

HeadNotes

Margaret Delk Moore
Interim Head of School



We have recently had a celebration here at St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church honoring our school. St. Martin's-in-the-Field Day School is one of over 1,200 schools and early childhood education programs associated with the Episcopal Church. Our schools are some of the oldest in the United States, carrying forward a rich tradition of academic excellence whose missions integrate spiritual formation into all aspects of the educational experience. Each year, in early October, we honor our Episcopal schools in worship services across the country. The theme this year in Episcopal schools is "let the whole world see and know." And that's just what we want to do here at St. Martin's. As I have settled into the community and culture of St. Martin's, I believe this is a fitting theme for us as well.

For many people, our Episcopal identity is not widely known; however, the mission and philosophy reflect that ethos beyond our strong academic program. How is that done? First, our school worship, held weekly, allows us time to come together to be still, to listen, to praise, and to reflect in the presence of something greater than ourselves. Our community life, where we support one another in mind, body, and spirit, touches the young and the old. In our community, we honor one another and acknowledge the importance of each individual and the God-given gifts each brings to the school. We honor diversity in our school and believe that our differences make us stronger.

As an Episcopal school, spiritual formation is integrated into our curriculum in age-appropriate ways, including religious study in the middle school. And finally, concern for social justice leads us to participate in many community service projects not only locally but globally as well, establishing early that we should leave our world better than we found it. As we work to establish our Episcopal identity in a clearer way, letting the whole world see and know, the word Episcopal will be added to our name, giving clarity to who we are as a school and who we are in the community of independent schools in the greater Severna Park area. We are St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School, and we are learners, leaders, and friends, celebrating our rich heritage in the Anglican tradition in a more visible way.



Elizabeth Briscoe Bacot
"Betsy"
1931—2011

LET'S RAISE A LOT AT THE TURKEY TROT!



Turkey Trot 2011

On Friday, November 11, the entire student body will participate in the *Turkey Trot for St. Martin's*. The theme for this year's Annual Fund campaign is *participation* - everyone gets to be a part of the Annual Fund. The students will be responsible for getting donations to support their participation in the Turkey Trot. We also need parental assistance on the day of the "Trot." To volunteer for the times listed below, please contact Mary Henry at mhenry@stmartinsdayschool.org. It will be a great day for the kids with some fun activities mixed into the Trot! Prizes will also be given.

TROT TIMES

Preschool AM 11:20-11:50am	Grades 5-8 12-12:30pm
Grades K-4 12:40-1:10pm	Preschool PM 3-3:25pm

MEET OUR NEW TRUSTEES

We are pleased to introduce our newest Trustees: **Ellen Allen** and **Terry Swartz**.

Ellen Allen is the remarkable mom to Mac (4th Grader) and Scott (2nd Grader). A few highlights from her resume include:

- Ellen Allen, Inc. – Owner, CEO and President (2007 – present), manufacturer of high-end women's handbags, accessories, and home goods
- Ellen Allen Interiors, LLC – Owner and President (1998 – present), interior designer
- Nordstrom – Annapolis (1993 – 1997), Sales and Department Manager
- Baltimore City Public Schools (1992 – 1993), Teacher
- Education - Loyola University – New Orleans, LA (1991) – B.S., Education
- Junior League of Annapolis – Sustaining Member.

Ellen enjoys travel, kayaking, hiking, and inshore fishing with her husband Don, the boys, and the family dogs.

Terry Swartz is the mom to four wonderful children and three amazing grandchildren. Her children attended preschool at St. Martin's-in-the-Field, a time she remembers fondly. She has held many titles and offices within the Indian Creek School :

- Parent Volunteer for eight years
- Assistant to the Middle School Principal for seven years
- Financial Aid Director for five years
- Assistant Business Manager: budgetary responsibilities, operational decisions and management, contract negotiations, human resources, and procurement until retirement in June 2011
- Indian Creek School Board of Trustees; Corporate/Recording Secretary for eight years.

Terry enjoys traveling and spending time at her second home in Sanibel, Florida, with her husband Brock.

