

Specials Newsletter



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20-21 Theme: + Faith over Fear +

Mission Statement: Walking the path of Christ with love and service through a Catholic education.

Art

In art class, students have been creating AMAZING winter and Christmas themed paintings, collages and drawings! I have been putting the artwork online on the Artsonia website. Thanks to all that have went online to look at their child's artwork and/or purchase keepsake items! Shepherd of the Hills receives 20% whenever a parent orders a keepsake item on Artsonia, and so far we have raised \$28.61 to use for art supplies. If you are not on Artsonia, but would like to see your child's artwork, please send me an email at hcoughlin@sothparish.org with your name, your child's name and your preferred email, and I can help you get started!

After Christmas break, we will be switching gears in both the elementary and middle school from 2D projects to 3D projects. The students are super excited! In the elementary we will be creating plaster "old turtle" and "baby turtle" sculptures. In the middle school we will be creating clay "creature jars".

Below are pictures of some of the beautiful displays of artwork hanging in the hallways! Artworks were hung by middle school students: MaCenna Crofts, Ally Vercauteren, Claire Knowles, Carly Masarik, Riley Thornton, Addison Gantner & Julia Fidziukiewicz.



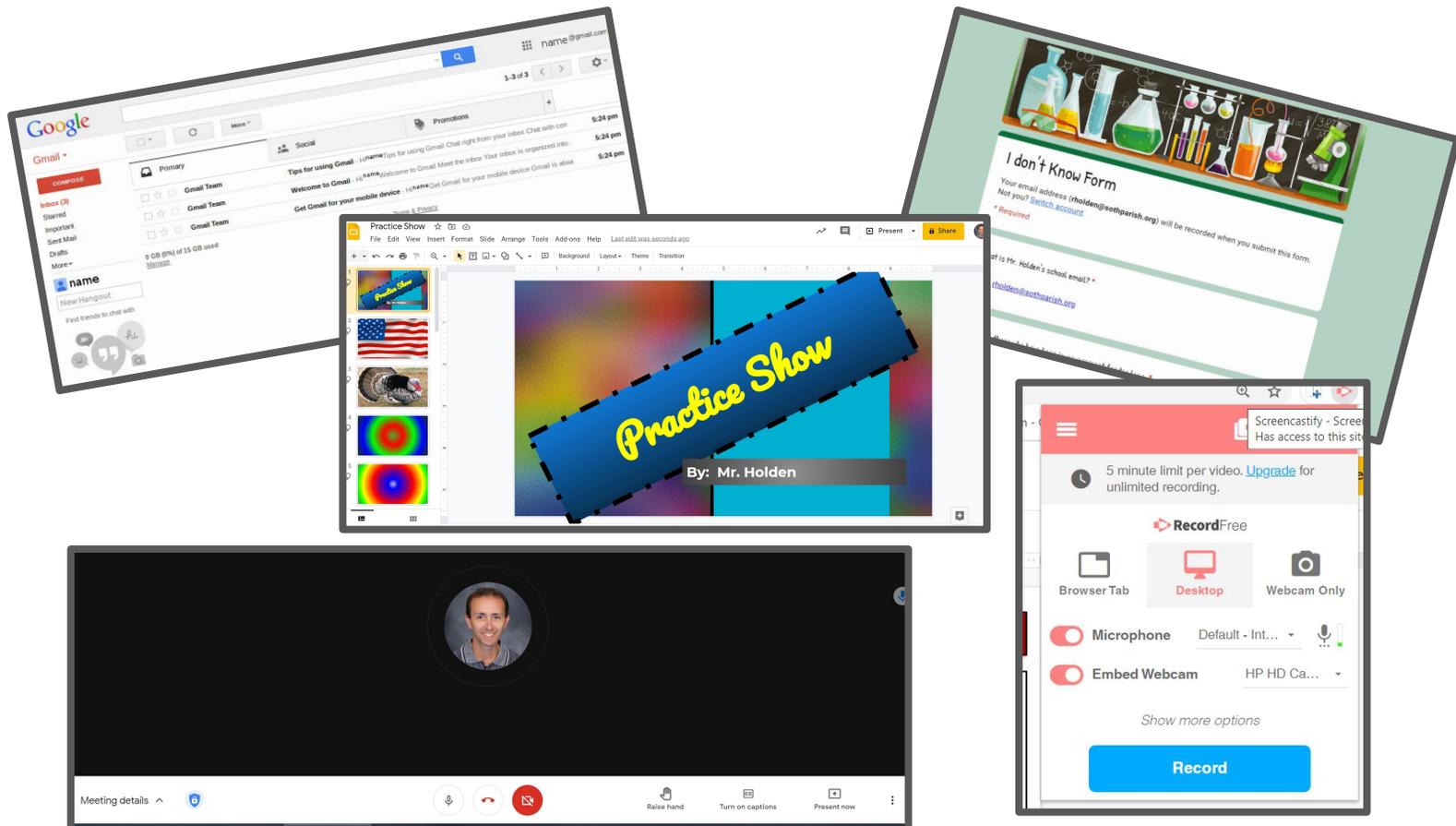
Phy. Ed.

In Phy. Ed class students worked very hard on building teamwork and basketball skills during the month of November. Older grades were able to grade themselves, and then see if Mrs. Bengel agreed with their self-assessment of their sportsmanship skills while practicing skills and playing in basketball games. Some of the 6th grade students had a shared class with the 5K and made a big impact on the younger students basketball skills and understanding of how to play a basketball game! Then we finished the month with a fun assembly highlighting some of our best basketball players in our school and the fundraising done by our school for the American Heart Association. It was great to have this sort of normalcy and excitement for our school! We have begun working on different striking skills involved with the sport of volleyball, and we are continuing to set fitness goals this month. We are thankful to have the opportunity to be in school exercising together!



Technology

All SOTH classes have continued to work on apps that would possibly be used if we were to have to go to virtual learning. *In the past month students in all grades have been working with Google Docs and Google Slides. Currently they are all working on a Google Slide Presentation.* Grades 4 - 8 have learned how to make videos using Screencastify, and also how to use Chrome Remote Desktop in case they have issues at home with their school chromebook I can then remote into their Chromebooks and troubleshoot the problem. *All levels learned how to use Gmail for emailing. If we were to go virtual all students should check their school email at least once a day in addition to checking Google Classroom.* We have had a number of discussions on proper etiquette during Google Meets. *If we have to go virtual this year the classes will be more structured so more learning can take place, so we need to follow proper protocol when in a Google Meeting.* *Kindergarten class has been different from the rest as they have mainly doing activities to improve their mouse / computer basic skills.*



Spanish

We've been having fun in Spanish class learning to sing traditional Christmas carols like Silent Night and Oh Come Oh Come Emmanuel in Spanish while also learning about Christmas traditions in Mexico. Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade have learned Cascabeles! (Jingle Bells). All grades have also been continuing learning more and more vocabulary and have written paragraphs completely in Spanish about their families. 6th 7th and 8th graders have also been learning more Spanish grammatical structures. Soon they will be reading some short stories completely in Spanish. Everyone's Spanish language skills are truly expanding and I'm so pleased with the progress they are all making!



Music

I'm SO proud of all of our talented students for their awesome performances in our virtual Christmas Concert! Even though they sang while wearing masks, I am SO thankful and pleased that our students/your children had the opportunity to perform. I hope you enjoy viewing it together, as a family. Also, once again, Shepherd of the Hills will participate in the Sunny 97.7 radio song contest, Christmas Idol. Please watch the school newsletter for further information, regarding how and when you will be able to vote online for Shepherd of the Hills.

