



St. Peter's School Newsletter



April 2025

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From The Principal's Desk



As we approach the celebration of the Resurrection we look back and forward to the happenings at St. Peter's School.

Congratulations to our students who received awards for their Pro-Life Essays. They participated in a writing contest sponsored by the Van Tassel Funeral Home of Bloomfield. Tamara Venegas was awarded third place and Emily Hernandez, Emily Tran and Angela Vu received Honorable Mention.

Our sixth grader and eighth graders gave a beautiful presentation of the Stations of the Cross accompanied by music provided by Mr. Allison.

We are looking forward to the end of the year with all its many activities.

Wishing everyone a Blessed and Happy Easter filled with joy and hope.

“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

John 20:29





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Pre-K Newsletter—MS. CARPENTER



Happy Easter!!! The weather is getting warmer and everything is growing.

Academically, we've almost completed the alphabet. We can all identify the letters and know the sounds. This month we reviewed Q, R, S, and T. Then we learned about U and V. We started working on the short O word family and practicing our beginning sounds. For Math, we've identified and counted numbers up to 20. We continued to practice graphing and talking about "More or Less". Our April themes were Spring, Easter, Lent, and Holy Week.

Easter has finally arrived. During the Lenten season we learned more about Jesus's life. We talked about Praying, Giving, and Fasting during Lent. Before break we learned all about Holy Week and Easter. Holy Week starts with Palm Sunday. Each day we focused on a Holy Week event, such as Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and celebrating Easter.

We also talked about the Easter Bunny and his job on Easter morning.

Don't forget to check our class website for class pictures and updates. Weekly news is also posted on the website. Wishing everyone a blessed Easter and enjoy your break!





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KINDERGARTEN - MS. O'SHEA



We've been learning so much during this season of Lent - not only academic lessons but life lessons as well.

As part of our Religion unit on Lent, students were asked to color flowers and every time they do something kind, they are able to color a leaf below the flower. They have really enjoyed this experience!

Spring is also a time of growth. In our Science book, we learned about how landscape architects change an environment to make it look nicer. We made houses and planted grass in front of them and we can't wait to see how the environment changes!

In Math, we are adding and subtracting numbers! It's been fun to see how confident we've become with these concepts!

Our Social Studies program is teaching us about where our food comes from. Ask us where eggs, milk, bacon and other foods come from!

We love reading our weekly readers and we hope you enjoy listening to our stories at home! We are also learning about short and long vowel sounds during our Phonics lessons!

Have a blessed Easter and enjoy your break!





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GRADE 1 - MS. RIENZI



The first graders have had a lot of fun reading and writing stories. They are learning to work independently and enjoy learning new sounds each week. They are on level 4 learning about all the animals in Green Fern Zoo.

In Math the children finish studying geometric solid shapes, counting vertices and identifying flat faces on each solid figure. We are counting coins and solving word problems. Adding and subtracting two-digit numbers help us understand groups of tens and ones. Relating coins and their values are presented to show the children that counting dimes and pennies is related to place value in a two-digit number. Working on counting coins and singing songs that relate to coin values help the children recall their value.

Our spelling words are challenging and the children are studying their words each day to prepare for our tests on Friday. In art class the children made rabbits, created giant tulips. and will soon make colorful butterflies.

Amelia Earhart, is another famous woman. For Women's History month we will be watching videos about her and the children will be writing about her to go along with their picture. We also discussed Mother Teresa and learned about her by reading quotes that she wrote for us to follow.

In science we are studying facts about insects, amphibians, birds, reptiles and mammals. We are looking at the animal's structure and learning how each group of animals live and grow.

We are so excited and happy for Sebastian who won the Zaner- Bloser Handwriting contest certificate this year for grade one.

Looking forward to the month of May in which we will pray the rosary and honor our Blessed Mother Mary.

Please send in glue sticks for art class, crayons, erasers and Crayola markers for your child. They do need to be replenished. We use them for art projects and daily work.



Best Wishes!





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GRADE 2– MRS. GABRIEL



Alleluia CHRIST is Risen!

The month of April is a month to rejoice. EASTER is the reason why we have joyful hearts. The second graders knew that because of Easter, we have a new hope in Christ. His resurrection brings us new life.

