

# Cantiague Connection



## May/June 2009

Dear Families,

As summer approaches and we begin to look at the relaxing days ahead, there are many things that each family can do to ensure that learning continues during the summer months. Children who are away at camp for a good portion of the summer can take their reading and writing skills with them and use them throughout their camp experiences. One thing you may want to do prior to your child leaving for camp might be to make a special trip to the book store to get a journal so that your child can reflect on the great experiences and activities that take place during camp. He can also pick out three or four books that he particularly likes to experience during the summer. Your child can be encouraged to write letters to you, siblings and other relatives to further sustain the writing skills learned during the school year. These are just some suggestions that help our children maintain their critical thinking skills and potentially acquire new ones over the summer months where we can see regression.

For students who are at home, weekly visits to the library or the book store to get new fiction or non-fiction selections can help our children keep those reading skills current. It is important for you to ask your child questions about the story, or have her retell the main events of the story. For very young children, the summer is a great time for you to read to them and then have them read to you. Remember, reading does not only have to come in the form of books because children can be reading newspapers, magazines or even poetry. Additionally, once-a-week field trips can provide further opportunities for learning and fun-filled family time.

These are some ideas that can go a long way but more than anything else, summer is a time for a slower pace and relaxation which all of our children need from time to time. So I hope you will take the time to enjoy each other this summer and come back to school in September ready to go!

On another note, I want to announce that this will be the final edition of the Cantiague Connection. I feel that the Cantiague Daily Update emails cover many of the same points and are easier for most people to access.

Once again, I want to thank you for making my first year at Cantiague such a tremendous success! I am so grateful to the children, staff and parents for your support, involvement and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Antony Sinanis

### Kindergarten Parent and Student Orientations

For six days in May, our incoming kindergarten students will join us on two different mornings to be introduced to our kindergarten program and take part in some activities with our support and kindergarten staff. We look forward to seeing and meeting all of our kindergarteners and their parents during these two events.

### New York State Assessments

Our fourth grade students will take part in the New York State Science Assessment: Written portion on Monday and Performance Part on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

### Meet the Candidates Night/Budget Hearing and Vote

There will be a public hearing for the budget and an opportunity to meet the candidates on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The budget hearing takes place at 7:30 PM at the High School, and the candidates will be available in the Little Theater at the High School at 8:00 PM. Public voting on the budget will take place on May 19<sup>th</sup> at the High School. Please participate in this process in the interest of your children. Please make sure that your ability to vote counts by voting on May 19<sup>th</sup>. In order to facilitate voting, the polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

### Family Picnic

On Tuesday, June 2, each of our parents is invited to school to join the Cantiague family for a picnic, beginning at 5:00 PM. Each year, this is a very enjoyable, relaxed evening that gives families the time to connect with their children and spend time with other Cantiague parents. Please try to bring your family to Cantiague for this incredible event that will be filled with food and fun for all.

### PTA Meeting

The PTA will meet on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 AM over the next two months. Please join us for these last two meetings as important information will be shared about the budget, upcoming events and next year. Additionally, school supplies that were ordered can be picked up after the June meeting.

### Field Days

Our students will take part in Field Days and Kindergarten Olympics in June! On Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> the Kindergarten Olympics will take place in the morning! Additionally, on June 18<sup>th</sup> our students in grades 1-4 will have their Field Day and then on June 22<sup>nd</sup> the 5<sup>th</sup> grade will have their Field Day experience. On these days, students should bring water and a towel to school with them so that they remain hydrated during the activities and can use their towels to sit during lunch periods. While parents are not present during the field days, the class parents will be here during the lunch period to provide lunch for

the students. No siblings are allowed to attend. Please note that there is a rain date for each of the days on the calendar. If we must cancel a field day, notice will go home via email.

### Grade 5 Moving Up Ceremony

Information regarding the fifth grade Moving Up Ceremony and party will be coming soon. The big date is Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> for both events. If there are any questions about Moving Up or the party, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

### Schedule for the Final Week of School

Please note that dismissal on Wednesday and Thursday, June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> is at 11:45 AM. Dismissal on Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> is at 9:45 AM.

### Upcoming Events

Please check out the Cantiague School website for our monthly calendars to access more information about upcoming events.

