

RAIDER REPORT

"He Is Here, Come To Him"

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The Walkathon Kickoff

One of the many highlights of the school year for students at STM, the Walkathon kickoff gives students a taste of what is yet to come. Determined by the Student Council, the Walkathon theme was "Surfs Up at STM". The entire school gathered in the gym, and before the presentation started, students enjoyed festive music and batted around beach balls. When the presentation began, Mr. Pieffer announced the grand prizes for those who donated the most money. Student favorites were "Principal For a Day" and "Sundae Bar For You and Your Class" as well as others. Students then participated in fun games such as hula-hooping, a relay, and scootering around with fun Hawaiian shirts on. The principal also shot prizes into the crowd using a

Egyptian Project

Students wrote essays about a variety of topics from daily life to even beauty in ancient Egypt. Then the 6th Grade made 3D projects relating to their essays. They were given about two weeks of class time, made videos to go with, and QR codes to show the videos so other grades could learn about Ancient Egypt. They look awesome!!!



Sunflowers

Mrs. Schnabel, a kindergarten teacher at STM, had the idea of painting sunflowers onto the doors and windows in support of Ukraine. Sunflowers are Ukraine's national flower.



slingshot, but the best came last. After a fun message from the scoop, the screen raised over the stage and Mr. Pieffer appeared in his bathing suit. Before students could guess what would come next, Mr. Roman took the stage and splashed the principal! Twice! It was quite the spectacle, and with that out of the way, the walkathon was ready to begin!

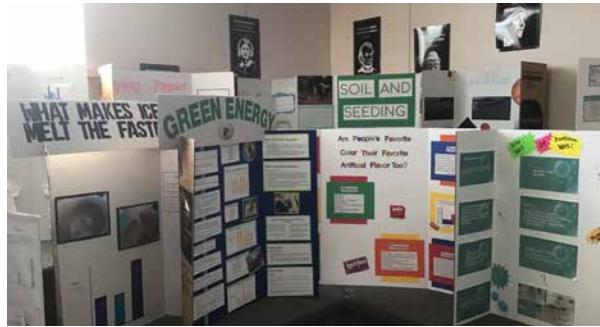
The Walkathon

This year's "Surfs Up" Walkathon was a blast. Wearing walkathon shirts designed by Emerson Springs, students Kindergarten through 4th Grade walked one lap around the Relevant Church field and STM's soccer field, while Grades 5 through 8 walked two laps. After walking, Rita's ice was served and students participated in multiple activities such as bubbles, cornhole, a potato sack race, and limbo for grades 3-8. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade participated in beach games. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed the music from a DJ. The walkathon was a great day for everyone!



Science Fair

The 6th Grade Science Fair was on April 22. To prepare for the Science Fair, students first looked for project ideas. Next, they conducted their experiments and collected data. They then put their data into google slides or keynote and printed out their slides to put them onto the trifold. When the day finally arrived, all the 6th Graders set up their trifolds in the science lab, and parents and staff came around to look at them. Mrs McClain asked the parents and teachers to grill the students and ask whatever questions they could think of. Overall, the sixth grade had a lot of fun and can't wait for PJAS next year!



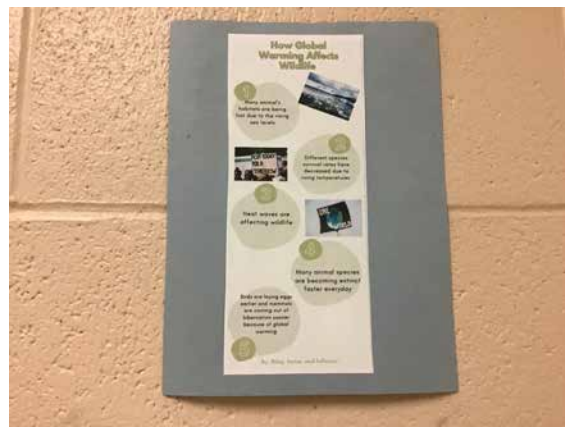
6th Grade Game Night

On April 22, a game night for the 6th Graders was held in the gymnasium. There were minute-to-win-it challenges, raffles, games, cornhole, and much more. There were snacks and refreshments as well. Everyone there played a huge game of hot potato, a game of musical chairs, and a dance competition. The people who won the raffles were: Lindsay Doyle, Noah Kachurak, Maya Mcgrail, Ainsley Tighe, and Reagan Fury. Overall it was a fun night and everyone enjoyed it.



