

Dear Stanwich Parents,

**O**ur year began with lots of celebrations and traditions. We are spirited and ready for our "Lucky Year 13." Thank you for the support you give to us in every way – our partnership is key to the best education we can provide our children.

Most recently our Family Festival, hosted by the Junior House, was a perfect example of the Stanwich Heart in the Stanwich community. Thanks to all who helped the Junior House students produce such a winning afternoon and thanks to all who supported their cause, "Project Blessing," with such amazing generosity. As was reported in the *Greenwich Time* and *Stamford Advocate*, the event raised \$5,125 for our village in Rwanda.

As you have seen first hand through Back-to-School Nights, there are many exciting opportunities and programs planned for your children this year. The faculty and administration have kept your children and their education the top priority and look forward to a wonderful year. Trips, plays, and sports are in full swing, and refrains from *Grease Lightening* can be heard at the Junior House musical rehearsals. Save the date of Friday, November 19, at 1:30pm and 5:00pm, to see the JH performance of *Grease* at Stanwich East.



Pat Young was eager to participate at the Ticket Booth with members of the Grade 9 class at the Second Annual Family Festival at Stanwich East.

We are also looking forward to a day with Dr. Leonard Sax on Tuesday, October 19. Dr. Sax will present to students, faculty, and parents. There will be a "Friday" dismissal so that faculty can spend the afternoon in a workshop with Dr. Sax. The evening for parents will begin with wine and cheese at 6:30pm followed by a special presentation on *Gender Matters*. This is an opportunity for you to bring friends and neighbors and share the Stanwich hospitality.

As we enter this admissions season we are grateful for your assistance in attracting families that would be a good match for our school. You have consistently been our best ambassadors and have helped us grow the Stanwich community. There are several Open Houses and events planned to welcome prospective families and students. Please let admissions know of any special friends that might like invitations.

I look forward to seeing you at the many events in the coming weeks and sharing the special joy your children bring us each day.

Fondly,

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# Pre-K Cottage



**Barbara Kennedy**  
Head of Pre-K Cottage

## Finally Here!

Give a clap  
Give a cheer  
Our Pre-K is finally here!

The Pre-K Cottage is a special place for children to

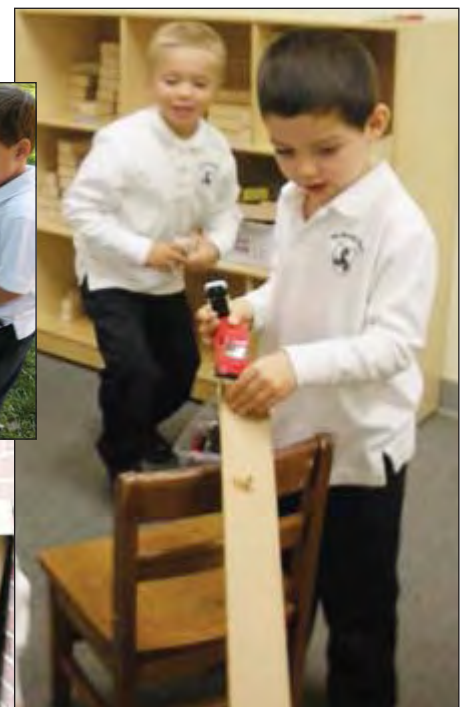
- Play with new friends
- Listen to Mz. Liz read stories
- Recite the “Heart of Stanwich” in assembly
- Make rhyming words
- Sing songs in both French and English
- Make our own class book
- Play games with Mr. H.
- Paint, color, cut, and glue
- Explore, imagine, create, and learn every day!

Welcome to Stanwich School!



### Puppet Theater

The youngest Stanwich students enjoy being creative with the Cottage's numerous puppets.



### A TISKET, A TASKET

The Listening Center is the perfect place to hear Mother Goose's Nursery Rhymes.



### Play Time

The playground and other outdoor spaces are very popular places with the Pre-K students.

# Primary House



**Julie Colligan**  
Head of Primary House

## New Beginnings & Endless Possibilities

**ALIVE** is the Primary House with the sense of new beginnings, endless possibilities, and the thirst for knowledge. This is a very exciting time, and we embrace the new year and the fun challenges it will bring our way. Our opening days are designed to help the children become comfortable in their new classrooms and with their new teachers. The teachers have been busy getting to know your children and making connections: what makes him special, what motivates her, what are his interests? The children, in return, are making connections with their teachers and with other children, making new friends and reconnecting with familiar faces. From all views I have heard reports of happy people, so I decided to find out what was making the children so happy. The answers I received were so joyful and honest that I will share them here:

- Kindergarten is happy about the playground, doing new work, Legos, BIG Legos, lunch and snack, playing with friends, singing, learning things, drawing.
- Grade 1 is happy about desks, the work, making new friends, meeting new teachers, recess, math, science.
- Grade 2 is happy about all the fun, meeting new teachers, making new friends, all the new stuff we learn, plays, Afters, field trips.
- Grade 3 is happy about our teachers, EVERYTHING, making new friends, library, AlphaSmarts, seeing friends again.

