



## ST. PETER TRI-PARISH SCHOOL

*A Collaborative of St. Benedict, St. Peter & St. Timothy Parishes  
A Feinstein Leadership School*

120 Mayfair Road Warwick, Rhode Island 02888  
(401) 781-9242 [stpeterschoolri.com](http://stpeterschoolri.com)

*The Mission of St. Peter Tri-Parish School is to provide its students  
with a Catholic education that fosters spiritual, academic, and  
social growth within an atmosphere of mutual respect.*



February 9, 2018

Dear Parents,

The holy **Season of Lent** will begin on **Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018**. **Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter**. During this time, we **fast, repent, moderate, self-deny** and become **more spiritually disciplined**. During the **40 days of Lent**, we try to become **better Christians** by “**giving up**” something—not necessarily food—but perhaps a “**bad**” habit such as **smoking, swearing, controlling our tempers** or **cutting down on watching TV** or **playing on our devices** and **spending more time in prayer** in order to **strengthen our relationship with God**. Whatever you choose to do, **make it reasonable and attainable** and try to **sustain it beyond the 40 days of Lent**. The **Sundays of Lent** are **not counted in the 40 days** because each **Sunday** represents a “**mini-Easter**”.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are days of **fast and abstinence** for Catholics. In addition, **Fridays during Lent**, are **obligatory days of abstinence**. When **fasting**, those **between the ages of 18 and 59** should eat less, meaning, **take no solid food between meals** and **only one full meal that day**. **Abstinence** means **not eating meat**—**Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of**

**Lent are days of abstinence.** Young children, the elderly, and persons who have health issues are exempt from fast and abstinence.

**Shrove Tuesday**, the **Tuesday before Ash Wednesday**, is often celebrated by eating **pancakes** and other **rich foods** such as **eggs and dairy** to use them up in anticipation of the 40 day fasting season of Lent. **Shrove Tuesday** is also known as **“Fat Tuesday”** or **Mardi Gras**.

St. Peter Tri-Parish School will continue our **long tradition** of **Breakfast Club**. Breakfast Club (**students in grades K to 8**) meets on the **Fridays of Lent** (when school is in session) for the **7:00 AM Mass**, followed by a **breakfast that the children can either bring or purchase at school that morning**. **Breakfast Club** goes from **7:00 AM to 8:30 AM** and is **supervised by the faculty**. All classes will also participate in **Stations of the Cross** weekly and **Father Gagne** will hear confessions once a week for grades 2-8.

**Rice Bowls** will be distributed to all our students next week. Children are encouraged to give up some of their own change every week. Every week, the coveted very “special” Rice Bowl will go to the class who brought in the most money that week. At the end of Lent, Mrs. Hardy will announce the class that brought in the most money through Lent and they will get to keep the “special” Rice Bowl until Lent 2019. Money collected from the Rice Bowl program will help those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities. Mrs. Hardy takes her own personal time each week to count and wrap the money from our Rice Bowl Collection!

For **other ideas** on how to prepare for this holy season, please visit **BestLentEver.com**.

A complete Lenten/Easter schedule for St. Peter Church is included in this week’s Friday folder.

**FEBRUARY 14 (ASH WEDNESDAY):** There is **NO dispensation** from the discipline of fasting and abstinence on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday.

**SCIENCE FAIR:** **Eighth Grade Science projects** were judged on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. I had the opportunity to talk with all the students and was **quite impressed with their accomplishments**. Though all were very good, we did have **three winners**:

**FIRST PLACE: BEN FONTAINE** *Does Your Steak “meat” Your Expectations?*  
**SECOND PLACE: SIENA ALGEO** *Does Food Affect Students’ Test Scores?*  
**THIRD PLACE: EMILY PATENAUE** *MSG’s Affect on Appetite*

**All three students** will take part in the **RI Science and Engineering Fair** held at **CCRI Knight Campus Saturday, March 17, 2018**.

