

Faith in Action by *Winta K.*

It's April! We are getting closer and closer to the end of the school year, and this month the whole school participated in a Faith in Action Day. All the grades were divided into three groups. The first group, Kindergarten, 3rd, and 6th grade, went to St. Lucas. The second group, 1st, 4th, and 7th grade, went to Timothy. The third group, 2nd, 5th, and 8th grade, worked here at Ascension. All three groups served by cleaning up and doing various tasks. The reason why we should show our "faith in action" is because it's God's will. James 5:16 says, "In the same way, let your light shine before

others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." This means that as Christians we should not only proclaim Jesus' name, but show how Christ dwells in our hearts by our good deeds. Being selfless in doing God's will is very important; helping someone without wanting attention or acknowledgement shows great Christian character.



Fruit of the Spirit: Gentleness by *Noah C.*

Gentleness is the eighth and second to last fruit of the spirit. So far this year we have talked about love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness. This month, we focus on gentleness. Next month, we will talk about self control to finish up the year.

"[I] urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love." -Ephesians 4:1-2 This Bible verse associates



gentleness with such characteristics as humility, patience, and love. These are some of the most vital attributes of a healthful life, as are all the traits we have been looking at through past months. It is obvious that we naturally prefer kind and gentle people over mean and harsh ones. Since we like it when people are

kind to us, it is pretty safe to say that it would be a good idea to be nice and gentle with others. God knows what He is talking about when it comes to what is good for us. It is evident God loves us and wants the best for us. We should trust that His will is best, rather than our own. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." -Proverbs 3: 5-6.

Highlights of the Month by *Janet P.*

This month's highlights are fantastic. First off, we had Faith in Action Day at the 3 different campuses. The track and field team began practice and competed in their first meet. In the third week of April, we had our achievement testing. All students were able to view for the first time the recorded musical, *Echoes of the Hammer*. World Culture Day helped wrap up the month on the 25th. Students were able to celebrate the diversity of our school and focus on the culture of others.

Preschool News by Zoe W.

The Word of Life preschool classes always seem to have a fun time, and the month of April is no exception! Mrs. Maxfield's class has been learning about plants and how they grow. They also read the book *Five Tough and Tiny Seeds* to learn how seeds move. Afterwards, they looked at similar characteristics in seeds. The fun didn't just stop there. They also learned about jungles! Each week uncovered another layer of the wild jungle. The hallways were even decorated like one! Mrs. Bolling's class has also been learning many new and exciting things. Her preschoolers have been learning about April showers and many different types of animals. Their activities included making a butterfly life cycle out of pasta and painting bugs! Ms. O'Toole's class has dedicated the month of April to learning about plants. Her class painted marigolds and learned the importance of giving plants sunlight. How fun! Hopefully May will be as fun and educational as April.



Mrs. Maxfield's students enjoy planting seeds.

Endangered Species of the Month

Saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*)

By Emily L.

One of the greatest mysteries in the animal kingdom is the Saola. It has only been spotted four times since 1992 in the Annamite Mountains, Vietnam. They weigh around 176-220 lbs, and grow to an average height of 33 inches at the shoulders. Saolas are recognized by two, 20 inch long parallel horns on both males and females. So little is known about this mysterious creature, that we don't even know their overall population! Conservation experts have estimated that there may be as many as a few hundred, or maybe only a few dozen. Their status has been classified as critically endangered ever since they were first discovered. They can easily get stressed and die in captivity, so conservationists find it hard to protect them and increase the population.

Support the Saolas to make a comeback! Help today!
To learn more, go to: <https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/saola>



SPORTS

Track and Field

by Ethan B.

Track season has begun with 15 students from 5th-8th grade participating. Track and field offers students the option to compete in a variety of events: shot put, discus, hurdles, high jump, long jump, triple jump, 100 meter run, 200 meter run, 400 meter run, 800 meter run, and 1600 meter run which is a whole mile. Relay runs are also an option in which four athletes take turns running a race together.

The track season began after spring break with athletes practicing at Word of Life and also once a week at Lutheran South to use the track and jumping pits. Athletes competed in their first meet, the Green Park Relays, on April 21st at Lutheran South. The Word of Life team paired with the Salem, Affton team and performed very well.

