

Celebrating over 70 years of Catholic Education



# FAMILY HANDBOOK

## ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ACADEMY

*Fully accredited by the Western Catholic Education Association  
and Western Association of Schools and Colleges.*

 Western Catholic  
Educational Association



 NCEA  
National Catholic Educational Association

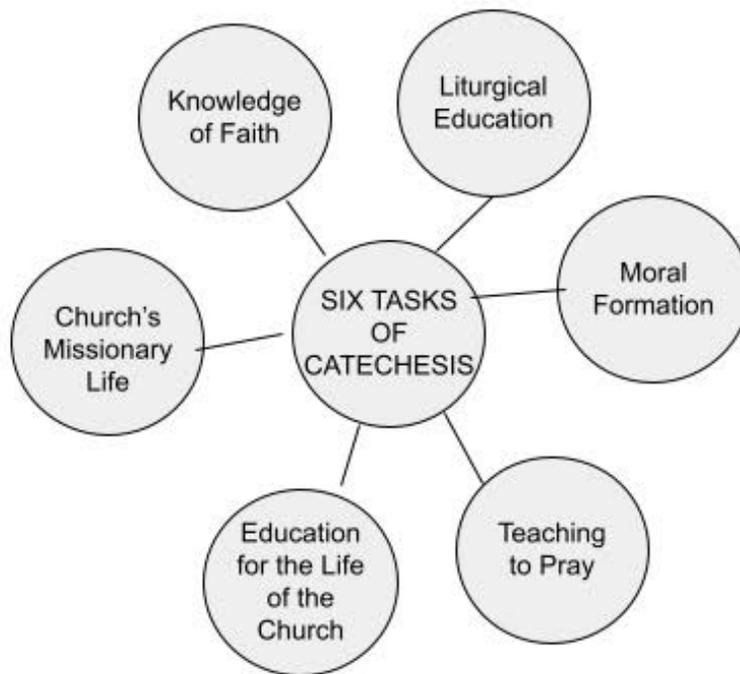
7708 EL CAJON BOULEVARD • LA MESA, CALIFORNIA 91942-6932  
[stmartinacademy.org](http://stmartinacademy.org)

## SD Catholic Religion Standards

### Overview:

The Six Tasks of Catechesis provide the framework for the PreK -8 Religion Standards developed initially by the Office for Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle and then, with permission, adapted for use by the Office for Schools in the Diocese of San Diego.

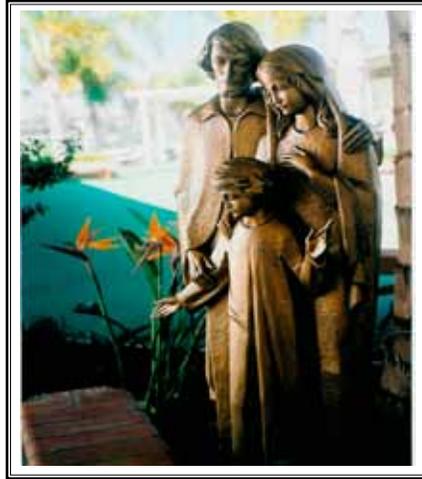
The Six Tasks of Catechesis: Knowledge of the Faith; Liturgical Education; Moral Formation; Teaching to Pray; Education for the Life of the Church; and the Church's Missionary Life are distinct and complementary.



Each task helps us deepen our personal relationship with Christ. Knowing Jesus calls us to celebrate this relationship and also reminds us of the need for ongoing conversion, which leads to prayer, recognizing the needs of others, and realizing how we are called to share the Good News through word and deed.

# ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ACADEMY

## FAMILY HANDBOOK



<b>School Office</b>	<b>466-3241</b>
<b>School Fax</b>	<b>466-0285</b>
<b>Extended Care</b>	<b>466-1990</b>
<b>Preschool</b>	<b>698-8462</b>
<b>Parish Office</b>	<b>465-5334</b>
<b>Youth Ministry</b>	<b>698-3180</b>
<b>Faith Formation</b>	<b>698-8434</b>

**[www.stmartinacademy.org](http://www.stmartinacademy.org)**

*Fully accredited by the Western Catholic Education Association  
and Western Association of Schools and Colleges.*

*"From the first moment that a student sets foot in a Catholic school, he or she ought to have the impression of entering a new environment, one illumined by the light of faith and having its own unique characteristics, an environment permeated with the Gospel spirit of love and freedom."*

*Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School,  
The Congregation for Catholic Education, Rome, 1988*

## FOREWORD

**P**ARENTS ARE VITAL TO our educational endeavors at St. Martin of Tours Academy. Recognizing the parent's primary role in the educational process of a child, we realize the importance of good communication between home and school. One aspect of that communication involves knowing well the school's philosophy, Schoolwide Learning Expectations, Pilon® Workshop Way® system of education, procedures and policies.

This handbook has been prepared so that each family can be well informed. We ask that it be read thoroughly and completely and, in addition, kept for reference during the school year. Any updates will be posted on the school website.

Our goal, as a school, is to lead each child to the fullness of human development and intellectual potential. Care is taken to emphasize our Catholic Identity while providing a strong academic foundation for each student. Our hope is that parents/guardians, aware of what we are working for at school, will reinforce and support those efforts at home.

### Mission Statement

**St. Martin of Tours Academy, in partnership with parents, is a Catholic parish elementary school that prepares students to be lifelong learners through a curriculum that has a strong moral, spiritual, and academic foundation. Students understand the need for peace and justice, and as responsible Catholics, are challenged to answer the call to service and become engaged citizens of the world.**



*Preparing Students to Become  
Engaged Citizens of the World*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword

History.....	Page 1
Mission Statement/Philosophy.....	Page 2
Schoolwide Learning Expectations .....	Page 3
Admissions .....	Page 4
General Administration: .....	Page 5
Traffic Procedures .....	Page 8
Emergency and Evacuation Procedures .....	Page 9
Student Dress and Grooming Code .....	Page 10
Curriculum Program.....	Page 12
Pilon® Workshop Way® Overview .....	Page 13
School Policy Regarding Computer Use.....	Page 17
Respect the Rights of Others .....	Page 20
Disciplinary Consequences .....	Page 20
School-wide Policy Regarding Bullying.....	Page 21
Policy for Student Threats .....	Page 22
School Programs/Services:.....	Page 23
Athletics .....	Page 25

# HISTORY

## **ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH. . . SINCE 1921**

St. Martin of Tours Church in La Mesa was built in 1921 under the pastorate of Father McCormick. The original parish church and rectory were built at the corner of La Mesa Boulevard and Normal Street. Expansion was not possible at this site so new property was purchased in 1948 at the intersection of La Mesa and El Cajon Boulevards, one-half mile from the former site. The original church was moved to the new location and on Christmas Day 1948 Mass was celebrated in the remodeled and enlarged church by Reverend Dennis J. Barry, pastor (1948 - 1977). Past pastors include: Reverend Donal Sheahan (1977-1990), Reverend John M. Sproul (1990-2005), Reverend James N. Poulsen (2005-2017), and Reverend Christopher Kintanar (2017-2018). Our current pastor is Reverend Elmer Mandac.

## **ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ACADEMY. . . Since 1951**

In the Fall of 1950 construction was begun for a school and convent. Five School Sisters of Notre Dame, from St. Louis Missouri, and one lay teacher were the first teachers. There were 327 students in Grades 1-8 and kindergarten. The school consisted of six classrooms with some combined classes. The first graduation was on June 9, 1952. Nineteen graduates received diplomas from Father Dennis Barry, pastor, and Sister Alphonsus, principal. In May 1952, the Most Reverend Charles F. Buddy dedicated the school and conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on the students in seventh and eighth grades. In 1956 four new classrooms were added and by that time the enrollment had increased to approximately 500 students.

