

Dolphin Tales

Our school newspaper is created by kids, for kids!

Volume III, November Issue, 2021

Welcome to Our New Head of Saint Matthews

Written by Henry Bourgeois (6th grader)



Although Mr. Tom Soudelier is new to Saint Matthew's, when it comes to being the Head of School, he is by all means a seasoned veteran. He has been the man with the plan for schools for over 25 years, including Genesis Alternative High School and Houma Junior High.

As far as family goes, he has three wonderful adult children, two amazing grandchildren, and a pet Boston Bull Terrier named Max. Whenever he isn't busy working in one of the most time-consuming jobs ever, he loves to take his boat out fishing.

When I asked him what his favorite thing about being the Head of School he said, "Saint Mathews is a very unique school. We offer what I consider to be one of the finest educations in the community. We offer a great opportunity to our kids, so I think one of the things I've been most pleasantly surprised about is the quality of education and how wonderful the kids are."

He said our virtual school has improved by assigning a physical buddy for each virtual student to work with.

He is working on a multitude of school events coming back this year. First, was school pictures, Fishing Rodeo, and the mask mandate lifted.. He wants to see Art Under the Oaks return with the live auction. The 4H Mardi Gras Parade will also happen if the community decides to celebrate Mardi Gras.

In conclusion, Mr. Soudelier is dedicated to making this a great school year. As a work in progress, he wants our students to take part in activities on and off school campus.



Created & published by our
Advanced/Gifted
Learning Lab

LOOK



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DEAR DOLPHIN

Dear Dolphin is a great chance for kids like us to get our questions answered by other kids. Do you have a question? Just write it on a sheet of paper and put it in the *Dear Dolphin* box by Learning Lab, and who knows, your question might be in the next newspaper!

Dear Dolphin,

My family had to evacuate Houma for Hurricane Ida. When we got back after the storm, our home and yard had been damaged. In fact, it seems everywhere in town had some type of destruction! The adults all seem to be very concerned. This scares me. What should I do?

Signed,

Ida Know What to Do

Dear Ida Know What to Do,

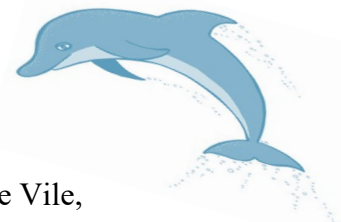
First, don't be afraid! Even though there was a lot of damage from the storm, your parents and the adults will do their best to fix it. They will hire contractors, people who cut trees, and people who specialize in storm clean-up to help. It will take some time, but you will see that everything will eventually be repaired and Houma will be like new again. You can help at home by picking up branches in the yard, helping to pick up debris, and having good behavior for your parents and teachers. Be brave, and say goodbye to your hurricane horror, because this will be okay!

Dolphin



Dear Dolphin,

My parents call me a picky eater. I love peanut butter sandwiches. I could eat a peanut butter sandwich three times a day and never get tired of peanut butter. If my mom asks me what I want to eat for a meal, my answer will be a peanut butter sandwich. My mom says I have to eat other foods, like fruits and vegetables, and it is not okay to live on peanut butter alone. What do you think?



Dear Vegetables are Vile,

You obviously have never experienced the blissful crunch of a cucumber, the delightful chomp into an apple, or an amazing nibble on a carrot. I honestly feel sorry for you, but it's not too late! Close your eyes, and try as many different vegetables and fruits as you can. I'll bet you can find at least one that you enjoy and do not find vile. It's time to be daring and to experiment with those taste buds! And if you have to eat peanut butter, try it on an apple slice. It is delicious!

Dolphin



Dear Dolphin,

I have a new puppy. She is very active. She runs through the house as fast as she can, jumps on furniture, wrestles with my brothers, chews on the rug if we are not watching, sometimes has potty accidents, and likes to bark loudly when she gets really excited. My parents keep saying that she needs to become calmer in the house. What should I do? I really love my dog and want the best for her.

