



The Trumpet

Announcing the Good News



SUMMER 2018
Vol. III - Issue 2

EDUCATION | FAITH | COMMUNITY

St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic School

LIVING OUT THE SOCIAL TEACHINGS

By The Fifth Grade Teachers

In March, our fifth grade classes had the opportunity to volunteer at the St. Louis Area Foodbank in Bridgeton, Missouri. The Food Bank provides boxes of food for families in need throughout the Metro area. During their three hours, each class took part in different experiences. 5F labeled and packaged cans of soup. 5P separated the food that comes into the food bank into dry food, canned, glass, candy, and soda. 5S formed an assembly line to pack boxes full of cereal, peanut butter, powdered milk, oatmeal, canned vegetables, and juice. Between all three classes, they packaged a total of 65,933 pounds of food which equates to 53,823 meals for those who are hungry.



“VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY”

By The Third Grade Teachers



The Third Grade Class recently completed their unit of study on Lewis and Clark. The students explored the “Voyage of Discovery” expedition in their Missouri History studies. They followed the timeline of Meriwether Lewis’ and William Clark’s travels from St. Louis up the Missouri River and across the Rockies all the way to the Pacific Ocean. The children studied key people and events which made the journey successful. The studies were enhanced with a Field Trip to the Sheldon Concert Hall where the children enjoyed a musical and theatrical presentation. The performers brought the story of Lewis and Clark to life and invited students to join them onstage for storytelling, song, and dance opportunities! This was an outstanding learning experience for the Third Grade Class.

THE BAND PLAYS ON...

Written by Gail Buckman

Whoever said that January, February and March were slow months was never a band student. The band students have been quite busy this third trimester. Starting at the end of January the Jazz Band entertained new and returning families during the school wide Open House. As people were enjoying refreshments for the body, they were also enjoying refreshment for the soul.



Late February, the Concert Band participated in the Archdiocesan Instrumental Festival. This year marked the 60th anniversary of that Festival. Bands from Catholic Schools within the Archdiocese have a 15-minute time-slot to perform and to be evaluated by two guest adjudicators. St. Gabriel Band performed at the early session along with schools from St. Charles and St. Louis area. The Band received a rating of I, which is "Outstanding"

The first week of March afforded the band students the opportunity to perform a prepared solo and or a small ensemble for a guest adjudicator who came to our school for the St. Gabriel Solo/Ensemble Festival held in our band room. Each of the fourth and fifth graders prepared and performed a small group (3 or 4 people) ensemble. The sixth, seventh, and eighth graders each prepared and performed a small group ensemble as well as a solo from

Smart Music. It was a rewarding and learning experience for all involved.

The end of March and first part of April the Jazz Band performed at the Sheldon Theatre. What a beautiful venue in which to perform. Later in the month, the Jazz Band entertained the guests who live at the DuBourg House. After this performance, the Jazz band members were rewarded with pizza from Fortel's for all their hard work this year.

Late April Dr. Meghan Arns, professor of Percussion at U. of Mo, Columbia treated the percussionist with a clinic about music and instruments from Africa. Meghan has traveled to various parts of the world collecting instruments and the knowledge to play them. She demonstrated some of these instruments for the percussion students and taught them a bit about how the instruments were played, and some of the language of the regions of Gambia and Zimbabwe.

All of the bands performed for the Spring Concert on Wednesday, May 9, 7:00 pm in the gym. This is always a grand night to "show-off" their talents.

To finish out the year, the Concert Band will perform for the students at St. Gerard Majella and then have an afternoon of fun at Swing-a-round Fun Town in Fenton. The fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders will start practicing marching for the Parish Picnic to be held on June 9. All of the students, grades 4th through 8th, are gearing up to once again perform at a Cardinal Baseball game on July 31, 7:15.



FOURTH GRADE GETS ENERGIZED!

By The Fourth Grade Teachers

Beeeeeeeeeeep! High-pitched beeps and excited voices are just some of the sounds you can hear coming from our 4th grade Science lab this May. Our 4th grade electricians are culminating their unit on energy through an exploration of circuits. First, the students explored how electricity travels through a path of conductors, called a circuit. One of their favorite activities was when the entire class completed the circuit for an energy ball (a ping pong ball that lights up and makes noise when its circuit is completed) by sitting in a circle and holding hands. They were “shocked” to find that electricity travels through the body. In later lessons, small groups worked together to build circuits with lightbulbs, buzzers, and motors. Using this and other information learned in class about conductors and insulators, the students used the Engineering Design Process to complete their final Maker Space challenge of the school year. Small groups of electricians had to brainstorm and design burglar alarms using the materials provided, construct prototypes, and finally test and redesign their burglar alarms. The homes of Saint Louis Hills should be safe after this Maker Space challenge!