Green Park Relay Highlights:

Senior Boys: 1st place in long jump, 3rd place in the 4X200, 3rd place in shot put

Senior Girls: 2nd in long jump, 2nd in shot put, 2nd in distance medley, 2nd in sprint medley, 3rd in discus, 3rd in the 4X100,

Junior Boys: 1st place in discus, 1st place in triple jump, 1st place in long jump

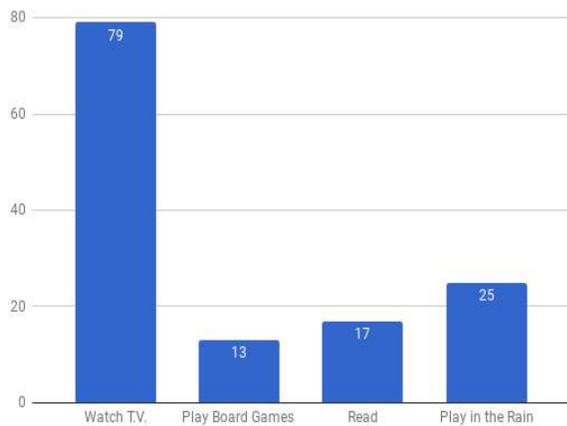
Junior Girls: 2nd place in long jump, 3rd place in high jump, 3rd place in shot put, 3rd place in triple jump

Cougar Contests *by Aria T.*

When we think of rain, we normally think of dreary and depressing. However, the rain can be beautiful too. The contest for this month is to make a watercolor painting of rain or a rainy day. Your painting can be abstract or concrete. Remember to be creative and try your best!

Last month's contest was a success. All the Easter eggs were found on the first day! Congratulations to everyone who found the eggs, and thank you to everyone who participated. The student who found the golden egg was CJ in 8th grade. Thank you!

Favorite Spring Break Activity *by Aria T.*



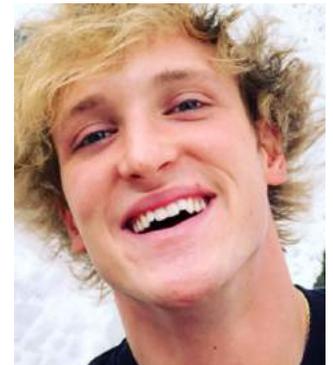
This month the survey question was, "What is your favorite thing to do during a rainy day?" My guess was that watching T.V. would win, and I was right! Watch T.V. won by a huge amount. Play board games, read, and play in the rain were all close with a small gap between them. Play in the rain got second, third was read, and play board games came in last. April can be a dreary month, but there are so many ways to make rainy days fun!

Celebrity Look-Alikes *by Gavin S.*

This month we picked two 8th graders who look like very popular celebrities. First off, we have Liam Rabun paired with Justin Bieber. Justin Bieber is a famous singer who wrote many songs that interest people all over the world. They have the same hair-style and color. They even have the same eye color and tall head. The only difference I can find is their noses! That is why Liam and Justin Bieber look like twins.



Gavin S., 8th grade



Logan Paul



Liam R., 8th grader



Justin Bieber

The next celebrity-look-alike pair is 8th grader, Gavin Schmidt, and Logan Paul. Logan is a YouTube star that came to global fame in a little over a year. He is a popular vlogger. Gavin and Logan both have long flowy hair that parts to the right. They also have a flat face and very similar personalities.

Movie Review *by Hawa*

Wow! It's almost the end of the year, and to welcome the new month there are brand new movies to watch. The new primary grade movie of the month is *Duck Duck Goose*. *Duck Duck Goose* is about a high-flying goose, Peng, who ends up injured while flying. He finds himself with two hilarious, adorable, but demanding ducklings all on a long journey south, making them closer than ever. *Duck Duck Goose* is rated PG and came out April 20, 2018, but can still be seen in theaters. It'll give you a good laugh and great family time, so you don't wanna miss it.

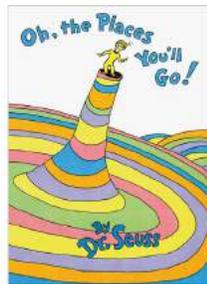


The new middle school movie review of the month is *Avengers: Infinity War*. This thrill-riding movie is about Iron Man, Thor, The Hulk, and the rest of the Avengers as they take on the most powerful villain yet, Thanos. Destined to collect all six of the Infinity stones, Thanos plans to use them, and force his twisted will on reality. The planet and existence rely on all the Avengers, and will have you on the edge of your seats, waiting to see what happens next. *Avengers: Infinity War* is rated PG-13 and premiered on April 23, 2018. It's still available to watch and enjoy, so you don't wanna miss it. And if you thought Black Panther was good, then you'll think this one is AWESOME!

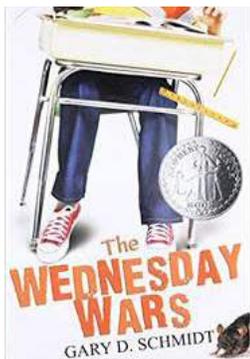


Book Review *by Winta K.*

The primary grade book for April is *Oh, The Places You'll Go* by Dr. Seuss. This book is about how challenges and obstacles are thrown at us, but we should make the best out of any situation, and realize how much potential we have. This is a great uplifting book for those who enjoy reading stories that rhyme.