**SPELLING BEE:** **Siena Algeo** and **Emily Patenaude** participated in the **Regional Spelling Bee** at St. Mary's School, Cranston on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. They were **competing with 23 Catholic Schools** from around the state—a **total of 46 children**. Although they did not win, they **“conquered” some very difficult words** and **were only eliminated in the very last round**. **Congratulations, Siena and Emily!**

**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD:** **Jonathan Alvarez**, dad of **Maggie** in **grade 2**, has once again offered to **coach our students in grades 6-8** participating in the **2018 Science Olympiad**. The children who have participated in the Olympiad the past few years have had a **lot of fun** and have been **very successful competing**. The **Science Olympiad** will take place on **April 21<sup>st</sup>** at **Rhode Island College**.

**2018 HONOR BAND & STRINGS CONCERT:** We have been informed by **Paul Effman Music Service** that **4 of our students** who take lessons from **Effman Music** have been selected to participate in the **Honor Band & Strings Concert**. The Concert will take place at **URI on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM**. We are very proud of our musicians, **Lauren Birmingham, Grade 6, Liam Bonney, Grade 6, Alexandra Cardin, Grade 4** and **Zachary Young, Grade 6**.

**MOBILE QUEST-STEAM CAMP—AN APRIL VACATION OPPORTUNITY:** A **STEAM Camp** will be offered at St. Peter Tri-Parish School during the **spring vacation break, April 16<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>**. **First through fifth graders** are invited to participate in the camp. **The cost for the camp is very reasonable--\$215.00 per child**. The camp runs from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM with **before/after care available** at an **additional cost**. We are offering this to **St. Peter students first; it will then be opened up to other schools**. If you are interested, please register at [www.mobilequestadventures.com](http://www.mobilequestadventures.com) or email [brian@mobilequestadventures.com](mailto:brian@mobilequestadventures.com). Complete details are included on the **flyer** enclosed in this week's **Friday Folder** and **e-folder**.

**If this camp is successful, another STEAM camp may be offered during the summer.**

**BRUINS GAME:** The **last chance** to purchase tickets for the **February 11<sup>th</sup> Bruins' game** is **February 10<sup>th</sup>**. You can contact **David DeNitto directly at 680-4706** if you wish to purchase tickets. A **flyer** is included in this week's **Friday Folder** and **e-folder**.

**MANDATORY FUNDRAISING:** Third notices were mailed out this week to those families who have not paid or only made partial payment on the \$250.00 per family Mandatory Fundraising fee. We ask that you please send in your payments this week.

We also bring to your attention that re-registrations cannot be processed or grades and records sent on to other school if your child is graduating or transferring unless your tuition payments are current and you have paid your 2017-2018 Mandatory Fundraising Fee. If you have any questions on the re-registration process, please call Mrs. Rossi.

**GEOGRAPHY BEE:** Our in-house Geography Bee took place on Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. We had 8 participants from grades 5-8: Liam Jarvis and Andrew Wilkinson, grade 5; Avery Adams and Andrea Weidele, grade 6; Biss Cavanagh and Luke Karpowich, grade 7; and Siena Algeo and Gavin Drew, grade 8. All did a wonderful job! Biss Cavanagh, grade 7 came in first place and Siena Algeo, grade 8 came in second place. Both girls will take a qualifying test to determine if they will participate in the Regional Competition.

**LAWN SIGNS:** If you were kind enough to place lawn signs advertising our Open House in various places, could you please collect them and return them to school. We can reuse them next year.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK:** We had great participation at 11:00 AM Mass and I thank all our families who were present. Our Open House was well attended. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make our visitors feel so welcome. Our enrollment at this time of the year far exceeds other years. Some classes are already full with a waiting list. Thank you to all the faculty and staff who were present at the Open House.

We had a very successful Catholic Schools Week filled with lots of activities. I would like to especially thank Mrs. Meghan Washburn for organizing the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. The children had a wonderful time! I would also like to thank all of the teachers for their participation and flexibility that week.