Save the Date



The St. Gabriel Band will be performing ***God Bless America***.

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

7:15 pm

Join our St. Gabriel community as we support our very own St. Gabriel Band.

Ticket information to follow.

"Bringing WWII to Life"

Written by Jennifer Ronshausen



In April, the 8th grade literature classes were lucky to have former Gabe's student and WWII enthusiast, Wil Heimberger, come speak to them about the German uniforms and items used by the soldiers during the war. The students had been studying the Holocaust and other acts of genocide, and Wil's informational presentation not only gave them a glimpse into some authentic German Wehrmacht paraphernalia, but also how to present an informational speech, something they were preparing to do themselves. Badges and medals captured the students' attention, as well as items used to start a fire and a bar of chocolate that would have been with each soldier - according to Wil, something that didn't actually taste that good!

The 8th graders ended their study of this time period with a visit to the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center where they heard a survivor tell his story and toured the museum. Our students asked many poignant and powerful questions, showing their thirst for knowledge and depth of empathy.

Hoops and Jump for Heart 2018

Written by Mrs. Jamie Voelpel

Wow! St. Gabriel's has done it again. As a school community, St. Gabriel's collected over \$17,000 for the American Heart Association. The two top fundraisers, Kellen M. (1st grade) and Tommy F. (4th grade), collected a combined total of \$1,300. The money collected will allow the American Heart Association to continue the fight to build healthier lives. During this weeklong event, students participated in all P.E. classes. The sixth graders came and helped Kindergarteners have a fun first experience with Jump for Heart by jumping, running and playing with them. In addition, students tried to be the top in their homeroom to become the P.E. Teacher of the Day and top in their grade to receive a Subway lunch. We wrapped up the event with teachers being egged by students to celebrate this event. Any student that collected \$75 or more got to egg a teacher. It was an "egg-celent" experience with over 80 eggs being smashed on heads. St. Gabriel is blessed to have so many supporters of this cause. It shows there are many big hearts! Thank you to all who helped support the American Heart Association.



Junior High Houses

Written by Robyn Doenges

The House System concluded their year with House Olympics and the annual sorting of the 5th grade students. The Houses all welcome their new members and are excited about the upcoming year. On House Olympics day, Jude House (gold), Drexel House (silver), and Duchesne House (bronze) took home the top prizes. We are also happy to congratulate Patrick House for winning the 2017-2018 House Cup!



SIXTH GRADE

Written by Deborah DaLay

The 6th grade class has led the school in becoming more mindful of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si!* They developed and presented power points both to the classrooms and to the PFA. This supported our 3rd trimester Catholic Social Teaching of "Care For God's Creation." Our focus as a school community has been to reduce, reuse, and recycle especially in the areas of plastic bottles and bags. The 6th graders coined BYOB- Bring your own bag and water bottle!



Mr. Recyclo even paid a visit to our lunch room. Thank you, 6th grade!

KINDERGARTEN

By: The Kindergarten Teachers

As an exciting end to the school year, the three kindergarten classes took a trip to the St. Louis Museum of Transportation. The trip was a part of their science unit on movement and transportation. The program at the museum, entitled "*Bird, Plane, Boat, or Train*", taught the kindergarteners about the parts of a train and how they help the train to move. The students were able to discuss and review the types of vehicles that move on the land, air, and water. During the trip the students toured the facilities, visited the train yard, rode a miniature train, and created their own wooden toy trains. They enjoyed their field trip very much!



SEVENTH GRADERS GEOGRAPHY - EUROPEAN HISTORY

By: The 7th Grade Teachers



Attack! How do you attack a castle? How do you craft a ship that is made to travel further inland for easier attacks? The 7th grade Social Studies classes learned how to do these things in Mrs. Thomas's Geography class this month.

After studying how Viking ships were crafted, what made them so successful, and easily navigable the students made their own versions of Viking ships. Based on the same design that the Vikings used students crafted ships from cardboard, straws, paper, and other items, and then personalized them so that they looked as though they were specific to certain Viking clans, much alike to the Viking ships of 8th-11th centuries. When the ship construction was completed students were able to notice the sleek design, narrow hull, and overlapping piece of wood which

allowed for the ships to move quickly and up narrow inland channels.

Once ships and armies were able to get close to the castle the next step was to launch a raid/attack on the castle. Students constructed catapults using various materials like: rubber bands, duct tape, lids, pipe cleaners, and popsicle sticks. When construction of the catapult was completed the class engaged in a competition to see who could get their catapult to launch the farthest and also whose was strong enough to knock down the castle. Once the catapult had been launched students adjusted their catapults to try to make them go further, higher, and stronger for their attack.

