

OCTOBER ISSUE



Dear Families:

It was so nice to see so many of you at our Halloween Spooktacular. I look forward to more opportunities to spend time with each other.

I hope you have a safe and enjoyable Halloween, and that you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and are able to stay healthy and safe during the weeks and months ahead.

Thank you for partnering with us as we work together to build a successful St. Peter Academy. As the weather begins to change, it is important that students come to school prepared for outdoor recess. We will continue to do our best to get the students outside for some fresh air, exercise and play. Please help us by ensuring that children have the proper outdoor gear.

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!



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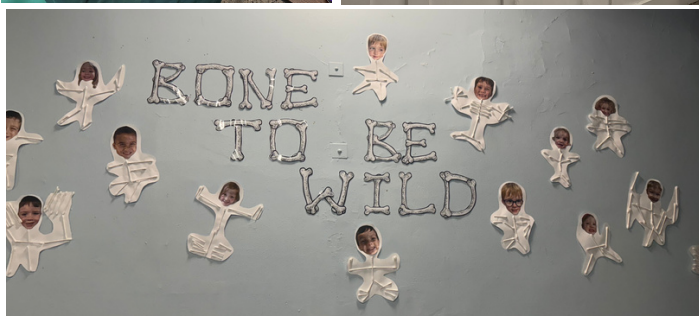
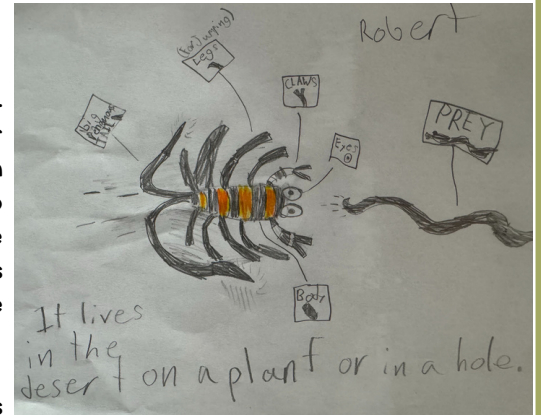
[After School](#)

ART/STEM & MUSIC Dr. Joseph

October has come and gone so quickly in our Music, Art, and STEM classes. In our Early Ed division, we have been working hard to sing in front of our friends, even if it feels scary! We got to show off at our Halloween Spooktacular that we can all sing together, and we're looking forward to showing off even more at our Breakfast with Santa! In STEM, we have been using playdough to help our fingers get stronger and to help us develop new fine motor skills, as well. This past week we even got to make our own play dough out of corn flour and water!

In the Elementary Academy, our students are hard at work writing songs to sing at our Breakfast with Santa. We are also developing our listening ears so that we can tell the difference between high and low sounds and even name them! In Art, we are wrapping up our drawing unit, and oh my goodness, I hope you've gotten to see these drawings! Our students have put in a lot of hard work and kept working hard despite frustrations and setbacks. It has been a true joy to see them work so diligently. Lastly, in STEM, our older students have been exploring animal adaptations, habitats, and relationships to see how different animals are suited to where they live.

I'm excited to see our students improve even more over the coming months, and I hope you are too!



AFTERSCHOOL Ms. Brittney

October was a spooktacular month in afterschool! The kids and I had a great time decorating the community room for Halloween. They loved making handprint spiders and creating their own spider crafts. We also had fun assembling skeleton figures by gluing Q-tips on paper to represent our bodies. Painting pumpkins was another highlight in afterschool, we used forks to create fun designs and faces on them. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the Spooktacular Halloween Party! On Halloween, we celebrated with a lively day of dancing in our costumes. We can't wait to see what November has in store for us in afterschool!