We are almost done with the academic year. In Religion we studied and learned about the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. The second graders will be receiving their First Communion this May, right after our Easter break. They are ready and very excited to receive Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist at St. Peter's church. In Mathematics, we are finishing Chapter 9, Regrouping Ones, Tens and Hundreds.

In Language Arts, we are on the Skills 5 book and learning Pronouns and Adjectives. In Social Studies we are finishing Chapter 5 Community and Heroes .

In Science, we are in Unit 3 Earth's Changing Landscape. And for our Art, we have various art projects with Spring themes. We also completed Easter projects for our bulletin boards and have some painting projects too.

Second graders Matthias Esguerra, Leonardo Gomez, Isabella Cabrera and Kayla Ramos were chosen to read their essay about a Hero this Wednesday, April 16, 2025.

Have a Holy and Blessed Easter to all.

From the Second Grade class.





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GRADE 3—MR. TALBAN



Hello everyone!

Christ is Risen. Happy Easter and let us all enjoy the Resurrection of the Lord during this month. The 3rd grade has a great understanding of the meaning and importance of Easter. They understand the right things to do and when to ask for forgiveness when they do something wrong.

In Religion class, 3rd grade is learning about the parts of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In mathematics, 3rd grade is learning about different shapes and measurements within those shapes. In grammar, 3rd grade is learning how to use negatives and pronouns in writing. For CKLA, we are learning about the solar system and facts about the planets. 3rd grade is eager to learn about the outer world around us while learning vocabulary words and spelling words.

For Social Studies, 3rd grade is learning about the explorers of the Americas and the Native Americans and how they impacted each other's way of living. For Science, 3rd grade is learning about the importance of ecosystems and how they affect the inhabitants of those ecosystems.

Best,
Mr. Talban





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GRADE 4—MR. MELENDEZ



Dear St. Peter's community,

With the weather becoming warmer and the beauty of the Resurrection becoming realized through the spring season, I am invigorated to bring the happiness of Easter to all the students in this last stride of the school year. In religion, the students are realizing the depths that the catholic faith offers. From the sacraments to the spiritual life, 4th grade is realizing that the depth of their souls holds a key to eternal life—a priceless gift.

In math, the 4th-grade class has been working hard with fractions. They have learned what a fraction is, how to find the lowest terms of a complex fraction, and how to compare fractions. With these new concepts, I am encouraged when the students bear with me and accept the challenge!

In science, 4th-grade is learning all about earthquakes and the aspects that create them. From seismic waves to learning what a seismologist does, it has been an exciting couple of weeks as we continue to learn about Earth's landforms and features.

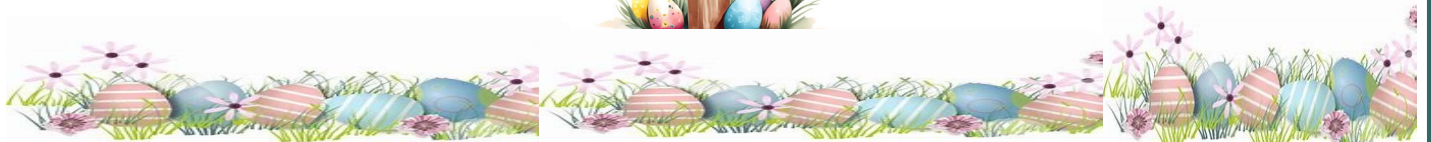
In Social Studies, the students have learned that managing the thoughts and opinions of individuals in a political setting is challenging. From in-class presidents, vice presidents, and legislative branch representatives, the students are having real-life experiences regarding compromises and conversations that mimic many discussions that adults in government are having right now!

Our 5th graders have been doing very well in their chapter of geometry! While this is a tricky subject for many, the students ended the chapter very strongly. I am glad to report that one of the best tests from the whole year has come out of these chapters! The classroom feels more confident and relaxed as the students are trusting their experience and knowledge of past skills to help them with current concepts.

In science, the 5th-grade students have taken a deep dive into concepts of chemistry that impact everyday lives. Learning first that life moves at the molecular level, with an understanding of elements and their many combinations, the students are now learning that chemistry is used to create man-made materials like nylon and plastics.

