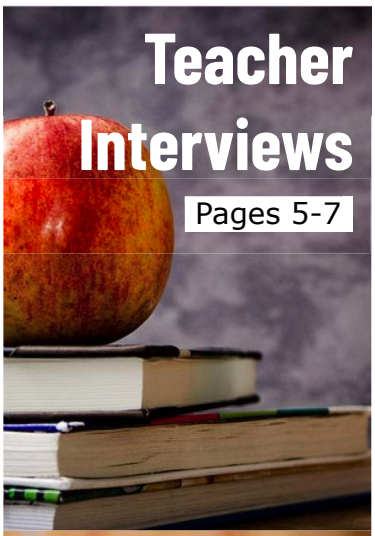
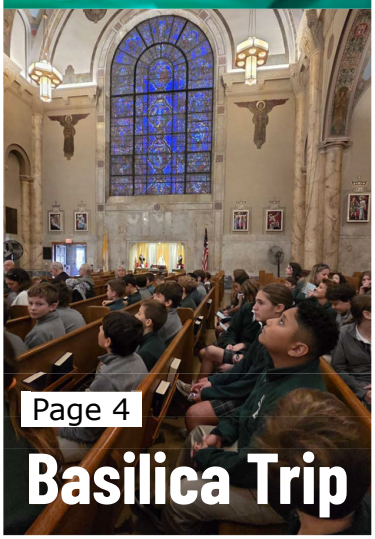
The Dolphin Dispatch

St. Brendan School News Source

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Eighth Grade Trip Recap





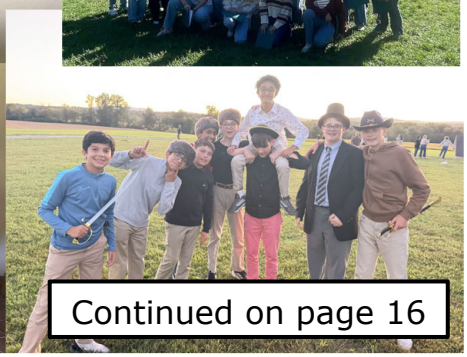


Eighth graders went to many different historical places and museums. They learned many topics including the American Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the US Constitution.



On the second day, eighth graders visited the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine. On the huge campus, students got to learn about her life and see her actual houses.





Continued on page 16

Find the Pumpkins



Our mascot recently went to the pumpkin patch and got seven pumpkins. He told us he was looking through our issue and accidentally lost them. **See if you can find his pumpkins across this issue.**

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See Your Writing, In This Paper!

Want to be in The Dolphin Dispatch? Just write something and submit it to and your work might be included in our next issue. You can tell us what is happening in your homeroom or something interesting about your teacher. Please submit your articles to **The Dolphin Dispatch** mailbox in the office. Be sure to include your name and homeroom! Happy Writing!



Enthronement Mass

By Walden D'Souza, 8A; Izzie Dobbins, 8B

To Father Sam an enthronement mass is "a devotional that helps people realize that Jesus is not only our friend, but the king and center of our lives." He believes we should make Him king of "not only our personal lives, but our public lives," especially during school.

On September 18, Father Sam celebrated our school's enthronement mass. Prior to the event, he spoke with students, promoting the devotional. On each of the ten days leading up to the mass, students recited the devotional prayers, consecrating their hearts to our Lord.

When Friday rolled around, students filed into the church. Many people there, including Father Sam, waited excitedly to see what would happen. Father Sam admitted to feeling a bit nervous that day, but he "knew the Lord would take care of us. Jesus calls us to be faithful, not perfect, so [he] knew that if [he] was faithful everything would go great."

And, ultimately, everything did go great from the moment he walked up to the altar with Father Lumpe and Father Weldit, through the readings—when Father Sam looked out at the students overjoyed to share one of his favorite devotionals with them—and finally to the closing prayers consecrating our school to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

After the final prayers, house leaders came forward to lead students back to their classrooms, carrying blessed images of the Sacred Heart and crucifixes. Father Sam hopes these images and crucifixes, now hanging in each classroom, will "remind [students] of the love, mercy, and forgiveness of God," and "draw [their] attention daily, in hope that [they] realize that Jesus not only called those around him to holiness 2,000 years ago, but also us today."

So the next time you see Jesus's Sacred Heart or Jesus hanging on the Cross in your classroom, pause and pray, asking our Lord to remind you of His Most Sacred Heart.

Lord Jesus Christ, through the passion and merits of your holy cross, I ask that you help draw us closer to your most Sacred Heart, which is the display of love and mercy itself. Help me to never forget your love and mercy which was poured out for the whole world on the cross. Amen.





Basilica Trip

By Ari Adam, 6A

As you know, we had our 4-8th grade Basilica Trip on October 20th, 2026, in Carey, OH. The Basilica we went to was called Our Lady of Consolation, with a shrine park nearby. I interviewed lots of people, and the majority said it was beautiful. Someone said that they thought it was like a church in a story book, and I agree. The Basilica had a mural on the roof, and it certainly was amazing. "It made me feel small," someone said. "Like I was an ant compared to an elephant." And another person said, "I had this feeling of peace inside me, and I couldn't stop smiling."

