



Knights News

100 Years 1919—2019
May, 2021 ♣ Volume 2020-2021 Issue 9

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

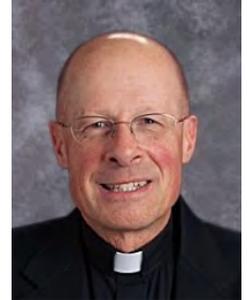
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McCook, NE 69001 ♣ 308.345.4546
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A Message from Father Gary Brethour

Dear Parents,

We are near the end of this school year and we are still conducting in person classes with a few weeks to go in this school term. Congratulations. Last August of 2020 we did not know what would happen. God has been good to us. He always is.



Pope Francis during his Regina Coeli address on Sunday, April 18th said: “Being Christian is not first of all a doctrine or a moral ideal; it is a living relationship with Him, with the Risen Lord: we look at Him, we touch Him, we are nourished by Him and, transformed by His Love, we look at, touch and nourish others as brothers and sisters.” (Southern Nebraska Register, April 23, 2021, p. 8.)



Being Christian means we worship our God and keep Holy the Lord's Day with our brothers and sister in Christ. The dispensation from the serious obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation will come to an end May 23, Pentecost Sunday. It will again be a serious sin to not attend Sunday Mass (and Holy Days.) unless there is a serious circumstance that prevents you.

- ◇ May 1—St. Joseph the Worker Feast Day—
May Day
- ◇ May 3—Wauneta/Palisade Track Meet @ 10:30 a.m.
- ◇ May 4—5—8th Awards 10:00 a.m.
- ◇ May 6—Confessions
- ◇ May 6—7—8th Grade to Lincoln
- ◇ May 7th—Eucharistic Adoration
- ◇ May 10—7th Grade Heritage Tour
8th Grade Retreat to Indianola
May Crowning—2:35
- ◇ May 11—8th Grade Last Day
- ◇ May 12—K—4 Awards 2:00 p.m.
- ◇ May 13—Ascension Thursday, No School
- ◇ May 15—8th Grade Graduation
- ◇ May 16—High School Graduation Mass
- ◇ May 17—Prayer Picnic in the Park
- ◇ May 18—Banana Split Sundaes
End 4th Qtr—Last Day of School
- ◇ May 19—Teacher Work Day

A wise old priest told us during seminary training, if you are so sick or the weather is so bad that it would stop you from doing what you would ordinarily do, then you probably are not simply making a light excuse or rationalizing. So if the weather or your health prevents you from going out for other seriously needed activities, the reason is serious enough for the Mass attendance to be missed.

A friend made the following comment many months ago when evaluating their family's Sunday Mass attendance, “If we can play, we can pray.”

The Mass is the most perfect way on this earth to worship God. St. Cyril of Jerusalem (in about 348 AD) gave us the Jerusalem Catecheses. It is a set of instructions given to those preparing for their baptism. This is the faith of the earliest Christians.



It is fascinating to observe as you read these documents from the earliest church fathers that we have preserved that doctrine and practice in the Catholic Church, in the Mass and other sacraments.

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

Continued on Page 2...



Continued from Page 1...

“On the night he was betrayed our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said: ‘take, eat: this is my body.’ He took the cup, gave thanks and said: ‘Take, drink: this is my blood.’ Since Christ himself has declared the bread to be his body, who can have any further doubt? Since he himself has said quite categorically, ‘This is my blood’, who would dare to question it and say that it is not his blood?” (Jerusalem Catecheses, from the second reading of the Divine Office for Saturday within the Octave of Easter.)

Wow. Powerful. The reason why I am Catholic. Why I left my engineering career and became a priest. The reason why we have St. Patrick School. Jesus is Lord. Jesus is risen. The Catholic Church is the Mystical Body of Christ. He touches us and heals us in the sacraments. He wants to have an intimate relationship with each of us. St. Patrick

School is here to help parents foster and guide that life transforming, loving, merciful, relationship Jesus wants with each of us.

Mark your calendars. Totus Tuus program for students K through 8 (this current year) is Mon. July 12 to Friday, July 16, 2021. This is an excellent program to educate and inspire our young people to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

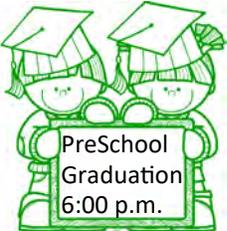
I pray that you have a safe, and especially Christ centered, holy summer break. God bless us all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Gary Brethour



May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 
2	3 Wauneta/Palisade Track Meet 10:30 a.m. 	4 5-8th Grade Awards 10:00 a.m. 	5	6 Confessions 8th Grade Trip to Lincoln	7 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 	8
9	10 7th Grade Heritage Tour  8th Grade Retreat in Indianola  May Crowning 2:35 p.m.	11 	12 K—4th Awards 2:00 p.m. 	13 No School  Ascension of the Lord Solemnity	14	15  During 6:00 p.m. Mass
16 High School Graduation Mass 	17 Prayer Picnic in the Park K—4  PreSchool Graduation 6:00 p.m.	18 Banana Split Sundae Day  End 4th Qtr/2nd Semester Last Day of School	19 Teacher Work Day 	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day 					



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE BY MRS. REBECCA REDL

May—really already?!? Wow, what a wonderful school year it has been!! I am so proud to be part of this great school. As I often say, I DO have the best job in the world. Our students have accomplished so much this year. Their growth in the classroom is such a delight to watch. As parents and educators, it's fun to reminisce and look back at not only their physical growth but also their educational and most importantly their spiritual growth. As I push our teachers to not stop learning over the summer, I want to push you as parents to find ways to keep your students learning over the summer. Keep reading books, learning and practicing math at the grocery store or on vacation, make them calculate some of the costs!! We will be sending home information on IXL and Zearn, programs available for your student to continue to learn math throughout the summer. McCook Public School is offering summer ex-

tended learning opportunities from June 1-June 24 for students K-5. This program is available to ALL students in current grades K-5th grade. Breakfast and lunch will be provided, all you have to do is sign up and attend a minimum of 12 days and your \$25 will be refunded to you. There are so many ways in our everyday lives that we can help our students grow educationally.

I hope you find time this summer to give your students opportunities to spend some time learning about God and growing spiritually. Our Diocese has available Camp Kate-ri Tekakwitha, which offers SKY Camp and Leadership Camp with great and fun opportunities for our young to learn to live their faith. Our parish offers Totus Tuus, July 11-16th, which gives our students a week-long opportunity to grow in their relationship with Jesus, plus spend fun times with new friends. Make time for Jesus this summer.

I know we all look forward to this time off from school and routines. I look forward to seeing our students enjoying their time off and being kids. My prayers are for all to have a happy and healthy and holy summer vacation.



100 TICKET CLUB



GREAT JOB!



3 Students sold in excess of 100 raffle tickets for the G.I.F.T. Gala!



Development Director, Cassie Spencer, presents 3 students a special t-shirt for their tremendous effort to sell 100+ raffle tickets.

L to R: Brody; Lily; and Bronson



Dear St. Pat's Family,

Trevor, Parker and I want to thank each and every one of you for all your support and prayers while Garrett was in the hospital and since his passing. A special thanks to Father Lorenz for saying the Lord's prayer with me and Garrett before he passed and Father Brethour for the wonderful message during Garrett's funeral and for his constant support. A huge thank you to Mrs. Redl and all the teachers here at St. Pat's and to all the parents who have made such wonderful meals to help make life at home a bit easier. My family and I couldn't have gotten through this time without you all and your prayers. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Love, Laura Nokes





Courage doesn't
mean you don't get afraid.
Courage means you don't
let fear stop you.



MRS. JENIFER JACOBS
LIBRARIAN

COURAGE

This year has been a whirlwind of changes, challenges, and also blessings! Recently, I asked about 10 people to give me one word to describe this last school year, and the answers were interesting. Here were a few ... challenging, better, resilient, intriguing, masked, precarious, and one of my favorites ... blessing. Many of them explained why they chose their word and the reasons and stories were great!!! This year has been challenging, and precarious for everyone. It doesn't matter what you do for a living, but the way people have bounced back, recovered and pressed forward is what counts. Our resilience has been inspiring!!

My word was courage, which I came up with before I asked. Courage is the ability to do something that frightens one. Strength in the face of pain or grief. To confront uncertainty. The courage that I have witnessed from time to time through this year has been uplifting to say the least. It is with hesitation that I say I'm thankful for this. In this life we need courage. I want my graduating son to know that because you hit a wall, it is not the end. There is always a way around it, over it, under it, or maybe even through it! I feel extremely blessed for him to experience these ups and downs, and see that perseverance along with fortitude bring success!! I pray that all of us with Gods grace, will move forward from this year with determination and courage that will not easily be denied!!

"I command you; be firm and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go."

MRS. LARA STEWART
KINDERGARTEN



It is hard to believe that May is here already! I am so glad that we were able to stay in school all year!! Our Kinders have grown so much this year! I am so proud of all they have accomplished and it will be so hard to let them move on to first grade!

There will be a LOT of learning happening this last month of school. In math we are working with money and time. They are both difficult topics so extra help at home would be great! We have learned many sight words and are becoming very good readers. The more practice we get, the better readers we will become.

Please help your child practice reading, writing, and counting over the summer. Keep those sight word cards and practice them too! It will help them GREATLY when first grade begins.

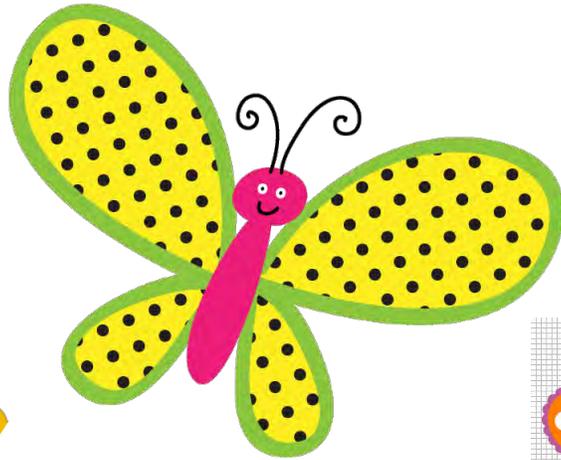
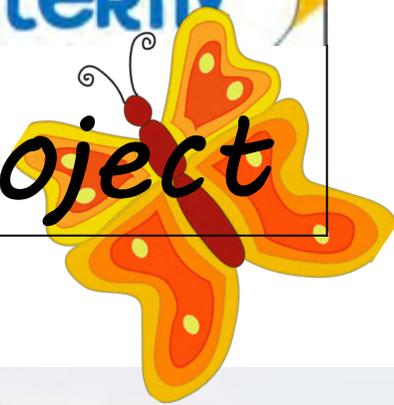
I have enjoyed watching our little learners bloom this year. I hope your summer will be full of learning experiences!



