

LITTLE GIANTS BIG NEWS



November 2023 Edition

CELEBRATING FALL, ALL SAINTS DAY, AND THANKSGIVING AT ST. PATRICK'S

As the leaves change color and the air turns crisp, St. Patrick's Catholic School is bustling with the spirit of autumn and a sense of gratitude. The month of October has been an exciting one for us, and we have so much to share!

A Time of Gratitude and Reflection

This month, we celebrate *All Saints Day*, a special time to remember the saints who have inspired us to be our best selves. We will learn about their incredible lives and the lessons they can teach us about kindness, generosity, and love. With *Thanksgiving* just around the corner, we're reminded of the importance of giving thanks for the blessings in our lives. It's a time to express our gratitude to God for the harvest, for our families and friends, and for all the love and care that surrounds us.

A Tradition of Gratitude and Learning

In October, we had our annual field trip to *Trabbic Farms*. It's a cherished St. Patrick's tradition, and this year was no exception. We embarked on a journey that brought us closer to the wonders of nature and the beauty of the fall season. Our day at the farm was filled with meaningful experiences. We gathered together to say the *Rosary*, a prayer that brings us peace and reflection. We took a wagon ride to the *pumpkin patch*, where we each picked a pumpkin to bring home. We enjoyed delicious *cider and donuts*, a special treat for this time of year. Our students navigated the *straw maze* with excitement and laughter, and we made some new furry friends as we visited the farm's *animals*. It was a beautiful fall day, and we couldn't have asked for a better way to embrace the changing seasons.

A Heartfelt Harvest Prayer

As we reflect on the bounty of the season, we offer a harvest prayer to express our gratitude to God for His abundant blessings. Let us remember that, like the crops in the field, our lives too have a season of growth, and we must nurture the values of kindness, love, and sharing. Good and generous Lord, you have once more brought the year full circle, through planting and growing and ripening to harvest time, and autumn. We thank You for the sun and the wind, the rain and the dew, the minerals of the earth and all the plants that grow and all the beasts and birds of farm and field. We marvel at Your wonderful ways of bringing food from the earth for man's good. Dear God, help us to use Your rich gifts as You want us to. Teach us to share them with our neighbor when he is in need. Make us see, in the marvelous succession of seasons, and in the growth and ripening of our crops, the merciful, generous hand of Your divine providence.

Help us to realize, too, that if we keep Your commandments and live according to the inspirations of Your grace, we shall also reap a plentiful harvest in the autumn of our lifetime: a harvest that we will be able to enjoy for ever and ever, where no rust can destroy, nor blight spoil any least part of it. **Amen.**

As we move into November and prepare for our much-anticipated school auction, we do so with hearts full of gratitude and excitement. Thank you for being part of our St. Patrick's family, and may this season bring you joy, togetherness, and cherished moments of reflection.

ST PATRICKS SCHOOL PTO PRESENTS

ANNUAL VETERANS DAY Breakfast

We invite you to join us for our Morning Prayer & a Veterans Day Presentation by the students of SPS in honor of our Veterans.

FRIDAY
10 NOV 2023
7:15 - 8:30AM

We extend a warm invitation to Divine Grace Parish and local veterans to join us at this special event.

LIGHT BREAKFAST & DRINKS WILL BE SERVED.