Lots of people had many ideas of what they thought it would look like and what the experience would be like, and I asked some people what they thought about the trip before we arrived. One of them said, "Long car ride? Why are we going? What are we going to do? Answer: Absolutely nothing."-Audrey Waits, 6A

I guess some people didn't get enough information about the trip to even wonder what it would be like! As for me, I imagined a huge church with these beautiful sculptures with giant stained glass windows. And the church was mostly that!

At the Basilica, we had different times scheduled for tours and lunches. 4, 5, and 6A had lunch and free-time first, and 7, 8, and 6B had tours first. After the first session, we switched around.

As we ate our lunch, the priest who did the mass we attended came around and talked to us. We didn't have much time to eat, but that was okay. After the 7, 8, and 6B lunch we said the rosary of all the grades at the Basilica. Fr.Sam was the leader of the rosary. At mass the day after we went, he talked about how he was healed, not physically, but spiritually. It was lifting knowing that when you pray to God to be healed, your physical pains might not be healed, but your life spiritually is. It helped me know that when I pray to be healed, no matter what, I will be healed but in a different way than I might've wanted.

To go to the Basilica and back it is about 3 hours total on the buses, 1:30 there and back. Not everyone loved that road-trip. I remember I heard someone talking about how they thought the trip on the bus was "not needed," and "annoying." But then I heard someone say "this is awesome!"

I thought once we were at the Basilica we'd have mass, then leave. Then when we got there I realized that the Basilica was not only a church. It was *2 churches!* What I mean is when you first go you're like: "Oh, wow! This is big!" But when you get your tour you're like: "there's another one in the basement?!" It was cool knowing that this Basilica has tons of history, and it's not only a huge church. In the lower church there were tons of relics, 1-2-and 3 levels, tons of casts, and some statues. It was awesome! There were even dresses people made to clothe Mary and Jesus. There were over 1,000 dresses! Mary and Jesus were decked out.

Lots of people liked different parts of the trip, and many people liked the rosary, mass, and even the tour. I asked Brecklyn Blackburn in 6B what her favorite part was, and she said, "I really liked seeing the Basilica basement- oh I meant *lower church.*"

Everyone (as I expected) loved the whole experience, and some even felt different after. Carey Ohio Basilica, get ready for more visitors!



Mrs. Starkey next to the Dot Day collage

Dot Day with Mrs. Starkey

By Izzie Dobbins, 8B

Did you know September 15th is National Dot Day, based on the children's book *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds? In the book a girl thinks she is terrible at art. Her art teacher says to make anything and sign it. That simple dot starts a journey of self-confidence and a discovery of her artistic skills. After the book was introduced to a class at North Tama School in 2009, by teacher Terry Shay in Traer, Iowa, it has become a global movement that has reached millions worldwide.

Because of this very special day, I interviewed our amazing art teacher, Mrs. Starkey, about said Dot Day. Mrs. Starkey has a lot of experience with this day and the things that come along with it. I asked her questions about her old projects, what her favorite one was, etc. My first two questions went sort of hand-in-hand. I asked Mrs. Starkey if there was any past Dot Day artwork that stood out to her or if there were any funny dots she could remember. She replied by saying that they weren't necessarily funny but they all made an impact, either to the kids (mainly first graders) or to her because of how far their artwork had come. She said that when she was teaching at her old school, she made mobiles, or hanging crib toys a lot which she would present at the annual art show.

Mrs. Starkey told me her opinion on how making a simple dot can improve somebody's confidence in their art. We talked about how there are many people who are insecure about their art and she told me that she loves this project because it "breaks fear of failure," which I think is a very powerful quote that gives us great perspective on letting your creativity go wild and not being limited by rules or guidelines. It can make your art a thousand times better because it's original and coming from you. She also said it "teaches mentorship" because even if you think you haven't done anything outstanding or fantastic, there is always going to be someone who looks up to you, whether that be a classmate, younger sibling, or friends. And everyone could use a mentor in art.

This year, Mrs. Starkey will hang all of the dots along the bus lobby/middle school art wall, across her door, and onto the younger kids art wall. Hopefully looking like a watercolor rainbow being painted by a huge paintbrush coming out of the ceiling.

Thank you, Mrs. Starkey for letting me interview you about National Dot Day!



New Choir Teacher

By Izzie Dobbins, 8B

A lot of people know Mrs. Jordan Kapsch—maybe not the first name but still—and most people know she used to play piano at school masses. If you're wondering why she isn't anymore, it's because…she became middle school's new choir teacher! Yay! Because of the new position, I asked her a couple of questions about previous schools, instruments, and bands. My first question to her was if she had ever taught choir before and apparently, she has. She was actually a vocal performance major in college but had zero desire to teach—she grew up with parents in the education world and was not interested in it. After realizing you can't really do much with a vocal performance degree, she decided to take a job overseas. She and a bunch of her friends moved to South Korea to take teaching jobs as ESL(English as a Second Language)instructor. She didn't think the teaching part would be as exciting as the travel would be but Mrs. Kapsch soon discovered her love of teaching! Finally, after two years of teaching and living overseas, she moved back to the states to get her teaching license and shortly after started teaching general music and choir. She was in the teaching world for ten years teaching 5th and 6th grade choir, middle school choir, and high school choir.