### All About Me

In order to get to know each other better, students in Grade 1 drew self-portraits and shared special things about themselves.

Thank you to all the parents who have shared their beautiful and humorous stories about our opening days of school. I couldn't be more delighted. As one second grade child said with the brightest smile and most earnest eyes, "I just LOVE Stanwich School."



### Books Galore!

Building on their love of reading, students in Grade 2 look forward to visiting the library, while during reading group, students wear fake moustaches as does a character in *Aldo Applesauce*.



### Math Activity Favorite

As part of their math activity, Kindergarten students enjoyed creating their own pictures by gluing cut-out pattern block shapes.

### A LOOK AT GRADE 3

AlphaSmarts, experimenting with simple machines and learning about U.S. geography, keeps Grade 3 students busy and engaged.



# Intermediate House



**Meaghan Mallin**  
Head of Intermediate House

## Contagious Buzz

What a fantastic start we have had in the Intermediate House! As I said on Back to School Night, there is a buzz in this building that is contagious; it can be felt amongst the parents, teachers, and students. It is a palpable energy not only for our rich program, but for the spirit that is very much alive here in the IH.

Our teachers are approaching the year with vigor, not only for their curricula, but also for the bond they look forward to developing with each child in their care. And our students' enthusiasm is clear in the big smiles they greet me with each day as they enter the building.

The students are excited for all of the new opportunities they will have this year, and also for the personal connections they are building each day with their teachers and with each other. We are working to build a community where every child feels welcomed and included; our students know that this is part of their role in helping others to be their best.

At the beginning of the year, we are particularly looking out for our new Stanwich students and we love hearing that they already feel rooted in their new school.

As one new mom shared, her son came home after school, wrapped his arms around her, and thanked her profusely. In his words, he is so happy to be at a school "where everybody knows my name."

It is so good to know our Stanwich Heart is beating so strong that even the newest members of our community feel it. We look forward to a successful year with you and your children!



### The Ocean State

From working through a challenge course to learning to build a waterproof shelter, Grade 6 students spent three fun-filled days in picturesque Rhode Island. The trip was a true bonding experience for the class.



### PHILADELPHIA FREEDOM

Grade 4 students saw history come alive when they visited Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell and other parts of historic Philly. The students are studying the Revolutionary War in social studies.



### STRONG START

On the first day of school, Grade 5 girls expressed their feeling of strength.

# Junior House

## Nine Hours in The Life of an Eighth Grader

**7:25AM** Dropped off at Stanwich East; shook hands at the door with Mrs. Cali; carried my laptop and book bag to Mr. Mandia's advisory; filled my locker with the books I had taken home the night before; went downstairs to see a friend, but ran into Mr. J. Rogers and remembered to ask him about the test the following week. Back to advisory then to science with Mr. Fletcher. Worked for the first time, independently, on a lab. Fun getting my hands dirty.

- Finished Spanish with Ms. Weyant; studying about Ecuador this week. Then to assembly and snack in the gym. Ms. Alper spoke to all of us about commitment, and we heard the scores from yesterday's games: a win and a loss — no surprises.

- Talked about themes in English class, getting ready for the essay on *Of Mice and Men*. I think I'm going with Lenny's commitment to George ... or his compassion.

- Worked on an essay with Mrs. Hendricks in writing, a defense of one of my "horoscope" characteristics. I know I've got to put more details into my writing.

- Sat at Ms. Galiani's table for lunch. Kicked a ball around during recess. (Mom not too pleased with the grass stains.)

- Next up was history. Another paragraph written, this week about the American Myth through the eyes of Thomas Cole's *The Oxbow*.

- In algebra Mr. Abbott assigned a quiz for tomorrow, but I know what's going on ... order of operations.

- Talked in advisory about the upcoming festival. My group will be doing face painting. Should be fun, especially for the IH and PH kids.

- No game today in sports, but plenty of wind sprints at the end of practice. Maybe next summer I'll work out a bit more to be ready.

**4:25PM** Picked up from the field.



### BLUE vs. WHITE

The year's first Blue vs. White activity was a rambunctious round of old-fashion dodge ball on the field at Stanwich East.



