



The Stanwich Heart

The Monthly Newsletter of The Stanwich School

November 2011

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Students Give a "Thumbs-Up" to Upper School Studies

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+ PLUS so much more!

The Great Debate

Stanwich sophomores researched the history of China's one-child policy, then engaged in a tense debate as they used moral, social, and legal arguments for their respective positions Pg.8



Mission Driven

Our school year is well underway in our classrooms, in our studios and on our fields. We have welcomed the opportunity to share the highlights of the year with you in the back-to-school nights, and to continue our partnership in the open coffees and brown bag lunches. Conferences with faculty and advisors are on-going, and we encourage you to keep abreast with us about the growth of your children. In addition, our children delight in seeing you at their performances and games.



Pat Young and Grade 5 students display the Stanwich mission, which sets Stanwich School apart.

Most recently, I was asked by a group of prospective Stanwich parents to talk about differentiating factors that set Stanwich School apart. By chance, I had just completed a values lesson with our Grade 5 students that gave me the ready answers. The lesson had been about our mission, which in any school should be the measure all else is weighed by. The students, in small groups, were each given one of the four sentences that comprises our mission and asked to discuss what it means and then give examples of how it is played out at Stanwich. Their responses were spot-on, and admittedly a bit surprising, as they readily identified all the facets of our community that differentiate our school.

OUR MISSION

The Stanwich School is a caring community that offers a balanced, rigorous education, infused with values emphasizing Judeo-Christian principles and traditions, which inspire students to be their best, help others be their best and make God's world a better place.

"Stanwich offers a good education because they push you to do your personal best. They don't compare you to other people, just yourself. We have a reasonable amount of homework, and great teachers, classes, and friends. We learn a balance of everything: not just math and history; but music, art, choir and most importantly, values. Values teach us great rules in life that we should always follow, like forgiveness and compassion."

In speaking about our school, I quickly pointed out that our students appreciate their education and understand its importance. They know that they are valued members of the community and have many opportunities. Most importantly, in a place that chants the Stanwich Heart, our students know that they are in an environment where they can take risks and discover new learnings. They know they will be supported and encouraged by others, and will strive to be their best as they develop a moral compass that helps them make good life choices. This is

the educational community that Stanwich students experience every day.

We are proud of our children and applaud their spirit. Our coaches highlight these moments in their sports summaries which are now being sent to you in the e-newsletter, *Stanwich Sports Center* on Mondays. Stanwich students have rightfully earned the reputation in the Fairchester League of being exceptionally good sports, win or lose. They have acquired the skills of strong play and the heart to guide them.

Please know that we share your children joyfully, and know that our work together with you is critical to their well-being and growth. We look forward to the many occasions in the coming months where we gather to support and encourage each other as we witness the Stanwich mission at work with your children.

Fondly,

Come, Let Us Go On

With the book fair now upon us and with plans firming up for our Grade 10 seniors' international study program to London this March, I reflected upon a favorite children's book of mine and considered the moral messages contained within it relevant to the exciting, albeit tumultuous fall here at Stanwich. The 1950 Newbery Award winner, *A Door in the Wall* by Marguerite De Angeli, is an enchanting fictional tale of a young crippled English lad from the middle-ages whose experiences, challenges and education throughout his sojourn prove his moral courage and earns recognition from the King. To give it some modern day context, the main character 'Robin' was the Harry Potter character of his time ... 'Brother Luke' was Dumbledore.

With his father gone to war and mother off to serve the Queen, young Robin is stricken and loses his ability to walk. The new friar becomes the youngster's mentor and guardian. Helping to take him to safety, the friar says to Robin, "Thou hast only to follow the wall far enough and there will be a door in it." And once beyond the garden walls and away from the plague, his journey to find his way and himself begins.

Later in the book, weary Robin asks his teacher, "What think you, Brother Luke, shall I ever straighten?" And he replies: "... this I will tell thee. A fine and beautiful life lies before thee, because thou has a lively mind and a good wit. Thine arms are very strong and sturdy [from exercise] ... but only because thou hast had the will to do it.

