



St. Elizabeth Nursery & Montessori School

DECEMBER 2023 EVENTS & ALUMNI NEWS

DEC. 1

First Friday
Mass

DEC. 13

Elementary
Christmas
Concert

DEC. 9

Early Childhood
Christmas Play

Wednesday, Dec. 20

Christmas Party
Santa's Visit

**St. Ludovico
of Casoria**



- St. Ludovico loved St. Francis of Assisi.
- St. Ludovico founded many charitable institutions.
- In less than two years, St. Ludovico educated thousands of orphans, African and poor children.
- St. Ludovico used his family's home as an asylum for the needy.

St. E's Star

Having fun....!

Montessori D

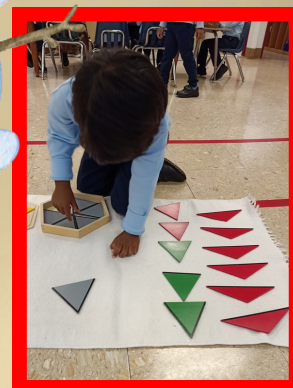
The teachers of Mont. D class are
Sr. Jane Rose, Sr. Kristina, and Ms. Anjana.



WORKING TOGETHER...

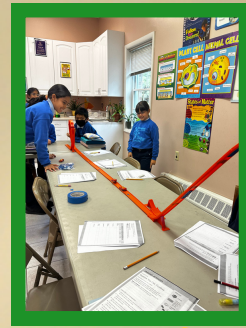


Morning
Montessori
activities



St. E's Star

Grade 4



Christmas Play Early Childhood

St. Elizabeth Early Childhood Classes presented The Christmas Shows on Saturday, December 9th, 2023. There were two shows; one at 9 am and one at 1 pm. The Christmas shows both in the morning and afternoon were amazing. Each show retold the story of the birth of Jesus Christ.

The shows were directed by the Franciscan Sisters of St. Elizabeth and assisted by the teachers. The main characters for the shows were students from the kindergarten and pre-kindergarten classes/groups of students.

The practice for these both shows started sometime in the month of October. Gradually, the students memorized their lines and said them without the help of the sisters and teachers.

The beginning of the play was soothing and when the nut-crackers and the other characters came onto the stage the music was exciting and fun to watch. The dancing was amazing! Our favorite part was when the nut-crackers formed a circle, walked slowly, and stuck their hands out. The Angel Gabriel and Blessed Mary sang beautifully and we think it was good enough to put it on STAR 99.1.

The characters performed very well and we think we all can agree on that! It was great and exciting to listen to such great music and acting. We felt as if we were in Bethlehem 2000 years ago. Thank you students, sisters and teachers of Mont. K, Mont. A, Mont. B, Mont. C, Trad. K, Nursery, Pre-K, and Mont. D.

Merry Christmas !

Thank you, Marcella for giving us ideas and Danika for editing this article and also to Sr. Theresia for guiding us through this.



Nailah Wilson & Gianna Zacharia

**Christmas
Segment**



Christmas Concert Elementary

The sisters and teachers at Saint E's have been working very hard to create this wonderful show, to practice public speaking, singing in front of others, and most importantly for our spectacular parents who sacrifice everything they do for us!

The play starts in the attic, when ornaments are getting ready to be put out on display again. Angela the angel feels vibrations and tells Bethlehem. Frosty is always stored on his back and can never get up. Angela and Beth help him up and get ready to look perfect for the next tree when they will be on display. There is a new Hula girl that the others do not think belongs. She thinks Christmas is about celebrating happy times. The Hula girl is lended things to "bundle up" but does not think she needs to just to have a spot on the tree. Tex is like her, one of the "souvenir" ornaments. He comes to make her feel joyful and she ends up meeting all of the other souvenir ornaments, the sluggers from Philly, Lady Liberty from New York, the mice; Mickey and Minnie who came from Florida, and of course Santa from the North Pole! Joseph comes and tells them about Mary the Mother of Jesus, the Angel Gabriel, and of course the savior, our Lord Jesus Christ.

This concert is about the importance of the baby Jesus! It also helps everybody know and understand that no matter where we come from, what we look like, and what language we speak does not matter. All of us matter and we all have a place in God's heart.

Christmas is really just a big birthday party for Jesus! He died on the cross so that we can go to heaven.

