

SEPTEMBER ISSUE



Welcome back to school! Hopefully everyone had a wonderful summer and is ready for fall, especially a new school year! Thank you to all family members, guardians, and friends that helped make the Back to School BBQ and Curriculum Night a great success. Both of these events in addition to serving their purpose as they are, also aide in solidifying our strong relation between home and school life. You are acknowledged as vital members of your child's educational team and we all know how important it is. Our relationship is key to continue the remarkable year that has begun.

Our students had a wonderful opportunity to meet Mayor Wu at the ceremony dedicating the Sister Mary Veronica Park. It is great being part of a community that values open space for children and the community.

As the year progresses and the weather gets colder, please make sure that your little ones are prepared for the weather and will be comfortable as we enjoy the outdoors as much as possible.

We have had a tremendous start to this past school year and it will be fantastic to continue to work together and keep on progressing together. This year at St. Peter Academy will be amazing!

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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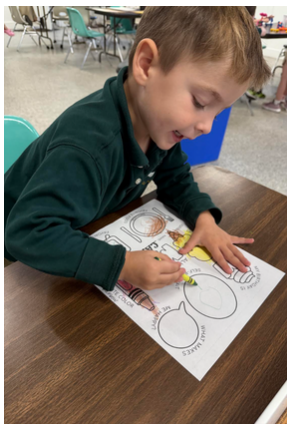
ART/STEM & MUSIC Dr. Joseph

September has been a wonderful start to our year in Music, Art, and STEM! Our students have been singing many different songs as well as patting, clapping, and dancing to the beat. In our Early Ed division, nearly all of our students have been singing by themselves and I hope you have been able to hear some of those songs at home as well! In STEM, we have been dissecting the parts of an apple, tasting apples, and learning what different colors they come in all to prepare for our field trip to go pick apples. I can't wait! In the Elementary Academy, our students have been working on matching one another's singing so that when we sing for all of our families in December, we sound as gorgeous as we can. Speaking of our December show, we have also started developing ideas for songs we are going to write to share with you, which is so exciting to me! In Art, we have been working on our drawing basics and getting better at trying to draw the same subject repeatedly and improving each time. Our progress has been remarkable, and you can see these drawings in my hallway if you come in to visit. Meanwhile in STEM, we have been exploring a variety of different ideas in each grade level to understand how to run experiments and show scientific concepts. We even have some students who made a stop motion video of how canyons are formed! Our growth so far this year is the best I have seen in my time at St. Peter Academy and I can't wait to see all of our students outdo themselves time and time again!



AFTERSCHOOL Ms. Brittney

Welcome back to school! The Extended Day program has been thrilled with all the new toys and craft supplies we received from our Amazon wish list! Thank you to everyone who donated! We've also been having a great time outdoors on the playground. On the first day of school, the kids made a fun handprint art craft that turned into an apple. Another favorite was the Apple Name Craft, where the children wrote their names, colored their apples, and glued them together to sit atop their colored in heads. We also enjoyed getting to know each other by filling out a paper with questions like favorite color, favorite food, and what makes us happy. We're excited for October and can't wait to see what the month has in store for us!



TODDLER GREEN

Mrs. Christina, Mrs. Elvira, Ms. P,
Ms. Breanna, & Ms. Equaria

Hello Toddler Green Families,

It's been a pleasure to welcome our new toddlers into our classroom! We have enjoyed the last month getting to know each and everyone of them. We have kicked off the new school year by starting with our Apples and "All About Me" themes. Through the combination of S.T.E M classes with Dr. Jo and our classroom curriculum, the children have been keeping busy learning all about apples. With a variety of hands-on activities, the children have been tasting, touching and painting with each color of apples. This theme has allowed them to have fun, get messy and enjoy the apples as an extra treat! Next we had the children choose their favorite color and color their all about me page with a small description about them for their families to see on parent night. In addition the children have been introduced to the letters A and B and the colors red and purple.

We have also just started our first O.W.L. Unit "Families and Friends." We encourage families to bring in a family picture to display on our family tree. They add a personal touch for our toddlers to see your faces in the classroom every day.

We are looking forward to a wonderful school year and the lots of fun and surprises along the way including our apple picking trip to the farm on October 1st.

Blessings The Toddler Green team



TODDLER BLUE

Ms. Kay, Ms. Rhi, & Ms. Mirleiny

What an exciting month September has been in Toddler Blue! We have had so much fun learning and growing together as we settled into our new classroom routine. The children have been adjusting wonderfully, building confidence, and becoming more comfortable with our daily activities.

This month, our theme was all about apples! We read apple stories, explored apple-themed activities, and we are even going apple picking together! The children loved exploring the colors, textures, and tastes of apples while enjoying hands-on learning experiences. It was such a joy to see their curiosity and excitement!

As we move into October, we are excited to begin our next unit: Family and Friends. We can't wait to explore all the wonderful ways our families and friendships help us grow, learn, and feel loved.

We are looking forward to another month full of learning, laughter, and new adventures!

TRANSITION

Mrs. Francine & Ms. Cindy

Welcome to the Toddler Transition Class of 2025/2026!

We are so excited to kick off this school year with 15 amazing Cool-Kids! Myself, Ms. Francine Walsh (aka NanFran), along with Miss Cindy, are ready and looking forward to an awesome year ahead with our students.

