



LITTLE GIANTS BIG NEWS

May 2024 Edition

Saint Patrick Catholic School Mission Statement

That everyone in the Saint Patrick Catholic School community encounter Jesus, grow in Him, and witnesses to others through a Christ-centered academic environment.

Dear Parents,

Here we are at the end of the year. We blinked and it is May already! I hope it was a memorable year for all our students and their families. We certainly packed many things into our times together.

As we begin this last month together, I want to be sure to acknowledge the second-grade students for their first Reconciliation, and ask for prayers for them as they receive their First Communion. Our eighth graders also received their Confirmation. Please be sure to congratulate these students. Each of these sacraments draw them closer to Jesus our LORD and savior. Please continue to pray for them and all our students as they continue to grow in their faith.

As our eighth graders prepare to leave us for high school, please keep them in your prayers in a special way as well. Prayer is a powerful tool, and our students could surely use the spiritual help as they face a world that is vastly different than most of us faced when we were their age.



By now the Three Rivers Community knows about the Prayer Chapel we are hoping to add to the school. We are looking for donations to make this happen. Although the Chapel will be connected to the school, it will be available for the community to use as well. The chapel will provide our students the opportunity to spend time before Jesus in the Eucharist. We can never get enough time before our God! Help make this happen by a generous donation using the QR code (below picture) or at <https://www.stpatscarleton.com/adoration-chapel-project>

Please spread the word! Did you know that Saint Patrick has 2 Boys Baseball (4th-7th grade) teams this year and two girls softball teams (4th-5th grade and a 7th-8th grade). We also have students on the track team at Holy Ghost, Lutheran Church. Come cheer them all on.

I hope you have heard the news that our Three Rivers Family of Parishes has a new Priest to share. Father Derik Peterman. He comes to us from Our Lady of Sorrows where he has been a priest for the past three years. He says the best part about being a priest is that he gets to have a "Front Row Seat" at every Mass! We are especially eager to have him here with us because he has told Father Mike that he wants to be involved with the school!



Please Pray for Father Peterman as he transitions from Our Lady of Sorrows to our Family of Parishes. Pray also that he can help us continue to grow as disciples of Christ. Check out Father Peterman here:

<https://detroitpriestlyvocations.com/father-derik-peterman/>

God bless you all, Carl Lenze, Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 22nd

Last Day of PreK
& 8th Grade

May 23rd

PreK Picnic

May 24th-27th

No School
Memorial Day Break

May 30th

Field Day

May 31st

Last Day of School
1/2 Day

2024/2025 School Year

August 6th

New Family Picnic 6-8PM

August 19th

Back to School Night

August 21st

First day of School
1/2 Day K-8

September 4th

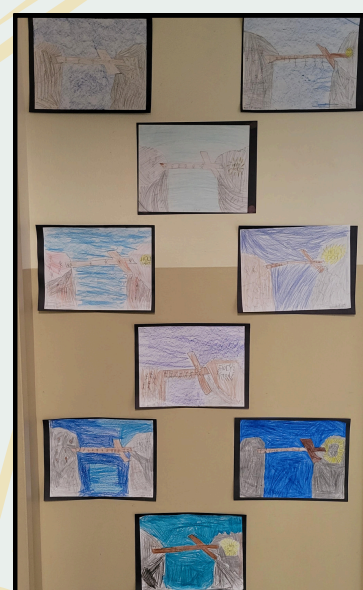
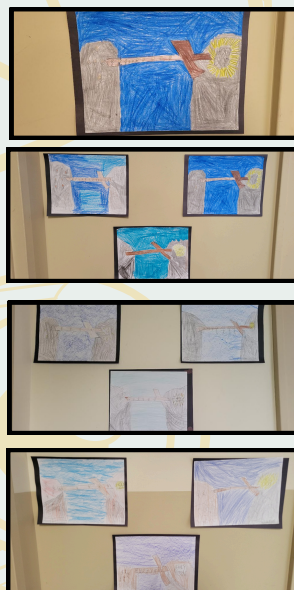
First Day of PK

Little Giants Big News

#SPS Around the School

Integrative Learning: Exploring Faith, Math, and the World Around Us

In our second-grade classroom, we embarked on a unique learning adventure intertwining religion, math, and our understanding of the world. Through a thought-provoking lesson, we discovered the symbolic significance of Jesus's sacrifice, learning how His death on the cross serves as a bridge for believers, spanning the canyon of sin and separation. Building upon this foundational understanding, we engaged in a hands-on math activity, utilizing our newly acquired skills in angles and measurement to create directed drawings. Meanwhile, our exploration of science and social studies led us to delve into the fascinating realm of landforms, with a recent focus on canyons. These integrated lessons not only expanded our knowledge across multiple subjects but also fostered a deeper appreciation for the interconnectedness of our learning experiences.



