

April Upcoming Events:

1-5th- Easter Break School Closed 12th-8th Grade Yearbook Dedication Ads Due (8th grade only) 9th- Report Card Distribution 19th- Middle School Dance 6:30-8:30 pm 22nd- Earth Day 23rd- Scholastic Book Fair Begins (Please Check Facebook/ Instagram for Hours) 24th- 7th Grade Lead Chapel Service. All are welcome 8:35-9:20ish. 26th- Grandfriends' Day Noon Dismissal (Last Day Book Fair!)

ADMINISTRATION

The school will be providing a school directory to all enrolled families. However, we understand that some families may want to be 'unlisted'. Kindly let the school office know by May 15th if you would like to 'opt out' of being included in the directory. The school directories will be issued electronically by the end of May. For your reference, the information that will be provided in the directory is: Parent name(s), Phone numbers, Email(s), Home Address and student names and grades. We hope this provides a way for the school community to connect.

We are excited and pleased to announce that we are bringing Italian Night back! This event is not currently on the school calendar so please mark your calendars. The dinner will be on Friday May 10th and will have two seatings, 6-7:15 and 7:30-9. This event is NOT considered a fundraiser so the ticket fees will be largely used to cover only the expenses. For those that have experienced an Italian Night in the past, you will know that this is a fun night of good food and fellowship for the whole family. Since this night will kick off Mother's Day weekend, we hope you will bring the moms and other special ladies in your life to enjoy this special evening together. The details will be provided soon and remember to make your reservations quickly as there are only 2 seatings available. We hope to see you all there!



As I've mentioned in my letter, we are delighted with the success of the Bulldog Bash. I'd like to remind the school community of the sponsors and please ask that they consider using their services whenever possible. Thank you to everyone that supported the Bash!



Last Friday, teachers and staff participated in a Professional Development entitled "Embracing Diversity in the Classroom". The Professional Development was centered around diversity, implicit bias and how to foster a more welcoming and culturally sensitive community for both students and teachers.

Teachers and staff engaged in meaningful and insightful conversations about diversity. It was a wonderful opportunity for teachers to acquire new knowledge, share thoughts and ideas and to socialize. Everyone had a great time!

A special thank you to our Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Barcenas and to our Middle School English Teacher, Ms. Breakbill for their hard work with planning and presenting during this Professional Development! Additionally, we are grateful for Mr. Whitley's generosity in providing a delicious Panera Bread breakfast!





PTO

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our last PTO meeting or who has reached out about how they can help out! We are so incredibly appreciative of your support! Next Meeting: April 11th 6-7PM via zoom.

Upcoming events:

- March 28th- Chuck E. Cheese fundraiser- after the noon dismissal
- NSA Assembly for 5-8th grades April 17th
- April 26th Mother(Dear one) Son Event at Thrive Gym! This is a great way for mothers and sons to have some fun together! Tickets are \$20 total for Mother and Son. Register for tickets here:

https://app.jackrabbitclass.com/regev ent.asp?xID=6640496&orgid=50487 0

- May 10 6-8 p.m. Italian Night- more details for reservations coming soon!
- May 18th 6-8 p.m. Daddy (Dear One) Daughter Dance, tickets are \$20 for Daddy and Daughter(s) and the event will be held in the gym. Reserve your tickets here: <u>Daddy</u> <u>Daughter Dance (smartsheet.com)</u>
- Scholastic Book Fair April 22-26th.
 Information on Digital wallets to be sent out after spring break

Please note the mother and father events are not exclusive to mom's and dad's and rather a way to spend special dedicated time for someone special in your family to spend time with the sons and daughters of St. Martin's. Please send whomever makes sense for your family to celebrate this time with your child.

BOARD

The Board thanks Kim Turco and the PTO for the hugely successful Bulldog Bash! Thanks to their hard work, the 2024 Bulldog Bash was the most successful in the history of the event. We appreciate the large turnout and the support of the school community with your generous purchases. <u>We also want to</u> <u>thank the generous sponsors</u> and ask that the school community support their businesses whenever possible. Please refer to Mr. Whitley's letter with the results of the event.

