



ST PETER ACADEMY

Office of the Principal
Monthly P.I.E. Memo | "Partners in Education"



It's Raining Hearts at St. Peter Academy!

The Day It Rained Hearts by Felicia Bond, is a children's book in which the main character, Cornelia Augustus, is caught in a rainstorm of hearts while walking to her house. She carefully collects whatever hearts she can carry and brings them home to carefully study each one. Cornelia's close observations led her to discover that every heart was unique and decided that each one should go to a specific friend. Once she determined which friend would receive a certain heart, she fashioned it into the perfect card that would surprise the person in the mail on Valentine's Day. The morale of the story is that Cornelia loved her friends very much, only to take the time and create a personalized experience for them that created lasting memories.

The personalized and memorable experience created by Cornelia is similarly lived out and enjoyed by many people in our community each day! Here are just some of the reasons why people love St. Peter Academy:

Ms. Brittney Robinson: "The community here feels like one big family. Everyone's so supportive and I never feel alone!"

Mrs. Doreen Brown: "The friendships you make here are second to none. I love when you walk through the supermarket aisles and hear recognizable voices excitedly calling your name – it's a great feeling!"

Ms. Katie Karalexis: "The small class sizes are great. I love how it allows me to get to know my kids, their siblings, parents, and even grandparents very well!"

Breanna, Grade 6: "I love the opportunity to serve and help others through book buddies and Marian Manor at St. Peter Academy is very rewarding."

Erica, Grade 3: "The school work is a lot of fun! I really love my classes! Mr. Hubert keeps things interesting!"

Lilianna, Grade 2: "All of the teachers and parents at St. Peter Academy really care about kids."

Ronan, Grade 1: "I love my friends and teacher! I have fun every day I'm with Mrs. Heseck!"

Annabelle, Grade K2: "I love the Reading Club at our school!"

A sincere thank you is extended to every member of our community who works hard in providing an exceptional, personalized, and memorable experience to our children every day! Undoubtedly, we don't need Cornelia Augustus to tell us that its "raining hearts" at St. Peter Academy all throughout the year!

Happy February!

Mr. Galligan

Mr. Frank Galligan
Principal

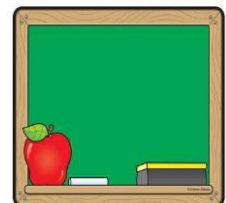


Open House Updates

The Winter Open House and our newest program, a "Teddy Bear Tea", for prospective Pre-Kindergarteners welcomed a combined total of **25 families** during the week of January 27th! These two initiatives introduced people to our wonderful faculty and many impressive facets of St. Peter Academy. Thank you to everyone who helped to make these events so worthwhile for those in attendance!

NEW Clear Touch Screen in Grade 2!

Miss Karalexis' second grade class is enjoying a new **Clear Touch Smart Screen** that was installed during the final week of January. Mounted onto a mobile stand, this latest technology piece provides students with differentiated instruction through videos, interactive games, and modernized alternatives to the traditional chalkboard. **We strive to install this feature into all of our classrooms in the near future.**





SPA Student Council

Mr. Galligan has been working with our two Student Council Executives, **Mairin (Grade 6)** and **Callan (Grade 5)** to unveil two new Academy features: **a student-run library and school supply store (“The S.P.A. Spot”)**! Classroom representatives from each grade have been providing insight into what they would like to see from these initiatives, while assisting with advertising and preparations for their opening. Stay tuned for additional details in the coming days regarding these exciting, student-led projects that undoubtedly elevate the St. Peter Academy experience!

Building Enhancements

We continue to make improvements to our building. From new, inviting **furniture** in our lobby and waiting spaces, to **framed photos of school events** throughout common areas of the Academy, we hope you enjoy these features that provide a **warm welcome** to visitors, families, and friends!



Re-Enrollment is underway for 2020-2021!

Mrs. Brown distributed re-enrollment packets and a letter from Mr. Galligan to all current families on Monday, February 3, 2020. Please be advised that a completed re-enrollment form, in addition to a **\$500 non-refundable down-payment, is due by Monday, March 2, 2020** to secure your child(ren)’s place in Pre-kindergarten through Grade 6. Parents or guardians are encouraged to reach out to the Main Office with any questions.

