

FEBRUARY ISSUE



Dear Parents,

What a busy month February has been. The 100th day of school, Valentine's Day, The Sweetheart Ball, and Vacation week. March looks to be just as busy, with Dr. Suess Day, National PI Day, St Patrick's Day, Spirit Week, and the start of Spring! I am proud to say that the students have been just as busy with their school work. I have had the pleasure of observing classrooms in the last couple of weeks, and the students continue to impress me with their knowledge. I am proud of what the school, our staff, and our students are accomplishing. I look forward to the warm weather and the students continued progress.

Sincerely,

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](#)

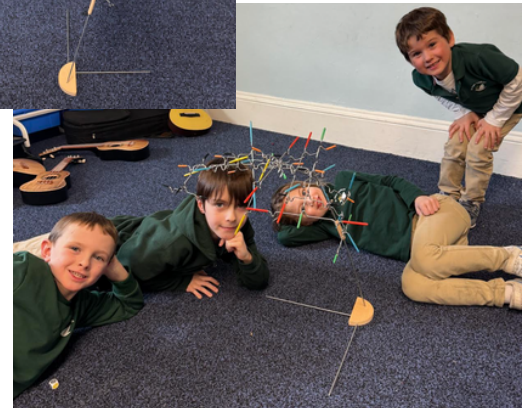
[After School](#)



ART/STEM & MUSIC Dr. Joseph

Despite the cold, we've been keeping our voices warm at St. Peter Academy! Even our students in Toddler Green have begun to sing their names, and each classroom is preparing a song to sing at our upcoming concert! In addition to preparing for our concert, we have been singing more songs in Spanish and have been singing to one of our favorite owl friends, Mr. Hooty-Hoo! In STEM, we have been learning about sinking and floating in water and in the air.

In the Elementary Academy, we have been hard at work composing new songs to perform at our concert as well as creating sculptures to show off, too! As we have been building our sculptures, we have been talking about many of the different ways to build that we began working on at the beginning. This month, we even worked on how to make buildings that protect the people inside!



AFTERSCHOOL Ms. Brittney

February! The month of LOVE! It is so great to be loved by each and every one of your children! This month we decorated the community room with hearts and everything pink and red! The 100th day of school, we can't forget about that! I cannot believe we have been in school for 100 days. We had so much fun dobbling 100 circles on our gumball machines for the 100th day of school. We also loved dancing the night away at the Sweetheart Ball! Everyone looked amazing and we couldn't thank you enough for making the night so special! Valentine's Day was so much fun, the students enjoyed making heart-shaped stained glass suncatchers to bring home for their parents. They also enjoyed crafting Valentine's caterpillars. Lastly, we kicked off the end of February with our February ESCAPE Camp and kept warm indoors by making fun crafts, dancing, and playing games. We can't wait to see all the luck that March brings for us!

TODDLER GREEN TURTLES

Ms. Suzana, Ms. Elvira, & Ms. Katusica

Dear Parents,

We had an exciting and love-filled February in our toddler classroom! The children enjoyed a variety of activities and celebrated Valentine's Day with enthusiasm.

Highlights of the Month:

- **Valentine's Day Celebration:** The little ones participated in heart-themed crafts, cookie decorating, and a Valentine exchange. It was a joy to see their creativity and the smiles on their faces as they shared their handmade valentines with friends.
- **Story Time:** We read heartwarming stories about love and friendship, helping the children learn about kindness and caring for one another.
- **Outdoor Play:** Despite the chilly weather, we finally made it to explore nature and enjoyed a couple days with the fresh air.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our classroom activities. We look forward to more fun and learning in the months to come!



TODDLER GREEN PANDAS

Ms. Shirley & Ms. Christina



The month of February brought our classroom a mixed bag of fun, learning, love and the start of a new chapter for a few of our beloved friends. As we wrapped up the last days of the "Wind and Water" unit, the children were engaged in activities about rain and snow and lastly more Bubbles! Whether they are practicing blowing them, dancing under them or popping them, they are always a bit hit in our classroom. Next we showed our love and friendship for each other with a Valentine's day celebration! We had a special circle time where the children got to exchange valentines, smiles and hugs with each other. We also got to enjoy a homemade fruit salad made by Leo's mom Olga. The children loved it and we really appreciate her for thinking of all of us. Lastly, February started a new beginning for a few of our older toddlers. We said goodbye to our four friends Reese, Cara, Leo and Niko. We already miss them so much already, but we know they will do an amazing job in Toddler Blue, and we wish them the best as they continue their journey here at St. Peter Academy! We are thrilled to announce that our classroom has a new friend! Please join us in welcoming our new friend Eva to our Panda family! We are so excited to have her join our group, and we know the children will enjoy getting to know her and making new memories together.

