



STUDENT NEWSPAPER

December Edition

Blue Streak Blazer Header Design by 3rd Grade Student **Jordan Messerly**

2022 - 2023: No. 3



2022 Spelling Bee Semi-Finalists

Cover Story

'Odonker' Spells Victory, Again!

 **Mrs. Kelly Duston**
Newspaper Editor

One would think the school gym the two days before Thanksgiving break would be filled with shouting and playing. Not at Saint Vincent. Those two days the gym was filled with silent students watching their classmates spell their way to victory. Teachers held classroom spelling bees to compile the top 12 students for two age divisions. First through fourth grade, followed by fifth through eighth grades, held their semi-finals to then narrow each division to the top three spellers.

First place Jo-Ann Odonker, 7th grade, 2nd Place Philomena Odonker, 4th grade and third place Tommy Franks, 7th grade.

Mrs. Duston gave her thoughts on having a recurring spelling bee. "I really enjoy hosting the spelling bee at our school because it allows different students to show their special talents. We often think of sports or musicality when we think of talents. Many forget that spelling is a gift too! Sometimes I think we forget that when we have spell check on our computers and autocorrect on our phones."

St. Vincent de Paul is looking forward to hosting the next spelling bee next academic year!



5TH GRADE IS SELLING
**Mason Jar
Cookie Mix**




5th graders are learning about how to run a successful business in economics class & raising money for a charitable cause.

ALL JARS ARE \$6

**Peppermint Hot Chocolate |
Gingerbread | White Chocolate Chip |
Oreo**

Opinion

Favorite Christmas Songs

 **Philomena Odonker**
4th Grade Student Writer


Olivia - My favorite christmas song is Jingle Bells because I heard that every time a bell rings, an angel gets its wings.

Miss Miller - I like Oh, Come All Ye Faithful, Because it reminds me that we love and adore Jesus.


Mrs. Forster - I like Oh, Little town of Bethlehem, because as a child I played it on the piano and that's a good memory.


Student Spotlight

New Student Spotlight

 **Philomena Odonker**
4th Grade Student Writer

We get lots of new students each year. We all get a new chance to make friends. Here are some new students from this year.

 **Claire W.**- I like this school because the teachers are nice. I made lots of friends.

 **Abi. C** - I like this school. I like it because of my friends and Mrs. Whalen. I made a friend.

Feature

Holidays Around the World

 **Nora Ellinger**
4th Grade Student Writer

We are in full swing of the holidays! Here are a few different places and how they celebrate.

Right now is Thanksgiving for Canada. They eat a dinner of split-pea pudding, butter tarts, and Nanaimo bars. salmon, wild game. There is also a Canadian football game.

This is Christmas for Germany: Their stockings are filled on December 6th



and they celebrate Christmas on Christmas Eve and they also put a advent wreath on their table and they give gifts on December 24th.




This is Christmas for Italy: They wear red underwear on Christmas. And watch out for nativity scenes because they are everywhere and they never eat meat on Christmas eve to save up for Christmas!

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Guest Feature

A Christmas Story

 **Evan Myers**
2nd Grade Guest Writer

MY CHRISTMAS EVE RIDE WITH SANTA

One fine Christmas Eve, I really wanted Santa to come to my house. Just then, I got a letter. It was from Santa. It read,

“Dear friends, I want you to come to the North Pole with me. From Santa”

The elf on the shelf Kyler, Colten, my sister, my brother and I were shocked! We ran outside and waited and waited and finally we heard jingle bells, and “Ho! Ho! Ho!” It was SANTA!



Santa said, “Come on, get in my sleigh with me!” We ran to get a ladder. We stopped. Santa had already put the ladder down. We hurried up the ladder and hopped into Santa’s sleigh.

We went to England and Paris. We saw the Eiffel Tower. Then we went to the North Pole. We had hot cocoa and marshmallows. It was good.

Then we had to go home. Santa teleported us back home. We were glad to be back home! We didn’t want to go to bed. and we had an argument. Finally, we went to bed!

Teacher Spotlight

Meet Mr. McCormick

 **Nora Ellinger**
4th Grade Student Writer

We get a new teacher almost every year and it’s very cool to meet them and be in their classes. This time the spotlight is on our Math/STEM teacher Mr. McCormick. He teaches 7th & 8th grade Math, Algebra, technology and STEM. Here are some things about him.

What is your favorite color?
Blue

What is your favorite sport?
Basketball

What do you like to do with your free time?
Craft - I make and sell jewelry and resin products.