TODDLER GREEN

Mrs. Christina, Ms. Breanna, Ms. Paola, Ms. Elriva, & Ms. Equaria

Hello Toddler Green Families,

The month of October has flown by as we continued exploring our first unit, Families and Friends. Through reading new books, singing songs, and engaging in hands-on activities, the toddlers have been busy learning all about family, friendship, and themselves. This unit has had such a positive impact on our little learners as they are bringing what they learn into the classroom by sharing with friends, using kind manners, and showing respect for one another. Ms. Paola has also begun introducing the unit in Spanish, and the children have been so excited to learn new words in both English and Spanish. Some of our favorite highlights this month included our trip to Connor's Farm, where the children had a wonderful time picking apples right from the trees and enjoying a few bites as they filled their bags. They also loved visiting the farm animals and tasting their first apple cider donuts. Another fun event was our SPA "Spooktacular" Halloween party on the 17th. It was wonderful to see so many families come together for a night filled with fun, laughter, and community. The children also had an amazing visit to the local firehouse, where they received their very own firefighter hats and even got to explore the fire truck, an experience they absolutely loved. We are so excited to see what November brings for us in Toddler Green as we continue to learn, grow, and explore together.

Best,

Mrs. Christina, Ms. Breanna, Ms. Paola, Ms. Elriva, and Ms. Equaria



TODDLER BLUE

Ms. Rhi, & Ms. Mirleiny

Happy October from Toddler Blue! We began our new unit, Family and Friends, where we are learning all about different kinds of families, what we love about our own families, and what makes them special. The children are also practicing how to share, be kind to their friends, and use their words to express emotions when something makes them upset.

Earlier this month, we went apple picking and had a wonderful time choosing apples and visiting the animals. We also said a temporary goodbye to Ms. Kay as she welcomed her baby girl. Congratulations to her family! We miss her and look forward to seeing her again in the spring. At the same time, we are excited to welcome Ms. Mirleiny to our classroom. She has already been a wonderful addition, and the children are enjoying getting to know her.

In music, the children love singing with Dr. Jo. They are finding their voices and becoming more confident each week. During STEM, we have been exploring playdough through a variety of new activities each STEM day, encouraging creativity, fine motor development, and sensory exploration.

Our Halloween party was such a fun celebration, and it was so nice to spend time chatting with all of you. As we move into November, we will continue exploring our Family and Friends unit and celebrating all the special people in our lives. We are so excited to see what the month of November brings!

If you would like to donate to our classroom wishlist, we would be so grateful for your support. Your generosity helps us create meaningful learning experiences and a joyful environment for all the children.

Warmly,

Ms. Rhi and Ms. Mirleiny

TRANSITION

Ms. Francine & Ms. Cindy

Welcome autumn and the month of November. We've been super busy this month from our Back-to-School Barbecue, apple-picking bus trip, and visit to the firehouse, to our amazing Spooktacular Dance, Tag Days, and fun Pizza Fridays! In the classroom, we've been hard at work learning our ABCs and 123s, counting bears, painting with apples with Dr. Jo, and identifying the letters in our names. School Picture Day was a success, and the children are excited for our upcoming costume parade!

We're currently exploring Unit 1: Family and Friends, learning about kindness, manners, and using gentle words. Some of our favorite stories this month have been My Friends and I and My Friends at School. The children have done an amazing job reviewing letters A through D, numbers 1 through 4, and we're continuing to practice colors, shapes, and counting to 10 in Spanish.

Next week, we'll be diving into The Little Red Hen Makes a Pizza! We'll be playing with dough with Dr. Jo and creating our own pizzas through play and getting ready to "eat" our creations too!

A big thank you to Arthur and Grant's family for the wonderful classroom donations. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. The children are thriving with routines, consistency, and independence, all while learning to make good decisions and, most importantly, having a blast!

Remember to be kind and smile, they're free!

Please take a moment to check out our Amazon Classroom Wish List; anything you contribute is greatly appreciated.

We're so excited to see what November brings for our Transitions Cool Kids!

Thank you,

Nana, Fran, and Miss Cindy



PREK

Ms. Carmen

In October, Pre-K has been working on Owl Unit #1 Friends and Families. The books we have read Lola Goes to School, My Friend and I and Allie All Along. We had a special visit from the Boston Police. They spoke to the students about stranger and how to stay safe during Halloween. We had a coloring contest and treated the students with pizza. During Fire Safety Week Pre-K learned to stop, drop, and roll, how to call 911 in case of an emergency, and how to exit your home or school during a fire. They also enjoyed a field trip to our local D Street Fire Station. In stem class with Dr. Jo the students enjoyed exploring play dough. Encouraging them to talk about how the play dough looks, smells, and feels. The students talked about how they are using their hands to change the shape of the play dough (rolling, pinching, squishing, smashing). Pre-k enjoyed ending the month of October with our annual SPA Halloween Parade.