Returning Members of the Board of Trustees

Rev. Doris John, Rector	Frank Hilton, Chair	Louise Knight, Vice Chair	Nancy Fitzgerald
Patti Zielinski	Anne-Minor Kurtz	Hilary Sayers	Lesley Wallace
Greg Hilton	Deborah Fitzgerald	Stephanie Santos-Songer	Merle Lebowitz
Anne Andrews	Alice Leigh	Andrea Ebbenhause	Margaret Delk Moore
Marcia Kokoski			

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL SUNDAY AT ST.MARTIN’S-IN-THE FIELD



“We are here today to celebrate what I so fondly call ‘the bubble.’ Few are the days that my second grader and I don’t hold hands as we approach Tewksbury and thank God for St. Martin’s. It’s a very special place.” Pastor Andy Smith, 7th grade homeroom and English teacher, spoke at the Episcopal Schools Sunday service.

Pastor Smith has a jocular manner, but he carried a serious message. The theme of the day was “That the whole world may see and know.” The service was attended by a large number of St. Martin’s-in-the-Field school families, as well as parishioners. “I was pondering that statement and thought, ‘See and know what?’”

His answer inspired the congregation. He said he began to think about seeds and referred to gospel of Mark, “A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.” Pastor Smith celebrated what happens in the classrooms beneath the sanctuary and in the middle school classrooms on the campus.



An Episcopal school education is not solely about the text or the algorithm, but about listening. “Listening,” Pastor Smith said, “to the Spirit of Christ, who know the thoughts and intents of the heart. Listening to a silent leading. The leading that makes dry bones rise again, that makes flowers spring from the cracked ground, that sets men and women free to fulfill their callings.”

As the service drew to a close, Pastor Smith said, “May you walk with a listening ear, following steps that are true to your calling. May you live your redemption out loud. May you leave this room to let the whole world see and know. Amen.”

A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR THE NEW YEAR: MIDDLE SCHOOLERS WILL TAKE A FINE ARTS TRIP

by Mel Kessler, Middle School Band Director



On January 19th the middle school will travel to Baltimore to hear the Baltimore Symphony in an “open rehearsal” and visit the Maryland Institute College of Art.

In the morning, we will hear the Baltimore Symphony rehearsing pieces they are performing that week: Ravel’s “Bolero;” Tchaikovsky’s “Piano Concerto #1;” and “Also Sprach Zarathustra” by Richard Strauss. It is an exciting program and one the students will enjoy. Seating is limited, and we were lucky enough to get tickets for the students and seven teachers.



After lunch, the students will visit the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and tour two Exhibition Halls in the Fox Building. More information will follow about the art work being presented on that date.

The tickets for the symphony rehearsal are free. Everyone will bring a lunch for the trip.

(Suggested readings from our school library: *The Philharmonic Gets Dressed*, by Karla Kuskin; and *Musical Instruments*, a “Scholastic Voyage of Discovery Book.”)



BUDDY PROGRAMS BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN DIVISIONS AND ACROSS GRADES

contributors:

Anne Andrews, Cynthia Barry, Sheli Davis,
Debbie Pittenger, Andy Smith, Ellen Stanton

The powers of empathy and reason are enhanced by education. A new book by Steven Pinker, a professor of psychology at Harvard, *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined*, argues that as we enlarge our personal point of view we are able to view situations from a larger, more encompassing, more compassionate perspective. This leads us to more inclusive moral commitments—to listen to our “better angels,” a phrase Abraham Lincoln adapted from Shakespeare.

At our pre-K through 8th-grade school, our mission is to help our children find their “better angels” on their journey of self-discovery as learners, leaders, and friends. One way we at St. Martin’s-in-the-Field Day School do this is to encourage our students to forge friendships between the divisions and across the grades based on learning together.

An advantage of a pre-K through 8th-grade school is that children of different ages share a campus. They not only pass each other in the halls, but they also sit down at tables and read together, walk together at pick-up times, and get together in the kitchen, the sanctuary, and the classrooms to eat, pray, and learn together. Students of various grades will work together to create our Thanksgiving Feast—a tradition at St. Martin’s-in-the-Field.

Through various “buddy programs,” our students and teachers build bridges between divisions and grades, tying together the community that is St. Martin’s-in-the-Field Day School. Kindergarten and fifth grade join together to read once a month. Fifth graders practice reading with expression and fluidity. They provide a model of reading for pleasure, and the Kindergarteners absorb the example of fifth graders—kids like themselves, only bigger—as they hear vocabulary and practice listening, comprehension, and discussion skills.