"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." -

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18





**NOVEMBER
UPCOMING EVENTS**

November 1st
**All Saints
Day Mass**

November 2nd
**Parent
Teacher
Conferences
(No School)**

**November
2nd & 3rd**
No School

November 10th
**Veterans
Day
Assembly**

November 14th
**Picture
Re-Take
Day**

November 21st
**Turkey
Trot**

**November
22nd-24th**
NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving
Break

November 29th
**Auction-
Hauling to
Venue**

November 30th
**Auction-
Set up
8:00 a.m.**

LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 French Toast Sticks Tater Tots OR Nacho Fun Lunch	2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL
6 Cheesy Nachos Seasoned Corn OR Muffin Fun Lunch	7 Macaroni & Cheese Cinnamon Glazed Biscuit OR Muffin Fun Lunch	8 Mini Corn Dogs Boston Baked Beans Fresh Baked Cookie OR Muffin Fun Lunch	9 Chicken Tenders Cheesy Broccoli Breadstick OR Muffin Fun Lunch	10 Pizza Friday! Classic Pepperoni or Cheese Side Caesar Salad OR Muffin Fun Lunch
13 Sweet and Sour Chicken Seasoned Broccoli Dinner Roll OR Lucky Tray Day Cheese Cubes, Ham & Grapes Fun Lunch	14 Bosco Sticks BBQ Baked Beans OR Garden Salad Fun Lunch	15 Buttermilk Pancakes Sausage Link Tater Tots Or Cheese Cubes, Ham & Grapes Fun Lunch	16 Classic Chicken Sandwich Seasoned Peas Dinner Roll OR Garden Salad Fun Lunch	17 Pizza Friday! Personal Cheese or Pepperoni Carrot Sticks OR Cheese Cubes, Ham & Grapes Fun Lunch
20 Toasted Grilled Cheese Sandwich Baked Fries OR Parfait Fun Lunch	21 Cheeseburger Baked Beans OR Cereal Fun Lunch	22	23	24
27 Rotini Pasta with Italian Meat Sauce Seasoned Broccoli Breadstick OR Nacho Fun Lunch	28 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Dinner Roll OR Nacho Fun Lunch	29 French Toast Sticks Tater Tots Sausage Patty OR Nacho Fun Lunch	30 Chicken Drumstick Mashed Potatoes Dinner Roll OR Nacho Fun Lunch	<i>World Kindness Day will be celebrated around the world on November 13, 2023. First introduced in 1998 by the World Kindness Movement, World Kindness Day offers an opportunity to highlight good deeds in the community and the common thread of kindness.</i>



The
SCRIP
CORNER

Our SCRIP program is in full swing, and we couldn't be more thrilled with its growth. Thanks to YOUR efforts, we've seen an impressive 86% increase in rebates generated this year compared to last year. This is a fantastic win for both our families and our school!

As we approach the holiday season, we're excited to announce a festive competition. From December 1 through December 31, the family that purchases the most SCRIP will receive a \$50 gift card of their choice in January! Don't forget to share the news with your friends and family; they might appreciate some extra stocking stuffers.

Remember, physical gift card orders for November should be submitted by the end of the day on Friday, November 3. These cards will be sent home with students during the week of November 6.

**175TH
ANNIVERSARY**

Join us in marking this special Anniversary year! If you'd like to contribute to the planning of the forthcoming celebrations, provide historical insights, or share cherished memorabilia as we commemorate 175 remarkable years, please reach out to us at NLJaskot@gmail.com

In this vintage photograph, we glimpse the St. Patrick School uniforms from the 1950s, with students arranged from left to right: Elaine Kezno, Barbara Rice, Janice Meyer, Rosemary Meyer, and Ron Rice.

#SPS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Mastering the Web: A Guide to Safe Online Adventures for K-8 Students

In an exciting development this year, our school acquired new Chromebooks for every K-8 student through a technology grant. To ensure that our students make the most of their online experiences while staying safe, Mr. Bezeau and the 5th & 6th graders took the initiative to educate their younger peers about responsible internet use.



By fostering a culture of responsible internet usage from an early age, we're equipping our Little Giants with the knowledge and tools they need to be responsible and safe digital citizens. This valuable lesson will serve them well throughout their educational journey and beyond.

Mrs. Geiger's 2nd-grade class recently delved into the world of positive affirmations, and the results are simply inspiring. During their lesson, the students crafted beautiful pumpkins adorned with affirming messages, fostering a culture of self-confidence and optimism in the classroom.

SPS Artists



Contribution by: Pk3 & 1st Grade

LITTLE GIANTS VOLLEYBALL CAMP



1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grade Volleyball Camp



Q: What's the best dance to do on Thanksgiving?

A: The turkey trot.

FALL Sports

FOOTBALL

Volleyball



As the volleyball season comes to a close, we're thrilled to announce the incredible achievements of our B2 team, who not only completed an undefeated season but also clinched the coveted title of CYO Tournament Champions. Congratulations to them on their outstanding performance, and a big shoutout to all the other teams for their hard work and dedication throughout the season!



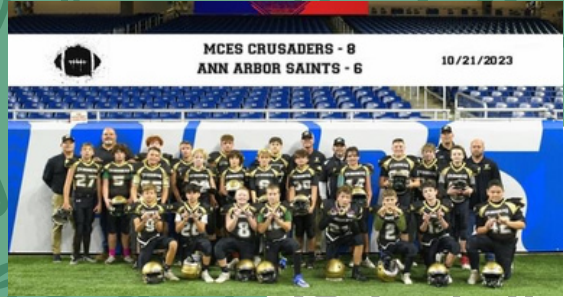
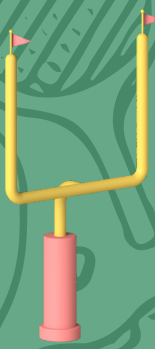
The 5th-grade boys, under the guidance of Coach Bozzo, made their mark on the football field as they joined the St. Charles Centaurs. With unwavering determination and teamwork, they achieved a flawless 6-0 record, emerging as undefeated champions. Their dedication and skill have left an indelible mark on the field, and we're immensely proud of their accomplishments!