NEW! “Making Magic in K1”

A new initiative for 2020 – current and prospective K1 parents and students are invited to meet with Mrs. Kathryn Lee, our new K1 teacher, for dinner and evening fun at school on **Tuesday, February 25th from 5:30-7PM**. Learn more about our K1 program with pizza and an interactive magician performance! **Reservations are required** and can be placed by emailing spa@stpeteracademy.com.



South Boston Citizen’s Association Poster and Essay Contest

St. Peter Academy is proud to continue its participation in a local school tradition that celebrates **Evacuation Day** and Boston’s role in the **American Revolutionary War**. Students in Grades 3-5 will be creating a poster, whereas students in Grade 6 will be writing essays for the South Boston Citizen’s Association. Teachers have been discussing the historical topic in class and providing instructional resources to help students craft work that best represent themselves for this important project.

“Coffee with the Principal”

Mr. Galligan invites parents, grandparents, and community friends to join him for coffee, pastry, and conversation on **Wednesday, February 5th from 8-9AM**, immediately after our morning assembly. Can’t stay? Feel free to grab a cup to-go on your way to work with his thanks for your support of our terrific school!



100th Day of School Celebration

It’s hard to believe, but we’ve already passed the halfway mark of our school year and are quickly approaching the 100th day on **Monday, February 10th!** Students are welcome to dress-down as though they are 100 years old and will be encouraged to participate through fun, classroom-based events throughout the day. Additional information is forthcoming from your child’s homeroom teacher.

Home-School Association Meeting - February 12th

Please consider joining us for our next Home-School Association meeting on **Wednesday, February 12th from 6-7PM**. Many hands are required to help plan and execute our upcoming St. Patrick's Day Party and 15th Anniversary Celebration. If you cannot make it, but wish to contribute, please email spa@stpeteracademy.com so that we can provide you with necessary updates and information.



St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Join us for a fun, family-friendly celebration taking place on **Saturday, March 7th from 4PM-8PM** in the Community Room. Tickets are \$20 per family and include a Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner, along with food options for the kids. Music, games, and other incentives are in store. This is taking place in lieu of a Sweetheart Ball for 2020. Stay tuned for additional details from the Home-School Association in late-February!

St. Peter Academy's 15th Anniversary - Silent Auction & Fundraiser

Mr. Galligan is seeking to **update and enhance our Academy playground** as part of our 15th Anniversary year! This move would require the use of previously allocated grants and additional fundraising to undertake this project; recent meetings of the Home-School Association indicated that a silent auction or dinner event are of interest to many people. The date of this event has yet to be determined. **Parents who wish to serve or contribute on a 15th Anniversary Celebration Committee are asked to reach out to Mr. Galligan at f.galligan@stpeteracademy.com** to begin preparations for a fundraiser in late-April/early-May. Any help would be greatly appreciated!



TAG Day Benefit: American Heart Association

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to dress down in comfy, casual **red clothes** on **Thursday, February 13th** with a \$3.00 donation to support the American Heart Association. *This event will coincide with our classroom Valentines Day parties.*

Academy-Wide Professional Development Day

St. Peter Academy, inclusive of the Toddler Program, is **closed on Friday, February 14th** for a school-wide Professional Development Day for faculty and staff. Curriculum development, health trainings, and professional collaboration across all grade levels will take place. This is the second and final all-day session scheduled for this year.



Presidents Day: No School

St. Peter Academy, inclusive of the Toddler Program, is **closed on Monday, February 17th** in observance of President's Day. *Enjoy the long weekend!*

Mid-Winter Recess: No School

Students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6 will have **No School on Tuesday, February 18th through Friday, February 21st** as we close for Winter Break. Our Toddler Program will remain open throughout the week.



February E.S.C.A.P.E. Vacation Camp

New this year! February E.S.C.A.P.E. (Exciting Stories, Creative Adventures, and Positive Experiences!) – A St. Peter Academy Vacation Week Camp (**Tuesday, February 18th through Friday, February 21st**). Open to our students in Grades Pre-K through 6. Daily rates and weekly tuition rates are available. Please consult the attached flyer for additional information. Any additional questions should be directed to the Camp Coordinators, Christian Hennessey and Carmen Pepin at gradepek@stpeteracademy.com. *The sign-up deadline is February 11th!*

