



*Celebrating the 70th year
of Catholic education
of the whole child:
Spiritual, academic
emotional, intellectual,
physical and social.*

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WILDCAT UPDATE

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 5

MAY 2016

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

The end of the 2015/2016 school year seemed so far away when I wrote my first article for the Wildcat Monthly and yet here I am writing the final one for this school year. The saying of “the days may seem long, yet the weeks fly-by” has really been how the school year has gone for me. There were days that felt like they would never end and before you knew it I would be saying “It’s Friday again”. Hopefully, my feelings that there have been some really positive things happen at St. Peter School are feelings you share.

I do want to take this opportunity to wish our eighth grade students the best of luck as they leave us and continue down their educational path. I have only been able to share a short time of their educational life with them, but from what I have observed, heard, and witnessed, they will be more prepared for the challenges that lie ahead of them in high school than many of their peers. The education we have given them with is top notch, but the secondary things like, prayer, service, comradery, leadership opportunities and kindness are the items that will help launch them to the top of their class in high school and beyond.

I hope that all of you are able to have a nice relaxing summer and enjoy some time without homework or worrying about due dates. Next school year will be full of exciting changes for St. Peter. I would like to ask that if at all possible cast away all of the negatives that you remember from this school year, focus on the positive things that have occurred, and bring that energy into next school year. Have a great summer break.

Sincerely,

Doug McMillan

AROUND OUR SCHOOL

By the time you receive this last edition of the Wildcat, school will be almost over. It is amazing how fast the year goes. Congratulations to our newest group of graduates, the class of 2016. We wish them all the best in the next part of their academic, as well as their spiritual journey. We know that they are well prepared for all that high school presents to them.

Congratulations to our second graders who made their First Communion on April 30 and May 14. It was a beautiful celebration surrounded by their families and friends. We would like to thank JJ Alexander, Maria Moloney, Carrie Everett, Kate Tawney, Maggie Elias, and Mary Claire Donohue, and her team, for their time, effort, and love in preparing our children for this special time in their lives.

Congratulations to all of our Middle School students who participated in or won several competitions recently. At the regional History Day in April, Grant and Carson Worthington placed second in the state in the Group Website category, and Andrew Gallagher placed first in Historical Paper. They will go on to the National level at the University of Maryland in June. In early May, William Becker and Elijah Lapay qualified for the National History Bee finals in Richmond, VA. They will go on to Chicago in June for the finals. Harriet Bowles won first place, and Brae Heizer, placed as runner-up at the zone level of the Optimist Oratorical Contest in April. Harriet went on to compete at the district level in Goldsboro. We would also like to recognize a few of our alumni. Mary Hochberg, Cameron Dennis, and Christina Tan were recently accepted at the NC School of Math and Science for the 2016-17 school year.

The 8th grade had their end-of-year retreat on May 16th. This was a day of fun, fellowship, faith, and reflection for them away from the school before graduation. This year, it was held in New Bern at the old St. Paul Catholic Church. It was organized and attended by Mr. Blick, Mr. Hughes, Fr. Nick, Lisa

Shepherd, and also Felix and Chrisanne from the Dirty Vagabond Ministries. A few parents attended, as well.

School office hours change in the summer, usually 9:00-12:00, beginning the week of June 13th. That is also Vacation Bible School week. Check with them, or the office voicemail, for any other changes.

As I mentioned in the March Wildcat, changes are coming to the Middle School with the implementation of STREAM/STEM education/curriculum. The present daily schedule will change, allowing for more math instruction time and a period for STEM activities, projects, and research. We have a lot of learning and problem solving to do as we begin the integration and look forward to the collaboration required for this endeavor.

With the changes in the curriculum, there are also some changes in staffing, which was announced a month ago. Since that time, sadly we have had a few other changes. Mrs. Mahar will be moving to San Diego, CA, this summer as her husband begins a new job there. Also, Mrs. Elias will be leaving at the end of the school year. She has accepted a Spanish teaching position with Pitt County Schools. We are very sad to see them go but wish them all the best in their new endeavors.

Again, thank you for a wonderful year and for being so generous with your Time, Treasure, Talent. It takes your support to make this school the special place that it is. Have a wonderful summer vacation.

Page Watson, Asst. Principal





SPS Middle School students had a great time at the yearbook signing social. Thanks to our sensational sixth grade parents for hosting the party!

