



DESERT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Empowering the Mind, Engaging the Soul

Summer 2011 **Congratulations, Fifth Grader!**

Can you believe it? YOU are in the fifth grade! Be ready for lots of fun learning this year. This is my 39th year of teaching. I was a teacher and an administrator at a local high school for twenty-four years. This will be my fifteenth year teaching fifth grade at *Desert Christian Academy*! I L♥VE teaching at any grade level but, without a doubt, fifth grade at this school is an awesome year. It's made even more exciting by our trip to Santa Catalina Island every March.

Caddie Woodlawn by Carol Ryrie Brink is our summer reading. It is a part of my summer reading every year, too. That keeps the excitement of the story fresh in my mind when school starts. Here are some tips to help you enjoy the story:

- Read it once during the first part of the summer. (*Now* is still OK. ☺)
- In a spiral notebook, jot notes down, chapter by chapter, so that you don't forget any of the interesting details.
- Then, a week or two *before* school starts, read the adventure again so that it is also fresh in your mind when we review in class. (We'll take the test on *Caddie Woodlawn* the second Friday back.) It's a GREAT story!

Psst...Here are a few more hints to help you prepare for a successful year in fifth grade.

- Know your multiplication tables by memory, zero to twelve, quickly and automatically.
This will make for more smiles in math during the year. ☺ I guarantee it!
- Don't worry about your school supplies. They'll be waiting for you on your desk.
- Come with an open mind ready to learn more about the world around you.
- Come with an open heart ready to learn more about our great and faithful God!

It's been a tradition that each year the fifth grade class has a special *class name*. This summer I have been thinking and praying so that the Holy Spirit will give me just the right name for this year's class family. When you come in on the first day I will let you



know what name was put on my heart for your fabulous class. OK? It's so exciting to know that we will soon be sharing this wonderful year! I can't wait! Enjoy the remainder of your summer. Treasure your family time together.

Praying and happily awaiting your arrival to Room 5B,
Mrs. Christine Rodríguez