Exploring God's Gift: Preschoolers' Lesson on Birds

In our preschool's religious studies, young learners explored the gift of birds bestowed upon us by God. Through engaging activities, they discovered various bird species, their habitats, and diets. Excitement filled the air as students colored birdhouses and adorned them with birdseed, extending a welcoming gesture to their feathered friends. With leftover birdseed scattered on the grass, they embraced the joy of providing sustenance for birds in their surroundings. As the lesson concluded, heartfelt prayers were offered to express gratitude for the presence of birds in our lives.



Dandelion Crafting: Creative Fun for Kids!

In "Dande-Lions", children embark on a delightful crafting adventure, using dandelions to create charming and imaginative masterpieces. Watch as they transform these bright blooms into beautiful crowns and intricate pressed flower art, discovering the joy of creativity in nature's bounty.



Little Giants Big News

#SPS Around the School

End of the Year Wrap Up: 2023/2024 School Year Memories and Summer Plans

My favorite memory from this school year is
When we got a basketball court built outside.
I'm looking forward to going up north with my
family up to the dunes.
-Luke West 4th grade

Favorite Memories: The 3 yr. Old Preschoolers
enjoyed playing in the kitchen, rest time, art
projects, playing with the Choo-Choo train,
and playing with the workbench and tools.
Plans for summer: Students are looking
forward to playing outside, going to their lake
cottage, swimming, & going to Disney.
-3 Year Old Preschoolers

FAVORITE MEMORY:

Contributed by: Ben Illes 5th Grade
My favorite memory this year was when we went on The Chosen movie
field trip. We got these free things with a popcorn and pop and there
were free refills. We got to see three episodes and it was like three hours
altogether. I know all of my friends enjoyed it. We even had a basketball
game later that day and we won. Maybe next year we'll go to the movies
again- and maybe you'll come!

My favorite memory of this year is when we
went to the Mud Hens game and our volcano
projects. The thing I'm looking forward to this
summer is going to the 4th grade pool party
and having sleepovers with all my friends.
-Jacob Carter 4th grade

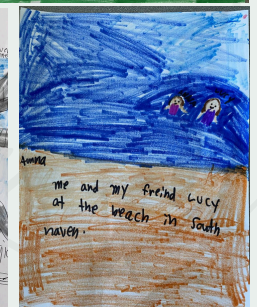
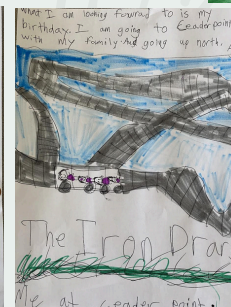
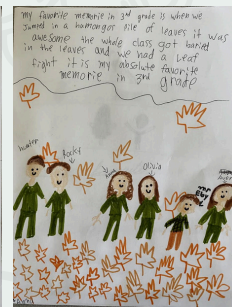
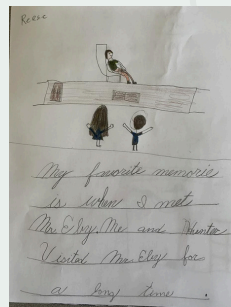
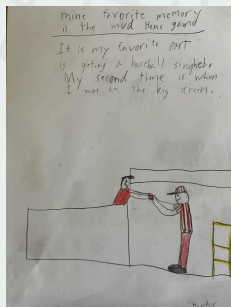
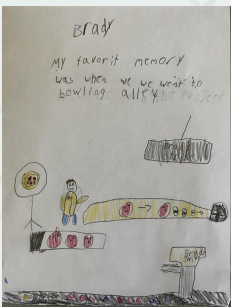
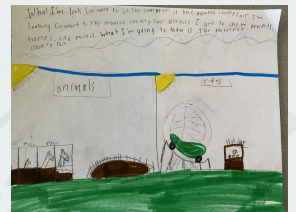
My favorite memory from this school year
was when I met my teacher Mrs. Nagley.
I am looking forward to this summer break is
relaxing and studying for fifth grade.
-Rocco Davis 4th grade

This summer I am looking forward to having
the funnest fourth grade pool party ever at
my house.
-Valor Bishop 4th Grade

SUMMER FUN:

Contributed by: Isabelle Kovalak 6th Grade
Everyone knows that school is almost over, and most people are very
excited. During my summer I mostly want to sleep in more, enjoy the
sunshine, and have more family time. I am not looking forward to helping
with work outside and inside more often. I'm also not looking forward to
all the insects. I'll miss school a little bit but not a lot. I'll miss my friends
but not all the homework. I hope you have a good summer! God bless!