Important Dates

Jun.1 -	Last Day of School	Noon Dismissal
Aug. 23 -	First Day of School for New Students,	
	Pre Kindergarten	A-L
	Kindergarten	A-L
Aug. 24 -	First Day of School	Grades 1-8
	Noon Dismissal	
	Pre Kindergarten	M-Z
	Kindergarten	M-Z
Aug 25 -	First Full Day of School	

The HSA is looking for someone to shadow Gia Kean this coming school year and to eventually take over the Math Stars program. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Trish Blanchard or Gia Kean. You can email Trish at:

trisblanchard@ymail.com

or Gia at: giakean@gmail.com.

Crowning of Mary



JK and 2nd Grade at the May Crowning on May 6, 2016



From the Library Media Center

Our book collection in the Library Media Center continues to grow! The funds raised from the Scholastic Book Fairs, the Barnes and Noble Christmas Book Fair, and donations from the Annual Fund allowed us to add over 820 new titles to our collection this year. Additional titles are on order and will be added to our shelves as they are released. We are working to build a library that appeals to readers and supports the Curriculum. We currently have over 14,200 cataloged items in our LMC collection. During the 2015-16 school year we circulated over 14,500 items.

Summer reading programs in our area:
[Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Triathlon](#)

[Sheppard Memorial Library "On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!"](#)

Thank you and your children for a great year. We enjoyed seeing each and every one of them during their visits to our Library Media Center. Have a great summer!



Third through Fifth grade students begin a composting project in the cafeteria.

Academic Awards

Our Middle School Academic Awards Ceremony was held May 10, 2016 in our church. We congratulate all of our students for their efforts this year. Many students were recognized on the Principal's list (A/B) and the Pastor's list (all A's) for the current school year. The following students received Excellence Awards in Art- Erin Stockwell, Ian Reiling, Jason Napast, Nate Hasselbach, Justin Overman, Elaijah Lapay, and Alannah Napast. In Music - Lauren Hodgson, Carter Lamson, Phillip Walter, Maggie Geiger, China Gunter and Harriet Bowles. In Physical Education - London Cribari, Bella McMillan, Jessica Balanay, David Nguyen, Caroline Christopher, and Tanner Twiddy. In Religion - Juliana Laverde, Brighton Hou, Brooke Borton, Ryan Moloney, Sarah Porter, and Elaijah Lapay. In Science - London Cribari, William Becker, Landon Brown, Hanley Boardman, Caroline Flowers, and Scott Corley. In History - Jerry Cox, Ethan Kennedy, and Robert Allen. In Language Arts - Juliana Laverde, Gabi Barnaby, Ryan Moloney, Jessica Balanay, Elaijah Lapay, and Anjalee Hou. In Math - Brighton Hou, Savannah Jones, William Becker, Hans Guillen, Lily van Reede, Noelle DeVente, Jordan Taylor, Celi Cooper, Andrew Bailey, Elaijah Lapay, Hannah Scott Chamblee, and Emily Surles. In Spanish - Ian Reiling, Grant Worthington, Emma Dao, Hans Guillen, Skyeler Jackson, and Sarah Porter. In Geography - Juliana Laverde, Elizabeth Hochberg, and Skyeler Jackson. The DAR Citizenship Award went to Elaijah Lapay. The Harris Leadership Award Nomination went to Elaijah Lapay. Congratulations to the following 8th graders who will graduate with green cords for their A/B achievement (year -end grades) all 3 years of middle school: Andrew Bailey, Matthew Blount, Delaney Byrne, Hannah Scott Chamblee, Isabella Corder, Allie Curtis, Maeve English, Forbes Greene, Jack Hastings, Emily Surles, Isabella Voos, Matthew Wacker, Ethan Ambrose, Rebecca Chemmanam, Caroline Christopher, Scott Corley, Caroline Flowers, Anna Scott Ivey, Harrison Miller, Mary Hannah Sawyer, Mary Grace Smith, Tanner Twiddy, and Anna Vaughn. Congratulations to the following 8th graders who will graduate with blue cords for their all A's achievement (year - end grades) all 3 years of middle school: Katie Bray Carlson, Celi Cooper, Ashley Hinson, Anjalee Hou, Skyeler Jackson, Greg Kuhn, Sarah Porter, China Gunter, and Elaijah Lapay.





On Saturday, May 21st, the Middle School Mixed Ensemble traveled to Mary Passage Middle School in Newport News, Virginia to compete at Music in the Parks. Music in the Parks is a music festival through Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Virginia. The group performed *Hush! Somebody's Callin' My Name* and *Remember Me* for two adjudicators. These adjudicators listened to the group and awarded the group an overall rating of Excellent. Because of this rating, the Mixed Ensemble earned a trophy that can be viewed in the front lobby. Please take an opportunity to stop in and see it!

Mrs. Moloney's and Mrs. Everett's 2nd grade made musical instruments as a culminating activity for their sound unit in science.



