



ARCHANGEL GABRIEL  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## KNIGHT'S NEWS

NOVEMBER 2021

### NOURISHING SOULS

**Feast Day of the Holy Rosary** — On Thursday, October 7th, our entire school stepped outside at 10:00 AM and together prayed the Holy Rosary in front of a glorious sight. Volunteers came together to create a likeness of the Rosary out of helium balloons, which hovered over our school. Parents were invited to pray with us as our 7th graders led us in the Luminous Mysteries. A special thank you to Father Joe and Ave Maria Academy mother and our fantastic AGS volunteers who came together to create this display. Thank you, Father Joe, for your inspirational words about this powerful prayer, its history, and your donation of special Rosaries to our students. The weather was perfect, and as soon as the prayer began, the sun shone even brighter. We will never forget that special moment we had as a school to honor this special day.



**Knights with Heart** - Every month AGS will focus on "A Heart Full of Love for God and..." with a specific theme at the end of the quote. Each classroom in the school has a knight outside of their door holding a heart that shows the monthly theme. October was "A Heart Full of Love for God and **Religious Leaders.**" The school took time to dedicate their prayers to the Priests, Deacons, and Sisters. In preschool we had a special visit from Father Al. He talked about becoming a priest and what he does. We learned that in his spare time he loves to read so he will be visiting us next month as one of our guest readers. Thanks so much to Father Al and all the religious leaders who help us stay close to God! November's Knight's with Heart theme is Prayer Partners. In traditional years, each student was matched with a prayer partner with who they went to mass monthly, exchanged notes, met with to work on projects, and celebrate special events. This year the personal meetings may be slightly limited but we will be sharing with you soon how we are celebrating November's Knights with Heart. We look forward to our themes throughout the rest of the year: December - People in need, January - School Community, February - Helpers in our community (Police/Firemen/Nurses/Doctors), March - Self, April - Friends, May - Mary. Each of those who we will honor helps us grow in faith, hope, and love.



**Strides for CJD**—Several fifth-graders also took part and supported Strides for CJD and Miss Golden. Her father passed away from this rare disease a few years ago and our kids are helping to raise money to help find a cure. Thank you to all who participated. It is always great to see our Knights supporting each other. Miss Golden, our thoughts and prayers are always with you and your family.



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**Devotion to Mary** - Throughout October each of our classrooms made devotions to the Blessed Mother by visiting the Mary prayer courtyard or the Mary Grotto in the front of the school once a week (or in the Church if the weather was poor.) PK and K said a Hail Mary, Grades 1-3 said a decade of the Rosary, and Grades 4-8 said the Rosary.



**Prayer Partners** - We kicked off our Prayer Partner Program on Friday, October 20th. Students in 4 PreK - Grade 8 participated. An older student is matched up with a younger student as a mentorship program and throughout the year they meet and do activities together and even may go to mass together! The first day was all about getting to know each other. They shared some things about their summer, some things they are good at, their learning goals for the year, and what makes them happy. We love seeing our school come together in opportunities like this, it is truly special!



## BUILDING MINDS

**Parent-Teacher Conferences** - It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of the first quarter. On Monday, November 1st we will hold parent-teacher conferences. Communication has gone out through OptionC to select a time for your child(ren). Kindergarten and Mrs. DiPaolo will be virtual and 2nd-8th grade will be in person.



**Cell-Fies**—The fifth-grade students have been learning all about plant and animal cells in science class. The students learned about the function of each organelle of a plant cell and compared the organelles to something they're more familiar with. For example, vacuoles are storage spaces for water, waste, food, and other cellular materials, just like our water bottles and plastic containers store our water and food! Next, the students worked in groups to build a plant cell using construction paper. Finally, they took "cell-fies" to showcase their work! What a nice day for a "cell-fie"!



**Coding in Kindergarten** - Kindergarten is learning to Code in Mrs. Corona's computer class. Here they are building a maze using the coding cards and watching Colby, the Programmable Robot Mouse, find the cheese! Colby has lights, sounds, and color buttons to match the coding cards. They are having a blast creating different designs.



## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Join us in congratulating our newly elected 2021-2022 Student Council Officers: President - Nicholas Ewanco, Vice President - Sarah Sellman, Public Relations - Julia Davoli, Treasurer - Leo Shorthouse, Recording Secretary Lydia

Wegrzynowicz. Classroom Representatives: 8A - Michael Pigoni, 8B Brady Rooney and Alexa Schmidt, 7A Marco Buzzard and Maddy Wolsko, 6A Mario Thomas, Brylie Welsh and Sophia Abdulmassih-Cayama, 6B Emerson Witter and Maddy Debbis, 5A Mia Molinaro and Sebastian James. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they make decisions to positively impact our school and learn important leadership skills.