Signed,

The Frenzied Poodle

Dear Frenzied Poodle,

I can speak from firsthand experience. I, too, am the owner of a frenzied poodle. Trust me that it gets better as your puppy gets older, but here are some of the things I did with my puppy to help her learn better behavior. First, I watched some dog-training videos on the computer, and found that with food as motivation, my poodle was a dog-treat valedictorian. She could learn tricks for treats very quickly, and enjoyed the challenge. As a baby, it took some time to potty train her. I brought her to the same spot over and over until she understood that was where she was supposed to go. I even trained her to ring a little doggie doorbell when she needs to go potty, so she can tell us when she has to go to the bathroom. The most important thing that I learned is when I act wild and excited, she acts wild and excited. When I am calm, she is calm. She is not perfect after all of our work, but no one ever is! I hope this helps!

Dolphin



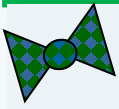
Happy Thanksgiving from our *Primary School*



Saint Matthew's Blessing of the Animals

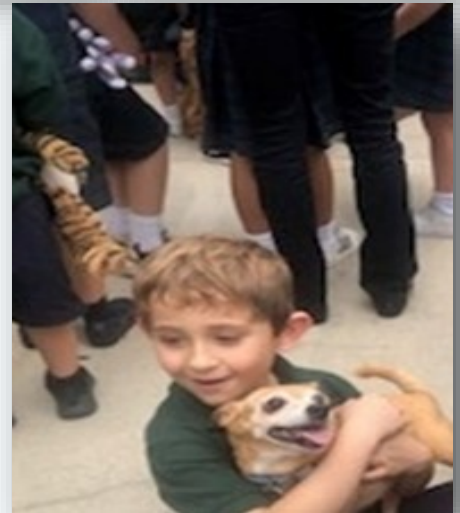
by Sarah Joseph (2nd Grader) and Molly Diebold (4th Grader)





Saint Matthew's Blessing of the Animals

by Sarah Joseph (2nd Grader) and Molly Diebold (4th Grader)



St. Matthew's Thanksgiving Balloon Parade 2nd & 3rd Graders



More Blessing of the Animals

Student Spotlights

Avery Leonard

1st Grader

Written by Chris Vyas (3rd grader)

Avery Leonard is a 1st grade student at St. Matthews. She is six years old. Her birthday is coming up in January. She has two brothers, Aidan Leonard (6th grade) and Andrew Leonard (minnows), who also go to our school. Avery has two pet cats and their names are Lulu and Izzy. Her favorite subject in school is math because she likes to solve equations. She is in a cheerleading club at Vanderbilt. She also likes to play tennis and hide and go seek in her spare time. She would like to be a gymnastics teacher when she grows up. Her favorite holiday is Christmas.



Corynn Songy

2nd Grader

Written by Sarah Joseph (2nd grader)

Corynn is our 2nd grade student spotlight. She has one older brother named Hayden. In her spare time she says she likes to play with her friends. Her favorite subject in school is science. I like science because it is fun to learn about how things work. At home she has a Siberian Husky pet named Moxie. I asked her what she wants to be when she grows up and she said she wants to be an artist because she likes to draw a lot. She says she also likes to paint. She also likes art class and she is making a bracelet with string beads and a needle.



Ashton Woodfork

3rd Grader

Written by Sidney Siddon (4th grader)

After school, Ashton Woodfork says he likes to wrestle with his brothers Aiden and Austin. He also plays many different sports. He plays on a soccer team, a football team, and he is also on a swimming team. He also enjoys taking tennis lessons. He said out of all the sports he plays, football is his favorite sport. At home he has an English Bulldog named Bijou. His favorite subject in school is grammar. He is also on the chess club at school. He said he really likes when they play games in PE, especially on free play days.



Student Spotlights

Jackson Portier

4th Grader

Written by Sidney Siddon (4th grader)

Jackson likes to play with his little brother Everette Goldman after school. Two of his favorite sports are baseball and karate. When asked what his favorite subject is in school Jackson said, "Of course, art!" He likes art because he said he can be creative and make anything he wants. He really likes to paint, and right now he and his classmates are weaving palm leaves into baskets and hand stitching them.

