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Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

Newsletter - June 2016



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 a 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!

New for our grades K-4 students this summer is a summer book to read at home. There will be an activity to do after reading the book. The classroom teachers will do activities based on the book during the first weeks of school in September. We will send the book home in the next week or so. Each child will have everything they need to complete the activity. Your only responsibility will be to be sure your child completes the assignment before the start of school! The book will be your child's to keep at home.

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

It is unbelievable that the school year is coming to a close. My first year went by so quickly and I enjoyed meeting all the students and families of Danville. We had many accomplishments this year, the children have grown both academically and socially. Danville is a special place and I have been lucky enough to enjoy taking this trip with everyone. I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer!



As in the past, Title I Summer Camp will be offered during the month of July. This year, we will provide reading and math support to students entering Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3. All students who qualify have received an invitation. Camp will run Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday starting July 6th to July 28th. If you have any questions, please call the school.

Just a reminder that continuous practice of math and reading skills is important to maintain during the summer. I encourage students to avoid the “Summer Slide” by finding ways to incorporate simple skill practice that is meaningful which helps students practice their skills.

Tips: Stopping the Summer Slide:

- All students can benefit from a trip to the local library.
- Parents of younger students can create a summer reading list with their children, and then reward them when they finish each book.
- Additionally, parents can encourage their kids to think outside of the box with arts and crafts. Sites such as kids.gov and NGA Kids have great ideas that will let any child’s imagination run wild and stimulate creativity.



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:
Friday June 3rd at 5:00pm OR
Saturday June 4th at 8:00am OR
Wednesday June 8th at 5:00pm

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 14, 15, 17 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 13th!

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