

## APRIL ISSUE



Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

Greetings! I hope everyone enjoyed Spring break and all are well rested for the warmer months of the school year.

Throughout the year we have enjoyed the dedication of our teaching staff, the cooperation of parents and support of our community. Our students have accomplished so much while continuing to grow academically and socially. As we carry on towards summer, it is very important that we stay focused and have a strong academic finish. Thank you everyone for another unique but wonderful school year at St. Peter Academy.

Wishing you and your family the very best,

Andrius Dilba  
Chief Educational Officer



Here at SPA, we are so lucky to have such incredible families and community members that contribute to the success of our classrooms. Amazon Wishlists can be found by clicking the below links. Thank you for your help in keeping our classrooms fun and engaging!



[Toddler Green Turtles](#)

[Toddler Green Pandas](#)

[Toddler Blue](#)

[Transition](#)

[PreK](#)

[KI](#)

[K2/I](#)

[Grade 2](#)

[After School](#)



### ART/STEM & MUSIC Dr. Joseph

April has been a great start for all of our end-of-the-year activities at St. Peter Academy! Our theme for Lawn on D this year is Summer Weather and we are singing all sorts of different songs about the sun and the rain which we see in the Summer. In Toddler Green, our students are building up confidence as they start to perform for each other so that when we get on the big stage we will be used to the faces looking back at us! In Toddler Blue, our students are finding their beautiful singing voices as we learn and perform our song. In Toddler Transition, so many of our students are used to performing now, that we are adding in instruments, and I, for one, could not be more excited to see them perform in June. Lastly but not leastly, Pre-K is working on re-writing the words to a song which may sound familiar to many of our audience members, but with the things in the Summer that excite us! In Early Ed, our students have been hard at work to prepare for our Invention Convention. K1 has been preparing to build their gumdrop towers. K2 and Grade 1 have been learning what goes into making aerodynamic airplanes. Grade 2 are preparing to launch their eggs and see how they will be best protected. And Grades 3/4 have been using tools to create the fastest pinewood cars they can! All of our students have been learning how to use tools to the point where sometime I feel like we have started a woodshop elective! But rest well, knowing that your students are doing a wonderful job learning, helping each other with their projects, and developing useful tool skills in a safe way. We're looking forward to seeing you at both our Invention Convention at the end of May and showing you our brand new songs at Lawn on D in the middle of June!



### AFTERSCHOOL Ms. Brittney

April danced away like petals in the spring breeze. We've been having a fantastic time outdoors in our school playground, soaking up the beautiful weather. In Afterschool, we celebrated Easter by making adorable little chicks using construction paper, glue, and googly eyes. We also crafted Easter eggs by using marbles to swirl around in paint over egg-shaped pictures placed inside a bin. We kicked off our April Vacation camp with fun adventures throughout South Boston. The campers had a great time visiting Farragut Park, B Street Park, and 5th Street Park. They also enjoyed activities like bubbles, chalk, and crafts. For Earth Day, the kids had a blast making their own representations of the Earth using paper plates and tissue paper. See you in May!



### TODDLER GREEN TURTLES

Ms. Suzana & Ms. Elvira

#### April Adventures in Our Toddler Classroom!

April has been an exciting and joyful month for our little learners! From special visitors in our school backyard to Easter festivities, the children have had a wonderful time exploring, learning, and celebrating together.

One of the biggest highlights this month was our animal visitors! The children were thrilled to observe different animals right outside our classroom. Their excitement and curiosity was infectious as they asked questions, pointed out fun details, and learned about the animals' behaviors and habitats. It was a fantastic hands-on experience that brought nature closer to them.

We also celebrated Easter with lots of enthusiasm!

Throughout the month, our classroom has been filled with creativity, curiosity, and kindness. We are so proud of the growth we see in each child and the friendships that continue to blossom.

Thank you for your continued support! We look forward to another exciting month ahead. Our Amazon wishlist is linked on the first page. Every little bit makes a difference, and we truly appreciate any support. Thank you for being such a wonderful part of our community.



### TODDLER GREEN PANDAS

Mrs. Christina &

Ms. Katusica

April was a busy month for the Green Pandas. We have been wrapping up our "Shadows and Reflections" unit, learning about earth day, working on our nocturnal animal project and enjoying more of the outdoors in the playground! One of the more exciting highlights of the month was visiting the petting zoo. The children were so thrilled to observe and pet the many adorable ducks, chicks, rabbits and baby goats right here in the school yard. We have also been so happy to welcome two new friends that have begun their learning path in the Pandas classroom with us.

As we move into May we are looking forward to beginning our final Owl unit "Growing and Changing", where we will learn about things that grow. Plants, flowers and even butterflies are just a few of the new topics we will be introducing the toddlers to. We look forward to all the fun and exploring this new unit will bring to us.