The middle school book for April is *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt. This book portrays a boy in his seventh grade year in 1967. The boy, Holling, is forced to stay with his dreaded teacher, Mrs. Baker, on Wednesday afternoons.



This young teen is faced with many challenges, yet finds the motivation to overcome. This is a historical fiction novel that is emotional, dramatic, and adventurous. *The Wednesday Wars* is sure to inspire its readers.

#2 Top Video Game: *Star Wars Galaxy of Heroes* *by Gavin S.*

This month our #2 Top Video Game of the Month is a mobile game called *Star Wars Galaxy of Heroes*. In this game you grow your collection of Star Wars characters to fight in a campaign or arena battles. There is almost every character from the Star Wars universe! To start off, you play levels on the different holo-tables and collect training droids, credits, ability materials, and much more. Every battle uses energy that replenishes over time. Everyday there are daily rewards and challenges you can participate in, each with different rewards. When you get to a high enough level, you can join a guild and take part in events with exclusive rewards, such as the Sith Triumvirate and earn characters' shards and gear for characters such as Darth Sion, Darth Nihilus, and Darth Traya. These characters are from the Old Republic Canon series. When you reach level 60, you unlock ships that some characters can pilot to fight in the ship arena holo-table. I personally like this game and play it almost everyday. I give this game a 5 out of 5 star rating. Download this game to rule the galaxy your way!



This Month in History

by Zoe W.

Whether we know it or not, the month of April is filled with many historical events that have affected our lives.

On April 4th, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was presiding in room 308 at Lorraine Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee when he was assassinated by James Earl Ray.

On April 12th, 1861, American history changed forever when the first shot of the Civil War was made at Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina.



On April 15th, 1865, four years after the start of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theater in Washington D.C.

On April 15th, 1912, a luxury steamboat called the Titanic struck an iceberg on its way to New York City and sank in the Atlantic Ocean.

On April 19th, 1775, tensions finally reached fever pitch between the American Colonists and the British when the first shots were made at the Battle of Lexington and Concord, marking the start of the American Revolution.

On April 30th, 1789 George Washington was sworn in as the first President of the United States at Federal Hall, in New York City.

Restaurant Review:

Snow Factory by Emily L.

Since the cold weather is finally coming to a close, spring and summer are probably on all of our minds. We think about our favorite things like swimming,



hanging out with friends and family, vacations, and ice cream. What better way to start off this warm season with some great ice cream! So for this month's review, we are going to look at the Snow Factory. Snow Factory is known for its famous rolled ice cream! Located at the Delmar Loop, Downtown St. Louis, and in multiple malls, they are fairly easy to get to. The Snow Factory has a wide selection of sweet and even salty ice cream. You have the option to choose one of their ice cream concoctions on the menu, or you can make your very own! With multiple ice cream flavors, and their extensive list of toppings, you can make your ice cream as crazy and unique as you want it! One of their most iconic treats is the Dragon Breath SnowBalls. It is made with liquid nitrogen, so it looks like it's steaming, like dragon breath. When you put one in your mouth, "steam" starts to come out of your mouth and nose! Snow factory would definitely be a great place to try this spring and summer! To learn more about their locations and menu, go to: <https://www.snowfactorystl.com>

Recipe of the Month by Hawa P.

It's finally April, and that means two things, one month until school ends and springtime! So, to welcome the new season, the delicious recipe of the month is Banana S'mores Pancakes. Delicious! It's the perfect breakfast for beautiful spring weather or even on a rainy day. You can find this scrumptious recipe on www.foxnews.com. Have a wonderful spring and a delicious breakfast.

INGREDIENTS

PANCAKES

- 1/3 cup whole wheat pastry flour
- 2 graham crackers, crushed and separated
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 scoop vanilla protein powder (optional)*
- 1 modified flax egg (1/2 tablespoon ground flax+ 1 1/2 tablespoons warm water

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1/3 cup milk

2 tablespoons semi-sweet chocolate chips

CHOCOLATE-INFUSED MAPLE SYRUP

1/8 cup pure maple syrup

1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder

PREPARATION

Heat a non-stick skillet over medium heat and coat with cooking spray.

Prepare flax egg and allow to set.

Combine flour, baking powder, cinnamon, protein powder*, and 1/2 the graham cracker crumbs in a medium-sized bowl.



In a separate bowl, combine flax egg, vanilla, and milk.

Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir until all the flour is incorporated.

Fold in chocolate chips.

Spoon batter onto greased skillet (makes 3 small-medium pancakes) and allow to cook for approximately 4-5 minutes before flipping.