What is a fun fact about you?
I have taught for 12 years before teaching here.

If you could go back in time, where would you go?
Medieval Europe.

Welcome Mr. McCormick!
We like having you here!



Feature Story

St. Nick Day & Festival

Lucy Adams
4th Grade Student Writer

Saint Nick is the patron saint of sailors, children, wolves and pawnbrokers. Every year Saint Nick comes to our school and we put 1 shoe out in the hallway and the next day you should have either an apple or an orange and a candy cane in the shoe. We celebrate Saint Nick because he was a saint!

Many kids went to the St. Nick Festival on December 2. Saint Nick and The Grinch stopped by and handed out pencils and danced with the kids. There was a cake walk and lots of activities for all the kids. I asked some students what they thought about the festival this year.



Paul S. My favorite part about the Saint Nick fest was pulling off the suckers off the christmas tree because I got suckers.



Lillie B. My favorite part about the Saint Nick fest was the cakewalk I liked the cake walk because there was free cake.



Braxton R. My favorite part about the Saint Nick fest was the corn hole game because I won every time.



Bailey B. My favorite part about the Saint Nick fest is the cake walk because I spent my mom's money.



Alanna A. My favorite part about the Saint Nick Fest was getting the squishies at ping pong because I like to play with them.

National Feature

National Candle Day

Avery Whalen
6th Grade Student Writer

On December 3rd 2022, it was national candle day. Most candles will be going on sale just for National Candle Day. There is a candle day because most candle lovers will come together and buy candles. This is the process of making candles. Before you begin the candle-making process, make sure you have a clean, flat surface to work on.



- Step 1: Measure the wax
- Step 2: Melt the wax
- Step 3: Add fragrance oils
- Step 4: Attach the wick
- Step 5: Pour the wax
- Step 6: Secure the wick
- Step 7: Add more wax
- Step 8: Cut the wick

Or you could go to The Blessed Life and make some candles.

Coupon on page 2 for the Blessed Life candle making shop

National Feature

Cat Lovers Month

Zoey Chester
5th Grade Student Writer

December is Cat lovers month here's why a few students love their cats and why they have them.



Haley Dugan-I love my cat because he is better than any other cat. I have a cat because I love cats.



Emmarie Primm-I love my cat because she keeps me company and when no one else wants to play with me I play with my cat. I have a cat because my mom's other cat whicket died so we got another cat because it seemed kind of quiet without a cat around.



Cenna Adams-I love my cat because they always connect and depend on me. I have a cat because during covid I worked super hard and my mom got me a cat.

Take it to the STV Hallways

What is your New Year's Resolution?

Lily Adams
6th Grade Student Writer



Kennedy
6th Grader

“ Study harder and explore new places like Hocking Hills! ”



Mikaela
7th Grader

“ I want to make sure nobody is left out and everyone is involved. ”



Anna
1st Grader

“ My New Year's resolution is to spend more time drawing because it is relaxing and fun! ”

Faith Feature

All Saints Day & Confirmation

 **Abigail Yocum**
7th Grade Student Writer

All Saints Day is a day when we celebrate all the saints in heaven. That's why it is called all saints day. We have a mass that is called the All Saints day mass which was held by the 7th graders this year then the day after all saints day is called all Souls Day. On

all Souls day we pray for all the soul's in heaven and in purgatory. Confirmation is when you get confirmed into the church and you get to pick a saint to be your "confirmation saint". But you do have to be baptized before you can get confirmed. When you

get confirmed you get your confirmation saints name added into your name. So for example it goes your first name, then middle name, then your saint's name. Here are a list of 7th & 8th grade students who will be confirmed this year! Who is your favorite saint?



