

# Meet the teacher

I'm Mrs. Joan Dulcey and I am beginning my 21<sup>th</sup> year at St. Peter's

School. Over the years I have seen many children pass through my doors as they develop their artistic talents and critical thinking skills. Even those who don't think they are any good at art, find ways to make successful artworks. I have my BA from Temple University in Philadelphia. During that time I also spent one semester in Rome, Italy studying art history up front and personal. I also attended classes at the Tyler School of Art.

My particular interest is in Straw Art. I have been making straw art for over 25 years and



although I sometimes paint and quilt and other types of art, it is my medium. I have traveled throughout the US and Europe learning new skills in this unusual medium. I have attended workshops in England, Serbia and Poland.

I have been married to my best friend, Mr. Joe Dulcey for 37 years and we have two daughters and now five beautiful grandchildren who we thoroughly enjoy. Mr. Dulcey and I enjoy traveling and attending craft shows. We also hike and bicycle ride on weekends.

This year I will be teaching many tried and true projects with my students, but I also find new and exciting ways to teach art skills. I will run an art club again, which will start up in a few weeks. It is offered to 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and meets on Mondays after school. I soon will be sending out more information with those children who are interested.

I try to work with the other classroom teachers to find cross curricular art projects that enhance your child's learning experiences. I look forward to working with your children this year!

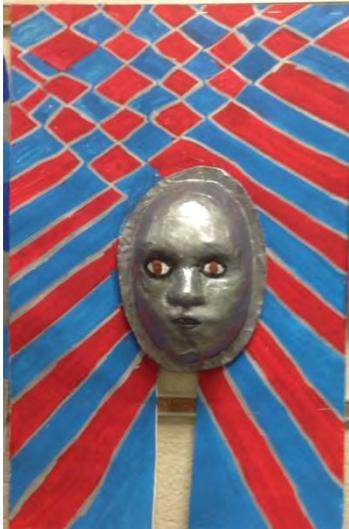
# Spring Update

Spring is almost here and the art room will be a buzz with Spring projects. Currently our 8<sup>th</sup> grade is getting ready for Confirmation. They are starting to paint an icon of the saint they chose for Confirmation. Some are still finishing up tessellations in the style of M. C. Esher. Easter is around the corner too, so they will have a chance to decorate a wooden egg to celebrate the season.



Seventh grade has been outdoors working on some photography. After learning about Ansel Adams, they have taken several photos from nature and converting them into Black and White. They also will have a chance to decorate a wooden egg.

Sixth grade is finishing up a cross curricular activity with Social Studies. They have been working for weeks on Egyptian tomb masks using paper mache'. They will soon be learning about optical art and some fun op-art opportunities to create interesting photos. They too will be able to decorate an egg for Easter.



Fifth grade made some very nice Pueblo Pottery as a cross curricular activity with Social Studies. They are currently learning about using color values to paint 3- dimensional still life paintings. They will get to paint small eggs to make pins for the season.



Fourth grade also did a very nice social studies project. They were learning about the Eastern Native Americans and created Indian Shields with their own designs. They will also be making an egg pin. Currently they are sewing and decorating felt hand-puppets that will go along with a biography they have read about a famous person. This is always a popular project. They will use their puppets to present their book reports to the class.



Third grade is busy working on paper mache' animal masks. They will use these masks in a mini production of the song, "The Bare Necessities" from the Jungle Book. Our music teacher is teaching them the music and a small dance to go with their performance. They will also learn about Henri Matisse and make some outdoor oil pastel drawings.

Second grade have been making different animals from the rain forest. They finished toucans, iguanas and now are making butterflies and will soon make monkeys. To celebrate the Easter season they will be making bunny puppets. They will also make special crosses to celebrate their First Communion.

First grade learned about Paul Cezanne and his still life paintings. They have made some nice still lives from a basket of fruit. They will also learn about cave art and make a small picture on salt dough to replicate cave art. They will make small baskets for Easter and multi medium cross pictures.

Kindergarten is working on an ocean scene using many mediums as well. We will celebrate spring with several fun things like a chick in an egg.

And last but not least our Middle school elective students are making muppet- style rod puppets to do performance commercials during the Spring drama show.