

We celebrated our second week of the Advent season last week and the students and staff received a candy cane treat from their Advent friends as we move one week closer to knowing our Advent friend's identity. Our student council helped us light the third candle on the Advent wreath this morning and reminded us of the purpose of Advent and what the candles and wreath stand for. We encourage all of you to continue to pray with your child(ren) at home and share in the spirit of Advent. We will be revealing our Advent friends next Wednesday so we ask that you bring your child(ren)'s gift for their Advent friend prior to school on Wednesday. This is also Christmas program week and your child(ren) have been working hard these past few weeks to put on a show that we hope will be lighthearted and reflect the spirit of the Christmas season. The performance dates this week are the PK-2 program on Tuesday at 6:00 PM and 3rd-6th grade on Wednesday at 6:00 PM. We are asking that all students report to their classrooms by 5:30 PM on their performance night. We will also be having a whole school dress rehearsal on Tuesday starting around 12:30. All performances (excluding dress rehearsal) will be recorded and posted later on the school Facebook page. If you have any questions about the Christmas programs, please do not hesitate to ask. As always, we want to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents, parishioners, community members, and other stakeholders for everything you have done and continue to do for our school. Without your support and trust in our mission, we wouldn't be able to teach the way Jesus did and help instill that mindset in our students. May God continue to shine His blessings on our school family and community.

In Case You Missed It...

- Thank you to all who donated coats for our annual Coats for Christmas drive on Saturday. There were a lot of great donated items that will help keep those in need warm this holiday season.
- Our Accelerated Reading program is in full swing so we encourage all of our families to continue to challenge your kids to become avid readers. Read books, take quizzes, score points, win prizes. Books and quizzes can be accessed through the myON or the AR program website. Our book vending machine is also up and operating for any student(s) who earn enough points to pick out a free book. If you have any questions about the AR program, please let us know.
- Please remember to send an **excuse note to school upon your child's return after an absence**. Also, please remember that our school policy states that if a student is absent or sent home with an illness, they must be symptom-free for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to school. This is especially important as we enter the cold and flu season.
- When sending money to school, please put it in an envelope with the student's name, the amount, and what the money's for. (You can use all those junk mail envelopes for this and just write on the back). Please remember to write a separate check for tuition, lunch money, PK tuition, or extended day bills as these are separate accounts. **We are not able to cash one large check and separate the funds.**
- Remember that monthly tuition payments are due by December 15th and semester payments will be due in January. If you have any questions about tuition payments or other invoices, please let us know.

Just Thought You Should Know...

- Due to a staffing issue, there will be **no extended day on Wednesday, December 21st.** PK extended day will be available until K-6 dismissal at 2:40. If you have any questions, please let us know.
- The St. Peter School Student Council will be sponsoring a Christmas Spirit Week next week. Please see the attached flier for more details. Also, please remember that Wednesday is church day so please make sure your child(ren)'s outfits are appropriate for church.
- Great job 6th leading our school liturgy service last Thursday. The 5th grade class will be leading our next service this Wednesday at 8:20. Family members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Due to cost constraints, we will no longer be live streaming these services but we will be recording them and posting them on our school Facebook page following the service for those who are unable to attend. If you have any questions about this change please let us know.
- We will be conducting a full-scale lockdown drill in the coming weeks. As required by the Ohio Department of Education, every year we must conduct a full-scale emergency drill in order to test our school's emergency preparedness. The details of this drill will be shared with everyone prior to it being conducted and if you have any questions, please let us know.
- We also want to remind our families that we have a counselor on staff on Thursdays to help our students and staff cope with any stress or anxieties they may be experiencing. We are pleased to partner with Mrs. Jodi Courtad-Holman again this year for individual counseling and whole class discussions. We are excited to again offer this resource for our students, staff, and families so if you would like to schedule an individual appointment, please contact Mr. England directly and we can get you connected. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to let us know.
- Our next For the Love of Pete drawing will take place on January 4th, 2023. There are still tickets available to get entered into next month's drawing. Please contact the school if you would like to purchase a ticket. Ticket price is \$100. Thanks so much to all who have participated so far.
- Happy Birthday this week to: Oliver K. (1) and Mrs. Leightey
- Our CYO basketball season continues this coming weekend with our 4th/5th grade boys team playing at Carey OLC on Saturday at 1:30. Good luck Colts!
- Please check the school website at www.stpeterupper.com for latest updates, schedules, or changes.

Quote of the Week: "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." ~ Aesop

St. Peter School Expansion Update:

As we continue to fine tune our plans for 7th grade next year, we wanted to remind everyone that we have compiled an expansion FAQ document that is available on our school website. This is a working document that we update regularly as we get more questions and subsequent answers concerning our junior high plans. We also have an email address that you can send any questions you might have concerning expansion. Your questions will be answered and added to the FAQ document so we can continue to be transparent and open with our communication. The email address is expansion@stpeterupper.com. This week, we would like to share two of the most frequently asked questions we have received:

Q: Will our SPS students be able to play sports at USMS? Will there be extra-curricular activities? Sports will be taking place at USMS as the school does not intend to offer CYO for seventh and eighth grade. Since the school does not offer those activities, SPS students would be eligible to participate in athletics at the junior high level. As far as extra-curricular activities, it will depend on the activity and the desire of the students. Some activities like student council would still be here at the school.

Q: Will tuition go up? 7th and 8th grades? Whole school?

Tuition goes up every year for the whole school as the finance committee determines. However, tuition for seventh and eighth grade WILL NOT increase independently and will remain the same as our K-6 tuition.