Jacob Carter and Nick Bokuniewicz showcased their skills while playing for Holy Ghost, and their hard work paid off as they successfully advanced to the Championship game. Congratulations on this impressive achievement!



Congratulations MCES Crusaders!!! All 7th graders placing 3rd overall in CYO at Ford Field



SPS GIANTS

November Updates

25th Annual St. Patrick School Auction

Save the Date: December 1st, 2023 at Grafton Hall!

We are thrilled to announce our 25th Annual Benefit Auction at St. Patrick School, and we can't wait to share this extraordinary evening with you. As we gear up for this significant milestone, here are some key details to keep in mind:

Dinner Tickets: Dinner tickets are now available for purchase and will remain on sale until November 15th. Be sure to secure your spot for what promises to be an unforgettable evening.

Auction Raffle Tickets: If you're interested in purchasing auction raffle tickets, kindly reach out to a school family to obtain yours.

Donations Welcome: We're currently accepting auction donations at the school office, and the deadline for donations is November 16th.

- Grubb Grab: Consider contributing gift cards to restaurants in any denomination. You can also order through SCRIP by November 3rd and earn money off next year's tuition.
- Punch Wall: We're in need of gifts ranging from \$5 to \$25 for men. All items must be new.
- Cart of Cheer: Please send donations of wine, liquor, and cart items clearly labeled 'Cart of Cheer' to the school office.
- Auction Items: Get creative and consider creating a themed basket, donating an experience, or going in on a large item with family or friends. Cash donations are also appreciated.

Service Hour Reminder: Each family is required to complete two service hours related to our annual auction.

A heartfelt thank you to all the dedicated volunteers and generous donors who have already contributed, helping to make this year's school auction a resounding success.

For any questions or further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to **Julie Jones or Hillary Lange**, our dedicated event chairs.

Join us for an evening of community, entertainment, exciting bidding opportunities and FUNdraising while we invest in our youth!



**Scan for
Auction
Website**



**Scan for
Dinner
Tickets**



**Scan for
Raffle
Tickets**



**Scan for
Auction
Facebook
Page**



Saint Patrick School Committee



Looking Forward

Many members of the School Committee are working together with Mr. Lenze to prepare for our school's accreditation in March 2024. Each school in the Archdiocese of Detroit undergoes a five-year cycle that begins with a self-study based on the standards laid out in the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Schools followed by a site team visit to review the work the school has submitted and to evaluate the school's performance.

Becoming an accredited school is a strenuous process and we are dedicated to maintaining our credentials and continuing to provide a quality education at St. Patrick School.

Keep a Look Out

Communication Survey coming soon



Hootenanny 2023

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for another fantastic Hootenanny! The children had an absolute blast with their friends, and the adults relished good company, delicious food, and plenty of laughter.

The hayride, games, and movie proved to be a big hit with our little Giants, while some friendly competition kept our big little Giants thoroughly entertained. For the adults, the potluck was a delightful spread of family delicacies, complemented by the warmth of a crackling fire and college football action under the Pavilion.

If you weren't able to make it this year, fret not; we eagerly anticipate your participation next year! The Hootenanny tradition continues to grow, and we can't wait to create even more memorable moments together.

PTO CORNER

CONNECTING, ENGAGING, AND EMPOWERING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY



TRUNK OR TREAT

The PTO hosted a spooktacular Trunk or Treat event on October 27th, and it was a smashing success! With perfect weather and a fantastic turnout, families enjoyed a memorable evening. The PTO provided delicious pizza, and heartfelt thanks go out to all who contributed candy, drinks, and sides. In addition to the Trunk or Treat, a glow-in-the-dark egg hunt added to the excitement of the evening. Numerous trunks were creatively decorated, and a 'Best Decorated Trunk' competition was expertly judged by our very own Mrs. Gaynier and her husband. The top honors went to The Carmacks with their 'Spooky Tree' trunk, while the runner-up was Ms. Babcock with her 'Hospital Mobile' creation. The night was a delightful mix of fantastic costumes and pure fun, creating lasting memories for all who attended. A huge thanks to everyone who contributed and helped make this event a spectacular one!



PTO *Save the Date*
SECRET SANTA SHOP DECEMBER 4TH

Saint Patrick School Foundation

I am so happy to report that the basketball court is completed. Our students now enjoy a full court adjustable gorilla hoops and recess just became even more exciting. The basketball hoops were paid for by the St. Patrick School Foundation but this was only made possible through the efforts and labor of so many. Gotts Concrete donated all of the cement for the pad, Jim Kovalak and Justin Roof donated their heavy machinery and labor, Mark Kohlman led the crew pouring and finishing the concrete, and Joel Grubb, Kurt Ryder, Andy Konyha, and Casey Jones provided skilled labor. Thanks to all to made this happen.

