

All About Middle School

·A Quick Guide for Parents and Students·
2023-2024



2606 East Fifth Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27858

Phone: 252.752.3529 FAX: 252.752.7604

www.stpeterscatholicsschool.com

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This quick guide serves as a supplement to the [Parent Student Handbook](#). Please refer to the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for topics not covered in this quick guide to Middle School.

Governance

SPCS falls under the governance of the Diocese of Raleigh. Curriculum standards and institutional policies are communicated through the Office of Education for the Diocese of Raleigh to the administration.

Chain of Command

1. Teacher
2. Division Director
3. Principal
4. Pastor
5. Diocese of Raleigh Office of Education

Who To Contact

Mrs. Elaina Wingfield, Middle School Division Director, ewingfield@spscnc.net

- Academic/Behavioral Concerns

Mrs. Chelsea Haigwood, Middle School Division Coordinator, chaigwood@spscnc.net

- Student Life, Retreats, Room Moms

Mrs. Becca Wilson, Resource Specialist, rwilson@spscnc.net

- Learning Plans, New/Pending Diagnosis

Mr. Carlos Masis, Athletics Director, athletics@spscnc.net

Middle School Faculty

Religion: Joe Blick, jblick@spscnc.net

Science: Chelsea Haigwood, chaigwood@spscnc.net

Math for Grades 6 and 8: Rebecca Wilson, rwilson@spscnc.net

Math for Grades 7 and 8: Shannon Maloney, smaloney@spscnc.net

Social Studies Grade 6: Matt Melton, mmelton@spscnc.net

Social Studies Grade 7: Michael Thomas, mthomas@spscnc.net

Social Studies Grade 8: Elaina Wingfield, ewingfield@spscnc.net

English/Language Arts Grades 6 & 7: Michael Thomas, mthomas@spscnc.net

English/Language Arts Grade 8: Elaina Wingfield, ewingfield@spscnc.net

Spanish: Pat Waters, pwaters@spscnc.net

Art/Art Tech: John Bell, jbelle@spscnc.net

Fine Arts: Margi Wright, mwright@spscnc.net

Computer: Shari Crumpler, scrumpler@spscnc.net

PE: Megan Getz, mgetz@spscnc.net, Carlos Masis, cmasis@spscnc.net, Matt Melton, mmelton@spscnc.net

What You Can Expect from the SPCS Middle School Experience

- Challenging and competitive curriculum
- Dedicated, highly certified faculty
- Individual attention to each student
- School iPad for each student
- Competitive athletics with nine sports
- Outstanding resource department
- Guidance counselor onsite

Daily Schedule

7:30 - 8 am: Homeroom

8 am: First period begins

1 pm: Lunch

3 pm: Dismissal

Academics

Curriculum at a Glance

6th Grade

ELA - Reading comprehension, writing and grammar

Social Studies - early civilizations

Science - Earth and space

Religion - Catholic terminology

Spanish - vocabulary and cultures

Math - 6th grade accelerated math

Study Hall - organization and study skills

7th Grade

ELA - literature, writing and grammar

Social Studies - American history

Science - life science
Religion - Catholic identity
Spanish - Spanish 1A
Math - Pre-algebra

8th Grade

ELA - literature, writing and grammar
Social Studies - World history
Science - physical science and introduction to chemistry
Religion - Gospel of Mark and Saint project
Spanish - Spanish 1B
Math - Either Math 1 or Foundations of Math 1

High School Credit Opportunities

Math 1 - End of Course (EOC) Exam from State of NC - 1 credit
World History - Pitt County Schools Exam - 1 credit
Spanish 1 - AAPPL Exam from Language Testing International - up to 4 credits

Special Classes

6th Grade

Computer in Q1
Art Tech in Q2
Fine Arts in Q3 and Q4
Music and PE each Monday and Friday all year

7th Grade

Fine Arts in Q1
Computer in Q2
Art Tech in Q3 and Q4
PE and/or Health Monday and Friday all year

8th Grade

Art Tech in Q1
Fine Arts in Q2
Computer in Q3 and Q4
PE and/or Health Monday and Friday all year

Grading

- Homework/Classwork 20%
- Participation 15%
- Quizzes/Labs 25%
- Tests/Papers 40%

Failure to submit work results in a penalty of 5 points per day. Students have 3 days to submit assignments *after an absence* before the 5 point penalty begins.