When I asked him what he wanted to be when he grows up he said a cop, because he really likes to help people. He knows that cops are trained to help people who are in trouble or who are hurt. So one day he would like to help



Logan Landry

5th Grader

Written by Rowan Dardar (5th grader)

Logan likes to play video games in his spare time. One of his favorite sports is boxing and he takes lessons once a week. He likes to box because it is fun and he says it is a good workout. He has a dog named Finn who likes to play with his toys. Logan also likes to go outside and throw the football with his friends. His favorite subject in school is history. When he grows up he would like to join the Air-force and he already knows the type of plane he would like to fly which is the A10 Warhog. He said this plane is considered invincible against enemy forces.



Kara Price

6th Grader

Written by Aarav Bhat (7th grader)

Kara Price is our 6th grader student spotlight. In her spare time she likes to play basketball for fun. She has one sister named Kenna who also attends Saint Matthews. In case you didn't know, Kara and Kenna are twins. Kara is the oldest twin and was born before her sister. I asked her what are some fun things about having a twin sister and she said everything! She has four pets named, Si', Dottie, Blueberry, and Rosie. Kara's favorite subject is spelling. Her favorite sport is to go horse riding.



Student Spotlights

Makiya Bingham

7th Grader

Written by Aarav Bhat (7th grader)

Makiya Bingham is a 7th grader who is new to Saint Matthews. When asked what she likes to do for fun she said she enjoys spending time with her friends and laughing. In her spare time she said she likes to play volleyball. She has 2 pet dogs at home named Bear and Coco. When she grows up, she said she would really like to work for NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) and experience zero gravity. Her favorite subject in school is social studies. Makiya wants everyone to know that you should always be yourself.



Hurricane Ida Mural

Written by Aiden Woodfork 6th Grader

A mural was put up in Downtown Houma a few weeks ago after Hurricane Ida. It is near the corner of Barataria Avenue and Main Street. Amanda Percle-Stevens and Chris Stevens installed it there for everyone to see. The mural features the words **commUNITY** in bold letters. It is also painted to look like puzzle pieces to symbolize the residents of Houma uniting after Hurricane Ida. The 18 by 20 feet mural took several days to paint and then display. The panels were donated by Parish Councilman John Amedee, and State Representative Beryl Amedee.



Ms. Caroline Haydel PreK-3 Teacher

Written by Ashton Woodfork (3rd Grader)

Ms. Caroline Haydel is our new PreK-3 teacher. She loves teaching the three year olds and watching how they grow and learn. They have fun dancing, singing, and doing artwork, while learning how to play and work with classmates. The learning centers include writing, math, kitchen, building, and reading/iPad centers. She said that she loves her class so much and can't wait to watch them learn and grow.

Ms. Caroline has two dogs named Daisy and Lucy. Her hobbies are running, swimming, and baby sitting. Some of her spare time projects are church, spending time with family, and going on vacation.



Ms. Becky Pitre 2nd Grade Teacher

Written by Molly Diebold (4th Grader)

Mrs. Becky Pitre is the 2nd grade teacher of Saint Matthews Episcopal School. She has a dog named China. She also has a fish named Bluedash. She has a son named Brenon. Brenon is 22 years old. When I asked her what she does in her spare time, she said that she likes to do some at home projects and she likes to make graphic designs because she used to be a graphic designer.

She always says for her students to replace "can't" with "try". Her students like playing a fun game called Kahoot. When I asked what she liked about teaching second grade, she said that she loves the kids she teaches. She also said that her kids love what she teaches.



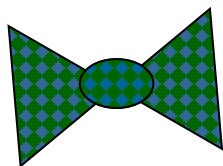
Ms. Angelle Boudreaux 5th, 6th, 7th Grade ELA Teacher

Written by (Grader)

Ms. Angelle Boudreaux enjoys teaching the Upper School students because of the joy she receives when her students accomplish a goal. She loves helping her students while sharing her love of reading. Her students especially like the games she uses to help them review for upcoming tests. Her students just finished writing a personal narrative in which they learned to use MLA format, and show off their writing skills. She said she's thrilled about the privilege to teach her students!