As we end the month, I want to wish you all a very Happy Easter! May the Lord accompany us on this way of everlasting life!

Yours in Christ,
Mr. Melendez





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GRADE 5—MRS. LEVAJAC

Christ has Risen! I hope everyone had a joyous Easter. It was pleasant to have a break, recuperate, and return to school rested. In the upcoming weeks, we have so much to look forward to.

Taco Night follows the Wax Museum on Friday, May 2nd

The Spring Concert is on Wednesday, May 7th

Field Day is Friday, May 9th

In early May students will also take part in the Spring MAP Growth Testing. Finally, our students will begin to prepare for Final Exams in mid-May. It is hard for me to believe that time is almost here.

The 5th grade has continued to discuss Lent and Holy Week this past month. They created sketches of The Stations of the Cross that we proudly displayed on our bulletin board. We have continued work with our novel, *Number the Stars* and should be completing this novel in the beginning of May. April was an important month in Language Arts, as we completed a chapter explaining prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections and proceeded into sentences. Last, in Social Studies, we have been working hard on preparing for the Wax Museum while still studying the British, Loyalists, and Patriots.

The 4th grade has also been working on their novel, *Dear Mr. Henshaw*. We are about halfway through, and I expect to finish in mid-May. The 4th grade wrapped up their very long chapter on verbs and will be working with adverbs and conjunctions next. I hope to have time for one last essay before the end of the year.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Wax Museum and Taco Night. I also want to wish all of our amazing mothers a very happy Mother's Day this month.

Mrs. Levajac





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GRADE 6– MRS. SISCO

Grade 6 students will be completing the novel *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. basil E. Frankweiler* in Literature. In the novel, work by Michaelangelo figured prominently so the children tried their hand at sculpting various items. They discovered that the task was not so easy (even though they used soap not marble!) and had a greater appreciation for the artist.

Science lessons incorporated a special project—Each student created a replica of an atom of a specific element.

Religion lessons celebrated the season of Lent and the Triduum. The students created their artistic renditions of the last days of Jesus.

Grade 7 completed their novel, *The Giver*. They have moved on to short stories and poems about the parts of cycling and boxing.

Grade 8 continue to read *The Diary of Anne Frank* in literature, a story of a young girl, their age, caught up in the Holocaust.

All three classes made original movie posters depicting their novels.

Grade 8 and Grade 6 presented the Stations of the Cross to the school accompanied by Mr. Allison. What a beautiful Presentation!

As Lent ends and we enter the Easter Season all are heading towards the end of a great school year.





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GRADE 7 - MRS. AWAD

Happy Easter!!!!

In Science, we have been learning all about our immune system and how our bodies fight diseases. We have been discussing both contagious and noncontagious diseases and how we can protect ourselves and those around us.

In Social Studies gr 7, we have started discussing life in the North and the South and how their economies were different. This chapter sets us up for the events leading up to the Civil War. We are also gearing up for our Wax Museum which will be held the week we return from break.

Grade 8 has just finished learning about the turn of the century. When we return from break, we will begin preparing for final exams. This year the 8th grade has asked for their chapter to be on WWI. We are looking forward to diving into this this time in history.

The 6th grade has just finished their chapter in Mesoamerica. When we return from break, we will be discussing the age of exploration and trade.

In religion the 7th graders most recently have been learning about Passion week and all that Christ went through for us as we prepare for Easter Sunday.

Wishing you all a Blessed Easter and a well-earned spring break.

Please remember Wax Museum projects are to be handed in the day we return from break with the official Wax Museum held that Friday.

Wishing you all well!

