



St. Martin of Tours Academy
Fifth Grade Newsletter
May - June 2016

“Community is at the heart of Christian education not simply as a concept to be taught but as a reality to be lived.”

-“To Teach as Jesus Did”

A Pastoral Message on Catholic Education

Dear Parents,

I would like to start this last class letter by thanking our awesome room parents, Tammi Marshall, Jacqui Valdivia and Virginia Mullaly-Delamater. They have done a tremendous job for us this year. Not only have they performed the regular duties of room parents, but they also put in all of the extra work for the sixth grade camp fundraisers. Thanks to the parents who participated in field trips, convalescent home visits and extra projects. Finally, thank you to all of the parents who so generously volunteered their time and effort to make this year a success. The end of year dinner and Open House was wonderful. Thanks so much, everyone! All of your hard work is very much appreciated.

We have had a great year. Each child has grown in many ways. I hope you have been able to see and appreciate the changes and growth in your child. We have worked on many life skills this year including: building a foundation of good study habits, organizational skills and responsibility for oneself. In addition, we have experienced a robust curriculum across all core content areas. Your child has worked hard this year as we approached all subject areas in alignment with the Common Core State Standards in preparation for Middle School.

Over the summer, remember that reading is the most important task. A minimum of 30 minutes a day, every day is critical. Also, add some journal writing once or twice a week. Start for a few minutes and increase the writing time each week. If you go on a family trip, be sure to include journal writing about new learning experiences. Audio books are also a great option to printed books and they travel well too.

Strategy based learning and thinking games are great ways to get in some math practice. Try memory games - Sudoku, cards, or board games. Maybe this is the summer your family will start “Family Game Night”! Consumer math, such as budgeting or cooking, is good math review as well. Please continue to solidify the math skills by working on the MOBY <http://www.mobymax.com> or Sadlier Mathematics <http://www.sadlier-oxford.com/math> websites for at least 30 minutes a week.

Last of all, enjoy your children! Spend time appreciating the growth they have accomplished this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed them and trust they have had a wonderful year. My door is always open for you or your child if there is anything I can do to ensure their success.

May God bless you and keep you always.

Happy Summer!

Nanette Soto, M. Ed.