Some of her hobbies include reading books, fishing, and relaxing with her two dogs, Radar and Compass. She is currently renovating her house in Bourg and she is a native of Louisiana. She is an English graduate of NSU.





SCHOOL CLUBS



Chess Club Checkers Club

Written by Aiden Woodfork 6th Grader

Students at Saint Matthews are starting up our chess club again at lunch recess each week. Students in grades 3-7 may sign up to be in this club. Our 1st & 2nd graders signed up last week and began the checkers club. This is a great way to learn chess or checkers and to practice your chess strategies. This is what the chess board looks like.

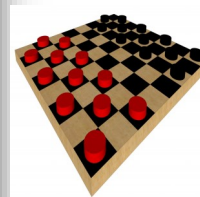


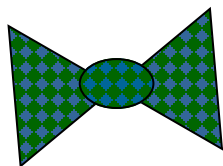
These clubs are sponsored by the Advanced/Gifted Learning Lab students and Ms. RuRu. We are also in need of borrowing a few more chess boards and some checkers games. We promise to return them at the end of the year.

Checkmate!

Checkers Club

Photos taken by Robyn Winslow





SCHOOL CLUBS



4H Club

Written by Molly Diebold (4th grader)



Our Saint Matthew's 4H Club has started and Mrs. Angela Prejean is our school sponsor. 4H is a club organized to teach children how to help within their communities through service and introduce them to new skills. The club has many parish-wide events that students can participate in such as cookeries and craft contests.

Some of 4H's biggest contests are coming in the spring on a day called "Achievement Day." On that day, 4H members can organize song presentations, create scrapbooks of the school year's events, or even take a test on agriculture.

Mrs. Prejean says the next 4H club meeting will be after school on:

Date: Wednesday, December 8th

Time: 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

Room: Mrs. Prejean's Room

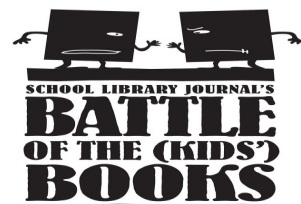


I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking
My HEART to greater loyalty,
My HANDS to larger service, and
My HEALTH to better living,
for my club, my community, my country and my world.

Battle of the Books

Written by Aarav Bhat (7th grader)

Battle of the Books is a trivia type of competition that is sponsored by the Terrebonne Parish Public Library and The Friends of the Library.



Teams are required to read 10 books. In the spring we start with school battles then move up to area battles. Only 5th—7th graders can compete.

Our Saint Matthew's team members this year are:

- ♦ Aarav Bhat
- ♦ Carolyn Boes
- ♦ Arya Bhat
- ♦ Rowan Dardar
- ♦ Brooklyn Williams
- ♦ Aiden Woodfork

Our team will be competing with other schools around the parish. We plan to come home with winning ribbons, just as our school has done since this battle began. Contact Ms. RuRu if you would like to sign up.

Here is the list of the 10 novels our team is reading and studying.

1. *Last Kids on Earth*
2. *Strange Case of Origami Yoda*
3. *Esperanza Rising*
4. *When You See Me*
5. *A Long Walk to Water*
6. *I Funny TV: A Middle School Story*
7. *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*
8. *Gregor the Overlander*
9. *The Fourteenth Goldfish*
10. *I Survived the Destruction of Pompeii AD 79*



Trivia Around the World

Written by Aiden Woodfork (6th grader)



Did you know?