There was a continuous turnover rate among both religious and lay principals from 1970 - 1990. In 1991 there were plans to close the school due to an anticipated enrollment of only 125 students for the 1991-1992 school year. The pastor believed that a change of administration and a new system of education might make it feasible to keep the school open. In 1991 the Pilon® Workshop Way® System for educational growth was introduced to staff and parents and the decision was made to go forward with this system. Some teachers had already received training in the system and those who had not were offered classes by Sister Jackie Bennett, a Dominican Sister and a Pilon® Workshop Way® educator and consultant. The principal, Nancy Ryan, had previous experience with the system and held the conviction that it could resurrect the school. Consequently, with new leadership, staff, and system of education, the school became viable. Enrollment increased each year and grew to 265 students. After Nancy Ryan retired in 2007, Vice Principal and Workshop Way educator Antoinette Dimuzio became principal from 2008-2018 and also a Pilon® Workshop Way® consultant. Diane Hartley, the vice principal became the new principal in 2018. Diane Hartley retired in 2021 and the current principal is Jennifer Miller.

The Pilon® Workshop Way® system is implemented throughout the school. Instructional methods, discipline, school policy and procedures are based on the philosophy and goals of this system developed by Sister Grace Pilon over 50 years ago. It has proven to be successful and an asset to students in their achievement of moral, academic and life skills. The system is implemented in both Catholic and public schools across the nation.

---

*St. Martin, the patron saint of our parish and school, was the bishop of Tours, France (371 A.D.) He was born in Hungary and served as an officer in the Roman army. Martin is well known for sharing his cloak with a poor beggar whom he encountered on a highway. The following night, in a dream, he had a vision of Christ wearing the cloak and he heard the words: "Martin has covered Me with his cloak." St. Martin ended his military service to begin a life of good works and non-violence. He was a convert to the Catholic faith.*

# **MISSION STATEMENT / PHILOSOPHY**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

St. Martin of Tours Academy, in partnership with parents, is a Catholic parish elementary school that prepares students to be lifelong learners through a curriculum that has a strong moral, spiritual, and academic foundation. Students understand the need for peace and justice, and as responsible Catholics, are challenged to answer the call to service and become engaged citizens of the world.

## **PHILOSOPHY PREFACE: SYSTEM OF EDUCATION**

The prescribed content and curriculum of our diocesan school district is followed. PILON® WORKSHOP WAY® is a system of education created by Grace H. Pilon, SBS. It is organized and used in such a way that the human growth of each child is nourished in the teaching-learning process.

Our philosophy and goals are fully integrated with our instructional methods. There is a purpose and structure to all classroom activities and learning materials. PILON® WORKSHOP WAY® is a system designed to meet the educational and developmental needs of all children. (workshop-way.org)

## **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

We base our philosophy of education on the premise that all persons are created equal in worth as human beings. In justice, children have a right to grow to the fullest of their potential in an atmosphere of utmost reverence and respect. Parents are the primary educators of their children. Teachers facilitate the learning process, blending academic achievement with a Christian perspective on life and with an understanding of human nature.

With a student-centered orientation, we strive toward the holistic development of each individual. To this end, we employ a system of human growth and a learning process which ensures that all students have equal opportunities to learn how to think, how to learn, and how to make responsible decisions in their own lives. In this educational process, teachers work in close communication with parents.

### **WE BELIEVE:**

- ◆ that each person is unique and has his/her own timing and way for learning,
- ◆ that mistakes are an inevitable part of being human and are not a reflection of one's intelligence,
- ◆ that children, by nature, have an innate love for learning and that classrooms must be labs for learning so as to stimulate their intellectual curiosity,
- ◆ that daily opportunities for logical, critical, and creative thinking must be afforded to students for learning subject matter and for responsible decision making for future living,
- ◆ that an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect in the classrooms is essential for mental and emotional security for students,
- ◆ that a noncompetitive, cooperative, safe atmosphere will convey God's acceptance and unconditional love for the uniqueness of each individual,
- ◆ that experiencing justice in the classroom will lead students to seek justice in the world and to respond to the needs of others now and in the future.

# **SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:**

**A student who graduates from St. Martin of Tours Academy is expected to be:**

**1. An active Catholic Christian who:**

- a. has a foundation in Catholic teaching
- b. internalizes a system of values based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church
- c. has global awareness and a concern for social justice
- d. recognizes and responds to needs within the community
- e. values and respects all of God's creation and diversity in all peoples

**2. A diligent learner who:**

- a. has developed and uses higher level thinking skills
- b. exhibits basic learning skills
- c. is able to assess individual strengths and needs for growth
- d. can work collaboratively in the learning process
- e. has developed resourcefulness and independence in work habits
- f. takes pride in achievement

**3. A lifelong learner who:**

- a. embraces circumstances in life as opportunities for growth
- b. retains an enthusiasm for learning
- c. is motivated to reach full spiritual, academic and creative potential
- d. has developed study skills and lifetime learning habits
- e. demonstrates competence in current technologies

**4. An integrated individual who:**

- a. has discovered feelings of intelligence and power of management
- b. has developed responsibility and self-discipline
- c. has confidence and sense of self-worth
- d. is comfortable in taking risks
- e. affirms accomplishments in self and others

**5. An effective communicator who:**

- a. can express thoughts clearly and confidently
- b. has good listening skills
- c. utilizes technology as a tool of communication
- d. respects varying points of view and perspectives

# ADMISSIONS

St. Martin of Tours Academy, mindful of our mission to be witnesses to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. St. Martin of Tours Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin, age, sex, or disability in administration of educational policies, scholarship and tuition assistance programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

## **Policies and Procedures:**

- Parents must agree to support actively the spiritual and academic standards of the school and abide by the educational policies and regulations of the school and pastor.
- Students and parents will be interviewed by the principal.
- Tests will be administered, if needed, to determine proper placement.
- Students must have a satisfactory academic and conduct record from their previous school.
- Active, supporting members of this parish or other local parishes which do not have schools will be given first preference.

## **Age Requirements:** (September 1 of year entering)

- Early Childhood Development Center: three years
- Kindergarten: five years of age, and developmentally ready
- First Grade: six years of age, and developmentally ready

## **Health Requirements:**

**Preschool:** medical record form completed  
copy of immunization record listing month, day, and year when received  
Age 3 - 4 requirements: • DPT 4 - 5 doses • Polio 3 - 4 doses • MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) 1- 2 doses • Hepatitis B 3 doses • HIB 1 dose

**Kindergarten:** copy of immunization record listing month, day, and year when received  
• Polio 4 doses • DTP 5 doses • MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) 2 doses  
• Hepatitis B 3 doses • Varicella (chickenpox) 2 doses  
To make sure your child is ready for school, California law (Education Code Section 49452.8) states every child must have a dental check-up by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his or her first year in school. Oral Health Assessment Forms are available in the school office.

**First Grade:** School Entry Health Checkup Requirement by physician or nurse practitioner recorded on Health Department form provided by school, within 18 months previous to admission in September or up to 90 days after starting first grade.

**Seventh Grade:** Proof of a whooping cough booster (Tdap) is required before the first day of school. Varicella - 2 doses

All transfer students are required to have a copy of their immunization record and a copy of their physical examination forwarded from their previous school.

**PRE-ADMISSION AGREEMENT:**

The following agreement is part of the Student Enrollment Contract which is signed annually by parents when registering for the following year:

We, the undersigned, enroll the student(s) named above into St. Martin of Tours Academy. We have read the contract and tuition schedule and agree to pay the applicable tuition.

Furthermore, we do hereby agree to comply with the educational policies of St. Martin of Tours Academy. We agree to uphold the standards of the school, and to have the student(s) comply with school regulations and policies as set forth in the Family Handbook.

We recognize the responsibilities of parents as the primary educators of their children and acknowledge the importance of teaching Catholic Christian values by example. We therefore will strive to maintain a Christian atmosphere in our home, especially by prayer and Sunday worship. We will cooperate in supporting a school community which teaches and reinforces Catholic Christian values.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

**Office Hours:**

7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. (closed on school holidays)

**Daily Schedule:**

8:00 a.m.	classes begin
11:30 a.m. - 1:10 p.m.	lunch (staggered)
2:30 p.m.	dismissal

**Minimum Days:**

A limited number of minimum days are scheduled on the yearly calendar. On minimum days school is dismissed at noon. (Check yearly and monthly school calendars for minimum days.)

**Office Procedures / Visitor Policy:**

All persons coming on school grounds must first sign-in in the school office. Lunches, books, or projects delivered by parents should be left in the office. Classes should never be disturbed while in session. Classroom visits are welcomed but must be scheduled through the office.