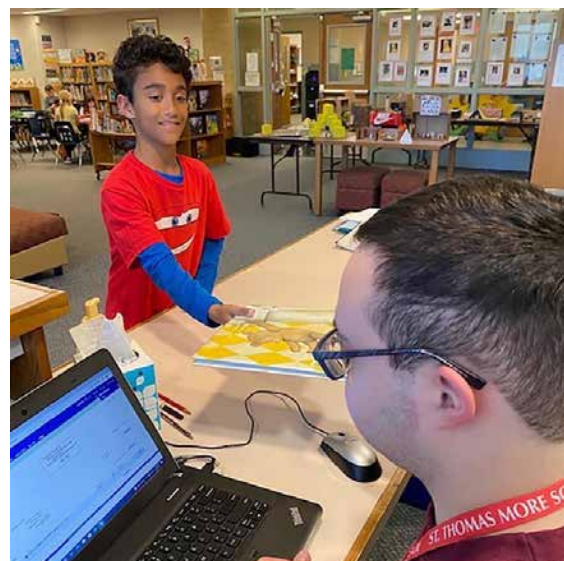
Earth Day

To celebrate Earth day on April 22, 7th Graders made infographics to inform students around the school on ways to preserve our oceans, animals, and all around our Earth. On the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, rallies were held in Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles and most other American cities, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Earth day was created because at the time there were no legal or regulatory mechanisms to protect our environment. The 7th Grade students are hopeful to start a



Partnership With Mercy School

This year students from The Mercy School of Special Learning have been coming to STM and volunteering their time to perform various activities. Some of the students helped in the library checking books out and putting books on the shelves, another student came in and read to the preschool students once a week. The Mercy kids and students at STM enjoyed their time together!



May Crowning

May is a special month to worship and thank Mary for all she does. Mary is the mother of Jesus and all of us. STM held a May Crowning on Tuesday May 3rd. Two 8th Graders were chosen to crown Mary, one boy and one girl. This year's students chosen to crown Mary were Thomas R. and Catharine H. The ceremony started off by having all the 8th Graders walk down the aisle with a singular rose in their hands. Thomas and Catherine placed the flower crown on Mary's head and the rest of the 8th Graders followed and placed the roses at Mary's feet. The whole church sang Immaculate Mary in honor of the Blessed Mother.



PJAS

On May 13, the 7th and 8th Graders went to Penn State College for the PJAS State Competition. All of the contestants stayed in the college dorms. They were also allowed to roam the campus. One of their favorite places to visit was the Berkey Creamery. The students were divided into groups and traveled with each other to the different buildings in which they would present their projects. It was an awesome experience and everyone did a wonderful job!



7th Grade Spring Volleyball

Spring volleyball at St. Thomas More School started on March 16. The athletes on STM black team were Gabby K., Grace M., Ava W., Meredith T., Chloe F., Maeve M., Mary R., Addy D., and Emily T. The athletes on the white team were Penny C., Katie C., Kevin C., Clara R., Kiana M., Annie N., Zoe C., Kate C., Lauren R., and Natalie T. The coaches were Mr. Rabold and Mrs. Carbone.



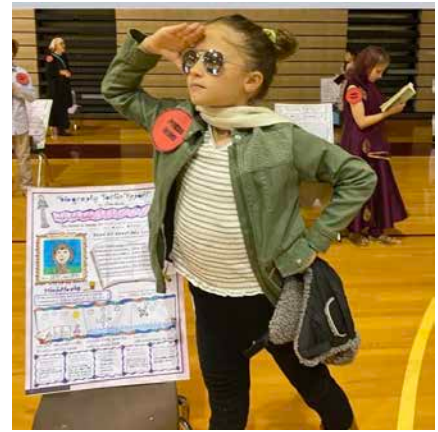
6th Grade Spring Volleyball

The 6th Grade Co-Ed Volleyball team had a very successful season, winning every game that they played. The coaches were Mr. McGrail and Mr. Stano. There were 14 people on the team. 12 girls and 2 boys. Everyone contributed on the team. Starting with the boys: Demetrius Belluchi, had a strong overhand serve and Massimo Sankar, also had a strong overhand serve. As for the girls, Luciana Stano was always happy and cheered everyone up, Gabriella East had good serves, Catherine Sapienza had good energy, Mary Psarros had good serves and was a great passer, Ava Arroyo set the ball well, Maya McGrail and Beatrice Robinson both had good serves, Kennedy Mattern and Gianna Martucci were always energetic, Olivia Payne always had a good mindset at games, and Reagan Furey had good strong serves. The team went undefeated, winning all 10 games they played so far. They hope to keep their winning streak!