The Board and PTO plan to bring back Italian Night! The dinner will be held on Friday May 10th. Mark your calendars and look for details to come out in early April.

The Board is seeing new membership. If interested, please contact Amy Stensland at amys.stmartins@gmail.com.

The Board is always looking for help on the committees. Please contact Amy Stensland if interested in contributing to one of the following committees:

- Safety and Security
- Marketing
- STEM
- Grant

In addition, Mr. Art Estopinan will chair the new Development and Endowment committee. Please contact Art at art@theestopinangroup.com if interested in participating. The last Board meeting of the year will be held on May 20th at 5:45.

NOTEWORTHY

Sign Up for our Annual **Golf Tournament** May 3rd on our website TODAY: <u>https://www.stmartinsonline.org/golf-tournam</u> <u>ent</u>

Students Spring Uniform: Began 3/18, students are now permitted to wear shorts and short sleeve uniform shirts to school. Please be sure to monitor weather changes for colder days since students will be outside for recess and some gym classes! Please note no sweatshirts or sweaters without the school logo are permitted to wear in class during the school day. If you have any questions about the school uniform please reference the parent/ student handbook found on our website: https://www.stmartinsonline.org/copy-of-form s-2022-2023



Specials: March

Music

I am so happy to be here and have really enjoyed my first month teaching! In the lower school, we've learned this month to identify major and minor keys, several tempos and time signatures, and are currently working on counting various rhythms as well as singing! Meanwhile, the middle school has been having a blast learning about the evolution of music through the 1900s and participating in "karaoke day" every week, where they get to find songs from the decade we've learned about that week and sing them as a class. Ask them what the "British Invasion" was!

All students are looking forward to performing a special surprise during the

spring art show!



Library

March was a very busy month in our Library! We celebrated the following: **Women's History Month, Dr. Seuss Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, First Day of Spring and Easter**! The read aloud portion of our library time was filled with the following wonderful books: **" The Cat in the Hat" by Dr. Seuss, "Counting on Katherine" by Helaine Becker, "The Gingerbread Man and the** Leprechaun Loose in the School" by Laura Murray, "Mae the Mayfly" by Denise Brennan-Nelson and "Up in the Garden Down in the Dirt" by Kate Messner, "The Great Eggscape by Jory John & Pete Oswald. I hope everyone has a wonderful Easter and Spring Break see you in April!



Religion

March has been filled with learning about Lent through Bible stories, journaling, and class activities. The middle school students all gave up something for Lent and are journaling about their progress. The 6th Grade has been busy practicing for their Chapel service on March 20th...they are leading a "Prayer experience" worship service.

Happy Easter everyone!







Gym

During the month of March, with grades K-2, we played capture the flag, soccer skills, tag games and bouncing basketballs with passing and catching. In 3rd - 8th grades, we kept moving to capture the flag, kickball, wiffle ball, and handball. We are getting ready for field day in May- Blue vs. White!

Go Bulldogs!





Spanish

For March we celebrate Dr. Seus Day reading the book " Un pez, dos peces, un pez rojo, un pez azul". They learned vocabulary about St. Patric's Day, culture, and dance from Ireland. Lower School worked on counting and food in Spanish. With the middle school we celebrated International women's day, practice professions and Easter celebrations around the world.





Art

The St. Martin's Art Museum is preparing for our upcoming Night at the Museum Art Show on May 17 from 6:30 to 8:00. Mark your calendars for a fabulous evening full of music, drama, dance, and visual art. All classes are working diligently creating masterpieces to be included in the show. We will serve beverages and light appetizers for you to enjoy while strolling through the exhibits. Bento boxes, koi fish, waterfalls, Chinese vases, and pandas are just some of the themes to be included. On another note, the third and fourth grades experienced a marvelous trip to the Walter's Art Museum in Baltimore. The children were separated into groups and toured the museum with a docent. The focus of the tour was learning about stories in art. Some students even acted out the scene of one of the paintings. After lunch in the cafeteria, everyone was able to go through the museum at a leisurely pace. We saw mummies, animals, paintings, scrolls, jewels, armor and so much more! The students loved it so much we are planning to build our own miniature Chamber of Wonders! I cannot wait to hear all about the museum adventures some of you may have over the break.











