

ST. PETER IN CHAINS
THE LINK
2/11/2021



Mission Statement:

The mission of St. Peter in Chains School is to cultivate in our students an intellectual curiosity, civic consciousness, commitment to Catholic social teachings, and preparedness to meet the challenges of the future. In the mold of St. Peter, we seek to form students as Christian leaders, enthusiastic in their response to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ and able to put into practice this message as it applies to life in the 21st century.

Important Dates:

- 2/12/21 – Friday Pizza lunch (**make up from 1/8**) – if pre-ordered and paid
- 2/12/21 – Class Valentine's Day Parties
- 2/12/21 – **Registration deadline for current students- see pg. 2 for details**
- 2/15/21 – NO School
- 2/16/21 – NO School
- 2/17/21 – Ash Wed. Prayer Service – Gr. K-4 – 8-8:45 AM (4th leading). Ashes & Communion
- 2/17/21 – Ash Wed. Prayer Service – Gr. 5-8 – 9-9:45 AM (8th leading). Ashes & Communion
- 2/19/21 – School Mass – 8 AM – Gr. K-4 (2nd Leading) – *No Spirit Wear*
- 2/19/21 – Stations of the Cross – 1:30 PM – Gr. 5-8 (8th leading) – *No Spirit Wear*

Looking ahead:

- 2/26/21 – End of 2nd Trimester
- 2/26/21 – 7/8th Grade Confirmation Retreat during the school day (lunch provided)
- 3/1-3/5/21 – IOWA Testing - *Make plans for your child to be in class this week*
- 3/8/21 – School is IN Session (hot lunch that is scheduled for 3/10 will be served if ordered)
- 3/10/21 – NO School
- 3/21/21 – Confirmation – 7/8th Graders – at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral – Cincinnati

COVID:

We are extremely proud of the dedication and commitment our teachers, staff, families, and students have demonstrated to keep us in the building for in-person instruction. They have been following all guidance, procedures, and protocols regarding Covid-19. It is extremely important that our faculty, staff, students and families continue to follow the protocols that are in place.

We'd like to continue with in-person instruction and also have a smaller quarantine list but that will only be possible if everyone does their part while we are away from the building. We need to wear our masks and wearing them correctly, unless we are outside and able to be 6 feet apart. We need to social distance. We need to wash our hands frequently. We need to limit our social activities with large groups. We need all of these things to be done in and outside of school.

If your child gets tested for COVID, please keep them home and contact us. If you child is exposed to a person who tests positive for COVID, keep them home and contact us. If you have someone in your family get tested for COVID, keep your child home and contact us. The more information we have regarding COVID numbers, the better. Please email andersonj@stpeterinchains.org and schooloffice@stpeterinchains.org

Sports will continue and the same protocols are in place. Only coaches are allowed to be at practice, no parents or siblings, no exceptions. Coaches wear masks. Players wear masks to and from. Social distance as much as possible and continue to wash your hands. *Please follow the rules that the GCCYS has put in place at each venue as to who can and not come to games and the ages allowed. If you are not feeling well, do not come to practice or games. If you have been tested, notify school and do not go to practice or games until you get your results. If a member of your family has been tested, do not go to practice or games until you get the results. Please, let's all do our part to keep each other safe and healthy.

COVID:

We've made changes to the lunch time process at school in an effort to keep kids from being exposed by a potential positive case. Students are all spaced at tables and are all 6 feet apart. This is a huge, daily undertaking but our staff is doing our part to keep our students safe and most importantly, in the school building. Students must do their part as well. To stay out of a possible quarantine, they must sit *correctly* at their lunch table and put their mask on as soon as they are finished with lunch. Please reiterate this at home so students take this seriously. During the school day, students are reminded to wear their masks properly (not below their nose and not as a chin strap), distance, and not remove their mask to speak to another student. Students are reminded of these things daily. Students will receive a warning but the next time, receive a conduct point. It's not ideal, but by working together, we're looking out for the well-being of our school community and keeping everyone safe and in the school building.

IOWA Testing:

Beginning March 1, students in grades 1-7 will take part in IOWA Testing, a series of standardized assessments being administered throughout the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Students will be tested for 1-2 hours each morning over the course of a week.

It is important that all students are present during testing and that appointments are scheduled outside the testing window. Unless it is an emergency, please make an effort to be on time and ready for testing each day.

It is critical to create a test taking environment that's relaxed and conducive to allow students to perform their best. IOWA tests will be given at the same time so that the building remains quiet and void of distractions. Teachers will plan stretch breaks and will assign minimal homework.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Anderson or your child's homeroom teacher. As always, thank you in advance for your support at home.

TIPS TO HELP PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR A SUCCESSFUL WEEK OF IOWA TESTING:

- Go to bed early each night and get plenty of rest. Turn off games, computers, TV, and cell phones – and sleep!
- Eat a healthy breakfast. Even a not so healthy breakfast is better than no breakfast
- Bring a healthy snack for mid-morning
- Be present at school each day and arrive to school on time. **Students who arrive late will not be permitted to enter classrooms until there is a break in testing. Tardy students will be required to make up tests at another time.**
- Finally, encourage your children to say a prayer, relax, and do their best. The rest will fall into place.