Our spotted
snowman!
Created with
minimal snow
April 20, 2021.

Thank you for the photos,
Mrs. Stewart!

Kindergarten
BUTTERFLY
Project





MRS. AMANDA PETERSON
1ST GRADE

S-Second step program has been great for our class. We have been learning when to use the “thinking side” of our brain and when to use the “reacting side”. We have also learned the 5 finger rule for dealing with our classmates when someone is doing something we don’t like. We are learning how to be assertive, how to make good choices, and how to be better listeners and learners.

P-Please keep practicing those math facts at home! We have just a few weeks to learn all of our addition facts and celebrate with a banana split in May!

R- Reading is exciting!! It is so rewarding and exciting to me as I roam around the room and listen to what good readers the student have become! Thank you parents for supporting and encouraging your child to read at home.

I-Be the “I” in KIND – I have been watching for and encouraging kindness, and when we see it, the kids get to have their picture taken in front of the kindness wall.

N-New life and new vocabulary! Each week we learn lots of new vocabulary words in our reading series. We will be reading about recognizing the signs of spring that are all around.

G-Glorious resurrection of Jesus! It was difficult for the students to learn about the pain and suffering that Jesus endured as we discussed the Stations of the Cross, but their spirits have been renewed as we celebrated Jesus resurrection and his Ascension into heaven!



Thank you for the photos, Mrs. Peterson.



MS. KHALEY LEE 2ND GRADE

WE MADE IT! The end of the school year is here and I am thrilled. I am so proud of these kiddos, they have taken all of the challenges that this pandemic brought and faced them head on. As I reflect on the closing school year I am reminded of a few things; 1. How quickly the year goes by. It makes me appreciate each day that I am granted in life and with these students. 2. How grateful I am to work at the BEST school with the BEST people. I feel so blessed because I love what I do! 3. How wonderful each child is. At the beginning of the school year we learn: the procedures for our classroom, the rules for the school, and the things that make each of us unique. Throughout the year we continue to learn more and more about each other and we form relationships based on our likes/ dislikes, similarities/differences, and what make us special. That's my favorite part!

A scavenger hunt toward the beginning of the year. Wow! The year flew by!



Photo courtesy of Deonne Hinz Photography

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

APRIL 11, 2021

ST. PATRICK CHURCH, MCCOOK

Front row: Kate, Greyson, Kade, Brady and Ryder

Center row: Adelyn, Kylie, Levi, Anthony, Naomi and Ana

Back row: Ms. Lee, 2nd Grade Teacher, Fr. Wirth, Fr. Brethour,
Mrs. Brewster, Religion Teacher





FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

APRIL 11, 2021

ST. ANN CHURCH,
RURAL MCCOOK

Charlotte and Celia with Fr. Lorens



MRS. LINDA BREWSTER

3RD GRADE

2ND GRADE RELIGION

Remember to keep practicing the basic multiplication facts with your child, even during the summer. Also, have your student read during the summer. We have been learning geometry in our math unit. This is always exciting! Have your child practice the prayers for the 3rd grade. We will continue testing on these in order to earn the picnic at the end of the year.





SUMMER EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

McCook Public
Schools/McCook
Elementary School



Enrichment and Practice Learning will take place during the month of June for ALL Students K-3.

Sign up your child by calling the office or returning the registration form.

- When:
 - June 1st-4th (Tue-Fri)
 - June 7-24 (Mon.-Thur.)
- Where: McCook Elementary School
- Time: 8:30-11:30



CONTACT US:

308-344-4400 ex. 4
cwallace@mccookbison.org
msharp@mccookbison.org

www.mccookbison.org to
learn more.



Personal Information Forms

Student Name: _____

Parent Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____

Current Address: _____

Student Information:

- Current Grade Level: K 1 2 3 4 5
- How will this child get home? (circle one)
 - Picked up by a parent
 - Picked up by a friend/relative
 - Daycare
 - Walk
- Please provide any health concerns you have that would be related to our Summer Program.

- Do you give us permission to take photos of your child during the summer program and share them with the public (ie. Facebook, Newspaper, School website)?
Yes or No

● Emergency Contact:

○ Name: _____

○ Relation: _____

○ Phone Number: _____

Thank
you



These students worked hard selling raffle tickets for our school. They are the top 10 sellers. Left: Brody and Clayton. Above: Oliver and Bronson.

Thank you for the photos throughout the year, Mrs. Redl.



Right: Payvn and Braxton.



Below left: Vivie and Lily. Below right: Amiya and Kylie.



MRS. TAMA KAIN

4TH GRADE



The 4th-grade class has been working hard to grasp as many new math concepts as possible before the end of the school year. They can now identify fractional amounts, compare fractions, simplify fractions, and order fractions. They will learn to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions before moving on to graphing. Writing assignments have included informational essays, fictional narratives, news reports, creative writing with dialogue, problem solving compositions, and poetry. Recently the class visited The Archway in Kearney and then played laser tag at the Big Apple. Everyone had a great time, and student reviews were high! A big thank-you to Mrs. Sonia Harms for being our bus driver and chaperone as well as an adept laser tag participant!





The 4th Grade Class enjoyed their field trip!



4th Grade students working hard in the class room, making their field trip a fun change of pace!



Thank you for the many wonderful photos you have provided throughout the year Mrs. Kain!



Knights News





Knights News





FR. BRIAN WIRTH

5-6 RELIGION

Long Days; Short Weeks

As a first-year teacher during COVID, this has been the longest year as well as a year which has flown by. Often times, I am reminded of the classic mantra from Totus Tu-us: "Long days, short weeks." This saying applies to this school year in the fullest way.

That being said, however, it has been wonderful being in the classroom **physically** all school year. One thing that COVID has taught me and hopefully has taught all of us is that we should never take for granted the small things in life. God's graces are renewed each day and He shows us His **particular** Love in more ways than we can count.

From this perspective, being able to spend time each day with the students physically in the classroom to learn more about Jesus Christ as His disciples has been a great grace and wonderful privilege.

Following preparing the students for Confirmation in the Fall, we have spent most of our time this year learning the Ten Commandments and the Structure of the Mass in detail. Sandwiched in between all of this material, the 5th and 6th grade students and I are doing a section on the Seven Deadly Sins and the Seven Lively Virtues.

Often times, when we hear anything about the Seven Deadly Sins, we tend to view them with a sort of eerie fascination or have a general curiosity about them. And I think part of the reason we do so is that we do not hear enough about the Seven Lively Virtues, the very specific and **particular** virtues which God graces us with in order to combat the Seven Deadly Sins.

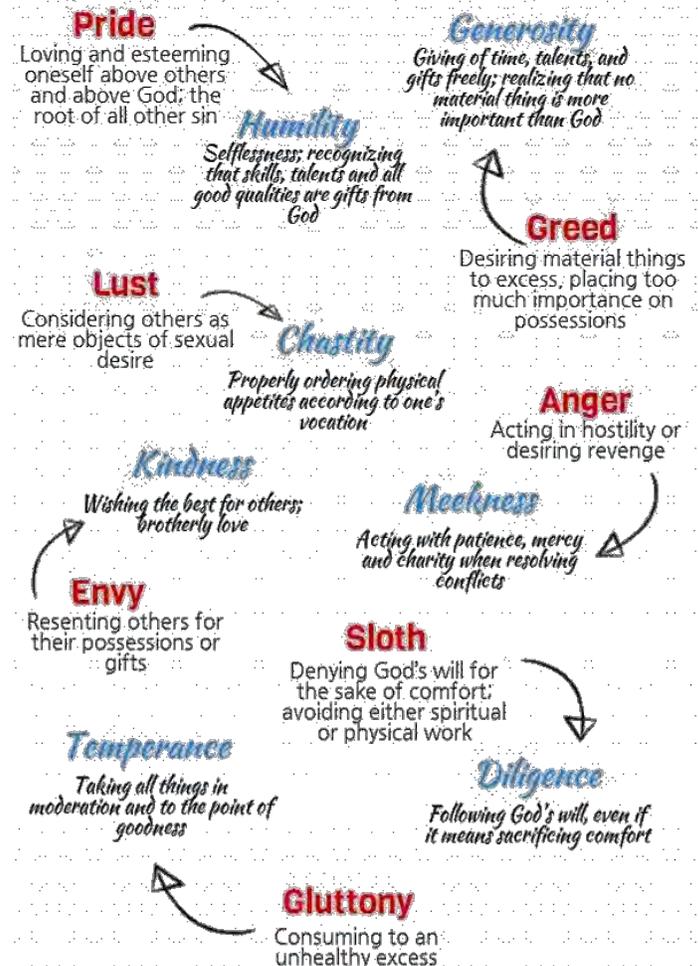
Therefore, having been confirmed as soldiers for Christ for the sake of spreading the Kingdom of God to every person and every nation, by learning about the Structure of the Mass, the Ten Commandments, and the Seven Deadly Sins, and the Seven Lively Virtues, what we have been doing all school year in Religion is equipping ourselves more fully with the spiritual weapons to defeat Satan and his Kingdom of Darkness. No matter the obstacle, whether it is COVID, a secular and irreligious society, temptation to sin, hopelessness, etc., the solution is always proclaiming the fullness of the Gospel Truth with charity and equally important, doing so with strength and joy, knowing that such particular gifts come from our Infinitely **Particular** and All-Powerful and Loving God, who made

us for Himself, to follow His Commandments, to live lives of virtue and holiness, and above all, to serve and worship Him in this life and in the life to come in the Heavenly Homeland.

The end of the school year is around the corner. May we finish these long days and short weeks strongly and may all of us continue to seek after always the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. God bless you all!

To Jesus through Mary & Joseph,

Fr. Wirth





Look for more photos in the
History Day Supplement





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



5th Math

Where did the year go?? We are finishing up the last few weeks in fifth grade math working with number theory. We will be quickly taking a look at divisibility rules, prime and composite numbers, least common multiple, greatest common factor, and exponents. All year long they have impressed me with their mathematic knowledge and how quickly they pick concepts up. I have no doubt they will rock sixth grade math next year!

6th Math

The last few weeks will be spent working with geometry and measurements. We're going over measuring length, mass, capacity, perimeter, area, circumference



and more. They have done a marvelous job keeping up with the lessons at this fast pace. We will spend some time reviewing everything we have learned closer to the end of school. I am proud of the work they have put in!

6th Reading

In sixth grade reading we are moving onto Collection 6. The theme of this collection is "What Tales Tell". We will be reading several different myths, folk tales, and sections of famous dramas. I have a feeling the students will enjoy the last few weeks, these stories will peak their interest! AR points for May are not re-

quired but I am encouraging them to continue reading and maybe makeup for parts of the banana split they have missed.

