

*St. Peter's School—Weekly Messenger*

August 18, 2017



Dear St. Peter's Families,

We were excited to get our school year started, and we are all sufficiently tired from the first few days of classes at St. Peter's School and St. Peter's Southwest. We know many teachers have sent messages regarding classes, and we hope you take time to read their communications, as well!

Thank you so much for the support, flexibility, and patience you have shown, as we navigate a new space and work through procedures and routines.

While the morning drop-off seems to be going smoothly, we would like to ask for your help in a few areas: please do not let children exit vehicles on 65<sup>th</sup> Street until you are east of the alley, where Safety Patrol parent volunteers and students will be stationed. We hope to have at least one adult volunteer in a safety vest who can help those who need to cross the street do so safely, as well. Our crossing guard, Mr. Randle, has returned for the 2017-18 school year and will be posted at the crossing signal on Wornall Road. This busy street requires extra caution, even with our beloved crossing guard. Please help us reinforce that students should always wait until vehicles are completely stopped before crossing—additionally, we ask that bikers walk their bikes across the street. We hope to have additional signage and help from the city and law enforcement, to monitor speeding and traffic.

We should have a sufficient number of eclipse glasses for those parents who help supervise students Monday, August 21. Because of the seriousness of following instructions regarding solar eclipse glass wearing, we appreciate anyone who would like to accompany teachers and students, as they choose to go outside and experience any part of the eclipse on Monday. **Teachers reserve the right to limit time outside and must be comfortable with students' participation and may at any time opt to return to the building or bring/stay with students indoors.** Seventh and eighth-grade teachers plan to view the Eclipse during recess and lunch with their students (between 12:40-1:30 pm). If any parents would like to come in during the morning to cut paper plates to hold our youngest students' glasses, that would be great. Between 9-10:30 would work best.

Good News! All inspections of our kitchen have been completed, and hot lunch service will begin Monday, August 21! To put money into a hot lunch account, you may send a check made payable to St. Peter's School (please indicate hot lunch in the memo, plus student(s) name(s)). We are working through Sycamore, and parents should be able to make payments at the site. The lunch menu for August 21 through the end of the month is posted in Sycamore (use the month view under "Lunch").

Families interested in joining Cub Scouts (grades 1-5) should plan to attend an informational meeting on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Peter's Church basement.

Please don't forget that our first Food Pantry Drive of the school year will be held all next week. A bright blue flyer with requests was included in Packet Day packets. We thank you for your generosity!

Finally, we hope you received the “good news” message that Fr. Steve Cook shared with students, faculty, staff, and Mass visitors yesterday at our first all-school Mass and via Constant Contact, as well as on the St. Peter’s Facebook page—in the event that you missed it, we share his message below.

As always, we thank you for sharing your children with us. We are privileged to partner with you! On behalf of our administration, faculty, and staff, I wish you a wonderful weekend.

Angie Meyer, Co-Principal, St. Peter’s School

Dear St. Peter's Parishioners and School Parents,

Last evening I received the email below from Diana Welsh, a Visitation parishioner. I shared it at today's all school Mass, and I wanted to share it with you right away.

*Father Cook,*

*I was having lunch this afternoon at Jimmy John's in Brookside when a group of boys in St. Peter's uniforms came into the restaurant. I was immediately struck by their manners, polite way they handled themselves, and generally their fun and respectful nature. I ask one boy how he liked being at Southwest and he responded that it was really fun.*

*The most amazing part was how they conducted themselves in that restaurant. They could have taken it over in a very threatening way and yet not a sign of that. All were boys, and all were not loud, not rude and not impolite to anyone they encountered.*

*I had to let you know---I was so proud of all of them. I wished I had asked what grade....guessing 5th or 6th. When I was leaving, after observing them for about 15 minutes, I could not help but go up to them and tell them how much I love Catholic Schools and what a great example they are setting. These children just exemplify once again why my husband and I sent all our 8 children to Catholic schools and continue to support them in any way we can.*

*You Father, their parents, their school obviously are a community involved in raising children that set forth values we hope to keep instilling especially in these troubled times of our nation.*

*God Bless you Father Cook and the parents, and teachers who touch these wonderful human beings.*

*Diana Welsh*

*Member of Visitation Church*

*Board Chair for Bright Futures Fund*

This reminds me why we, as a faith community, put so much energy into the education and formation of our children. These students stood out because they were respectful, polite, well-behaved and having fun. Plus, they were upbeat about what might otherwise be a pretty disruptive semester at a different school.

Thank you again to all who have worked so hard to make our "Semester Abroad" at Southwest High a success. This is a wonderful reminder that St. Peter's is a special place, wherever the location may be.

Congratulations on a great start to school.

God bless,

Fr. Steve Cook