I asked her was if she played any other instruments and Mrs. Kapsch said she still does! She played flute in Concert Band in middle and high school and she thinks she could still play a B♭ major scale if she needed to. She has funny story about learning to play acoustic guitar in Korea. Her instructor didn't speak any English and Mrs. Kapsch couldn't speak much Korean, so most of their lessons happened through Google Translate!

Another question I asked her was if she thought her knowledge of piano helps with your ability to sing? Mrs. Kapsch responded with a resounding yes! She said people who have knowledge of music theory and an instrumental background are great vocalists because they already have an ear for what intervals sound like and if a note or pitch is sharp or flat. She thinks that playing instruments can help make it a little easier. Piano was her main instrument and when she made the switch to full choir, she believed the years of piano helped her ease into it.

I asked her was how she determines a part somebody should sing and she replied saying she doesn't always get it right but when dealing with young voices, she actually looks for part singers vs. melody singers—not necessarily high or low voices. She tries to divide middle school singers based on who naturally hears harmony and who naturally sings melody easier. She thinks that they are equal, since they are both needed but it is a good way to divide younger voices.

The final question I asked was what her favorite band or song is. I know, it's like the worst question to ask a choir teacher but we all wanna know, right? So, in response to my impossible question she broke her favorite bands up by the seasons, since she is what I would call a "seasonal listener".

For summer Ms. Kapsch loves listening to country music. You can most likely find her listening to Thomas Rhett or Garth Brooks!

Fall to Mrs. Kapsch means the raspy voice of Bear Rinehart aka Wilder Woods, lead singer of the band *Needtobreathe*. She also likes the *Punch Brothers* that has stringed instruments and harmonies that remind her of a bonfire and a cup of hot apple cider.

In winter, Mrs. Kapsch loves *Over the Rhine* and has their *Blood Oranges in the Snow* album on repeat almost all winter.

And finally, in the spring, she loves the Americana band, *I'm with Her*. She thinks that the three female voices and the harmonies feel like spring flowers and green trees.

Thank you so much, Mrs. Kapsch for letting me interview you!


Ms. Thomas in 2014 on the 8th Grade Class Trip!


Ms. Thomas now as a teacher

Coming Home: Ms. Thomas

By Walden D'Souza, 8A

Walking past the STEM lab and taking a left at the playground doors, you will find yourself seeing double. The name plates on the wall read *Ms. Thomas* and *Mrs. Thomas*. After discerning healthcare and psychology, Ms. Thomas found her calling, and settled down right where it all began for her—and she gets to share it with her mother.

Ms. Thomas grew up with her two younger brothers in Columbus, Ohio. She went to Saint Brendan School for elementary and middle school, graduating as part of the class of 2014. Then she attended Bishop Watterson High School and later earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Ohio University. After college, she started writing warrants at the sheriff's office. She went on to study nursing, but soon realized that it wasn't for her.

Inspired by the memories of grading papers beside her mother, loving the positive things her mother told her, and feeling called by God, Ms. Thomas turned to the classroom. She taught as a substitute teacher in Pennsylvania for two years, while earning her Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT). After moving back to Columbus, she started working as a preschool teacher at Our Lady of Bethlehem.

Seeing the opening at Saint Brendan, Ms. Thomas took the opportunity. She loves the community and families at Saint Brendan—the warm feeling of connection between students, their peers, and their teachers. Teaching alongside her mother has been very helpful and she has not been afraid to ask for her help. She loves teaching younger grades because the children love the hands-on activities that she provides. She hopes to take her students to the Historic Ohio Village that recently reopened.

When she isn't planning crafts or lessons for her fourth-graders, Ms. Thomas loves spending time with her Goldendoodle, Boone. Through a long journey, Ms. Thomas has found herself back at Saint Brendan, not as a student, but as a teacher, passing on her story to future generations.

3rd Grade Boys Soccer



Team Roster: Colton Layman, Jett Tollison, Caleb Longgrear, Rhys Powell, Oliver Hicks, Cameron Harr, August Palsgrove, Beau Dawson, Logan Roof

Head Coach: Josh Layman

By Ari Adam, 6B

Did you know 3rd grade is the last year that students get to participate in St. Brendan soccer? This year is special because some kids will want to go on to one of the Hilliard recreation teams or maybe even club. All of the years these kids play for St. Brendan soccer are important. Every year is important because the prepare you for more competitive teams. 3rd grade soccer is important because it is the last year playing for St. Brendan. These kids choose to play soccer here because they like it and want to get better.

The boys team has been working very hard this season, they are undefeated and are only getting better throughout every game and playing. Most of these boys have been playing St Brendan for many years. They have improved so much, they are probably the best players in their league this year. These boys love playing soccer for St. Brendan for so many reasons. The majority of the boys love playing for St. Brendan because of their friends on the team. Some of them just enjoy getting better. A few of the boys love the positions they normally play in. One boy loves playing goalie. Another loves scoring goals. And of course, every boy loves celebrating with his team. Their coach has been coaching them since kindergarten. I asked him what his favorite part of coaching the boys was and he said "Developing the players to enjoy the game and have fun." We hope that these boys have enjoyed this soccer team over the years and that they will end their journey with an amazing year.