Fifth graders also meet with first graders. Once a week, fifth grade students share a letter or story they have written, or they might choose to read a seasonal book. In return, first graders read their folders to a fifth-grade student. The advantage of this buddy program is that writers can envision a reader. Both fifth and first graders know that what they write will be shared with a reader.

Seventh and eighth grade students read Macbeth together. Fourth and sixth grade students get together to discuss philosophy. We preserve the benefits of small classes even as we enlarge the perspectives our students by creating the conditions for conversation between classes and divisions.

“Buddy programs” help the older children become more confident. As they see they can “teach” others, they step more fully into the role of a leader. They assume the mantle of leadership, which involves service and responsibility to other. Middle school students walk our three-year-old preschoolers out to their cars every afternoon. The preschoolers put their hands into the hands of the middle schoolers, and a connection of trust is completed.



Eighth graders are reading buddies with second graders. Here is what they have to say about it.

“Reading Buddies is a great and fun way to interact and learn with new friends.” – Emily Jenkins

“It was great. My buddy and I really connected. We had a blast and both learned a lot.” – Raphael Buisson

“I thought that Reading Buddies was fun and Megan was so sweet. I enjoyed being able to help her with her reading.” – Madison Decker

“Reading Buddies is fun, and I enjoy it.” – Patrick Dwyer

“It was fun. I love kids, and they knew more than I thought they would know.” – Becky Duffy

“It was fun working with the Second Graders. I liked seeing how much they know.” – Justine Sanphillipo

“It was amazing to hang out and help the kids learn.” – Haley Carney

“I really liked Olivia S. because she knew exactly what she was doing. I barely helped her at all! I hope that this experience will be more challenging for both of us.” – Olivia Burchfield

“Reading Buddies was very interesting and enlightening.” – Joonas Tyler

“Working with my Reading Buddy was a lot of fun. The second graders are very smart and they work really hard.” – Audrey Simpson

OUTDOORS-IN-THE-FIELD IN OCTOBER

by the Elementary School Team: Anne Hodges, Ellen Stanton, Donna Manuel, and Beth Linsenmeyer

This month, with Melissa and Phillip from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), first graders investigated the meaning of food chains, especially those related to our Chesapeake Bay. One we identified begins with plankton that are eaten by grass shrimp, which in turn are eaten by white perch, which are eaten by striped bass, which are plucked from the water by ospreys.

We invite parents and friends to stop by our hallway to see the chains we made, which start with the sun. We played a great game outside called "Food Chain Chase." That gave us a much clearer idea of how the animals rely on each other to exist. We even hypothesized what would happen to food chains when gaps appeared, caused by disruptions such as drought. We discovered how changes in environment could affect the food chains we and other animals rely on. These are sophisticated concepts that our students develop insight into because of this very special, experiential learning partnership between St. Martin's-in-the-Field and CBF.

Second grade spent a morning with CBF learning and playing an active game about the life cycle of the blue crab. After learning about the different stages of its life in the classroom from conversation, pictures, and charts, we went outside to run an obstacle course. Each obstacle represented a different stage in the blue crab's life. The children loved the game and many of them chose to run the course again at recess time—putting learning in play. Unwinding back inside the classroom, the children ended the session by drawing and labeling the different stages of the blue crab's life.

Third grade enjoyed their second visit from CBF. Melissa and Phillip helped students understand how seeds adapt to the environment where they grow. After discussing with the class the different properties of seeds, everyone went outside for a "seed hunt." We were able to find a variety of interesting-looking seeds. We took our seeds to the picnic tables to display and examine the various seeds, and we discussed how the forces of nature transported and distributed seeds so that we found them where we did. We divided into groups. Each group was given a description of a seed that had adapted to the environment in its own way. We used various materials, such as tissue and pipe cleaners, to create our own seeds. We came up with some very imaginative seeds.





PEP RALLY FUN

By Betz Wild, Athletic Director, Physical Education/Health

St. Martin's Mustang pride was loud and clear at the school pep rally on a rainy Wednesday, October 19. We took the opportunity to celebrate and support our middle school field hockey and soccer teams.

The middle school classes competed in the "St. Martin's Got Talent" competition with entertaining skits. The 5th graders did a blindfolded version of the "Cha Cha Slide" that had everyone laughing at their near misses. The 7th graders put on the "Best Worst Show on Earth" with several entertaining circus acts including a bearded lady, unicyclist, clowns on trikes, and a curious group of monkeys. The 8th graders stomped, clapped, and sang "We Are The Champions." But the true champions were the winning 6th graders with their Sponge Bob routine that had everyone laughing and singing along.