Fret not my son. None of us is perfect. It is better to have crooked legs than a crooked spirit. We can only do the best we can with what we have. That, after all, is the measure of success: what we do with what we have.

Come, let us go on ..."

So there it is ... The measure of success ... "What we do with what we have."


The story captures, I believe, the essence of Stanwich: Robin striving to be the best he can be, Brother Luke helping others to be their best, and both endeavoring to make God's world a better place. As you peruse the selections at the book fair, as our Upper School youth contemplate negotiating London's same Pudding Lane and Black Friars, Creed Lane and Ludgate Hill, Cheapside and Poultry Lane that Robin traveled 700 years prior, and as together we press forward apace with our options to continue building Stanwich, our collective measures of success will, and ought to be, counseled from Brother Luke aphorism.

Robin overcame adversity with proper spirit and resolve, and with the faith and support of those who embraced that same spirit, and within that same spirit, I remain keenly optimistic and determined to live out the Stan-



"Fret not my son. None of us is perfect. It is better to have crooked legs than a crooked spirit. We can only do the best we can with what we have. That, after all, is the measure of success: what we do with what we have. Come, let us go on ..."

wich mission and assure your children – and their children – to have both a program that offers an unparalleled educational experience and a proper space in which to have our illustrious faculty carry out that program. Come let us go on ...

By the way, the Newbery Award in the year Stanwich began went to *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse. This is a poetic story of a young girl who experiences pain, displays passion, and uses steely resolve and hope to overcome adversity. Another allegory? 

Pre-K Cottage



Pre-K Cottage Team
Mrs. Oh, Mrs. Kennedy,
Mrs Acker, Mrs. Otsuka

A Great Place to Be!

The Stanwich Pre-K is building for the future as we try to be the best we can be by:

- Learning about commitment and compassion
- Building, stamping, and writing our letters
- Using our words when we play with friends
- Making many different patterns
- Singing songs and counting in French
- Planting bulbs around our playground
- Discovering, exploring, and being curious
- Reciting the “Heart of Stanwich”

So we already know that the Pre-K Cottage is a great place to be!



The Creative Classroom

Students got their hands dirty during a recent hands-on art class.



Pleased to Meet You

Life-size artwork was crafted by each child for Back to School Night.



Learning by Doing

Pre-K students love to work with manipulatives to make patterns, and have become ‘pattern experts’ in the process.



Rain, Rain, Go Away

The Pre-K children always make the most out of rainy day recess.

Primary House

Special Sharings



Julie Colligan
Head of Primary House

Sharings are wonderful moments in the PH. Every Tuesday and Thursday, the children practice public speaking skills as they share what they are learning in their classrooms. This year we have added the Special classrooms to the rotation as well. Kindergarten music was the first specialist class to share a delightful rendition of “Oak Tree” (see photo below). It was fantastic to observe the growth in the children as the whole kindergarten shared for the second time in three weeks.

I love watching from the doorway, noticing deep breaths, and big smiles as the children present a song or dance, a favorite math game, demonstrate an exercise in the Presidential Physical Fitness Test, or explain steps in an art process. Grade 1 has shared experiences outside the classroom from their trips around the Greenwich community; Grade 2 has shared about the many creatures they encountered at the seashore and the trees they identified right here at school and in the forest, and Grade 3 has enthusiastically shared their enjoyment of the Roald Dahl author study and demonstrated simple machines in action. Assembly sharings are windows into the children’s learning experiences of the day – come enjoy with us!



Place Value

Grade 3 students are actively learning about place value, standard word form, and expanded form in math class.



Touch of Nature

Grade 2 students enjoyed their field trip to SoundWaters where they reinforced their science studies about the seashore.



Public Safety

During Fire Prevention Week, Grade 1 students visited the Cos Cob Fire House and the Police Station. In class, students had been learning about “Community Helpers.”