Our Teacher Appreciation Luncheon was magnificent. Thank you to Amy Kuiawa, Alicia Olszewski, and all the parents who volunteered to watch the classes for an hour. Thank you also to Alicia Olszewski and her committee for arranging for the Happy Grams.

**BASKETBALL NEWS:** The boys' basketball team played against Bishop McVinney, a much bigger and taller team, at Zuccollo on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Every team member

**contributed! Though they were behind the entire first half, they forged ahead and won the game 44 to 31! Great Job!**

The boys played another game on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> against St. Pius. This game went into overtime, but our boys from St. Peter Tri-Parish School won a close game 52-48. **Congratulations!**

The next basketball game takes place Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM against St. Mary Cranston at St. Mary's. There is also a game on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM against OLM at St. Mary's Cranston and on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM against Bishop McVinney at Cole Middle School.

**PASTA DINNER:** Our Pasta Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2018. This dinner is enjoyed by both school and parish families. However, we do not have a Chair or a committee to organize this event. It is not too difficult to organize. It involves ordering the food from Rigatoni's and getting volunteers to serve, decorate the lower church, and secure some raffle items or baskets. Our Hospitality Committee and school families will provide the desserts. We draw the Grand Prize Winners of the 25 Week Club during the dinner. If you would like to undertake this event, please call the office at 781-9242.

**MOTHER-SON DANCE:** Reservation flyers and photo package flyers were sent home this week with the boys. This wonderful evening for moms and sons will take place on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Cranston Country Club. Deadline for reservations is 2-15-18.

**UNIFORMS:** I am noticing each day more and more students out of uniform. Please consult your handbook as to the correct uniform clothing for all grades, Preschool 3 to Grade 8. Winter uniforms began on November 1<sup>st</sup>. I will instruct the faculty to hand out Uniform Violation forms to all students not in full uniform. If a child receives 3 or more slips, they will have detention. I ask your immediate cooperation with this situation.

**25 WEEK CLUB:** The winners of drawing #15 were:

<b>Chris Sullivan</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>Jessica Weaver</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Joanne Blair</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>John Pine</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>

The winners of drawing #16 were:

<b>Cindy Barrington</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>Carol McMahon</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Rafael Yopez</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>Anthony Albanese</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>

**TUITION:** The eighth tuition payment was due on February 1, 2018.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

<b>FEBRUARY 12</b>	<b>GRADE 2 CLASS ACTIVITY--<u>CANCELED</u> ACRE TESTING GRADES 5 AND 8 FATHER GAGNE'S BIRTHDAY</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 13</b>	<b>SHROVE TUESDAY</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 14</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY—MASS AT 10 AM—HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. GRADE 7 IS PREPARING THE MASS VALENTINE'S DAY TUMBLEBUS ONE-ON-ONE SPORTS</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 15</b>	<b>MATHCON TESTING</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 16</b>	<b>BREAKFAST CLUB 6:55 AM MASS DEADLINE FOR 2018/19 FINANCIAL AID CONFESSIONS GRADES 3 &amp; 4</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 19-23</b>	<b>WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 26</b>	<b>SCHOOL RESUMES</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 27</b>	<b>ZUMBA MAKE-UP CLASS</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 28</b>	<b>ONE-ON-ONE SPORTS</b>
<b>MARCH 2</b>	<b>BREAKFAST CLUB 6:55 AM MASS CONFESSIONS GRADES 5 &amp; 6 MOTHER/SON DANCE @ CRANSTON COUNTRY CLUB</b>

*To cut out a moment of silence with God every day, is to take care of our soul. It's to preserve our freedom from the corrosive banality of consumerism and the dizziness of advertising, from the spread of empty words and from the overwhelming waves of chatter and noise.*

~~~Pope Francis

God bless!

Joan Sickinger  
Principal

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