

HEAD OF SCHOOL LETTER

Thank you to all who have registered for St. Martin's-in-the-Field coming school year 2011-12. Our small classes, dedicated teachers, and a spiraling curriculum all enable your children to learn and grow from grade to grade.

For the 2011-12 school year, we plan to extend our Nursery and Pre-K half-day programs from two-and-a-half hour sessions to three-hour sessions. Our morning programs will run from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, and our afternoon programs will be extended from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Full-Day Pre-K and Kindergarten will continue to dismiss at 3:00 p.m. If you have siblings in either class, our Mustang Club will keep them until the 3:30 dismissal. This new scheduling will give parents more time and allow your children a fuller, more relaxed schedule for their early learning.

Our school's excellent reputation and caring community are our best advertising. Please tell your friends about our gem of a school. Let your friends know about our Early 3's and 2-Day Nursery program. We will accept children with birthdates up to December 15 with the understanding that they will enter the 3-Day Nursery program the following year.

Beginning this February, we'll be implementing a new "lunch bunch" program for our Pre-schoolers. Morning and afternoon Nursery and Pre-K students will have the opportunity to bring their lunch and play for an hour. We hope this extra time will help parents.

I especially want to thank you for your generous support of the Annual Fund and to urge those who have not yet made their contribution to do so. As you are aware, we have not raised tuition for two years. The Board of Trustees is considering the tuition rate for next year, and as soon as their decision is made, I will let you know. We anticipate a small increase above current rates. Ours is a tuition-driven school, and rates must reflect our need for sustainability. In an effort to give our staff a raise—the first in two years—as well as to continue our educational programs, we must set a responsible level for tuition, ever-mindful that paying tuition is a sacrifice for most families.

I hope to see everybody at the annual spaghetti dinner on Friday, February 4, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. A little flavor of warm, sunny Italy will go a long way to brighten these snowy, icy winter days.



Sharon Holsclaw with Carol Fritz, left, who founded the Katie Fritz Scholarship Fund in memory of her daughter.

On Saturday, February 26, at 5:00 p.m. we will listen to the Gospel singers from Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church at our annual Katie Fritz Memorial Concert. All students in Nursery through 8th Grade are invited to come forward and sing with me in honor of the memory of Katie Fritz, a parishioner who died at the age of 16. Her mother, Carol, began the scholarship fund in her daughter's name. That fund has helped many families through the years. This is a wonderful evening of song that brings us all together.

Finally, let me wish you a very happy Valentine's Day.

Sharon Holsclaw

Letter from PA President Marcia Kokoski

This is such an exciting time for the Parents' Association. We have so many great events coming up for everyone to enjoy. I hope everyone will join us for the Spaghetti Dinner on February 4th. This is such a wonderful time to enjoy great food, conversation, and fun with other St. Martin's-in-the-Field families. Reserve your spot early; this event fills up fast! We plan to keep the taste of Italy going right through the month. Please look out for the Giovanni Pizza forms to come home in totes the week following the Spaghetti Dinner. The catalog is full of yummy pizza kits for our children to help make and delicious desserts and snacks that are perfect to have on hand when unexpected guests show up.

Harley Carpenter is working very hard on planning another wonderful Teacher Appreciation week. I don't want to give away any of her surprises, but if you are interested in helping, please contact me at mkokoski@foxdentechllc.com. This week is a wonderful opportunity to say thank you to all of the teachers and staff who do so much for our children.

A Perfect Night in Paris...what more needs to be said! Line up your sitter, put on your party clothes, and come to Chartwell Country Club for our largest fundraiser of the year. Patti Zielinski and all of the Auction volunteers have been working so hard all school year to plan the perfect evening for everyone to enjoy! You won't want to miss this great event and the opportunity to raise your glass and toast Sharon Holsclaw for all of the wonderful things she has done for our children and this school for so many years. It is not too late to get involved. We would love your help on any level, including set-up help the day of the Auction. Please contact Patti if you would like more information. I hope to see everyone at these wonderful events.

Please come to the next PA meeting for details on these and all upcoming events that have been planned for the remainder of the school year.

Our next PA meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 2, at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Children are always welcome to join us at any PA meeting.

Stay warm and safe during these cold weeks!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- F** 1 - Re-enrollment forms Due for Grades 1-8
E 4 - Spaghetti Dinner - 1 seating, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. / Parish Hall
B 14-18 - Teacher Appreciation Week
R 16 - Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
U 21 - NO SCHOOL - President's Day (Monday)
A 22 - School Resumes (Tuesday)
R 26 - KATIE FRITZ GOSPEL CONCERT 5 p.m. / Church - Day School children to sing
Y 28 - The Rev. Edward Warfield to speak about Civil Rights movement - 12:40 to 1:25



Coming up soon...