**WELCOME BACK**  
Students settled right into their routines during the first few days of school.

# Parent Association

## Dear Stanwich Community,



I hope everyone is settling into the new school year. There is a flurry of activities and events going on throughout our school.

It was wonderful seeing new faces in addition to our returning families at the Welcome Back Coffee. Thank you to everyone who signed up to volunteer at school events. The opportunity will arise again at the Pre-K, Kindergarten, and House Coffees. Volunteering is a great way to meet other families in your Stanwich community, spend time with friends, and support our school.

The Spirit Store sold \$2,400 in merchandise during the Welcome Back Coffee! Please check out the Spirit Store on the Stanwich School website. Ordering is easy, and in-stock items can be delivered to your child's classroom within a day or two. Check back regularly as new items will be added.

Class cocktail parties are throughout the month of October

and into mid November. These parties are a relaxing and fun time spent with your fellow class parents. Look for more information coming from your Grade Representatives.

Community Service is also in full swing. Grade 4 Loose Change Collection for World Vision, PH Bulb Planting, All-School Coat and Shoe Drive to benefit Neighbor to Neighbor, Grade 5 Bake Sale, and IH Bingo Bash are all occurring in October! Don't forget to save some of your Halloween candy at the end of the month for the PH Candy Wrap. The bags filled by our PH students, who also draw a picture or write a note, are donated to Kids in Crisis.

And, did you know we have a lot of sports events in October? Check out the athletics calendar on our school website. Cross country, football, boy's and girl's Soccer, and field hockey are all happening. There are plenty of games at nearby schools, so I am planning on taking my kids to see the Stanwich Cougars in action. Hope to see you there!

—Andrea Mitchelson, Parent Association President 2010-11

## Announcements from the PA

### This Fall, Be On The Look Out For Stanwich's Own Wine!



"Cuvée le Triskelion" is a limited production "tete cuvee," of Merlot and Cabernet Franc produced especially by the Aubert Family for Stanwich. The Auberts have been owners of Chateau la Couspaude in Bordeaux, and more precisely Saint Emilion, for over 200 years.

### TRANSPORTATION

It's not too late to catch the bus! Contact **Barrie Richmond** in the main office at 542-0017 for bus forms. Carpooling may be arranged with the help of your zone coordinator. Their contact information can be found in the Stanwich Directory or on our website under Today @ Stanwich.



## Stanwich Book Fair

SAVE THE DATE!

FAMILY DAY NOV. 14

CLASS VISIT DAY NOV. 15

expanded JH BOOK FAIR NOV. 8-11



to volunteer email [elliyum@optonline.net](mailto:elliyum@optonline.net)

### FALL BULB SALE!



Please support the Stanwich PA by ordering through the Fall Bulb Sale! Tulips, Daffodils, Allium, Hyacinths, Poppies and more! Beautiful Amaryllis and Paperwhites come with their own planters and are great gifts for the Holidays.

The Stanwich Parent Association receives 50% of sales.

Order forms and catalogs were sent home on September 20 and are due back at school **Friday, October 8.**

## Spirit Store & Family Photo Day

The Online Spirit Store is Open!  
Find the link at Today @ Stanwich

### Family Photo Days

This is an easy way to get your family photos for keepsakes or holiday cards. Family Photo Days are on Saturdays, Oct 9 (Rain Date Oct. 10) and Oct. 30 (Rain Date Oct 31).

Contact: Carol Zelenz at [cmzelenz@optonline.net](mailto:cmzelenz@optonline.net)

## UPCOMING ARTS & ENRICHMENT

We have an exciting Arts & Enrichment program this year. We brought some old favorites back like **Bubblemania** and are adding some additional stars like **Hobey Ford**, puppetry master.

### Upcoming Special Friday Assemblies

PH & IH	Oct. 1	<b>Mr. Fish Phenomenal Physics</b>
PH & IH & JH	Oct. 15	<b>Prismatics Laser</b>



Bubblemania



Mr. Fish

## \$ Where Does All The Money Go?

Parent Association funds are used for

- Faculty Appreciation Gifts
- Arts & Enrichment Program
- Parent Cocktail Parties
- Parents Together
- Community Service Events
- Charter Day Parent Party
- Field Day
- Celebration of Stanwich (Benefit)

## OCTOBER COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

October 1	PH Bulb Planting	PH
October 4 - 8	All-School Coat & Shoe Drive for Neighbor to Neighbor	All-School
October 6	IH Grade 5 Bake Sale for World Vision IH	
October 22	IH Bingo Bash for World Vision	IH



Pauline, age 9

### Highlighted Organization: World Vision

Through Hope Child (World Vision), Stanwich students in the IH sponsor two children who live in Rwanda. Our support provides them and their communities with things such as clean water, health care, nutritious food, shelter and education.



