

MARCH ISSUE



Hello SPA families!

I feel that Spring is the air, in spite of the cold wind we get now and again :) With Springtime comes a renewed sense of focus, a renewed joy, and the promise of sunshine and laughter. Everyone seems to smile a bit more, and steps are lighter as we cycle through the Spring months together.

As we progress through April, and towards the merry-month-of-May, I want to take time out to thank all of our families for your diligence in having your child(ren) to school on time, and well-prepared for learning each day. This both supports and optimizes our instructional goals for each child, and aids us in helping your child be as successful as he/she can. As we plunge into Spring, please make sure, too, to keep reading, reading, and reading some more with your child. High standards and expectations are the foundation of our school. It is with pride that we hold these high standards, and ask each of our families to commit to maintaining the extraordinary record of achievement and contribution that has been the legacy of St. Peter Academy. We are an exceptional learning community comprised of parents, teachers, students and administrators. Together, we can achieve anything!

As always, if I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can reach me at A.dilba@stpeteracademy.com.

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](#)

[K1](#)

[K2/I](#)

[Grade 2](#)

[After School](#)



ART/STEM & MUSIC Dr. Joseph

March was a lovely month of singing and music-making at St. Peter Academy! We hosted our very first Spring Concert and it was a huge success. Not only did our students sing even more beautifully than usual, but the support from all of our parents was overwhelming. Next year, we hope to make an even bigger event out of the Spring Concert so that we can invite more friends and family and share in our community! We hope to post videos of the performances soon in case you missed it.

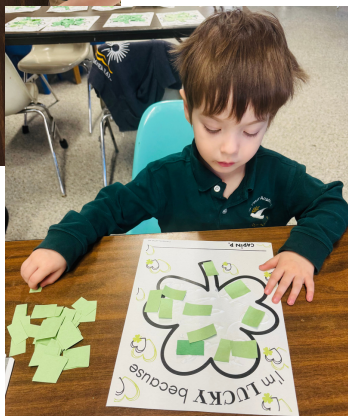
In Early Education STEM, we have also begun our unit over light and shadows. We have been experimenting with lamps as well as finding and even drawing our shadows!

In the Elementary Academy, we have begun working on our projects for the end of the year Invention Convention to show off all of our new skills and knowledge that we have developed throughout this year. We hope to see you there!



AFTERSCHOOL Ms. Brittney

During the month of March we had a lot of celebrations like Dr. Seuss's Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, and Spirit Week. On Dr. Seuss's Birthday, we painted pictures inspired by "One Fish, Two Fish". We also designed our own socks just like in the book "Fox in Socks". On St. Patrick's Day, we created shamrocks by cutting up small green papers and gluing them on a shamrock cut out picture. We also wrote about why we thought we were lucky in our life! The kids enjoyed dressing up for Spirit Week with Green and Gold Day, Superhero Tuesday, Career Day, Mismatched Thursday, and Color Wars. March was filled with exciting celebrations, and we're eagerly looking forward to see what April has in store for us.



TODDLER GREEN TURTLES

Ms. Suzana & Ms. Elvira

Greetings, wonderful families! As we bid farewell to March, we are excited to share the delightful experiences and learning adventures your little ones embarked on this month. Our focus was on Unit 3: Light and Darkness, and it has been a month filled with curiosity, exploration, and joy.

Exploring Light and Shadows: We began our journey by introducing the concept of light and shadows. The toddlers were fascinated by the way light creates shadows and how they can change shapes. We used flashlights, natural sunlight, and even created shadow puppets to bring this concept to life. The children loved making their own shadow shapes and guessing what their friends had created.

Glow-in-the-Dark Fun: One of the most exciting activities was our glow-in-the-dark play session. We transformed our classroom into a magical space with glow sticks, neon paints, and black lights. The toddlers were mesmerized by the glowing objects and enjoyed painting with neon colors. It was a fantastic way to engage their senses and spark their creativity.

Story Time Adventures: Our story time sessions were themed around light and darkness. We read captivating books like "Flash and glam" by Sue Fliess and many more books. These stories helped the children understand the concepts of light and darkness in a fun and relatable way.