Teachers must have grades posted to the gradebook in the FACTS Family Portal by no later than one week after the assignment has been collected/test has been administered.

Teachers are encouraged to update gradebooks by Fridays so a student can check grades over the weekend.

Testing

Only 8th graders will take mid-term exams. They are created by the teacher giving the exam..

Final exams will be given to students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade.

- 6th & 7th grade finals exams are created by the teacher of each core subject
- 8th grade final exams in ELA, Science, Religion, and Foundations of Math 1 are created by the teacher of each subject
- 8th grade final exams in Math 1, Spanish 1, and World History are from Pitt County Schools, state or national exams

Benchmark tests will be given to students in grades 6th, 7th and 8th. These tests include iReady in the beginning, middle and end of the year. The students will also be charted through the HMH Growth Measure.

Rules to Remember

Water bottles should contain ONLY water. Clear water bottles are preferred. Students may not use water bottles with straws that cannot be fully closed (e.g. Stanley style straw cups are not allowed). Please ensure your water bottle is sweat AND leak proof.

Students will have a break for a snack in the morning and lunch in the afternoon. Do not drop off lunches from a restaurant for your child. They must be packed from home or purchased from the cafeteria.

Dress Code

- Belts worn daily
- Shirts ALWAYS tucked in
- Shorts no shorter than 3 inches above knee
- Shorts with no side slits- for both boys and girls
- Clothing should not be too tight
- Only SPCS sweatshirts worn in class
- No sweatshirts on Mass days
- Tennis skorts do not meet the 3" rule

Dress Code Violations will be emailed home by the homeroom teacher. The 3rd violation will result in an after school detention

Daily Uniform

Middle school students may wear navy blue or khaki (not sand color) pants, shorts, or skorts. No jeans style. Shorts and skorts should be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee. Girls shorts should be Bermuda cut and should not have side slits. Pants, shorts and skorts should fit appropriately and should not be too baggy or too tight. Middle school students should wear navy blue, hunter green, or white polo shirts with the monogrammed school crest. Wick away fabric is allowed. Black, brown or navy blue belt, tennis shoes/sneakers, ankle or crew length socks in white, navy, gray, or black.

Dress Uniform

Middle School Boys:

- White button-down dress shirt from Lands' End with white undershirt
- Saint Peter striped necktie from Lands' End
- OPTIONAL sweater or sweater vest with school logo from Lands' End(hoodies and sweatshirts are NOT permitted with the dress uniform)
- Khaki pants
- Dress shoes, such as bucks, boat shoes or similar dress shoes in black, brown, or navy
- Black or brown dress belt
- Black, navy, gray, or white crew socks

Middle School Girls

- Plaid kilt or plaid skort from Lands' End
- White button down oxford blouse with school logo from Lands' End
- OPTIONAL v-neck sweater, cardigan or sweater vest with school logo from Lands' End (hoodies and sweatshirts are NOT permitted with the dress uniform)
- Close-toe dress shoes in black, brown, or navy (such as ballet flats, Mary Jane's, oxfords or similar shoes)
- Navy knee socks or navy tights

PE Uniform

Middle School students wear a PE uniform when they attend PE. The PE uniform consists of navy blue shorts and a gray tee shirt with the athletic logo. PE uniforms may be purchased from Lands End or Ink'd Threads.

Outerwear

- Navy blue or hunter green crew neck sweatshirts with the school crest
- Navy blue zip up fleece jacket with the school crest (available at Lands End)
- Navy blue, white, or hunter green hoodie (available from Ink'd Threads), or the navy blue quarter zip pullover (available at Lands End).