- M** 4 - End of Second Trimester
A 4 - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT /
R HALF DAY GRADES 1-8 ONLY
 12:00p.m. dismissal Elementary and Middle school only
C 9 - Ash Wednesday/Eucharist service: 12:00p.m.
H 12 - GALA AUCTION - "A Perfect Paris Night"



Sports-in-the-Field

The Boys A team has shown nice improvement early in the season and have earned a 5-0 record playing against a number of different schools – Annapolis Area Christian School, Chesapeake Science Point and Key School, to name a few. Lucas Wright, Cameron Fitzgerald, and Garrett O'Dell represent the 6th grade, while William Fung, David Howson, Griffin Wild, and Jack Kunowsky represent the 8th grade for the Mustangs. Thank you to Lee Talbot and Kevin Fitzgerald for volunteering to coach this team.

The Girls A team is doing well and has either won games or come within a few points for those games they have lost. The team of 8th graders and one 7th grader are showing a strong presence and improving as the season goes on. Everyone contributes in some way with rebounds, shots, steals and great team work. Representing the Mustangs is Erin Morsheimer, Virginia Ritinski, Katie Pawlikowski, Charlotte Kurtz, Marguerite Matta, Morgan Kranz, Kylie Beck, Lauren Shin and Olivia Burchfield. Thank you to Dave and Donna Kranz for their fifth season of coaching St. Martin's Girls' basketball.

The St. Martin's-in-the-Field Girls Basketball B Team has faced some stiff competition this year and has played with a lot of spirit. The girls have been improving in all phases of the game. Many of our players have never played organized basketball before and everyone is getting a lot of much needed experience. The team captains are Maddi Decker, Ginger Ellis, and Haley Carney. They have been providing a lot of leadership out on the court. Caroline Holt and Holly Roane are forwards learning the inside game. Lindsay Reiter and Summer Sargent are up-and-coming guards. Isabel Carney and Pauline Buisson are the youngest players on the team and are quickly becoming skilled on the court. Thank you to parent Bob Reiter for stepping in to coach these girls. This team has a lot of heart and should make our St Martin's community proud.

The Boys B team is playing hard and fast and has shown a lot of improvement and they are maturing into young men as well. The team record doesn't reflect how good they really are because sometimes the ball just bounces the wrong way and that has plagued them during the season at times. Jack Bullen and Corbett Glick are doing a very solid job at the point guard position. Hunter Sheely and Chris Summers are the big men down low grinding out the boards and taking it up strong to the rack when needed. Andrew Parker and Alex Petrocelli have hit many key shots for us when we needed it. Wayland Fung, Ben Kopas and Raphael Buisson have all been breaking down great on defense, shutting their man down many times and taking that player right out of the game. The team is doing well, and they get better every week. Go Mustangs! This team is coached by Ian Duncan from Severna Park High School.



Kindergarten through 5th Graders Going to Bat for Reading with the Bowie Baysox



Our St. Martin's-in-the-Field students in Kindergarten through 5th grade are participating in the **Read & Hit a Home Run**, sponsored by the Bowie Baysox (minor league baseball affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles). The program requires students to read at least four books. Program coordinator Ellen Stanton, our 2nd Grade teacher, will submit the total number of students who completed the reading program to the Baysox.

What we can win. The Baysox will mail one free ticket per student to the program coordinator for distribution. Students who receive a free ticket will be invited to Reading Rewards Night at a Bowie Baysox game to celebrate their accomplishments! Discounted tickets will be available to family and friends.

So, readers, hit a book for first base, second base, third base, and home plate!

Poet-in-residence creates poetry with middle-schoolers

Through a grant written by Susan Pistillo, poet Natalie Lobe is again inspiring our middle school students. The creativity of 5th and 6th graders is fostered during five sessions of poetry writing as students explore a variety of literary devices and topics. During the sixth and final session, a poetry performance presents these amazing poems to parents. Many of these poems are published in the Middle School Literary Magazine at the end of each year. This year's performance will be held for the poets' parents on Thursday, February 3, during regular class times. Natalie Lobe is associated with Maryland Hall, where her classes are available to the general public. She is the author of several books of poetry.

Poetry Performances

Thursday, February 3rd

Sixth grade English classroom (Mrs. Pistillo) 12:40-1:25

Fifth grade classroom (Mrs. Glick) 1:25-2:10

Gospel Concert benefits the Katie Fritz Scholarship Fund

Please join us February 26 at the concert to benefit the Katie Fritz Scholarship Fund for St. Martin's Day School. All families are welcome and there is no admission. It is a fun, uplifting musical event that provides financial aid for students. Make a joyful noise and help others as well!



The Rev. Edward Warfield will speak about the civil rights movement and marching with Martin Luther King, Jr.

Seventh- and eighth-grade students will gather on Monday, February 28th, to hear the Rev. Edward S Warfield speak about his experiences of being involved with the civil rights struggle of the 1960s and of marching with Martin Luther King, Jr. Parents are also invited to attend the talk, scheduled for 5th period, 12:40 to 1:25, in the Chapel.