Celebrating Achievements: We are incredibly proud of how much the toddlers have learned and grown this month. Their curiosity and enthusiasm have been truly inspiring. Each child has shown remarkable progress in understanding the concepts of light and darkness, and their ability to express these ideas through play and creativity has been wonderful to witness.

Outdoors Time: We are excited to have to spend some time outdoors. The little ones are enjoying the play structure and developing their motor skills.



TODDLER GREEN PANDAS

Mrs. Christina &
Ms. Katusica

Dear Pandas Families,

At the beginning of March we began learning about our new unit "Light and Darkness". The children have been busy exploring the differences between light and darkness through reading our unit books, art work, experimenting with flash lights and S.T.E.M class with Dr. Jo. They were especially thrilled to find and discover their own shadow when playing in the playground or going for our walks around the neighborhood. We continue the next few weeks of the Unit, we are also looking forward to enjoying more of the Spring weather and watching the trees and flowers bloom around us. Lastly, we will be working hard on our nocturnal animal research project in which the children will have a chance to display their art, math and literacy work about the wonderful world of foxes outside the walls of our classroom!

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.

Have a Happy Spring everyone!



TODDLER BLUE

Ms. Kay & Ms. Gina

Toddler Blue had so much fun in March and can't believe how fast it went by! We celebrated spirit week and the students loved coming in each day dressed as something new. We also had our spring concert where the kiddos performed in front of everyone and did fantastic! Even though it was a little nerve wracking for them, we are so proud of how well they did. Our TB kiddos have been learning all about night, day, shadows, reflections, nocturnal and diurnal animals. Their favorite part is learning all about owls and seeing their own shadows on our neighborhood walks! We also welcomed some new friends into the classroom! We can't believe that March is over already, but we are ready for April and spring weather so we can enjoy our outside time more!



TRANSITION

Ms. Francine & Ms. Cindy

So long March madness hello spring! Transition students have continued to work hard through Unit 3 Lightness and Darkness. March was filled with fun-filled festivities from Dr. Seuss's birthday to celebrating spirit week and of course St. Patrick's Day! Students loved finding their shadows outside and all over the classroom! They have continued learning all about nocturnal animals and understanding why they are up all night! It's been a hit! Coming up these next few weeks, we are focusing on one nocturnal animal Sammy the skunk, in which we will learn all about the skunk! We are so excited! In STEM Dr. Jo worked with the kiddos on different shades of light and dark while using different materials! We are so happy that the weather has warmed up. We have been loving walks around the neighborhood and our playground! Excited to see what April brings for the kiddos in Transition #CoolKids2025!

PREK

Ms. Carmen

Pre-K has finished Owl Unit 3 Wind and Water and begun Unit # 4 Light and Darkness. Some of the books we are reading are Dream, The Puddle Pail, and Window. The children are learning all about nocturnal animals, shadows, and reflections. In math the children are completing tally marks. Next they will learn about AB patterns. We celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday and Spirit Week. The children dressed up as their favorite Dr. Seuss characters. We also celebrated St. Patrick's Day. The spring weather is arriving and Pre-K can't wait to enjoy more outside time exploring our neighborhood!!



KI Mrs. Stewart



KI kicked off March by celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday and Read Across America. We had fun dressing up as our favorite Dr. Seuss Characters and reading our favorite Dr. Seuss books with our buddies in K2-4th Grade. In Science, we are learning about Tadpoles. Our Scholastic Magazine taught us the life cycle of a Frog and that Frogs can be many different colors and patterns. In Core Knowledge, we are learning how to place objects in order or in the correct position by using vocabulary words such as first, second, third, etc. We are also learning spatial vocabulary words such as in, out, top, bottom, over, under, on, and off. This nice Spring weather has allowed us to strengthen our Gross Motor Skills. Our Gross Motor Skills involve large muscle movements and whole-body coordination including walking, climbing, running, kicking, skipping, throwing, catching, and hopping. We are loving putting our Gross Motors to use while we are outdoors at recess and taking walks around Southie to enjoy the fresh air. A great time was had by all while celebrating Spirit Week, St. Patrick's Day, and on our field trip to the Children's Museum.