JKT had a visit from Grandma Jan! She sang lots of fun songs with the kids! We love our SPS Grandparents!!!



Students from 2M&E plant flowers in memory of their classmate, Georgia Godwin.



Congratulations to John Paul II Catholic High School Class of 2016!

Kayleigh Austin, Grace Bowen, Jerry Davis, Phillip Elliott, Larissa Entler, Mikayla Harrell, Shaelynn Heffernan (Salutatorian), Enrique Lopez, Matthew Rous, Sophia Saeed (Valedictorian).

These graduates have been awarded over \$400,000 in scholarships to date. Of the many outstanding universities to which they have been accepted they have chosen: East Carolina University, Meredith, UNC Pembroke, UNC Wilmington, Villanova, and Western.

Most of us have forgotten the commitment and hard work required to complete this very difficult journey. These graduates started thirteen years ago as kindergarteners, some at St. Peter Primary, navigated the Intermediate school, and completed the first leg of their Catholic School journey in the Middle School. Some of their former teachers are reading this now trying to wrap their heads around how the time has passed so quickly. Rest assured St. Peter teachers, your kids were very well prepared for High School! They have carried their faith, character, and academic lessons with them to JP II where we pray we have cultivated and continued those lessons well in their preparation for college and life beyond all of our protective gazes.

To our graduates we leave you with the this quote:

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. You are the guy who'll decide where to go." - Dr. Seuss

Fifth grade has been learning extensively about the Civil War. The highlights of this unit have been two terrific events. In April, we travelled to Bentonville, NC to visit the Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site. We saw a musket demonstration where we learned about the weapons, commonly used during the Civil War, as well as the uniform and accouterments carried by a soldier. An interpreter in Civil War uniform demonstrated the loading and firing of a reproduction Civil War rifle musket. While investigating the rest of the ample grounds and outbuildings, we toured the Harper House, an 1855 farmhouse of John and Amy Harper that was used as a Union field hospital during the Battle of Bentonville.

In May we were visited by members of the Washington Waterfront Underground Railroad Museum re-enactors. We were amazed at how important the Washington Waterfront was during the Civil War. We learned how slaves were able to find their way to freedom at the Waterfront. We were taught songs, dances, symbols, and nursery rhymes that had secret codes and messages in them. Slaves used these codes and messages to gain information that was helpful in securing a route to their freedom.



Beta Club News



Our SPS Beta Club had a wonderful year this year. We completed several service projects including: making fleece blankets for babies in the Nurse Family Partnership Program, Carnival used book sale and Bingo, Cypress Glen cocoa jars, and making sandwiches weekly for the soup kitchen. Beta Club held their annual End of Year Dinner at Golden Corral. At the dinner, graduation cords were presented to the 8th graders for their academic honors. We would like to thank our Beta Club officers for their leadership and thank all our members for their service this year!



WILDCAT ATHLETICS

Baseball



The Saint Peter Middle School baseball team has capped a perfect 12-0 season by capturing its sixth straight IBAC (public school) conference championship. In doing so, the Wildcats outscored its opponents 126—17. Over the past six years, Saint Peter's has compiled an overall record of 76—4.

Members of this year's baseball team are Jack Hastings, Conner Wainwright, Harrison Miller, Conner Whitehurst, Ryker Galaska, Lee Watson, Tanner Twiddy, Andrew Bailey, Matthew Blount, Parker Eveleth, Carson Everette, Alex Smith, Ethan Ambrose, Matthew Wacker, Phillip Walter, Davis Harz, Garrett Blizzard, and Robert Allen. The Wildcats are coached by Joe Blick and Ken Grace.



WILDCAT ATHLETICS



Boosterthon Fun Run & Color Run

We had a very successful 1st Boosterthon Fun Run & Color Run! We are still receiving pledges but our total for this year is about \$26,511 profit to the school from the runs! So added to our \$10,000 we are about 18% of our way to our goal. I have a few plans to help us get there- but any amount of giving will certainly get us closer and closer to our goal!

Some have already asked "Can we do this again next year?" The answer is YES! We have

Summmercamps

Summer Camps are still open!

The General Sports Camp and Mr. Hughes Basketball camps still have some open spaces. If you are interesting filling one of those spots please contact the organizer of that camp. Mrs. Lawson's STEM camp has a waiting list- so if you aren't able to keep your spot please let Mrs. Lawson know so she can invite another student(s).

