FAQ’S ABOUT TERMINOLOGY

- **WHAT IS THE SCHOOL’S WEBSITE?**
  - The school website is designed to provide information about the school and provide information to prospective and current families. The website is located at [www.petertherockschool.org](http://www.petertherockschool.org)

- **WHAT IS THE SCHOOL’S OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE?**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Peter-Catholic-School/507861185930855](https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Peter-Catholic-School/507861185930855)

- **WHAT IS THE ST. PETER CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS AND FRIENDS FACEBOOK PAGE?**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/groups/839193642791677/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/839193642791677/)
  - This is a FB group for parents, friends and teachers to post questions related to school or family fun events. Administrator approval is required to keep the site private.

- **WHAT IS TEACHEREASE?**
  - Teacherease is an on-line gradebook. St. Peter also uses this web-based communication tool to update parents on school events, newsletters, grades, sports, monthly hot lunch menus, SCRIP earnings reports and general announcements.
  - The website for Teacherease is [www.teacherease.com](http://www.teacherease.com)
  - Once you enroll, you will receive an email with your login and password.
  - This allows a parent to log in and access their child’s subjects, assignments and progress.
  - The most commonly used tabs are “ACADEMICS” and “COMMUNICATE”.
  - Under the tab “COMMUNICATE”, locate the “Digital Locker.” The Digital Locker holds electronic copies of school communications. It provides parents with important information about the school and upcoming events
  - Emails are sent from Carol Burns, via Teacherease. Carol is the Office Administrative Director.
  - It is important to keep email addresses current on [www.teacherease.com](http://www.teacherease.com). You must contact the School, Office Administrators to update your email and information.
  - Both parents can have their own access to Teacherease, with email notification.
  - The school family directory can be accessed through Teacherease. The school family directory lists addresses and phone numbers for school families who have elected to be listed.

- **WHAT IS SCRIP?**
  - SCRIP is a fundraising tool, which helps to reduce student tuition.
  - The website for Scrip is [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)
  - A required $150 earned goes to the school. Any additional money earned is applied to your next year tuition fees. Some families have reduced tuition by over $2,000/year, using SCRIP cards.
  - RaiseRight is an app that can be loaded on your smart phone, to use instantly in stores.
- **Carol Burns** is the school’s SCRIP Manager. Short classes may be offered at the beginning of the school year.
- Ask Grandparents, other family members and friends to use Scrip cards for their purchases. Ensure they use the designated Enrollment Code for the school: Call the School Office for the Code – 719-481-1855.

- **WHAT ARE SAFEWAY CARDS?**
  - Safeway Cards are reloadable cards that can be used for grocery and gas purchases.
  - These cards can be purchased from the School Office.
  - Families receive 5% back on purchases.

- **WHAT IS SCHOOL MESSENGER?**
  - School Messenger is the automated phone text/voice message system to alert parents of important and emergency school information. Included, but not limited to, are:
    - Snow days (Closures)
    - School delays
    - Important school events
    - Lock-ins/Lock-outs
  - Texts, emails and/or voice messages for delays and cancellations occur as soon as the information is received from D38. This information is usually received by 6:00am.

- **WHAT IS RAPTOR?**
  - RAPTOR is the school’s on-line visitor and volunteer software. It manages your volunteer activities – tracking hours and communicating between volunteers. It also tracks school visitors, ensuring the safety of our students.
  - If you have questions about Raptor, contact Liz Wilson at liz.wilson@petertherock.org.

- **WHAT IS THE UNIFORM POLICY?**
  - There are three authorized uniforms. Uniform guidelines can be found on the school website. [https://www.petertherockschool.org/uniforms.html](https://www.petertherockschool.org/uniforms.html)
  - **MONDAY & WEDNESDAY** - PE Attire
  - **TUESDAY** - Mass Attire
  - **THURSDAY & FRIDAY** - Daily Attire
  - **Note:** 7th grade students will have a different PE schedule for the 2021-2022 school year. Once their schedule is published, it will be posted and families will be notified.
  - Uniforms can be ordered from:
    - Dennis Uniform: [https://www.dennisuniform.com/schools/CPT](https://www.dennisuniform.com/schools/CPT)  School Code: CPT
  - Elementary School uniforms are different than Middle School uniforms (see uniform guidelines on the website).
  - The **Uniform Closet**, in the school office, has gently used uniform items for sale.
• WHAT IS THE DRESS DOWN POLICY?
  o Dress Down days are casual, non-uniform days.
  o Guidelines can be found in the Family Handbook. See website, under “School Life”.
  o Families will be notified when there is a Casual/Dress Down day through Teacherease. It is also listed in the Crusader. Students that earn a dress down day will bring home a Dress Down Pass, which will indicate the date of the dress down day.

