



STUDENT NEWSPAPER

November Edition

Blue Streak Blazer Header Design by 2nd Grade Student Kaylee Conaway

2023 - 2024: No. 2



5-8 grade students create a Living Rosary on the last Tuesday of October

Cover Story

Teddy Bear Donations

Friday, October 27 was Teddy Bear Day in the United States, an observance created to honor one of childhood's favorite toys.

But for the Mount Vernon Police Department, teddy bears are part of each day protecting the city's residents.

For a couple of decades now, the MVPD has handed out teddy bears to children in crisis who the department's officers encounter in the course of performing their duties. Over the years, a variety of organizations have stepped forward to provide the police department with teddy bears for this effort.



From left in rear, Leslie Buehrer, of St. Vincent de Paul School and a member of the City's Recreation Board; City Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers; Mayor Matthew Starr; Police Chief Robert Morgan, along with several St. Vincent de Paul schoolchildren show off some of the teddy bears the school has donated to the Police Department.

This year the St. Vincent de Paul School, 206 E. Chestnut St., Mount Vernon, stepped up, donating 40 of the toys. "Our officers always keep a few teddy bears in their cruisers to give out to traumatized kids," said Police Chief Robert Morgan. "We thank the St. Vincent de Paul School for their support, and promise to give these teddy bears a good home." Mayor Matthew Starr thanked the city's Recreation Board for helping make Friday's teddy bear donation happen.

"Anything we can do to show the city's youngest residents that police officers aren't scary but are here to help them is vital," he said. "Their mission to protect and serve can mean so many things, including handing out a teddy bear to a child in need from time to time."

This was a story written by the City of Mount Vernon about St. Vincent de Paul School sourced from Knoxvillepages.com

WAY TO GO BLUE STREAKS!

Editors: Mrs. Kelly Duston kduston@stvmv.org, Mrs. Jen Whalen jwhalen@cducation.org Mrs. Brooke Adams badams@stvmv.org

Feature Story

National Origami Day



Amari McQuigg
7th Grade Student Writer



Image Source: www.amazon.com/Origami-Crane-White-Black-Cranes

JOIN ORIGAMI CLUB

Open to Middle School Students

Tuesdays | 2:30-3:30pm

If you like origami, November 11th might be your new favorite holiday. November 11th is National Origami Day. Origami comes from two Japanese words, "Ori" which means to fold, and "Kami" which means paper. Even though it is now called origami, it used to be called "Orikata" which means "folded shapes." Origami came from Japan in the 6th century and was used to decorate temples. Origami is used to symbolize good fortune, hope, and healing. There are three different types of origami, 1. Single Sheet Origami, 2. Modular Origami and 3. Composite Origami.

Single Sheet Origami is origami made from one sheet of paper, unlike modular and composite origami. Modular Origami is a type of origami that is made from identical pieces of paper put together by folding the pieces together. Composite Origami is when the origami piece is made from two or more pieces of paper that are all different. Origami

is typically animals but sometimes can be other things such as fortune tellers and paper stars. Each animal-based origami represents something different, like the paper cranes. Paper cranes represent honor, good fortune, loyalty, and longevity.

It was believed that if you made 1,000 paper cranes, you'd be granted a wish. Some of the most difficult pieces of origami are the three-headed dragons, phoenix and Ryu-zin. Ryu-zin is considered to be the most difficult origami piece in the world, a very intricate paper dragon that took an entire month to make. Some pieces on the easier side are swans, owls and lucky stars.

Did you know origami is more than just if you correctly folded the paper correctly or not? It actually depends on the paper's printing process.

Happy National Origami Day!

Feature Story

What is the Day of the Dead



Lucy Adams
5th Grade Student Writer

The day of the dead is a Mexican holiday where families welcome the souls of their deceased relatives for a belief reunion that includes drinks, food, and celebration. The day of the dead is celebrated on November 1st to 2nd from October 31. The day of the dead

is celebrated on November 1st for a reason because this date is dedicated to deceased children. The day of the dead was started in the early 1500's by Spanish invaders. The day of the dead is a good day to celebrate.

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS!

Take it to the STV Hallways

What is your favorite food of Thanksgiving?



Avery Whalen
7th Grade Student Writer



Evie
7th Grader

“
I love mashed potatoes!
I really like them because
they taste good with
butter!”



Yaretzi
2nd Grader

“
I really like mashed
potatoes!”



Bailey
5th Grader

“
I really like ham!!”

BLUE STREAK WRITING CHALLENGE!

Be a guest writer in the December edition of the Blue Streak Blazer AND Win a \$10 Gift Card to Almost Famous Candy Shop!

K-3 CHALLENGE: Write 8 sentences minimum: Pretend you are one of Santa's elves. Write a diary entry about your day in the North pole.

4-8 CHALLENGE: Write 14 sentences minimum: Pretend you are visiting Mary & Joseph after the birth of Jesus. Describe the scene. What would you say to Mary? Would you offer a gift? If so, what would it be?

Submit all stories to Mrs. Duston or Mrs. Whalen on or before November 30, 2023

Editors: Mrs. Kelly Duston kduston@stvmv.org, Mrs. Jen Whalen jwhalen@cceducation.org Mrs. Brooke Adams badams@stvmv.org

Feature

National Young Writers Week

 7th Grade Student Writer
Evie Wright

National Young Readers Week starts November 15th and ends November 19th. It is an annual event held in the second week of November every year. It's a celebration of the power of reading- as well as encouragement to get children to read. The top ten children's books include *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling, *The Cat in The Hat* by Dr. Seuss, *Charlotte's Web* by Harper Collins, and *The Lion, The*

Witch, and *The Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. National Young Readers Week began back in 1984, with Pizza Hut's (of all places!) "BOOK IT!" The program encouraged young people to read by rewarding them with pizza. Pizza Hut created the program because president Ronald Reagan encouraged US businesses to become more involved in education.



