



Saint Peter's Catholic School

Unlocking potential through faith and knowledge since 1957

Panther Newsletter

KINDNESS SPREADS JOY

The Kindness Initiative, like the Christmas Spirit, is spreading like wildfire through the school.

Pictured right is Senora Snowdon with 7th graders making an appearance on the Panther Pride morning show to explain the Random Acts of Kindness Initiative in the Middle School. As she did last year, Sra. Snowdon has challenged students to commit random acts of kindness for which, remarkably, students agree to pay a fee of 25¢ each. Sra. Snowdon has agreed to match all funds and make a donation to The Salvation Army.

7th graders are also researching charities started by children as part of their study of Dickens' Christmas Carol in their Literature classes. Students are taking turns reporting their research results on the morning show.

Finally, in many classes, students are making Christmas cards which will be delivered to soldiers receiving treatment at the Walter Reed Medical Center in Bethesda. Stay tuned—more Random Acts of Kindness are sure to pop up in the most unexpected places.



UPCOMING EVENTS

12/15 Last day to donate for orphanage (p. 2); Student Confessions; 7pm Christmas Show @ GC

12/19, 9-11am—Open House. Please join us. Invite friends and neighbors!

12/20, 8pm SAB Mtg.; 7th Gr. Field trip to African Art Museum

12/22, 8:30am Mass; 11:45am Student Christmas Caroling in the parish hall (parents please join us); 12:30 dismissal for Christmas vacation

12/25-1/1/2018—Closed for Christmas holiday

1/3/2018, 8pm HSEB Mtg.



Playground Fund Hits 100%

We did it! We've reached our goal of raising \$43,000 to refurbish and expand the playground. Thank you for your generosity. Watch for new equipment to be installed in the coming months.

Finished your Christmas shopping? No? Visit the online [school store](#), for all kinds Saint Peter's gift items. Until December 21, enter the code SPChristmas and receive a 10% discount on your entire order. Unless we receive a call or email asking us to hold items for pick up, all merchandise will be sent home with the oldest child. Below is just a sample of the items available:



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Christmas Door Decorating Contest Results

Congratulations to the teachers and classes who won the Christmas Door Decorating contests. From left to right: Mrs. Hemmingson (Specials Teachers), Mrs. Popil 7O (Middle School), Ms. Trees KC (Gr. PK-2), Mrs. Proday 4J (Gr. 3-5). Every class participated. There are creative Christmas doors up and down the hallway! Visit us during next week's open house, Tuesday, 9-11am, to view all the doors!



Christmas Service Project

Tomorrow, Friday, December 15, is the final day of the collection for the Honduran orphanage.

Please send Children's Tylenol, and Children's Vitamins.

NO "GUMMY" style products; they melt during transport.

Liquid Tylenol in plastic bottles or chewable Tylenol and vitamin products please.

Thank you for your generous support.



Cold Weather Reminders

Winter weather is here! Warm coats, hats, and gloves every day, please! Our students go outside MOST days, even for just a brief period for fresh air. Don't let your child be the one shivering with just a sweater. Brrrr.



Saint Peter's Inclement Weather Policy

In case of snow, severe weather, or other public emergency, we follow the guidelines of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). Please listen to your radio for information on school closings or delayed openings. If a public emergency or emergency weather conditions start while children are in school, please turn on the radio. In the event of an emergency on a day that MCPS is closed (ie, in-service day), but Saint Peter's School is scheduled to be open, our school will follow the directive of the Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools Office. Students are not permitted to call to notify you of a change in schedule. Daycare will close one hour after an emergency school closing.

What happens if it's an early dismissal day for Saint Peter's and MCPS announces a 2-hour delayed start?

If MCPS announces a delayed opening we will follow that announcement. If there is a 2-hour delayed opening on a day which is scheduled for early dismissal, *Saint Peter's School will NOT have early dismissal, but instead will dismiss at the regular time.*

Join us for a
"A Trip Around the World"...
**Saint Peter's 2nd Annual
International Night**



February 1, 2018
*Visit exotic destinations,
sample international cuisines,
complete a craft and enjoy live entertainment!*

To host a country, please contact:
**Kathleen Songer 301-466-8394,
kathleenlane@msn.com**
**or Jennifer Georgopoulos 301-807-4274,
jgeorgopoulos@verizon.net**



**Re-Enroll NOW for
Christmas Savings!**

Believe it or not, it's time to re-enroll current students for next school year. We are offering an early Christmas present to families who re-enroll early!

