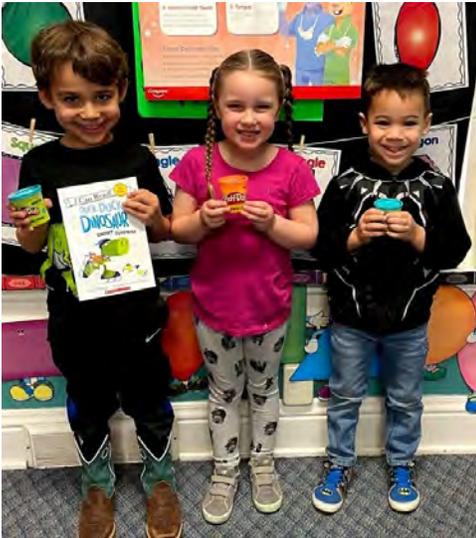
We also started to hatch chicks! They should be here any day now and we can't wait! :-)



Leprechaun traps



# News of the Little Knights



Pre K 3 top fundraisers



Preschool building fine motor skills



Pre K Leprechauns and pots of gold



PreK 4 top fundraisers



Preschool top fundraisers



Preschool greenhouses



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <b>Holy Thursday</b>	2 <b>Good Friday</b>	3
4 <b>HAPPY EAST-ER</b>	5 <b>Easter</b>	6 <b>Break</b>	7 Hot Dog on a Bun Pork and Beans Fries Fruit Milk	8 Scallop Potatoes Ham Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	9 PBJ or Tuna Salad Sandwich Vegetables Fruit Milk	10
11	12 Burritos Bean Salad Salsa Fruit Milk	13 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Sweet Potato Puffs Fruit Cookie Milk	14 Mandarin Orange Chicken Fried Rice Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	15 Pasta Meatballs Spaghetti Sauce Salad Garlic Bread Milk	16 Omelet French Toast Sticks Hashbrowns Fruit Juice Milk	17
18	19 Hamburger on Bun Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Milk	20 Chicken Fajita Vegetable Salsa Fruit Tortilla Chips Milk	21 Roast Chicken Mashed Potatoes Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	22 Deli Sandwich On Flatbread Salad Vegetable Fruit Milk	23 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Vegetable Fruit Milk	24
25	26 Pulled Pork on Bun Baked Beans Sweet Potato Puffs Fruit Birthday Cake Milk	27 Pancake Wrap Yogurt Hash Browns Fruit Juice Milk	28 Chef Salad with Ham & Cheese Vegetables Fruit Breadstick Milk	29 <b>COOK'S CHOICE</b>	30 Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Vegetable Fruit Milk	

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

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



## Top Point Earners



AR top point earners:

1st Grade: Canon 11.2; Milania 3.3; Brody 1.6

2nd Grade: Amiya 12.5; Adelyn 2; Naomi 1.7

3rd Grade: Addyson 14; Kali 11.9; Annabell 8.4

4th Grade: Presley 24.5; Alani 14; Ashlyn and Payvn, 13 each

Great Job!

## The Parts of a Reader





## Top Point Earners



AR top point earners:

5th Grade: Teagan 16; Oliver 12.6; Hailey 9

6th Grade: Aaron 56; Grace 37.4; Eli 26.3

7th Grade: Jude 70; Addison 45; Reese 13

8th Grade: Zach 19; Natalie 16.8; Mark 16