

THE PAW PRINT

ST. ATHANASIUS SCHOOL

Dec. 2022



ST. A'S STUDENTS AND STAFF ENCOURAGED TO SEEK THE ONE

By Adalyn (6th) and Madyson (6th)

St A's theme for this school year is #SeekTheOne. Mrs. Kraus our music teacher and administrative intern, introduced the theme at the beginning of the year to remind everyone to seek Jesus as the perfect example of how we should live or lives and to seek each other so everyone feels included. She was inspired by Jesus's parable of the Lost Sheep.

Mrs. Kraus explains, "To seek the one, we seek each other and we seek God. We hope by having this theme we can be kinder to one another and make an extra effort to seek others who are lonely, hurting, or need a friend. We want all students and staff at St. A's to feel like they belong, both at school and in God's church. We want to treat others the way Jesus would."

Classes are putting the idea into action. For example, each week Mr. Schloss's students record and reflect on times when they have intentionally reached out to include or connect with others. Mr. Schloss reports that at first these acts were small kindnesses, like holding a door open, or returning someone's lunch tray, but as the year has progressed, students are reporting kindnesses that have grown into the community beyond St. A's.



The Marketing Committee recently gifted every student and staff member a #SeekTheOne t-shirt. Above, students wear their new shirts for a Monday morning prayer service during Advent. Front: Molly (1st), Oliver (K), Kylon (K), Kace (K), Xander (1st), Bryant (1st), Genevieve (1st). Back: Mallory (1st), Arthur (1st), Braylon (1st), Oliver (1st). Thank you, Marketing Committee!

Oh Come, Oh Come Emanuel!

By Connor (5^h) and Gracelyn (5th)



The alter is prepared for the celebration of Jesus's birth as Ms. Pejchl's Kindergarteners pray before the start of our weekly Thursday morning mass.

Advent starts four weeks before Christmas. It is a time when we prepare for Jesus's coming. Students and staff at Saint Athanasius observe Advent in many ways.

This year, during our morning prayer, classes took turns reading the ABCs of Advent. We also held an all-school assembly in the gym each Monday morning. The students sat in a circle, to make a wreath shape. Then we lit the Advent candles and the teachers read prayers and scriptures. We sang Advent songs too.

Saint Athanasius also did things for people outside of our school. We held a Share and Care drive and this year we collected 567 pounds of food. Classes also got together with their buddies to make Christmas cards that were sent to retired nuns and priests. On Wednesday, December 21, students in Kindergarten through 4th grade will visit Winding Hills to sing songs to the people there.

An important way to prepare for Christmas is to go to Reconciliation. On Friday, December 15, students in grades 2-8 did this. This was the first time the second graders went to confession.



staff spotlight

St. A's Sees More of Mrs. Sebetka This Year!

By Mckinley (5th)

It is not unusual to see Cathy Sebetka in the main office, because she has often filled in when Sue is out. What is unusual this year is seeing her there three days a week. That's because Cathy now works in the office on a regular basis. She is here Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, but after Christmas break, she will be working on Wednesdays too.

Cathy says she decided to work at St. A's because she likes being on the same schedule as her children, and because "our school is so special." Three of her children attend St. A's. Gracie is an eighth grader, Dylan is a sixth grader, and Rosalie is in the fourth grade. She says "MOST of the time" her kids think it's ok that she works at their school. Her oldest child, Evan, is a junior at Jesup High School.

Cathy also works as a realtor, something she has done since 2017. She says she is able to balance her schedule because school gets out at 3:00, so she has time to work on real estate after school and on weekends. She's grateful that the school is pretty flexible with her.

Cathy grew up mostly in Jesup and attended Jesup High School. She and her husband, Blue, were high



Cathy is a busy person, but never too busy for a kind smile.

sweethearts. They married when they were 18, and just celebrated their 21st anniversary. In addition to four children, the family also has a Bernedoodle named Lola, and two cats named Winston and Finn.

WORKIN' IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

By the 5th grade girls



Kathy is wearing her Bronco mittens and hat. It must be winter!