-Carina Lehnes Grade 5



**Christmas
Segment**





Santa's Visit

Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year! (Just like the song) And...it is almost Christmas! Christmas is the celebration of the birthday of our Savior, Jesus Christ! We are waiting for Jesus. We were also waiting for someone special. He is Santa Claus! So, today Santa Claus came to our school St. Elizabeth. The whole school was so excited. The teachers put on lots of Christmas Carols like Santa Claus is Coming to Town, Jingle bells, and Deck the Halls, etc.

The moment has finally arrived! Santa came in with his awesome elves. We played music from the youngest grade (nursery class) to the highest grade (grade 6 class). He gave each of us a candy cane. They were the best candy cane we have tasted so far. Santa was nice and cool to all of us. Each class was given the opportunity to take pictures with Santa. That was the best moment!

Toward the end of the visit, we gave Santa a surprise. We sang and danced three songs from the two early childhood Christmas plays and one song from the elementary Christmas concert.

Thank you, Santa, for visiting us!



**Grade 3 students
Jing-Shun Chu
Christian Lehnies
Marcella Lee**

**Christmas
Segment**



**Christmas
Segment**





Hello everyone, our names are Finn Kelly and Maxwell Germosen. We will tell you about the Art classes we had in the month of November. In the classes, we learned Egyptian art. We worked on hieroglyphic words. Hieroglyphics is a writing system using symbols and pictures. We made plaques with our Hieroglyphic names on them. These are the Hieroglyphics, from Ancient Egypt.

We also worked on drawing the scarab beetle. The beetle is an ancient symbol in Egypt that represents resurrection. These took quite a bit of time to draw. We used crayons and colored pencils to draw the scarab. Ms. Donna gave us sharpies to outline the scarabs. We had a great time in art class this past month. We can't wait for our next lesson!



*Finn Kelly
&
Maxwell Germosen*



Academic Segment

Leaf Book Project



Hello My name is Arjun. I am a third grade student. I will be writing about the 3rd Grade's Leaf Book Project assigned by Sr. Theresia. The points below are the instructions Sr. Theresia gave us for our Leaf Book project.

- Collect leaves from at least 10 different trees (deciduous and coniferous trees)
- Glue the leaves in the book. You may use a binder, a folder, or a regular composition book. (Please be creative)
- Provide 3 - 5 facts about the leaves and the trees.

Everyone had their own ideas and followed what Sr. said on how to do it. A Lot of 3rd Graders had the same leaves, but they all provided different facts. Three people did American Beech with various facts. Most people used binders and folders. Some of us made their own books with paper and string. Over all, they were both decorative. The inside of every leaf book was different, not even a single one was the same! One of the 3rd graders hot glued their leaves to a paper with facts and stapled it into a folder. Another 3rd grader hot glued their leaves onto construction paper and wrote the facts on the bottom and slid the paper into a plastic covered slot from the folder. Then, when everyone finished presenting, Sr. Theresia displayed them by putting them on a table outside science lab for other students, teachers, and sisters and parents to see.



Arjun Mehta



Academic Segment

Leaf Book Project

Leaf 8

American holly

Fact 1: Common names are American holly, white holly, and Christmas holly.

Fact 2: The American holly is a species of holly.

Fact 3: It is native to the eastern and South-central United States.

Bonus Fact: The American holly could be colors blue or pink.

American Holly: The leaves that are shiny, leathery and typically have waxy undersides and the tree produces bright red berries.

The leaves are used to make holiday decorations like wreaths.

Eastern Redbud

The flowers grow up to 6 centimeters.

They can grow in full shade or sun.

American Redbud seeds which caught with the wind from the south.

They prefer the soil to be well-drained.

Some trees are wider than the height of the tree.

Maxwell's Leaf Book

Common name: Freeman maple, Freeman's maple

Botanical name: Acer x freemanii

Fun Facts:

- The Freeman maple is a naturally occurring hybrid maple that is a cross between red maple and silver maple.
- The Freeman maple tree is found in eastern North America.
- This tree is named after the man, Oliver M. Freeman, who first hybridized the red and silver maples in 1916.
- The Freeman's maple grows faster than the red maple and has a stronger branch structure than the silver maple.
- In the fall, the leaves of the Freeman maple turn a striking orange-red color.

