

MAY ISSUE



Dearest SPA Families,

It is so nice to see the sun and feel the sunshine. On that note, please be sure to send you children in with water and sunscreen.

We hope you enjoyed Grandparents / Special Person Day as well as our Art and Stem Show.

Our Annual SPRING SHOW at the LAWN ON D next Friday June 13th. It promises to be a great show.

I look forward to seeing many of you there, and look forward to more Sun and Fun at St Peter Academy.

As the year winds down for the Elementary grades, I hope to see you at our Urban Explorers Summer Program, and remind you to:

- Read Every Day
- Use Math Every Day
- Get Outside and Play
- Write Every Week
- Do a Good Deed Daily
- Enjoy the Summer

For our year-round Pre-K and Toddlers, I look forward to an exciting Summer Season!

Mr. Andrius Dilba



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](#)

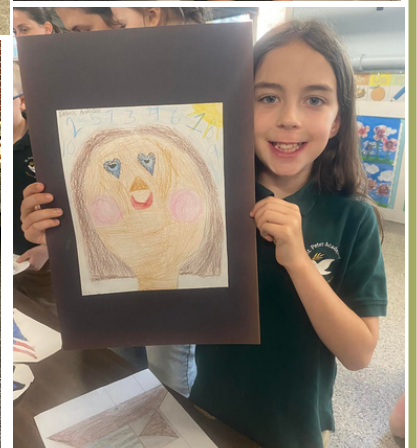
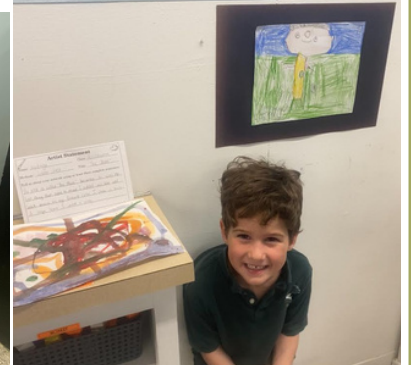
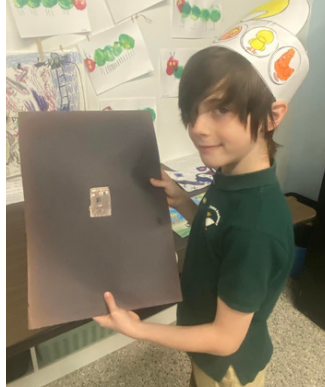
[After School](#)



ART/STEM & MUSIC Dr. Joseph

May was a huge month for specials, and I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended our Art Show and Invention Convention! We were so happy to be able to run our gallery and can't wait to have you back again next year.

Speaking of seeing you all soon, we have been hard at work preparing our songs for Lawn on D. Your students are so excited to perform for you, and they are getting more and more used to performing for their classmates. We hope to see you at our final performance for this academic year. We will be doing our best to blow you away with our new musical skills!



AFTERSCHOOL Ms. Brittney

And just like that, our final full month of the school year has come to an end! We celebrated many enjoyable events, including Special Persons Day, Stem/Art Show, and Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you to all the parents and children for the amazing and thoughtful gifts during Teacher Appreciation Week. I truly felt special! The children had a great time creating flower handprints on tote bags to give to their Mom's for Mother's Day. This month, we also crafted our own caterpillars by dipping a balloon in paint to create the body, using a black crayon to make legs, and googly eyes. I'm excited to spend these last few weeks filled with fun with them! I can't wait to see what summer camp has in store for us.



TODDLER GREEN TURTLES Ms. Suzana & Ms. Elvira

Month of May: Growing and Changing!

Dear Green Turtle Families,

May has been an exciting month in our toddler classroom! We kicked off our new unit, "Growing and Changing," where our little learners are discovering how things grow – from plants to animals and even themselves!

One of the most exciting parts of this unit is watching caterpillars transform into butterflies. The children have been observing their caterpillars closely, noticing the tiny details in their movement and growth. Soon, we'll witness the magical moment when they become beautiful butterflies! This process is helping our toddlers learn patience, curiosity, and the wonders of nature.

With the warm sun shining and a gentle breeze in the air, our toddlers had the perfect opportunity to explore and enjoy the park. Their excitement was contagious as they ran through the grass, climbed playground structures, and discovered nature all around them. Every moment was filled with curiosity whether it was watching butterflies flutter by, collecting tiny flowers, or feeling the rough bark of a tree. The joy of outdoor play nurtures their growing independence, strengthens their motor skills, and sparks endless imagination. Laughter echoed as they chased bubbles, shared giggles with friends, and basked in the simple delight of a beautiful day

Thank you for your ongoing support, we love watching our toddlers grow and change every day!