**Supervision (Arrival and Dismissal):**

Children are to be dropped off and picked up at designated areas only. There is no supervision on school grounds before 7:45 a.m. or after 2:45 p.m. unless a student is enrolled in the Extended Care Program. Any student not picked up by 2:45 p.m. must report to Extended Care. Students who are walking or riding a bike to and from school must have a signed permission slip on file in the school office, and must leave the school promptly at dismissal. (Once the child has left school property he/she will not be able to return to school.)

**Attendance:**

Prompt and regular attendance is important if a child is to benefit completely from the instructional program. When a child is ill, a parent should call or e-mail the office by 8:15 a.m. to report the reason for the absence. (If homework is requested, notification is needed by 8:15 a.m.) When a student is absent, a written note stating the reason and date of absence, signed by the parent is required after the third day.

A student is legally credited for attendance when a written certification from the doctor or dentist is presented on return to school. However, the school encourages making doctor and dentist appointments outside of school hours.

Permission cannot be given by the principal or teachers for a child to miss school for reasons other than illness and/or medical appointments (i.e. vacations, early dismissals, etc.). The responsibility for this decision rests with the parents. They are to notify the school office and the teacher in writing. Teachers are not required to write up assignments in advance of the absence.

If a student is absent more than fifteen days in a semester, grades may be withheld until the work is made up. Absenteeism adversely affects the learning process and grade.

**Textbooks:**

All books are assigned to each child who is, in turn, responsible for proper care. All books must be covered. Lost or damaged books must be reported and paid for immediately.

**Medication:**

Medications will not be furnished by the school. None can be administered by school personnel without written authorization from a physician and the parent. All medications must be in their original bottles, kept in the office, and taken under supervision.

**Animals:**

For health and safety reasons, animals are not permitted on the school grounds.

**Morning snack:**

A mid-morning snack helps to keep the mental energy going. The intention is to let children have a short break to eat something that is healthy (no sugar), which will enhance their focus and concentration. Fruits, vegetables and protein are the best choices for this purpose. Guidelines: 1) can be consumed fairly quickly; 2) does not require use of utensils; 3) does not have any “added sugar” content; 4) easy to open.

Since teachers do not have time to supervise contents, we rely on parents’ cooperation in packing / sending only these items.

**Photography/Video Release/Student Work**

There are numerous occasions when St. Martin of Tours Academy would like to include student work, photographs, and videos in a variety of presentations or publications including social media. A signed release is required from each family.

**Water Bottles**

Students are required to bring their own water bottles. Water bottles may be metal or reusable hard plastic. Glass water bottles or single use plastic water bottles are not allowed. Water bottles may only contain water. Students have the opportunity to refill their bottles during the day using the Elkay cool watering filter station located in the courtyard.

**Communication:**

The school encourages good communication. Some of the channels that have been established are:

- school website
- e-mail
- school meetings
- open houses
- school board meetings (per School Board Constitution agenda items must be submitted two weeks prior to scheduled meeting)
- weekly parent newsletters
- monthly calendars
- parent-teacher-student conferences (three times a year)
- report cards (issued quarterly to grades 3 - 8)
- classroom newsletter

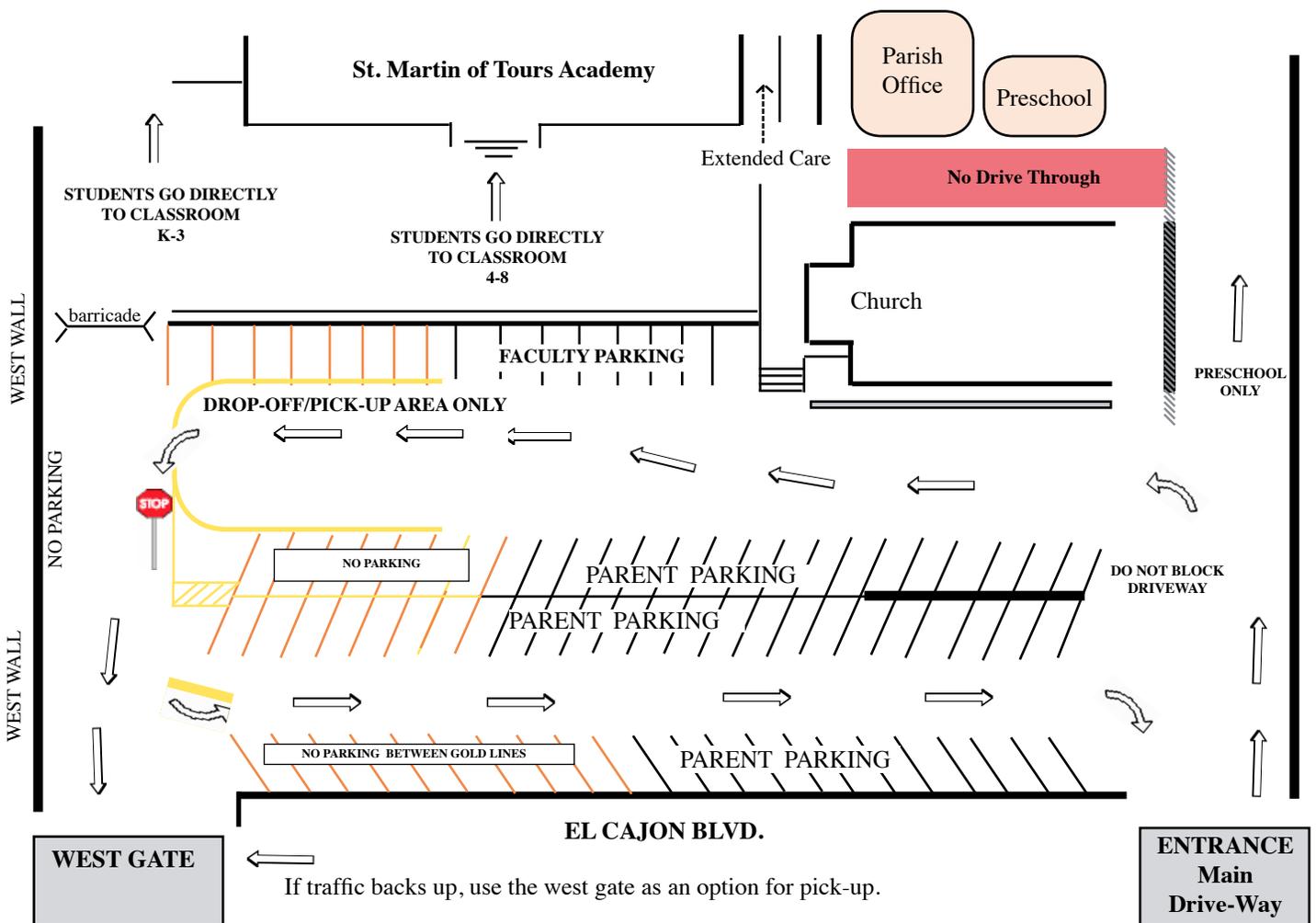
In addition, appointments may be scheduled with teachers or the principal throughout the school year. To schedule an appointment, either e-mail the teacher or contact the school office between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please note that teachers cannot be called to the phone during school hours. A message will be left to return the call.

**Fund-Raising Policy/Guideline:**

- The number of fund-raisers are limited so as not to burden parents and involve extensive record keeping, publicity announcements, etc.
- Fund-raisers that generate a significant profit and also bring families together are preferred.
- Fund-raising, for sixth grade camp and for individual class bake sales, is also limited and must be approved by the principal.
- Students should never be asked to sell products door to door.
- Items that promote the school and/or are used by students may be used as fund-raisers for an individual class or for student council. Ordinarily the items would be sold in the school office (school logos / folders).
- The principal approves all fund-raising.

## SCHOOL TRAFFIC PROCEDURES

1. DRIVE SLOWLY. Use main driveway for entrance. Do not block the driveway going into the school parking lot. Keep traffic moving in a single line. (see below) Pull forward to stop line. Children should be ready for drop off/pick up.
2. Children must exit/enter cars from passenger side only.
3. Cars are not allowed to park in midsection of parking lot or along west wall.
4. Parents may park along El Cajon Blvd. wall if they wish to walk their child(ren), give last minute instructions, comb hair etc. or do business in school office.
5. All pedestrians should follow and use yellow marked walkway along west wall only. Children (grades K-6) are not allowed to walk unsupervised through any area of the parking lot. Older siblings (grades 7, 8) will be allowed to walk younger siblings to cars.
6. No children (other than those authorized to walk home) may walk to upper parking lot unsupervised to wait for or be picked up by parents.
7. Traffic procedures are the same for rainy day pick-up.
8. No children are to be picked up or dropped off in front of rectory or preschool.
9. The purpose of safety patrol, parent volunteers, and faculty/staff is to help enforce traffic procedures and ensure the safety of your child(ren). Please cooperate.