DISCOUNTED RE-ENROLLMENT FEES THRU DECEMBER 22: Re-enroll your child(ren) by December 22 (last day before Christmas break) and each registration is discounted \$25 (from \$150 down to \$125 per student). You must use the personalized link from TADS to complete re-enrollment and qualify for the discount. Can't find the link? Contact TADS or email [Mrs. Corless](mailto:Mrs.Corless).

Re-enrollment fees after December 22:

- Re-enroll by January 31—\$150 per student
- Re-enroll by February 28—\$200 per student
- Re-enroll by March 31—\$250 per student
- Re-enroll by April 30—\$300 per student

*Pre-K students must be 4 by September 1; Kindergarten students must be 5 by September 1.

New Family Referral Program

We continue to offer a new family referral incentive to current families—refer a new family enrolling students in grades K-5, and receive a tuition credit in the amount of \$1000. The prospective family must designate the referring family on the enrollment application. Other terms and conditions apply. Refer multiple families; earn multiple tuition credits! Request a brochure from the school office.



**SAINT PETER'S
LACROSSE FOR Gr. K-2**

Saint Peter's Athletic Association is looking into starting a new in-house lacrosse program. SPAA would like to hold lacrosse clinics for children in kindergarten through second grade to teach the basic skills and help children learn the game of lacrosse. If you have lacrosse experience and are interested in coaching, please contact SPAA Athletic Director Rob Carlsen at rob-carlsen@stpetersolney.org.



From the Environmental Club

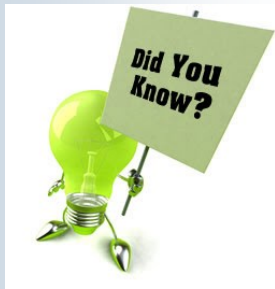
We are excited to tell you about a very special program the Environmental Club is coordinating at Saint Peter's in conjunction with Crayola. It's called Crayola ColorCycle – an amazing new program devised to turn used markers into energy!

All around Saint Peter's, students and teachers will be collecting used markers that are ready to be discarded. The markers will be sent to a facility where they will be converted into clean fuel. This fuel can be used to power vehicles, heat homes, cook meals and more!

Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers you may have around the house – **even non-Crayola brands**. Drop-off boxes will be located in the school for your child to deposit the markers.

Thank you in advance for participating! With the help of parents like you across the country, the Crayola ColorCycle program can keep tons of plastic out of landfills each year.

Remember, don't throw out that used marker—*ColorCycle it!*



FUN FACTS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

An idling car uses between 1/5 and 7/10 of a gallon of fuel an hour. For every 10 minutes your engine is off, you'll prevent one pound of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere. Turn off your engines at pick up to help make our school's and community's air healthier to breathe, reduce the amount of CO2 released in the air and in turn save money!



INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Help our school go **GREEN!**

It's EASY:

Save your empty and undamaged ink cartridges
Send the cartridges to school in a Ziploc bag with your child
The cartridges will be counted, sorted and shipped to a collection agency
Saint Peter's School will receive credit for every cartridge collected

The funds collected will be reinvested into the school

Sponsored by the Saint Peter's School Environmental Club



PANTHER CYO BASKETBALL



WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 16, 17



Four of our sixteen Parish CYO basketball teams are playing their third games of the season this Saturday & Sunday. These are the final games for 2017 with many more in January. Admission is free and cheering for your classmates is highly encouraged! Full team schedules and gym locations can be found at the Team Coach and Gym Location hotlinks in the matrix below.



Games are approximately 50 min. and subject to change *.

League	Team Coach	Date/Time	Versus	Gym Location
14U Girls	Hammersmith	Sun. 3:15 p.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes	St. Elizabeth
14U Boys	Lechner	Sat. 8:15 p.m.	Mary of Nazareth	St. Elizabeth
16U Boys	Dymowski	Sun. 12:15 p.m.	Holy Redeemer	Montgomery Blair HS
18U Boys	Stafford	Sat. 5:15 p.m.	St. Patrick's	Rockville HS

*- Click [here](#) for weather related closings and other news.