7th & 8th Grade Football

By Cameron Hogan, 8B

We had a great season this year. We went 6-1,with six wins and one loss. We have beaten western Irish, the Northern Bishops, Saint Catherines, Immaculate Conception, and Saint Brigid. We lost to Immaculate Conception the first game we played them. It was a tough loss for us. The score was 14-16 and we missed the game winning two point conversion to tie with them and try to beat them. Our defense was pretty good and so was our offense. We got beat mentally and physically. In the first half of our game against Immaculate Conception, we were going back and forth with the ball. We scored first, and then they scored. It took us two long drives playing our heart out on defense and offense to score.

We won the championship 12-10 at Saint Charles. It was a quick season for us and a season to remember.

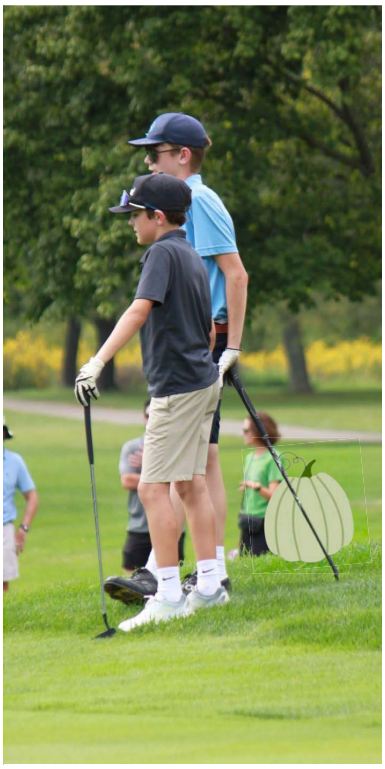
St. Brendan Golf Team

By Ivan Ducay, 6B

Who's on the Golf Team

Players

Grace Baumgartner
Mia Houle
Alex Clay
Ivan Ducay
Ryan Brown
Graham Meden
Andrew Crossin
Declan Hooper
Felicity Doran
Harris Mathews
Sofia Ruiz
Ryan McCarthy
Adalynn Willis
Landon Li
Graham Meden
Emerson Neader
Nickolas Pastorek
Savannah Zimmerman



Coaches

Coach Eric Timm
Coach Paul Fattaleh
Coach Jim Riley

How It Works

St. Brendan has practices every Friday that starts at 6:00 PM and every Sunday at 3:30. Practices are either putting and chipping at Mentel Memorial, full swing practice at Sports Ohio, or nine hole practice at Mentel Memorial. The St. Brendan team also plays matches against other catholic schools. In the matches there are groups of four golfers, two are from one school the other two are from a different school. During the match the golfers will score each other. The coaches send their best two players to the first group, their third and fourth best to the second group and so on. The matches start like this: first before the match, they practice putting and chipping on the putting green. After that, the first group will tee off and when the first group is out of their way, the second group can go. When they're done the group will read off their scores to one of the coaches. Then the finished golfers can choose to go or to stay and wait for their teammates.

About the Championship

The championship takes place at Mentel Memorial. All eight Diocesan schools will participate in the championship. Only the top six players of each school are invited to play. They pair the golfers up into groups of four by their scoring averages in the previous matches, that's who they'll play with in the championship. Harris, Ivan, Heston, Andy, Mia, and Savannah are going to play for St. Brendan. Each will play with three golfers each from different schools. All four golfers in each group will score themselves and another golfer from a different school but still in their same group. Each golfer will read off their scores to one of the judges. After the round they will wait for the other groups to finish, then they'll announce the winners and give out awards. The awards are trophies that are given to the boys and the girls and the group that scored the best.

A Wet Championship

During the championship everyone got into groups of four, there were fifteen groups in total. The first group started at hole one, the second group started at hole two and so on. The fifteenth group are the top four players in the diocese. Everyone started at the same time and at about everyone's tenth hole it started pouring. Everyone went back to the clubhouse and the match was canceled. There were no awards nor any announcements of who the winners were.



What is Each Grade up to?

By Walden D'Souza, 8A



Oct 8-9

"I can't wait to be Little Miss Muffet!"

K NURSERY RHYME CHARACTER DAY



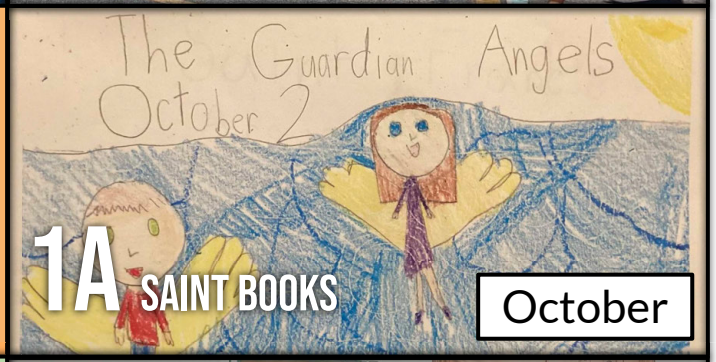
After reading five nursery rhymes, kindergarteners had a nursery rhyme Olympics, with themed events.