In Mr. Eby's third-grade classroom, students recently shared their favorite memories from the year and their excitement for the upcoming summer. From bowling trips to Mud Hens games and lively Big Leaf Fights, they've cherished every moment. Looking ahead, their summer plans include adventures at the Monroe County Fair, visits to Cedar Point, birthday celebrations, beach days, and honing their skills in Fortnite. With camping, pool time, trampoline fun, and even a trip to Florida on the agenda, it promises to be an unforgettable break for everyone in Mr. Eby's third-grade classroom.



The SCRIP CORNER

We have had our best SCRIP season in years; we met our fundraising goal, while also raising over \$6,000 in tuition credits for our families!

We will resume physical gift card orders next school year. Until then, please continue to use E gift cards to begin accruing tuition credits for the 25/26 school year.

Athletic Committee

Athletic Committee Member Vacancy:

After years of serving our Athletic Program, Rob Morrison has elected to step down.

Thank you, Rob, for the years of service to our School and Community.

The Athletic Committee has an open seat. The goal of our Athletic Committee Members is to:

- *Manage the health and wellbeing of the athletic program as it relates to St. Patrick School and Divine Grace Parish for CYO Athletics and St. Patrick School Club Sports*
- *Promote participation and work to develop a sense of community for athletes and parents*
- *Remain mindful of our role to bring parishioners close to the Parish/God with healthy community activities*
- *Provide good faith effort to support Men's Club fundraising activities. I.E. Sell January Lotto tickets, volunteer at Fish Fry's, etc.*

The Committee is responsible for supporting our Athletic Directors and Athletes, program initiatives, attending an estimated 4 meetings per year and providing input on the overall Athletic Program strategy and policy.

The Committee generally meets quarterly (or as needed)

For those interested, please reach out to Dave Illes at 734-731-0348.

SPS School Committee

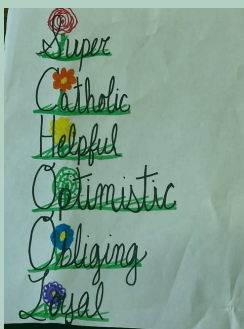


On behalf of the St. Patrick School, the School Committee would like to sincerely thank our many volunteers that have given their time to our school throughout the year. Our volunteers truly are the heart of St. Patrick School. Our community is strong because of you! More importantly, your acts of service poured out for St. Patrick School are a beautiful example for our youth. They are learning how important it is to be involved, to nurture relationships, and to be of service to others. As Our Lord served, we must serve one another (Mark 9:35) and be joyous in our service.

A special thank you to Alison Illes and Jenna Heiden who have served our school as important members of our School Committee. We appreciate their dedication and commitment to our mission and value the impact they have made during their terms. Thank you, Alison and Jenna!

Acrostic Poem

Wrote by: June Salenbien



Donate



ST. PATRICK SCHOOL CHAPEL

From the beginning of our Catholic faith, our ancestors were called to make sacrifices to build our churches and places of worship. Now in our 175th year, the St. Patrick School Foundation is called to build an adoration and prayer chapel.

Info

The chapel will be on the Carleton Campus directly attached to our school, located next to the peace garden. Built with the intent to be open 24 hours per day by utilizing a security keypad for entrance and equipped with security cameras. Will be fully funded by the St. Patrick School Foundation without any money from the parish.

Foundation

The Saint Patrick's School Foundation is a United States IRS recognized charitable corporation which qualifies under Section 501 (c)(3). The foundation was founded in 2017 and has the sole purpose of raising funds to support St. Patrick's School located in Carleton MI. It is the goal of foundation to provide advanced technology, educational support, support growth strategies, and assist in school facility improvements as needed.

Checks Payable to:
St. Patrick School Foundation
2555 W. Labo, Carleton MI 48117

Venmo:
@Sps-foundation2017

Please consider donating to the St. Patrick School Foundation with your finances, your time, and your talents (we can reduce our costs with donated professional labor). This project will only be possible with your help!