7th Reading

We are working in our last collection in our books. This collection is all about "Guided by a Cause". Several of the readings in this collection have been focused on bettering ourselves and ways of improving our world around us. As always I am impressed with the students' discussions and their insight into different concepts brought up!

8th Reading

We are finishing out the last couple weeks we have with the book Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr. They will be testing out their origami skills here soon, trying to create their own paper crane. I am so proud of how they handled this year, they are a strong and creative group of kids. I know they will do great things in high school!





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

It is so hard to believe that the last month of school is here! I am not sure where the time has gone but I have enjoyed every minute of getting to know your child and watching him/her grow in their reading and writing skills. I can't voice enough how proud I am of each and every one of these kiddos. I hope and pray that you have a wonderful summer break and are able to take this time to recharge and spend time as a family.

5-8 English

We will spend the last few weeks of school taking all of the skills that we have learned since the first day and putting them all together as we learn and craft our final genre of writing. We have already started Research Writing and will be working on this until the last full week in May (8th graders will be finished a little sooner). All students have picked a topic and are now busy looking for sources and evidence that will support their claim as well as learning how to write an outline. We will move into writing a rough draft, complete a peer edit and then revise and re-write in cursive (or type in MLA format) our final masterpiece. We will continue to learn this type of writing in smaller chunks with specific due dates to keep all of us accountable. Grades 5-7 will have a short presentation period where they share their writing with the class. I am so excited to hear their final essay! I will be sending home ALL of their writing samples from throughout the year in their portfolio binders.

5th Reading

We are finishing up the last few stories in our Journeys' textbook. We have explored and discussed many different types of genres; narratives, informational text, fiction, science fiction, and autobiographies, just to name a few. We have also annotated for characterization, word choice, questions and figurative language. I am sure that all of you are now very familiar with RTL (Response to Lit-

erature) also. We are working on completing our individual book challenge that was set at the beginning of the year as well as a book project (kiddos got to pick how they wanted to share a recent book that they have read). My hope is that each child sees the beauty in text and all of the different types of literature that exist and are able to continue this in some capacity over the summer.

8th Reading

We are currently reading *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien. We are annotating for figurative language, word choice and any questions that arise while we are reading and discussing this text. This novel is full of vocabulary words, which has lent to meaningful discussions by all. We are hoping to finish at least most of the book but will definitely spend a few days watching the movie and just enjoying the last few days together. I know they are super excited...I am too but also a little sad to see them go! I have so enjoyed our year together :-)

6th Homeroom

I am planning an end of the year field trip for Monday, May 17th. We will also spend the last day of school just being together and having some fun (par-tay!) I will email you with details once I have an exact time on the field trip and details in regards to the last day of school. If you have any questions in regards to the above activities, please don't hesitate to reach out.





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

Knights News



Thank You to all the students for their hard work and dedication to being creative thinkers. The students all worked really hard to get their projects completed for our annual Artist of the Year Student Judging. Winners of the art awards will be announced during the 5th - 8th Grade Awards Presentation on May 4 at 10:00am and the Kindergarten - 4th Grade Awards will be presented during they award celebration on May 12 at 2:00pm. Congratulations to all of our students for a successful and fun year, keep creating and have an awesome creative summer to everyone.





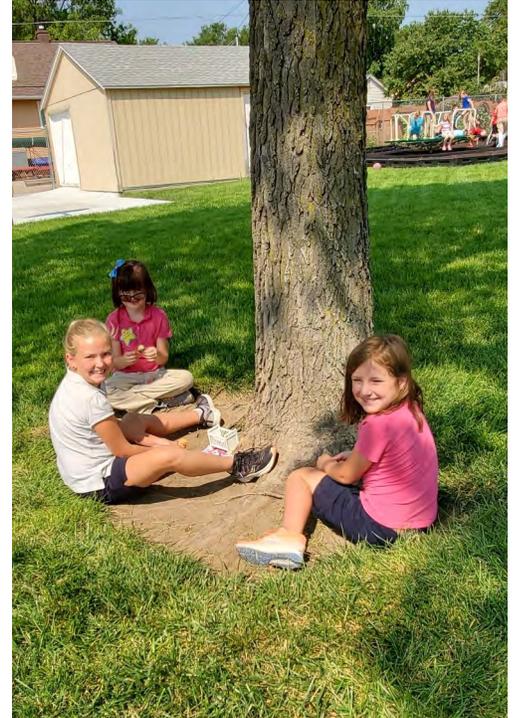
MRS. LORI HILKER
VOCAL MUSIC K-8
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 5-8

I can't believe we are nearly done with this school year!

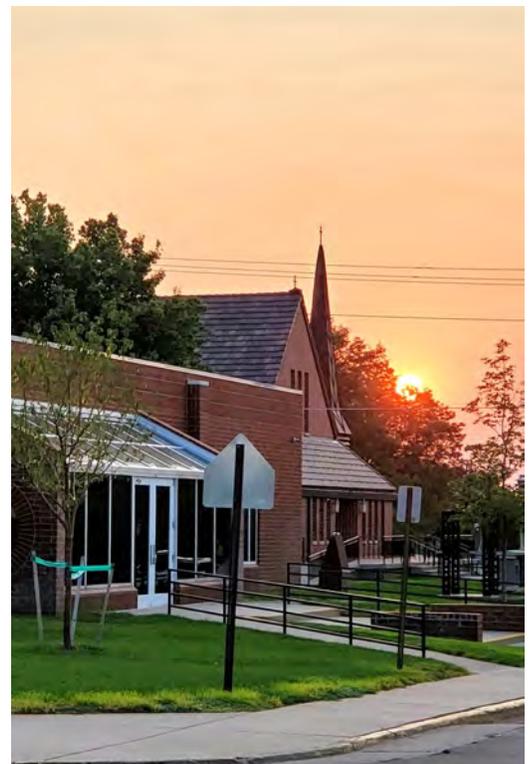
We've still been making music in school. Lots of songs, music games, rhythmic things. Sadly, the Spring Music and Art Show is not happening again this year due to being cautious about Covid 19. In lieu of the in-person event, I will be recording students and will put together some type of video presentation of everyone, or of your individual student groups. Mrs. Bortner will help me get that figured out before the end of the school year.

I am immensely grateful we've been in school all year. Last year was a great lesson on how often I take things for granted. So go enjoy your time together, make memories, and look around often to notice and thank God for the blessings we have received!

Make some music this summer!!



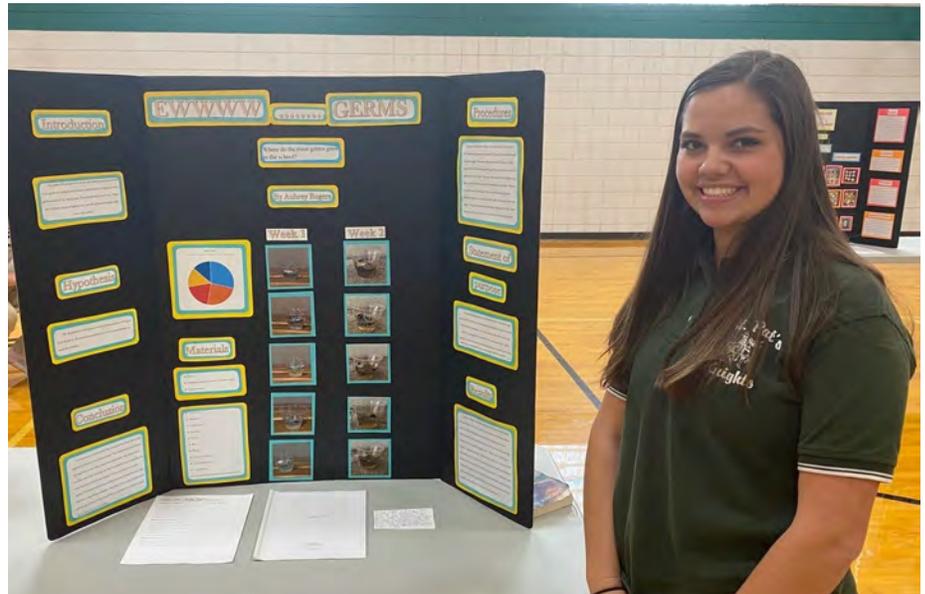
Thank you for the many photos you shared this year, Mrs. Hilker!





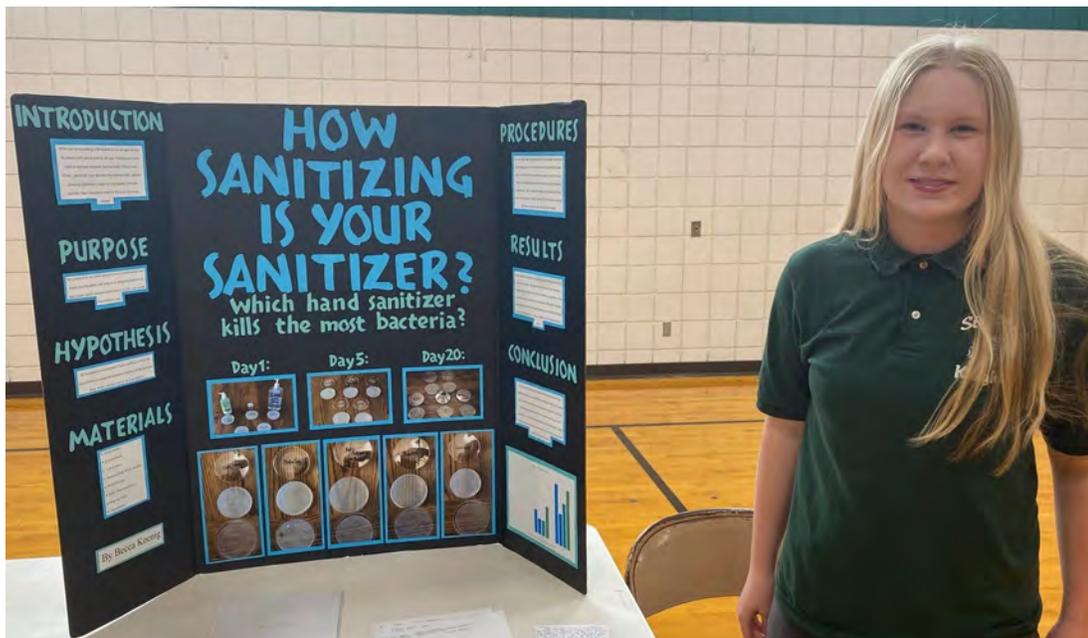
MR. ZACH WIESER
7th HOMEROOM; 7—8 SCIENCE; 7—8 MATH; 8 ALGEBRA
BOYS BASKETBALL COACH—TRACK ASSISTANT COACH

We are quickly approaching the end of the school year. There are so many things going on, especially for the 8th graders, that it is hard to stay on track with our work. The students are doing such an amazing job at coming into the classroom ready to learn. These kids are extremely hard working and have been a joy to teach over the year. It has been a tough year, fighting through all the uncertainty and everything else that has come with Covid. However, the students have battled through it, and done so with flying colors. I could not be prouder of them, and I hope you all have an amazing and blessed summer.