WINGED SPINDLE

- The winged spindle tree, or winged euonymus (*E. alatus*), is often called **burning bush**.
- It is not native to North America and is considered an invasive species.
- The winged stems are utilized in Chinese and Korean traditional medicine for treating cancer and diabetes.
- This shrub grows to be up to 20ft tall often wider than taller.
- All parts of the plant are toxic by ingestion, causing severe discomfort!

Common names: Cherry birch, Sweet birch, Mahogany birch

Botanical name: Betula Lenta

Fun Facts:

- Betula lenta is a deciduous tree.
- This tree is native to eastern North America.
- The Sweet birch tree grows from 60 to 80 feet tall.
- Each individual birch tree has both male and female flowers.
- This tree is valued for its wood because it looks like mahogany. It is also a source of wintergreen oil.

Common name: English yew

Latin name: *Taxus baccata*

- English yew is a coniferous tree.
- This needled evergreen tree is the family of taxaceae.
- This tree can reach up to 60 feet tall and spread to 25 feet.
- English yew is non-flowering tree.
- It is native of Europe, Atlas Mountain, Asia Minor, and Caucasus.

Rhododendron Leaf

- Leaves range from less than 1/4 to almost three feet long,
- its deciduous
- the flowers can come in different colors
- is a large genus of flowering plants
- Most of them have showy flowers

Leaf 7

Common boxwood

Fact 1: Common names are Boxtree and Box

Fact 2: It is native to western and southern Europe, northwest Africa, and southwest Asia.

Fact 3: It is a type of Shrub.

Bonus fact: It is best to plant in Spring, Summer and Fall.

Common Boxwood:

It is an evergreen which means it keep it's leaves all year long

It is used a lot for landscaping and gardens because it adapts easily to different soils



Academic Segment

Rocks Cycle

How Rocks are Formed

Hi! My name is Arsh, I am a third grader. In science class, we learned how rocks are formed. First, pebbles, sand, and mud piled up at the bottom of rivers, lakes, and oceans. Then, they created sedimentary rocks. Once the rocks went through heating and pressure then they became metamorphic rocks. After metamorphic rocks melted and cooled, they became igneous rocks.

In one of our science classes, we had an activity where we used shredded crayons to see how rocks formed. We used shredded red crayons to represent mud, shredded white crayons to represent sand, and shredded green crayons to represent pebbles.

The shredded crayons of three different colors were put together. This showed how sedimentary rocks formed. When Sr. Theresia put pressure on the pile of shredded crayons, this showed how metamorphic rocks were formed. When this pile of shredded crayons was put on the heated plate, it melted and then cooled down. This process represent how igneous rocks were formed. This activity was very cool. We enjoyed it a lot.

Thank you fourth graders Manan and Ethan and my friends Christian, and Jing-Shuan for helping me write this article.



Arsh Arora



Academic Segment

FIRST THANKSGIVING

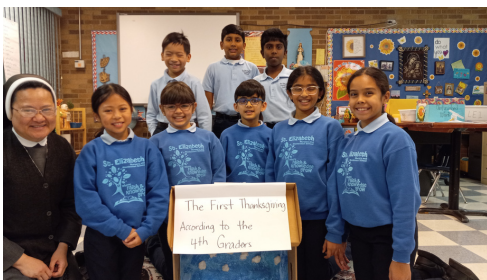
According to the Fourth Graders

During the month of November, we the fourth graders worked on a diorama of the First Thanksgiving to help us understand the origin of the holiday better. Sister Immaculata, our Social Studies teacher helped us gather the materials and information to create the project. We used a large box as our base. The boys created the background and people while the girls created food, foliage, and smaller details. We made little pilgrims together out of small packaging peanuts too.

Our supplies consisted of clay, packing peanuts, pinecones, art supplies, feathers, and other materials. We used clay for a turkey and drew some black marker over it to make it look like it was cooked and realistic. We had a tepee, trees, flowers, food, a fire, and stools. Our main centerpiece was a table with all of the original foods.

A tiny tablecloth made of tiny pieces of cloth on top of it as table cloth which was glued and sewed with toothpicks was placed on the table. In the background, we used foam stickers for flowers and trees. Each person had a different, helpful job to do. Keya was the leader of this project and made the table. While Aarav, Aditya, Timothy, and Joey Sam worked on the same thing. Alexandra created the cooking fire, wooden stools, and tablecloth. Valeria made mashed potatoes, and flowers, and Gabby made turkey, corn, and plates.