Intermediate House



Meaghan Mallin
Head of
Intermediate House

A Certain Smile

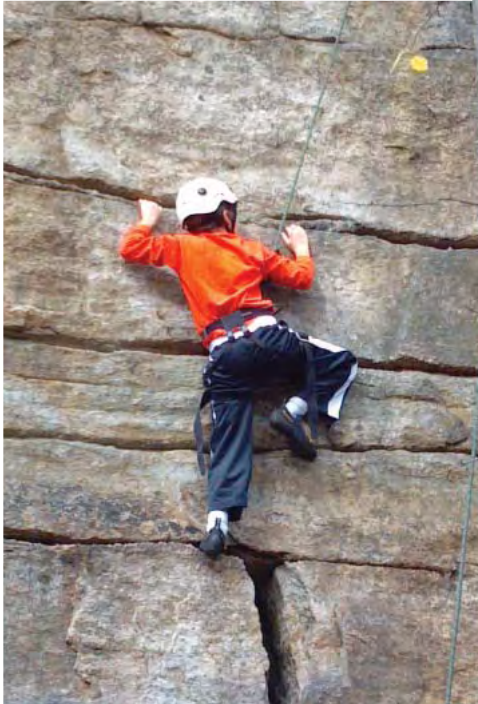
How important is a smile? We see them every day on the faces of our children, our friends, our loved ones. Recently, a dear friend of Cristin Robb's lost his smile. His name is Sergeant Kevin Flike, and he was seriously wounded while serving in Afghanistan. While Sergeant Flike was lying in the rehab hospital, facing a long recovery, his wife was incredibly concerned because her husband hadn't smiled once since his injury. She was desperate to see some joy return to her husband's face.

Cristin shared the news about Sergeant Flike with the IH at assembly and we told the students that if they chose to write a letter to him, Cristin would deliver them to his wife. This was completely voluntary, and we were so pleased to see our children jump into action. Cards and letters poured in from our kids.

Sergeant Flike's wife brought the letters to him in the hospital, and she watched as he read through the pile of cheerful and thoughtful cards. And there it was ... his first smile, prompted by a series of cow jokes written by a 4th grader (Q. What do cows read in the morning? A. the Moospaper). And the smiles didn't stop with Sergeant Flike. He shared the cards with others, and eventually they made their way around the entire hospital. Our Stanwich Heart was being shared with many who needed their spirits lifted. It was a beautiful way for our students to see that even small acts of kindness can have a large impact on others. As we are teaching them every day, by sharing our hearts and spreading joy, we can make the world a better place.

Kings of the Mountain

Grade 6 students traveled to New Paltz, NY for a day of rock-climbing activities.



Good Measure

To kick off their graphing unit, Grade 5 students measured parts of their bodies and collected data about their tibia, head circumference, hand span, and others. Their data was collected by class and then used to create multiple graphs.



Bingo Bash

Pizza and prizes were a hit while students raised more than \$2,300 to support World Vision.

Junior House



Jerome Murphy
Head of Junior House

Commitment to Others

During the last month we have been talking to our students about the values 'commitment' and 'compassion' and those discussions acted as an ideal transition for the start of our community service program in the Junior House.

At the same time our 7th and 8th grade advisory groups were talking about the meaning of and different examples of commitment and compassion, they were also engaged in talking about which community service organization they wanted to commit to for the year. Our 7th and 8th graders began their commitment to serving others when they started their visits to community service organizations last week. While the 9th grade participated in similar talks about these values, their commitment to serving others was exemplified through their recent trip to New York City to spend time with and learn about the homeless, as part of the Youth Service Opportunities Project.

The connection between all of us at the Junior House, as it relates to service to others, has been re-enforced by our understanding of the value, 'compassion.' Without an understanding or awareness of other people's plights or misfortunes, it is often difficult to feel the desire to affect a positive change on those who are less fortunate. To that end, we have tried to make our children aware of the many different ways which can elicit compassion: a homeless person, a group of lonely senior citizens, children without parents or homes, uncared for pets, or in some cases, areas of our environment which have been neglected.

During the last month, our students have shown a keen awareness for the misfortunes of others, and the steps they have taken to ameliorate those situations act to highlight our children's "Stanwich" character.

Their compassion for others has driven their commitment to affect a positive change, and in that regard, all of us have clearly contributed to making God's world a better place.



Join the Club

Each week, JH students divide into groups and spend with friends and advisors. Pictured is a game of Horse and Knitting. Other Clubs include Drama/Improv, Yearbook/Photography, Newspaper, Mythology, Around the Horn, Current Events, Technology, and International Club.