Louis, age 7



STANWICH  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

# LESS WASTE = MORE SAVING

Reduce waste to save time, money, and the environment. What could be better than that?

The focus of the Stanwich Environmental Committee this academic year will be to reduce waste throughout the school community. We will be working with the various Parent Association committees, as well as the administration, to uncover ways to operate in a more efficient, less wasteful way. We will look to use two sided copies, cancel unwanted catalogs mailed to school, and try to reduce or eliminate the amount of individual-sized water bottles the school purchases for events.

### GREEN SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

**The Intermediate House.** Waste from the paper cups at the water coolers throughout the school can be a challenge. A simple and effective solution has been adopted by the faculty and students of the IH. In many classrooms, students are asked to leave a reusable water bottle in the classroom. Throughout the day — during snack, lunch, after PE, the kids refill their bottle at the water cooler, eliminating the waste from the paper cups. **Great job, Intermediate House!**



**Home Challenge:** Consider how your family might more often use reusable water bottles. Perhaps paper cups or disposable water bottles could be replaced at sports practice each week.

If you have a waste-reducing idea for Stanwich, or if you know of a great practice we should put a spotlight on, please contact Kim Brush ([kim@arenagreen.net](mailto:kim@arenagreen.net)) or Eunice Burnett ([eunice.burnett@gmail.com](mailto:eunice.burnett@gmail.com)).

# Senior House



**Derek Krein**  
Head of Senior House

## Building the Senior House

It is an honor to be officially part of the Stanwich School family and to join with the entire community in building the Senior House, the remaining piece for Stanwich to be the only K-12 co-educational day school in Greenwich. As you know, we are in the high school business and eager to see not only our first graduating class in the spring of 2014, but for all of our students to earn a Stanwich School diploma before heading off to pursue undergraduate studies. To this end, I set out on three tasks upon my arrival in July.

First, I have been meeting with the parents and students of our current Grades 9 and 8 in order to learn more about their Stanwich experiences, their aspirations, and to share with them the vision of the Senior House they will be so instrumental in defining. Every family in the Stanwich community should have received our new Upper School (grades 7-12) Course Catalog which outlines our educational and curricular philosophy, detailing the programs and practices of the Senior House. If we have not had a chance to meet, please contact Barrie Richmond to set up a time that works for your schedule.

Second, the students graduating from the K to 9 schools in the Fairchester area will be important for our Senior House. I have been meeting with the Heads of School as well as the administrators responsible for secondary school advising to help them envision why and how Stanwich School will be a good match for many of their matriculating students.

And finally, I am reaching out to college and university admission offices to share with them the qualities, characteristics, and experiences of the Stanwich graduates who will join their communities. After spending the last decade immersed in curriculum development and college admission advising, I was confident the response would be favorable, and was it ever! The emphasis on rigor, values and character development, and creativity as the main tenets of our academic curriculum, when combined with the co-curricular expectations in community service, clubs, athletics, and the arts results in young men and women who are ready, willing, and able to “make God’s world a better place” – the types of people colleges welcome onto their campuses and into their communities. Our students will be equally prepared for college admission, college success, and a life of meaningful engagement.

## Colleges and Universities where Stanwich students matriculated:

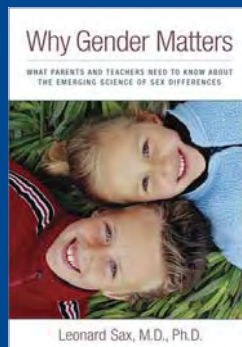
American University	New York University
Bard College	Northwestern University
Bates College	Norwalk Community College
Boston University	Penn State
Brigham Young University	Santa Clara University
Brown University	Sarah Lawrence College
Bryant	Skidmore
Bucknell University	Southern Methodist University
Clark-Atlanta University	Trinity College
Colgate University	Tulane University
College of Charleston	United States Coast Guard Academy
Elon University	University of Georgia
Franklin and Marshall College	University of Michigan
Furman University	University of Pennsylvania
George Washington University	University of San Diego
Hampton University	Washington and Lee University
Johns Hopkins University	Washington University in St. Louis
Kenyon College	Williams College
Middlebury College	Yale University

## Happenings

Please join us for this year’s “don’t miss” event

### Why Gender Matters

Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> • 6:30pm  
Main Campus



Come join author, PhD and MD, Dr. Leonard Sax to talk about his very successful book, *Why Gender Matters*.

Dr. Sax argues that our theories about gender’s fluidity may be wrong and to apply them to children in their formative years is quite dangerous.

Wine and cheese will be served first beginning at 6:30pm