We learned from this project about the resources the pilgrims used and about Thanksgiving. This project turned out very well and helped us understand the first Thanksgiving. A special thanks to Sr. Immaculata for approving this providing us with the resources we needed for the project. Thank you for reading our article on the First Thanksgiving According to the 4th Graders.



4th Graders: Aarav Chauhan, Aditya Lanjewar, Alexandra D'Souza, Gabriella White, Joey Sam, Keya Bhuva, Timothy Quan, and Valeria Piedrahita.



FIRST FRIDAY MASS

Hello! My name is Massila and for this month's school newsletter, I am going to tell you about our first Friday Mass for the month of December. Father Charlie the assistant vocation director for Paterson Diocese came to celebrate the Mass. I could see he was nervous and excited to come to our school for the first time for Mass and was surprised to see all of us singing together.

The reading for the Mass was very complicated. It was about four beasts in a vision that the Prophet Daniel saw. The first was like a lion with an eagle's wings. In his vision, Daniel saw the wings being plucked off the lion. It was made to stand like a human and was given a mind like a human, the second was like a bear, and among the teeth in its mouth, it had three tusks. It was given the order "Up devour much flesh", the third beast was like a leopard, it had four wings like a bird and four heads, to this beast dominion was given.

After he had seen all three beasts he saw the fourth, it was different from them all. It was terrifying, horrible, and of extraordinary strength; it had great iron teeth with which it devoured and crushed, and what was left it trampled with its feet. Daniel was considering the ten horns it had on its head when suddenly another horn sprang up and three of the previous horns were torn away to make room for it. This horn had eyes like a man and a mouth that spoke arrogantly.

As Daniel watched, thrones were set up and the ancient one (who was God) took his throne. His clothing was snow white and his hair was as white as wool; when the horn spoke arrogant words it was thrown out and burned in the fire. He said God was the beast who had dominion.

Although the reading was not easy to understand, Fr. Charlie made it easy for us to understand. He told us that we belong to God.



Massila Wensuslaus
Grade 3

The "I" of St. Elizabeth



I am Ethan Gallagher. I am a fifth grader. I am ten years old and I have been here at St. E's since second grade. I was born on September twenty-third. My favorite color is blue, my favorite sport is soccer, and my favorite food is broccoli. A few of the classes I like are art, math, science and social studies. I play the piano and am learning to play the guitar. Over the years, I have learned many things from the sisters and teachers here at St. Elizabeth and hope to never forget it.

I am Daniel John and I am in 5th grade. I like to play soccer with my brother. Soccer is my favorite sport. My favorite school subject is PE and I play several fun games. I love school and wish I could stay here until 8th grade. I like all the sisters and I don't have a favorite sister because they are all nice and care so much about everybody in the school. My favorite part of the school year is having mass because I can worship God.

I am Carina Lehnese. I am in fifth grade. I was born on December 11. I like to play lacrosse. I have been at this school since 2nd grade. Over these four spectacular years I learned so much about what it means to be kind and to respect others. I love all the subjects at this school, and the teachers really brighten my day, but my favorite subjects are; reading, art, and science.

I am Dannika Thakar. I am ten years old and I am in fifth grade. I was born on December 20. I got my name because my parents wanted a name that has their letters in it. I have a three-year-old brother who also goes to the same school. I have been in St. Elizabeth for seven years.

My favorite hobbies are playing soccer, basketball, badminton, and chess. I also like to read books. Some of my favorites are Spy School and The Heroes of Olympus series. My favorite subject is math which is my favorite subject from a very young age. When I was three, I could do the four operations and a bit of fractions. When I was seven, I could do pre-algebra using variables. Now, I know most of the square roots to twenty and some of the cubes by memory. Also, I can explain the Pythagorean Theorem with an example in one minute.

Some words to describe me are determined, analytical, and aware. I am determined in anything I do, even small, unimportant things. Being analytical and aware was a gift from playing chess. I can scan my surroundings for any danger.



The "I" of St. Elizabeth



Hello...

I am Nuh Zaman. I go to St. Elizabeth nursery and Montessori School. I love gaming, playing outside with friends and running. I love cookies and cream, chocolate and vanilla ice cream. My favorite foods are pasta, pizza, and lobster. I live with my mom, two aunts and one uncle. I have a house in Pakistan and in the United States. One of my aunts live in Pakistan because she got married there and my grandparents live in Pakistan as well. I have two dogs in Pakistan well one is still being trained and one of them is very old we have had him for a long time.