Welcome Back

Students settled right into their routines during the first few weeks of school.



Senior House



Derek Krein
Head of Senior House

Pass or Fail

The first joint project among the three Senior House electives (Media, Communication, and Film Studies, Civic Pillars, and Mandarin Language) – a debate on the single-child law in China – occurred recently. One group of students defended the practice, another refuted the practice, and the third had the charge of issuing a ruling of which side made the more convincing case. This was a spirited discussion to be sure, as the topic was one that had threaded through each course. Better still, there was no inherently right or wrong answer. Best of all, “the grade” had absolutely no influence on their individual or collective performance; the source of their inspiration and motivation was intrinsic.

The Senior House electives are graded either Pass or Fail, intended to shift the student focus away from the letter grade, extra credit, and fear of irreparable transcript damage – distractions which create risk-aversion and so deter students from “taking the risk” of trying a novel approach, looking at alternative solutions, and testing their voice and logic through participation.

These courses are designed to be immediately practical and personally relevant, which encourages a student to reach beyond his or her grasp, engage in unfamiliar learning situations and opportunities, and search for a better solution; the course is designed for risk exposure. Inherently, then, there is a distinct possibility for failure at times for the student, though little likelihood – or fear – of Failure. These Pass-Fail courses allow for the powerful, authentic learning that results from coming up short or missing the objective. In short, these Senior House students are free to fail so they can learn how to regroup, re-engage, and ultimately flourish.

In Peter Cobb’s address to the Stanwich faculty about “Schools of the Future,” he charged us to reconsider the ecology of learning. We’re already on our way.

The Great Debate

For two weeks, the Grade 10 students studied for a debate on China’s one-child policy. Students took positions on the issue, and a jury was formed consisting of nine voting members. Students researched the history of the policy, as well as the arguments for and against. The debate format included opening statements, cross examinations, and questions from the judges, who also researched the issues involved.

The debate lasted an hour, and included tense exchanges between the sides, as they used moral, social, and legal arguments for their respective positions. The judges voted 5-4 for the negative side, which opposed China’s one-child policy. Upon reflection, the students learned how quickly they need to think and react to questions and points made by the opposition.



Not Uncommon

Grade 10 students “hang out” during some free time in The Commons lounge.



Stanwich Sports History



Chris Cardarelli
Director of Athletics

In just a short period of time, the Stanwich School has left its mark in the Middle School Division of the Fairchester Athletic Association. Stanwich student-athletes have excelled in both individual and team sports over the years. The success started back in the fall of 2004, when the 8th grade boys' soccer team completed the season with 7 wins, 0 losses and 2 ties. The Cougars came out of the gates strong and never let up throughout the season. Leading the way

offensively was Tommy Sassos, Matt LoParco and Ross Schofield. The defense was led by the Ruprecht twins, Charlie and Barney.

The fall of 2007 saw the football team race out to a 7-0 record before dropping their final game of the season. The Cougars were a balanced attack. Michael Chronert was able to pass the ball down the field, Dylan Brodie ran all over the place and the Stanwich defense was impenetrable as they did not allow a single point until the seventh game of the season.

The winning ways for Stanwich continued in the winter of 2007-2008 when the 7th grade basketball team posted the most wins of any team in Stanwich history, as they compiled a record of 12 wins and 0 losses. This team was an offensive powerhouse and was led by the three-headed scoring machine of Liam O'Neil, Sam Latto and Hunter Eggers.

In the spring of 2008, the 7th baseball team posted an undefeated season with a record of 9-0. Liam O'Neil was the ace on the mound and Sam Latto and pounded out the hits for the Cougars. The baseball continued its undefeated ways the next season when they posted a 5-0 record. This extended the baseball winning streak to 14 games.

Stanwich baseball also had the pleasure of witnessing three no-hitters thrown by pitcher David Rivera the past two years. David Rivera tossed the no-hitters against Greenwich Country Day, Central Middle School and Fairfield Country Day.