Cell Phones, Smart Watches, and Telephones

Classroom telephones are for faculty and staff use only. Students are not permitted to use school telephones without permission from the teacher or office personnel. The use of phones should be limited to emergencies. Calling parents to bring forgotten items is not considered an emergency. Student use of cell phones is prohibited during the school day, in the After School Program, and during school supervised activities. If a student has a cell phone it should be powered off and kept in the students book bag or given to the homeroom teacher for safekeeping. If a phone rings/vibrates or a student attempts to use their cell phone during the school day the phone will be confiscated and turned in to the principal. The student will have to pick it up from the principal at the end of the day. On the second offense, the phone will be confiscated and a parent must come to school to claim the device. On the third offense the student will lose the privilege to bring the device on campus. Smart Watches are prohibited unless they are needed to monitor a medical condition. Students that need smart watches to monitor medical conditions should complete the necessary paperwork and document the medical diagnosis with the Learning Resource Center and the front office.

The school reserves the right to search any electronic device brought on campus.

Engagement in online social media by students or parents which includes defamatory comments regarding the school, faculty, administration, or other students will result in disciplinary action determined by the principal. Students or parents whose avatars depict other students, teachers, or parish staff in a defamatory way face disciplinary action.

Lockers

Each Middle School student is assigned a locker. At no time will the lockers be locked. The school reserves the right to inspect lockers at any time. Lockers may not be decorated inside or out. Students may not use stickers or tape on their lockers; magnets are permitted. Backpacks and lunchboxes must be stored inside the locker. Oversized and rolling backpacks are not allowed because they will not fit inside the locker. Nothing may be put on top of or below the lockers.

Absences

Students who are absent (or their parents) should email their homeroom teacher to notify them of the absence. Students should check Google Classroom and/or FACTS for assignments. Upon return, students should email or talk to their teachers to make sure nothing was missed.

Vacations are unexcused absences. Students may not have more than ten unexcused absences per school year. Make-up work must be completed within 3 days of returning.

Visits to doctors are excused. A note from the doctor's office is required for the absence to be excused.

Tardies

Being tardy includes being late to school or lingering in the hall/bathroom/etc.

Tardy students will sign-in upon entering the classroom.

3 tardies = letter home and 1 after school detention

5 tardies = 1 unexcused absence, letter home, 1 after school detention

Detention

Lunch detention is held Tuesdays and Thursdays for minor classroom disruptions.

After school detention is held on the 1st and 3rd Monday from 3:15-4:15 for recurring lunch detentions, more significant behaviors, or for Principal and/or Director assigned consequences.

Honors and Awards

Honor Roll

Middle School Students earning all A's during a marking period or semester qualify for Pastor's Honor Roll. Students earning all A's and B's for a marking period or semester qualify for the Principal's Honor Roll. As an acknowledgement and celebration, an academic breakfast is held for those students after each grading period. Each grade will coordinate and host an academic breakfast. Middle School students may graduate from Saint Peter Catholic School with "Honors", if at the year-end grade check, they have maintained an A and/or B average in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. We encourage all students to strive for academic success so they may graduate with "Honors".

Beta Club

Seventh grade students who exhibited excellence (all A's and B's in every subject with SPCS 7 point grading scale) during each quarter of the sixth grade academic year and who displayed good moral and ethical character may be invited to become members of the Beta Club. Eighth grader students who exhibited academic excellence during each quarter of the seventh grade, and who displayed good moral and ethical character may be invited to become members of the Beta Club. In order to maintain membership in the Beta Club, students must have an A or B average in each subject each quarter. If a student does not make the honor roll for an academic quarter, he/she will be placed on probation for the following quarter, but is still required to attend monthly Beta Club lunch meetings. During the school year, a student may be dropped from the

Beta Club roster if he/she has earned 3 C's or 1 D in any given subject. Members who do not maintain a creditable record, or who give evidence of personal conduct unbecoming a member of the Beta Club by receiving referrals or after school detentions, may be disqualified from membership.

Awards

The following awards are given to students in Middle School during the Awards Day ceremony in May. Each award is based on a specific set of criteria.