K2/I Mrs. Hesek

Happy March! Here in K2/I this month of March has had all the weather a kid could ask for! We have been able to take walks and enjoy indoor recess with legos and STEM toys. We were able to fit in two library trips and learn about our women in history and how the world has changed. We attended the Evacuation Day Activities at The Boys and Girls Club. Your students were respectful and very interested in the militia men and their regalia. The Spring concert was held for all of the students to showcase their music with Doc Jo and our K2/I brought the house down. Kudos to their timing and beautiful collaboration writing an original song. I am looking forward to the show at the Lawn on D on June 13! Before the end I cannot not acknowledge our wonderful week of Spirit! We were all in every day and that was so great! I certainly love the spirit of Spirit Week!



GRADE 2

Ms. Dixon



Grade 2 began the month of March by celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday and Read Across America. We had an exciting day of reading many Dr Seuss books as a class, and with buddies from K1, K2, and Grade 1. Next, we had a St Patrick's Day celebration and learned about what is at the end of a rainbow. Additionally, Grade 2 students won a class prize day through making responsible choices and working hard to earn smileys and fill up our jar. We had a class camp day where we got to do some fishing math games and read stories by flashlight in our desks tents. It was such a fun day! Our Grade 2 authors also started writing their very first fictional piece. After making a plan by thinking about the setting, characters, plot, and lesson, we began to write our realistic fiction stories. Our publishing party even had some dramatic percussion sounds to go along with our stories, courtesy of Dr. Jo! In Math, we worked through our unit on equal groups and arrays, which is an introduction to multiplication. In Reading, we have begun a book of short stories which are helping us work with vowel teams, suffixes like -ed, contractions, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. In Science, we are working through our plant adaptations and weather units. For our social emotional learning curriculum, we are learning about different methods to manage big feelings such as breathing, counting, and using positive self talk. March has been full of learning and fun, and we welcome the warmer spring weather to come!

GRADE 3/4

Mr. Martinko

March!!! Oh my goodness!!! So much learning inside and outside our classroom, on and off campus. Seuss Day blew in the month with such positive energy and unadulterated love of reading. On March 13th we had our reward for filling the Compliment Jar a second time (Will we fill it a third time?). We had a PJ Day, a Gamer Afternoon, Chips and Juice, and no Thursday Math Homework. We attended the Evacuation Day Ceremony at the Boys and Girls Club, and we were so proud to see our own Iden Robinson receive his prize in the Grade 4 Poster Contest! Spirit Week was a lot of fun and a good opportunity to wear clothes beside our uniforms. The Concert on March 21st was a great success. We also received a wonderful lesson from Officer Ayesha, the South Boston Community Relations Officer, about good citizenship. We are getting better and better at soccer, playground structure gymnastics, and basket soccer (created by us). Our Transition Safety Chart is almost completed and has only green boxes! We will schedule the Ice Cream Galore Party for next week.

We are using bar diagrams, number bonds, and arrays to model the properties of multiplication and investigating the relationship between multiplication and division. We have regrouped across more than one place using place value knowledge for subtracting multi-digit numbers. If we get stranded on a desert island that only has analog clocks, we can now draw and write the time! We are learning about empathy and trying to incorporate it into our everyday interactions with all our classmates. We are using Mr. M's SEE (Statement /Evidence/ Explanation) formula to write organized and responsive answers to reading comprehension prompts. We are researching New England States and providing our sources for information. We are starting a mini-unit on renewable energy sources. For our Morning Meetings, we have learned two new Activity Games: Desert Island and Just Don't Say It. We have added Reading Nook Book Groups to Independent Reading to improve our reading comprehension and fluency. We are finding ideas and events in historical texts by reference to cause and effect, and asking what happened and why. We can write narratives in first person and third person. We are all showing growth on i-Ready Diagnostic testing.