God Bless!

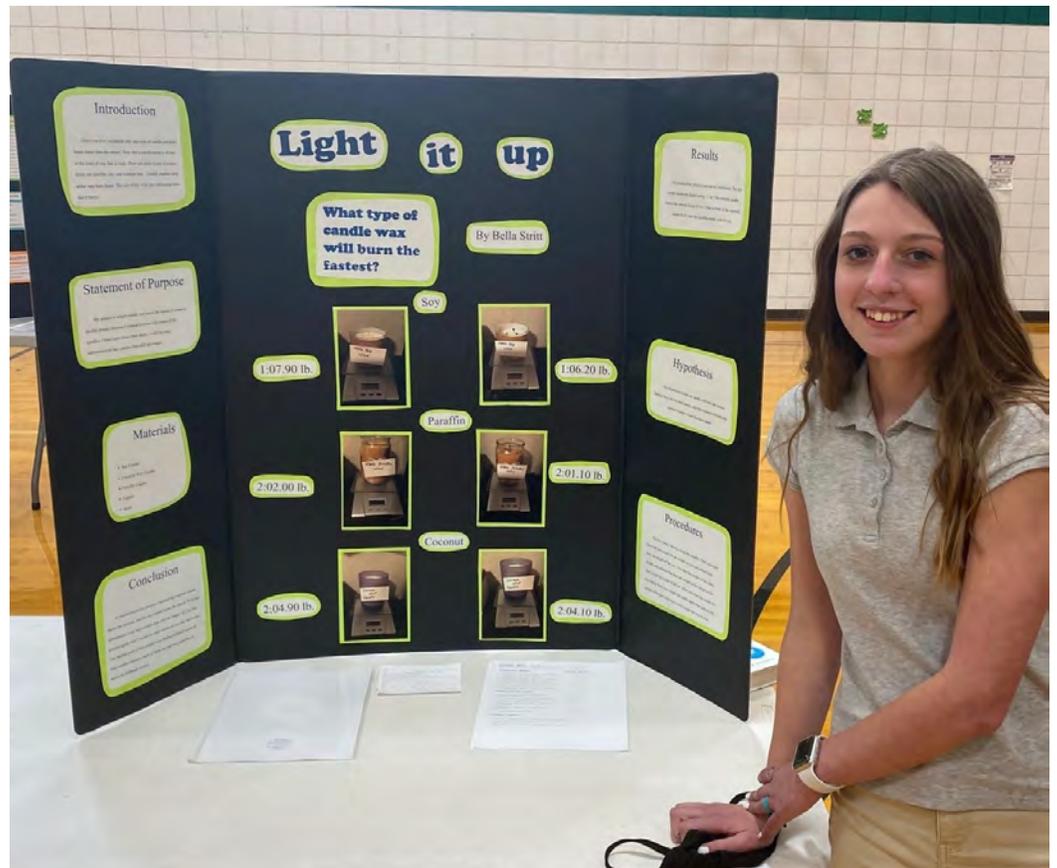
Aubrey



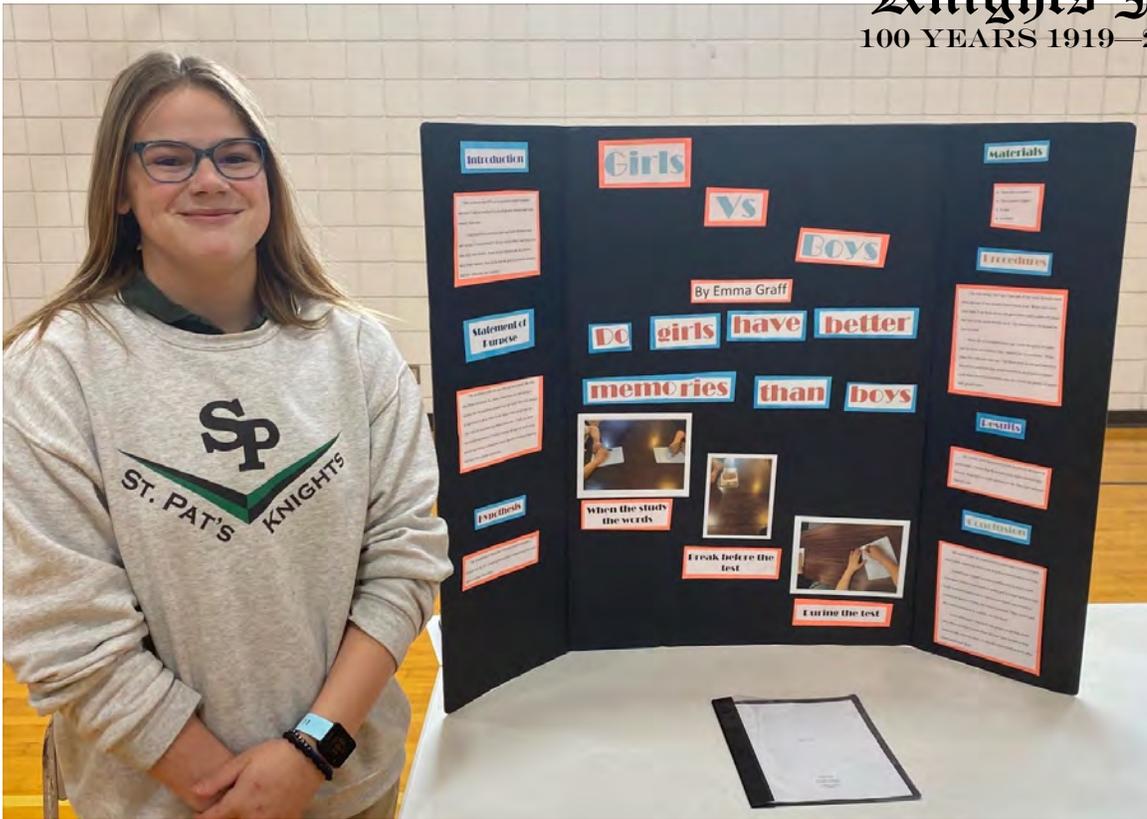
Becca



Beckett

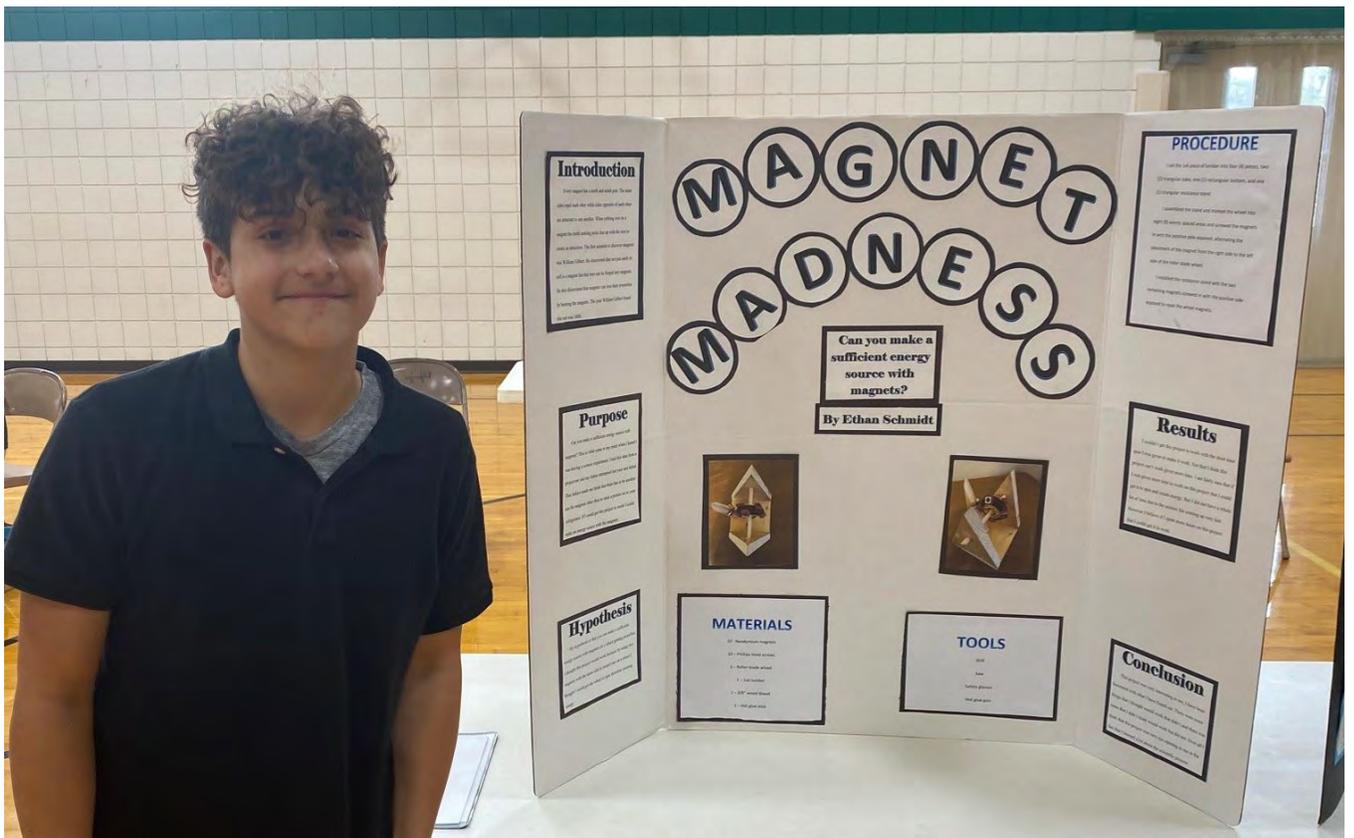


Bella



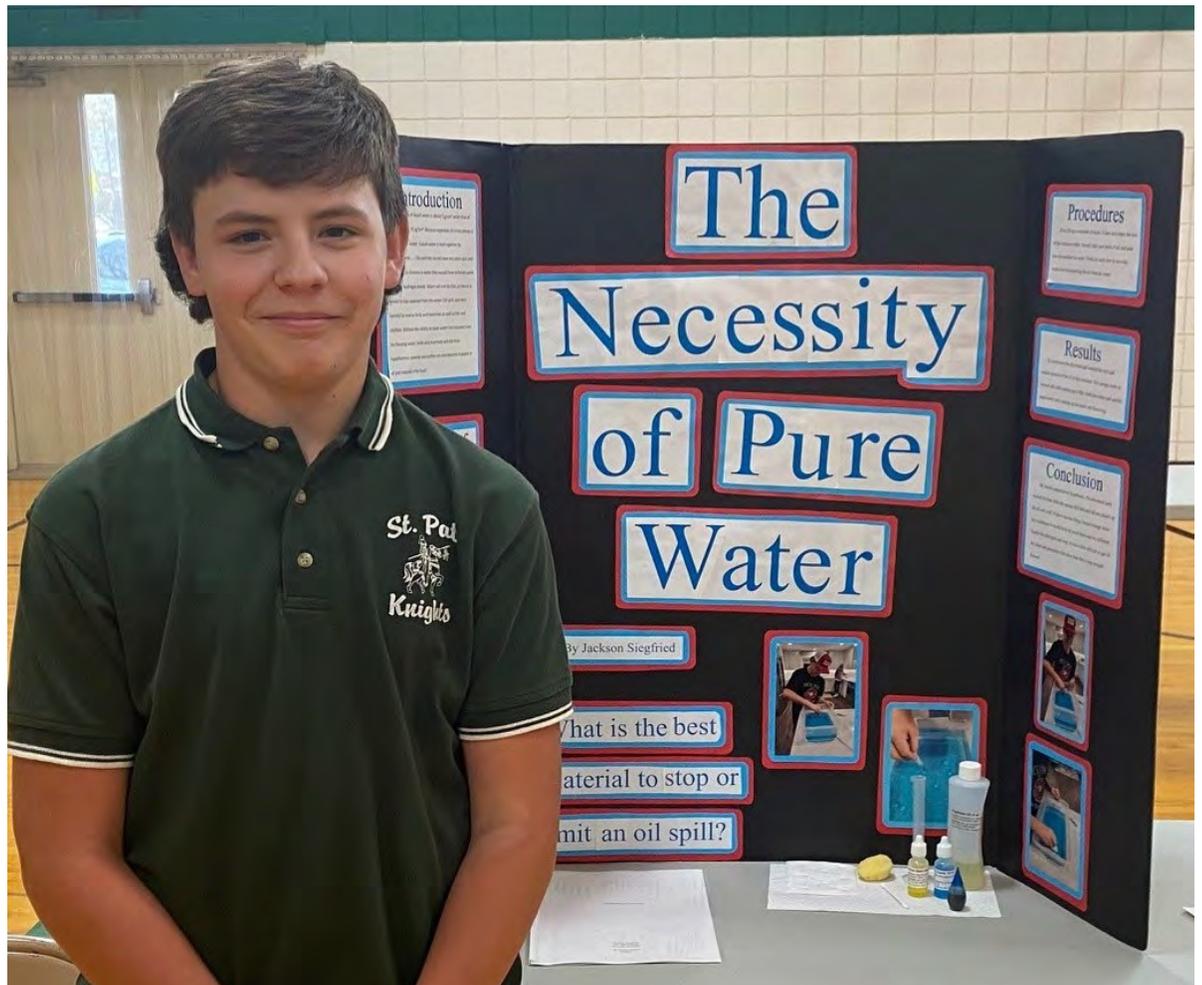
Emma

Ethan

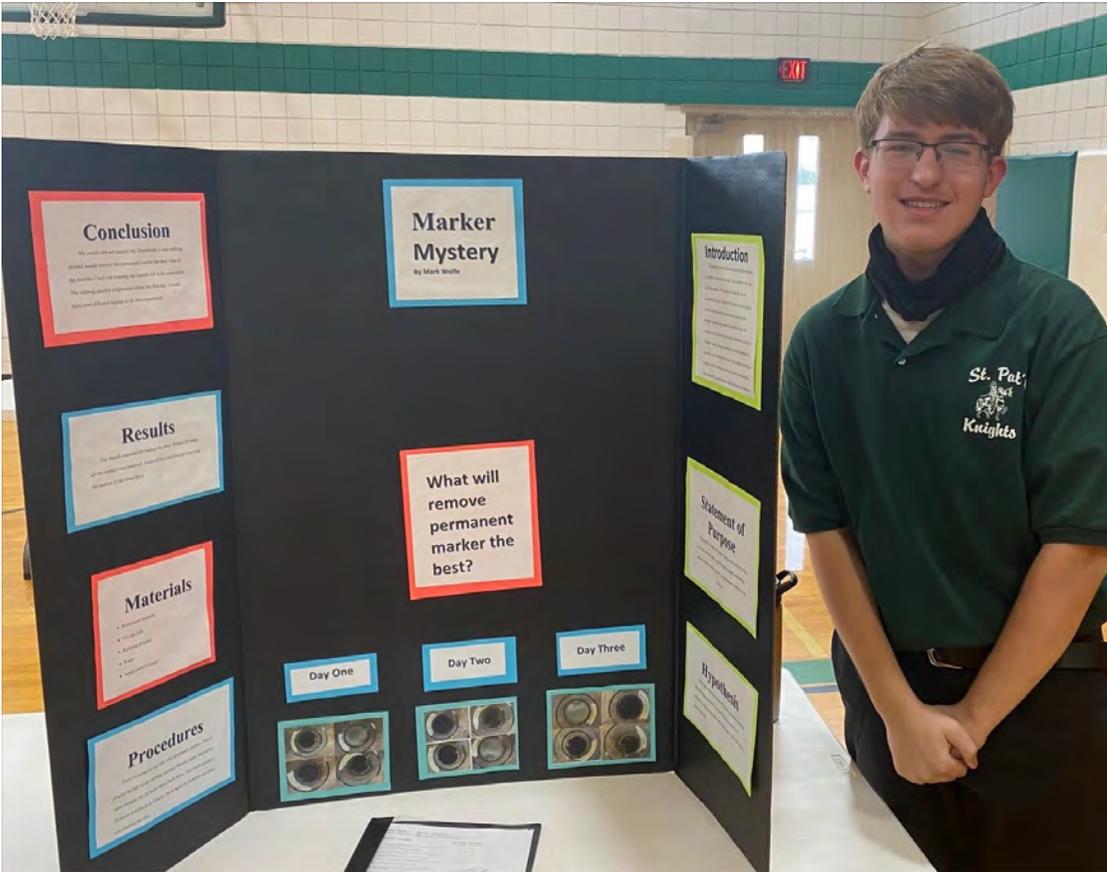




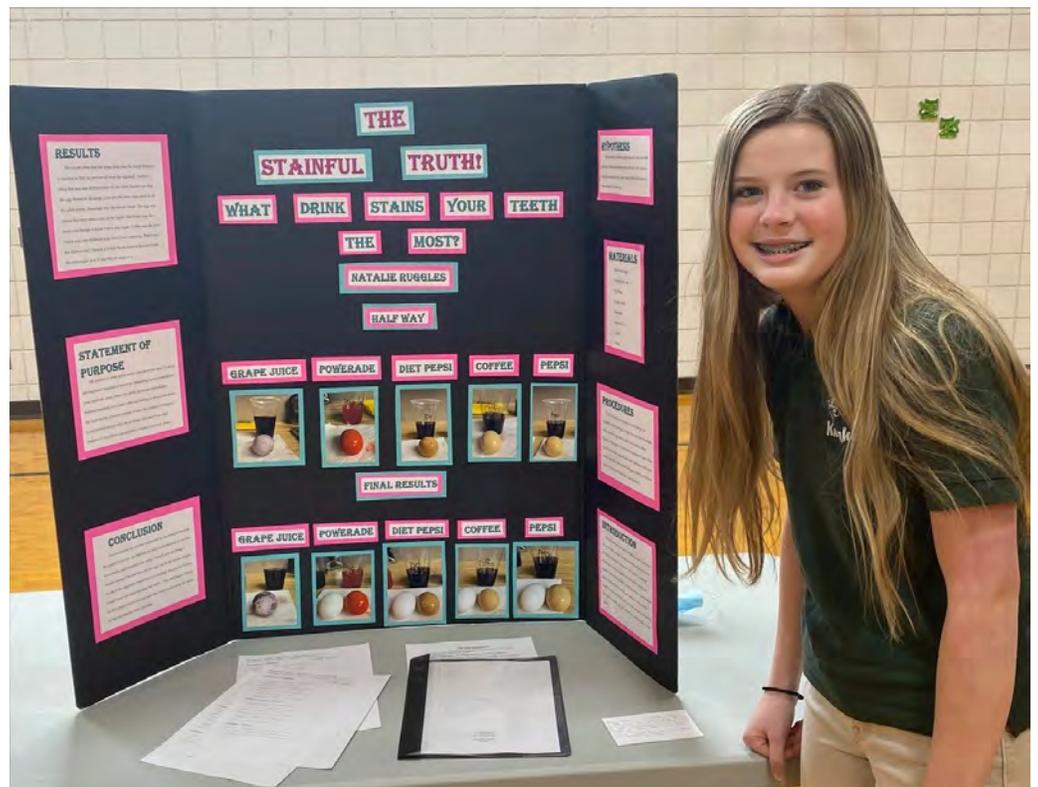
Haley



Jackson



Mark



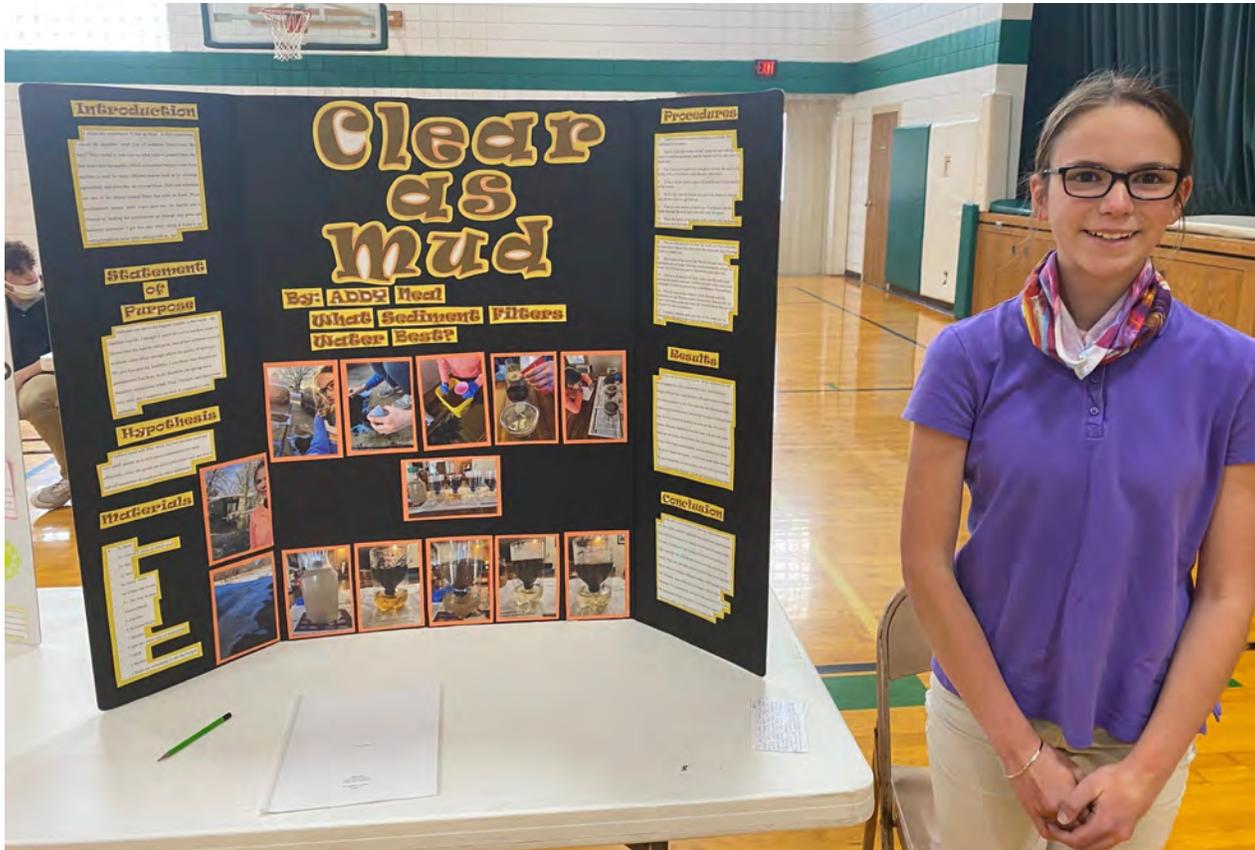
Natalie



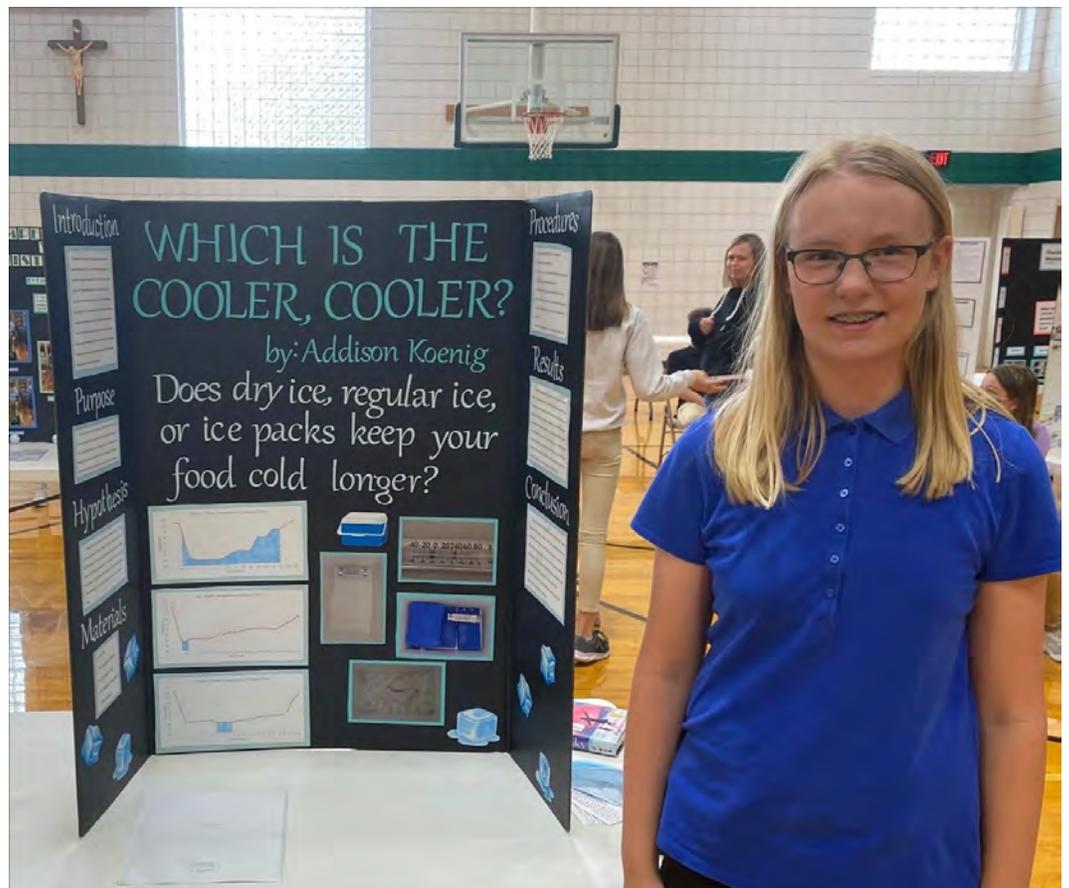
Rebecca



Zach



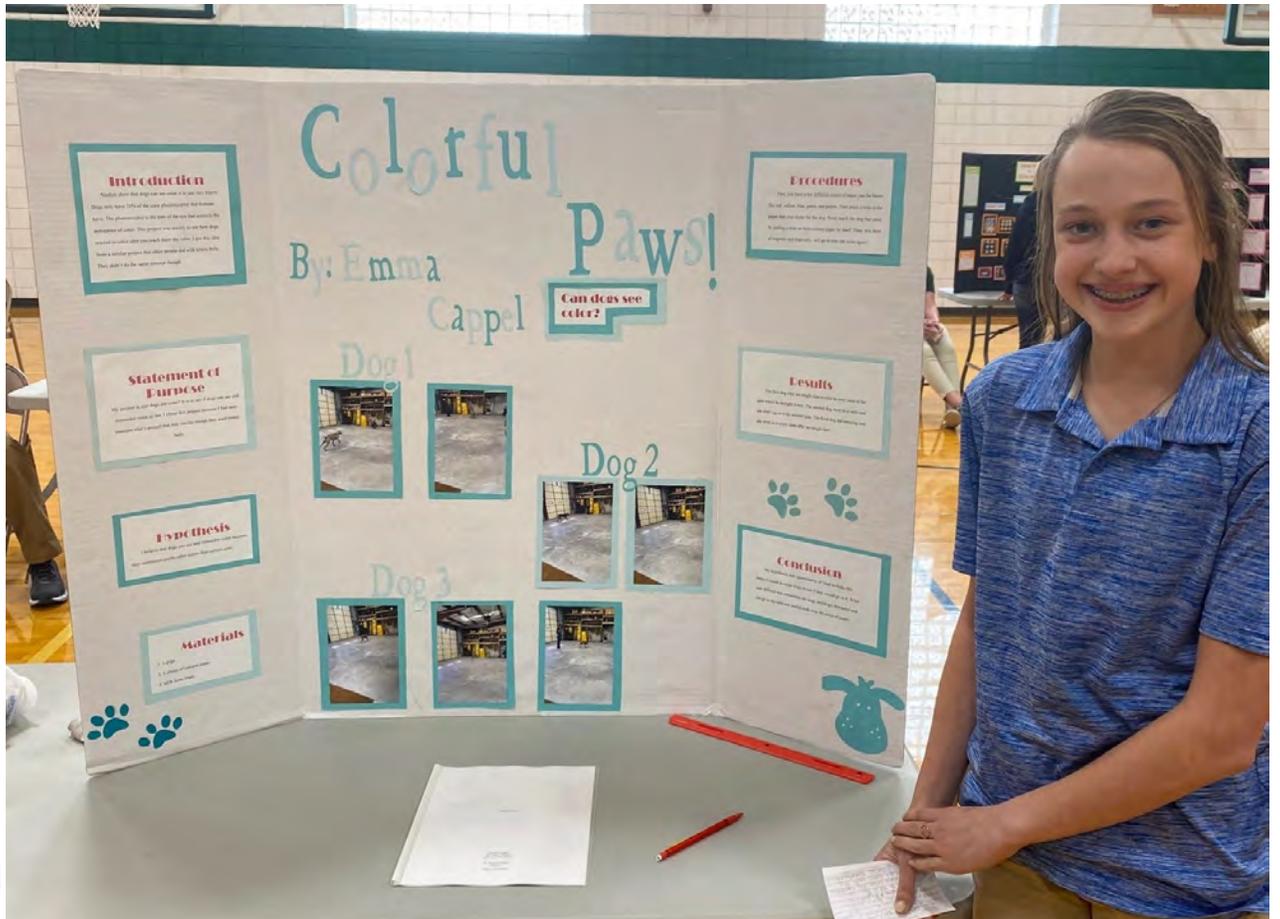
Addison



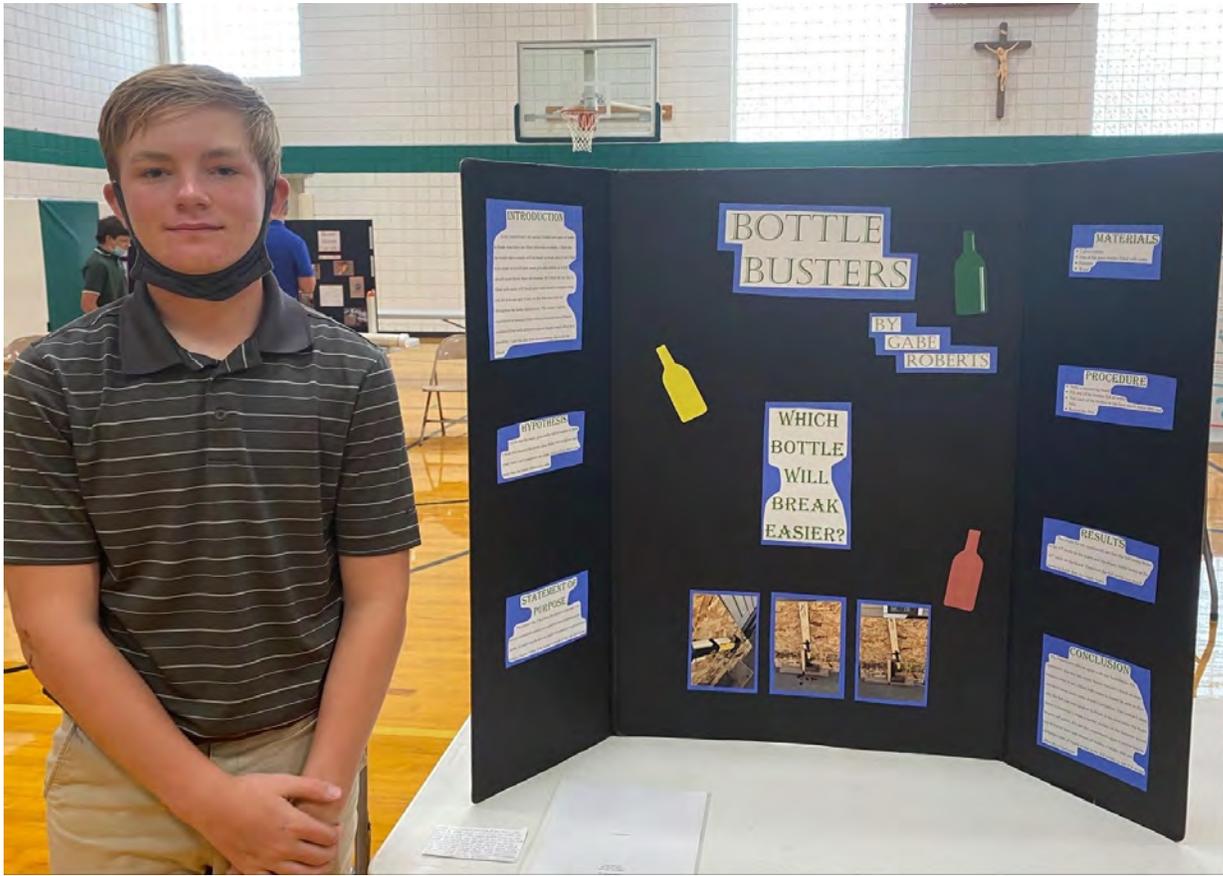
Addison



Brianna



Emma



Gabe



Jaylea



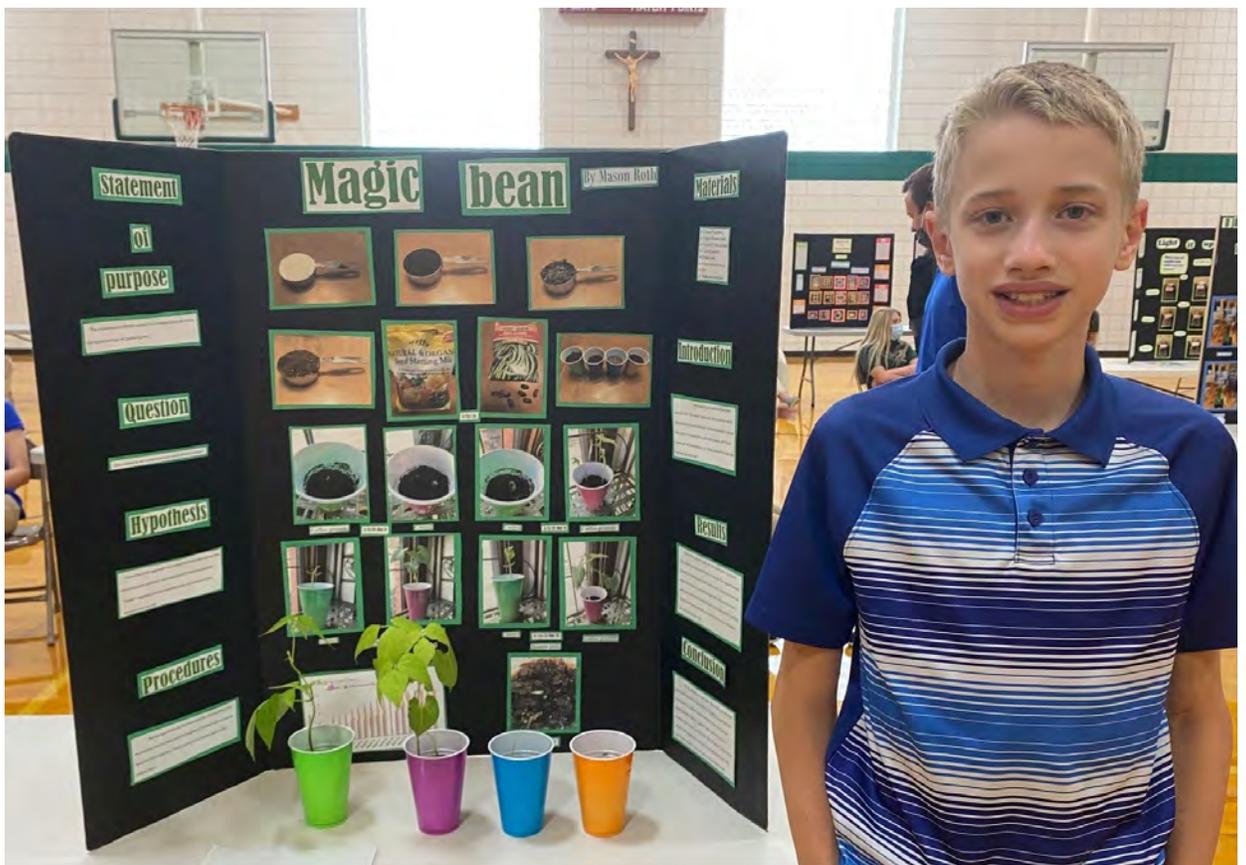
Caleb



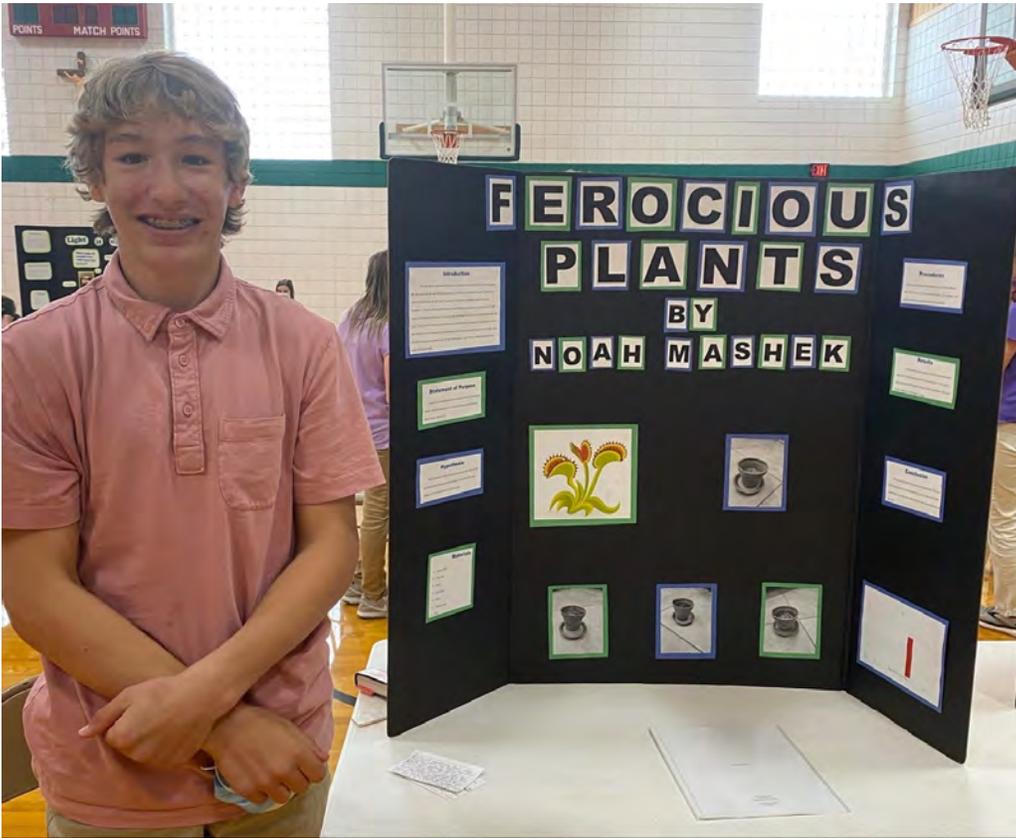
Laney



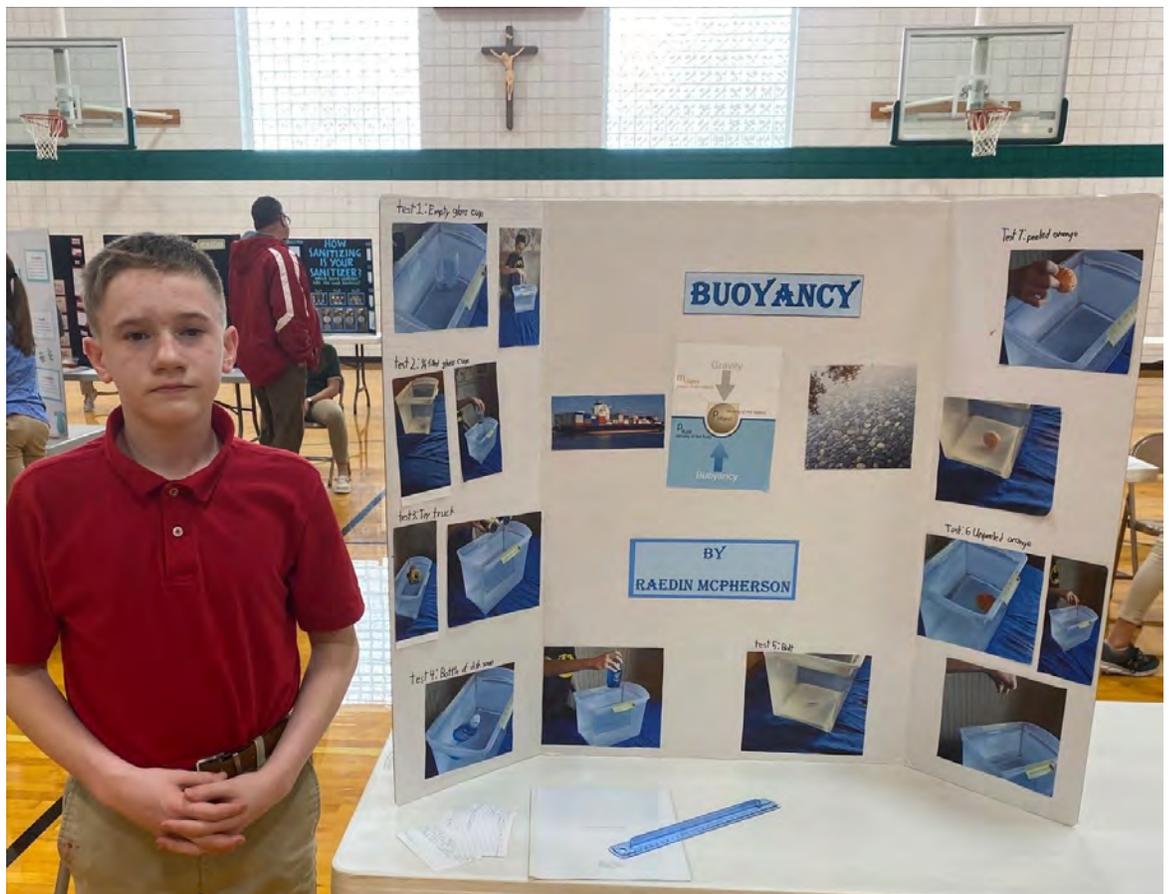
Madison



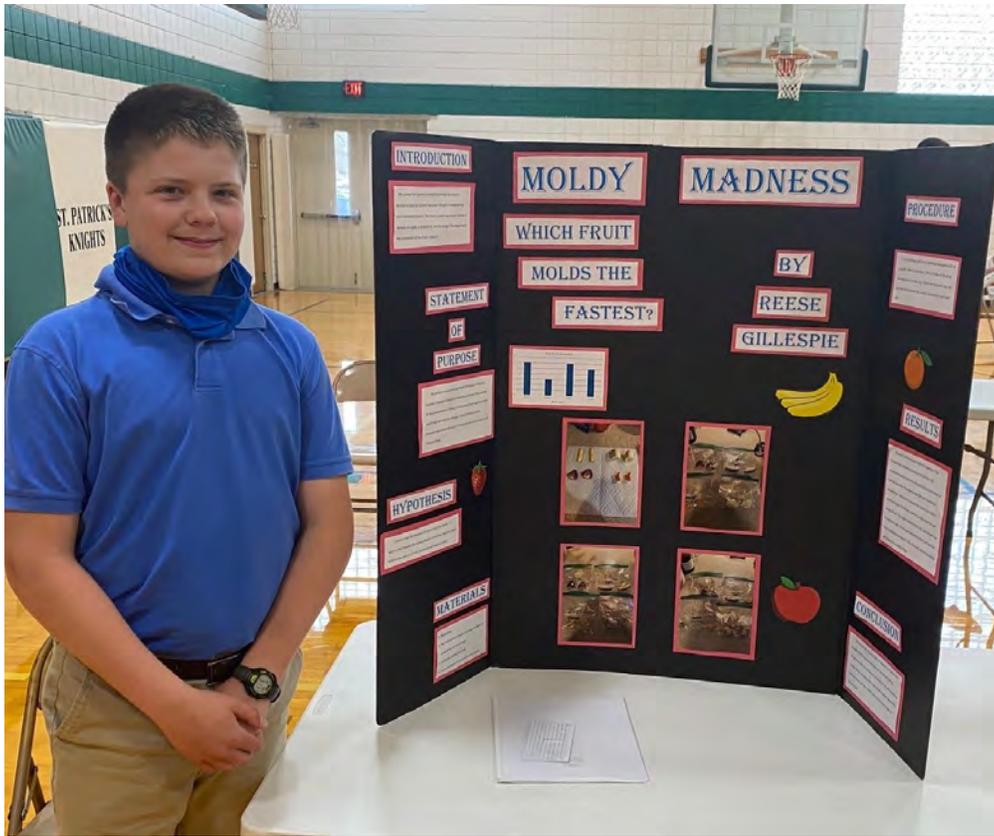
Mason



Noah



Raedin



Reese



Jude



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

5th Science

The fifth grade moved into our final unit which is solar energy. After trying several experiments with different types of energy, we decided the favorite was making solar ovens. They took a while to make, but they were fantastic! We made s'mores in them on two different days and the last day, we cooked an egg. Of course we were rewarded by getting to eat the S'mores, but Mrs. Fritsch decided that even though the egg did cook, we had better not try it! I am excited for next year, as I will have these 5th graders in my 6th grade science class.



Make S'Mores With a Solar Oven!



6th Science

Dr. Bones has become quite an asset to our 6th grade science classroom! We moved from the skeletal system in to circulation and respiration. We only have two and a half weeks left of school, but we are pushing hard to complete this unit. The sixth graders will know how to take their blood pressure and also how to use a stethoscope. They know what an adult's blood pressure should read and also what a youth's should read. I am looking forward to next year in teaching science again. This was a great year as we completed many experiments and also dissecting was at the top of the 6th graders list for favorite things they did in science.





History Day 2021