Winning Titles

- 8th Boys' Soccer-Fall 2004: 7 wins, 0 losses, 2 ties
- 7th Boys' Basketball-Winter 2007-2008: 12 wins, 0 losses
- 7th Baseball-Spring 2008: 9 wins, 0 Losses
- 7/8th Baseball-Spring 2009: 5 wins, 0 losses
- Boys' Basketball-Murphy: Winter 2009-2010: 5 wins, 0 losses
- Squash-Winter 2010: Middle School Boys' B Division National Champions
- Girls' Lacrosse-Spring 2010: 6 wins, 0 losses, 3 ties

Cross Country Winners:

- Fall 2005: Eddie Laux-2nd place, boys' 7th grade division, Kenneth Saer-3rd place, 7th grade boys' division
- Fall 2006: Sam Bellissimo-4th place, 7th grade girls' division
- Fall 2009: Jenny Goggin-1st place, 7th grade girls' division, Champion-7th grade girls' division, Acacia Dougan-5th place, 7th grade girls' division

During the winter of 2009-2010, the boys' basketball team of Mr. Murphy compiled a record of 5 wins and 0 losses. This team had contributions from many players, including Tim Agro, Will Gittings and Ryan Flippin. The highlight of the season was a last second victory against Fairfield Country Day.

Another exciting event happened in the winter of 2010 as the Stanwich School squash team won the Middle School National Championship in the Boys' "B" Division. Leading the way for the Cougars were John Rohrbach, Grayson Bubrosky, Sam Konolige, Scott Brown, Zach Bai and Grant Khosla.

During the spring of 2010, the 7/8 girls' lacrosse team posted the first undefeated season for a girls' team at Stanwich, as they went 6-0-3. During the season, the girls had a few amazing comebacks including an 8-8 tie with Hackley in which the Cougars were down by six at halftime. Jenny Goggin and Sydney Cole were the offensive leaders for Stanwich while Olivia Berman, Justine Goggin and Alexandra Ng held the fort on defense.

Throughout the years, the Stanwich cross country program has continually placed runners in the top five in their divisions. Back in the fall of 2005, Eddie Laux and Kenneth Saer placed 2nd and 3rd in the 7th Grade boys' division. Sam Bellissimo earned 4th place in the 7th Grade girls' division during the fall of 2006. In the fall of 2009, Jenny Goggin took home both the Individual and the Championship titles in the 7th Grade girls' division.



2004 8th Grade Boys' Soccer Team



2007 Football Team



Liam O'Neil pitching in 2008



Sam Bellissimo in 2006

Parent Association

Dear Stanwich Community,



I know it's been a busy September and October, but hopefully everyone has enjoyed connecting with each other at the Grade Coffees and Grade Cocktail parties. My thanks go out to our hosts for these events, the Parent Association appreciates your hospitality. Please note if you were not able to attend a coffee, the Grade Reps or members of the PA Board can help answer any questions you may have. Also, the key force behind the scenes for all of the cocktail parties is Mary Ann Heaven, Special Events Chair and Naomi Azrak, Special Events co-Chair; they have worked really hard to make the cocktail parties very special. Thank you Mary Ann and Naomi!

While things will slow down a bit in November, we do have more activities coming up that I know you will all enjoy. On November 2, the PA hosted their monthly Board Meeting and it was open to the entire Stanwich Community. The meeting featured a special topic, Women of Vision of Fairfield County. Stanwich parent, Andrea Hickman, and speaker, Susan Garafoli, gave an overview of this important Community Service project. We also received an update on other PA topics from various members of the Board. We're glad so many of you were able to join us.

Our Book Fair begins the week of November 8th in the Upper School, and on Sunday, November 13th at Stanwich Road, along with class visits on Monday, November 14th. If you happen to be away on Sunday, you can always come to the Book Fair on Monday; the hours are from 9-3pm. Our theme this year is "Stanwich is Building Readers," and there will be a great selection for every age group.

Since it has been a very busy start of school year, we want to make things a little bit easier for you and will be selling pies for Thanksgiving. No need to bake, buy your pies from us and help support the Parent Association at the same time. Watch out for details in the Blue Streak and from your Grade Reps.

I look forward to seeing you at these events in November, which will be another fun month at Stanwich!