ST. SEBASTIAN
Sebastian
7th Grade



ST. MARK
Jesse
7th Grade



ST. ABIGAIL
Abigail
7th Grade



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
Alex
7th Grade



ST. NICHOLAS
Simon
7th Grade



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Xavier
8th Grade



ST. GERTRUDE OF NIVELLES
Amelia B.
7th Grade



ST. FINBARR
Finn
7th Grade



ST. MARTHA
Amelia R.
7th Grade



ST. PHILLIP NERI
Kaity
7th Grade



ST. CATHERINE OF BOLOGNA
Mikaela & JoAnn
7th Grade



ST. LEO
Tommy
7th Grade



ST. JOHN BOSCO
Jace
8th Grade



ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
Dominic
7th Grade



ST. ISIDORE OF SEVILLE
Logan
8th Grade



ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Julie
8th Grade



ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA
Miles
7th Grade



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
Kierra
8th Grade



ST. LUIGI SCROSSOPI
Levi
7th Grade



ST. DYMPHNA
Annabell
7th Grade



ST. SEBASTIAN
Zac C. & Lucas
8th Grade



ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
Chris
8th Grade



POPE PIUS X
Reighlee
8th Grade



ST. PADRE PIO
Serafin
7th Grade

Flashback Feature

Youth Authors & Readers

 **Amari McQuigg**
6th Grade Student Writer

When you think of the month "November" what do you think of? Thanksgiving? Fall weather? While November has those things, it also has Children's Book Week. Children's Book Week starts on November seventh and ends on November thirteenth. It is very important to let kids be early writers.

Early writing is important because it can help you expand your literacy knowledge and can help you explore passages and texts. Some children's books are actually a few of the most famous books. For example, The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling and even Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss!

"My favorite children's book author is J.K. Rowling! I really like the Harry Potter books" Kylie says. "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone is my favorite book by J.K. Rowling" Kylie states. A lesson she's learned is "Never judge a book by its cover." "Tui T. Sutherland is my favorite author, because I like the Wings of Fire books," Cooper says. He always remembers the last Dog Man book because the lesson he learned is to not drink from toilets.

What better way to celebrate Children's book week than by writing some stories? Here are some writing prompts to write about, these stories will be voted on for a chance to win a prize and will be featured in the next edition!

You're a Christmas elf and forgot to make a few more toys and tonight is Christmas Eve! What will you do?

After three days of traveling you end up finding the north pole, and see..Santa? An elf notices you and you know kids aren't supposed to be at the north pole seeing the nice and naughty lists. What will you do?

Good luck everyone! Get ready now for next year's Children's book week!

This edition of the Blue Streak Blazer Student Newspaper is sponsored by:



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Thank you!
-Newspaper Club!

Ask Father Column



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!

History Feature

The Wright Brothers



James Stachler
4th Grade Student Writer

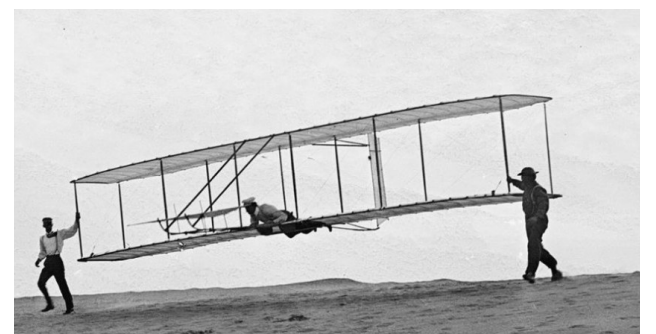
They were the first people to airborne and they were obsessed with how things flew like a small airplane. Did you know that the Wright brothers did it get a diploma and the Wright brothers never got married.

We celebrate the Wright brothers because it commemorates the first successful flights in a mechanically propelled airplane that was heavier-than-air. And another reason we celebrate the Wright brothers is they made the first successful mechanical airplane.

Did you know that the wright brothers had siblings. On Dec 17, 1903 the Wright brothers achieved the first powered, sustained and controlled airplane flight. How far do you think the Wright brothers flew? They flew 120 feet, 175 feet, 200 feet, 850 feet.

Do you think the Wright brothers flipped a coin? Achale they did flippa coins. Wright brothers flipped a coin on December 14. They flew 34 mph. They were self taught engineers who succeeded in their dream to fly a powered heavier- than- air machine in a sustained flight.

Humans could fly on November 21, 1783 and China invented flying. Did you know that the Wright brothers had two propellers, behind the wings, pushed the machine through the air. The Wright brothers did not hold the record. Gustave Whitehead beat the record. Before the Wright brothers invented planes they traveled on foot. The Wright brothers had 8 major crashes. Would you think the wright brothers would go to college. They did not go to college. The brothers first flew a plane on December 17, 1903.



<https://monovisions.com/vintage-the-wright-brothers-first-flight-in-1903/>

The Wright brothers were the first to fly. But the internet says that China was the first to figure out flying. On December 6, 1884 in Washington, D.C., workers place a nine inch aluminum pyramid inscribed with "Laus Deo," meaning praise (be) to God, atop a tower of white marble completing the construction of an impressive monument to the city's namesake and the nation's first president, George Washington. Winbur was born April 16, 1867. Oivlle was born in 1871. Would you think the Wright brothers fly first? Actually Hanri Giffard was the first one to fly a plane.

