

Summer at St. Mark's

When the school year ends, the summer activities begin at St. Mark's. From summer camp to sports camp and outreach ministries, there are many opportunities for fun, educational enrichment, and serving others over the summer at St. Mark's.

CAMP ST. MARK'S

Camp St. Mark's offers a relaxed, yet stimulating summer routine with substance, thematic learning, and off-campus trips, all within a traditional day camp. For more than two decades, the camp has been encouraging creative thinking, good sportsmanship, positive socialization, and leadership for its students. Rising kindergarteners through sixth graders can enroll in one to four weeks of exciting summer fun. Middle schoolers have the opportunity to hone their leadership skills as counselors.

Camp St. Mark's initiates and deepens relationships with friends while providing activity and educational enrichment. Our full-day program (8:30 a.m. -3:00 p.m.) is staffed by trusted St. Mark's teachers and coaches. Physical education and academic classes, including science, art, computer technology, and library are held each morning in our well-appointed classrooms, courts, and fields. Off-campus excursions, such as bowling and swimming, take place in the afternoon. Learning experiences center around an annual theme, and this summer will be a "STEAM" one with a curriculum that integrates Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. Campers also have the opportunity to work with St. Mark's teachers on their summer reading during library sessions.





Vacation Bible School (VBS), a popular and energetic mission of the St. Mark's Episcopal Church, is held each June on our campus. Children (age three through rising fifth grade) from the school and the community attend this half-day, week long camp experience with innovative and fun themes, such as "Everest" and "Kingdom Rock". The week culminates on Friday with a performance and lunch celebration in the pavilion.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMP

All-American Sports Camp (AASC) is a multi-sport week long day camp program open to boys and girls ages 4-15. In an era of specialization and over-competitive youth sports, AASC offers a healthy alternative to families seeking quality instruction of multiple sports administered by specialists. An emphasis is placed on wellness as each camp features nutrition lessons, athletic performance/fitness classes and healthy lunch standards. Lessons are filled with fundamental instruction and taught by some of the area's best coaches. Activities, drills and organized games, led by Brian Justine, Athletic Director, and his passionate staff of top-rate instructors, give students opportunities to "learn by doing."

HEARTS OF PALM MISSION

Hearts of Palm, an outreach of the St. Mark's Episcopal Church, is an interdenominational mission experience for youth seeking to put their faith into action. Middle Schoolers are eligible to participate in a summer "trip" where they eat, sleep, play, and pray on campus at night, and serve the greater Palm Beach area by day. Mission teams are challenged and rewarded as their service deepens their faith and impacts the lives of those less fortunate. Hearts of Palm also hosts teams from outside of our region. This summer, mission teams also visited from Colorado and Maryland. Teams serve others in partnership with local outreach organizations in our community: CROS Ministries' Caring Kitchen, Family Promise, Homeless Coalition, Palm Beach County Food Bank, Peggy Adams Rescue League, Place of Hope, Quantum House, Real Life Children's Ranch, Riviera Beach Housing Project, St. George's Episcopal Church and Center, The Lords Place, and Urban Youth Impact's Jam Camp and Outreach Street Ministry.



At St. Mark's, we know that a positive start to the school year influences a student's attitude, confidence, and performance, both socially and academically. In order to support the challenging transition from summer to fall and prepare our students for a successful school year, St. Mark's does the following:

- **Pre-K Playdates**: Before the first day of school, PK2, PK3, and PK4 students visit their new classroom briefly, socializing with their friends and teacher. While students play, parents have their chance to mingle as well, at the Pre-K tea.
- **Meet the Teacher**: Starting in Kindergarten, all students are welcome to come to school at assigned times, meet their teachers, drop off supplies, and find their locker.
- **Review Classes**: Students entering 4th through 8th grades are offered optional review classes in mathematics and language arts, prior to the start of school. In addition, science fair orientation and support is provided to 7th and 8th graders.

Students new to St. Mark's and even our returning students benefit from these opportunities. We do everything possible to ease first day jitters so our students can hit the ground running.