The History Day for 5th – 6th graders was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who came and viewed our project boards and listened to the students as they explained their projects. This year was one of the biggest turn outs we have had for History Day! The students put their heart and soul into their reports and projects. I was so very proud of them. All their hard work definitely paid off.

5th Grade Social Studies

I can see the excitement and interest in the 5th graders as we are studying about pre-civil war, slavery, and the Underground Railroad. I am amazed at not only the piqued interest, but the previous knowledge the 5th graders have on slavery, pre-Civil War, and the presidents of the United States. At the start of this year, I asked the students “What they would like to learn or study before the end of the year?” Over half of the class said they would like to learn more about the presidents and the Civil War. In the next week or two we will be working on our final papers for the 2020-2021 school year. The students will write about what they have learned in social studies class this year. If you have a 5th grader, please ask them to read their report to you when they bring it home. I am always surprised as I am sure you will be at what they have learned. It has been a great year and I am looking forward to having these students in 6th grade social studies next year.

6th Grade Social Studies

The sixth graders finished up with exploring Europe and its rich culture. We visited Sehnert’s Bakery and learned a lot about Germany, the Sehnert family, and how the bakery started up in McCook. We would like to thank the Sehnert’s and their employees for their hospitality and teaching us about their heritage. Now we moved on over to Russia and the Asian countries including Japan, China, Korea, and many others. The sixth graders put this as one



of their continents they wanted to study before the end of the year. Ask your 6th grade students about the different cultures, religions, and beliefs in the different countries in Asia as they are compared to the United States. I am sure you will be surprised at their answers.

