

Student Life Update by Mrs. B

As we close out the first quarter and embark on the second; we look at our accomplishments and initiatives achieved, as well as the plans for the next quarter. We are currently busy with our 8th graders and their high school applications. If students need recommendations, records sent, or other support in their high school application process, please be sure to contact me so we make sure we meet all deadlines; and do whatever we can to support our 8th graders as they prepare for their next educational journey!

Let's Add a Club or a Class for That!

Meeting with our students, provides so many insights into their day; and to see them understand themselves as learners and what would benefit them most has provided many ideas for enriching their experience at St. Rose. Based on those conversations, we are already planning future activities, as well as exploring what other activities and programs we can make available to our children. We look forward to adding Ultimate Frisbee in the spring; and welcome other ideas for after school programs.

An exciting addition this year that we will unveil in January, is our Media Program! This will include a School Newspaper, Yearbook, and TV Reporting. We will be looking for reporters, photographers, cartoonists, poets, story writers, and of course a crew to interview, report, record, and edit our TV reports and Public Service Announcements (PSAs)...and that's just the beginning!

Real-World Application of Our Classroom Skills



Money Smarts was presented to our 3rd and 4th graders, by SRS parent, Mrs. Karissa Peters. Mrs. Peters works for Newtown Savings, and worked with the students on their money management skills. The children learned about making good choices in spending and saving! We look forward to offering this program to other grade levels in the future. From one good thing comes another; in talking with Mrs. Peters, Junior Achievement happened to come up in the conversation and so we are going to pursue bringing Junior Achievement on board, both integrating it

into the curriculum, and potentially adding it as an after school program. I want to thank Mrs. Peters for bringing the Money Smarts Program to SRS; but also for her enthusiasm for helping us bring new opportunities to our children! If anyone is interested in being a part of this new adventure for our students, please contact me.



Distance Learning In Our Middle School

We are grateful to Mrs. Monica Ortega (former SRS Math Teacher and now at Immaculate High School) for meeting with us to discuss bringing distance learning to our students. The course being offered is a high school level Algebra I Honors class taught virtually and facilitated by Mrs. Ortega. The class uses honors rigor and pace accompanied by digital mediums; students learn to communicate mathematically to teachers and peers from a distance. Students meet 4x/week for 55 minutes via video conference with students from other DOB Parochial Schools. Lessons are pre-recorded and saved for future reference. Real-world projects are assigned quarterly. Students interact in partners or small groups regularly. Students are invited to apply after taking a Qualification Exam based on their scores. Our 7th graders will take the exam in the spring. Applications include standardized test scores, school transcripts, and teacher recommendations. There is a small fee for the course to cover textbook, video conferencing licenses, and other class incidentals. A meeting with Mrs. Ortega will be arranged after Qualification letters are sent prior to Applications for more information. If you have questions about the program, please contact me; and Mrs. Ortega has graciously offered that you can contact her directly at Immaculate.

Mrs. Meyer Helps Educate Our Children in Important Life Skills

We once again welcome our new school counselor, Mrs. Carlie Meyer. Mrs. Meyer has been very busy her first weeks at St. Rose. She has been visiting classes to get to know the teachers and students; but also to learn more about our school culture and the overall climate. Mrs. Meyer was formally introduced to our students, in grades 3-8, at a recent assembly. She explained how she will be working to integrate and foster our school theme of kindness. The children were also introduced to a project she is doing with them, for November, on gratitude. We have a gratitude tree growing outside of Mr. G's office, filled with leaves sharing what each student in our school is grateful for within our school community.

This past week Mrs. Meyer visited with our middle schoolers to build a conversation around Digital Awareness and Citizenship. Students shared their opinions about how to treat others online and gained a better understanding of how to react when they feel that someone is being treated unfairly. Most importantly, students learned that they need to be kind in all digital forums as well as in person. With social media continuing to gain popularity with pre-teens and teens; it is important that we see our role in helping to coach them in making good decisions and considering the impact of their words and actions when it comes to using social media to communicate with peers and others. We want to help them to be safe; and also not to hurt others through their messages.



Next week she will be working with our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders with positive lessons about communication. These grade levels are where the children become more aware of peer relationships and they, themselves, are more sensitive to and can be negatively impacted by the words and actions of others. We continue to look for more programs and opportunities to be proactive in coaching and supporting our children as they grow in their peer relationships at different age levels.

Again, we welcome and thank Mrs. Meyer for her dedication to our children!

SRS School Spirit...Ready? Let's Go!

It's time to put our school spirit into full force and get ready to support our basketball teams. We look forward to spreading school spirit throughout our halls as we welcome Ramsey to usher in the season and join our cheerleaders in cheering on our teams. Beginning the week of November 26, the week after Thanksgiving Break; our basketball players and cheerleaders will be invited to wear their team hoodies on days we have home games! We hope this will make team and school spirit contagious and encourage more of our school community to join us in the Gathering Hall to cheer on our teams for game nights! On Monday, November 26th, we will have our first pep rally of the year! At 1pm, we will join together as a school community and, along with Ramsey, meet this year's Boys' and Girls' Basketball Teams and our Cheerleaders!



Good Luck St. Rose Rams!

When we look at our students



we see unlimited possibilities!