



235 South 2nd Street
P.O. Box 470
Delano, Minnesota

Kindergarten through 6th Grade

763-972-2528

Principal - Nicole Belpedio
Secretary - Barb Barten
Pastor -

School Calendar

April 14 – Spring Picture Day
April 15 – Adoration & Confessions
April 17 – Palm Sunday, Catholic United
Financial Matching Grant Breakfast
April 19 – Geography & Art Fair
April 21 – Holy Thursday, 2nd Grade:
Passion Play
April 22 – Good Friday – No School
April 23 – Holy Saturday
April 24 – Easter Sunday
April 25 – Easter Monday – No School
April 29 – Spring Musical
May 8 or 15 – First Communion
May 10 – K-2 Musical
May 13 - Spring Salad Luncheon, Wax Museum
May 20 – May Crowning
May 26 – Living Rosary
May 30 – Memorial Day – No School
June 1 – 6th Grade Graduation Mass
June 2 – Last Day of School
June 4 – River Street Jam

The Flock

Volume XXII

Spring 2011

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

by Nicole Belpedio

Happy Spring! We are in the midst of the Lenten Season – our yearly awakening to the faith and the mystery of Jesus' self-giving death and life-giving resurrection. Some of the spiritual enhancements that students at St. Peter's School do to help awaken themselves are by attending Eucharistic Adoration, participating in reconciliation, attending Stations of the Cross, and praying daily for countries in need. In addition, SPS students are collecting donations for Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, and Operation Rice Bowl for Catholic Relief Services. We are striving to help others locally, regionally, and globally!

The Sustainability Task Force, comprised of seven parishioners, parents, and administration, has been meeting monthly to prepare a three-year plan for the viability of St. Peter's School. The task force is concentrating on the school's Catholic identity, academic quality, financial management, and community outreach. Please join us in praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit during this important time.

During the month of February, we celebrated "I Love to Read Month" at St. Peter's School in many fun ways! For every book read, a heart with the book's title printed on it was put up in the hallway. How long did we make this string of hearts? Over 200 feet long! Students also participated in Book Bingo, weekly February Family Fun activities, silent reading in the hallways, listened to guest readers, and classroom drawings for Barnes and Noble gift cards! Also, the Once Upon a Time Readers Theater performed for us and The Cat in the Hat stopped in to read to each classroom!

Due to some unforeseen circumstances, Delano Catholic Community and St. Peter's School are without pastoral leadership at this time, and we are praying for a new pastor to take over at the helm and to help us grow in faith, hope, and love.

St. Peter's School wishes you a blessed and happy Easter season!

In Christ's Peace,

Nicole J. Belpedio

DISCIPLE OF THE MONTH PROGRAM

In our last issue we introduced to you the St. Peter's School Disciple Program. At that time we had two students to showcase. Our list has grown! Here are the Disciples from November through March. Each month the teachers nominate a student from their classroom that best represents the characteristic for the month.

November

RESPONSIBILITY: As DISCIPLE students, we behave in a way that lets others know we can be trustworthy and dependable.

December

COMPASSION: As DISCIPLE students, we can create a place where people care about each other.

January

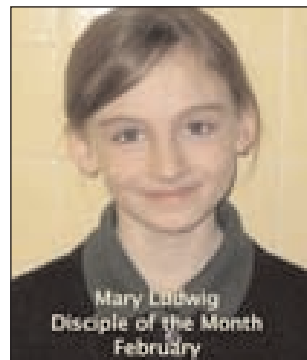
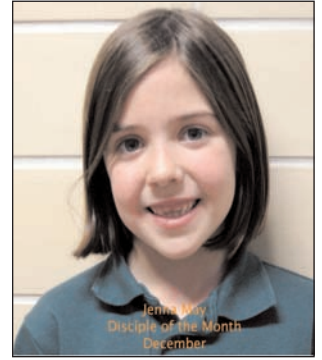
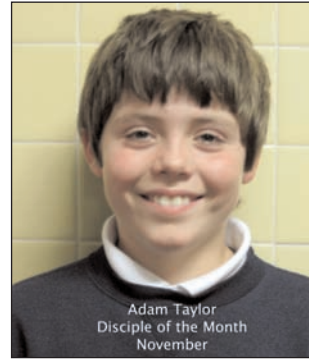
COOPERATION: As DISCIPLE students, we listen to each other and work together.

February

HONESTY: As DISCIPLE students, we are truthful at all times.

March

SELF-DISCIPLINE: As DISCIPLE students, we know that our choices affect ourselves and others.



TEDDY BEAR BAND AND DINNER



March 5, 2011 marked our third year hosting the St. Peter's School Teddy Bear Band and Dinner event. We made some changes this time around. We decided it would be logical to partner with Cherub Corner Childcare Center (located at St. Joseph's Church), as they are a feeder program for our school enrollment. In addition, we opened this event up to the general public and invited families with children as young as three years old. A special invitation was sent to families of prospective SPS students, and children who were kindergarten age. To offset expenses, the dinner was set as a free-will offering, bringing in just over \$900. Overall, the night was a great success! The food was delicious and the music and dancing were just what we needed to shake the winter blues away!

