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Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

Newsletter - June 2015



Principal's Pen

Dear Danville Families,
Summer break is right around the corner. As parents, you are likely thinking about the pool and beach, much-anticipated family vacations and a more relaxed schedule. But what you might not be thinking about is how the summer months affect your child's learning. Often referred to as "summer slide," there is a real danger in the loss of educational ground your children might experience during the summer months. Teachers often have to spend as much as 4 weeks reviewing previously learned skills. Just think of what our children could accomplish if we were able to teach new materials sooner!

Think of it this way: children who are proficient in a sport spend regular time and effort practicing the necessary skills, such as batting, running, catching or swimming. Typically, kids become better at their sport the more they practice. However, if they take a three-month break from practice, proficiency suffers. It is the same way with math and reading. During the school year students'

minds are exercised daily. This ceases at the beginning of summer break unless parents make a concerted effort to offer enrichment activities. Summer vacation does not have to mean a vacation from reading!

Activities do not need to cost money. Remember card games played when we were growing up? If you have a deck of cards there are numerous things you can do to help sharpen skills. Play War, Crazy Eights, and Solitaire, add two cards together, subtract the lowest card from the highest, choose three cards and put them in order to represent the highest number/lowest number. What number comes before, after? How about the license plate game when you are traveling? The car shouldn't be a movie theatre! Board games are fun to play together. The ones we played as kids are still fun for all ages: Trouble, Uno, Monopoly, Sorry!, Connect Four, Candy Land, The Game of Life, Rummicube, Checkers, Chess, and Jenga to name just a few.

1. **Read every day.** Colby library has a wonderful summer reading program with incentives and activities over the summer.
2. **Cook with your children.** This is one of the best ways to integrate math, reading and following directions. Let your child design the menu, too. Help your child put

together their favorite recipes in a cookbook.

3. **Plant a garden.** Your child will gain responsibility and pride as they watch their plants grow and thrive.
4. **Keep a journal.** Do something every day and write a little bit about it.
5. **Learn a new word** each day. Hang it on the fridge and see who can use it the most times throughout the week.
6. **Play quick games** with flashcards like Math War or Concentration to keep math skills sharp.
7. **Listen to audio books** during your summer road trip.
8. **Make a summer scrapbook.** Take pictures and encourage your child to write captions to accompany the pictures.
9. **Make time to read.** It can't be said enough; if your child does nothing else this summer make sure he is reading!

Computer use is also valuable when monitored for time and sources. Always know what your child is doing on the computer. Below you will find some free websites your child may find interesting. As always I recommend the use of the Danville School website where children can access Destiny year round!

10 FREE LEARNING WEBSITES {FOR KIDS}

Here's a list of some fun, educational, and safe websites for your child to visit and explore on those hot summer days!

Switcheroo Zoo www.switcheroozoo.com Watch, listen and play games to learn all about amazing animals!	Fun Brain www.funbrain.com Play games while practicing math and reading skills
Nat Geo for Kids www.kids.nationalgeographic.com Learn all about geography and fascinating animals	PBS Kids www.pbskids.org Hang out with your favorite characters all while learning!
Into the Book www.readingecb.org Go "into the book" to play games that practice reading strategies	Star Fall www.starfall.com Practice your phonics skills with these read-along stories
Seussville www.seussville.com Read, play games, and hang out with Dr. Seuss and his friends	Storyline Online www.storylineonline.net Have some of your favorite stories read to you by movie stars!
ABC YA www.abcy.com Practice math and reading skills all while playing fun games!	Highlights Kids www.highlightskids.com Read, play games, and conduct cool science experiments!

Best wishes for a wonderful summer,

Nancy Barcelos

The Danville School office will be open Monday – Thursday 9:00-2:00 pm throughout the summer. Feel free to call the office with any questions, 603-382-5554.

Please note the Danville School Newsletter is published monthly and posted to the school website. If you do not have access to the internet and/or would like a paper copy, kindly notify the school office.



Assistant Principal News

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer. Take time to spend with family and friends. Further developing and enhancing “school skills” over the summer is very important for young students. Reading or being read to, math games, and varied forms of writing activities are great ways to keep skills current and still not feel like “school work”.

Students need a summer break for all other forms of typical development – swimming, biking, running, playing outdoors etc. A simple half hour of school related activity as mentioned above will help sustain knowledge that has been gained over the past school year.

Danville Elementary School has been a busy and productive location this past year. Lots of outstanding work was accomplished by our staff in their efforts to make learning relevant for our students. Your support and work towards the same goal has been most appreciated as well. Keep up the good work over the summer and next year will be even better!

Have a great summer.

W. J. Pimley
Assistant Principal



All About Art!

Dear Danville Family and Friends,
We have had such a creative and dynamic year in the Visual Arts. The students have grown tremendously with their skills and understanding of the Elements and Principles of Design. I am so proud of their accomplishments! Here is some food for thought as we end the school year.....

Today, more than ever, the arts are needed by our young learners as an opportunity for safe expression, communication, exploration, imagination and cultural and historical understanding.

Here are some reasons that the Visual Arts are so important:

1. Brain research confirms that Arts education strengthens student problem-solving and critical thinking skills, adding to overall academic achievement, school success and preparation for the work world.
2. Art Classes provide students a chance to develop cognitive and creative skills, and to develop their imaginations.
3. For some students Art is their motivation for coming to school and an area where they have success or excel, providing an important balance in their total educational experience.