Should we ever need to attack by ship or catapult these 7th graders will be prepared!



ST. GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

August

7	Religious Ed. Institute/Leadership Day
8-10	Teacher Meetings/Work Days
TBD	Faculty Day of Prayer
13	Open House/Ice Cream Social 4:30-6:30p.m.
15	First Day of School (12:30 dismissal for K-8)
16	Full Days of school begins (1-8)
16-17	Half days for Kindergarten 12:30p.m. dismissal
29	Back to School Night for grades K-5
30	Back to School Night for grades 6-8

September

3	Labor Day - No School
13	Confirmation Parent Meeting 7:00p.m.
17-21	Iowa Testing
28	Early Dismissal - Teacher Meeting
29	Feast of the Archangels

October

2	Picture Day
4	Confirmation Sponsor Night 7:00p.m. in café
11	12:30 Dismissal Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30 - 8:00p.m.
12	No School
16	First Reconciliation Parent Meeting (Church) 6:30p.m.
TBD	Trunk or Treat 6:30p.m.

November

1	All Saints Day-No School - Holy Day of Obligation Teacher Meeting
8	1st Reconciliation at 7:00p.m.
9	End of 1st Trimester
15-16	Sixth Grade Camp to Camp Wyman
21-23	Thanksgiving Holidays
28	Picture Re-Takes

December

12	Choral Concert 7p.m.
13	Band Concert 7p.m.
21	Last Day of School - Full Day
22-Jan.3	Christmas Holidays

January

4	No School - Teacher Meeting
7	Classes Resume
21	MLK Day - No School
27-Feb 1	Catholic Schools Week
27	Open House 10:30 a.m. – 1:00p.m.

February

1	Teacher Appreciation Day 12:30p.m. Dismissal
2	8th Grade Follies
10	Archdiocesan Band Festival

14	Valentine Parties
22	End of 2nd Trimester
15	Early dismissal - Teacher Meeting
18	President's Day - No School

March

5	Mardi-Gras/Mission Carnival
6	Ash Wednesday
11	Spring Pictures
12-13	Solo Ensembles
14	12:30 Dismissal/PT Conferences Archdiocesan Jazz Festival
15	No School
18-22	Spring Break
25	No School-Teacher Meeting

April

16	Grandparents Day
TBD	Confirmation Day of Prayer
TBD	Confirmation 7:00p.m. St. Gabriel Church
18	12:30 Dismissal/Holy Thursday
19	No School - Good Friday
22	No School- Easter Monday
26	Jazz Band Trip

May

5	First Communion 2p.m.
6	No School for Second Grade
7	Choral Concert 7p.m.
8	Band Concert 7p.m.
10	Field Day 12:30p.m. Dismissal
13	Concert Band Trip
17	8th Grade Mystery Day
21	8th Grade Graduation Mass 6:00p.m.
24	Last Day of School 12:30 Dismissal (K-7)



Please note that this calendar may need to change due to weather or other emergency situations. Updates will always be posted at

<http://www.stgabschool.org/calendar>

***We celebrate Baptismal Masses every third Thursday of the month at 8:00a.m. Please come join us.

2ND GRADE

By: The 2nd Grade Teachers



In preparation for First Communion, the second graders had a bread baking day. Students learned about the importance of receiving the Eucharist and they learned that the Eucharist is the Bread of Life that nourishes our relationship with Jesus. For this bread baking day, students were able to knead their own bread and prepare it to be baked. Once the bread was baked, students were able to observe the change in their bread. A special bread prayer and blessing was then sent home with each student so that they could share their bread and pray with their family.

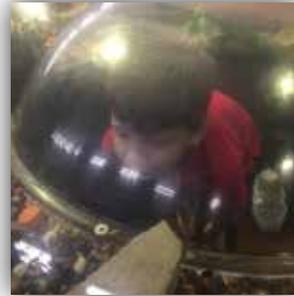
1ST GRADE

By: The 1st Grade Teachers

On a rainy Friday morning, the entire first grade went on an adventure to the St. Louis Zoo. Now, other kids might have complained about the weather conditions, but not our first graders! We went with a positive attitude that was not dampened by the rain.

Each class divided into groups and went to see their favorite animals. Many children bravely petted stingrays and sharks, getting even wetter than they already were from the rain. Some went to the covered areas, like the carousel, reptile house, and the children's zoo. Many groups saw the baby cheetahs walking and playing. Several groups visited the new grizzly bear habitat and met Huck and Finley.

Upon returning from the zoo, the first grade joined the rest of the school in getting ice cream treats. It was an incredible day for first grade!



Have a *great* summer!