## **SCHOOL EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES**

### **Emergency Contact & Release:**

Parents are notified immediately of serious injury or sudden illness that may occur during school hours. Each family must have on file a Contact Release and Emergency Consent Form, including names of doctors and persons to be contacted in the event the school is unable to reach parents. It is important that the Contact Release and Emergency Consent Form is updated as needed. Notify the school office immediately when addresses, phone numbers, doctor's numbers, etc. change. Only authorized individuals are allowed to remove/take home students.

### **Emergency Dismissals:**

Emergency dismissals may be made at any time by the principal or representative when a serious condition such as sickness, accident, natural disaster, etc. warrants it. If an emergency occurs outside of school hours, listen to a local radio/TV station for instructions of school closure. As a general rule, the school will follow the same procedure as the local public school district.

St. Martin of Tours Academy follows the procedures outlined for "Disaster Preparedness" by the Catholic Mutual Group and the La Mesa Police and Fire Departments.

### **Communication:**

Parents will be contacted by phone, text and/or e-mail in the event of an emergency by the School Messenger notification system.

### **Types of Responses to Emergency Situations:**

- 1) evacuation to the lower parking lot area in front of school (fire, bomb threat, etc.)
- 2) lock-down (dangerous and/or threatening situation on or near school property)
- 3) "duck, cover and hold" then evacuation upon instruction (earthquake)
- 4) evacuation and parent/guardian pick-up of children

Evacuation and lock down drills are practiced regularly (at least once a month).

### **Student Pick-up Locations:**

In the event of an earthquake, the designated destination for student pick-up is on the field. Parents will enter through the Peace Garden gates. If for some unforeseen reason the first location for student release cannot be used, the second location will be near the parish hall. In the event of a fire, students are evacuated to the front of the school. Parents can pick up students at the parish hall. If necessary, the third location would be off campus in the Auto Zone parking lot across the street. In the event of an official lock down from the La Mesa Police Department, parents will be notified as soon as possible. When police give the all clear signal, parents will be notified. The school day instruction would continue or students may be released to parents.

Students will be released to parents/guardians or those designated on the Contact Release and Emergency Consent Form. A signature will be required in order to release the student in the event of an evacuation.

## **EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS KITS:**

Each student is required to bring an earthquake kit on the first day of school.

- 1 zip lock bag (name and grade printed on the outside)
- 2 granola bars • 1 box drink • 1 paper napkin
- a comforting note to your child and family picture (optional)

## **STUDENT DRESS & GROOMING CODE**

### **Policy:**

The overall objective is to adhere to an adopted uniform policy that is conducive to providing an optimal learning environment with limited distractions and with consideration for safety, health and school identity. The final decision regarding appropriate dress and grooming is left to the discretion of the school administration and teachers. It is expected that all students come to school clean and well groomed. Clothing should not be soiled, torn, extremely faded, etc. Clothing, hair and/or accessories should never be a source of distraction in the classroom.

### **School Uniform Regulations:**

Students are required to wear the school uniform on all days with the exception of those designated as "free dress". Uniforms are purchased through The Uniform Store (see uniform list below). School sweatshirts are sold (year round) in the office.

Alterations **may not** be made to the school uniform, such as shortening hemline on skirts, skorts or shorts. (Shorts, skorts and skirts may not be rolled up.) **Hemline should be to the knee to allow for growth during the year.** Boys pants must be regular fit. No oversized pants will be permitted.

Under-dresses (bike shorts) - solid color black, navy, dark green, "short" shorts required under jumper/skirt. Shorts may not show below hemline.

Shoes may be white, brown, black, gray, or navy blue solid color. Athletic shoes required for P.E. days. (*may have logo; laces must be predominant color of shoe: white, brown, or black; laces must be tied correctly and securely*) \*Consideration is given to kindergarteners learning to tie shoes. Velcro may be worn.

Socks must be clearly visible above the ankle bone and shoe. Socks may be white, navy, black or dark green.

In cold weather, heavier jackets may be worn to school, but only in addition to the school sweatshirt/jacket. (They must be taken off in the classroom.) Also, white turtleneck shirts may be worn under the uniform blouse/shirt. White, black, dark green or navy blue tights may be worn under uniform shorts or skirt (sweatpants not permitted).

### **School Uniform:**

**School uniforms are contracted through The Uniform Store.**

**8160 La Mesa Blvd. • 619-466-5437 • [myschoolsuniform.com/smta](http://myschoolsuniform.com/smta)**

Jumper - front zipper plaid (choice for Mass)	girls	K-3
Skort - wrap front, double button, plaid (choice for Mass)	girls	K-3
Blouse - short or long sleeve (Peter Pan) white only (no logo required)	girls	K-3
Skirt - multi pleat plaid (choice for Mass)	girls	4-8
Skort - double tab, apron, plaid (choice for Mass)	girls	4-8
Pants - mid rise or standard - navy (choice for Mass)	girls	K-8
Capri - mid rise or standard - navy	girls	K-8
Shorts - mid rise or standard - navy	girls	K-8
Pants - twill flat front -navy (required for Mass)	boys	K-8
Shorts - twill flat front - navy	boys	K-8
Polo shirts - white or dark green knit (long or short sleeve) logo required	both	K-8
Sweatshirt - (choice for Mass) purchased in school office	both	K-8

### **Optional outerwear**

Sweater - dark green (logo required) (choice for Mass)	both	K-8
Pullover / Sweater- dark green (logo required)	both	K-8
Fleece jacket - dark green (logo required)	both	K-8
Windbreaker - dark green (logo required)	both	K-8

**Dress Uniform:**

On certain days "dress uniform" is required (i.e. School Mass, Grandparents' Day, etc.). Students must wear long pants (boys and girls) or uniform skirts / jumpers / skorts, school sweatshirt, sweater, or jacket. **Shorts will not be worn on those days.**

**Grooming Guidelines:**

- hair color may not be altered (i.e. bleached, colored, highlighted, low lights, shimmers, extensions)
- hair length - hair out of the eyes (boys and girls) and off the collar (boys)
- no tattoos and / or writing on the skin
- no piercing for boys of any kind, no plugs, and no earrings for girls exceeding a 1" drop
- hands should be clean (frequently washed - especially important for health reasons)
- no excessive jewelry - jewelry should be tasteful, not excessive, and appropriate for safe playground and P.E. activities (under discretion of teachers/administration)
- nail polish may be worn but is discouraged, especially among the younger students
- junior high students (only) may wear light makeup (grades 7, 8)
- facial hair of any kind is not permitted and students must shave if necessary
- avoid perfumes, colognes, and lotions to respect those with allergies/asthma

**Consequences to Violations of Dress Code:**

When students are in violation of the dress code, a note of "uniform non-compliance" will be sent to parents by the classroom teacher or school administrators. The note must be signed and returned the next day. (It is assumed that there will be compliance in the future.) If the violation warrants, parents will be called immediately.

**"Free Dress" Days:**

Students have "free dress" on their birthday or on the school day closest to their birthday, if it falls on a weekend or holiday. Those who have summer birthdays: late June, July, August, have a "free dress" on a day designated during the last week of the school year. In addition, certain other days may be designated for "free dress".

**Dress Code for "Non-Uniform" Days:**

Primarily for safety reasons, it is important that shoes be well secured, flat, and suitable for participation in physical education classes. Socks or stockings/tights must be worn.

The following may not be worn: shorts (unless uniform shorts or long, walking shorts); sandals, high/stacked heels, shoes without backstraps; frayed or torn clothing; low cut dresses or tops; strapless, halter, tank, tube tops; bare midriff style tops; oversized shorts/pants worn low on hips; latex and/or tight fitting clothing; hats; sweatpants; exercise clothing (no jersey athletic shorts); t-shirts with advertising and/or inappropriate language/pictures; tight, low cut jeans/pants; mini skirts (hemlines should be to the knee).