**Volleyball** - JV Girls played in their last regular-season game this past Sunday and won both games of the doubleheader. They finished 3rd in their section and just missed out on the playoffs. Four of the 6th graders will move up to varsity and three of the 4th graders will officially move up to JV next year. Mr. Curry looks forward to coaching each team next year! Congratulations to our team members: 6th graders: Sophia Abdulmassih-Cayama, Brielle Greer, Rebekah Roun, Brylie Welsh 5th graders: Ashlyn Curry, Sophia Colosimo, Alex Sipusic, Kaylee Tamburino and 4th graders: Vivienne Cavicchia, Abi Williams, and Emily Williams





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**Soccer**— Our AGS Soccer Teams continue to play, develop and compete in the Co-Ed Diocesan Soccer League. Our youngest group of kindergarteners completed their season on Sunday, Oct 24 in the first-ever Kindergarten-Cup at Upper Burkett with the newly formed Guardian Angel. It was a great success and a great way to close out the season! Our elementary school teams (grade 1-4) closed out their regular-season last weekend, and will compete Saturday, Oct 30 in the season-ending Diocesan Developmental Tournament at NO OFFSEASON SPORTS in Russellton PA. AGS will field 8 developmental teams this year, the most in recent history!

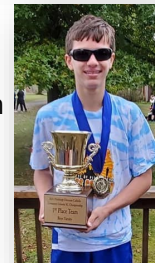


The AGS JV and Varsity teams have both completed their regular season in the Diocesan Premier League, the top Diocesan Division. JV closed out the season with an exciting back and forth game against Ave Maria, but came up short in a 4-3 loss and will need some help to make the playoffs. The Varsity team finished the season against Blessed Trinity with a 3-0 win and will be the 2nd seed in the playoffs. Good luck to our teams in the Developmental Tournament and Playoffs!

**Cross Country** - Our trophy case just got a little fuller! At the Diocesan Cross Country Championship at Youthtowne, out of 28 teams, our Developmental boys placed 7th, JV boys placed 8th, and our JV Girls and Varsity Girls both got trophies for a 4th place finish. We have our first ever Varsity Boys Diocesan Champion team, and Carter Cross is the Varsity Boys individual Champ. Additionally, the following runners earned a medal in their divisions. Declan



Ireland was 15th and Gus Stuckeman placed 23rd, Wyatt Walsh placed 5th, Eva Crofford placed 3rd, Izzy Stuckeman was 6th, Ava Ziemniak was 23rd, Sophia Saginaw was 14th, and Lindsay Bressler placed 28th. Our Varsity Boys had 5 runners who medaled - Brayden Douglass was 17th, MJ Martella placed 12th, Owen Minzer 11th and Christian Williams placed 10th. Congratulations to the following runners who had the Personal Bests and scored for the team: Liam Blatt, Lucas Werteleit, Bella Walsh, Aiden curry, Annabelle Watson, Karly Gill, Connor Duplaga, Owen Ireland, Anna and Gina Cicchino, Danica Nauman, Ava Domenico, Lexi Kolocouris, Eliza Loncar, Ricky Murray, Leah Parker, Jack Turina, Grant Karlik, Luke Blatt, Marco Buzzard, Ashlyn Curry, Xavier Hess, Nolan Meyer, David Delfiandro, Heidi Surlow, Emily and Abby Williams, and Emerson Witter.



## BUILDING OUR AGS COMMUNITY

**Rock the Auction** - Friday, November 5th, we will be holding our annual auction at the Airport Hyatt. You all have received your AMAZING invitations designed by Tabitha McGarvey (thank you). This event is one of our largest fundraisers of the year and we are excited to have the support of our community. We hope you are all able to be there to bid on the fantastic packages including personalized classroom baskets that are always so special.



This year for our grand raffle, we are offering a Peloton with a \$150 Visa gift card! We also have a 50/50 raffle and many silent and live auction items. It will not disappoint! For more information visit our website at: <https://archangelgabrielpgh.org/auction> or contact event chairs: Sarah Smith— [sarahmarshallsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahmarshallsmith@hotmail.com) or Leslie Williams— [williams8897@yahoo.com](mailto:williams8897@yahoo.com).