K NURSERY RHYME OLYMPICS

"We might need a wagon to carry our pumpkins!"
-Gabriel Gulling, KC

K PUMPKIN PATCH TRIP

Oct 14



1A SAINT BOOKS

October

Oct 26-Nov 2

While learning about Hispanic holiday, *Day of the Dead*, third grade has also created an ofrenda, or altar, to remember their own loved ones or pets who passed away. You may have walked past it in the third grade halls!

3RD DAY OF THE DEAD OFRENDA (ALTAR)



Nov 2

4-8TH GORDON KORMAN AUTHOR VISIT



Oct 15

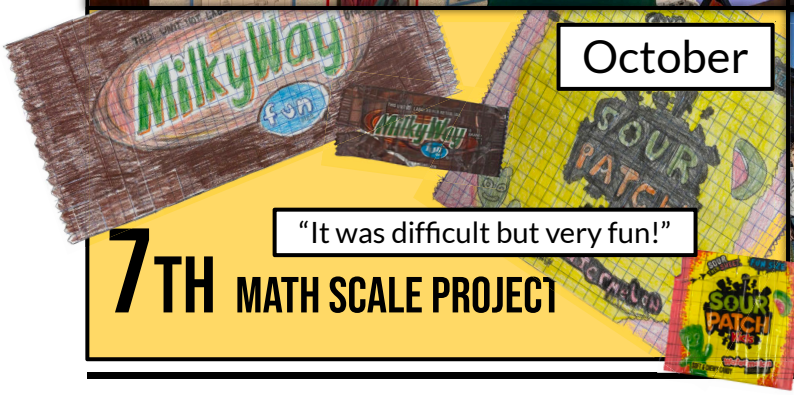
5A SCIENTIST REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS



Sept 28

After working hard with their peers, the fifth grade put on plays with props and slideshows in front of Mr. D and Ms. Kreber.

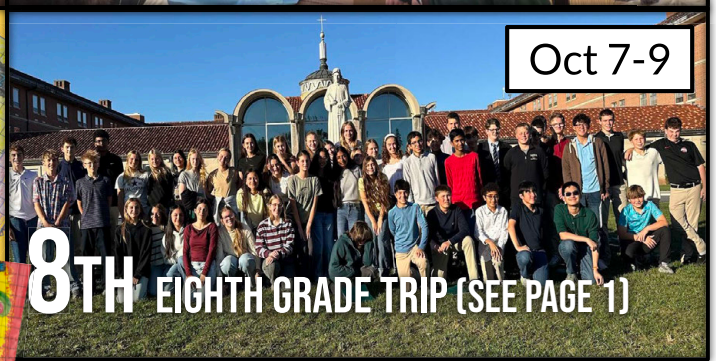
5B EUROPEAN EXPLORERS PLAYS



October

"It was difficult but very fun!"

7TH MATH SCALE PROJECT



Oct 7-9

8TH EIGHTH GRADE TRIP (SEE PAGE 1)

House Planning Committee

By Ari Adam, 6B; Izzie Dobbins, 8B

As most middle schoolers know, there is an extracurricular you can join called the House Planning Committee. Mrs. Vicki Sheikh, a great intervention specialist, created it for students who either didn't make it or didn't want to be House Leaders but would still like to take part in St. Brendan activities. There are nine members so far and Mrs. Sheikh explains, "Some students would rather work behind the scenes and not lead."

After being asked about her personal favorite projects, Mrs. Sheikh states her most liked project is the cereal drive, collecting can tabs, and taking and donating them to the Hilliard Food Pantry and the Ronald McDonald House.

At the end of the year, Saint Brendan hosts the House Olympics and after all games are finished there is a House that is declared the winner. And everyone, even teachers, are biased and want their House to win. Mrs. Sheikh is in the Neumann House and obviously wants Neumann to win.

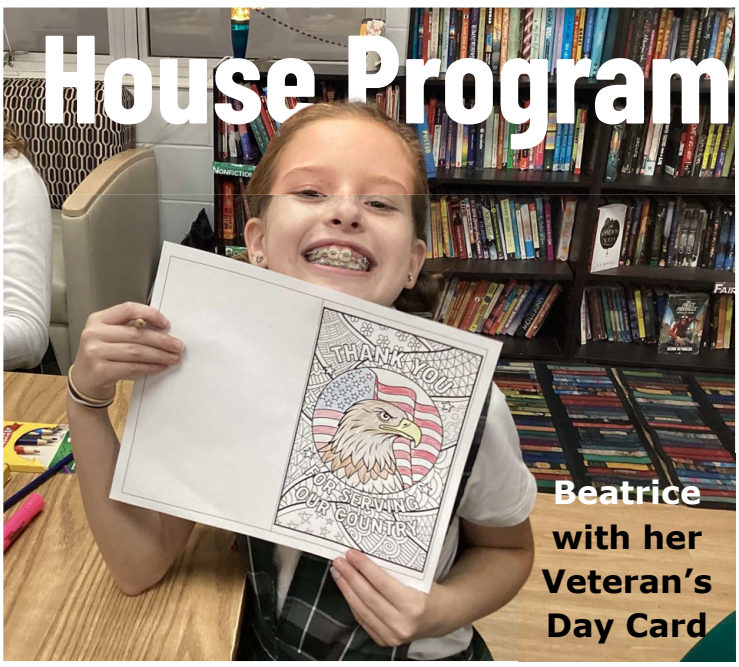
Mrs. Sheikh recommends kids to join the committee because people might not get another chance to be House Leaders and you can always make the Planning Committee. She also points out that there is no pressure to do projects outside of school, since they do all their work during WIN or any other free times.