**Consequences for Non-Compliance:**

1. Parents will be called so that a change of clothing may be brought to school.
2. Student may lose the privilege of "free dress" on the next day(s) it is allowed.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Glass containers are not permitted.
- Gum is not permitted anywhere on the school campus or parish grounds.

## **PILON® WORKSHOP WAY®**

*A system of human growth for education ....*

*Creating feelings of importance, intelligence, and power of management in all students.*

### **A system enhancing human nature:**

The system grows from a philosophy and a psychology which together enhance human nature. The goal is to ensure that all children will become involved in their own process of growing and learning. It is believed that human beings love learning when the learning system respects them throughout the process, frees them from fear, and allows them to be themselves along the way. Students then believe in themselves as worthwhile persons, not because of what they know or what they own, rather because they exist as human beings who have the capacity to manage their lives.

### **A system promoting the power of management:**

It is believed that when students have their own management system they feel and know that they have those three human feelings: importance, intelligence, and the power of management. The students are able to feel their power in managing themselves while accomplishing tasks, taking risks, figuring things out, engaging in thinking throughout the entire learning process.

### **A system which fuses thinking, feeling and learning:**

When students are living creatively, affective and cognitive energies merge and produce nourishment for ongoing mental activities in the brain cells of students. **This fusion of thinking and feeling** allows the person to live daily with consciousness, mental alertness, and mutual respect as individuals in the learning process. This fusion can happen when students continue daily to decide to risk doing what they think comes next in the process, right or wrong.

### **A system which challenges students to learn for a lifetime:**

The system is designed to keep a child's innate enthusiasm for learning alive throughout his/her years in school and beyond. With an emphasis on life skills as well as on academic achievement, students are truly being educated for life. The tools and the motivation to lead a fulfilling life are provided throughout the learning process.

### **PILON® WORKSHOP WAY® CREATES A CLASSROOM THAT:**

- Affirms the dignity of all students
- Promotes intelligent involvement without fear
- Nourishes mutual respect and self-esteem
- Opens up learning capacity of students
- Develops the power to learn, think and manage life
- Provides time to grow responsibility
- Uses research based materials
- Fosters numerous thinking opportunities

# CURRICULUM PROGRAM

Following the California State Standards, Common Core Standards and Guidelines of the San Diego Diocese, our curriculum allows students to achieve the Schoolwide Learning Expectations by engaging them in learning experiences that challenge, integrate knowledge, and are inclusive of all learners. At each grade level, students are challenged through a variety of innovative and higher level thinking tasks such as simulations, debate, and discussion. Students integrate knowledge with other disciplines in a variety of ways. Science and mathematics are tied together through logical thinking skills and computations in activities such as science projects. Social studies and literature are often linked through the use of discussions and writing assignments that encourage students to relate to the lives of others, whether through struggles or successes. Pilon® Workshop Way® is a system of education that addresses the needs of all learners. The Workshop tasks, completed by the students daily, are designed to encourage growth in individual students. The teaching techniques used in the classroom are designed to include all types of learners.

**The curriculum includes the following subjects. At each grade level elements of the following topics are taught:**

**Religion and Scripture:** God • Scripture • Church • Sacraments • Prayer • Christian • Response • Social Issues • Family Life • Safe Environment

**Language Arts:** Reading (vocabulary, comprehension) • Writing (grammar, composition, handwriting and letter formation) • Listening • Speaking (communications skills)

**Fine Arts:** Visual and Tactile perception - theory of line, color, shape, composition, design • Creative Expression - drawing, painting, sculpture, mixed media, variety of constructions, graphic arts, crafts • Visual Arts Heritage - cultural themes, artists, styles, processes • Analysis and Interpretation - design elements, characteristics, appreciation • Music and Art appreciation

**Mathematics:** Number System and Theory • Measurement Operations, Computation and Estimation • Problem Solving • Geometry • Patterns and Functions • Statistics and Probability • Logic • Algebra • Technology

**Science:** Life Sciences • Physical Sciences • Earth and Space Sciences • Engineering

**Physical Education:** Physical Fitness Fundamentals • Motor skills and Movement • Social skills and Sportsmanship • Respect for others

**Computer Literacy:** Computer Operations • Computer Applications • Historical Perspective • Project Design • Ethics • Catholic Teachings • Social Justice Practices

**Beginning Spanish:** (grades 7 & 8) Vocabulary • Language • Culture

## **Family Life Policy:**

Parents have the primary right and duty to teach their children regarding family life and sexuality. This includes the right and duty: • to create a HOME ENVIRONMENT of love wherein children can learn from experience the purpose and meaning of family life • to become WELL INFORMED both about the Church's teaching regarding family life and sexuality, and about their own children's developmental needs for instruction in those areas • to make and to implement informed, prudent, and positive CHOICES about when and how to proceed with instruction in those areas.

**Homestudy Policy:**

Homestudy activities include a variety of experiences for students in all grades to reinforce material already taught and to foster habits of independent study. Ideas for homestudy are given to parents at the beginning of the year and in monthly classroom newsletters. Suggestions are made for learning activities which can be used in less formal settings. The goal is to foster that basic desire in the child for love of learning. In grades 5 - 8, enrichment and extended research projects are assigned to integrate the curriculum, to broaden the students' perspective of learning, and to stimulate the mind through self-discovery and awareness. Individual suggestions and assignments may be given to students with specific needs, in consultation with the parents and the teachers. The amount of time required to complete assignments differs with each student's needs and abilities.

**PILON® WORKSHOP WAY®** has an "at home" daily activity referred to as the Self-Concept Vocabulary Project. This homework consists of vocabulary study, and the assignment is the same for all students: to choose how much of the lesson they wish to study. The students meet with the teachers the first half hour of each morning to recite what they have studied and/or to discuss the situation of a forgotten or lost paper. The responsibility is placed totally upon the students for handling the lessons. The best thing parents can do for their children is to not initiate this project, rather to be there if help is needed. The purpose of this homework is to help the individual grow in self-confidence and in responsibility.

**Student Evaluation:**

All students will have Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences the first three marking periods. At these times, Grades 5 - 8 will be given the Diocesan Report Card and a Life Skills sheet. Grades 3 and 4 will be given a PILON® WORKSHOP WAY® Report Card, which includes the life skills. In grades K - 2 the communication will be through the conferences themselves. All conferences will place emphasis on the growth in life skills. Students in grades K-2 receive a Certificate of Completion.

**Promotion:**

All students are expected to achieve at least grade level proficiency in order to merit promotion to the next grade.

**Testing:**

Renaissance STAR tests are administered to all students in Grades K-8. In addition, the "Assessment of Catechesis/Religious Education" (ACRE) tests are given in Grades 5 and 8. Test scores are used primarily as a tool for analysis and evaluation for the school curriculum. They are also used to monitor each student's academic growth from year to year.

**WCEA/WASC Accreditation:**

The school undergoes an evaluation and visit from Western Catholic Educational Association and Western Association of Colleges every three to six years. The school has consistently received the highest possible ranking, with the full six year term at every evaluation. There is ongoing follow-up on recommendations made by each visiting committee.

**Behavior Indicators for Schoolwide Learning Expectations:**

Students are provided with a variety of experiences for self evaluation. In grades 4-8, students use the form "Behavior Indicators for Student Learning Expectations" as a means to evaluate themselves according to the Schoolwide Learning Expectations. Students in the lower grades use pictures and simple sentences to assess themselves as well. In May as a graduation requirement, students in eighth grade reflect on their years at St. Martin of Tours Academy and present to a group of shareholders how they have achieved the Schoolwide Learning Expectations.



# ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ACADEMY

STUDENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**INDICATORS FOR STUDENT  
LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**

<b>CODE:</b> 1 = Frequently 2 = Occasionally 3 = Seldom	<b>Grade</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>

	4	5	6	7	8
<b>An Active Catholic Christian who . . .</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>demonstrates Catholic teaching by their participation in discussions and activities during religion class</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>internalizes a system of values based on the teachings of Jesus Christ by showing respect through actions and words</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shows an understanding of and empathy for the world community through discussions and projects</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>recognizes and responds to needs within the community by participating in local outreach projects</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shows respect and an awareness of individual differences on the playground, at day care and in the classroom</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cares for the physical environment of the school</li> </ul>					
<b>A Diligent Learner who . . .</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>develops and uses higher level thinking skills as evidenced through reports, essays, and math word problems</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>exhibits basic learning skills by showing ability to manage grade level material</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>assesses individual strengths and needs for growth by following rubrics across the curriculum</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>works collaboratively in the learning process as evidenced by active participation in class discussions and by working well in small groups</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>follows the workshop schedule and independent class assignments with initiative and motivation</li> </ul>					
<b>A Lifelong Learner who . . .</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>accepts positive and negative experiences and consequences and recognizes them as areas for growth</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retains enthusiasm for learning by willingness to risk</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sustains a cooperative attitude in learning</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>maintains a high level of preparedness and interest in all class work, showing motivation to reach full potential</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>demonstrates good learning habits through organization, appropriate use of class time, following directions, working independently and through research and reasoning</li> </ul>					



# ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ACADEMY

STUDENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**INDICATORS FOR STUDENT  
LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**

CODE: 1 = Frequently  
2 = Occasionally  
3 = Seldom

	Grade	4	5	6	7	8
<b>An Integrated Individual who . . .</b>						
• demonstrates preparedness for daily class work						
• achieves responsibility and self-discipline as seen in the ability to sit still and focus on the tasks at hand						
• is willing to risk and participate in class discussions						
• shows confidence and satisfaction in academic efforts						
• responds with power in a clear and articulate voice and with positive body language, and is comfortable taking risks						
• affirms accomplishments in self and others by supporting classmates in their learning and through willingness to help others in acknowledging their efforts						
<b>An Effective Communicator who . . .</b>						
• expresses thoughts clearly and confidently by articulating and presenting ideas concisely and comfortably						
• stays focused and shows evidence of good listening skills by following the discussion and direction of the class lesson						
• utilizes technology as a tool of communication by demonstrating competency in using computers for research and reports						
• respects varying points of view and perspectives by listening when others are expressing themselves or responding in class discussions						
<b>Teacher's Initials:</b>						

"The Catholic school finds its true justification in the mission of the Church; it is based on an educational philosophy in which faith, culture and life are brought into harmony. Through it, the local Church evangelizes, educates and contributes to the formation of a healthy and morally sound life-style among its members. Above all, according to the Holy Father, the Catholic school helps in achieving a double objective: 'of its nature it guides men and women to human and Christian perfection, and at the same time helps them to become mature in their faith. For those who believe in Christ, these are two facets of a single reality.'"

*(The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School, The congregation of Catholic Education, 1988, #34 quoting Insegnamenti, VIII/1, pp 618 f.)*

## **SCHOOL POLICY REGARDING TECHNOLOGY, SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET ACCESS:**

### **Introduction:**

The following provides information about the responsibilities and expectations regarding use of school technology and the Internet. These guidelines apply to computer use in the classroom and the lab during school hours and for extracurricular projects taking place on the school campus.

All electronic communications to or from St. Martin of Tours Academy shall reflect Christian principles upon which the school is founded, in support of its educational goals. Likewise, all material created using school technology, or accessed by school technology, will reflect the same moral foundation.

### **Misuse and Consequences:**

Misuse of school computers, Chrome Books and iPads or any electronic devices, abuse of network and Internet privileges or failure to follow the rules and guidelines outlined below will result in disciplinary consequences as outlined in the St. Martin of Tours Academy Family Handbook (see page 20). The school reserves the right to impose consequences for inappropriate use of technology off campus. This would include harassment, cyber-bullying, use of the school name, remarks directed to or about teachers, offensive communications and safety threats, impersonating or otherwise representing yourself as someone else in electronic communication. If it is determined by the network administrator that a user should be denied access to school computers, the campus network or the Internet as part of a disciplinary consequence, this will negatively impact the user's ability to do class work.

### **Guidelines:**

Classroom, Computer Lab computers, Chrome Books and iPads are school property, set up to accommodate all grade levels. Students shall refrain from personalizing settings such as (but not limited to) color coding files, setting up "hot corners", changing the desktop layout or display, and changing the screen saver. Changes such as these are distracting and often frustrating for the younger users.

Regarding computers, electronic devices and related items the following applies:

- Software provided by the school is considered the property of St. Martin of Tours Academy and should not be copied or shared beyond what is expressed in the licensing agreement.
- The use of flash drives or other USB devices not owned by St. Martin of Tours Academy requires permission from a teacher or other qualified staff member.
- Students shall not download or install commercial software, shareware, or freeware on to school computers unless directed to do so by a teacher or other qualified staff member.
- Students shall refrain from printing anything unless asked to do so by a teacher or other qualified staff member. Unnecessary printing wastes resources such as paper and ink.

### **Regarding the Internet:**

All computers at the school are connected to the Internet. Administration and staff will choose resources on the Internet that are appropriate for classroom instruction and/or research based on the needs, maturity, and ability of students. Students will be taught to critically evaluate Internet resources for content, clarity, currency, bias and authorship. They will learn to properly cite what they use with respect to copyright and fair use doctrine.

Students will have access to:

- Information, including online databases and news from a variety of sources and research institutions.
- A variety of web-based programs to publish content on the Internet.
- Collaborative web-based programs for the purpose of project based learning, in a controlled environment.
- Educational websites and electronic learning resources.

## **Responsibilities:**

St. Martin of Tours Academy has taken reasonable precautions to restrict access to "harmful matter" and to materials that do not support approved educational objectives. However, on a public network it is impossible to control all materials. "Harmful matter" means matter that, taken as a whole by the average person applying contemporary statewide standards, describes in a patently offensive way material which lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors (California Penal Code, Section 313).

## **Acceptable Use:**

St. Martin of Tours Academy provides access to computers, the campus network, the Internet and other technology to enhance teaching and learning with 21st Century tools and resources. Their use must be in support of education and research which is consistent with the educational objectives of St. Martin of Tours Academy. Use of another organization's networks or computing resources must comply with rules appropriate for that network.

## **Prohibited Use:**

Transmission of material in violation of any federal or state law is prohibited. It is expected that all communication will be presented in a way that is in keeping with our Christian commitment to kindness and justice. Prohibited computer use and electronic communication includes, but is not limited to:

- Harassment, intimidation or bullying by using information and communication technologies (cyber-bullying).
- Transmitting information which violates or infringes upon the rights of any other person.
- Defamatory, inappropriate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or illegal material.
- Advertisements, solicitations, commercial ventures, or political lobbying.
- Any information which encourages the use of controlled substances or the use of the system for the purpose of inciting crime.
- Using or creating material which violates copyright laws and fair use doctrine.
- Accessing personal email, instant messaging, online gaming and social network accounts.
- Accessing another student's material with the intent to harm their work, either maliciously or in fun.
- Any vandalism such as unauthorized access, "hacking", tampering with hardware or software, including the introduction of viruses (California Penal Code, Section 502).

## **Security:**

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. A user who identifies a security problem with a computer or network must notify the supervising adult immediately and without demonstrating the problem to other users. The supervising adult will document the issue and inform the administration so that corrective action can be taken. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to school computers.

## **Privacy:**

St. Martin of Tours administration and staff will monitor and review material on school computers and online classroom sites. Students should not expect that material they create or ideas they express are their own private domain. Material deemed inappropriate or irresponsible by administration or staff will be deleted, and disciplinary consequences applied.

- Students shall respect the privacy of peers by not accessing files and folders which do not belong to them.
- Students should not post pictures or other information that is intended to be private on school computers or online classroom sites.
- Before publishing a student's picture, name or work on the Internet, the school must have on file a parent release authorizing publication.

**Vandalism:**

Vandalism will result in disciplinary consequences. Violation of any federal or state law is prohibited. Vandalism includes, but is not limited to the following:

- writing on a computer, a mouse, mouse pad or other accessory.
- physical damage to computers or equipment resulting from intentional misuse.
- uploading or creating computer viruses (California Penal Code Section 502.b.10).
- knowingly accessing, and without permission, altering, damaging, deleting or destroying data, computers or systems (California Penal Code Section 502.c).

**Cyber-bullying:**

Cyber-bullying occurs when people target each other using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies to convey a message in any form (text, image, audio, or video) that intimidates, harasses, or is otherwise intended to harm, insult, or humiliate another in a deliberate, repeated, or hostile and unwanted manner. All of these acts constitute just cause for suspension/expulsion.