Mrs. T Awad





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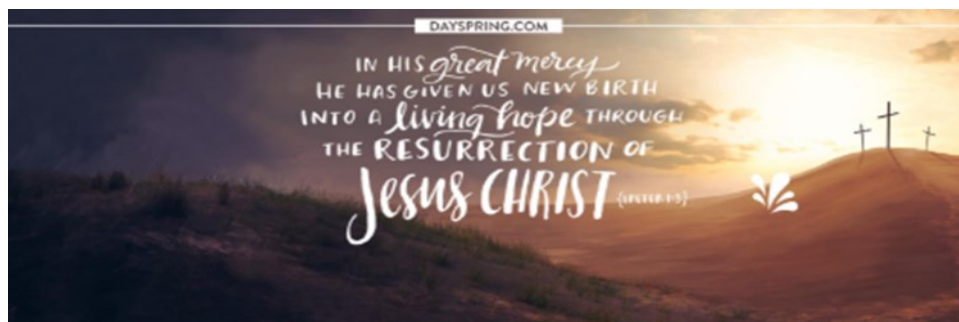
GRADE 8—MR. MATULAC



Advanced Happy Easter, everyone! I hope you will all have a reflective and restful Easter Break! Our Easter Break begins on the afternoon of April 17, 2025, Thursday until April 27, 2025, Sunday. Our classes resume on April 28, 2025, Monday. Let's get energized for the last two months of the school year! One final push before the Summer!

We are currently in Lesson 17-1: "What is the Solar system?" in [Science](#) 8, For Math 8, we are in Lesson 3-14: Problem-Solving Strategy: Guess and Test. In Religion 8, we are discussing the Triduum for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. In Art 8, we are finishing our Easter Concepts for the Bulletin Board.

For Math 6, we are in Lesson 6-9: Least Common Multiple, while in Math 7, we are in Lesson 5-11: Divide Mixed Numbers.





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SPANISH/COMPUTERS—MS. O'SHEA

Spanish

Our Kindergarteners are learning the Spanish alphabet and one word that goes with each letter every week! In Grades 1 and 2 we are learning how to identify clothing in Spanish!

Grade 3 can take you “around town” by identifying places in Spanish. The students in Grade 4 are doing an amazing job using their textbooks to help them tell time in Spanish.

Using Spanish vocabulary in conversation is very important and the 5th graders are doing an amazing job communicating with each other!

Grade 6-8 continue to conjugate verbs and integrate that skill with unit vocabulary. Grade 6 is also using the infinitive to create sentences. Grade 7 is using house vocabulary to tell what they “have” while Grade 8 is working on illnesses to tell what ailments someone may “have.”

Feliz Pascua a todos!

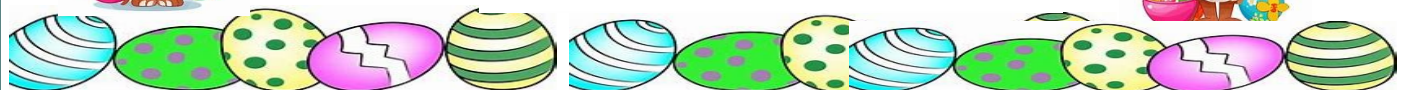
Computers

Math Baseball is a blast in Kindergarten as we integrate our Math skills with technology! Grades 1 and 2 are becoming expert typists!

Grades 3 and 4 are able to log into their Google accounts and they love getting a point on the SMART TV every time they log in without help! They are creating amazing documents and slide shows as well!

Grade 5 is learning how to create spreadsheets and charts. Our 6th graders are also creating slide shows but they are doing movie reviews in Google Slides! The 8th graders are using Google Sites to create web page memories of their years at St. Peter's!

Grade 7 took a deep dive into their own “digital footprints” and learned a lot about their place in cyberspace. It was fascinating to read their thoughts on how they use technology and the changes they should make regarding their personal screen time!





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MUSIC—MR. ALLISON



In music class we took time to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter. Traditionally, the Catholic Church has commemorated the events of Holy Week, primarily through the Liturgy; but through other means as well, such as the live reenacting of the Passion of the Lord, or through the musical compositions narrating the Passion.

We spent a class listening to excerpts of the major music masterworks in Christianity: George Friederick Handel's *Messiah*, and Johann Sebastian Bach's *St. Matthew's Passion*. The upper grades were shown the music score of the works, and were able to perceive the techniques used by the composers to obtain the emotional message of the music. All students were able to appreciate a little bit of the depth and intensity of these works, and the composer's deep faith through their music.

It is very important that all our students should be exposed to the overwhelming quality of music, particularly to the close relationship of classical music and Christianity. Most major composers were Catholic: Vivaldi, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Mahler, Verdi, and many others, that dedicated a big part of their work to their faith.