Something Mrs. Sheikh wished people knew about the Committee is that they do a lot of stuff behind the scenes to help get ready for Houses. The planning kids work very hard to make sure houses run smoothly and soundly.

After being asked the question: what has been the hardest part of the Planning Committee, Mrs. Sheikh says finding time to do work during school hours. She wants all of her kids to put school first before anything else.

Finally, Mrs. Sheikh says she learned that the students of St. B really care for one another and they always want to be busy with awesome projects that could help others. She loves her Planning Committee kids and is very proud of them and their desire to do service.

House Program



Beatrice with her Veteran's Day Card

By Gigi McGee, 6A

Houses were started about seven years ago by middle school teacher, Mrs. Elise Finkell and Principal Gruber. When Mrs. Finkell left, she was replaced by Mrs. Ariciaga. Mrs Arciaga's favorite part of the House Program is to see the whole school working together, having fun and laughing. She also likes pairing younger kids with the older kids. The biggest goal for the year is to try and make new traditions while keeping old ones. I asked Mrs. Aricaga if she had any predictions of who might win this year. She said "I want Kateri to win, of course (because she is in Kateri) but it could be anyone's game."

Jokes

1. Why did the scarecrow win a Nobel prize? Because he was outstanding in his field
2. What do you call a pumpkin that works at a beach? A life gourd
3. Why did that apple pie go to the dentist? Because it needed a filling
4. How do you repair a broken jack-o-lantern? With a pumpkin patch.



Why did Humpty Dumpty love autumn?

Because he had a great fall!

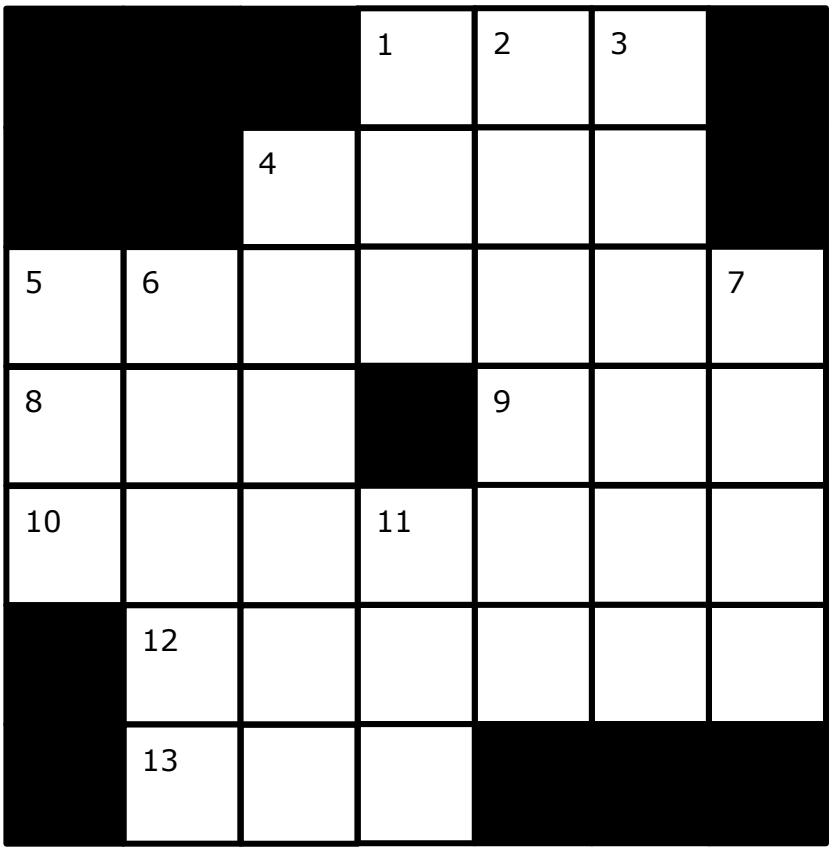
Riddles

What am I?

1. I start out orange and round on the ground. People paint my face on Halloween. What am I?
2. I am a crisp, cool morning friend that paints the grass white, but I disappear as soon as the sun shines bright. What am I?
3. I start out green, turn bright red or yellow, and then I drop down to the ground. What am I?
4. I have a little wooden hat that I never take off, even when I am sleeping inside a squirrel's secret hiding spot. What am I?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 15

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Candy holder for a trick-or-treater
4 Org. interested in Mars and the Milky Way
5 Half Starburst, half Skittle?
8 Golfer's goal
9 Iconic Australian animal, for short
10 Half Airhead, half candy corn?
12 Half Mounds, half Reese's?
13 Female sheep

DOWN

Candy ___
Houston baseball team
Aplenty
Opposite of wide
Health resort
"Je__" (French "I love you")
Many, many millennia
Shade of a color

Color This Truck!