Wax Museum

Our 3rd Graders held their annual "Living Wax Museum" where they had to memorize a speech, complete a poster and dress up as a character from history — always a highlight of the school year to see the creativity!



Art Show

Our first annual art gallery night on May 10 was a big success! Parents and families enjoyed viewing all the student masterpieces and listening to our student musicians. A special thank you to Mrs. Gallagher for organizing such a wonderful event!



Teacher Feature

Mrs. Davidowich is the 6th grade Social Studies and Religion teacher here at STM. She is a Duke-loving, basketball coaching, little bit crazy super teacher. The students are her favorite part of teaching. She thinks sixth grade is a fun age to teach. She has been teaching for 31 years and teaching at STM for 21 years. She was inspired to become a teacher because she has always loved kids. Her favorite thing to do outside of school is coach her basketball team. Her favorite color is Duke blue, and She has a dog named Axel. She has 3 kids and 2 brothers. If she was not a teacher she says whatever she would be, she would be with kids. All in all, Mrs. D is a fun teacher who everyone loves.



Mother's Day

While Mother's Day is now a holiday that is celebrated with store sales, flowers, and sometimes even special events, it wasn't always a holiday. Anna Maria Jarvis, the founder of Mother's Day, started the holiday because her mother expressed interest and desire in such a holiday. After her mother's death, Jarvis held a memorial service on May 12, 1907, at the church that her mother attended in Grafton, West Virginia. Jarvis's mother, Ann Jarvis, organized womens' groups to promote friendship and health. 1st grade celebrated Mother's Day on May 6, by doing an activity called, "Muffins with Moms."



Field Trips

Gettysburg

Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness came out on May 6, 2022. Doctor Strange and America Chavez get chased by a demon while searching for the Book of Vishanti. Doctor Steven Strange wakes up only to realize it was just a dream and goes to a wedding. During the reception an alien attacks and Strange meets America Chavez, a teenage girl. America reveals the demons are hunting her and tells Doctor Strange her power. After recognizing witchcraft runes on the now-dead demon, Doctor Strange consults Wanda Maximoff and finds out a dark secret. How will Doctor Strange and America Chavez stop the incoming evil? *Watch Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness* to find out!



Ellis Island

Our 5th Graders had a beautiful day in New York! They got to explore and learn about Ellis Island and see the Statue of Liberty!



Senator Toomey

Senator Toomey is the father of one of our fifth grade students, Duncan Toomey. He is also a part of our church parish. The senator works at the Capital of the United States. He came to talk to our students about the US Constitution. Here are some of the things that they learned. Senator Toomey taught the children about how our government works. He talked to us about the 3 branches of the government and the rules. He told us that we can be a senator even if we are not born in the state we run for. He told us what we are learning about, the Constitution. Then there was a Q&A. The students had lots of questions. Here are some of them. One child asked, "What happens when a senator steps down from office?" Senator Toomey responded, "The State Government votes on a new senator to represent them." Another asked, "What happens if the president gets impeached?" Senator Toomey said, "The impeachment has to go through all three branches of the government." Then the teachers asked some questions. Mrs Z.S asked, "What was your favorite part of your job?" He replied, "I helped a child get well. She had an illness and I helped the government to realize that it was a very bad illness. She is ok now." This was a great experience for the kids because they got to learn about the government. Students were so glad Senator Toomey came and they enjoyed his visit!



