



## Wildcat Weekly

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Peter's,

With the growth of technology in the past decade, many adults find themselves “out of touch” with the various advances that have been made. Parents often discover that their children are far more advanced in understanding these technological tools and how to use them. It has now become imperative for parents to grasp more fully what is going on in the world of technology. It is something our parents and grandparents never had to worry about, but we do today. The use of e-mail, instant messaging, blogs, and other *Internet* communication sites is commonplace among all age groups. Unfortunately, many of these sites are accessible literally to the world! Despite all of the “privacy” controls that supposedly are in place, technologically advanced individuals can usually find a way to circumvent these controls.

It is also unfortunate that many parents believe that all of this is “innocent” and have no clue as to what a child is actually doing on the *Internet*. I strongly encourage all of our parents to check frequently into what your child is viewing, sending, and setting up on the Internet. In years past we were concerned about some stranger who might be lurking in the park or at the playground. Today there are people “lurking” on-line who search the *Internet* for “victims.” They strike up Internet relationships with children and teenagers. Many times in recent years we have read in the newspaper or seen on the news these predators actually setting up “meeting” times and places with children and teenagers. Our children are so vulnerable here. Again parents need to be much more involved in the monitoring of a child's or teen's *Internet* sites.

On Wednesday, 29 November at 7:00PM a representative of the North Carolina Department of Justice will present a short (45 minute) presentation on *Internet* safety. I have heard from other Catholic School personnel

around the State that this is an excellent presentation and well worth making time to be there. PLEASE MARK THIS DATE AND TIME ON YOUR CALENDAR. This is another opportunity for all of us to grow in our understanding what is happening in the *Internet* world that DIRECTLY impacts your child or teenager. DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

As we approach the colder weather months, please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Remember that our students go outside for specific recess times. If they are not dressed warmly, they will not be able to enjoy the outside recess.

Please remember that the speed limit on Fourth Street is 25mph. This applies to both arrival and dismissal times. Please observe this limit at all times, especially in the area in front of the school.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES are set for next week. Please use this opportunity to meet with your child's/children's teacher. It is a wonderful chance to touch base on a student's progress after the first quarter.

May God bless you and your families!

Mr. Fencik