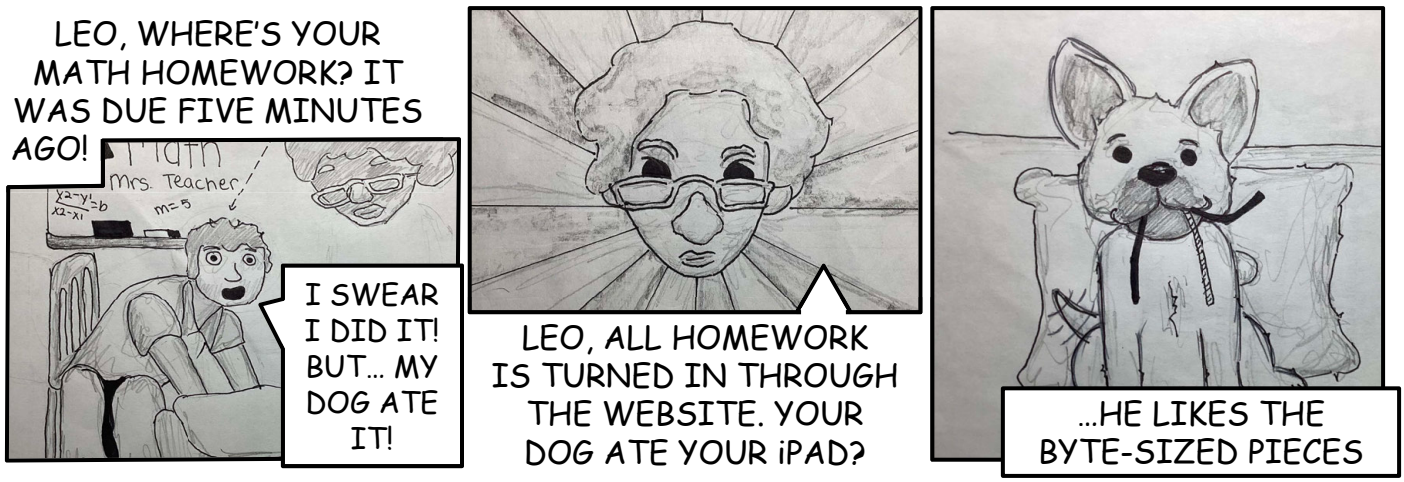


Comics

FUNNY

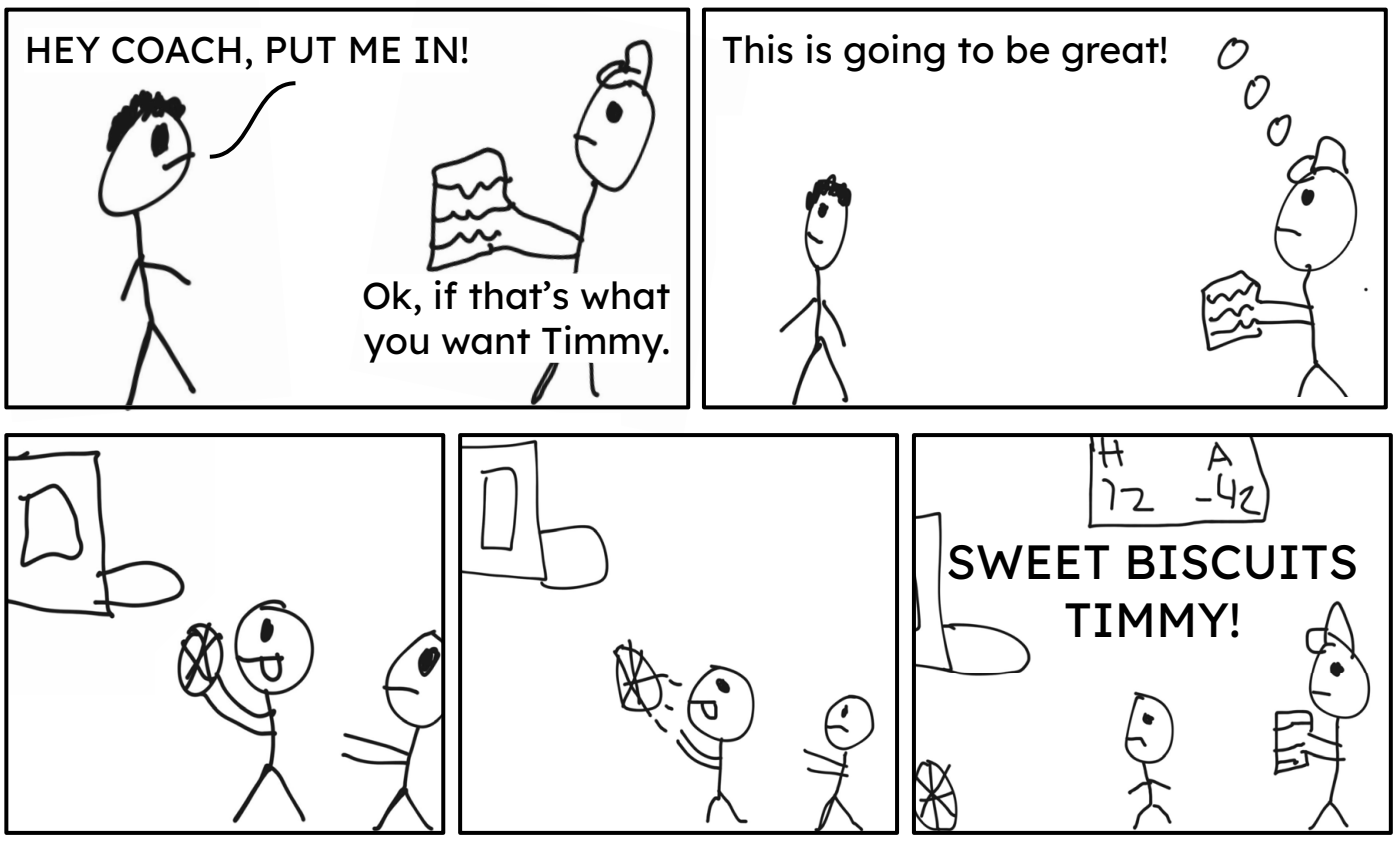
Tech Support Needed!