—Wynn McDaniel, Parent Association President, 2011-2012

Announcements from the PA

STANWICH IS BUILDING ... READERS!

STANWICH BOOK FAIR

Sunday, Nov. 13 • Family Day (1:00 – 4:00)

Bring the entire family to Family Day and check out our great book selection. There is something for everyone!



• New releases • Children and Adult Selections • Holiday gifts • Miz Liz Picks • Library and Classroom Donations • Ice Cream Social/Candy Guess/Make a Candy Necklace

Monday, Nov. 14 • Class Visits and Open Shopping Day (8:00 – 3:30)

Students visit the Book Fair with their class. Look for permission slip forms in your child's backpack the first week of November. Parents, come join your child while they shop, or stop by anytime to do some shopping on your own.

UPPER SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

Tuesday Nov. 8 - Friday Nov. 11

Students will visit the Book Fair to shop and create Wish Lists. Parents are welcome anytime and the Fair will be open late during parent conferences. Come see your child's Wish List and get a jump-start on the Holidays. Adult selections will also be available in addition to the opportunity to make library donations.

ART STAMPS

Have your child's masterpiece or a cherished photo turned into a special keepsake. These items make unique gifts throughout the year and help raise funds for the Parent Association. Forms will go home the first week of November.

Thank you to all the cocktail party and grade coffee hosts for so graciously opening your homes to all of us!

Thank you to all of the JH parents who helped out at the IH/JH Luncheon on November 1. If any IH parents were not able to come, please contact our JH House Rep, Denise Larkin, denlarkin2@gmail.com, and she can answer any questions or arrange for tours of the Upper School.

Mini Directories are here! They will be on sale at the Book Fair on November 13. Price is \$10. They will go fast, so get your copies now!



TRANSPORTATION

Traffic has been flowing smoothly! Great job to everyone "In the Zone!" Please contact Amy Bibb - amybibb@verizon.net - if you have any questions.



PIE SALE

for Thanksgiving - Watch for order forms! Many delicious varieties will be available!

ARTS & ENRICHMENT

My Fridays have taken on a whole new dimension since taking on the role of Arts and Enrichment chair. I am having such fun sourcing out presenters for our special assemblies, together with my co-chair Rachel Dapuzzo.

Already we have heard the inspirational story of Chris Waddell, the para-olympic skier and gold medalist who climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, and we heard from Chris Evers of Animal Embassy about the value of keeping animals in their natural habitats and how we can avoid extinction. The children got to see and touch some exotic tropical animals, and showed just how much they knew about wildlife through their interesting and well-informed questions.

We still have a year of exciting line-ups scheduled. For the Lower School:

- A war veteran will be inspiring the students on how he re-established his career on his return to civilian life and used his military training to help him in his work.
- We have Marvelous Mutts coming to showcase canine tricks and stories of survival while learning about the value of humane treatment of animals.
- Mr. Fish, the scientist is returning as is the Unique game show and Bubblemania later in the school year. Interspersed with all that fun will be some African music, interesting authors and a 'world of dance' show which will bring a global perspective of entertainment to the children.

The program at the Upper School includes:

- A parent speaker from UNICEF, some improvisation techniques and a visit from well-know TV weatherman, Bill Evans who will discuss concepts from his text book on weather for teens' coming out next year. To cap the year off in May we have scheduled a fun assembly involving team work and lots of excitement.



Animal Embassy

While we have almost filled our assembly program for this year, we are always looking for ideas from parents, so if you have heard about a great presenter, please email ingridwinn@yahoo.com with the details.

— Ingrid Winn and Rachel Dapuzzo

COMMUNITY SERVICE

We had many Community Service activities over the past month. The Pre-K and Primary House had a **COAT DRIVE** for local families through Neighbor to Neighbor. The Primary House planted more **BULBS** around our campus. The Intermediate House had three different fundraisers to benefit the two children from Rwanda that we sponsor through **WORLD VISION**. The fourth grade had a **LOOSE CHANGE COLLECTION**, the fifth grade had a **BAKE SALE** and the IH had their **BINGO BASH**,



PH Bulb Planting

which is always a lot of fun for a good cause. We will report on our fundraising results next month. On November 3, the Upper School will learn about the **WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT**. The mission of Wounded Warrior is to honor and empower wounded soldiers. Stanwich mom, Kathy Corsi, is bringing a few returning heroes to share their experiences with the students.

