

The logo features a blue circle containing the text "ST M" in white, with "ST" in a smaller font above the "M". Below the circle, the year "2025" is written in large, bold, white numbers.

ST  
M  
2025

Dear Families,

Just like last summer, we will all be reading a book together and using our reading experience in a variety of ways to build community in September 2025. This year's community learning will focus on these essential questions:

## **What do we learn about *ourselves* when we leave home?**

Whether it's a family road trip to visit family, a week at sleepaway camp, or a big European vacation, we see ourselves differently and learn about ourselves in a new context when we are outside our normal places and spaces.

## **What do we learn about *others* and the *world around us* when we leave home?**

We also see other people – those who travel with us and those we meet on our travels – in a new light when we travel. We learn about different natural environments, different histories, different customs, and different perspectives .

Summer is the perfect time to think about the way traveling near and far shapes us. Instructions for your summer reading, reflection, and creation are on the following page.

We're excited to begin this community learning experience with you!

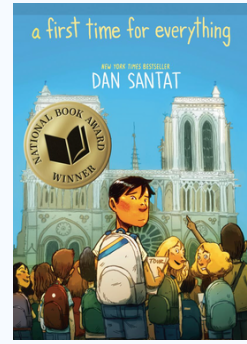
Bon voyage,

*the Middle School Faculty + Staff*

**ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY LEARNING**



## *A First Time for Everything* by Dan Santat



1. **Choose one trip** you take **this summer** – large or small, near or far. It could be a trip across town to visit family, a day-trip hike, a week at sleepaway camp, or an epic vacation!

2. **As you travel, consider:**

- How are you different when you travel different places?
- How are you nudged outside of your comfort zone?
- What do you realize or learn about yourself?
- What do you learn about other people through this trip?
- What do you learn about the world around you?
- How do you see things differently when you return home?
- How are you different (even slightly) when you return home?



**Use your reflections to create a one-pager** that will share your selected summer trip and your reflections on it when you return to school in the fall. (While one-pagers will not be graded, they will be shared widely within our community.)

While one-pagers can be created on paper (plain, 8.5X11" printer paper) or digitally, all students should plan to bring a physical copy of their one pager with them to school!

One-pagers use images, colors, fonts, and language to communicate ideas. You can see award-winning examples of student one-pagers at the QR code.

*Questions? Email Mrs. O'Dell: [rodell@stmschool.net](mailto:rodell@stmschool.net)*