Students will refrain from using personal communication devices or school property to cyber-bully one another. Cyber-bullying may include, but is not limited to:

- spreading information or pictures to embarrass someone
- heated, unequal argument online or electronically that includes making rude, insulting, hurtful, vulgar or profane remarks
- isolating someone from their peer group by blocking their texts, email or other electronic communication without warning, provocation or explanation
- using someone else's screen name or user I.D. and pretending to be that person
- forwarding information or pictures meant to be private
- defamation of school / school personnel

**Cyber Ethics and Online Safety:**

To maintain safety, students shall not reveal personal information online (their own, or that of others). This includes first and last names, personal email addresses, home address, phone numbers and passwords.

St. Martin of Tours Academy will educate students about the ethics and dangers regarding cyber-bullying. Programs are in place to address cyber-bullying, cyber ethics and online safety during computer classes at all grade levels, in a manner that is appropriate to each grade level. Administration and staff are committed to working with families to find a remedy when issues regarding cyber-bullying, cyber ethics or online safety arise, either on or off campus.

Parents are encouraged to obtain the user name and password of their student's classroom accounts. Although the school strongly discourages students from having personal email, cell phones, and online or social networking accounts at an elementary school age, it is recommended that parents obtain the user name and passwords and periodically check them for appropriate use and content. It is also recommended that computers be placed in a central room in the home.

# RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS

## *Pilon® Workshop Way®: Guideline for Student Behavior*

### **Student Behavior**

It is our aim to develop within each child a positive self-concept, self-direction, self-discipline, and an internalized respect for the rights of others. Teachers, in setting expectations for classroom behavior, encourage children to handle their lives with responsibility. They create within their classroom a climate of cooperation and trust.

The goal is to preserve human dignity in the learning and growing process. One important rule prevails: RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS. Courtesy, tolerance and respect are expectations in all interactions. Students are also required to take care of all school property.

### **Expectations:**

- to be punctual, and have necessary materials for class
- to use all equipment and materials with care; to keep the classroom and playground clean
- to follow instructions of teachers
- to respect the rights of others to learn in a distraction-free classroom environment
- to act with courtesy and respect toward all those in the school community
- to dress neatly and be well groomed
- to show concern for the safety of others

### **Not permitted:**

- interfering with the rights of others
- distracting others from learning
- disrupting class
- leaving campus without permission
- using abusive, vulgar language
- inflicting physical harm to others
- inappropriate touching
- fighting
- damaging / destroying property
- throwing objects and/or food
- riding bicycles, scooters, skateboards, rollerblading on campus
- bringing toys and/or objects other than required school supplies
- trading, borrowing, selling any items

### **The following are not to be brought to school or any school activities/functions:**

- gum, candy, sodas, sunflower seeds
- iPods, cell phones\*, BlackBerry®, CD's, DVD's, digital cameras, flash drives, and any other electronic equipment
- any object that could inflict harm on another

\*The only reason it would be admissible for your child to bring a cell phone to school is when he/she is walking to or from the school campus. A note from the parent is required and the cell phone must be checked in with the homeroom teacher first thing in the morning. At 2:30 the cell phone can be picked up. If student is attending Extended Care, the cell phone must be checked in again. (Any cell phone brought to school without a note will be confiscated and held for a length of time deemed appropriate by the administration.) Use of a cell phone or messaging of any kind during school hours without authorization will result in disciplinary consequences.

### **DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES:**

Discipline in the Catholic school is to be considered as an aspect of moral guidance and not a form of punishment.

Our school philosophy regarding discipline is to have a proactive, firm yet respectful approach which safeguards a child's human dignity, self esteem, and reputation. Both inside and outside the classroom, the expectations of students include that they act with courtesy, kindness, and respect toward all peers and adults in the school community.

Possible consequences, as listed below, will be implemented at the discretion of the teacher, vice principal and/or principal and determined as it relates to the incident and the chronological/ developmental age of the child. In serious cases, the pastor gives council and advice.

- "visitor policy" - student seated in close proximity to the teacher
- time out in classroom
- time out outside of room /office - for continuing misbehavior which disrupts instruction (parent contact if happening on consistent basis)
- restriction from participating in games, etc. at recess if student behavior poses a safety risk to others

- field trip restriction -must do class work at school in lieu of participation in field trip (upper grades, also junior high dance restriction and/or writing essay to parents which relays the information regarding reason for the consequence)
- on campus suspension - student does all class work in a place other than his/her respective classroom and may not participate in recess with class; number of suspension days related to offense, etc. Parent will be contacted; a conference may follow; parents may be asked to apply "at home" consequence/restriction.
- out of school suspension - student responsible for all class work assignments; number of days relates to offense, frequency, etc. Parent will be contacted; a conference may follow; parents may be asked to apply "at home" consequence/restriction.
- behavior contract - after suspensions, student/parent warned that any additional serious misbehavior will result in withdrawal from school; conduct closely monitored, regular parent contact, counseling
- mandatory psychological counseling - ongoing meeting with psychologist who is in contact with the respective teacher so that behavior can be monitored
- voluntary withdrawal from school - parents counseled to seek another educational alternative when misbehavior continues after appropriate consequences and strategies have been applied. Recommendations/assistance given regarding placement (special education classes, more intense counseling, family counseling, etc.)

*In accordance with our Pilon® Workshop Way® philosophy,  
consequences are reasonable, respectful and related.*

### **SCHOOL-WIDE POLICY REGARDING BULLYING:**

As stated in our school mission statement, St. Martin Academy students are responsible Catholics challenged to answer the call of service. Therefore, SMA bullying rules include the following:

We will not bully others. We will try to help students who are being bullied. We will try to include students who are being left out. We will tell a trusted adult at home and at school if we know someone is being bullied. According to Stopbullying.gov, “bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. It also is repeated or has the potential to be repeated”. This might include a person’s body, feelings, or personal belongings.

Each week, classes engage in classroom meetings to discuss concerns or problems from the prior week. Teachers support students through constructive conversations to find solutions (i.e. taking turns, borrowing someone’s supplies without asking, etc.). Teachers incorporate lessons to define bullying and recognize bullying behaviors, techniques to respond to bullying, how to report bullying, understand the emotional effects bullying has on others, and understand the consequences our school has established for those who choose to engage in bullying. A program is in place for grades K-6 using Sanford Harmony (sanfordharmony.org).

Students who bully will receive appropriate consequences and guidance to help them realize that bullying behavior isn’t acceptable and won’t be tolerated at St. Martin of Tours Academy.

Consequences may include (from least to most restrictive):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| -on the spot intervention                       | -follow up with students 2 to 3 days later |
| -meeting with all students involved             | -restricted activity/loss of privileges    |
| -notifying parents                              | -behavior plan/outside counseling          |
| -meeting with all students and parents involved | -weekly probation plan                     |

A student may be asked to leave the school if the bullying behavior continues after all the strategies and consequences have been exhausted. Parent and student resource: <https://www.stopbullying.gov/>

### **Child Abuse Reporting Obligations:**

In accord with school policy and California law, school staff are obligated under penalty of fine and jail term to report the reasonable suspicion of physical abuse, emotional abuse, emotional deprivation, physical neglect, inadequate supervision, or sexual abuse and exploitation. In this very serious and legally narrow area, the school will not contact parents in advance of making a report to legal authorities which would be the procedure followed in most other legal matters. The clear intent of the law, based on the seriousness of the crimes listed above, is to mandate that a report of reasonable suspicion of abuse be made. School staff will make such reports in the best interest of the affected child and do not, once reasonable suspicion is established, have any legal alternative except to make the report to the proper authorities for their investigation and review.

## **SCHOOL POLICY FOR STUDENT THREATS**

### **Policy and Procedures for School:**

All student threats of harm to self or others are taken seriously. Anyone hearing a threat must report it to the school administration immediately. "Just joking" is not acceptable.