PA Volunteers Needed

1. **Spirit Store** is looking for volunteers to help sell merchandise at various school events or to help identify ideas for new merchandise.

Contact Tiffany Benincasa, tiffany.benincasa@gmail.com

2. **Hospitality** volunteers are needed to help coordinate refreshments for our various PA/School events.

Contact Wynn McDaniel, wynn@us.ibm.com

Greening Your Home with Amy Clark

Tues., **November 8**, 8:00am, IH Assembly Room

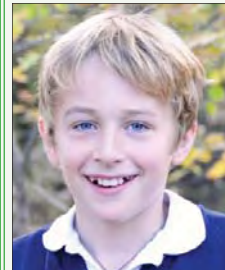
Come hear about the many ways to make your home greener and healthier for your family



GOING GREEN!

HOW I HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

This Month's Student Green Winner: Adrien Touzot



Adrien Touzot - Grade 5

One way I personally help the environment is that at my house, we have beehives. This helps the environment a lot because, first of all, bees help us have more oxygen by taking the pollen from flowers. Also, they are an endangered species so we are now helping that cause and making God's world a

better place. In addition, the bees produce raw honey that does not go through pesticides or as much machinery, and is also very yummy. You can get bees from a man named, Ray. He is extremely nice, and when he takes care of the bees at your house, he lets you watch and even taste the delicious honey comb. Hives are an awesome way to help the environment. In the hive, you get a lot of bees, and the hives grows larger over time. The bees are "honeybees" and you receive a certain amount of honey from your hive, and other people's hives in the organization. The bees also help your garden flourish, which gives fabulous color to your home. As a result, the flowers feed other animals, such as humming birds. As a conclusion, thanks to their pollination, bees are essential to our ecosystem. We should preserve and repopulate this endangered species.





NEASC Self-Study Update

The Self-Study process is underway! On Friday afternoon, October 14th, all faculty, administration, and staff gathered at Stanwich East to discuss the Pre-K to 10th Grade curriculum. Attendees were divided into eleven Program Committees representing the major curricular areas (English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, History/Social Studies, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Music, Library/Technology, Values/Community Service, Athletics/Physical Education, and Foreign Language). Each Program Committee, composed of individuals representing a variety of perspectives and backgrounds, closely examined its subject area. Committees were guided by a list of discussion questions including:

- How does the Program Area contribute to the mission and core values of the School?
- Does the Program Area involve activities consistent with the School's beliefs about teaching and learning?
- Does the Program Area provide continuity across grade levels?
- What are the pedagogical approaches employed in the Program Area?
- How is technology incorporated into the Program Area?
- Are there procedures in place to assess and report on how individual students are meeting the goals of the program with regard to both personal and academic growth?

Areas of strength and areas of improvement were identified. Each committee produced a written report which will provide the basis for the School's overall responses about the curriculum as the Self-Study progresses. Our next task is to survey parents and faculty about the mission and the program. Once again, thank you in advance for your participation on this important project. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Geise at pgeise@stanwichschool.org.



The Stanwich School's Intermediate House presents



Friday, December 2 at 2:00 & 5:00
Stanwich East



Upper School Internal Open House For the Stanwich Community

November 17th • 7:00-8:30pm
IH Assembly Room

Please join us for a presentation by Paul Geise highlighting our Upper School Program. Learn about this wonderful educational and character-building experience, meet the teachers, hear about the sports and get insight into our college preparation process. Whether you have a 6th grader who will be moving from the Intermediate House to the Junior House next Fall, or a 9th grader who will be moving into Senior House, or are a Primary House parent who is curious and has questions, come and hear what this program offers to our students. This is being planned as an evening event so both parents can attend. It will complement what many of you heard at the IH/JH lunch on November 1, but will also expand upon many new designs that are being evaluated for 2012/2013 and beyond. Students in Grade 5 and above are welcome to join us.

We look forward to seeing you there!