- General Sports Camp June 6-10, Grades K-2 (9-12pm)
- General Sports Camp June 6-10, Grades 3-5 (1-4pm)
- Hughes Basketball Camp June 20-24, Boys Grades 6-8 (9-12pm)
- Hughes Basketball Camp June 20-24, Girls Grades 6-8 (1-4pm)
- Lawson STEM Camp June 20-24, Grades 3-5 (9-12pm)
- Lawson STEM Camp June 27-30, Grades 6-8 (9-12pm)




WILDCAT ATHLETICS

Golf



Our Golf team coached by Mr. Clark had a very successful, but wet season. Thank you Mr. Clark for all your hard work with the team this year!!

Soccer



Our soccer team coached by Mr. Corder & Mr. Tulis played great this season and looked great in their new uniforms!!! Great job soccer team!! Thank you again to our wonderful volunteer coaches for all their knowledge, time & passion for the sport.

Field Day

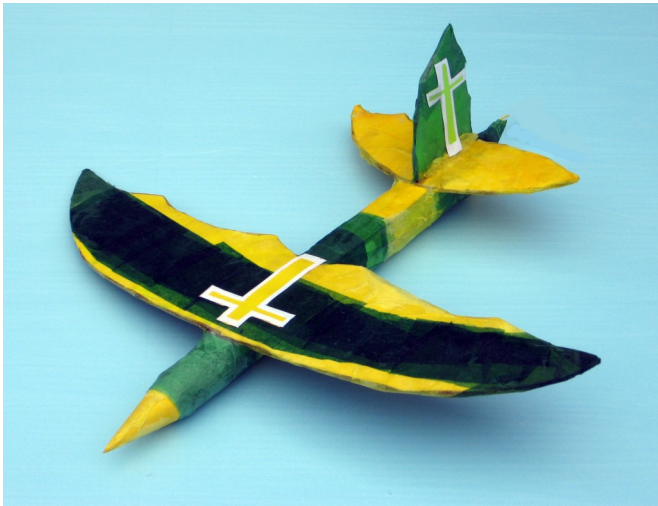
We are excited about Field Day on May 31st. Thank you to everyone for purchasing our Field Day shirt this year. The money we raise from the sale of those shirts buys new equipment for the PE Program. We can't wait to get some new equipment for the students to play with!





Third Grade Airplane Design and Construction Project

Materials: cardboard, paper, glue, tape



Carson Koesters



Mary Margaret Ricks



Max Mason



Mya Zambardino





Fourth Grade Sailboat Design and Construction Project

Materials: cardboard, paper, glue, tape



Alex Cooper



Bailey Popovich



Britt Gauquie



Olivia Miller



Dee Dee Koesters



Kean Dao



Nikki Overman





**Middle School Sewing Projects
Sixth Grade**

Materials: cloth, thread, buttons, yarn, glue



Ashlee Twiddy



Reilly Flynn



Sara Hope Diener



Grace McCarthy



Sloan Carlson





**Middle School Sewing Projects
Eighth Grade**

Materials: cloth, thread, buttons, yarn, glue



Anna Scott Ivey



China Gunter



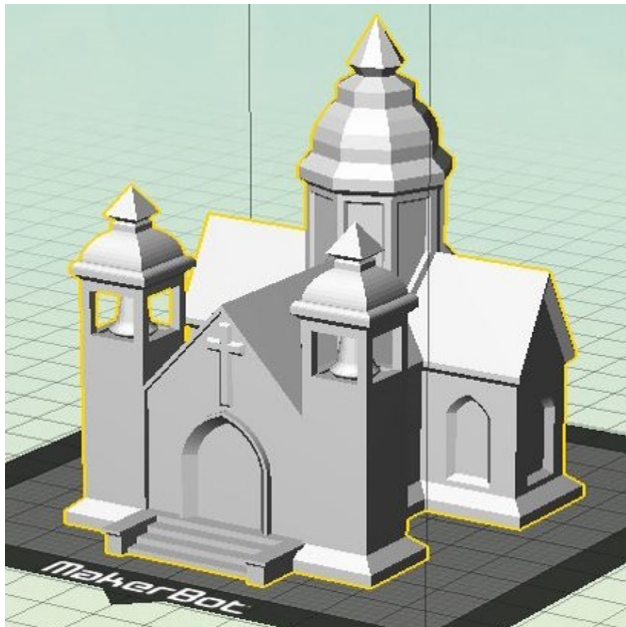
Emily Surles





Sixth Grade Computer-Aided Design

These Sketch Up drawings were 3D-printed on our Makerbot Replicator Mini 3D Printer. Juliana's drawing is shown as it appears in the viewing window of the printer's software. Two views of Connor's drawing are shown in his Sketch Up CAD file.



Julianna LaVerde



Connor Gay





3D Prints made from our middle school students' computer-aided designs were displayed in the Teaching Resources Center of East Carolina University's Joyner Library during April 2016. A view of the display is shown here.