Congratulations also to the following students who won their class a dress-down day by making their "Hockey Long Shot" – Bella Ingrao, Megan Covington and Pauline Buisson. Way to go girls!!

Once the games began, 4th grader Grayson Phillips kept things in order by keeping the time and the score for both games. Despite the early and late day rain, the muddy Mustangs prevailed with great skills and a positive, fun attitude that makes any event a success.



ST. MARTIN’S STUDENTS PERFORM SHAKESPEARE-IN-THE-FIELD

St. Martin’s-in-the-Field 7th and 8th graders once again had the benefit of professional actors to help them appreciate the world of William Shakespeare. The Compass Rose Studio Theater developed the *Beyond the Bard* program specifically for St. Martin’s-in-the-Field School. Actor-in-residence Brandon McCoy returned, working with English teacher Andy Smith. During the 7th grade sessions, Brandon introduced students to the life, words, and performance of Shakespeare through a series of highly interactive, informative, and engaging exercises. At the 8th grade level, students delved deeply into the elements of acting Shakespeare including dancing, sword fighting, scanning iambic pentameter, and performing monologues.

Through partnership with the Compass Rose Studio Theatre, St. Martin’s aims to foster an understanding and appreciation for Shakespeare by giving students an early exposure to the plays of Shakespeare from the perspective of professional theater artists. Our school and the Compass Rose Studio Theatre share the belief that the experience of the craft of the theater builds not only talent and technique, but fosters skills for living that enrich the human experience. For more information, visit compassrosetheater.org.

BARD ALOUD: SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADERS ELECT TO READ MACBETH

by Cynthia Barry, Librarian

Congratulations to seventh and eighth grade students who choose to stay after school four afternoons a week over a two-week period and read Shakespeare’s perfect-for-the-Halloween-season great tragedy of Macbeth. Fourteen students crammed into the St. Martin’s Library, temporarily known as the Library of Inverness Castle, to read aloud “the Scottish play.” On the day of the final reading, parents were invited to come to the Library to celebrate their children’s adventurous reading spirit in opting to climb the Everest of a Shakespearean play. We had cake, decorated in autumnal colors and with the words, “Lay on, Macduff.”

Students in the Bard Aloud elective were:

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Kelly Cooke | Cameron Fitzgerald | Justine Sanphillipo |
| Abbey Cotton | Olivia Payer | Audrey Simpson |
| Patrick Dwyer | Michael Pistillo | Chris Summers |
| Shawn Dwyer | Lindsey Reiter | Lucas Wright |
| Chase Duvall | Holly Roane | |



MICROSCOPE MAGIC IN THE SECOND GRADE

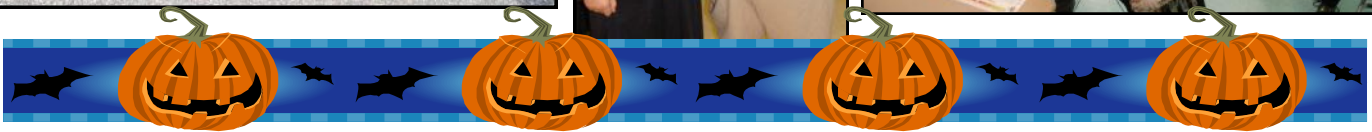
by Ellen Stanton, Second Grade Teacher



Second grade students traveled to the Middle School science room to learn about microscopes. After learning the safety rules for handling a microscope, they learned to make their own slides and how to focus a scope. The children were amazed to discover that squares of colored paper were made up of patterns of dots. Cries of “Look at this,” “It’s cool,” “Come look at mine,” and “This is the most beautiful one yet,” could be heard across the room. Students then had the opportunity to look at slides of different insects’ legs and wings. As they were leaving, the children asked when could they do it again.



