

Update Four- Monday July 27, 2009

Greetings from St. Thomas More School,

Wow! Has time flown by. It almost seems like yesterday when the camp opened its doors for the summer. Wide-eyed campers. Anxious and nervous faculty. Parents hoping for, but still unsure of, a successful academic experience for their son. From day one, we quickly moved into our routine. It has been my experience that teenage boys need that structure and routine so they can work within defined parameters. That is the essence of St. Thomas More School- we provide structure and direction so that every student can reach his potential.

I am very pleased with the camaraderie of all the students. With such a diverse age group this summer (11 years to 18 years), I could not be happier with how well all the boys are doing. I am even more pleased with the 'big brother' approach many of our older students are taking- they have set a great example for all. On the afternoon activity side of things, we've had a number of students master knee-boarding. I, however, believe that it is my great boat driving that made this all possible.

We couldn't have asked for a better day to go to Lake Compounce Amusement Park on Sunday July 19th. The lines were short and the weather was perfect. Tuesday July 21st, we held our Gym Day Color War event, where the six teams competed in silly and serious events. Wednesday July 22nd, the campers went go carting, where Mr. Hastings, Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Gonzalez took on all challengers; however, their cautious driving may have been the reason they lost all races to the campers. This past Sunday, we went to Six Flags New England again for another day of water fun and roller coasters.

Monday – Wednesday we will be having our intramural playoffs, with the championship game Wednesday afternoon. Also on Wednesday we will be having our annual Gardner Lake Swim, where the campers will attempt to swim across Gardner Lake... no easy task. Thursday will conclude our camp-long Color War with field day events, culminating with a tug-o-war competition.

Thursday July 30th is our annual Awards Ceremony. The ceremony will begin at 7:00pm. I invite you and your family to this event where we celebrate the achievements of the entire community. You are more than welcome to take your son home following the ceremony. For those who take their son home on Thursday, report card will be mailed home.

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