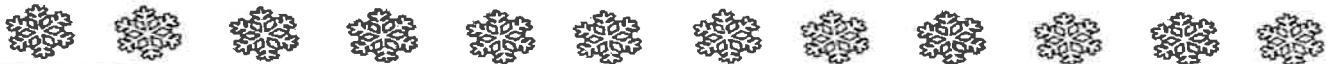
Winter is especially busy for our custodian, Kathy. She keeps our school clean all year, but when it snows, she has extra work!

While we are warm in our beds, dreaming of a snow day or a two hour delay, Kathy is clearing snow and putting down salt on the sidewalks and stairs around our school.

When a lot of snow is expected during the night, she stays with her daughter in Jesup, so she doesn't have a long drive, and can get to school by 3:00 AM.

On weekends, Kathy clears snow from the sidewalks and steps to the church, so people can get to mass safely.

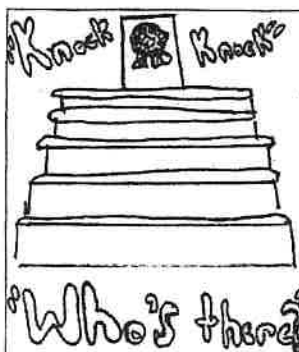
Kathy stays warm by wearing a coat, snow pants, boots, and her Bronco hat, Bronco scarf, and Bronco socks. She says she is also very thankful for Todd, Sue and Gerald, who volunteer their help.



QUESTION OF THE QUARTER: What's your favorite Christmas show?



<p style="text-align: center;">Preschool</p>  <p>JACE "Tractor show, car show, airplane show, and dinosaur show."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Pre K</p>  <p>LIAM "Frosty the Snowman because I like to make snowmen."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Kindergarten</p>  <p>FINLEY "Frosty the Snowman, the show."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">First Grade</p>  <p>ARTHUR "Nightmare Before Christmas. They're two holidays in one."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Second Grade</p>  <p>NAME: OAKLEY "Snoopy because he's very funny."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Third Grade</p>  <p>NAME: MACKENZIE "The Nightmare Before Christmas because it's funny."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fourth Grade</p>  <p>NAME: KIPTYN "Elf. It's funny because of the guy."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fifth Grade</p>  <p>NAME: KAMERON "The Santa Clause movies because they are funny."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sixth Grade</p>  <p>NAME: CORRINE "The Grinch musical because of the songs."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Seventh Grade</p>  <p>NAME: EVAN "Home Alone because it's funny"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Grade</p>  <p>NAME: LOGAN "Home Alone because there are funny moments."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Preschool-12</p>  <p>WILEY: "The Grinch because the songs are great and it has a happy ending."</p>