Cook an additional 2-3 minutes more before plating.

NOTE: *If you choose to use the protein powder, decrease the milk by 1-2 tablespoons.

CHOCOLATE-INFUSED MAPLE SYRUP

Whisk ingredients together until smooth.

Use as a topping for pancakes and ENJOY!

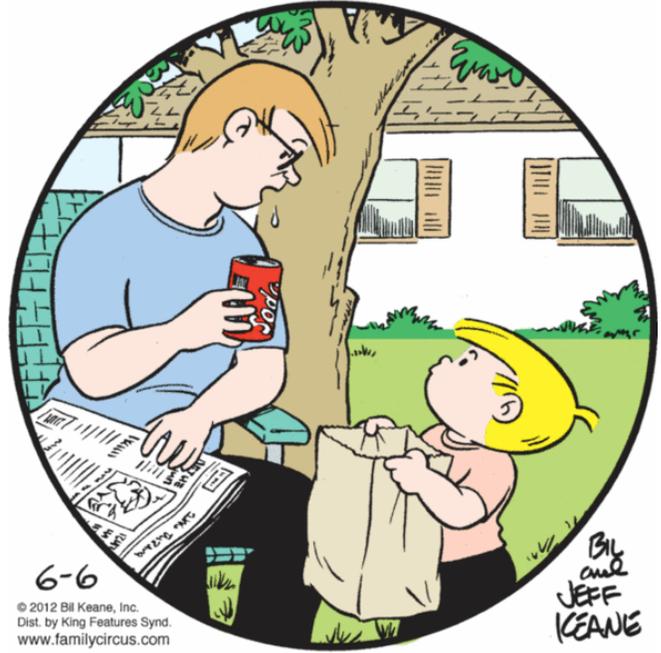
Birthdays

Emery O. 4/1
Mr. Dehn 4/3
Abraham W. 4/6
Abigail W. 4/8
Bella B. 4/9
Nathanael M. 4/10
Kidus C. 4/12
Alaya G. 4/14
Mrs. Bergholt 4/14
Ethan B. 4/16
Ivan A. 4/16
Mrs. O'Toole 4/17
Tina N. 4/22
Janet P. 4/22
Max K. 4/24
Eden D. 4/24
Aaliyah A. 4/25
Silvin N. 4/27
Olivia P. 4/29
Edward P. 4/29

Baptismal Birthdays

Samuel G.
CJ I.
Jack J.
Alex K. 4/1
James M. 4/7
Mrs. Tanurchis 4/11
Noah M. 4/11

Comic by Ethan B.

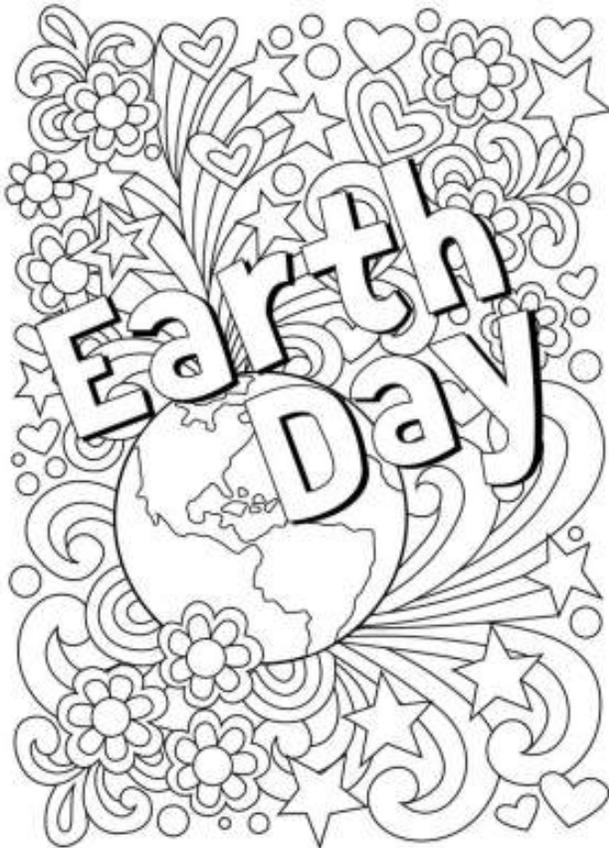


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“I know it’s important to recycle, but shouldn’t I finish drinking it first?”

Kids’ Page by Janet P.

Activity Page



Earth Day Scramble

1. lepatn _____
2. arthe _____
3. eosnac _____
4. ecuer _____
5. owrld _____
6. osli _____
7. yerclre _____
8. cegolyo _____
9. trunae _____
10. erets _____