By Walden D'Souza, 8A



Coach, Put Me In!

By Finn Bruno, 5B



Quotes and R-Factor

By Harper Layman, 6B

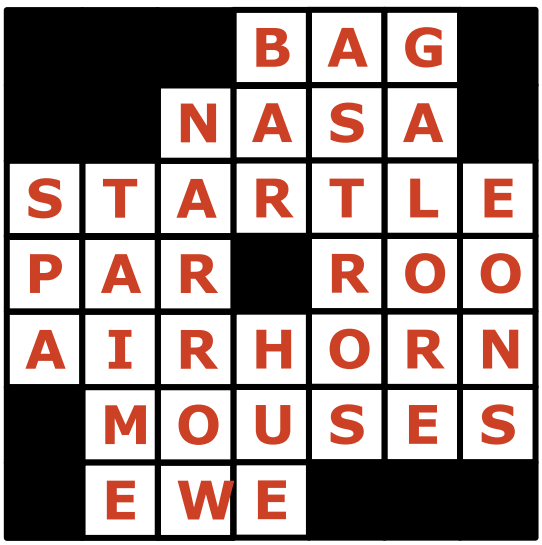
As most of us know, Mr. DeMassimo reads off quotes at the beginning of every week and reminds us of them every day. Some people, when they think of quotes, think of things famous people said, things that inspired you to follow your dreams. But you should listen to those quotes but you also need to pay attention to these. These quotes are so much more. These quotes have a big plan to help us as students, kids and maybe even parents when we are older. Mr. DeMassimo wants these quotes to help us develop a growth mindset rather than a fixed one. A growth mindset is when you believe in yourself, and a fixed mindset is when you tell yourself negative things that can make you feel horrible. A growth mindset leads to a lot of great things in life like good grades, better behavior and even just caring for yourself.

These quotes were found through research in the Bible and on websites.he R-factor team was looking for quotes that would go well with what they were trying to do. These quotes needed to have positive thoughts and good motivation included in them, and of course some of them needed to have to do with our Lord Jesus Christ. There will be a new quote every week and none will be repeated. The quotes were chosen because they have to do with the cardinal virtues of temperance and prudence which is pressing pause and getting our minds right.

We are learning this because the quotes revolve around temperance and prudence. Temperance is the ability to control oneself. It involves moderation and self discipline. Prudence is the ability to make a wise decision. In conclusion, yes these quotes are very important and are here to help us grow in faith.

Riddle Answers

1. Jack-o-lantern
2. Frost
3. Autumn leaf
4. Acorn



Happy Birthday Mr. D!



Students were extra excited to celebrate our own Mr. DeMassimo on his birthday this month. We all enjoyed treats and celebrating him on his special day!

Music and Pop Culture

By Ari Adam, 6B

Gaming News: Do you like to dance? If you do, you are in for a treat! *Just Dance 2026* is out! On the game, you can dance to your favorite songs such as: "Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree" by Mrs. Claus and the Elves, "Counting Stars" by OneRepublic, and so much more!

Other than news for the gamers, did you know that the Emmy Awards were just hosted? The Emmy Awards is an award show, and the awards go to people who do outstanding things in the TV industry, and it is considered a huge honor.

A TV show called *Widows Bay* won 14 Emmys! That is an all-time record!

Do you like Taylor Swift? Well, guess what?! She made an appearance at the Emmys! She did a skit with Mariska Hargitay, the host of this year's Emmy Awards. That's not it! Taylor Swift's cat also made an appearance in the skit with her! Olivia Benson, the cat, was the *real* star.

Is *Inside Out 2* one of your go-to movies? For a lot of people it is! *Inside Out 2* broke Disney+ streaming records! On its 1st five days of being able to stream at home, 30 million people viewed the movie! Insane, right?!

So far this year, many artists have released many ep/album/singles so far this year. These include:



From top left clockwise: TUNE & PLAY by TUIDE (ep), *THE CURE* by Olivia Rodrigo (single), *THE ENCORE* by Taylor Swift (ep), *MR. ELECTRIC BLUE* by Benson Boone (single), *RISK IT ALL* by Bruno Mars (single), *PETAL* by Ariana Grande (album)

Artists love to put their music out there and show people their talents. Unfortunately, lots like to release music for fame, which is sad and what I mean by this is that people shouldn't use the talents God has given them just for fame and money.

That's all you need to know about music and pop culture right now. Hope this helped!

Eighth Grade Trip Photos

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