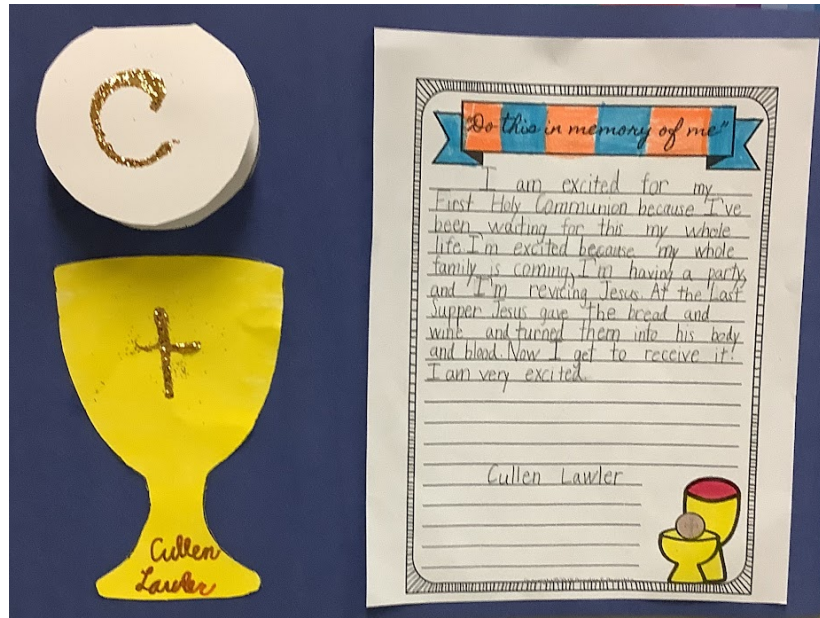
Band Concert

On May 25, STM held a Band Concert in the Family Center. Beginner band played five songs: *Popcorn prelude*, *Mechanical Monsters*, *Amigo*, *Snake dance*, and *Jesus Loves Me*. In between songs, some beginner band members played solos and duets. Advanced band played five songs: *Colliding Visions*, *Byzantine dances*, *The Addams Family*, *God Bless America*, and *Mickey Mouse March*. In between songs, All Advanced band members played solos and some played duets. At the end of the concert, the whole band joined together to play *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious*. In all, the concert was fantastic and all the students did a wonderful job!



First Holy Communion

2nd Grade received First Holy Communion on May 7. Although the day was very rainy. Students were quoted saying, "The rain was like the angels crying because they were happy for us." The girls wore beautiful dresses and the boys all wore suits. They sat with their parents. Everyone loved Communion and felt very holy and excited after receiving the Eucharist for the first time!



Aquarium

First and Second Grade field trip to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ.



5th Grade Novel Study

After the 5th Graders finished reading the novel, *I am Malala*, the class had a visit from Dave Hunsicker who is the Senior Peacebuilding Advisor for USAID Center for Conflict and Violence Prevention. He shared interesting photos of his travels to places like Jerusalem and Uzbekistan. The students learned how his job entails building relationships between religious groups.



Honors Assembly

Congratulations to our top 6th, 7th and 8th Grade scholars who earned First and Second Honors during the second trimester! For a full list of recipients, visit <https://www.stmschoolpa.com/post-1/trimester-honors>



Chancellor Games

This year, Chancellor Games were kicked off by assigning each homeroom a color during the Scoop broadcasts. Chancellor Games 2022 colors were green, purple, pink, and blue. Students used duct tape and other accessories to decorate their t-shirts. The activities our 8th Grade decided to go with this year were the obstacle course, hula hoop paths, tug of war, three legged race, and over under. Every grade had an amazing time out there. The games had friendly competition and teamwork. The hula hoop path showed teamwork with classmates and tug of war showed friendly competition. All the teams played hard and gave it their all! The first place winners for each grade this year were: Kindergarten -Team blue Mrs Lawler, 1st Grade- Team Blue Mrs Allen and Team Purple Mrs Lett, 2nd Grade- Team Pink Mrs Tatum, 3rd Grade- Team Pink Mrs Chaya, 4th Grade- Team Blue Mrs D'Angelo, 5th Grade- Team Purple Mrs Clots and Team Green Mrs Finnigan, 6th Grade- Team Purple Mrs Ulicney, 7th Grade- Team Green Dr Huang, and 8th Grade- Team Blue Mrs Melnick. The overall winner of this year's 2022 Chancellor games was team blue! It was a great day and an amazing end to the 2022 school year!



Memorial Day

Our STM Scoop team interviewed Major Cory Colistra, USMCR, in honor of Memorial Day. Major Colistra graduated from the Naval Academy and joined the Marine Corp. He served 11 years in active duty in both Iraq and Afghanistan, and is currently serving in the reserves. He is the husband of STM 3rd Grade Teacher, Pamela Colistra, who has three of their four children attending STM. STM School is grateful for Major Colistra's service; and all he does to protect and serve our country! As a thank you to Mr. Colistra — and all the men and women who have served our country!



T-shirt Book Report



Our 4th Graders designed their own t-shirts to represent the fictional novels they read for library class. They visited with the younger grades to show off their creative work.