Dress Code & Uniform Reminders

We've noticed many students coming to school in non-uniform shoes, pants, and shirts, we kindly ask that parents ensure that children are dressed in alignment with the St. Peter Academy uniform policy:



The St. Peter Academy uniform consists of:

- Short, or long sleeve, hunter green polo with S.P.A. logo
- Hunter green sweatshirts, hooded zipper sweatshirt or fleece jackets with S.P.A. logo.
- Khaki shorts, slacks, skorts, or jumpers
- Hunter green or white socks, knee socks or tights
- Black soft soled shoes or sneakers;

(Please note that hunter green t-shirt and sweat pants with SPA logo are worn on Physical Education days.) *Uniform tops and fitness clothing is ordered at Lands' End or locally at the Spot Clothing.*

Morning Arrival Reminders



There's been a steady increase in tardiness over the last month. I realize that the cold mornings this time of year can make it a challenge to get students out of their warm, cozy beds each day. ***We greatly appreciate your help with ensuring that students in Pre-K through Grade 6 are here promptly by our start time of 7:45 AM.*** Unfortunately, late arrivals pose a disruption to the classroom routine and instruction of friends.

Safety Reminders

For safety reasons, ***please do not double park*** at morning rolling drop off or afternoon dismissal when entering the building. If you must approach the school, please provide yourself with enough time to park legally and safely. As always, the well-being of our students and the surrounding community is our highest priority. Thank you for your understanding and support of safety at S.P.A.!



Winter Weather Closings

Please be advised that St. Peter Academy **does NOT follow** the directives of Boston Public Schools. If, and when, a decision to close or delay opening our Academy is made, ***the message will be posted separately*** to all major television news outlets (CBS4, 5, WHDH 7, FOX 25, WSBK 38, CW 56, and NECN) separately as ***"St Peter Academy"***, in addition to being sent out via an official text and/or email from the school.

***Parents are kindly asked to secure a contingency plan now regarding retrieval or care of their children when weather becomes hazardous before, during, or after school hours; there may be a need to close our Toddler or Extended-Day programs early if conditions warrant it to avoid placing our students and staff in unsafe conditions. Thank you in advance!

Looking ahead to March...

March 2: 2020-2021 re-enrollment form and non-refundable down-payment due.





March 13: Early Release at 12:30 PM – Pre-kindergarten through Grade 6
Teacher Professional Development Session (12:30-3 PM)

March 18: Trimester 2 Ends (Tentative date, pending additional snow days)

March 24: Trimester 2 Report Cards Distributed

March 25 – 27: Trimester 2 Parent-Teacher Conferences (By appointment)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 “Teddy Bear Tea” (For Prospective Pre-K Families) 11AM – 12 Noon
2 Groundhog Day	3 	4	5 “Coffee with the Principal” 8 AM – 9AM	6 	7	8
IReady Assessment Week (Grade K1 and Grade 2)						
9	10 100th Day of School Celebration! Board Meeting 5:30 PM	11 	12 Home-School Association Meeting 6PM	13 TAG Day Benefit: American Heart Association – Dress in Red Clothes Today! (\$3.00 Donation) Valentine’s Day Classroom Parties!	14 Academy-Wide Professional Day NO SCHOOL Toddler Program CLOSED Valentine’s Day	15
16	17 President’s Day NO SCHOOL Toddler Program CLOSED	18 Toddler Program Open Mid-Winter Recess (PK-Gr. 6) NO SCHOOL	19 Toddler Program Open Mid-Winter Recess (PK-Gr. 6) NO SCHOOL	20 Toddler Program Open Mid-Winter Recess (PK-Gr. 6) NO SCHOOL	21 Toddler Program Open Mid-Winter Recess (PK-Gr. 6) NO SCHOOL	22
February E.S.C.A.P.E. Vacation Camp (Pre-K – Grade 6): 8AM -5PM Daily						
23	24 Classes Resume (PK – Gr. 6) Welcome Back!	25 “Making Magic In K1” Current & Prospective Families Night! 5:30-7PM	26 Reminder: 2020-2021 School Year Re-Enrollment Forms & Deposit are <u>due</u> next Monday, March 2, 2020.	27 	28 Field Trip: (<i>Tentative</i>) Grades 2-6 Boston Tea Party Museum	29

Any and all calendar events are subject to change at the discretion of the Principal.
Parents and families will be notified through email or newsletters of any changes as necessary.