K1 Mrs. Stewart

In October, we raised awareness about fire safety by celebrating Fire Prevention Week. During the week we learned to call 911, stop, drop, and roll if our clothes get on fire, do not open doors that have hot door knobs, if there is smoke to crawl on the ground to get out to safety, and to not to be scared of the fire men when they are dressed in full gear. We ended the week with a field trip to the D Street Fire House. The Boston Police (C-6) and Sheriff's Department came to visit and give us a presentation on safety. The children learned it is very important for them to know their Mom/Dad's first/last names, phone numbers, and their home address. The officers went over Halloween Safety tips. Stay together with your families, if you get separated to find safe people (i.e. first responders, neighbors your family know, other groups of families etc.). Thank you to C-6 for providing us with pizza for lunch!! Some Halloween stories we read and did activities with are 5 Little Pumpkins Sitting on the Gate, There Was An Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything, and Spookley The Square Pumpkin. We had fun experimenting with Candy Corn. We observed and recorded what happened to the Candy Corn when it was put into water, salt water, vinegar, and baking soda. K1 had a great time celebrating Halloween with their families and friends at our Annual Spooktacular Party. So excited to see what November brings us!!!



K2/1 Mrs. Hesek



Greetings and welcome to K2/1!! We are so busy learning here and find it hard to believe October is gone! We have settled into our routines nicely. This month we learned about helpers in our community—specifically safety helpers. To this end we spent time practicing our fire safety knowledge. Throughout the month we practiced fire drills, read about how to be safe if a fire breaks out and then visited the D Street firehouse. We were lucky enough to receive cookies from Olga's as a treat after our visit.

In addition to our fire safety knowledge, our local PD came by and shared tips with us on how to be safe during Halloween. We learned that 911 is our safety number to call for all emergencies and that if we are lost, we should look for a police person to help us.

Each month we have a person we learn a bit about that has had an impact on the world. Our person of the month is Thomas Edison. Did you know that he invented over 1000 inventions? Some we still use today like the light switch and music that streams. Mrs. Hesek was able to visit the house he lived in Ohio over the summer.

GRADE 2/3

Ms. Dixon

October has been a month filled with so much fun and learning for Grades 2/3! We have settled into our classroom routines, and are working on filling up our pompom jar to earn a class prize! We started off the month by learning about fire safety/prevention. We learned that it is very important to get out of the house quickly and to make sure you have an escape plan to follow. In addition to fire safety, we had a Halloween safety visit from Officer Ayesha at BPD. We had our Spooktacular Halloween party, as well as the Halloween parade/classroom trick-or-treat on Halloween. Academically, we have been working on strengthening our writing skills by learning how to add details and elaborate with feelings. We also got in the Halloween spirit by creating a haunted house and using our 5 senses to describe the house, writing the steps for "How-To" make a jack-o-lantern, and even made a "Guess Who" ghost where we gave 3 clues to guess what student is hiding under the ghost sheet. In Reading, both grades are working on reading comprehension in different ways. In Math, Grade 2 is learning different strategies for adding/subtracting numbers, and Grade 3 is being introduced to multiplication/division. Keep up the awesome work Grade 2 and 3 friends!



GRADE 4/5

Ms. Welch

We have had a ton of Fall-fun in Grade 4/5! This month, the children learned both inside and outside of the classroom. We had two field trips; one to meet the Celtic's mascot, Lucky, and we visited the public library with Ms. Dixon's class. In the classroom, the students finished their beginning of the year diagnostic Reading/Math testing, workshopped a narrative essay about a haunted house, and studied the 50 States in America. In addition, we celebrated both Francisco and Elena's 10th birthdays! We've had a terrific month and look forward to what November has in store for us.