PTO CORNER

CONNECTING, ENGAGING, AND EMPOWERING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our community for your incredible support of our PTO fundraisers, including spirit wear, the mum sale, the Secret Santa shop, and the shoe drive. Your generosity allows us to host wonderful events such as breakfast for the Veterans, Trunk or Treat, Cookies and Cocoa at Christmas time, Catholic Schools Week activities, and Spring Appreciation Days. We are deeply grateful for your support and look forward to continuing to grow and support this vibrant community together.

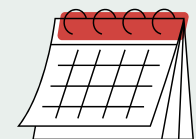
Save the Date



Rummage Sale
9-19 thru 9-22



SPS Auction
12-6-2024



"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." - Psalm 23:1

LITTLE GIANTS NEWS CREW

SAINTS WAX MUSEUM

Contributed by: Lila Collins (6th), Seth Jaskot (5th), Caden Williams (5th), Elise Collins (5th), Wyatt Frasier (6th)

Did anyone go to the Saints Wax Museum? There were some pretty good Saints in the wax. On Friday, April 26 and Sunday, April 28 the 5th and 6th graders presented themselves as Saints. There were many different Saints that we portrayed. After listening to our speeches, you could also receive a prayer card that we designed. The Saints we chose were Cecilia, Rose of Lima, John Neumann, John of the Cross, John the Baptist, Helena, Elizabeth of Hungary, Catherine of Sienna, Agnes, Maria Gorreti, Francis Xavier Cabrini, Peter, Andrew, Paul, Hubert, Dominic Savio, John Bosco, and Juan Diego— that's FIVE different St. Johns, in case you weren't counting! After each of us found a saint that interested us, we looked for key information about that Saint. We used Saints books to start, and then used computers for the things we couldn't find in the books. Mr. Bolster made us write down the information on a piece of paper to study. When we were ready, we recited our Saint presentations in front of the class to practice. We also made or bought costumes in order to portray our Saints. There was food there, and there were some nice backdrops in the mix. Thank you Mrs. Lange, Mrs. Jaskot, and other family volunteers for helping us to organize the space and provide refreshments! We have been doing the Saints Wax Museum for many years now and hope to keep the tradition alive. If you didn't make this year's Saints Wax Museum, try to make it next year! Remember, Be Not Afraid, Become A Saint!

[Click to watch Facebook Live from Saints Wax Musuem](#)



MUD HENS

Contributed by: Bobby Jones (5th), Franklin Lange (5th), and Rose Totten (5th)

On Wednesday April 24th we went to the Mud Hens game. It was a fun day to go to the game. We rode on the bus all the way to Ohio. There were adults from our school there chaperoning but we weren't assigned to anyone in particular. When we got there we walked around the stadium and explored. We also watched the players warming up. Bobby got a ball but it was waterlogged. Then he got another ball and it was perfect! Many of us got our baseballs signed. When the game started, we watched very diligently and excitedly. We had pretty good seats. During the game there would be little science experiments between innings and they were cool. Lunch was included with our tickets. Some of us got ice cream, a hotdog, a giant soft pretzel, and chips. We also got to go to this little event center where there were stress balls, glasses, and Toledo stickers. After the game and these huge treats, everyone was satisfied. We said a prayer and returned to school— but the fun didn't stop: we got extra recess! GO MUD HENS!



"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son." - John 3:16

LITTLE GIANTS NEWS CREW



GOOD LUCK, EIGHTH GRADERS



Contributed by: Elsie Lange

This school year we have six St. Pat's graduates who are leaving the school. Their names are Cale Jones (11 years at St. Pats), Phin Totten (11 years at St. Pats), Angie Illes (11 years at St. Pats), Nick Bokuniewicz (11 years at St. Pats), Abby Jones (8 years at St. Pats), and Jacob Setzler (5 years at St. Pats). Cale likes that the school is small but he would change the number of gym days from one to two for the older kids. Phin likes recess but would raise the time between classes in Mrs. Hinkle's class. Angie likes the school community but would raise the number of kids per class. Nick likes recess but would change Mrs. Hinkle's rule of no physical contact. Abby likes St. Pat's athletics, especially basketball, but would change the dress code to no uniform. Jacob likes the mission statement of St. Pats but would change some of the teachers.

