



St. Martin's School

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Dear Interested Pre-Kindergarten Parents,

It is with great enthusiasm and excitement that we announce to you that St. Martin's opened a Pre-Kindergarten Program in September 2009. We received approval for this new endeavor from the Catholic Schools Office and from Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington. Parents can be assured that our program will play a significant role in their child's developmental, educational and socialization processes.

Our Pre-K program is designed to develop the whole child in concert with each student's talents, interests, and abilities. It will be an academic readiness program. The Pre-Kindergarten core program will begin at 8:00 a.m., and it will conclude at 2:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. These hours are set to coincide with the schedule of our students in Grades Kindergarten - Grade 8. Parents also have the option to enroll their children in our After-Care Program. The children will have an opportunity to rest after lunch.



Students may arrive as early as 7:30 a.m. each morning. There will be no additional fee for the Before-Care Program. It will conclude when the school day begins. Students in Pre-Kindergarten will also be able to attend the After-Care Program. It will begin at 2:45 p.m. each afternoon, and it will close at 6:00 p.m. in the evening. There is an additional fee for this service

The administration wholeheartedly believes that parents, the first and foremost educators of their children, and our school should work together in a collaborative partnership. Therefore, as our Pre-K students learn and grow developmentally, we strongly believe that parental involvement is crucial for their success.

The curriculum for our new program will follow the Standards for Pre-Kindergarten set forth by the Archdiocese. In particular, our program will promote the spiritual, emotional, aesthetic, intellectual, and physical growth of the young child. The activities throughout the day will be age-appropriate, challenging, experiential, hands-on, and multi-sensory. The children and teachers will engage in shared reading activities, phonemic awareness, and vocabulary building, as well pre-writing and math experiences. The children will also explore God's gifts of self, creation, family, and our Church community in their Religion class. In addition, the children will experience various forms of technology in their centers which will also include art, blocks, sand, water, books, exploration with writing materials, and dramatic play.



We have purchased new furniture, new tiling, area rugs and teaching resources for this new program. We have added a bathroom for the children. This facility is adjacent to this classroom.



The tuition for the Pre-Kindergarten is similar to the full day Pre-Kindergarten Programs throughout the Archdiocese. We will be having an informative Open House on November 18, 2009 between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. for students entering this program in September 2010.

St. Martin's School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, and/or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, programs, and admission's procedures. Priority will be given to children who are parishioners of St. Martin of Tours Parish and/or families who already have children registered in our school. Upon availability of spaces, we will then admit Catholic children from other parishes as well as children of other faiths.

St. Martin's Pre-Kindergarten Program will follow the guidelines set forth by the State of Maryland and the Archdiocese of Washington. Students entering our program in the 2009-2010 Academic Year must be 4 years old by September 1. Likewise students entering the program for the 2010-2011 academic year must also be 4 years old by September 1, 2010.

We hope that you will seriously consider our program. We also invite you to please tell a friend and/or a relative about our new program and our Open House.



God Bless You,

*Sister Sharon*

Sister Sharon Ann Mihm, CSC  
Principal