As we move into March, we are excited to begin Unit #4, titled "Shadows and Reflections". This unit will allow the children to explore and discover the fascinating world of light and shadows through hands-on activities. We will be playing with flashlights, experimenting with light tables and magnetic tiles, and engaging in many more activities that promise to be fun and full of surprises. We hope that these experiences will help the children learn more about themselves and the world around them.

With Spring just around the corner, we are also looking forward to warmer weather! As we prepare for the season ahead, we are excited to take advantage of the outdoors. We plan to enjoy more walks around the neighborhood, head back out to the playground, and hold morning circle time outside whenever the weather allows. These outdoor activities will give the children the chance to continue learning in a natural and engaging environment.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support in making our classroom a special place for the children to learn and grow. We also have a wish list for those who would like to contribute to our classroom - thank you in advance for any donations!

Thank you again for being such a supportive and wonderful part of our Panda classroom community. We look forward to all the fun and learning the coming month will bring!

TODDLER BLUE

Ms. Kay & Ms. Gina

February was a fun and exciting month in Toddler Blue. We learned February was the month of love in Toddler Blue. February also brought Valentine's Day, and lots of birthdays were celebrated this month as well! The children loved bringing things in for their friends and enjoyed our party even more. We wrapped up unit 3 Wind and Water, and the kiddos learned all about the water cycle and what can cause different types of winds. They loved all the activities that came along with that unit. This month we also said goodbye to our old friends which was very sad, but wished our friends the best of luck in their new move to Transition. We welcomed some new friends, and we are excited to get to know each and every one of them. We can't wait to see what the next month has in store for us.



TRANSITION

Ms. Francine & Ms. Cindy

February was filled with so much love in Transition! We welcomed back Ms. Francine! We spent the month of February finishing our Unit 3 Wind and Water which the kiddos enjoy so much! We also celebrated Valentine's Day. The children loved giving out all their treats to their friends! We finally had some warmer days so we took lots of walks around the neighborhood! We sadly said goodbye to some friends, but we wish them the best of luck in Pre-K! We also had so many new friends join our class! We are beginning our Unit 4 Shadows & Reflections which we are so excited for! We can't wait to see what the month of March brings for us in Transition!



PREK

Ms. Carmen

February was a month full of celebration in Pre K as we celebrated the 100 Days of school and Valentine's Day. In Owl Unit 3 Wind and Water, the students learned about the Water Cycle, many ways that water is used, and the things that move with the wind. Stem and Science was a blast with Dr. Jo. The students experimented with different objects that sink and float. We enjoyed the stories Tab, Tab, Boom, Boom, Kite Day, Sail Away, and Water In Water. In Math, we learned Tangrams, composing shapes into large figures, and recognizing shapes in multiple orientations. Pre K is looking forward to the Spring weather which will allow us to get outside more. Welcome March!





KI Mrs. Stewart

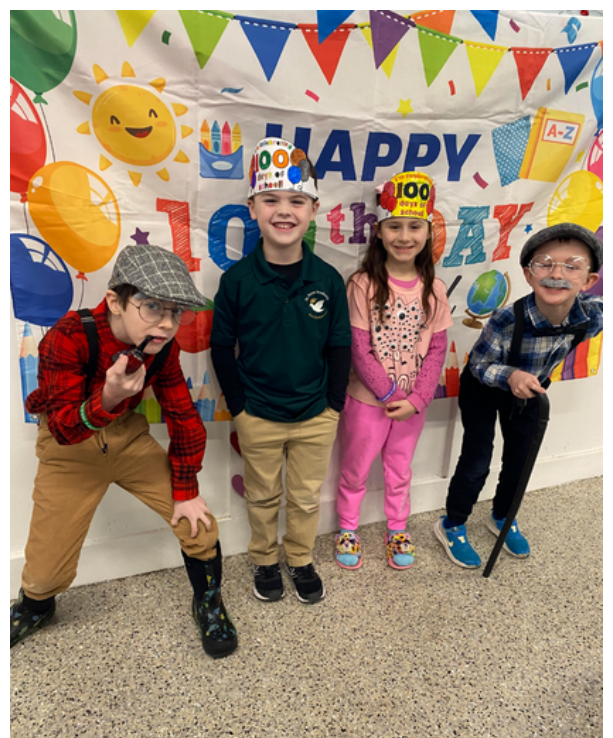
In Eureka Math, students are building on their work with numbers to 5 as they explore groups of 6, 7, and 8 objects. Children learn to touch and count up to 8 objects arranged in different ways (e.g., in a straight line or in rows) and extend their ability to make tallies, recognize numerals, and count on their fingers the Math Way (from left to right). Additionally, students strengthen their understanding of 1 more and discover different ways to take apart numbers (e.g., 7 cubes can be broken up into 5 cubes and 2 cubes). In Social Studies, we learned about President's Day. We celebrated Abraham Lincoln's birthday by making our own log cabins. The children learned Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President, wore a tall black hat, kept papers safe inside of his tall black hat, he loved to read, and he lived in a log cabin. The class was divided when the Groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil came out of his burrow and saw his shadow which is bringing us 6 more weeks of Winter. In Science, we learned the importance of brushing our teeth and flossing. We celebrated the 100th Day of School, Valentine's Day, and danced the night away at the Sweetheart Ball.