Rev. Warfield has been invited to speak by Mr. Andy Smith, who teaches Health and Life Skills. Mr. Smith, who is teaching a unit on prejudice, asked Rev. Warfield to share his memories of a time when society was split along racial lines and when the words of Rev. King inspired peaceful protest against policies that reduced people of color to second-class citizens. Rev. Warfield is the father of our French teacher, Mr. Ed Warfield, and the grandfather of 7th grader Daniel Warfield. He will share his living memory of a period in our country's history that is almost unimaginable in the minds of young people today who have grown up in an integrated society, the most diverse on the face of the earth.

Rev. Warfield will speak about why he joined the struggle for civil rights and why he stayed involved. He participated in the March on Washington for Freedom and Jobs and the James Meredith March against Fear, which promoted voter registration. Both were led by King.

Rev. Warfield is currently associate director of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Baltimore . He retired after 25 years as a Human Resources officer of The Johns Hopkins University Administration. He is a retired chaplain (major) from the Maryland National Guard—136th Combat Support Hospital . He served at the Baltimore Community Action Agency under Parran Mitchell, who later became a U.S. Senator. Former clergy affiliations include the Church of the Ascension, Middle River; Church of The Messiah , Hamilton ; and St. Marks on the Hill, Pikesville . The Rev. Edward Warfield is a graduate of The Johns Hopkins University and the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Virginia .



Outstanding in-the-Field

Jonathan Matta, 4th grade, holds the trophy his hockey team won at the 2010 Thanksgiving Classic, held in Newark, Delaware. He wears his Navy Squirt AA hockey shirt. Navy went undefeated in the tournament, beating the Chester County Cougars, the Toms River Blackhawks, and the Clarkstown Capitals to win the championship. Jonathan plays center and has been the captain of the team for two years.



Go, Navy! Go, Jonathan!



St. Martin's-in-the-Field Day School is blessed with many exceptional students. We want to highlight their achievements, whether in school or in the community. To submit your child's achievement to be a part of our "Outstanding in the Field" series, please email Communications Director Cynthia Barry at cbarry@stmartinsdayschool.org.

Full-Day Pre-K Says “Hello” in Seven Languages

by Linda Cielewich

Full-Day Pre-K has taken the concept of world view to another level. The students have learned about various celebrations, traditions, and customs from several different countries. In December, the children studied Christmas in Germany, African traditions, and Hanukkah. The students took such an interest that we continued our study with languages. The children learned how to say, “hello,” in seven different languages. This carried over to a wonderful bulletin board display. Simply walk into the room and you may hear, “Buon Giorno,” “Jambo,” “Ni Hao,” and more.



The Full Day Pre Kindergarten class shows off their snowmen offering greetings in multiple languages.



Kyleigh's snowman greets visitors with Ni Hao, which is Chinese for hello!



YUM! YUM! YUM! FUN!FUN! FUN!

It's Spaghetti Dinner time!



Friday, February 4th

1 seating only

5:30p.m.

Mangia ! Mangia!



Dr. Charles Flanagan from the National Archives visits 7th and 8th grade Touchstones Discussion groups

The words were in cursive, with “f” for “s,” in the 25 facsimiles of the last pages of Abraham Lincoln’s 1862 Annual Message to Congress Dr. Charles Flanagan brought with him from the National Archives when he visited 7th and 8th grade Touchstone Discussions on Thursday, January 20. To make the reading a little easier, he also brought a modern, typed transcription. In the darkest days of the Civil War, Lincoln spoke about how no one can escape history and builds to the idea of preserving the “last best hope of earth.” Here is the transcription:

Fellow-citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration, will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance, or insignificance, can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass, will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation. We say we are for the Union. The world will not forget that we say this. We know how to save the Union. The world knows we do know how to save it. We---even we here---hold the power, and bear the responsibility. In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free---honorable alike in what we give, and what we preserve. We shall nobly save, or meanly lose, the last best, hope of earth. Other means may succeed; this could not fail. The way is plain, peaceful, generous, just---a way which, if followed, the world will forever applaud, and God must forever bless.



The questions students raised and discussed included: How does giving freedom to slaves assure freedom to the free? Why does he mention God? What does it mean to not escape history? What did he mean by “we know how to save the Union?” Dr. Flanagan spoke about the carnage of the Civil War—the statistic he cited was that roughly one out of every 16 Americans was killed—“the fiery trial” which will light us down to the latest generation. The conversation lingered on issues of justice and equality—and memory, as the National Archives is the memory center of the country.

After the class discussions, Dr. Flanagan met with Tracy Alexander, social studies teacher, and Susan Pistillo, language arts teacher, and Cynthia Barry, Librarian and Touchstones Discussion teacher to explore ways St. Martin’s and the National Archives might connect. Dr. Flanagan is a historian who taught at the Key School for many years and was head of the Upper School Humanities team.