Our pen pals from McCook Community College didn’t work out this year, but we are working on next year to meet up with them. Throughout the year we usually have exchanged letters with 15-20 international exchange students that are attending MCC. Shannon Corder and I are looking forward to this opportunity to expand our knowledge of other countries and meet all the international students next year.

When I informed them that next year in 7th grade we will be studying Civics and our Government the first semester and the second semester we will study the American Revolution, the French and Indian War, and pre-Civil War they were very excited. This is a very diverse group of students and I am looking forward to having them in 7th grade next year.



Thank you for the photos Mrs. Fritsch.



7th Grade Social Studies

The seventh graders have flown through the American Revolution, the Westward Expansion, and we will finish up with pre-Civil War. It has been a fabulous year with this group of students. I have enjoyed all of our debates as I am sure the 7th graders have also. They have been very informational and a great learning experience for all of them. The seventh graders are very opinionated, but they always back-up their beliefs with examples and facts. It has been a rewarding learning experience with these students. They will be my homeroom eighth grade students next year and I am looking forward to learning and growing with them in the 2021 – 2022 school year.



8th Grade Social Studies

Meet the 2021 Graduates! Haley, Emma, Beckett, Zach, Becca, Rebecca, Aubrey, Natalie, Ethan, Jack, Bella, and Mark. It is a very exciting time for these eighth grade graduates! I am really going to miss them. I have had the pleasure of teaching them for four years. It has been a very rewarding learning experience this year. I have seen them grow in their knowledge, maturity, and observed how each one has taken an active role in being mentors and role models for the rest of the students. If you see them and let them know how proud you are of them. I wish them all good luck and God bless each one. Eighth graders, please stop in and visit when you have a chance. I will miss having you in my homeroom every day! Congratulations!!!!

8TH GRADE GRADUATION
