



St. Peter Middle School
100 Lincoln Dr.
St. Peter, Mn 56082
507-934-4210

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4 *Conferences 3:30-7:30*
April 5 *Conferences 7:40-3:30*
 NO SCHOOL
April 8 *Spring Pictures*
April 12 *Early Release - 1:05 Dismissal*
April 19 ***NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK***
April 22 ***NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK***

A reminder that the Middle School offers homework help for students through the Gustavus Study Buddy Program Monday-Thursdays from 3:05-4:00. Sign-up is not required. Please note that Gustavus students will be on Spring Break through April 7th but will be available again starting on Monday April 8th.

Spring Portraits are coming soon.

All St.Peter Middle School students will be getting their picture taken April 8th through Lifetouch. Students are welcome to bring a prop if they would like. Lifetouch DOES NOT provide them for the students.

There is no need to send money now. After Picture Day, students will receive a portrait package to review and purchase. There is no obligation to buy. If you would like to order pictures, please let your child know to bring them home when they receive them. After the pictures are reviewed and if you do not wish to order any pictures they **MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL**. If they are not returned, you will be charged for them.

The 6th grade students will be heading up to JA BizTown in St. Paul, on April 1st. JA BizTown is a 12,000 square foot simulated city located at our new state-of-the-art facility in St. Paul. Several weeks of classroom learning culminates in a day-long visit to this experiential learning lab where students become adults for a day. By working in one of 18 JA BizTown shops, students learn what it takes to run a successful business, manage a debit card and checking account, and work as a team. Volunteers are paired with small groups of students to help them make important business and personal finance decisions in their assigned JA BizTown shop. Through daily lessons, hands-on activities, and active participation in this simulated economy, students develop a strong understanding of the relationship between what they learn in school and how it can be applied in the "real world."

JA BizTown was first introduced to the Minneapolis/St. Paul market on October 16, 2001. Only 25 markets in the world provide this incredible opportunity for students to experience a real-world, hands-on application of their classroom learning. To keep our lessons relevant, we've added [STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math\) careers](#) to JA BizTown.

Saint Peter Middle School students went above and beyond expectations for their recent Pennies for Patients fundraiser that raised \$1,628.32 for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), which was well above the goal set for the school.



SPMS students along with their advisor, Courtney Maxwell Shey, load up the money they raised in their recent Pennies for Patients fundraiser.

The mission of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Through the Pennies for Patients fundraiser, children, teachers, parents and school administrators are able to directly support the mission of LLS by participating this philanthropy program.

Each classroom in the Middle School had a collection box for students to donate their change and once the collection was over, student council members gathered up the money and transported it to Hometown Bank to have it counted.

The second of three **Addressing Challenges Together** community conversations is set for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2, at Johnson Hall (Nicollet County Fairgrounds). The theme for this event is "Who Do We Want to Be?" and, once again, will be interactive and work to cultivate understanding and positive school and community action for the future!

The third and final session will be Wednesday, May 8 -- Session #3: "Moving forward together", 6 p.m. at Saint Peter Middle School.

Each session will be interactive and will work to cultivate understanding and positive school and community action for the future. Many community groups, including #OurStPeter and the Greater Mankato Diversity Council have helped District leaders develop each night's activities.

Starting April 8th, Middle School students will be taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) and alternate assessment Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS). These Standards-Based Accountability Assessments are the state tests that help districts measure student progress toward Minnesota's academic standards and also meet federal and state legislative requirements. Most students will take the MCA, however students who receive special education services and meet eligibility requirements may take the alternate assessment MTAS instead.

These are the testing dates:

April 8-April 10 - 5th Grade Math and 6th Grade Reading

April 15-April 17 - 5th Grade Reading and 6th Grade Math

April 29-May 1 - 5th Grade Science

April 9-April 12 - 7th and 8th Grade Reading

April 24-April 26 - 7th and 8th Grade Math

April 30-May 2 - 8th Grade Science

Minnesota's statewide tests are objective, standardized measures of student achievement on academic or proficiency standards. Students, families, teachers and administrators use statewide test results as part of a comprehensive system for evaluating learning. **It is important students show up to school with a good night sleep and a healthy breakfast to allow them to do their best!**

The health office could use stretch type pants, leggings and sweat pants that would fit the middle school age student. If you come across any that you are getting rid of while spring cleaning, please consider donating them to the health office.

One other item that we could use are safety pins. If you happen to have a bunch laying around at home that you don't need, drop them off for us! Lots of girls need them for their head coverings.

Girls Who Code Club for 7th & 8th Grade

WHAT IS A GIRLS WHO CODE CLUB?

Girls Who Code Clubs are free after-school programs for girls to join our sisterhood of supportive peers and role models, and use computer science to change the world. Through fun and interactive curricula, Club girls not only learn about how to positively impact their community through code, but they are also taught to be brave and resilient -- which has an enormous impact on how they approach challenges and whether they stick with coding in the years to come.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING A CLUB MEETING?

In a Girls Who Code Club, girls are able to learn from fun and simple online coding tutorials, build community through interactive activities, and learn about inspiring role models. They then work in teams to design and build a Girls Who Code Project that solves real world problems they care about through code.

CAN I JOIN?

Yes! Whether you're a beginner or a computer master, you're invited to join the movement!

Who: 7th and 8th grade

When: 3:30-4:45 Mondays after school. 1st informal meeting April 1, 1st official meeting April 8. No meetings on non-school days.

Where: Middle School Computer Lab off the Media Center

Cost: Free

More information is available in the Library or Office or e-mail libbeyparras@hotmail.com

While at conferences, please check out the lost and found items located in the hallway outside of the office. Lots of leftover winter jackets, mittens, and hats!