Health Explorers Day

The 7th Grade participated in STM's 8th annual Health Care Explorers Day. It's sponsored by the Lehigh Valley Health Network. Students started out the event by walking through a MedEvac, a type of ambulance. Next, they went to their first station. Students conducted experiments involving their nerves such as catching a ruler to test reaction time, hold both a cow and sheep heart and competed to see who could "pump blood" the fastest using pipettes and red food dye. They directed cow eyes, played with a bronchoscope simulator made by Olympus, talked to a veterinarian while petting a very fluffy dog, and learned how to do CPR. Students learned how to stop a bleeding wound, help someone who is choking, and see what it's like to drive drunk using goggles. To end the day, Dr. Wellington talked about his job and how he chose it. It was a fun, interactive experiment for everyone!



Social Studies Olympics

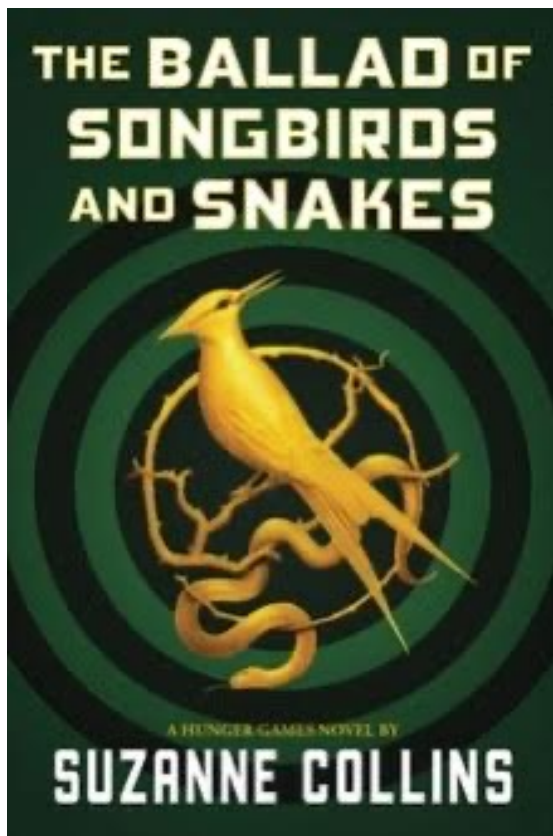
During 7th Grade social studies classes this trimester, each class hosted their very own Olympics. The students got to choose a country in Europe for them to represent in the Olympics. They would then do challenges to earn points for their country. Some of the challenges included red light green light, a hula hoop competition, volleyball, and learning how to say "Hello, my name is" in their country's official language. Students also earned points through doing their school work and paying attention. Students definitely had fun while learning!



Book Review

The Ballad Of Songbirds and Snakes

The Hunger Games trilogy by Suzanne Collins is one of the most popular book series for young adults and teenagers. There was even a movie series made. Recently, Collins came out with a new book for the series, *A Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*. This book features President Snow as a teenager and how he came to be the president of Panem. It showed the hardships he and his family faced after the war, and how they worked their way back up to being a well respected family. I would definitely recommend this book, whether you've already read the *Hunger Games* trilogy or not, but I personally think reading it after finishing the trilogy is a better option.



Movie Review

Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness

Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness came out on May 6, 2022. Doctor Strange and America Chavez get chased by a demon while searching for the Book of Vishanti. Doctor Steven Strange wakes up only to realize it was just a dream and goes to a wedding. During the reception an alien attacks and Strange meets America Chavez, a teenage girl. America reveals the demons are hunting her and tells Doctor Strange her power. After recognizing witchcraft runes on the now-dead demon, Doctor Strange consults Wanda Maximoff and finds out a dark secret. How will Doctor Strange and America Chavez stop the incoming evil? Watch *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness* to find out!



Recipe

Watermelon Lemonade

Ingredients

- 6 cups cubed seedless watermelon, chilled (2 lbs after peeling)
- 4 cups cold water
- 3/4 cup fresh strained lemon juice, chilled
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar (more or less to taste)
- Ice and fresh mint for serving

Instructions

- Add watermelon to a blender and pulse until well pureed (there should be about 4 cups).
- Pour through a fine mesh strainer into a bowl.
- In a large pitcher whisk together water, lemon juice and sugar until sugar has dissolved.
- Stir in pureed watermelon. Stir in ice and mint (alternately add ice and mint directly to individual cups and pour lemonade over).
- Store in refrigerator.
- If you don't have time to chill the ingredients then just use more ice in place of some of the water.



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