- Saint Luke the Evangelist Award for Excellence in Art
 - Saint Cecilia Award for Excellence in Music
 - Saint Nicholas Award for Excellence in Geography
 - Saint Bede Award for Excellence in History
 - Saint Joseph Award for Excellence in Language Arts
 - Saint Isidore of Seville Award for Excellence in Computer
 - Saint Barbara Award for Excellence in Mathematics
 - Saint Albert the Great Award for Excellence in Science
 - Saint Mariana de Jesus Award for Excellence in Spanish
 - Saint Sebastian Award for Excellence in Physical Education
 - Saint Paul of the Cross Award for Academic Excellence
 - Pope Saint John Paul II Award for Excellence in Religion
- ** Please note that awards are subject to change each academic year at the discretion of the faculty and staff**

Academic Breakfasts

Academic Breakfasts are held in quarters 2, 3 and 4 to congratulate and recognize students who achieved all A's and B's on their report card the previous quarter. Room Moms will organize the breakfasts.

Eighth Grade Specifics & Privileges

Our middle school has specific privileges set aside for its 8th grade students to mark their final year at St. Peter.

- Additional NUT Day each month for 8th graders only
- Planning and running the Haunted House at the St. Peter Catholic School Halloween Carnival
- 8th grade retreats
- Attending the Diocesan 8th Grade Mass at the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh.

Beyond the Classroom

Socials

Typically Middle School will have two socials per year. One will be an event after school, which will have a fee. The other will be during school hours.

Extracurriculars

- Beta Club (students qualifying will be notified in Q1)
- Battle of the Books
- Treble Cats Choir
- Chess Club
- 8th Grade Yearbook

Athletics

- Cross Country - co-ed for grades 6-8, Fall Season
- Volleyball - girls, Fall Season
 - 6th Grade JV Team for EIC Conference
 - 7th & 8th Grade Varsity Team for EIC Conference*
 - 7th & 8th Grade Varsity Team for IBAC Conference*
- Football - boys for grades 7 & 8, Fall Season
- Basketball - girls and boys teams, Winter Season
 - 6th Grade JV Team for EIC Conference
 - 7th & 8th Grade Varsity Team for EIC Conference*
 - 7th & 8th Grade Varsity Team for IBAC Conference*
- Baseball - boys for grades 7 & 8, Spring Season
- Softball - girls for grades 6-8, Spring Season
- Soccer - co-ed team for grades 7 & 8, Spring Season
- Golf - co-ed team for grades 6-8, Spring Season
- Cheer - girls for grades 4-8, Winter Season

**indicates skill assessments before the season begins to determine team placement. In rare cases, the number of players making a team may be limited.*

Student athletes and parents are required to:

- complete, sign and upload the St. Peter Catholic School waiver to their Dragonfly profile.
- upload the physical form provided by their pediatrician to their Dragonfly profile

- Read the [Saint Peter Athletic Handbook](#) and sign the electronic Athletic Contract in their Dragonfly profile.

Student athletes and their families are required to pay an athletic fee through their Dragonfly account/profile. The fee is per athlete, per sport to cover part of the operating costs, uniforms cost, equipment costs, and tournament fees. Students and their families may be asked to provide their own personal equipment for certain sports.

Financial constraints should not inhibit any student from participating in student athletics. For financial assistance for Saint Peter athletics, please contact the principal.

All transportation is privately arranged by parents/guardians. Saint Peter and the Diocese of Raleigh assume no liability for accidents that may occur en route to any sporting practice or activity.

It is the responsibility of student athletes to make up any schoolwork missed due to athletic events.

Grade checks will occur midway through each quarter and at the end of each quarter. A student athlete who has either two D's or any F's will be placed on probation from the team for a minimum of one week. Probation will end when a student's grades return to a satisfactory level.

Any student who receives an after school detention (resulting from 3 disciplinary referrals) will be placed on probation from their team for a minimum of one week.

All student-athletes must be marked as present in school on the day of practice or a game in order to participate.

A student-athlete's behavior is governed by the same rules, regulations, and procedures that apply to all students as set forth in the Saint Peter Parent-Student Handbook.

Please refer to the [Athletic Handbook](#) for the complete listing of rules and regulations for student-athletes and their families.