• WHAT ARE THE SCHOOL CANCELLATION AND DELAY POLICIES?
  o You will be notified by School Messenger, through a phone text and email, for a delayed start or cancellation.
  o Rarely, does the school dismiss early. In the event of severe weather, you will be notified by School Messenger for an early dismissal.
  o If District 38 Schools (Lewis Palmer) are closed or delayed, SPCS will closed or delayed.
  o Notification is usually given by 6:00am.

• WHAT IS “FAMILY”?
  o “Families” are a cross class gathering of students from all grades, in a monthly session. Together, they learn about scripture and service projects.
  o Middle schoolers play a leadership role in each “Family”.

• WHAT IS “HOUSE”?
  o House is homeroom for the Middle School students.

• WHAT ARE “SPECIALS”?
  o Specials are classes offered to enrich our students during the day.
  o Classes include: Spanish, PE, Art, and Music, which are taught on specific days. Students in grades Fourth through Eighth will have the option of either taking Spanish or Band for the 2021-2022 school year.

• WHAT ARE BOXTOPS?
  o “BoxTops for Education” is a fundraising program offered by General Mills Inc.
  o The website for Information on How to Earn BoxTops is: https://www.boxtops4education.com/en/How%20To%20Earn
  o No more clipping is necessary. All you need is your phone. Download the All-New Box Top App, shop as you normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The App will automatically credit your school’s Box Tops earnings online.
  o Traditional BoxTops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many store products. The school still collects clipped BoxTops, if you have them. Please check the expiration date.
  o Products include: frozen food, bakeware, tableware, boxed food, paper products, produce, school supplies and more! See a full list of products at https://www.boxtops4education.com/Participating-Products-Page
  o The school earns $.10 for each BoxTop for school related purchases.
  o Ask your relatives, friends and neighbors to collect for your child.
• **WHAT ARE IOWA ASSESSMENTS?**
  o The Iowa test of basic skills.
  o The test assesses skills in Reading, Language, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science.
  o This annual achievement testing occurs in February for 1st – 8th grades.
  o Results are shared with the parents in April.

• **WHAT IS A FIELD DAY?**
  o Field Day is a fun games day, for all grades.
  o It takes place in the spring.
  o Students may take the school bus or be driven/picked up.
  o Field Days may also take place indoors at Summit Interquest.

• **WHAT IS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK?**
  o Catholic Schools Week is a national celebration of the Catholic education system.
  o St. Peter hosts an open house for prospective families.
  o A school mass is celebrated on the Sunday during that week.
  o Catholic Schools Week usually occurs in the last week in January/first week in February.
  o Special Spirit events occur at the school.
  o An All-School Mass occurs at St. Dominic’s for all schools in the Diocese on the Friday, ending the week. This is a special morning mass and parents are encouraged to attend. Students may take the school bus or be driven/picked up at St. Dominic’s Church. Students are released afterwards.

• **WHAT ARE WEEKEND SCHOOL MASSES?**
  o One Sunday each quarter (may vary), the school hosts the 10:30 Sunday Mass at Saint Peter Catholic Church.
  o Students may sign up for choir. Permission slips are provided by the Choir Director.
  o Students sign up to be greeters, lectures, and altar servers.
  o Attendance is voluntary.
  o All students are invited to attend with their families.
  o All students that wear their Mass Uniform receive a dress down pass from the Principal.

• **WHAT ARE FIRST FRIDAY MASSES?**
  o Third through Eighth grades attend Mass on the first Friday of each month.

• **WHAT HAPPENS AT TEACHER CONFERENCES?**
  o Parent Teacher conferences occur in October & February.
  o The conferences are mandatory for parents.
  o Parents meet with their child's teacher (usually without children for the lower grades K-3) to discuss their progress.
  o If you have questions prior to scheduled conferences, email your child’s teacher through Teacherease and set up a time to discuss any questions or concerns.

• **WHAT IS TADS?**
  o TADS is a Diocesan program to help families in need of tuition assistance.
  o TADS assistance paperwork must be completed in early April.
  o Separate Parish assistance may also be available.
  o TADS is also used to sign your tuition contract and to pay K-8 tuition online.
• **WHAT ARE SPIRIT NIGHTS?**
  o Spirit Nights are a school & parish community social fundraiser. Families are notified by Teacherease and the information is listed in the Crusader.
  o Spirit Nights occur periodically throughout the year.
  o A host restaurant donates money to the school, based on sales for the night.
  o This is a great way to get to know other Saint Peter Families.