The children have been busy getting to know both old and new friends while enjoying their time together. We are practicing our daily routines, affirmations, poems, songs, and morning circle. We've also had some wonderful outside time for recess, where we're learning to walk safely on our rope, practicing outside safety, and exploring gym skills like running, jumping, climbing, hula hoops, and bubbles—just to name a few!

The kids love meeting neighbors and friends around the neighborhood, greeting dogs, watching the trash truck, and waving to our community police and fire departments. On our walks, the children often call it a "scavenger hunt" or "bear hunt" as we make our way around the best neighborhood in Boston! Their laughter and silliness fill the air.

We've also had so much fun with Dr. Joe during Music/STEM time and enjoyed a creative apple-painting activity. This week, we are jumping into OWL Unit #: Friends & Family, with lots of fun activities and great books.

It's going to be another fun-filled and exciting school year! Please stay tuned for our Cool-Kids' wild and wonderful adventures as we continue to learn, grow, and shine together.

Be kind, and remember—smiles are free!

Warmly,

Ms. Francine (NanFran) & Miss Cindi



PREK

Ms. Carmen

It was "All About Apples" in Pre-K! We learned about the Life Cycle of an Apple: how an apple turns from a seed to a fruit. Then we learned the Parts of an Apple. They are skin, flesh, seeds, stem, & leaves. Our favorite part was Stem with Dr. Jo where we got to taste and talk about different kinds of apples, their taste, texture, & color, and which one we like the most. September was fun and full of apples in Pre-k.



K1 Mrs. Stewart

K1 has had a busy first month of school. We have been settling in nicely while learning the routines of the classroom. In Foundations, the children have been practicing the letter name, keyword, and sound with letters A (A, apple, /a/) and B (B, bat, /b/). In Writing, the children are practicing tracing and writing their first names using uppercase letters. We have strengthened our fine motor skills while cutting with scissors, grasping pencils/crayons, completing puzzles, using playdough, building with blocks/Legos, zipping our backpacks, lunch boxes and so much more! In Math, the children are learning to count, recognize, and write numbers up to 5. In Science, we have been learning about the life cycle of an apple, graphed our favorite apples, learned about Johnny Appleseed, and that there are many different types of apples. We went on our first bi-weekly field trip to the South Boston Public Library where children received their very first library card, enjoyed a story read aloud by Ms. Dani, and checked out 2 books. We have been enjoying our walks and visits to local playgrounds to enjoy the sunshine and fresh air. It was great to see everyone at the Back to School BBQ and Curriculum Night. I look forward to seeing you all at our Spooktacular Halloween Party on Friday, October 17th.



K2/I

Mrs. Hesek

Greetings and welcome to K2/I! We are so busy learning here and find it hard to believe September is gone! We decided that we really needed to learn about life cycles and nonfiction along with our favorite September person, Johnny Appleseed, so naturally apples became our focus. We began by reading about the man who is famous for giving us the apples we so enjoy. While many stories about him are fictional, we were able to come to the conclusion that there were also many true facts we could use in our quest for nonfiction learning. Then we turned to the magnificent apple for more informational learning. We studied the life cycle and realized that there are six steps in the life of an apple. Did you know there are over 4,000 varieties of apples? During our learning experience we took time to document our knowledge in an apple journal through word search, coloring math pictures, building a life cycle, writing about what can be made with apples and ending with a basket of apples that tell about ourselves.



GRADE 2/3

Ms. Dixon

Welcome back for the 2025-26 school year! We are so excited to be back for a year of learning and fun! We have been working hard on our school routines and rules, getting to know our classmates, and finding ways to remain focused during learning times. We have reviewed writing topic sentences when given details, adding details to our writing to make it more interesting, and making sure to write in our best craft. We have had lots of reading time - independently as well as readaloud times! In Math, we have reviewed skip counting, telling time, and addition/subtraction. In Second Step (our social-emotional curriculum,) we are learning how to be respectful learners and how to use self-talk to remember things. We will soon be adding on new Second and Third Grade skills in all core areas to help our brains grow! As a class, we are working on helping each other, taking turns and sharing, being nice/kind to everyone, and making everyone feel comfortable in order to earn pom poms. When we fill our jar, we will earn a class prize. We are well on our way there - Keep up the awesome work Grade 2 and 3 friends!



GRADE 4/5

Ms. Welch

Welcome back 4th and 5th grade! We've had a spectacular start to the school year and have enjoyed getting back into the swing of things. The students were excited to catch up with their friends after summer break and to meet their new teacher. As the oldest students at St Peter Academy, we have been working hard to set a good example for our community and the younger students. We established and agreed upon a set of class norms and try our best to be 'bucket-fillers' inside and outside of the classroom every day. The concept of being a 'bucket-filler' comes from the book, "Have You Filled A Bucket Today?", written by Carol McCloud. Throughout the school year, the 4th and 5th grade students will receive a pom pom in our classroom bucket for both individual and group successes as a reward. We have also discussed what it means to have empathy for others and how to have positive social interactions, as we explored in our Second Step lessons. This has allowed us to create a fun and safe learning environment where students feel comfortable to take risks and be their authentic selves. The 4th and 5th graders are also practicing their independence and taking more responsibility for their academic tasks and behavior, such as organizing, completing, and keeping track of their school work. The students are assigned weekly jobs to increase their responsibilities as well. The students have transitioned well from summer to school mode. The norms and expectations we have put in place this month will guide us throughout the rest of the school year. We are looking forward to a fun-filled Fall season!