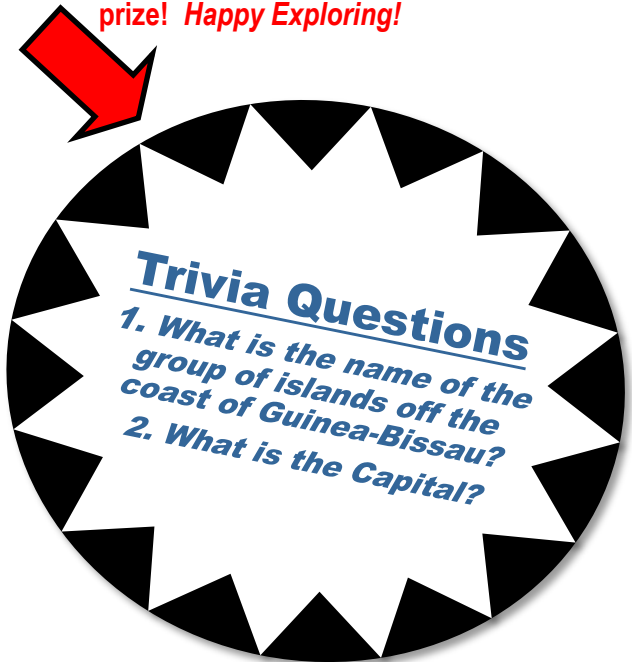
The country of Guinea-Bissau (not Guinea-Conakry) is in Western Africa. The main language of the country is Portuguese. Guinea-Bissau was explored in the 1400s and became a colony of Portugal in 1588 along with Cape Verde. In the late 1950s the PAIGC (African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde) under Amílcar Cabral started a war of independence that lasted for 11 years. About a few decades after independence the country went into a civil war. After the civil war, the country elected a new president on Feb. 21, 2020. Guinea-Bissau mostly exports cashews. Some sights are rare saltwater hippos off Orango Island, the Old Presidential Palace and the Statue of Amílcar Cabral. Make sure to answer the trivia questions WITHOUT the Internet and the first 3 people get a prize. Happy Exploring!

Trivia Questions:

1. What is the name of the group of islands off the coast of Guinea-Bissau?
2. What is the Capital of the country?

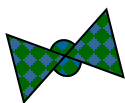
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Win a Prize! Write your name & answers on a sheet of paper and put it in the bowl next to Learning Lab. The first 3 students with the correct answer win a prize! Happy Exploring!



Guinea-Bissau is bordered by Guinea, and Senegal
On the continent of Africa.





Gifted & Advanced Learning Lab Program

Written by our Gifted & Advanced Students

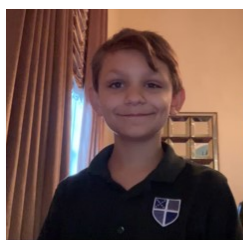


Our team's serious "business" side.



Our team's fun-filled "silly" side.

Pictured left to right is our Gifted & Advanced Learning Lab team: Sarah Joseph (2nd), William Lane (2nd), Ashton Woodfork (3rd), Molly Diebold (4th), Sidney Siddon (4th), Rowan Dardar (5th), Henry Bourgeois (6th), Aiden Woodfork (6th), Aarav Bhat (7th).



Pictured left is team member Christopher Vyas (3rd grader)

Our Motto...
Created by kids, for kids!

Hello! We are students in a program at Saint Matthew's called Gifted and Advanced Learning Lab. One of our projects is to write & publish our school newspaper Dolphin Tales. Since this newspaper is completely created, written, and designed by kids, our motto is, "**created by kids, for kids!**"

During our creation of this edition of the newspaper, listed below are some skills we practiced and learned:

- ◆ Brainstorm ideas
- ◆ Make schedules & assign jobs
- ◆ Write interview questions
- ◆ Interview kids & adults
- ◆ Make & meet deadlines
- ◆ Write creatively

- ◆ Write, proofread, & edit our articles
- ◆ Troubleshoot problems
- ◆ Type our own articles into a Publisher document
- ◆ Take pictures, crop, then insert into Publisher document
- ◆ Organize & layout each page
- ◆ Have Fun and Enjoy the Process!!!

Our team hopes you enjoy this issue and enter the different contests. Remember we are always looking for **creative kids**, so if you would like to be a free-lance writer or an artist for our next newspaper. Remember, just let one of the team members or contact Ms. RuRu .

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆



FUN PAGE



Hi! Welcome to my fall fun page. I hope you enter the pumpkin counting contest, color the turkey, and find the Thanksgiving words. Thanks!