4. The Arts teach our students to be more tolerant and open through multicultural and historical perspectives and through their involvement in the creative process itself.
5. Due to the collaborative nature of art, students develop crucial skills in cooperative decision-making, leadership, clear communication, and complex problem solving while working with others.
6. Regular participation in the arts develops self-confidence, self-discipline, persistence, and the knowledge of how to make multiple revisions to create high quality work.
7. The skills and experience that students develop by learning to perform, create, and respond to works of art provides a foundation for the kinds of literacy students must have to communicate and work successfully in our ever-changing media, technology and information age.
8. Art Education helps develop a positive work ethic, flexibility and pride in a job well done.

Have a happy, healthy and safe
summer! Try to do something
creative!

Thank you for all of your support for
the Visual Arts.
Mrs. Rice



READ ALOUD
with Mrs. Dube

This month, the kindergarteners listened to books about plants and bees to complement their learning in science in their classrooms. They learned a bee dance...ask them about it!

In first grade the children heard the story "A Bad Case of Stripes" and created a photo of themselves with "a bad case of..." including everything from rainbows to number to camouflage and kitties. They also worked on an octopus activity to learn about the different ways octopuses keep safe from their predators.

The second graders are revisiting a favorite character in "Keena Ford and the Field Trip Mix-Up". Earlier in the year, we met Keena in the first book of the series, "Keena Ford and the Second Grade Mix-Up". A couple of the classes will even have time to enjoy "Keena Ford and the Secret Journal Mix-Up" before the end of the year.

The third graders are appreciating a read aloud of "Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Stuart Little", a story of a little girl who is a master of putting off her summer reading

assignment until she finally begins and truly enjoys the story.

The fourth graders enjoyed some writing and sharing activities with their classmates. They created new flavors of ice cream, they illustrated idioms, and they made name posters incorporating the International Flag Code system.

Fifth graders worked on some team building activities designed to help them learn to work within a group for the benefit of the whole team.



Music Note

Mrs. Cook

Join Band or Strings!

Parents of current 2nd , 3rd or 4th grade students:

If your child is interested in learning to play an instrument NEXT YEAR, they must sign up **NOW!** There are NO fall sign ups. (If your child is already a band/string member, they will automatically be enrolled for next year.)

Current 2nd graders are eligible for violin, viola or cello.

Current 3rd graders are eligible for violin, viola, cello, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion, French horn, oboe.

Come to the Timberlane Performing Arts Center on ONE of the following days:
Tuesday, June 16th at 5:00pm OR
Wednesday June 17th at 5:00pm OR
Saturday June 20th at 8:00am

Please arrive on time for an informational meeting and plan to stay for 2 hours to let your child try 3 different instruments and sign up. Rentals will be offered if you do not already have an instrument that is in good working condition.

This is a free event to help students decide which instrument best fits their body structure and personality. Experienced instructors will be available to help you and your child with their decision.

After you have signed up, there will be three lessons, held on June 23, 24 and 26 from 4:00 – 5:30pm OR 6:00 – 7:30pm. Plan on attending one lesson each day. The lessons are offered at a reduced rate and will give your child the tools they need to begin learning songs over the summer. This is a wonderful opportunity to try a band or string instrument before you commit to an instrument. Come join the fun and enjoy beautiful music all summer long!

Questions: Kathy Giacobbe, music dept.
secretary 382-6541 X 3982



Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

Happy June! We are in the home stretch and as always we have so much left to accomplish! We have recently finished up our

Whiffle Ball / Baseball / Softball unit and moved right into Capture the Flag with grades 3, 4 and 5. Our younger students have been learning more team games such as "Astronauts and Aliens." It is great to get outside with a few classes as the weather has improved as well. We still have Kickball and the last round of "Open Gyms" to accomplish before June 17th! Please continue to make sure that your son or daughter brings sneakers to change into for P.E. class! Thank you for a great year and I look forward to seeing everyone again in the fall! I hope this note finds you happy and active!

-Patrick Ard
Danville P.E.

Patrick.Ard@timberlane.net



Enrichment Program

Enrichment News

By Mrs. Cindy Wood

Around the World in 1 Day!

Enrichment Day-June 5

Our next school-wide enrichment day is coming soon. Our theme is learning about different cultures around the world. Each student in grades 1-5 and full day kindergarten will choose 3 workshop tickets to "travel" to different places throughout the day (1/2 day K will choose 1 or 2 workshop tickets). We will have many wonderful workshops for the students to choose from-everything from English folk

dancing to Japanese fan dance to celebrating the Chinese New Year to exploring the difference in Americanized English and British English to Japanese origami art to learning about Nepal from Nepalese visitors to viewing artifacts and hearing stories about Peru to learning songs and making wreaths for the Swedish Midsommer to understanding about life on Antarctica, and so much more. It will be a unique learning day for all students and staff. Remember to ask your children about their day on June 5.

Our afternoon will include 2 assemblies by Mr. Randy Armstrong. One assembly will be designed for our grade K-2 students and the other for our grade 3-5 students. Randy will be bringing along over a dozen instruments and sharing about many cultures and their music. Mr. Armstrong is a world-renowned artist. We are thrilled that he loves sharing his passion for music with students.