Ask Father

Questions submitted anonymously from students in preschool-8th grade

WHY DO THE CHURCH WINDOWS HAVE PICTURES ON THEM?

Church Windows are decorated for several reasons. First, they are there to teach us the faith! They show in pictures various passages of scripture and tradition to allow us to have a better understanding of them. Second, they allow us to be present mentally in Church. When our minds wander they serve to show us what we should be thinking of so that we can remain in a prayerful and mentally engaged state during Mass and prayer. Finally, they serve to bring beauty into the world! They are works of art created to glorify God, and to make the Church a more welcoming and beautiful place to be!

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PRAY?

Prayer allows us to open our hearts and minds to God. God always wants to be with us, but because we have free will we can choose whether or not to welcome God into our lives. By praying, we are welcoming God into our lives so that he has our permission to work with us to come to know him better and deeper!

WHEN YOU GO TO THE STORE, DO YOU WEAR REGULAR CLOTHES?

Great question! Different priests do different things, but for me, I never intentionally change out of my collar just to go to the store. Almost always, you will see me in my cassock or a black shirt. Sometimes you may catch me in the store without my clerical clothes on, but it is pretty rare!

“Prayer allows us to open our hearts and minds to God.”

Thank you for all the great questions!
Father Brandimarti

HOW DOES GOD HEAL PEOPLE?

God heals people in a lot of different ways. Sometimes it is through a miracle that cures a disease or fixes a broken bone. Usually though, God heals our hearts from the hurts that we feel when others hurt us or when we hurt others. Medicine can heal our bodies, but only God can heal our hearts.

WHAT PRAYERS DO YOU SAY EVERYDAY?

I pray the Liturgy of the Hours every day, which is the prayer that every priest has to pray. It is a long prayer that gets said throughout the whole day! I also pray various other prayers, like the Our Father and Hail Mary throughout the whole day!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT BEING A FATHER?

MY favorite part about being a priest is being with the People of God! They are great and I am honored to serve them each and every day!

Fun Section

Thanksgiving A to Z Countdown

  7th Grade Student Contributors
Avery Whalen & Lily Adams

A=Apples
B=Books
C=Cats
D=Dogs
E=Education
F=Family
G=God
H=Homes
I= Ice Cream

J= Jesus
K= Kindness
L= Love
M= Mary (Mother of God)
N= Nature
O= Opportunities
P= Penguins
Q= Questions
R= Reading

S= Shelter
T= Treats
U= Umbrellas
V= Vacation
W=Water
X= X-Rays
Y= Yam
Z= Zoo



Fun Section



Philomena Odonkor
5th Grade Student Contributor

Mad Libs *(Fill in the blanks)*

Adjective#1

Adjective#2

Noun#1

Noun#2

Person #1

Person #2

Color

Animal

Food#1

Food#2

This Thanksgiving, I woke up (Adjective#1). My pet(Animal) bounced on me and licked my face. I got ready(Adjective#2). (Person#1), and (Person#2), my grandparents came. We went to (Noun) for dinner and we had (Food#1) and (Food #2). It tasted (Adjective#1)! But besides the (Adjective#2) stuff that happened, it was the most interesting Thanksgiving yet!

Rewrite the sentences down here:

Holiday Candle Poll

Candles are what lots of people use to scent their homes, or just use to decorate their homes for holidays. Smells can vary from flowers and fruits to candies and sweets. Some are good, some are bad. Some people may think they all smell good, and some just stay away from them altogether. Here are some favorites from each class;

- K.- Farm Apple Pumpkin
- 1st- Farm Apple Pumpkin
- 2nd- Farm Apple pumpkin
- 3rd- Farm Apple Pumpkin
- 4th- Farm Apple Pumpkin
- 5th- Farm Apple Pumpkin
- 6th- Warm Cinnamon Buns
- 7th- Farm Apple Pumpkin
- 8th- Warm Cinnamon Buns

Thanksgiving Word Search

A	P	P	R	E	C	I	A	T	I	O	N	C	B
U	S	S	N	A	E	B	N	E	E	R	G	E	I
N	K	U	Y	D	A	E	R	B	G	F	F	E	S
A	N	O	N	A	K	A	R	R	I	A	A	F	C
C	A	I	I	S	Y	U	A	A	R	M	C	R	U
P	H	C	K	N	T	T	E	C	N	I	O	I	I
L	T	I	P	S	I	U	I	A	F	L	R	E	T
E	R	L	M	T	S	M	P	N	E	Y	N	N	S
N	P	E	U	U	O	N	E	D	K	I	S	D	T
T	T	D	P	F	R	Y	L	Y	A	I	T	S	U
I	E	I	P	F	E	L	P	C	B	K	S	L	R
F	S	E	T	I	N	S	P	O	T	L	U	C	K
U	G	D	U	N	E	Y	A	R	E	C	I	P	E
L	O	U	E	G	G	F	U	N	C	C	I	B	Y

- THANKS
- GRATITUDE
- GREENBEANS
- CANDYCORN
- BISCUITS
- PLENTIFUL
- POTLUCK
- APPRECIATION
- FRIENDS
- BREAD
- BAKE
- STUFFING
- AUTUMN
- ACORNS
- FAMILY
- APPLEPIE
- GENEROSITY
- TURKEY
- DELICIOUS
- PUMPKIN
- RECIPE

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