As always we are grateful for your continued support in making our classroom a special place for the children to grow and learn. Please visit our wish list if you are interested in donating to our classroom.

### TODDLER BLUE Ms. Kaylin & Ms. Gina

April flew by in the blink of an eye! Despite the rain, we were lucky to enjoy several beautiful days, and the kids made the most of every sunny moment—whether they were running around the playground or exploring the neighborhood on our walks. A highlight of the month was a visit from the farm! The children had a blast petting and holding ducks, pigs, chickens, and goats. It was such a fun and memorable experience. We also celebrated Easter with lots of festive activities and learned all about the Easter Bunny. This month, we wrapped up Unit 4: Light and Dark, and we're now getting ready to begin Unit 5: Things That Grow. We're excited to welcome May and all the warm, sunny days it promises to bring!



### TRANSITION Ms. Francine & Ms. Cindy

So long to April showers! Welcome to May flowers with the cool kids 2025-26. Toddler Transition Class is just completing unit four light and darkness. The students enjoyed shadows, measuring light and dark with matching, sorting magna tiles with different colored paper, and flashlights in total darkness and with some minimal light shining through! They were making shadow animals in the sunlight, tracing and following their own shadows on our daily walks in the neighborhood and during recess on the school playground! "Totally cool!" says Isla Belle Bean. The children enjoyed taking pictures in black-and-white and some in color. The students enjoyed art/stem with Dr. Joe as he freehand drew their side portraits a.k.a. shadowing each child. The students have been identifying themselves as well as their friends a.k.a. classmates. The children have been practicing daily very hard for their end-of-the-year performance! They are enjoying learning their song while adding their own individual flair. They are having so much fun being creative, singing, and dancing! We are all looking forward to continuing our learning and ready to begin unit #5 with "things that grow." Happy May everyone and please continue to follow Toddler Transitions as the children continue to Blossom! We listen, we look, we learn & we love, but most importantly we have fun, we laugh, we hug big and we giggle! Always remember to be kind, smiles are free! Please follow along with Nana Fran, Miss Cindy, and The Cool kids next adventures! Watch for our nocturnal friend "Sam the Skunk" activities. The students are loving him and his facts!

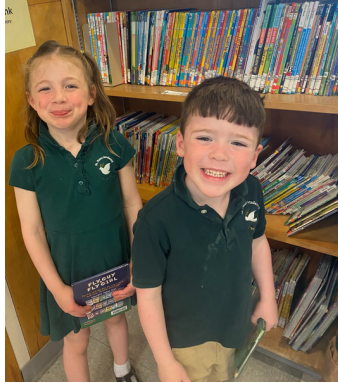


## PREK

Ms. Carmen

April was a busy month for PreK. While learning about nocturnal animals in Owl Unit 4, PreK focused their attention on bats. The children have learned that bats are mammals, what bats eat, where they live, the biggest to the smallest bat, and so much more! We are now excited to begin Owl Unit 5 Growing and Changing. The children will learn about living things such as humans, animals, and plants growing and changing. The children will learn and explore about the human life cycle, the planting of seeds and watching caterpillars turn into butterflies. In writing, we focus on forming letters properly and printing our name on the line. A fine motor skill that the children are practicing daily is using proper pincer grip. The pencil grip is the ability to hold something (pencil, crayon, marker) between the thumb and first finger. Our first field trip to the zoo was a great success! The children enjoyed looking at all the animals and riding on the school bus. We have enjoyed being outside in the warm weather. Please refer to our monthly May calendar for further details on upcoming events. Save the date June 13th and join us for the year end show.





### KI Mrs. Stewart

April has been a busy month for us in KI! In Science, KI has been learning how animals are born, their habitats, what an animal needs to live, and characteristics. We have learned that Zebras, Lions, and horses are born alive while alligators, fish, and snakes hatch from an egg. We also learned that Dolphins, JellyFish, and X-Ray fish live in the water while Bears, Bunnies, and Kangaroos live on land. The children enjoyed going on our field trip to the Stone Zoo. Our favorite animals were the Caribbean Flamingos, Monkeys, Black Bears, and the Rhinoceros Hornbill. In Math, we are learning to measure objects by using cubes and rulers. The students used Jellybeans to complete a fun Easter Math activity. During this activity the children used the Jelly Beans as manipulatives to graph them by color and answered Math Word problems about the Jelly Bean Graph. Of course, once we completed our lesson we had to taste the Jelly Beans to see just how yummy they were!! We have been enjoying our bi-weekly field trips to the South Boston Public Library. When choosing books to take out the children have been working on checking out books that will help us with building our independent reading skills. We celebrated our last day before April Vacation by having an Easter Egg Hunt outside on our school playground. We are so glad that Spring has Sprung!!! We have enjoyed taking advantage of the warmer weather and utilizing our neighborhood as we strengthen our Gross and Fine Motor Skills.