- 1) The following will be immediately notified:
  - a) the parent or guardian of the student who made the threat,
  - b) the parent or guardian of any student who has been mentioned, either verbally or in writing, as a potential victim, as well as any adult who has been mentioned
  - c) the police, if it is a serious, viable threat
- 2) The student involved will be kept in the school office under supervision.
- 3) The following will occur if the principal and/or pastor deems the threat serious and viable:
  - a) The principal must receive a report from the police, either written or verbal, which includes notification of whether the child will be charged with any crime as well as an assessment of the child's access to weapons.
  - b) A comprehensive mental health evaluation and risk assessment must be conducted by an independent psychiatrist or psychologist.
  - c) The principal will, after obtaining the permission of the parents, provide the mental health professional with all relevant facts, including, but not limited to, aggressive behavior, details of the threat as known to the principal, disciplinary history of the student, behavioral concerns, and the names of any known victims or potential victims.
  - d) The principal shall receive a written comprehensive evaluation and report and documented treatment plan from the mental health professional stating the basis (factual and risk factors and testing results) upon which it has been determined that the student does or does not pose a danger to self or others. The report must also address the concerns raised by the principal.

The principal will share the report with legal or mental health consultants, as well as with any members of the school or parish administration who will assist the principal in the decision regarding readmission of the student to the school.

- 4) The principal will decide if the student will be re-admitted. The outcome of the investigation, including police and mental health reports, will be considered as determining factors in the decision. The following conditions must first be met:
  - a) the mental care professional recommends re-admittance
  - b) the principal is satisfied with the reports
  - c) a conference is held with the parents before any decision is made and/or announced
  - d) the pastor has been consulted
- 5) Disciplinary action, including suspension/expulsion, will be administered by the school as appropriate.
  - a) If the student is readmitted to the school, a mental health care professional must provide a follow-up assessment of the student within 30 days. The principal must be provided with a copy of the report and evaluation including any recommendations for therapy, counseling, or other treatment. Cooperation with recommendations for continuing care will be a condition of re-admittance and continued enrollment.
  - b) If it is determined that counseling is needed it will be made available to children who are victims of the threatening behavior, provided parents give permission.
6. Documentation
  - a) Reports are kept in a separate, confidential file and will not be part of the student's academic or disciplinary file.
  - b) Only the principal or pastor will have access to these files.
  - c) Documentation will be kept for a period of one year beyond the time when the child leaves the school as a result of expulsion, withdrawal by parent/guardian, or graduation. It will then be destroyed.

## **SCHOOL PROGRAMS / SERVICES**

### **Liturgy:**

Regular, planned liturgical and para-liturgical experiences are carefully integrated into the school program throughout the year.

### **Missions:**

The school participates in the programs of the Diocesan Mission office and Catholic Relief Services Gift of Hope and Rice Bowl programs.

### **Community Outreach:**

Heightening the students' awareness of social justice issues and community needs is considered an important goal at our school. The staff focuses efforts on developing a sense of social responsibility among our children by targeting projects which address needs in the parish, the local community, and the global community. The children are involved in visits to convalescent homes, mission projects, food collections, and many other community service activities.

### **St. Martin of Tours Preschool:**

A preschool services children three to five years of age. The program allows a choice of two, three, and five day sessions. The center follows the regular school calendar for vacations, holidays, etc. A separate Parent Handbook is available for preschool.

### **Extended Care Program:**

The Extended Care program is available for students in grades K - 8 on school days from 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 - 6:00 p.m. On minimum days, the program runs from 12:00 - 6:00 p.m. This service provides a safe environment along with opportunities for exercise, reading, games and homework assistance.

### **Enrichment Classes:**

A variety of classes are available to students, on an optional basis, after school. (2:45-3:45). Charges for the classes vary. Some of the offerings included are: science, chess, dance, drama, yoga, engineering, yearbook and music.

### **Library:**

Each class has a regularly scheduled weekly library period under the direction of the school librarian. Books can be checked out at that time. Families will be charged for any books lost, damaged, or not returned.

### **Birthdays:**

An alternative way to celebrate birthdays at St. Martin of Tours Academy is to consider donating a book to the school library. This program is called the BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB or BBC. The BBC will expand the library collection, as well as provide children with the opportunity to make a special contribution on their birthday. This takes the place of refreshments and party favors and the children will be able to give their classmates a birthday treat that will last and be enjoyed again and again. After three weeks, the book is returned to the library for all to see and check out. The BBC is open to students in grades K-6. Students have "Free Dress" following the non-uniform guidelines on their birthday. In addition, teachers have the option of recognizing birthdays in their classrooms.

**Field Trips:**

The curriculum is extended as children participate in learning activities off campus. When students are scheduled to go on a trip, the teacher sends home a form explaining the date, destination, time, etc. The parent permission form must be signed and returned by the deadline. Drivers must have seat belts and a valid California Driver's License and appropriate insurance. Drivers must also complete the CMG training for Safe Environment & Driving and background check. School policy prohibits any field trips for purely recreational purposes. Drivers must never deviate from determined route.

**Sixth Grade Camp:**

All sixth graders attend camp each year in a new environment to gain a variety of new experiences.

**Student Council:**

The program is organized and developed so that it provides services to the school, church, and community. It also has as its goal to develop responsibility and leadership. Student representatives actively promote the welfare of the school community.

**School Pictures:**

Pictures are taken of all students in the fall of each year. (Dates are indicated on the school calendar.) Parents are furnished with information about the type of pictures which can be ordered.

**Lost and Found:**

All articles brought to school should be clearly labeled with the student's name. A lost and found box is kept on the east walkway inside the school building.

**Student Records (access):**

- Teachers are granted access to student records.
- Designated clerical staff may have access to student records for purposes of making entries for maintaining records, but they will do so under the supervision of the principal or vice principal.
- The student's parents or legal guardian have the right to inspect all of their child's records in the presence of the principal or vice principal. However, behavioral records shall be inspected only in the presence of a person qualified to interpret the records.
- If a child transfers during the school year, the teacher and the principal or vice principal should be informed a week ahead of departure date so that the report card and other information can be ready. All records are forwarded to the new school upon request from the school and after a Notification of Student Transfer form is completed.

# ATHLETICS:

## Philosophy

The purpose of the St. Martin of Tours Academy Sports Program is to teach and exemplify the basic human and Christian values of sportsmanship, cooperation and teamwork. The SMA Sports Program has also been established to help foster friendships, provide leadership opportunities, and help the students develop a positive attitude toward sports and athletic competition. The extracurricular Sports Program is not a “win at all costs” program. For this reason, every child will play in every game during the regular season.



The SMA Sports Program is a member of the Catholic Sports League of San Diego (CSLSD). The CSLSD website displays teams schedules, standings, rules and pertinent information: [www.leaguelineup.com/catholicsportsleague](http://www.leaguelineup.com/catholicsportsleague)

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Fall Sports begin in September:** Varsity (grades 7 & 8) Junior Varsity (grades 5 & 6)

Boys Flag Football	Varsity and Junior Varsity teams
Girls Volleyball	Varsity and Junior Varsity teams
Cross Country	All students - grades 1-8

**Winter Sports begin in January:**

Boys Basketball	Varsity and Junior Varsity teams
Girls Soccer	Varsity and Junior Varsity teams
Pee Wee Soccer	Kindergarten (combined boys and girls) Boys (grades 1 and 2) Girls (grades 1 and 2) Boys (grades 3 and 4) Girls (grades 3 and 4)

**Spring Sports begin in March:**

Boys Soccer	Varsity and Junior Varsity teams
Girls Basketball	Varsity and Junior Varsity teams
Grades 3 & 4	Basketball
Track	All students - grades 1-8

## Team Coach Information

All team coaches must be 18 years of age or older to coach an SMA team. According to Catholic Sports League of San Diego policy all coaches must be Live Scanned. Live Scan fingerprinting is processed and kept on file in Sacramento. All fingerprinting must be processed before the first team practice. Coaches must also complete the Catholic Mutual Group (CMG) Training for Safe Environment.

## Sports Advisory Council

The Spartan Sports Advisory Council is committed to working with school educators, leaders and coaches as well as the parent and student body to offer each child the ability to participate in a supportive environment that emphasizes sportsmanship, skill development and equality of participation in sports. The St. Martin of Tours Academy Sports Advisory Council is under the supervision and direction of the Athletic Director.

## Parent and Athlete Expectations

All parents and students are required to read the SMA Sports Handbook. The sports handbook is on the school website under Athletics.



*Quality Catholic Education Since 1951*

ST. MARTIN  
OF TOURS



**7708 EL CAJON BOULEVARD • LA MESA • CALIFORNIA • 91942-6932**