K2/I Mrs. Hesek

Greetings from K2/I. Our February has been exciting as we celebrated our 100th day of school! Our fireplace returned to mark this momentous occasion. We shared 100 collections with each other and even had two centenarian gents stop in for a visit:)

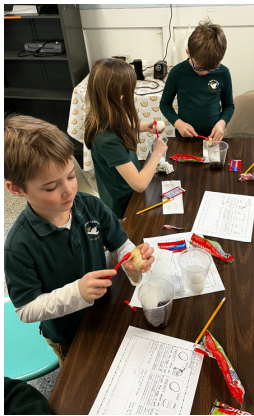
We celebrated Valentine's Day through graphing of candy hearts. We sorted them by color and then we experimented with water and Sprite to see the effects. Surprisingly they floated in both-but only certain colors.

We ended the month with a dental health week. Students learned about healthy teeth hygiene practices. We shared in an elementary division wide experiment and received toothbrushes to use at home.



GRADE 2

Ms. Dixon



Although February went by quickly, there was no shortage of learning in Grade 2! This month for Writing we finished up our Animal Research Projects and shared them with all of the Elementary Education students, and even some other teachers! The research projects came out amazing, and I can tell everyone put in their hardest work! We also celebrated the 100th Day of school by doing a math mystery activity, as well as writing about what we would do with \$100. Next, we celebrated Valentine's Day by writing about some things that we love about ourselves, and how we spread love/kindness to others. We also wrote a letter to a valentine, who can be anyone that fills your heart! After this, we learned about some important African Americans in history in honor of Black History Month. We did a "mini research project" and picked a person to research, then wrote about the important things they did. After this, we shared what we learned with the class, which gave us the opportunity to learn about a few different influential people. Last, we did an egg experiment to learn about the importance of brushing your teeth, in honor of dental health awareness this month. In addition to all of these activities, we learned about poetry, and even had the chance to write some of our own. February has been filled with so much fun and learning, and we cannot wait for March in Grade 2!

GRADE 3/4

Mr. Martinko

In February we continued to grow and make progress academically, socially, and emotionally in Room 202. The crew made strides in February toward being accepting of all crew members and including all students in play activities. It was nice to have some spring-like weather amid all those freezing temperatures in February. Our enthusiasm for coaster-ing up at Spiderman Park became less intense, but we substituted body surfing down snow mounds. Soccer seems to be the go to court activity. We also had a lot of fun building a snow fort right here in our own playground. It is gratifying to see young people having so much fun without a Chromebook.

We filled the compliment jar, but we haven't made final plans about our reward. We'll be reporting that in the March Newsletter, looks like. We now have a Transition Safety Chart and are working toward qualifying for an Ice Cream Event. We already had an Ice Cream Event at J.P. Licks for consistently remaining safe during transitions.

Celebrating Day 100 led to a lot of learning as well as celebration. Valentine's Day was very warm, friendly, and of course educational in Room 202. We used the scientific method on two illuminating (pun intended) experiments: one related to solar power using flashlights as our source of light and the other related to dental hygiene using hard boiled eggshells. The Best Grade 3 and Grade 4 Ever are putting great effort into learning their instruments with Dr. Joseph. They are also composing a brilliant protest song; the lyrics and melody are incredible. The field trip to the Museum of Natural History was an example of expeditionary learning at its finest!

Much of our learning this month connected to Black History Month, whether we were finding main ideas, comparing and contrasting, or writing claims supported by evidence from a text and an explanation of our evidence. National Dental Health Week provided materials across content areas to investigate, evaluate, and report upon. We continued to research important facts about New England states. The crew sang Happy Birthday to Massachusetts on February 6th, the day it became a state. Using interactive learning, we are strengthening our understanding of multiplication facts, number sense, and state capitals. Bar diagrams and arrays are bolstering our math learning. We completed our entries for the Evacuation Day Poster Contest. It is hard to believe that we had time for a February Break.

