

Update Two- Thursday July 9, 2009

Greetings from St. Thomas More School,

Wow! We are already 40% the way through the Summer Academic Camp. By now, the students are acclimating themselves nicely to the academic structure of STM.

New this year, we have introduced a camp-long Color War called the Gardner Cup (named after our lake, Gardner Lake), consisting of our intramural league and special Friday events. Last Friday, the six teams competed in an ABC Scavenger Hunt. Teams were asked to find specific items for each letter of the alphabet. Amazingly enough, most teams were able to find four-leaf clovers. Equally amazing was the amount of Garth Brooks CD's on campus. During the regular school year, we divide the entire school into four teams (called the Chancellor Hammer), which participate in challenges all year.

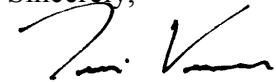
Six Flags was a hit. The weather finally provided a cloud-free day for the campers. On Wednesday, the camp went to watch the New Britain Rock Cats play the Connecticut Defenders. Luckily, it was a double-header and the campers were treated to two, seven-inning games. On Sunday, the camp will go to Brownstone Park. This trip will feature cliff-jumping (yes, it is safe!), a zip line into the water, kayaking, a water trampoline, water slides, swimming and a wake-board simulator. Last year, this trip was the most popular amongst the campers and staff. Wednesday, we will go to Ocean Beach in New London. This public beach also has water slides, mini-golf and an arcade.

Progress Report grades are due from the teachers on Tuesday. Detailed reports will be mailed home on Wednesday. Students with grades below a 70% will be mandated to extra help and afternoon study hall. These safety nets are designed to prevent further lapses and to help the students improve their grades. For students with great grades, consistency becomes the focus.

The Admissions Office will be mailing acceptances for the 2009 – 2010 school year on Monday. These acceptances are based on your son's performance thus far and the paperwork we have received through the summer camp admissions process. The academic structure of STM works and five weeks is hardly enough time for gigantic improvements in study and organizational skills to be fully appreciated. I would love to speak to you further about the prospects of your son joining us in the fall.

All faculty members have voicemail extensions. Please do not hesitate to contact your son's teachers / advisor at any time. Likewise, my lines of communication are always open. I look forward to an outstanding next few weeks and I will be back in touch next Friday.

Sincerely,



Tim Viands, Director