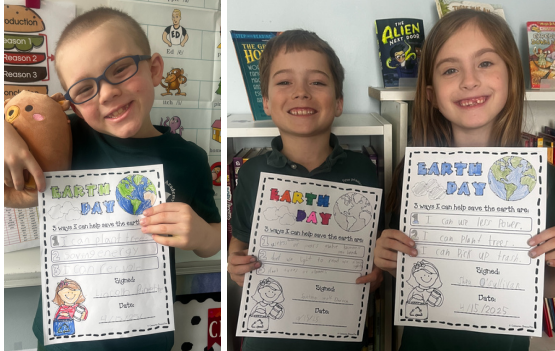
### K2/I Mrs. Hesek

April showers have finally ended, and we are looking forward to seeing the resulting blooms in our May flowers. Here in K2/I we spent our month working hard on skills that will stay with us for a lifetime. In First Grade math we are adding/subtracting to 20, while counting to 100 by 2's and 5's. K2 is cementing cardinality while mastering forward and backward to 20 and counting on from any number. With the advent of the lovely weather, we talked about the 4 seasons and studied our five senses. Our yearly trip to the zoo was a wonderful experience using all our senses as we visited Stone Zoo. As a group we worked on gross motor skills with weekly trips to the playground on B street with our student interns from Cristo Rey High School. As we climbed, jumped and played football, we also trained like a marathon runner as we did laps around an obstacle course. We stopped at Olga's café and were surprised with chocolate chip cookies served to us by our old friend, Mr. Christian. We culminated our month using jellybeans as graphing and word problem materials. April was a good month to us here in K2/I.



### GRADE 2

Ms. Dixon



Grade 2 has been working hard throughout the month of April! We began the month with some Spring writing about signs of Spring we start to see during the next few weeks, as well as our favorite things to do during this time of year. We also wrote clues about a mystery object hidden inside an Easter egg and had our friends in K1/K2/I try to guess - What a fun and challenging activity! Last, we learned about Earth Day, and wrote 3 promises of things we can do to help save the Earth. In Math, we worked on measuring, money, and data/charts. We got to apply our knowledge of data and charts when we did a jellybean sorting, counting, and graphing activity in the spirit of Easter! In Reading, we continue to work with antonyms, vocabulary, -ing endings, spelling words, and reading comprehension throughout our short stories book. In Science, we are working through our unit on Erosion and the Earth's Surface. For our social-emotional learning curriculum, we are learning about solving problems, which comes after we have managed our big feelings and calmed down. Lastly, we had an awesome trip to the Stone Zoo, exploring and learning about flamingos, leopards, monkeys, reptiles, reindeer, and bears, just to name a few animals! As we wrap up April in Grade 2, we are looking forward to warmer weather in May and doing more classroom activities outside!



### GRADE 3/4

Mr. Martinko

April went by swiftly in a damp, chilly mist! The April break means less learning time for the crew at school but provides them with plenty of time to share lots of important things with family and friends, including learning.

Early in the month Dani Crickman at the South Boston Public Library gave the crew an exciting Book Talk that sparked a lot of interest in trying new genres. We are grateful for the arrival of our new Morning Meeting/minilesson rug and thrilled it was exactly the same as the one it replaced. We like the map of the United States bordered by the alphabet. Ask your crew member about NPRTVAZ. Our ice cream galore reward party for maintaining transition safety for 30 days was fantastic; everyone had all they could eat! Just before break we had a great adventure at the Stone Zoo. In addition to having a thrilling time, the crew took down many notes of our observations in our mini scientific journals. The Zoo welcomed a baby sloth to the world the very day we were there; how exciting is that? To make everyone's Easter celebration more meaningful, Mr. Dilba and Dr. Jo led the students coloring and waxing eggs. Rainbow Colors Tag Day in appreciation of Autism Awareness Month was incredibly colorful, and happy colors make us smile. Kickball has returned as an alternative to soccer and is no less competitive.

Academically we explored the relationship between multiplication and division, and we did two step word problems that involved multiplication or division for one of the steps. We modeled the distributive property of multiplication with number bonds, and we used it to solve word problems. We learned to identify and draw points, line segments, rays, lines, and angles and to classify angles and lines. We discovered online geoboards and virtual manipulatives. And we started fractions! We closely read historical and scientific texts and responded to writing prompts using the SEE strategy. We enjoyed a Reading Partners session with the lower grades; there is nothing like sharing a book. Our book nook reading groups dove deeper into their chapter books. We revisited proofreading marks and the process of editing our drafts. We explored renewable energy sources. We are discussing conflicting feelings, different emotional responses, and how people are alike and different in order to become more empathetic. We added Hot Potato to our Morning Meeting Activities, and so far the decision of the judge has been final.