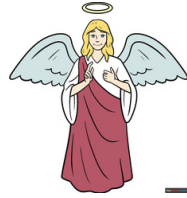
I am Cameron Marx. I am a fifth grader. My favorite class is technology because I like working with computers. My favorite foods consist of tacos, waffles, and cesar salad. My favorite sport is baseball although I have played many times. My favorite hobbies are riding a bike , playing sports and watching TV.

I am Shiv Tamilselvam. My favorite subject is science and I have liked reading science since I was five. Since I got a pair of eye glasses, I have become more in love with science. I love to do wrestling and my first tournament was on December 3 2023. I like this sport because it teaches willpower and resilience and it is a very active sport.





ALUMNI'S CORNER



Ashley Chen

Recently, I visited home in New Jersey for the first time in almost a year. One of the first places I stopped by was my old school, St. Elizabeth, where I was greeted with many familiar faces and asked to write for this month's newsletter. Touched by the request, I am honored to recount my journey since leaving the school and to share the lasting impact St. Elizabeth has had on me.

In 2005, I started at St. Elizabeth in Montessori C with Sr. Clare and Sr. Josephine. Little did I know that in the following 9 years through kindergarten, lower and upper elementary, I would meet so many wonderful people and learn so many valuable lessons that I still carry with me today as a senior in college. I found my love for learning at St. Elizabeth- I was encouraged to try my best, think outside of the box, and persevere. Not only did I gain a strong foundation in subjects like math and language arts, but also had the opportunity to explore clubs such as aviation and rocketry, soccer clinic, and art classes where I was free to express myself. And while I loved my classes and all the opportunities I was given, my experience would not have been the same without the kindness shown to me by all my teachers. Everyday, I was greeted with a smile and taught how to show love to others no matter what. I was taught the importance of values such as humility and compassion, which continue to be my guiding principles today.

After graduating from St. Elizabeth, I explored many subjects and extracurriculars at Assumption School for middle school and Morristown-Beard School for high school. Afterwards, I moved to California to attend UC Berkeley. With college graduation coming up, I hope to prepare for a career in the public health and healthcare world, and perhaps apply to optometry school in the future!

As I look to the next chapter of my life with an open mind and open heart, just as I was taught to do, I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to the teachers who played such a crucial role in fostering my curiosity and core values. I'm so grateful to have been a part of this community, and to call St. E's my second home.





ALUMNI'S CORNER



Sparkle

**Beautiful
Memories**



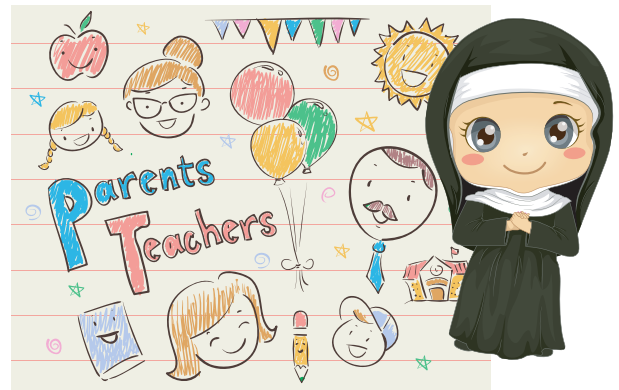


Upcoming EVENTS



First Friday Mass
January 5th, 2024
8:45 am

**Pre-Kindergarten Parents' Information Meeting
for Kindergarten**
Wednesday, January 17, 2024
7:30 pm



Kindergarten Parents' Information Meeting for Elementary
Thursday, January 18, 2024
7:30 pm



Sunday - Saturday
January 28 - February 3,
2023



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



General Public Open House
Sunday, January 28, 2024
1:30 - 4:00 pm





Find us at ...



Our Website





Merry Christmas



”The gifts of God are multiplied, and we in our time experience all that the first believers did. For though the gospel account tells us only of the days when three men, untaught by prophetic preaching or the testimonies of the Law, came from the distant East in order to know God, yet we see the same thing happening now even more clearly and on a far larger scale in the enlightenment of all who are called.”

- Leo the Great