WILL BE HELD DURING 6:00 P.M. MASS
SATURDAY, MAY 15TH

Graduation Party!



RECEPTION AND VIDEO FOLLOWING MASS



MRS. GALE SLATTERY HEAD COOK

Happy Spring! We made it thru the entire year! Hallelujah! Nine months ago we were all wondering if we could do it! There have been some challenges along the way but we were able to overcome them. Let's hope that next year will be even more "normal"!

I know the students are all excited for the warmer weather and the thought of summer vacation. There's lots of excited chatter in the lunchroom every day. I encourage you to keep your children engaged in planning your menus for the summer. Let them help choose part of your menu and even help prepare it. Another summer activity that is fun is letting them help plan and raise a garden. There are so many easy to grow vegetables and fruits. Digging in the dirt can be fun and educational. Watching the plants grow and produce is such a wonderful experience.

With the end of school comes the final lunch bills for the year. Even though lunches were free for everyone there might be charges on your child's account from seconds and/or milk. We will not be offering seconds in May. I will send bills home near the end of school. Please watch for it and take care of it before school is done for the summer. If you have any questions or would like to check on your account you can call the kitchen at 345-5542 before 10am or after 1pm.

We wish everyone a wonderful and restful summer!



Updates:

2021 GIFT Gala raised close to **\$58,000** for our school! AMAZING!!! Thank you to all who donated, helped sell raffle tickets, and volunteered.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: March 19, 2022!!!!

Opportunities:

- Development Office position (paid): Collaborate with committee to oversee GIFT Gala, projects to fundraise and promote school, update and maintain St. Patrick Alumni Contact: Father Brethour or Mrs. Redl for more information
- GIFT Gala committee members and chair couples (volunteer): asking a 2-3 year commitment, auction solicitation, data entry, technology and promotion design, all talents welcomed! Contact Cassie Spencer 340-2931



TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