Of all their years at St. Patrick School, the eighth graders' favorite teachers are Mr. Bolster, Mr. Lenze, Mrs. Fisk, Mrs. Nagley, and Mrs. Wick. Cale's favorite event at St. Pats is the festival because of the games. Phin's favorite event is the field trips because "we get to leave school". Angie's favorite event is the Hootenanny because of the games and people. Nick's favorite is when we went to Wendy's because he got to hang out. Abby's favorite event is the festival because she gets to have fun at school without doing any work. Jacob likes helping with the concession stand at sports events. Next year two of the eighth graders will be going to Airport and four of them will be attending SMCC. Cale's favorite place to go on vacation is Punta Cana. Phin's favorite place to go on vacation is Florida. Angie wants to go to Hawaii. Nick's favorite place to go on vacation is Texas. Abby wants to go to Florida in the future and Jacob likes to visit Silver Lake.



THE TIME I FOUND A POT OF GOLD

Contributed by: Estelle Teets



My mom, dad, brother, and I boarded a plane to Ireland. We were going to see my dad's relatives. They had a big family reunion planned. It was my first time going to Ireland, and I was super excited. I wondered what it would look like, and how different it would be from my home in Mississippi. When we finally arrived, we went to dinner. I thought the food was nothing special. Then, we checked into our hotel room and fell asleep after a long day of traveling. The next morning we went to see my aunt and we explored the small town we were staying in. While out exploring, I saw a rainbow in the distance. I asked my parents, "Can we please go get a closer look at that rainbow?" My mom said, "Not right now, we're late for the family reunion." When we got to the family reunion, I looked out the window and saw that the rainbow was still there. I knew my parents were busy, and would probably say no, so I snuck out and went to get a closer look at it by myself. On my way I was walking through the forest and I encountered a fairy. I was shocked to see this fairy, and I asked, "What is your name?" She replied, "My name is Pixie". I explained to Pixie that I was on my way to get a look at the rainbow I'd been seeing since earlier. Pixie said, "Oh, that sounds like a fun adventure, may I come with you?" I said, "Of course you can, let's get going!" Pixie and I set off again in the direction of the rainbow. We walked for quite some time until we almost ran into what I thought was a giant white horse. When the horse turned its head, I noticed it was actually a unicorn! I looked at Pixie with wide eyes and she said, "Oh, Grandma Gertrude, there you are!" The unicorn smiled and replied, "Pixie, my friend, who is this you're walking with?" Pixie said, "This is my new friend, Estelle, and we are headed to see the rainbow." Grandma Gertrude said, "I'm not doing anything, hop on my back and I'll take you." So the three of us continued on toward the rainbow. An hour later we made it so close to the rainbow we could touch it. Something shiny caught my eye on the other side of the rainbow. I said to my new friends, "We should go see what's over there!" Grandma Gertrude said, "There is only one way to get there, we'll have to go over the rainbow." So Pixie and I hopped on Grandma Gertrude's back, and she flew us over the rainbow! When we got there we discovered that the shiny thing was a pot of gold! We walked over to it and before we could reach out to touch it, two leprechauns jumped in front of the pot of gold. They said to us, "Hey, this is our pot of gold!" I replied, "What are your names?" "My name is Paddy O'Furniture, and my name is Fredrick O'RedBrick," they said. I knew all about leprechauns from a book I read. I also knew that the only way they would give up their pot of gold is that they would need to trade for a cereal called, Lucky Charmies. I made sure to bring a box with me from Mississippi, just in case. I pulled the Lucky Charmies cereal out of my pocket. When the leprechauns saw it, they immediately agreed to trade their pot of gold for it. Pixie and I loaded up the pot of gold on Grandma Gertrude's back. We thanked the leprechauns, but they were so busy eating the Lucky Charmies, they didn't respond. We flew back over the rainbow and back to the family reunion. Pixie and Grandma Gertrude thanked me for a fun adventure, and left me with the pot of gold. My parents heard the commotion and came outside to find me and the pot of gold. They said, "Where have you been? We've been looking for you all day!" Then they noticed the pot of gold. "What is this?" they asked. I responded, "It's our lucky day, I found this pot of gold at the end of the rainbow!" My parents were shocked and thrilled. "We're rich!" they exclaimed. We hugged and laughed and talked about how we would spend our new riches. We decided to go on a shopping spree with some of it. With the rest of it, we planned to move our family from Ireland back to Mississippi with us. I'll never forget my trip to Ireland, and especially my friends, Grandma Gertrude and Pixie. I discovered that unicorns and leprechauns do exist! It was the luckiest day of my life, finding a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow! My favorite cereal will always be Lucky Charmies! I love having my family from Ireland living in Mississippi with me. I guess I really do have the luck of the Irish!