



Welcome to Highercrest!



Dear Fifth Grader,

Welcome to fifth grade! My name is Mrs. Martino and I will be your homeroom teacher this year. This means that you will be spending much of your day with me. I will teach you Social Studies, Reading and Writing. You will have different teachers for Math, Science, PE, World Language, and Related Arts (Art, Creative Commons, Drama, and Music). As a homeroom class, we will work together to learn about friendship, service, school spirit, current events and how to stay organized. We will do a variety of group and individual projects using a lot of technology throughout the year.

I am very excited to meet all of you in a few days. Before we meet, let me tell you a little about myself. This is my 12th year teaching 5th grade at Highercrest. I grew up in Gurnee, Illinois and now live in Park Ridge. I graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago where I received my Bachelor's Degree in Education. I also have my Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Concordia University. When I am not teaching, I love to travel, try new restaurants, bake new recipes, and I try to go sailing as much as possible. I love to be outside, summer is definitely my favorite season!

This summer was very busy. I got married and moved to a new house! And my sister Ann moved with her family from Arizona to Park Ridge-It's so exciting to have my sister and nieces so close! Along with all of the craziness, I was able to do a little bit of traveling, too. My husband and I went to Maui, Hawaii on our honeymoon. It was absolute paradise! I spent the rest of my summer getting settled into my new house and I was even able to squeeze in a little bit of sailing! Even though summer always seems to fly by too fast, I am so excited to get back to school.

I am really looking forward to the first half day of school so I can finally meet you! I also look forward to answering any questions you have about me, Highercrest, or 5th grade in general. Before the first half day of school on Tuesday, September 5th, please take a minute to look at the Highercrest website where you will find the supply list and other information about the school. I know we will have a fantastic year together and I can't wait to get started. Enjoy the last few days of your summer vacation!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Martino

