

# St. John Academy

McLean, Virginia

Dear First Grader,

I can't wait to welcome you into my First Grade classroom in August. It is going to be such a fun trip through learning ☺

In First Grade we love to read! We read every day! So to make sure you don't get "rusty" over the summer, please read almost every day during your summer vacation. There is a book list attached for you to look at and to get some ideas, but you can read any book you want to! We will talk all about the interesting books you have read in class this fall. Please write a mini "book report" and draw pictures to show your classmates all about your favorite story. This will help you to be ready for all the reading we do in First Grade.

We also learn to write with beautiful handwriting in First Grade. We learn to sit with straight posture and to carefully form our letters. Please practice your handwriting over the summer. Practice clearly writing the entire alphabet using both upper and lower case letters, and even practice forming your numbers too. When forming letters, we always make our lines going from top to bottom and left to right.

There is also one more very important thing you should always remember to do. Pray! In First Grade we learn all about Jesus, His Mother and the Saints. Practice making the *Sign of the Cross*, and saying the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary* and *Glory Be* with your parents at home.

Enjoy your summer vacation! Have fun and experience many exciting adventures. I can't wait to hear all about them in August!

Sincerely,

**Saint John Academy 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher**

FIRST GRADE  
*SUMMER READING LIST*

The Cat in the Hat by: Dr. Seuss

Green Eggs and Ham by: Dr. Seuss

(any of Dr. Seuss' books are tons of fun!)

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by: Laura Joffe Numeroff

If You Give a Moose a Muffin by: Laura Joffe Numeroff

If You Give a Pig a Pancake by: Laura Joffe Numeroff

Too Much Noise by: Ann McGovern

Clifford, the Big Red Dog by: Robert Bridwell

Snowmen at Night by: Caralyn Buehner

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by: Eric Carl

Diary of a Worm by: Doreen Cronin

Is Your Mama a Llama? by: Deborah Guanino

Child's Book of Prayers by: Michael Hague

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Did You See? by: Bill Martin

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus by: Mo Willem

(any Mo Willem's books are great to read!)

A Walk Through Our Church by: Gertrud Mueller Nelson

Where Does God Live?

by: Holly Bea

Corduroy

by: Don Freeman

The Lord's Prayer

by: Lois Rock

Giraffes Can't Dance

by: Giles Andreae

The Lion and the Mouse

by: Gail Herman

Love You Forever

by: Robert Munsch

Make Way for the Ducklings

by: Robert McCloskey

I Like Bugs

by: Margaret Wise Brown