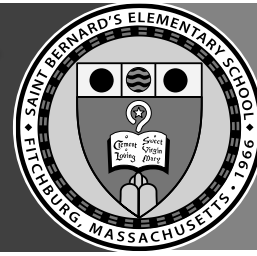


WHAT'S NEW

St. Bernard's Elementary School News



April 2022
Issue 65



*Inspired by the motto
"Deeds not Words," St. Bernard's
Elementary School is a Catholic
community of faith, learning and
service joined in living Gospel values.
In partnership with our families,
we strive to develop both academic
excellence and compassion for others
in our students.*


WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS

Pre-K Springtime is filled with lots of rain, so many puddles and mud, of course! April is filled with signs of spring and "New Life" all around us. Our youngest Bernardians will start growing flowers from seeds and will wait patiently to see their plants sprout! During Lent, the children are celebrating the life of Jesus and thinking about how much He loved each one of us.

Kindergarten Spring has sprung! Our children continue to practice how they can be more loving during this Lenten Season. Such a powerful lesson in "giving up" for another person. The classroom is buzzing with hands on activities that keep our children busy during Center Time. Math Talks focus on estimation and place value. In ELA, the work continues with Popcorn Words and word families.

Grade 1 Our First Graders are learning the greatest challenge of the season of Lent - what it means to try to become more like Jesus. They are focusing on the importance of being helpful, kind and forgiving toward others. The children take time to be thankful for all the ways God shows His love for every one of us each day. These are wonderful reminders to everyone, young and old, as we journey closer to the Easter celebration.

Grade 2 Children celebrated First Penance with Father Dolan the last week of March. The Sacrament of Reconciliation brings each one closer to making First Holy Communion this May. Second Graders are now subtracting two-digit numbers with regrouping. It takes a lot of practice! In Social Studies, they are learning about our government leaders. Our students were especially interested in virtual tours of the White House...we just might have a future President in class!


**CHRIST THE LORD
IS RISEN TODAY!**

Grade 3 Third Graders continues to study the forty days of Lent leading to the celebration of Easter. They continue to pray the Stations of the Cross as part of their Lenten journey. Students are learning about the Triduum - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter - the three most important days in the Church year. They are impatiently awaiting Easter and the Good News of the Lord's Resurrection!

Grade 4 Students are off and running with the states and capitals! They have mastered the Northeast and the Southeast. Next...the Midwest. In Science, they are on "into" the Human Body. The skeletal system, muscular system, respiratory system and circulatory system...it is such a blast to learn about themselves. Lots of hands-on activities too!

Grade 5 Each year the month of April is set aside as *National Poetry Month*, a time to celebrate poets and their craft. Learning about how poets use rhyme and repetition for effect and to emphasize the meaning of their poems gives our own writers more tools as they try their hands at poetry. Fifth Graders will be challenged to share their own poetic creativity with classmates!

Grade 6 Religion scholars are focusing on awareness of the transformative power of God's presence and His goodness. Just as the returning exiles rebuilt the Temple and worshiped God anew, our students can put new energy into living as God's children. They will explore the *Book of Ruth*, who was an excellent role model for living with faith, hope, and love in challenging times. A reminder to have hope always, even during dry spells and times of hardships.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS CONTINUED

Grade 7 Seventh Graders continue to learn about the life of Jesus and how the Scriptures and the Church can guide us as we live out our call to be a light to others. Jesus' parables and life story show them how they can live the teachings in their own lives. In Science, the next stop on the journey to understanding how living things operate will be one that our students know well, the human body. How do our body systems provide these functions? How can we help to care for our bodies?

Grade 8 Eighth Graders have a busy month ahead in Math class - linear functions and linear inequalities include working with relations, functions, scatter plots, and direct variation. They will also determine slope, and equations of lines, and use slope to determine if lines are perpendicular or parallel. Eighth Graders will graph systems of linear equations and linear inequalities. Exciting times in Math!



Art All classes participated in the Sunflower of Peace project. Students made multiple styles of sunflowers in many mediums. Acrylic paint on construction paper, 3-dimensional cut and paste flowers and more sophisticated oil pastels were all used to create beautiful symbols of our prayers for peace.



Holy Week

Our 6th, 7th & 8th Grade students have been invited to take part in a Tenebrae & Eucharistic Adoration service at St. Bernard's High School on April 13. It will be a time of quiet reflection in preparation for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the glory of Easter Sunday. Students from Kindergarten to Grade 5 will celebrate Liturgy here at school that afternoon as they prepare for Holy Week as well.

Coming Events

April 5
French Café
Grade 8

April 7
PTO 6:00 PM

April 13
Tenebrae & Eucharistic Adoration
Grades 6, 7, & 8 STB HS
Liturgy
K – Grade 5 STB Elem.

April 14
Holy Thursday
NO SCHOOL

April 15
Good Friday
NO SCHOOL

April 17
Easter Sunday

April 18 - 22
Spring Vacation
NO SCHOOL

April 25 – May 6
Mass for Life
Circle of Grace Program
K to Grade 8

April 14 - 24
Fiesta Shows Carnival
STB School Field

~ BERNARDIAN LIFE AT STB ~

Sunflower of Peace Thanks to the generous spirit of our entire community – students, families, faculty, staff, and friends – STB made a \$2,000.00 donation to the *Sunflower of Peace Foundation, Inc.* We thank *Pinard Florist of Ayer* who was able to fulfill our constantly evolving order at less than wholesale cost. We sold 750 sunflowers for a profit of \$1,125.50, Casual for A Cause donations raised \$856.00 from students, families and friends of STB and an extra contribution of \$18.50 rounded our donation to \$2000.00. *Sunflower of Peace Foundation* is a Boston, USA-based 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. sunflowerofpeace.com



Math Classes Celebrate March 14 – Pi Day! Pi Day was celebrated in Grades 4-8 with loads of various Pi activities! Design a Pi Day t-shirt, calculate the circumference of objects in the room, the reading of *Sir Cumference and the Dragon of Pi* were just a few of the fun activities. Students wrapped up the day with pie. Whether you calculate it or eat it, Pi (and pie) bring joy to many. Thank you *Table Talk Pies* for providing us with these delicious treats. And in case you have forgotten, the value of *Pi* is typically rounded down to 3.14 but it can go on ...forever.

Let Us Pray For Peace. Let Us Work For Peace. Let us pray with Pope Francis to our Blessed Mother, Our Lady Queen of Peace. Let us ask her intervention in the hearts of those waging war. Let us ask for her protection for all those in harm's way. *Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen*