From the Health Room



This is the time of year when colds, the flu, and other viral illnesses seem to be everywhere. We understand the needs of busy parents but we ask that you cooperate with us to **maintain a healthy environment for our students and our faculty and staff.** Please follow these guidelines:

- If your child isn't feeling well, please keep him/her home. This includes children who are actively sneezing, coughing, complaining of aches or are feverish. Giving a sick child Tylenol and sending them to school is NOT acceptable (It's obvious when this happens and you will find yourself on Santa's naughty list!).
- Keep children home until symptoms have abated and/or until the fever is gone for 24 hours (without the aid of medication)
- Notify Mrs. Towson in the health room if your child is diagnosed with a communicable illness such as Strep, Flu, etc.
- If your child does get sick while they are at school, please note that parents are required to pick up sick/injured children as soon as possible but no later than one hour after notification of the illness or injury.

Saint Peter's School



A 2012 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



*Join us for Open House
Tuesdays, 9-11am
November 28, 2017-
March 27, 2018*

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR PROGRAM:

- *Catholic religious instruction, spiritual formation & character development, service opportunities*
- *Computer lab and technology integration in all aspects of curriculum*
- *Ability grouping in Math & Reading instruction*
- *STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) curriculum*
- *Enrichment Arts Program featuring instrumental music lessons, music appreciation classes, choir, ballroom dance instruction, and drama*
- *Older students mentoring younger buddies*
- *Environmental Club, Student Council, Science enrichment classes, Ski Club, and more*
- *Before- and After-care available*

A Catholic elementary school educating students in grades Pre-K through 8th grade, committed to developing all aspects of the human character to release the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and physical potential of each child.

Faith formation and academic excellence are the foundation of our program.

**2900 Olney Sandy Spring Road, Olney, MD
301-774-9112**

www.stpetersschoololney.org

SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR SAINT PETER'S SCHOOL

2900 Olney-Sandy Spring Rd.
Olney, Maryland 20832

Phone: 301-774-9112
Fax: 301-924-6698
E-mail: school@stpetersolney.org

We're on the web at:
www.stpetersschoololney.org

These organizations partner with Saint Peter's to provide additional sources of revenue that can help fund special programs. Please participate in as many as you can. Last year Saint Peter's received over \$12,000 from these programs.

- **Box Tops for Education** – Clip Box Tops and send them in to school. For a complete list of products and to register online for St. Peter's, please go to www.btfе.com.
- **Giant Bonus Card** – Register your Giant Bonus Card at www.giantfood.com/aplus. Our school's ID number is **00690**. Cards need to be renewed every school year.
- **Harris Teeter VIC Card** – Every time you purchase Harris Teeter brand items or fill a prescription at the pharmacy St. Peter's will earn money. Register your VIC Card at www.harristeeter.com/community (Together in Education section). Our school's ID number is **1054**. Cards need to be renewed every school year.
- **Target**—Link your Target charge card to Saint Peter's School. Target will automatically send a check to Saint Peter's School for a percentage of all the purchases.
- **Smile Amazon**—Register for Saint Peter's when you shop on Amazon.



Volunteer Opportunities



Every family must complete 15 hours of service during the 2017-2018 school year. There are lots of opportunities. Some upcoming activities/events:

***Lunch/Recess Duty**— Help needed daily. Sign up for any day/frequency that fits your schedule. Click [HERE](#).

PW: Pantherpride. Questions? Contact [Andrea Scanlon](#).

International Night—last year's inaugural event was a wonderful success! Many hands needed to make this year's event just as special. Please contact [Jennifer Georgopoulos](#).

NEW! Enrichment Programs Coordinator. Work with the current coordinator, Margaret Giron, to learn how to organize and manage this wonderful program in preparation for heading it up in the 2019-2020 school year. Please contact [Margaret Giron](#)

** This event/activity requires volunteers to be in full compliance with the ADW Child Protection Policy: attendance at Virtus Workshop AND background screening.*



ONLINE RESEARCH RESOURCES

Saint Peter's provide students with many online research resources. These resources are also available from home using the following login and access information. If you have any questions please contact the library, [Virginia Riley](#)

GROLIERS: <https://go.scholastic.com/index.html>

Groliers Sign On: Customer ID: stpeters (NO CAPS)
Password: rock (NO CAPS)

SIRS: <https://ars.sirs.com/discoverer.html>

SIRS Sign On: Customer ID: stpeters (NO CAPS)
Password: rock (NO CAPS)

WORLD BOOK:
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/Login?ed=wb>

WORLD BOOK KIDS (K-5)

WORLD BOOK STUDENT (5-8) Research Tools, including My Research.

World Book Sign on:
Customer ID: stpeters4 (NO CAPS)
Password: rock (NO CAPS)