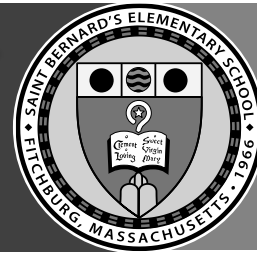


WHAT'S NEW

St. Bernard's Elementary School News



January 2023
Issue 71



*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 A light appeared in Bethlehem and the Angels sang his name...J-E-S-U-S. The children are learning about the Holy Family – Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus. They are celebrating the gift of Baby Jesus as they are learning about the Feast of the Epiphany, which is celebrated on Jan. 6. Epiphany celebrates the revelation to the Wise Men that Jesus was the Son of God.

Kindergarten Happy 2023! It was a joy to have the Nativity Play back this year. A truly wonderful evening to begin the celebration of Christmas and to remember its true meaning. Kindergarten students continue to focus on how they can give themselves to others in the New Year. In academics, the children will be working collaboratively in centers where they can put together all that they have learned so far this year in a way that is F-U-N!

Grade 1 Happy New Year from First Grade! After a very exciting and hectic holiday season, our young students (and teachers!) are ready to settle back in to the important work of learning. Increasing reading and writing fluency will be a key focus, as they

continue to build on earlier foundational literacy skills. With this, word study lessons and texts are also becoming more complex with the introduction of long vowels and the many spelling patterns that represent them. First Graders are growing as readers and writers day by day...with lots of hard work and practice!

Grade 2 Second Graders are learning about the Works of Mercy. When the children help others in loving service, they act as Jesus did. Every action, no matter how small, can be a gift of love and bring the giver closer to Jesus. These are important lessons which our children embrace as they prepare for their First Eucharist this May

Grade 3 Readers begin the New Year starting a new unit in Reading entitled *One of a Kind*. Each story in the unit will help Third Graders answer the essential question "Why are individual qualities important?" Students grow in reading and writing skills as they consider what makes each one of them unique.

Grade 4 Students continue to perfect their Math skills with Fast Fact FRIDAY! Every Friday, the entire Math class is spent...playing games!! Games focus on multiplication facts as well as a review of addition and

subtraction skills. Who knew that mastering math facts could be so much fun?



Grade 5 Fifth Graders completed a novel study of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* in preparation for their field trip to see the play at the Hanover Theatre on Dec. 22. Students explored the theme, the setting, the plot conflict and its resolution to help them better appreciate this classic tale of redemption. Outstanding theatre and compelling life lessons.

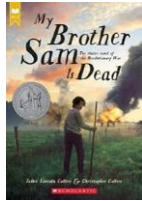
Grade 6 Science scholars are examining the role energy plays whenever matter changes either physically or chemically. No matter what the change is... energy is always required. In Literature, students are currently reading the thought provoking "I am the Cheese," a novel written by award winning local author Robert Cormier. Students are studying the Book of Genesis in Religion, which coincides with their study of the ancient civilizations of the Middle East in World History.





WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS CONTINUED

Grade 7 In Religion, students have been thinking about prayer. At a time in their lives when they are confronting more choices than ever before, they are considering how staying connected to Jesus helps them make good choices in their lives. Seventh Grade biologists have moved beyond studying the basic organelles in a cell and understanding their function. Now they are looking at two major processes, photosynthesis, and cellular respiration, fundamental to life on Earth. Did you know that cellular respiration is not the same as breathing?



Grade 8 In Science, students have developed a solid grasp on what matter is, how our understanding of matter's properties developed, and how scientists can predict the physical and chemical characteristics of various elements. Their next investigation examines chemical reactions and how they can be represented with chemical equations. Students are currently reading, "My Brother Sam is Dead," a novel set in the Revolutionary War. This coincides with their studies of the original 13 colonies in U.S. History.



French 8th Grade
French students are learning about food! How to say they are hungry or thirsty and how to order food from a menu. This is the perfect segway to the French Cafe, always a big favorite, when they will be the chefs of their own French food! Coming soon in February!



Blue & Gold Winners December

- \$250.00 – Mrs. Amanda Sicard
- \$100.00 – Mrs. Jeanne Caron
- \$75.00 – Ms. Heather Queenan
- \$50.00 – Mrs. Katy Gagnon
- \$25.00 – Mrs. Jennifer Graves



Coming Events

Jan. 3
MAP Testing Window Opens
Diocese of Worcester Financial Aid Portal Opens?

Jan. 9-20
ALL BERNARDIAN FAMILIES
Registration for 2023-2024
Pre-K 3 & 4, Kindergarten, Grs. 1 - 8

Jan. 9-20
Circle of Grace
Kindergarten – Grade 8

Jan. 13
Faculty Meeting 7:30 AM

Jan. 16
NO SCHOOL
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Jan. 19
Trimester 2 Progress Reports

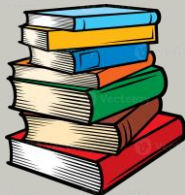
Jan. 23
Enrollment Opens for Waitlisted Families
Pre-K 3 to Grade 8

Jan. 27
MAP Testing Window Ends

Jan. 29 – Feb. 3
Catholic Schools Week

~ BERNARDIAN LIFE AT STB ~

Welcome Mr. Langley! Grades 6, 7 and 8 have welcomed a new Social Studies, Literature and Religion teacher. Mr. Eric Langley has many years of experience teaching. His career includes positions teaching overseas, at St. Peter-Marian High School, and at St. Anna Catholic School.



Class of 2023

Yearbook 2022-2023 An exciting time begins in January when 8th Graders begin creating their long awaited Yearbook! Choosing their theme, background colors, page borders, and pictures will be time consuming but rewarding tasks. They will be busily engaged writing "Remember when..." "What if's ..." and 'Class Prophecies.' The entire school waits with great anticipation to see the final product!

Basketball The season is in full swing at STB! Players from Grades 1 – 8 are back out on the courts. First through Fourth Grade teams play at St. Anna's in Leominster, Fifth through Eighth Grade boys play at St. Bernard's Activity Center, and Fifth through Eighth Grade girls play at Monty Tech. All teams play on Saturdays.