Marta 4/1

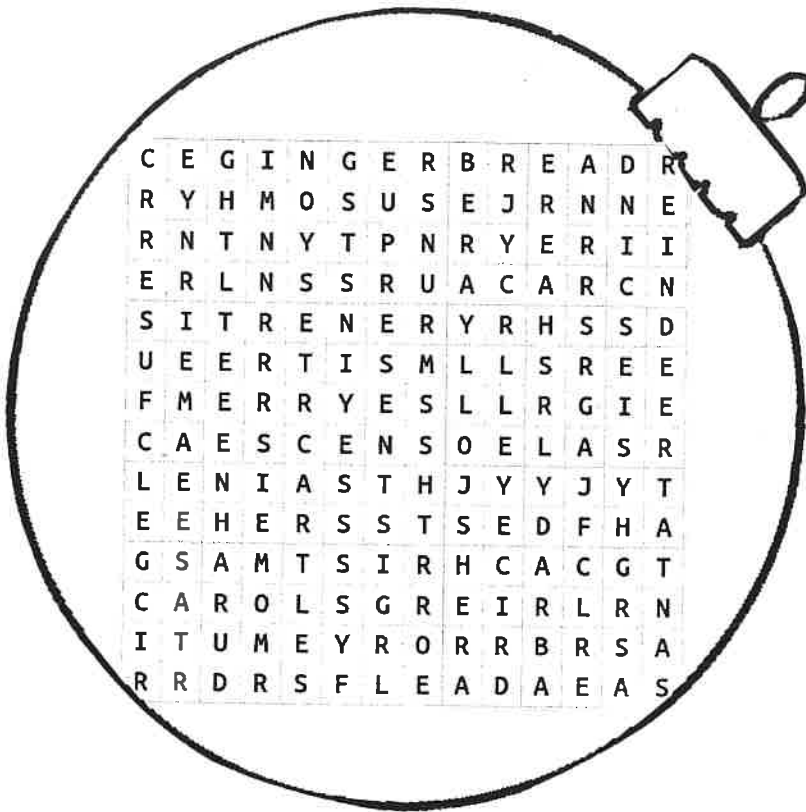


THE FUN PAGE



CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH By Gracelyn (5th)

TREE CHRISTMAS JOLLY CAROLS REINDEER
 MERRY GINGERBREAD JESUS SANTA PRESENTS



JOKES By Alexa (5th) and Jayda (5th)

Q: What do you call Santa when he's still?
A: Santa Pause!

Q: What is Santa's favorite sandwich?
A: Peanut butter and jolly!

Q: What candy goes on a Christmas tree??
A: Orna-mints!

Q: What's an elf's favorite music?
A: Wrap music!

Q: Why is it so cold at Christmas?
A: Because it's in Decembrrrr!

Q: Who is Santa's favorite singer?
A: Elf-is Presley

Riddles... By Carter (8th)

I don't have lungs, but I need air.
 I'm always hungry, ready to eat.
 The more I eat, the more I grow.
 I dance, I live; I drink, I die.
 I rarely thirst, and can barely drink.
 What am I?

You have no idea what I am,
 yet you wait for me every year.
 I rattle when you shake me,
 but I am still a mystery.

What am I?

1. a fire 2. a present

WORD JUMBLE By Mckinley (5th)

1. DAYNC ANEC

2. RGRNIDAGEEB

3. SJSUE

4. ETRE

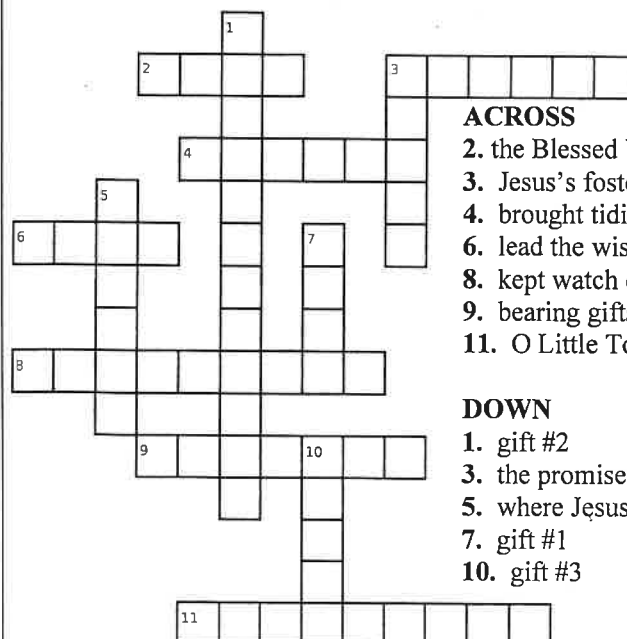
5. EITAGNHRG

6. ACNDY

7. RRYEM

8. RHISMTSAC

NATIVITY CROSS WORD By the 6th Grade



ACROSS

2. the Blessed Virgin
3. Jesus's foster father
4. brought tidings of great joy
6. lead the wisemen
8. kept watch over their sheep
9. bearing gifts, they travelled so far
11. O Little Town

DOWN

1. gift #2
3. the promised Messiah
5. where Jesus lay down His sweet head
7. gift #1
10. gift #3