Halloween Happenings

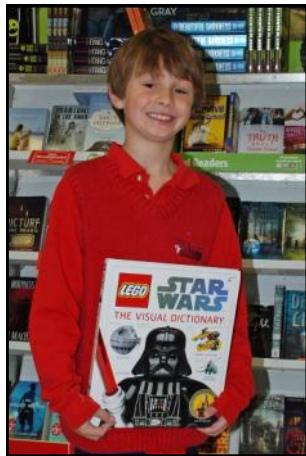




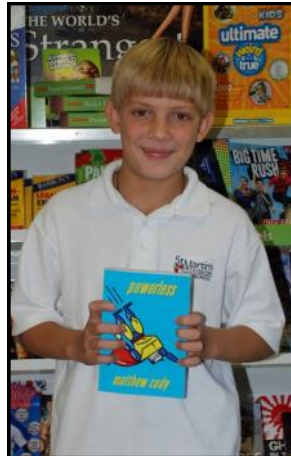
Many thanks to all who responded to the "Recorders for Haiti" fundraiser to benefit our sister school in Gros Morne, Haiti. The generous donations from all grade levels of our school provided 150 recorders and music for the students. As our friends in Haiti would say, "Merci beaucoup"!

BOOK FAIR WINNERS

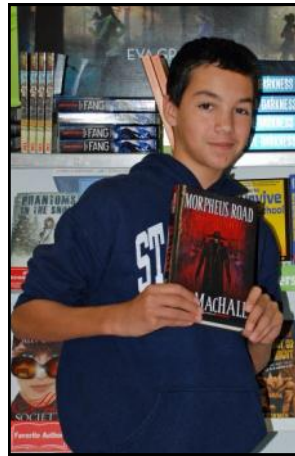
Four students won free books as a part of the recent Scholastic Book Fair hosted by St. Martin's-in-the-Field Day School. Each student was given the opportunity to guess how many Lego figurines filled a container. These four students guessed close to the actual number, 89, and were rewarded with a book of their choice.



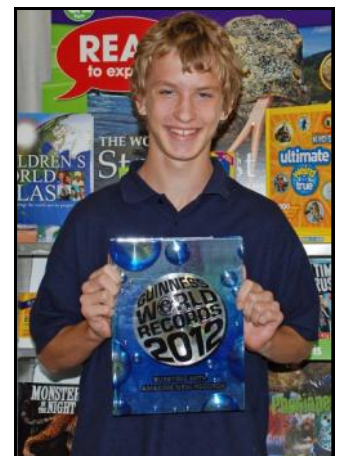
Zachary (2nd Grade) chose the Lego Star Wars Visual Dictionary.



Grayson (5th Grade) chose Powerless by Matthew Cody.



Morpheus Road by D.J. McHale was eighth-grader Raphael's choice.



Eighth grade student Daniel chose the 2012 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records.



AHOY ! SUPERDAY CELEBRATES COLUMBUS DAY

Millicent works diligently to complete her Columbus Day hat.



Michael puts on his hat to set sail on a Super Day adventure.

Super day students Matthew, Milli, Brendan, Andrew, and Michael are ready to "sail the ocean blue."



COLLEGIATE ROLE MODELS FOR ST. MARTIN'S ATHLETES/FCA HUDDLE

By Craig Decker, Parent, Co-Coach of Girls Lacrosse, Co-Leader of FCA Huddle



The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) put us in touch with Danielle Kaufmann, a junior on the University of Maryland Field Hockey team. We told Danielle that we were coming down to see her game with some of the St. Martin's field hockey team and we would love to meet her if she had time. The Maryland field hockey team is ranked third in the country and were playing the #1 ranked Old Dominion team. Danielle met with us after their disappointing loss and spent some time with the girls. Her discussion surrounded the need to practice hard and often to be great, and her passion for FCA.

Madison Decker mentioned how FCA at St. Martin's was collecting cleats for the kids in Haiti to play soccer, and Danielle is going to get her hockey team involved as well. I am a Maryland grad and spend a lot of time there now. We are going to expand this program to include players from other teams and sports for our St. Martin's athletes to have collegiate role models.



NOVEMBER 7 TO NOVEMBER 20 FRANKLIN'S TOYS ANNUAL SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

10% Savings for You 10% For our school

This year's fundraiser will apply to in store purchases **and purchases on the website** (www.franklinstore.com). Mention our school to the Franklin's Toys staff as you check out! Or online, use **our school code SMART** when checking out to receive the discount! Do your holiday shopping while helping our school.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



November 6

Yearbook Portrait
Re-Take/Make-up
Wed. November 9

Half-Day Dismissal/
Begin Thanksgiving Break
Tues. November 22 No Mustang Club



Thanksgiving Feast
Grades 1 - 8
Tues., Nov. 22
10:45 a.m.