

FEBRUARY, 2023

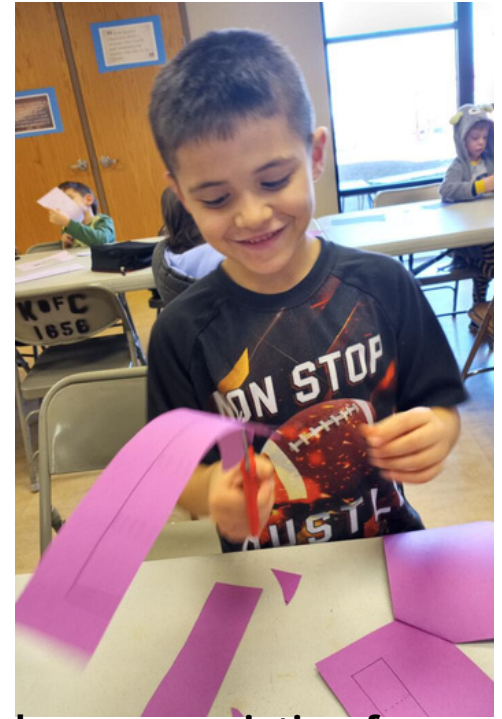
ST. PETER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Respect • Responsibility • Reverence

STUDENTS, MR. KIRBY HONORED



JANUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH pose with John Kirby. This month's students were recognized for emulating the attributes of St. Thomas Aquinas, known for being a brilliant theologian and philosopher. The patron saint of colleges and universities was known for being a simple, peace-loving man who sought to maintain self-control. Mr. Kirby, a recently retired business owner, was honored as a long-time supporter of the school and as one of its founders. He told the children, *'If you can dream, you can use it to do and become what God intended you to be.'* St. Peter Catholic School recognizes students and key supporters during the last mass of each month during the school year.



ON THE FIRST DAY of Catholic Schools Week, we showed our appreciation for our Nation by making cards for our service men and women overseas. These "hugs" will be sent to Kuwait for National Hug A G.I. Day, March 4. On Wednesday, students thanked their Community by making greeting cards for nursing home residents.

Thank you Joseph E. Weston Foundation!

The OCF Joseph E. Weston Public Foundation has awarded a **\$20,000** grant to St. Peter's for general operations.

Mr. Weston grew up in northeast Portland and attended All Saints and Central Catholic. Throughout his life, the real estate developer has remained rooted in his Catholic faith and education.

CALENDAR

- Jan. 29-Feb. 4: Catholic Schools Week
- Feb. 2: Donuts with Grown-ups; 9:30 AM
- Feb. 10: Teacher Work Day
- Feb. 14: Valentine's Day; classroom parties
- Feb. 16: Bookmobile visit
- Feb. 20: Presidents Day; no school
- Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 23: Students of the Month following 8:30 AM mass



Tax season is a good time to ask your accountant or financial advisor about how you can continue to support Catholic education through estate planning.

WHY CATHOLIC EDUCATION?

Fr. Joseph P. Thomas, CST

A Choice that Lasts a Lifetime

Catholic Schools Week is the perfect opportunity to note that Jesus Christ is the reason for Catholic schools. They are founded on Jesus Christ, the Redeemer. It is he who, through his Incarnation, is united with each student.

Choosing a Catholic education is a choice that will last a lifetime. I strongly believe that knowledge without character will destroy us. Catholic Schools educate to develop the whole child. The educational process is an opportunity to cultivate the entire person by engaging the human need for physical, mental, social, and spiritual nourishment.

Developing Children's Character

The primary goal of a Catholic education is to prepare children for salvation. Catholic Schools are exceptional because they focus on informing and developing loving and productive citizens who care about the condition of their communities. However, Catholic Schools also understand that the way a person chooses to exercise his or her knowledge is far more important than having knowledge itself. Therefore, we support character development. Catholic education forms compassionate yet judicious leaders who are prepared to rise up to the complexities of a dynamic and ever-changing world. Above all, following the

example of Jesus Christ, students are required to model Christian behavior by honoring the dignity of each individual.

