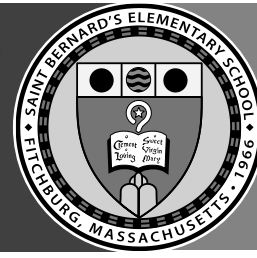


WHAT'S NEW

St. Bernard's Elementary School News



March 2023
Issue 73



*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 Our youngest Bernardians are learning what the wind is and how

it affects the weather around us. They make a decision each morning as to whether that day is a lion or lamb day. The class practices their graphing skills by building a data table to keep track of all the lion and lamb days. *The March wind is a silly clown, she blows things up, she blows things down, she blows us all around!*

Kindergarten The Adventure continues! Celebration marked the 100th day of school. The children have learned a FUN song about place value and the importance of putting a 0 in place if there is no number there. There is a big difference between 14 and 104 if you forget to put the 0 in the tens place. Reading centers and building words on the putting green are still happening!



Grade 1 Our First Graders are learning about the season of Lent and what it

means to try to become more like Jesus. Our lessons are focusing on the importance of being helpful, kind and forgiving toward others, as well as being thankful for all the ways God shows His love for us

each day. These are wonderful reminders to everyone, young and old, as we journey closer to the Easter celebration.

Grade 2 Second graders will receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation this month. There have been great discussions of what it means to examine their conscience. They think about the Ten Commandments and how they have followed them. Our young children are very able to reflect on the choices they make every day and see them as opportunities to grow in their love for Jesus by loving one another.



Grade 3 Students are using the forty days of Lent to prepare for their celebration of Easter.

They will learn to pray the Stations of the Cross, which is a powerful way to recall the events of Jesus's Crucifixion and Death on the Cross. They will learn about the Easter Triduum, Holy Thursday Good Friday and Easter Sunday, the three most important days in the Church year. As the end of Lent approaches, they will focus on Easter, the feast of Good News celebrating Jesus Christ's rising from the dead.

Grade 4 Geographers are venturing into the Midwest in Social Studies.

They are learning the history and culture of our neighbors to our west. Up next in Science - the history of planet Earth told by fossils and rock formations. Lots of territory to be covered in Grade 4!

Grade 5 Fifth Graders celebrated their 1000th Day in school by doing a bit of math last month and making an amazing calculation! These students have attended school 180 days per year from Kindergarten through Grade 4! Add 100 days to that total=1000 days!!!! (180 x 5) + 100=1000!!!! That's a lot of time having fun and learning together. No wonder they are so smart!

Grade 6 Students have been busy reading true life narratives such as *The Declaration of the Rights of the Child*, *Michaela DePrince: The War Orphan Who Became a Ballerina*, *I Was a Skinny Tomboy Kid*, and an excerpt from *Bad Boy*. In English class, the students are studying the proper use of pronouns and adjectives, which will be useful as they respond in essay form to these stories about the challenges and triumphs of growing up. A clever way to put English grammar to good use!





WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS CONTINUED



Grade 7 What can a chicken wing tell us about the interaction of muscles, bones, and the nervous system? How is a chicken wing like your arm, a whale's fin, a horse's leg? Dissecting this part of a chicken's body led our biologists to all sorts of intriguing questions about structure, function, and the evolution of bodies. In Literature, Seventh Graders will be reading *The Only Road*, a novel about the plight of Central Americans fleeing the conditions in their home countries, hoping to find a new life in the United States, which mirrors their study of Central America in Geography.



Grade 8 Eighth Graders continue their studies even as they begin to look forward to high school. There is still much for them to learn and consider before they leave in June. In History, their study of the U.S. Constitution, the oldest and shortest written Constitution of any major government in the world, continues. There are only 4543 words in the original, unamended Constitution, including the signatures. Despite more than 11,000 proposed amendments, only 27 have been ratified. The first 10 amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, were ratified in 1791. A very brief but powerful document that every American should understand.



French *Bravo, mes amis!* It was so wonderful to enjoy the French Cafe again. Eighth Graders 8th rose to the occasion by preparing a variety of delectable delights from French cuisine. Each talked about the food they prepared, and then served it to their fellow classmates with pride. The morning was educational, cultural and delicious. Perhaps this is the beginning of some culinary journeys? We can only hope!

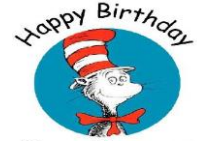


Art Lessons for all grades recently incorporated some simple engineering within kinetic art projects: snow people with changing faces, snowboarders with spinning winter scenery in their goggles, and a northern lights mobile simulating the colors and movement of the *Aurora Borealis*. These multi step projects came together with creativity, mixed materials and hands on assembly. Challenging and fun to create and entertaining to view!



Coming Events

March 2.
STB Celebrates *Read Across America!*



Dr. Seuss
March 10
Trimester 2 Closes

March 16
Report Cards go home

March 17
The Wearin' of the Green
Casual For A Cause

March 20
First Day of Spring

March 23
Spring Picture Day
Out of Uniform!

March 24
Mass for Life
St. Paul's Cathedral

March 24 - 31
Scholastic Book Fair

March 27
Half Day – *Noon Dismissal*
NEASC Accreditation Meeting

~ BERNARDIAN LIFE AT STB ~

Book Buddies This beloved activity has returned to the delight of every Bernardian involved. Students in Kindergarten and Grade 8, Grade 1 and Grade 6, Grade 2 and Grade 7 become Book Buddies for the year but their connection goes well beyond the one class a week that they gather to enjoy books together. Special relationships develop connecting older and younger children across the school day – in the cafeteria, before school, at dismissal and at school events. It is a joy to see the affection that connects there Book Buddies to each other.

Ski Club This favorite activity returned on Sunday January 8, 2023 at Wachusett Mountain with eleven Bernardian snow lovers - nine students and two parents The club ran six Sundays from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM and welcomed beginners and experts for skiing and snowboarding. Rentals and lessons were available at a bargain rate. It's the best deal around for families that would like to try out winter sports. Mark your calendars for next year for families and students from Grades 3 – 8



Blue & Gold Winners February

- \$250.00 – Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Guzman
- \$100.00 – Mr. & Mrs. Paul Pepin
- \$75.00 – Ms. Monica Thomas
- \$50.00 – Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Murphy
- \$25.00 – Mr. & Mrs. Steven Adam