ART WITH THE SCHAUSTS

This past school year, SPS students had the unique opportunity to create their own pieces of art. Delano artists and Delano Catholic Community parishioners, Tony and Linda Schaust, taught SPS students about different forms of art. They opened their home to each classroom and allowed the creativity to flow. Artwork students created included wooden and clay sculptures, wooden candleholders, copper jewelry, and nature framed art.

SPS 3rd Graders display their wood sculptures



MONICA (JAUNICH) WELKER

It is with great sadness we share the news about the death of Monica (Jaunich) Welker, class of 1928. Mrs. Welker was a long time supporter of St. Peter's School and spent many years serving meals to St. Peter's students. Mrs. Welker was 95 years old. Her funeral was April 5, 2011. If you have stories about Mrs. Welker that you would like to share you can send them to us at St. Peter's School, 235 South 2nd St.; P.O. Box 470; Delano, MN 55328 or at the SPS website – <http://www.stpetersschool-delano.com>.



Dear Friends of St. Peter's School:

We hope this letter finds you in good spirits, as spring is finally upon us! We are in the midst of the Easter Season. As part of our Lenten project, students are busy learning about other countries in need and how we, as Catholics, have to support one another in order to follow in the ways that Jesus taught us.

The Easter Season also reminds us to pause and thank parishioners of the Delano Catholic Community and St. Peter's School Alumni. If it weren't for the support you provide, we wouldn't be able to offer this ministry and proudly graduate students who are committed to living the Catholic faith, who excel academically and who seek to serve others.

If you ever wondered about the impact you've made as a donor, a volunteer or as a person who prays for our students, keep this story in mind:

"We were pleasantly surprised to see how affordable the tuition was when we first considered St. Peter's for our oldest daughter for Kindergarten. Our intention was to send her for Kindergarten only to take advantage of the full-day option. After the first year, we were incredibly impressed with everything about the school and now, seven years later, we have graduated our oldest daughter from St. Peter's. We never found a reason to leave, only reasons to stay. Along the way, we also discovered many things that were missing in our lives. We grew in faith, right along with our children. The school helped to build a solid faith foundation and give our daughters all of the skills to help them succeed in life, but it also helped grow our family's faith. I am not sure where we would be right now, without having sent our children to St. Peter's School. The school family has become our family and we have developed so many lifetime friendships. We really can't go wrong here in Delano with such amazing schools. We feel our children receive the high quality education that we have grown to expect in Delano, with an amazing bonus – God! We feel incredibly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful school, church and community."

—The Madson Family

While it's true that our tuition is affordable compared to other Catholic schools, it is out of reach for some St. Peter's School families facing financial hardships. Currently, approximately 15 percent of our student population receives some form of tuition assistance. This number rose sharply this year due to the tough economic climate.

In order to continue offering an A+ Catholic education for any family seeking one, we ask you to consider a financial gift to our "Adopt-a-Student" campaign. Any size gift will go a long way in continuing our mission to offer a high-quality Catholic education to all students.

If you're inspired to give to this special appeal, please review and return the enclosed form. Thank you for enriching students' lives and supporting our school, where faith, prayer and service are woven into the school day. We believe participating in and supporting Catholic education transforms hearts and minds, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support.

In Christ,

Nicole Belpedio, Principal

Angie Vlaminck, School Board Chair



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CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL RAFFLE

Tuition Assistance has been the primary challenge for St. Peter's School this year. With approximately 15 percent of our student body needing financial support, we have found ourselves operating in the red. To offset this deficit, we have sent a letter to all parishioners asking for donations for our St. Peter's School Adopt-a-Student Program. The SPS School Board decided that money raised last year from the River Street Jam would be used as well. We have also allocated all other monies collected through hosting breakfasts, luncheons, raffles, etc. for the remainder of this fiscal year to tuition assistance. In addition, the maximum tuition assistance in future years will be capped at \$25,000. A new fundraising event that we were fortunate enough to be able to participate in this year was the Catholic United Financial, Catholic Schools Raffle. The prizes were amazing and there were no costs to us for marketing or set-up! One hundred percent profit came directly back to SPS! We raised \$3,050. However, our tuition assistance deficit still exists at approximately \$5,000. If you would like to donate to the St. Peter's School Adopt-a-Student Program, please see the information included in this publication.

RIVER STREET JAM

Mark your calendars! St. Peter's School, along with Dave's Town Club, will be hosting the 3rd Annual River Street Jam! We are closing down River Street in front of Dave's Town Club on Saturday, June 4th, from 8:30 PM until 12:30 AM to dance the night away! If you aren't familiar with Butch Automatic, they are known as the best, high-energy Classic Rock Show in the upper Midwest! Did you know that two of their members are St. Peter's School graduates? If you like good music put on your dancing shoes and don't miss this event! Tickets are on sale starting May 2nd - \$10 presale (available at the school office, Dave's Town Club or through any current SPS parent). Tickets are \$15 at the gate. Beer, food, and fun! All proceeds go to St. Peter's School.