St. Patrick School Foundation is a 503c Not for Profit organization. Without exception, 100% of donations to SPS Foundation go towards the betterment of the school!

Regards, Aaron





Thanksgiving

Reported by: Elsie Lange

Thanksgiving is a fun celebration which includes football, parades, shopping, and food. But how did this holiday start? Most may know the story of the pilgrims, Mayflower, and the first Thanksgiving. But did you know that Squanto was also a Roman Catholic? He learned his faith from some Dominican friars, who he was rescued by after being captured by an English party. This English party, after capturing Squanto, sailed him to Spain and sold him as a slave. Thankfully, these Dominican friars came to Squanto's rescue and brought him back to England. There he was an interpreter of the English and Indians. After helping the settlers form Plymouth, he suggested a feast with the local Indian tribe, which is what Thanksgiving is based off of. So, yes, like most holidays, Thanksgiving has Catholic origins. Happy Thanksgiving!

grateful
♥



All Saints

Reported by: Isabelle Jones

Usually, we pick a saint of the month to talk to you about, but the first day of November is dedicated to all saints and is called "All Saints Day". You may know many saints by name, but do you know why they became saints? Saints are very important people in which the popes and bishops reward by honoring their great virtue along with their great works. A saint can be a person who had a great miracle shown to them, happen to them, or they can just be a simple person who did something great for God or others. We pray to saints to help us become like them. For example, if you had lost something very precious to you and you couldn't find it you could pray to St. Anthony of Padua. Or if you wanted to be more kind towards others you could ask for the assistance of St. Veronica. There are all kinds of different saints, but the world could use more, so never stop trying to live up to the greatness of saints.

"Be not afraid, become a saint!"

St. Blaise was a doctor and a bishop. Here, he is healing a boy's throat.



Colored by: Quinn Jaskot

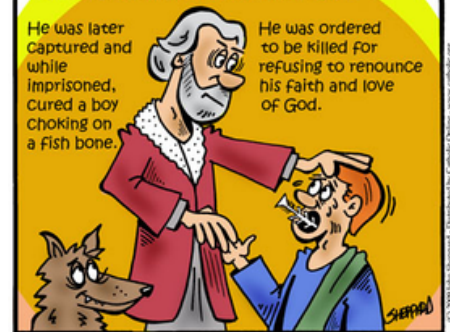
SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard

Raised as a Christian in a rich family, he became a bishop. In a vision, God appeared to him and told him to flee. To avoid persecution, he lived in the hills with sick animals and cared for them.

He was later captured and while imprisoned, cured a boy choking on a fish bone.

He was ordered to be killed for refusing to renounce his faith and love of God.



St. Blaise



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Contributed by:
Samantha Emrick

Every 31st of October is Halloween! Many people celebrate it by giving out candy, decorating your house with spooky decorations, dressing up as monsters, scary things, etc. We do this to make fun of the demons in hell. The next day after Halloween is all soul's day. Fun Fact, Halloween started over 2,000 years ago!!! That was a long time ago and we still celebrate it. The best thing about Halloween is... CANDY! Of Course, candy! The reason we have candy on Halloween is because back in the old days they didn't have candy, so they gave out coins, nuts, and home goods.



Contributions



We invite all of our talented and creative students to get involved in our school newsletter. Whether you have a story to tell, a poem to share, a prayer from your heart, or captivating pictures that capture the spirit of St. Patrick's, we want to showcase your contributions. To submit your articles, pictures, stories, poems, prayers, or any other exciting ideas, please reach out to Sarah Blicharski at SarahBlicharski@gmail.com or your teacher. Let's come together to make our newsletter shine with the brilliance of our Little Giants!

Ar Trabbic Farm

Contributed by: Lila Collins



At Trabbic Farm we saw a lot of pumpkins and animals. We saw different kinds of pumpkins and gourds. We saw a lot of animals such as ducks, chickens, goats, bunnies, pigs, donkeys, and other animals. We got to play around in the hay maze. We got to eat donuts and cider yum! At the end we all prayed a rosary. See you next year at Trabbic Farm!



Trabbic Farm

Contributed by: Alexa Chilson



At Trabbic farms there were a lot of fun things to do. There were animals, cider and donuts. We got to go to the pumpkin patch to pick a pumpkin while we got popcorn on the way there. Trabbic Farms has been open for 33 years. They have 40 acres of pumpkins the guests can pick from. Trabbic farms is so welcoming to families.



The New Basketball Court!

Contributed by: Elise Collins

We are so excited to have a new basketball court!!

The boys in my class didn't want to wait. The first thing everyone did when we got to recess was run to it. They were so happy, I would just glance over and see everyone smiling. Thank you to those who helped make it happen!