Preparing for Salvation and Sainthood

We encourage the expression of faith in word, thought, and in deed. According to Pope Benedict XVI, *"A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person, and a good Catholic School, over and above this, should help all its students to become Saints."* To be a saint is not a privilege for a few, but a vocation for all.



Made Possible by Generous Donors

On behalf of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church and St. Peter Catholic School, I thank all those who teach in and those parents who put their trust in Catholic education. Please keep the words of our Pope Francis: *"Educating is an act of love, it is like giving life."*

I also congratulate and thank all the benefactors of the school, SAC, and PTO members who support our school with your time, talent and contributions. Ontario needs a great Catholic school. Let us work together to continue to make a difference. I promise that I will be with you.

Now you know:

- Justin Bieber graduated from of St. Michael Catholic Secondary School in Stratford, Ontario, Canada.
- Martin Scorsese attended Catholic school; he even planned on becoming a priest before he picked up a film camera.
- Irish actor Pierce Brosnan went to Catholic school and is still a practicing Catholic, crediting his faith for helping him through life's trials, including the deaths of his wife and daughter.

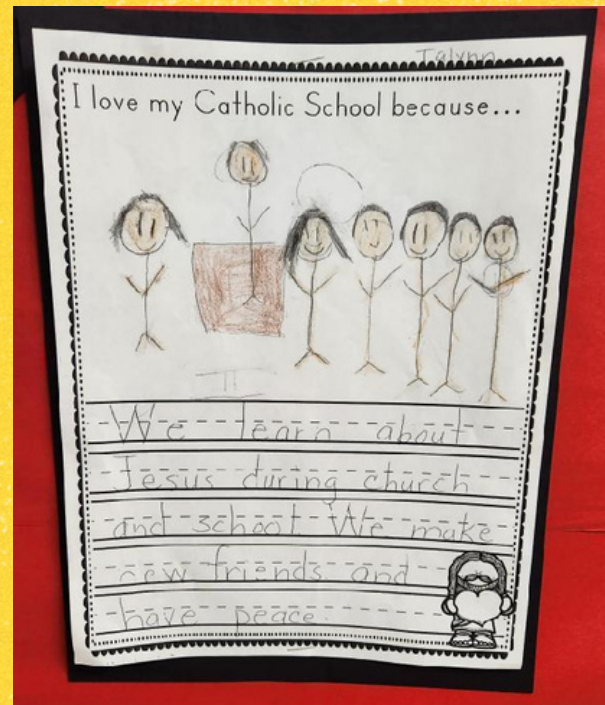
School glove drive deserves a big hand

Part of building character means helping those who can do for those who cannot do anything for you. In the month of December, our school held a glove drive benefiting The Little Red House Thrift Store, donating 91 pairs of new or gently used gloves. Our families also donated more than 20 new or gently used coats, snow pants, and winter hats.

St. Vincent of Boise donated another 368 new gloves! So, it turns out being unselfish did pay off, with every St. Peter student receiving a new pair of thick winter gloves or mittens with all the rest given FREE to every Little Red House customer.



SPECIAL THANKS to St. Peter's PTO for preparing boxes, organizing the drive, getting extra donations, and sorting through everything to make it easy for The Little Red House volunteers!



We love our Catholic School!

"I love St. Peter Catholic School because the teachers there are very nice and the people there are too and you get to learn about Jesus.

"First, my friends help me be a better friend. They are always there for me. They treat me with kindness and respect. I can be myself around them. They love me for how I am.

"Next, at St. Peter we learn to walk in Jesus' footprints. Jesus always guides me on the right path.

"Also, Ms. Barber who makes me smart. She will never let you fail. She helps me be a good person. She is very nice and funny. I love Spanish class because I love what she teaches us.

"St. Peter is the place that I love because I don't have to hide anything from anyone."

- Claycee

Thank you Knights of Columbus!

The Knights of Columbus Snake River Council #1656 donated all the proceeds from their annual Shepherders Breakfast to our school. Parishioners paid for their breakfast with a donation, raising \$1,198 for St. Peter Catholic School!