Registration 2021-22:

Priority registration ends 2/12/21 for current families and new families may enroll. Current students will not have their spot held after 2/12. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Registration paperwork became available on the website under the Admission tab on January 24. Registration fees are \$75 for one child or \$150 for two or more. All paperwork and fees must be turned in to make it a complete submission. In the case of divorce or custody issues, *all* families must submit *current* paperwork (even if you are a current family).

Also, don't forget to refer new families to our school. Fill out a new family referral [FORM](#) also. If they enroll in the fall, your family will receive \$50 off tuition

Spaghetti Dinner: --

Thank you for helping make our Spaghetti Dinner a success! We are very grateful!

Sincerely,
St. Peter in Chains Students

Valentine's Day Class Parties:

Class Parties will be held within the classrooms but parent volunteers/helpers will not be needed due to our COVID restrictions. Your homeroom parent will reach out to you with the approved items (pre-packaged, store bought, etc.) that can be sent in to school. We know that everyone wants to help, but please do not send anything in unless your class room parent has specifically asked you to do so.

Spring Boys Volleyball

Boys in grades 3rd thru 8th. St Peter in Chains School is offering boys volleyball this spring. If you are interested in playing please complete the google form (<https://forms.gle/nK556tpTRD7DUhyR9>) ASAP. Practices start after basketball season around Mid- February.

If you have any questions, please email Stefanie Lawson at lawsons@stpeterinchains.org

St. Peter in Chains Face Masks:

We still have SPS face masks if you if you are interested. They are \$5 each and are first come first serve. Send an envelope with payment to school marked with your family's name. Once they are gone, we will gather orders and see if another order is necessary.

EdChoice – 2021-2022 School Year

The Traditional EdChoice Scholarship Program – this is based on a list of schools that have to meet certain criteria which is determined by the State of Ohio – this application window will open on March 1st. The actual list of schools has not been published yet but will be prior to March 1st. We will email everyone with this information when it is available. The Traditional EdChoice Program is not determined by family income.

EdChoice Expansion Scholarship Program - this is a state sponsored program based on your family's income. The window for applying for this scholarship opened on Feb. 1st. We will be sending communication out via OptionC with the paperwork to apply for this scholarship if you qualify based on your income. We will also send out the income chart so you can make the determination. If your family is currently on an EdChoice Expansion Scholarship for the 2020-21 school year, you will need to complete the 2021-22 EdChoice Renewal Form. This will be included in the OptionC communication that will be sent out.

Cold Weather:

Cold weather is definitely here! Just a friendly reminder that the students go out to recess and utilize the campus for mask breaks as long as it's not raining (and it's not too cold). The students benefit from the fresh air for a break as well as the open space to run and play on recess. PLEASE send in enough clothing for your child. It's typically windy on the playground and layers are a necessity on some days. We have been seeing many students coming to school in just a hoodie or fleece with no coat. If your child does not have the proper clothing for the cold days, they will be sent to the office until recess is over.

Library Online Book Catalog

Students can now access our school library on-line catalog from our web page. This allows our students to find books they're interested in and allows parents to assist younger students in searching for books on their level and their interest. Students can check to see if the book is an AR book, along with the level and points.

At this time, students cannot put books on hold from this site but book request forms will continue to be hard copy and kept in the classrooms.

Keep in mind:

****ER** is for easy reader: Pictures book and emerging Readers. This will mostly be the books for kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade.

****JR** – Lower grade chapter books. Usually about 1-2 points for AR tests. Grades 2-4.

****MG** – Harder, more challenging chapter books. Grades 2 and up.

****Gra-** Graphic Novels

****UG** – **Grades 6-8 only.**

If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Reimer at reimerl@stpeterinchains.org

[Click on the link below and go to CAT JR. to get started](https://www.infohio.org/opac/?SWOCA/SP/DIST)

<https://www.infohio.org/opac/?SWOCA/SP/DIST>

Yearbook Pictures:

Due to COVID regulations, spectators are limited at sporting events this year. If you have any pictures from any SPS events that you would like to share with our Yearbook Editor, you can email them to Mrs. Jungkunz at jungkunzL@stpeterinchains.org Please be sure to tell her the grade level and any information about the pictures.

Important Confirmation Dates:

Our 7/8th Graders will be celebrating their Confirmation this year. Here are a few important dates for your calendars.

- **February 26** – Confirmation Retreat will be held in the classroom (please note this change) – Lunch will be served
- **March 21** – Confirmation at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral in downtown, Cincinnati **for St. Peter in Chains School students only.** 7/8th Graders will have confirmation with their class.

Spirit Wear Items:

Be sure to get all your St. Peter's spirit wear gear at Promotions, Etc. The link to our site is <https://promotionsetc.commonsku.com/shop/6035b2b8-f3ac-420f-a14d-57e9bb0d1426/shop>
Spirit Wear tops can be worn on most Fridays with IN uniform bottoms.
Questions, please contact the office.

White Envelope Items

Please remember that all white folders should come back to school on Fridays emptied and signed by a parent

Items sent home today:

- Nothing sent home from the school office

