

The St. Stephen Scoop

Pre-K 3

These past few weeks PK3 has been learning about the Letter T, T is for Turkeys! They made turkey cars, T is for Turkey letters, and bingo dabber turkeys. They also made placemats for their Thanksgiving feast. We also talked about what we are thankful for and how lucky we all are to have each other!



Pre-K 4

Pre-K is working on a Gingerbread theme. We will be doing Gingerbread Math, many art projects, designing our own Gingerbread houses, directed drawing lesson of a Gingerbread Man and decorating our classroom door with pictures of each child on a Gingerbread cut-out.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten has been having fun with acorn sensory bin centers! They have been counting acorns, playing a Sneaky Squirrel game to get ready for addition and subtraction, writing short a CVC words, and matching letters of the alphabet. Thank you to Carly and Mrs. Smith for collecting and donating the acorns!

UPK

UPK has been learning all about gingerbread men. They read different renditions of the classic story, learned how to write letter C, and made gumdrop towers.

First Grade

1st grade won the Scholastic Coin War with a total of \$377 brought in! They won a pajama and popcorn party. Thank you to everyone who participated.

1st grade has been participating in Rally to Read. We pledged to read 100 books in 100 days. Each day students fill out a chart with the book of the day. We love seeing our sheet filling in with all different kinds of books!

November/December 2022

Second Grade

Second grade has been working hard on their writing projects about the rainforest. They are also working hard on mastering addition within 100, and we have been enjoying reading *Matilda* together as a class.

Third Grade

Third grade is learning about asking and answering questions in ELA. We became astronauts in training as we went on a "Questioning Mission" to demonstrate our ability to ask and answer questions to help us understand what we read. We are also learning about Brazil in Social Studies and have learned all about their culture and the different symbols that make up their country's flag!

Fourth Grade

Grade 4 is studying the Iroquois League and will be creating wampum belts and completing Longhouse group projects.

Fifth Grade

Fifth grade has been working on their Life in the English Colonies Project to learn about how life was back then. We have also been enjoying using our Chromebooks for this assignment to research more about it! Our STREAM project is coming along nicely as well and we cannot wait to see our finished church built out of Legos!

Religion Class

All of Ms. Fusco's classes focused on the role of 6 African-American Catholics in the U.S.A. that are up for canonization to sainthood. They watched a video on all of them. Second grade has been working very hard on their Rosary Coloring booklet and learning all the different Mysteries of the rosary. Grade 3 made rosaries in class and learned to say the rosary. Grades 4 & 6 have been learning about God's Word to us through Sacred Scriptures. Grade 5 & 7 have been studying the Sacraments of Christian Initiation. Grade 8 just finished studying the Gospel of Mark.

Life Skills Class

It is a very exciting time in Life Skills classes this week. We have started our sewing projects! I'm sure your child would love to share what their class projects are with you!

Middle School ELA

In 6th grade ELA, the class is continuing to read Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief. They are also learning about direct and indirect objects.

In 7th grade ELA, the students are learning about predicate adjectives and predicate nominatives. They also just finished a creative writing essay.

In 8th grade, the students have just finished a creative writing essay. They are also learning about participles and participle phrases.

In 6th Grade Social Studies, the students have just begun the unit on Ancient India and Ancient China. A few weeks ago they finished their project for Egyptian Afterlife.

Science Class

The General Science students (5th grade) is studying how Earth's spheres interact with one another and are getting ready to plant some seeds that we'll be raising in our greenhouse. This will require that we use parts of each of these spheres if we want to be successful. We've also started some tomato plants from cuttings and just planted an avocado seed that we sprouted in a beaker in the lab. We learned that each of the spheres is important to life on Earth, and taking care of the Earth is one of the primary responsibilities that we have as stewards of the planet.

Earth science students (6th Grade) are studying how the Earth is structured and the minerals and rocks that make up the geosphere. We've studied the rock cycle and learned that there are lots of ways that the rocks and minerals that make up the Earth get recycled. We're also planning on visiting Penn Dixie in the spring to search for fossils of the animals that lived in this part of the world millions of years ago.

Physical science students (7th grade) just wrapped up a unit on thermal energy and learned what it takes, energy-wise, to make changes in a substance and that there's a difference between thermal energy and temperature. They are also in the beginning stages of designing a Rube Goldberg machine that will build a lunch from a Lunchables package.

The Living Environment students (8th grade) are wrapping up their study of Ecology with a unit on Populations and what scientists use to determine if a population is growing, stable, or shrinking. While our focus is on natural populations, we will also be looking at how human populations change over time. Our final topic in the unit will be a look at humans and our effects on the Earth.

The Beekeeper's Club wrapped up their year by making candles from some of the beeswax we have collected and that Mr. Kenline brought from home. The beekeepers made some tealight candles, some votive candles, and also some dipped taper candles. They each will be taking a candle home to help make the season a little brighter (sorry, I couldn't resist). We'll be closing out the year with a little Christmas party at our last meeting in December.

Middle School Math

6th grade is finishing ratios in chapter 3, and is using tape diagrams and different representations to help understand why and when to use them!

7th grade is finishing up scientific notation and powers in chapter 4, while also performing operations on numbers in scientific notation.

8th grade/algebra is reviewing/rediscovers many of the concepts learned in linear equations, but now in the context of linear inequalities in chapter 5.