



# Panther Post

## FEBRUARY EDITION 2024



### *Valentine's Day* **New Animals at St. Peter!**

As 2024 begins a new life emerges. I'm happy to introduce Floppa, the first of the dynasty of fish. This youthful and active fish is currently conducting renovations on his abode. His generations of family will live on in St. Peter.

Floppa is his alias though his professional name is Sir. Flopperton. Sir. Flopperton is a family man. Some of his values are God, gratitude, and charity. Not to mention he is humble. Please refer to him as Floppa outside of the workspace. Floppa resides in the 8th Grade classroom and 8th Grade is expecting even more fish.

In 3rd Grade, a new animal is here! Welcome Freddie! Now this Guinea Pig is very unique, his qualities make him very exotic. He is a master of manipulation. He will sleep to keep a low profile. He will stare to show opposition but back away when advantages in territory are made. Freddie is only staying at 3rd grade on and off because of his busy schedule. Hopefully, with the start of the new year more animals will join us on our journey in St. Peter but for now let's take care of our beloved animals.

### **Newspaper Staff!**



**Design & SPS events:** Eliza Cushman, Maeve

McKendree, and PJ Hall

**New Animals at St. Peter!:** Alistair Maul

**Traditions of Valentines Day:** Therese Vieyra & Camilla Kovarik

**Student feature:** Coco Hardgrave & Jaden Lancaster

**Teacher feature:** Annelise Wingert & Lea Catanzano

**Hot Chocolate:** Mabel Sauer & Olivia Farnworth

**Leap Year:** CC McMullan

**Holidays in February:** Emma Heimberg

**Word Search:** Maeve McKendree

**Comic:** Isabella Keeling



### **History Behind Valentine's Day**

Most know of the holiday in February as Valentine's Day, full of love, but most don't know the history behind this lovely holiday. Valentine's Day was named after St. Valentine, a 3rd century Roman Saint. Valentine was martyred for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman's treatment. It is said that he sent the first "Valentine", while imprisoned, to the jailer's daughter who visited him during his confinement. Though there are many versions of this story, the overall moral is that love prevails no matter the difficulties that arise.

### **Student Feature**

**C - Charlotte (3rd) J - Jack (5th)**  
**A - Andrew (4th)**

#### **1. What is your New Year's resolution?**

**C -** To be calmer when I get angry.

**J-** To throw 60 miles per hour in baseball.

**A-** Go to the gym every morning before school.

#### **2. What did you do over Christmas break?**

**C-** I was in the Nutcracker as the mouse.

**J-** I went skiing.

**A-** I went to Florida and went to my grandparents' house.

#### **3. What are you looking forward to in 2024?**

**C-** My birthday on January 9th.

**J-** I'm looking forward to middle school.

**A-** One extra day in the leap year.

### **Teacher Feature**

**A - Ms. Ardolini L - Ms. Leavitt**

**What do you think that Punxsutawney Phil will predict on Groundhog Day?**

**A-** I think he will see his shadow.

**L-** Six more weeks of winter, but I am hoping that means snow.

**What is your favorite Valentine's Day tradition?**

**A -** I like when students make their Valentine boxes because I like to see everyone's uniqueness and creativity.

**L -** Exchanging of Valentine cards.

**What is your favorite thing about February?**

**A -** My favorite thing is Valentine's Day, and it gets a little bit warmer.

**L -** Going out sledding.

**What is your New Year's resolution?**

**A -** To show up my best self every day.

**L -** Exercise every day.

**Do you have any plans for Martin Luther King Jr. Day or President's Day weekend?**

**A-** I am visiting my sister in Austin.

**L-** My family and I are going to clean up the banks of the Anacostia River on Martin Luther King Jr. Day because that is a National Day of Service.

# February 2024

**FEBRUARY VIRTUE: PERSEVERANCE**  
 Father, remain with me as I take small steps through life.  
 Thank you for holding my hand and walking with me every step of the way.  
 +Amen.  
*St. Francis de Sales*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
February is African American History Month.				<b>1</b> Catholic Schools Week (Vocations) Teacher Appreciation (Gr 3)	<b>2</b> Gallery Walk Catholic Schools Week (Faculty, Staff, Volunteers) Confirmation Retreat Groundhog Day	<b>3</b> Catholic Schools Week Ends (Families) Auction, Capital Turnaround
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> World Nutella Day	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> National Fettuccine Alfredo Day	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 12:30 Dismissal	<b>10</b> Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>11</b> Confirmation, 2:30	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> American Heart Association Finale Valentine's Day Celebration HSA: Mardi Gras	<b>14</b> Ash Wednesday St. Valentine Grade 3 Mass Band	<b>15</b> Winter NWEA MAP Growth assessments end	<b>16</b> Stations of the Cross TAG Day/Student Families Admissions Decision Letters Mailed	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> First Sunday of Lent	<b>19</b> Presidents' Day School Closed	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Feast of the Chair of St. Peter Grade 3 Mass Band	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 12:30 Dismissal Stations of the Cross	<b>24</b> National Tortilla Day
<b>25</b> Second Sunday of Lent HSA: Ice Skating	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Grade 3 Mass Reconciliation: Grs 2-3 Band	<b>29</b> Leap Day		



*Happy Valentines*

## Leap Year!



Leap Years are years when an extra day is added to the end of the shortest month, February. This day, February 29th, is also referred to as leap day. Leap Years have 366 days instead of the usual 365 and occur every 4 years. 2024 is a Leap Year. The 2024 Leap Year will fall on February 29th, 2024. The next Leap Year will be February 29th, 2028. These Leap Years keep our calendar in alignment with our Earth's revolutions around the Sun. It takes the Earth approximately 365.242189 days or 365 days (about 12 months) 5 hours 48 minutes and 45 seconds to circle once around the Sun.

## Valentine's Day WORD SEARCH

Q O H L O I E N V B L M O J N  
 G A X A L S C H E A R T S S H  
 I C H O C O L A T E C K D N G  
 F N L M K S R L Z I A W S X S  
 T H O D F W V G O F R C C Z K  
 S O X J T E R A X V D S A R H  
 V L S G G E H F L Z E R N T Y  
 V I O H M T D L M E J C D H B  
 R D R M H H A O D W N J Y F A  
 O A C Y U E T W P Y V T D K P  
 M Y P P G A E E Q W O T I P N  
 A R O Y C R F R I E N D S N Q  
 N F O E N T X S X C U P I D E  
 C Z K I S S X E W K Z J P G J  
 E O U Z A K A V Y C B S X K T

- |            |           |           |         |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Sweetheart | Valentine | Chocolate | Romance |
| Friends    | Flowers   | Holiday   | Hearts  |
| Cupid      | Candy     | Gifts     | Love    |
| Kiss       | Date      | Card      | Hug     |

## The History Of Hot Chocolate!

Hot chocolate was first made in Mexico. Hot chocolate has existed since about 500 BC. The roots of hot chocolate can be traced back to the ancient Mayans civilization in the regions of present-day Mexico and Central America. Cocoa powder was first invented in Holland because the Dutch controlled most of the cocoa bean trade. Up until the 19th century, hot chocolate was once used as medicine for stomach and liver diseases.

### Hot Chocolate Taste Test

Six St. Peter students and staff blind tasted three different brands of hot chocolate and determined their favorite!



- Eleanor (4th): Swiss Miss
- Lizzie (3rd): Swiss Miss
- Anastasia (2nd): Swiss Miss
- Ms. Scattergood: Swiss Miss
- Ms. Bent: Starbucks
- Mr. Robert: Whole Foods 365