The last track meet is scheduled for Monday, May 3rd at Wauneta/Palisade in Wauneta beginning at 10:30 a.m.





News of the Little Knights



MS. LAURA MILLER
PRESCHOOL TEACHER
VOLLEYBALL COACH

It's hard to believe that the school year is coming to an end. April was filled with Trike-a-Thon and more letter learning. We also got to watch our chicks hatch and caterpillars turn into butterflies!

The preschoolers learned letters R, S, T, U, V, and W. We made rainbow R's, star S's, tire track T's, underwater U's, V volcanos, and W webs. We have also really been working on our names and fine motor skills. We made a new friend named Mat Man and learned how to draw a person. We celebrated Jack's birthday in April also.

The PreK kids have been very busy learning their letters.

We've learned P, B, R, K, and A during the month of April. We've learned about different plants and the life cycle of a butterfly. We celebrated Raiden's birthday in the PreK 4 class. We are also busy preparing for our Preschool Graduation. We've got lots more to learn in our last few days of school and we are very excited.

The PreK 4 class celebrated their 100th day of School. We did 100 exercises, counted out 100 pieces of snack, and drew what we wanted 100 of. We also got to dress like we were 100 years old!



News of the Little Knights



News of the Little Knights



Caterpillars turned into butterflies

Watching chicks hatch.

100 days of school.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Sweet Potatoes Fruit Milk	4 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Birthday Cake Milk	5 Hamburger Pizza Salad Vegetable Fruit Milk	6 COOK'S CHOICE	7 Omelet Breakfast Cookie Hashbrowns Fruit Juice Milk	8
9 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!	10 Chicken Fajita Vegetable Salsa Fruit Tortilla Chips Milk	11 _Hamburger on Bun Baked Beans Vegetable Fruit Milk	12 COOK'S CHOICE	13 ASCENSION THURSDAY	14 COOK'S CHOICE	15
16	17 <u>K-4 Prayer Picnic</u> PBJ Sack Lunch	18 <u>Last Day!</u> Hot Dogs Chips Milk	19 SUMMER VACATION! J	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 MEMORIAL DAY					

Menu Subject to Change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.