Written by Sarah Joseph (2nd grade)

Find and circle the words below.

n	w	c	f	p	f
m	b	o	r	i	p
t	u	r	k	e	y
v	o	n	g	o	w
l	e	a	f	s	e
g	r	t	l	t	r



turkey



leaf



corn



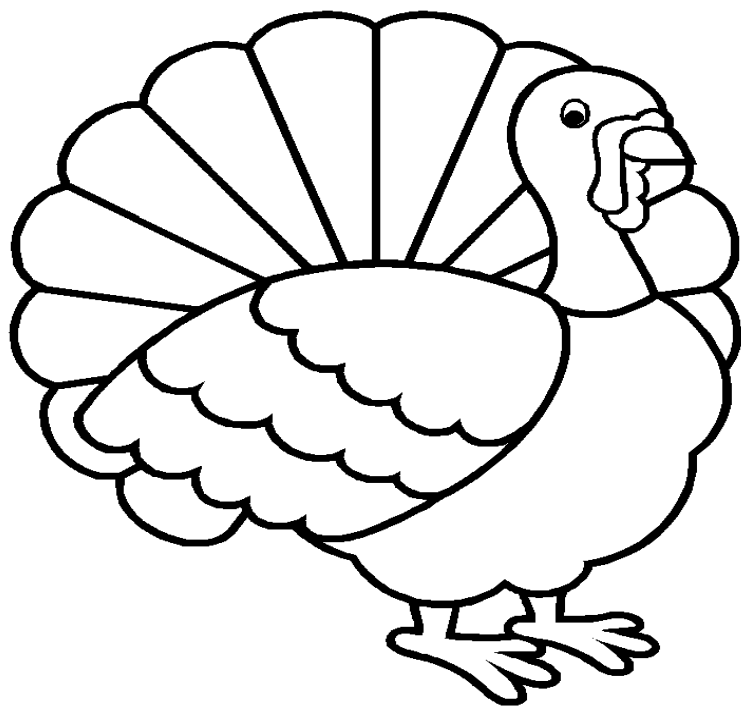
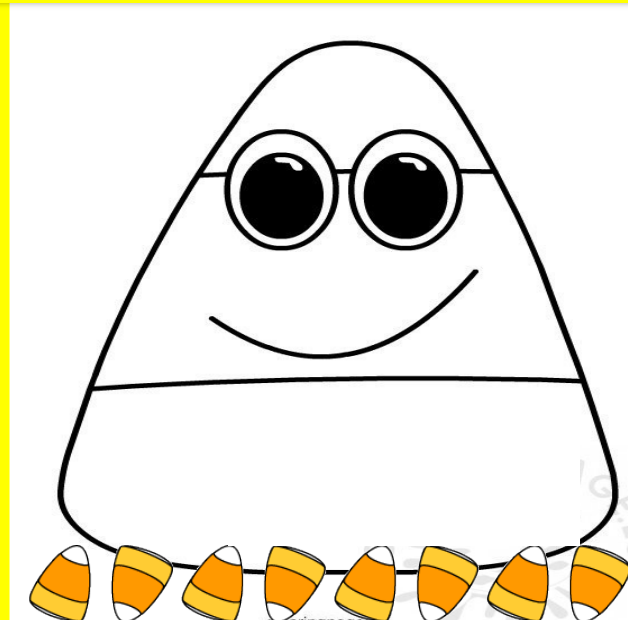
pie

Contest

Count the pumpkins in this picture and write the number and your name on the back of this picture. Then, cut out the picture and put it in the orange bowl in Learning Lab. The first 3 students who guess closest to the number, will win a candy prize. Happy Counting!



Color the Candy Corn





FUN PAGE

Hi, welcome to our Thanksgiving fun page. We are Molly Diebold and Sidney Siddon 4th graders. We are responsible for the fun page for the upper school students. We hope you enjoy finding the ten differences and enter the contest!

Thanksgiving

Can you find the 10 differences?



Remember to write your 10 answers on this page and put it in the learning lab bowl to win a prize.

Contest

Find the 10 differences in these two pictures. Then write your name and list those 10 differences on the form below. Cut out the form and remember to put your answers in the orange bowl by Learning Lab. The first 3 winners will win a candy prize.

GOOD LUCK!

The 10 differences I found are below.

Name _____ Grade _____

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.