

You must do the things you think you cannot do.  
~ Eleanor Roosevelt ~

My name is Margo VanDenBossche and I am so glad to be part of St. Peter's School. I am a graduate of the University of Evansville. I am an Army Veteran, married to a retired Army veteran with a son currently serving in the Army. When not in the classroom, I am working on completing a half marathon in all 50 states. This is my fifteenth year teaching, the last 8 being here at St. Peter's School. This is a huge transitional year for students as their work and responsibilities grow. It is exciting to watch them learn, share, and develop skills that they will use for many years.

I am lucky to be joined this year by Tanji Bhullar. Her son is a former student of mine and currently attending St. Mary's Ryken High School. When she is not with me in class, Mrs. Bhullar enjoys traveling, cooking, and gardening.

A few of my favorite things

color: purple  
season: fall  
sport: football  
food: pasta  
fast food: Chick Fil A  
drink: Dunkin Donuts coffee  
team: Minnesota Vikings  
animal: Eeyore  
book: The Stand



*It is better to be the child of  
God than king of the whole world.  
~St. Aloysius Gonzaga ~*

Winter has made itself felt. While the varying seasons are themselves a gift, I have already heard students longing for the warmth and renewal of spring. May we find time in this winter season to kindle the fires of faith and family.

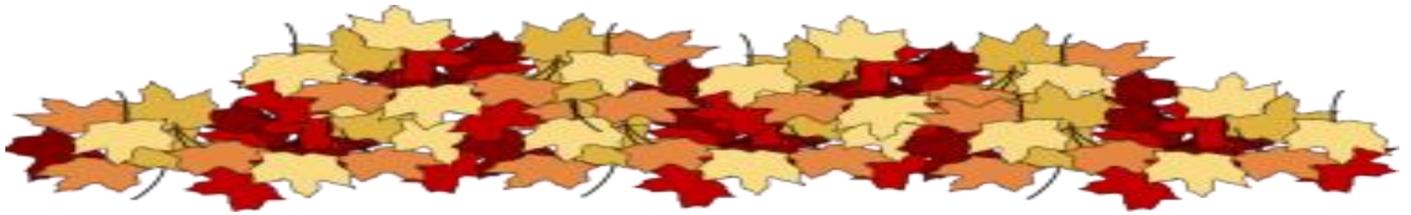
During the winter months, we will be learning about the Seven Sacraments and the celebration of the Eucharist. We will also spend some time delving into Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection during the Lenten Season. We will also revisit the Sacrament of Reconciliation before we dismiss for the Easter Break.

Third quarter will bring a change from Social Studies to Science. Please cover these books with a jumbo fabric book cover. This will cut down on some of the wear and tear on the books.

Multiplication, multiplication, multiplication! That is the buzz word for third grade. We are working on our multiplication facts and some need help at home to learn them. Ipad apps, flash cards, computer games, and music are all great ways to help students learn the patterns that make up multiplication. We will be using what we have learned about multiplication to find area, perfect squares, and square roots. This is a skill that third graders need to master for success in the remainder of their educational journey.

Do you like to read as an adult? Please share this love with your child. Read together, plan a trip to the local library, and set some time aside for everyone to "drop everything and read". Children learn by imitating what they see, please let your child see you read.

We are planning a few fun things during Catholic School Week, be on the lookout for information from the school. After the beautiful Christmas program, I especially will be looking forward to our talent shoe. St. Peter's Got Talent 2019 God Bless!



Not the goods of the world, but God. Not riches, but God. Not honors, but God. Not distinction, but God. Not dignities, but God. Not advancement, but God.

God always and in everything.

~ St. Vincent Pallotti ~

The beginning of school is filled with excitement as students return to see old friends and make new ones. There are lots of new experiences and challenges but before long the new classroom and teacher become routine. The heat and humidity of summer give way to the changing colors of fall. The circular changing of time gives the earth a chance to rest, recharge and be ready to renew in the spring. Students are returning after a chance to rest and recharge, they will have a chance to flourish and grow as new challenges are met and exceeded. Encourage your students to meet each day knowing that it is a gift to be experienced.

After learning about the early church, the third graders will be learning that the pope and bishops lead one, holy, catholic, apostolic Church. We will also be talking about different types of prayers. This is a great time to set aside some time for family prayer. Such a wealth of prayers exist - how about choosing a new one and learning as a family to pray together!

Be on the lookout for the beginning of multiplication facts as a part of homework in October. Multiplication is such a huge part of math moving forward. It is one of the major foundational blocks needed to be successful in future grades. There are lots of apps and games to help students learn this skill. If you have access to any of the old SchoolHouse Rocks videos for multiplication, please share them with your children. While they seem dated and funny, they are a good tool to help students learn some of the number patterns. I still hear "Three is a Magic Number" whenever we are skip counting by 3!

Please encourage your children to read outside of school. I have had students read everything from cooking books to comic books in third grade. I know not everyone is ready for Harry Potter so my goal is just for each child to find a subject or a type of story that is interesting to them. Thank you for all the support for our school. Go Storm!