BLUE STREAK WRITING CHALLENGE!

Be a guest writer in the February 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 have been put in charge of your class Valentine's Day party. What would you plan to do? What would you plan to eat? **4-8 CHALLENGE:** Write 14 sentences minimum: Convince our readers that a stapler is the best Valentine's Day gift EVER!

Submit all stories to Mrs. Duston or Mrs. Whalen on or before January 20, 2023



O HOLY NIGHT

A	D	N	H	P	W	P	J	Q	B	T	G	F	F	S	Q	V
Y	D	M	Q	M	I	A	A	S	T	A	R	R	L	G	F	R
F	X	F	A	G	R	D	O	N	K	E	Y	A	S	Q	L	J
F	S	B	U	G	S	A	V	I	O	R	M	N	F	W	U	W
H	H	E	A	X	W	I	X	H	Z	I	E	K	J	A	C	B
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G	N	M	Q	J	J	J	S	N	Y	I	A	E	S	R	V	S
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N	J	C	U	R	Z	Z	X	E	U	N	O	M	N	G	L	Z
B	K	Y	M	W	I	H	F	R	A	P	E	A	C	E	G	W

ANGEL	GIFTS	MYRRH
ANIMALS	GOLD	PEACE
BABY	JESUS	SAVIOR
BETHLEHEM	JOSEPH	SHEPHERD
DONKEY	MANGER	STAR
FRANKINCENSE	MARY	WISE MEN



BLOCK OF FUN

Trivia & Jokes

 **Amari McQuigg**
6th Grade Student Contributor

Who's Santa's favorite singer?
Elf-is Preseley!

Why is it so cold at Christmas?
It's Decembrrrrrrr

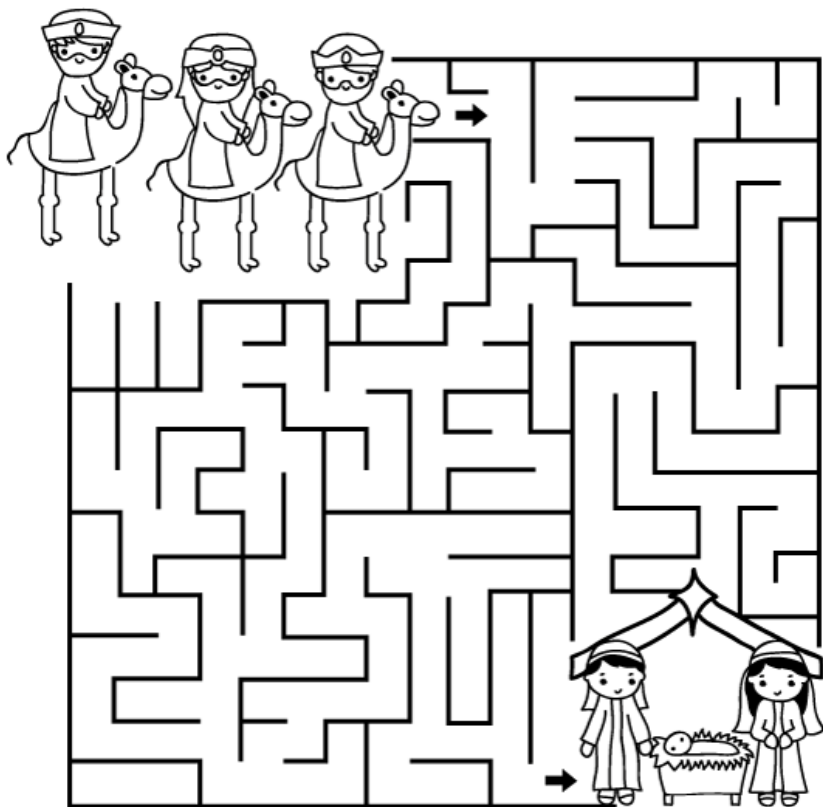
What do snowmen eat for breakfast?
Frosted Flakes or ice crispies

Where do Snowmen find the news
The Winternet



Nativity Maze

Help the Three Wise Men find the manger.



Christmas Quiz

1. Who was Baby Jesus's Mom and Dad?

2. Who came to Mary and told her that she would have a son?

3. What gifts did the wise men bring?

4. Baby Jesus was born in a _____.
5. What did the wise men follow to get to baby Jesus?

6. Why did baby Jesus come into the world?

7. Jesus died on a _____?