**Car Raffle** - Congratulations to the Murtha family who won the 2021 Ford Bronco Sport that was raffled off at the Nationality Festival. The fundraiser was a complete success thanks to our chair, Emily Mueller, and all of our volunteers!



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**Moon Fire Department** - During fire prevention week the preschool students learned about firefighters and fire safety. They discussed smoke detectors, calling 911, their fire escape plan for at school, and staying away from objects that could burn you or start a fire. They were taught important phrases like "Get Out and Stay Out" and "Don't Hide, Get Outside". The Moon Run Fire Department and Paramedics visited our Pre-4 and Kindergarten classes. They discussed fire safety and showed the children the equipment the firefighters wear. The classes also got to talk about what paramedics do and meet their rescue dog, Sirius! The firefighters were kind enough to bring two firetrucks and show the children all of the different tools they use. A big thank you to the Moon Run Firefighters for bringing everyone bags, tattoos, and fire helmets!



**7th and 8th Grade Hayride** - On Friday, October 15th, the PTG offered a fun event for our 7th and 8th graders who would typically be having their first dance of the school year. They visited Simmons Farms where they took a long hayride to a bonfire where they played some outdoor glow games, made smores, and had a great chance to socialize. What a great event! Thank you PTG and Mrs. Williams for pulling this great event off. Your creativity and dedication to our students are amazing.



**Boo Bash** - We had a spooktacular time at the AGS Boo Bash on Saturday, October 23rd. So many families came dressed up in costumes ready for fun! There were tricks, treats, escape rooms, a haunted courtyard, costume contests, snacks, and fun galore! We for sure won't stop talking about this night for a long time! Thanks, AGS PTG, Jenna Blatt, and the committee for "Revamping" the bash for 2021!



**Scholastic Book Fair** - We are excited to be able to bring our Scholastic Book Fair to our school on November 1, 2, 3, 4 for Preschool - Eighth grade. We ask that each family who will participate in the book fair to create an online account and fill the eWallet with your payment. <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/agspgh> Cash and checks will also be accepted this year. The book fair will be spread out in the cafeteria. A special thank you to Mrs. McCord who is the chair of the book fair and making sure that all of the children have a safe way to shop and enjoy new books this year!



Please see the following for the schedule for each class's time for in-person shopping for our Fall Book Fair!

	Monday 11/1	Tuesday 11/2	Wednesday 11/3	Thursday 11/4
8:30-9:10		4B	7A	4A
9:10-9:50	Preschool & Kindergarten	3A	6A	1A
9:50-10:30		5A	KA	
10:30-11:10		3B	KB	
11:15-11:55				
12:00-12:40		2A		
12:40-1:20			1B	
1:20-2:00		8B	6B	8A

**Dress Code & Spirit Wear**— The winter dress code takes effect on November 1st. Shorts will no longer be permitted to wear from November 1st - March 31st. Please see the parent-student handbook and our dress code both located on our website for details. We still plan to go outside, weather permitting for mask breaks. Please make sure your child has the appropriate outerwear for these breaks. Although not a part of our regular dress code, please look forward to a Spirit Wear order form that will be going home soon. Email [skalich@archangelgabrielpgh.org](mailto:skalich@archangelgabrielpgh.org) with questions.



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**Who Does What Directory** - We are blessed to have so many people in our AGS community who help make the school run so smoothly. Have you ever had a question of who does what? Did you ever need to reach out to someone with a question but didn't know who to ask? We now have a directory on our website under Contact Us!

<https://www.archangelgabrielpgh.org/contact-information-for-events-and-school-matters-1>

**AGS Family Business Directory** - As a Catholic School, we pride ourselves on being able to come together and support each other as a community. In order to help grow support and community efforts, we thought it would be a good idea to share some additional information. Many of you and your families have personal businesses. We would like to provide additional opportunities for support, therefore we created a small questionnaire for you to fill out. It is the goal to continually add to and create an AGS Family Business Directory. If you or your family has a business, please consider participating contact Advancement Director Susan Kalich

[skalich@archangelgabrielpgh.org](mailto:skalich@archangelgabrielpgh.org). Thank you to all who have already submitted a response. Look for the online directory to come out soon.

Thank you to all of those who have made submissions for our November 2021 issue of Knights News!

If you would like to submit any news articles for upcoming issues of Knights News, please email them to Advancement Director, Susan Kalich [skalich@archangelgabrielpgh.org](mailto:skalich@archangelgabrielpgh.org) by the 15th of the month.