Warm regards, Ms. Suzana & Ms. Elvira Green Turtles Toddler Classroom



TODDLER GREEN PANDAS Mrs. Christina & Ms. Katusica

Hello Pandas Families,



The children have been so engaged as we have begun our last unit "growing and Changing". From reading our unit books, exploring hands-on activities and creating their individual artwork, the children have been learning about all things that grow. So far our favorite book has been "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". We have also received our own live caterpillars to observe and see how they will change over the next few weeks. The children have watched in amazement how much they have grown already. We are looking forward to them changing into beautiful butterflies as we saw in the book! In STEM class, we have been exploring soil and planting with Dr. Jo! We even planted our own flowers to watch grow here in our classroom window. With the beautiful weather sticking around, we have extended our learning beyond the classroom. We have been able to observe birds, flowers growing in the garden, watching the airplanes fly above us, and blowing more bubbles! It's so nice to see them enjoying the fresh air while they continue their gross motor development.

As summer approaches and the weather gets hotter, it's the perfect time for exploring more with water play and other summer themed learning activities. We are looking forward to all the fun and surprises yet to come!

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

TODDLER BLUE Ms. Kay & Ms. Rhi

The month of May was filled with excitement as we began our new unit: Growing and Changing. The children explored the wonders of nature by observing how living things grow and transform. One of our favorite highlights was watching our tiny caterpillars grow bigger each day—and now we're eagerly waiting for them to become beautiful butterflies! We'll continue to follow each stage, from wiggly larvae to fluttering wings, and the children are loving this hands-on learning adventure. We also celebrated Special Persons Day! The children were so proud to show off their classroom and artwork to their special guests. It was heartwarming to see the joy on their faces as they spent time together at school. With the warmer weather finally here, we're excited to take our learning outside and explore nature even more. We can't wait to see what summer brings to Toddler Blue!



TRANSITION Ms. Francine & Ms. Cindy

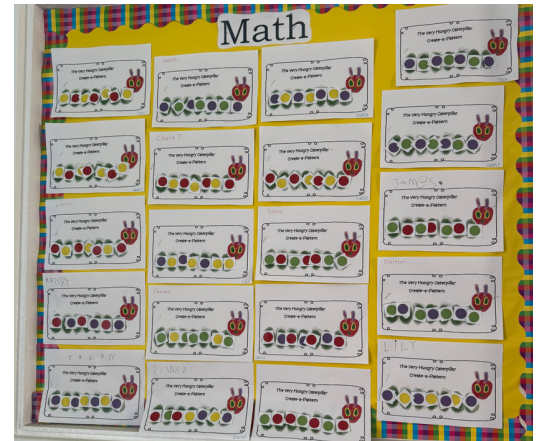
Sun looks to be out in Southie and shining on us here at SPA. It is here to stay I believe! May went by way too fast in Toddler Transitions! Hello June! Thank you for celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week - I greatly appreciated everything from homemade cards, pictures, and flowers, to sweets, treats, flowers, and lunch. Owl unit #5 "Things that grow" has been fun thus far! We are learning parts of the flower and enjoying dirt, seedlings and planting! The children are currently on letters p and q, and numbers 7 and 8. Sorting, matching, and rhyming words are getting easier and so much fun! The students are loving everything around the very hungry caterpillar - Our favorite class book! They have enjoyed painting and matching. Our caterpillars are in cocoon stage and the coolkids are eagerly awaiting to feed them sugar water and oranges. The garden in the playground is coming along nicely, we check on it daily during recess as Dr. Jo has planted with each grade for STEM and painted different flowers. Special Persons Day was great! It was nice having everyone, proud and happy for the students to show off our classroom! The students are plugging away practicing for our show. Please welcome Sammie J to our class. We will be incorporating more outdoor adventures, day exploring, dramatic play, crafting & storytelling outside as weather permits! We will be enjoying upcoming birthdays and holidays! Please stay tuned for more adventures with Nana Fran, Ms. Cindy & the coolkids. Be kind, smiles are free! We giggle, we hug big, and we have fun, all while learning & teaching! We look, listen, learn, and love! Laughter is the key!



PREK

Ms. Carmen

PreK has been enjoying Owl Unit 5 Growing and Changing. Some stories we read are The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Flower Garden, and The Tiny Seed. The children have been learning how humans, plants, and animals grow and change. We have been learning that we as humans are all unique and grow and change in our own ways. In Science, it has been fun watching our caterpillars turn into cocoons. The children are anxiously awaiting for the cocoons to turn into butterflies! We have also learned about the parts of a flower, how flowers grow, what flowers need to live, and exploring soil. In Math, we did a different pattern with The Very Hungry Caterpillar. In Stem, the children had the experience of planting seeds with Dr. Joe. PreK has been a year filled with joy, laughter, and countless adventures along with exciting activities.





KI Mrs. Stewart

In Social Studies, KI took a field trip to the Plymouth Patuxet Museum where we learned about Early American History. In Science, we finished our unit on animals and their habitats. We then began our Unit on the life cycle of a butterfly. The children are enjoying observing our caterpillars each day and writing/drawing their observations. Our Scholastic Magazine was about Octopuses. We learned that Octopuses use their suckers when they find a treat, they can climb out of their shell, blend in when danger is near, and have no bones. Did you know an Octopus can fit inside of a mason jar? We enjoyed our field trip to the Public Garden and taking a ride on the Swan Boats. In Math, we continue to work on addition, subtraction, and graphing. In Reading, the children are continuing to strengthen their fluency while reading independently. We are looking forward to our end of the school year activities.

