



## St. Martin of Tours Academy Second Grade Newsletter June/Summer 2016

*“Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” -Matthew 19:14*

*I bid you “Farewell From Panda Country!!!!” The last letter is always the hardest to write because it means the end of the year has finally arrived. A time that seemed so very distant in September is now a reality. We have spent 10 months getting to know one another and now, just when everyone is comfortable, it is time to move on. Life is like that - people come in and out of our lives and then, when they are gone, we have our memories.*

*When you were young, didn't it seem like forever until that final bell? Nowadays, when I ring the last two bells of the day, my students ask me, “Is school over already?” The reason time moves smoothly in the classroom is Workshop Way®. Our day flows from one subject to another in such a way that the day is over before we know it. This year we have had a great time covering the second grade curriculum and beyond.*

*One of my goals is to create an environment that will enhance the learning that takes place in my classroom. Working closely with you these past months has made the process much easier. Thank you for your continued support and thoughtfulness.*

*I hope that I have made a positive difference in your child's life. Teaching is a gift from God, and I feel blessed to have been chosen to share my gift with your child/children this year. We have spent time reading Scripture and discussing the message it contains. You would be very impressed with the depth of understanding your child has of our faith. The insight from children is so pure. They prove how important they are to our faith. Jesus said, “Let the children come.”*

*I enjoy teaching here at St. Martin Academy because of the wonderful school philosophy that incorporates Workshop Way®. It doesn't matter if your child was here at SMA for only one year, Workshop Way® will have an effect on them. You might not notice it now, but you will when they are older.*

*A special thanks to our great room parents Nikki Comana and Tracy McCormick for all the time they put into our class this year. Thank you to all the drivers who took their time to drive on our field trip to the zoo and museum.*

*I'm looking forward to seeing you at our “Annual Fishing Picnic” at Lake Murray. This will be our 24th family picnic (information on reverse).*

*Thanks again for all your support this year. Enjoy your children as they will grow up and be gone before you know it.*

*This is the last installment for “The Rules For Making Rules” by Dr. Carstens, Ph.D.*

- **HAVING KIDS IS NOT A LABOR SAVING DECISION.** Doing the work yourself is always more efficient than getting the child to do it. Housework is easier than teaching responsibility. Grownups may spend half an hour getting a child to clean a room that they could pick up in five minutes. They do it because they are teaching responsibility. Teaching is harder than housework.
- **YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE GRATEFUL AND THANK YOU FOR SETTING CLEAR RULES —WHEN THEY ARE 26 or 27 YEARS OLD.** Children will not be grateful for being made to pick up their rooms. However when they are older, they will appreciate the importance of parents who care enough to follow through.

*Have a great summer,*



*Toni Mazzara*

## SUMMER AT A GLANCE . . .

### Reading:

- Have your child read chapter books to themselves and younger siblings.
- Play board games that require reading.



### Religion:

- Review prayers learned this year.
- Attend Mass.

### Math:

- Study and review the multiplication facts.
- Practice regrouping in addition and subtraction.
- Play board games that require adding and subtraction: Monopoly, Battleship, Dominoes, dice and card games.

### Penmanship:

- Practice all the cursive letters.
- Have your child write a summer journal.
- Write and illustrate creative stories.
- Check your child's pencil grip (the way your child grasps their pencil).

### Snacks:

- When we finish our nutrition unit your child will know what they should choose for a healthy snack.

## SECOND GRADE 24th ANNUAL FAMILY FISHING PICNIC AT LAKE MURRAY!!!

Look for the green and white canopy

◇ SUNDAY, JUNE 26th, 2016

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



WHAT TO BRING:  
Fishing poles and chairs  
bikes and scooters



daily permits and bait are available at the snack bar  
Adults need a fishing license and a permit

Children age 7 and under fish free - age 8 and over need permit

Don't forget to bring your lunch and drinks



HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

Come for the picnic even if you don't fish.  
It's a lot of FUN!