



March 12, 2007

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"We continue to work at drawing your child/children closer to Jesus Christ—the Way, the Truth, and the Life!"



Psalms 25:4  
"Make known to me your ways, LORD; teach me your paths."



## News from the Principal's Lair

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Peter's,

### 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

What a terrific celebration we had this past Saturday to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of St. Peter's Catholic School! Bishop Burbidge made this event such a highlight for this school year. His presence and his words were truly an inspiration to all. His love for Catholic education and for our school was so evident. How fortunate we are that the Lord sent us such a wonderful Shepherd who appreciates all of the work that we do on behalf of our children! I am so grateful that he took the time from his very busy schedule to be here with our school family! He stayed to the very end of the reception and greeted everyone! If you missed it, you missed a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the life and spirit of St. Peter's.

The Bishop also blessed our new courtyard and Stations of the Cross. The courtyard will honor Brother Robert LaFave, former Principal at our school, and all the principals who have served St. Peter's since 1946. The new Stations of the Cross were given in thanksgiving for the faith, love, and dedication of the late Dr. Jim Hughes and his beloved wife, Marlene, who continues to be such a wonderful friend of our children!

On this occasion and in the presence of the Bishop, I rededicated our school family—*alumni*, parents, faculty, staff, and students—to the mission of our school. We will always strive to "educate the leaders of tomorrow upon the foundation of Jesus Christ!"

### RE-ENROLLMENT

We are in the midst of our re-enrollment for the 2007-08 school year. I thank you in advance for your faith in the school's administration and faculty/staff. We continue to

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### **Message from the Principal (continued from page 1)**

work at drawing your child/children closer to Jesus Christ—the Way, the Truth, and the Life! We will continue to provide an excellent education for your child/children and prepare for their future levels of education. Your generous support of our school and your prayers helps us attain these goals.

Please know that we continue to hold the line on tuition and fees. I have not raised the re-registration fee or the textbook fee in my three years here. The tech fee per family has helped us do wonderful things at St. Peter's. Without it, the tuition would have to rise dramatically. We are still a few years away from being where we want to be, but again your generous support is helping us making technology better for the students. Although our costs rise and so do materials, we have striven to hold the line on costs and still provide an excellent education. Even tuition this year rose less than 3%. When I was at a diocesan financial meeting last Friday, I found that many of our schools raised tuition over 6% this coming year. Remember that the tuition and fees do not cover the cost of educating a child. The State of North Carolina estimates that it costs almost \$7,000 to educate an elementary age child. I will work hard to keep costs down and still provide a just salary for our faculty/staff. I will look for ways to cut our day to day expenses, e.g. we switched copier companies recently and now have two copiers instead of one and yet will save almost \$6,000 a year.

I thank all of you who support our fund raisers and especially the Annual Fund.

Remember that gifts to the Annual Fund can be earmarked for particular things. I wish we could move away from fund raising and rely more on annual giving. I am also grateful to the many small and large expenses that our parents take care of during the year to provide many wonderful opportunities for our children. I thank Jeanne von Lehmden, our Chief Financial Officer, and Mrs. Micheala Fencik, Director of Development, for being such good stewards of the financial resources of our school! It makes my job so much easier!

### UNIFORMS

Thanks to all of our parents who attended the meeting last week about uniforms. It was very informative. Thank you also for the emails and calls I received about this issue as well. We will be discussing this topic at the School Meeting this week.

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

I appreciate all the hard work that Mrs. Kim Jordan, our Librarian, does in organizing this annual event. There are terrific items for sale this year—something for everyone! Congratulations Kim on another super job and a successful Book Fair!

**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!** It means spring is just around the corner!

God bless all of you!

John Fencik  
Principal

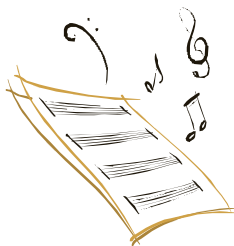




## Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at our school March 12 – 16, 2007 and our Family Event is Wednesday, March 14, 6:00-7:00 pm. Each classroom will visit the Fair during its regular library period. Please feel free to come with your child or any time during school hours.

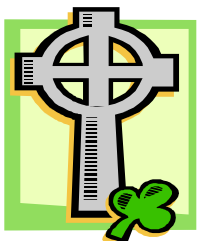
## NCMEA Regional



The NCMEA Regional Middle-School Large Choral Festival will be held at West Craven High School in Vanceboro on Friday, March 23. St. Peter's will be represented by the entire sixth-grade combined with vocal ensemble members. The group's performance of two songs will be rated by three judges, and the group's ability to sight-read will be evaluated by a different judge. The students will also have the opportunity to hear other middle-school choruses sing.

Our school has been assigned a warm-up time at 11:15 A.M. for the Mixed Chorus with their performance at 11:30 A.M. and sight-reading at 11:45 A.M. Warm-up for the Girls' Vocal Ensemble is set at 12:00 P.M. with performance time at 12:15 P.M. Students going on the trip will go **directly to the buses after homeroom. Dress is school uniform blue long pants, dark green short-sleeved shirts, and dark shoes (Not tennis shoes if at all possible). Dress is one category of the rating for the group, so please contact Mrs. Burke if there are problems with the designated dress. Students should bring a bag lunch which includes a drink. Return will be approximately 3:00 P.M.**

Lunch will be at Glenburnie Park in New Bern. There are shelters in case of bad weather, bathroom facilities, and open space for some relaxation. Parents are needed to help chaperone for the trip and lunch. If you are able to help, please indicate this on the permission slip. **Please return the permission slip by Tuesday, March 13 to Mrs. Burke's box in the office.**



## Saint Patrick's Day NUT Day

Remember to wear green on Thursday, March 15 to honor St. Patrick.

## Admissions News



### **Important**

Re-enrollment contracts are **due on Thursday March 15, 2007**. As of March 19th, spaces may be opened if re-enrollments are not received.

## Development News

Thank you parents for your participation in Wendy's night. We raised \$110, which we used for the flowers and mulch in the courtyard. Just beautiful! The next Wendy's night will be on March 20th from 5-8 at the same Wendy's on Greenville Blvd.

Reminder - Annual Fund continues.... if you have not returned your donation please do so as soon as possible as we are approaching our goal of \$125,000. We are currently at \$93,000. Thank you to all who have given so generously!

## Give 2 The Troops!

A letters was sent home regarding this on March 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have not seen it or have misplaced your copy, we have posted it on the Parents page of the website. We have had a great response to this service project. Thank you so much to all of the students and the parents who have sent in items. The Beta Club will be collecting items through Wednesday, April 4.

The troops love to hear from all of us – mail brightens their days! If your child would like to include a letter or card, please send it in along with your classroom item.

Thanks for making this project a success. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated by the men and the women serving our great country.

## Upcoming Events

**March 12<sup>th</sup> – March 16<sup>th</sup>:**  
Scholastic Book Fair

**Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>:**  
Scholastic Book Fair  
Family Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>:**  
NUT Day – “Wearing of the Green”  
in honor of St. Patrick

**Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>:**  
Intermediate Mass 9:00 a.m.

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