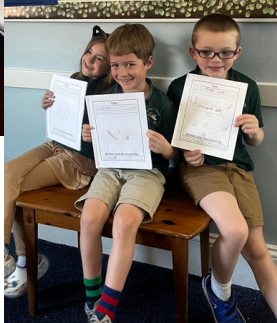
K2/I Mrs. Hesek

May has flown by as we continue to learn and grow here in K2/I. We started our month with an afternoon of place value games using dice, cubes, ten rods and a mat. We had to build the number that we rolled using our manipulatives. Then we were given the chance to celebrate my favorite color during teacher week-orange with 100% success. Our trip to Plimoth Patuxet was so educational. Some students wore costumes of the pilgrim children, others participated in the militia reenactment, and we all were able to sit inside a Wetu and feel the soft furs used to keep us warm at night. Our library visit was on such a lovely day that we sat outside and listened as Ms. Danni shared another great story with the group. We took out one more set of books before our end of year visit. The Art/Stem/Special person day was a success. We enjoyed visitors, sharing our class and then our paper airplane race! We ended our month with a trip to the Swan Boats.



GRADE 2 Ms. Dixon

May has been full of both hard work and fun for Grade 2 students! We had a lot of amazing field trips to supplement science/history! We started off the month by taking a trip to the Plimoth/Paxtucket Museum. We were immersed in the historic Paxtucket homesite, as well as the 17th Century English village. We had the opportunity to dress up in clothes they wore during this time, and participate in the muster drill. We had another field trip to the Boston Tea Party Museum - It was such an incredible experience getting to throw tea into the harbor and learning about the events that led up to this. Lastly, we had Special Persons' Day and the Art/STEM Fair. All of our student artists had the chance to show off their hard work in the form of self portraits and paintings, as well as their engineering skills through their egg drop structures! Academically, we finished up a personal narrative story, and then we began our last writing assignment for the school year: a research project about any topic we choose! In Math, we worked through our last unit on shapes, time, and fractions. In Reading, we worked on reading fluency, vocabulary, the long a sound spelled with ai, ay, and a_e, and reading comprehension. For our social emotional learning curriculum we worked through the last few lessons about taking responsibility, dealing with exclusion, and playing fairly. Thank you for your generous and thoughtful contributions during Teacher Appreciation Week - Your support truly makes a difference and helps us feel so special! Our Second Graders are looking forward to summer as we wrap up with our end-of-year activities!



GRADE 3/4 Mr. Martinko

We did not break any records for high temperatures in May, but we gave the record for total inches of rain a run for its money. We were nonetheless mostly fortunate about getting outside most days for one or both recesses.

We started the month with another informative and entertaining Book Talk with Librarian Crickman at the South Boston Public Library. Mr. M. was overwhelmed with appreciation during Teacher Appreciation Week. It does warm the heart to feel appreciated. The field trip to Plimoth/Paxtucket Museum in mid-May was a great educational and entertaining experience despite the chilly temperatures; at least it didn't rain on us. What could be better than that for students studying colonial times in New England? How about the Boston Tea Party Museum where we went two weeks later; we had another enriching and effervescent experience, and not nearly as chilly. Our crew did a great job with their STEM race cars and provided a very entertaining interval at the STEM Fair. Their self-portraits and other art work were truly inspiring at the Art Show. It was wonderful to have our Special Persons visit our classroom and to give them VIP interviews. We bid a fond adieu to Librarian Crickman at the end of May, showing our appreciation for all her efforts on our behalf with thank you notes. Dani is hoping some of the crew stop by this summer for more book talk. Our Compliment Jar did runneth over and we rewarded ourselves with a PJ/Jersey Day with a Techno Afternoon and Marshmallows for all.

Academically we identified and drew parallel and perpendicular lines and began discussing them as components of polygons. We entered the wonderful world of fractions, first identifying them as part of a whole and part of a set. We used circle, area, and number line models to identify them. Then we decomposed them into unit fractions and fractions less than one. We used our basic knowledge of fractions to begin identifying equivalent fractions. We dove deeper into finding main ideas and key details in informational texts, first in historical texts and then in scientific texts. We applied these skills to summarization. We began to paraphrase main ideas and key details. We are continuously honing our close reading skills. We perfected our drafting and editing skills. We started creating our own picture books! We continued to explore energy sources for use by municipalities. Practicing one of the scientific method steps, we are making daily observations of the caterpillars as they become butterflies. We explored differences in reactions and also the differences between and similarities shared by students in the same classroom to be better at empathizing. Activities that were new or revived this month include kickball, team tag, foursquare, and detective. May had a lot of days and we filled them with a lot of learning and a lot of movement and a lot of growth.

