



Claude Chester School

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June 2019

Dear Families and Friends of Claude Chester School,

What a sensational end of the year! Students experienced many enriching field trips to various places from the Hartford Science Center to the Mystic Seaport to the Garde Arts Theatre and many places in between. All of the trips helped to enhance our curriculum and make fantastic connections for students. Including the varied grade level field trips, every grade level had a trip to Coogan Farm where they experienced gardening, taking care of animals and enjoying a beautiful hike. Thank you to Emma Rotner, Foodcorps Americorps Representative, for helping to organize the trips. We also thank her for all that she has done for CC over the last two years!

In your child's Report Card, you will find information about Summer Reading and Math; information about the Meet and Greet in August; and a list of the Summer Food Service Programs. *Please note: For students going into Grades 1 through Grade 5, you will receive a letter late-August from your child's teacher welcoming them back to school. See also the flyer with the list of dates for back to school events.

The week of June 3 we had our annual end of the year *One School One Read*. This year the book that was revealed was The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore by William Joyce. Students enjoyed different activities that related to the book throughout the week and enjoyed the "short" video based upon the book. We hope you have enjoyed your family copy of this beautiful book.



Congratulations to Tracy Robillard as she was honored as the 2019 Teacher of the Year for CC! Congratulations to Jenna Seery as she was honored as the 2019 Non-Certified Staff of the year for CC, and congratulations to Bob Mercer who was honored as the 2019 Friends of Groton for CC! Also, congratulations to Emily and Haley Pope who were honored as CC's Military Volunteer award recipients at the Military/Superintendent's Liaison Committee Annual Military Breakfast!



As this is the last newsletter of the year, I want to express how proud I am of the perseverance our students demonstrated this year and how honored I am to continue as the principal of such an incredible group of professionals. I want to thank our supportive PTO for all that they do for our school and to congratulate our Grade 5 students as they move on to middle school. Lastly, I want to wish Mrs. Cassel and Ms. Lubs the best of luck! Mrs. Cassel will be moving out of state with her family, and Ms.

Lubs will be moving to WSM. CC will miss their passion and dedication as they both have been such an asset to the CC family and made an impact upon our students and school community at large. We also say goodbye to Mrs. Blais, Literacy Tutor, and Veronica Alleyne, SBHC Counselor. We thank them both for their support to CC!

I hope you have a tremendous, safe, fun summer! Please encourage your child to keep practicing math facts and to keep reading this summer! Jamie Giordano





Congratulations to the our PUPs!



March PUPS

PERSEVERE- Always trying the hardest, even when things might become challenging .

Levi Bencks Jahir Perez-Estronza
Junior Moone Jayden Johnson
Jeremiah Baig Adalie Gibson
Nalaney Moreno Analae Velez
Alexa Shell Tamariana Blackman
Hanna Harrington Aliah Martin
Scarla Estrella-Nunez
Analiyah Howard Jacoby O'Brien
Angelina Abraham
Leo Haro-Saavedra
Yanelkys Aguilar-Quinones



April PUPS

COOPERATION- Actively and consistently working well with others

Cecilia Negrón Jonay Moone
Muhammad Harris Twyon Martin
Peyton Beeney Jerome Wiley
Brayden LeClair Liam Santrock
Ayaan Afroz
Zane Lara Jariel Martinez
Danasia Knight Tulio Lemus
Zavier Franco Jeremiah Baig
Giselle Salgado Sinquis Drayton
Stefani Guzman Hernandez



May PUPS

Citizenship—Be a good neighbor, obey laws and rules, respect everyone, protect the environment

Braylin DeGroat Anabella Velasco
Kylah Morales Ezabela Periolan
Isabella Longo Imani Scott
Jordyn Barner Izzy Gervais
Isabella Morrisette
Anthony Harris Julianna Wyeth
Jahtee Whyte Vincent Spagnolo
Zachary Gibson Malachi Cadet
Zyasiah Henton Leilani Newman



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Wednesday, August 28, 2019— Meet and Greet 10:45-11:30

Thursday, August 29, 2019— First day of school for grades 1-5

Tuesday, September 3, 2019— First day for Kindergarten
PTO meeting at 5:00pm

Tuesday, September 10, 2019—Color Run (rain date 9/11/2019)

Friday, September 13, 2019—Summer reading logs are due

Tuesday, September 17, 2019—Early Dismissal at 1:00pm

Tuesday, September 24, 2019—Back to School Night (5:30pm-6:30pm)

News from the Integrated Preschool Classrooms

We are so excited that the weather has been beautiful and we have been able to get outside and enjoy our new playscape! Throughout the spring, we learned about weather, birds, plants, farms, and insects. We planted grass, observed insects, and read many great books. We will finish out the year exploring ocean life. The children have been excited to observe some real sea creatures up close!

We have had such a fun year learning and playing together! We hope everyone has a wonderful summer full of fun adventures!

Kindergarten

It has been such a wonderful year in kindergarten filled with learning and adventures. This spring we were able to go on many wonderful field trips including; the Science Center, Nature Center, Coogan Farm, Groton Public Library and Eastern Point Beach. It was really amazing getting to learn all about nature, our community and the world around us! We had such a fantastic time at the song share and hope you enjoyed it too! Math games are an easy way to continue to think about numbers this summer! Have your child count different food items. Adding them together or taking them away is a fun way to practice addition and subtraction skills. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year and we wish you a fun summer filled with reading, math games and sight word practice!

Enjoy!

1st Grade

We can not believe this year has come to a close. The time sped by! We want to share some ideas with you about how to help your child be ready for next school year.

Over the summer, please keep spending time reading with your child. It is so important to keep this practice going throughout the summer to build on their progress from first grade. The goal of reading is comprehending what we have read. We want to understand and share what we have read in our books. Discuss the books your child reads and have them retell you the story, tell you about the characters and what they are like or have changed during the story. If reading nonfiction texts, ask them to tell you what they have learned, what surprised them or how the author taught them about the topic.

Another great activity for the summer is playing addition and subtraction math games. These games can help your child solidify their memorization of math facts such as the doubles facts ($6+6=12$, $7+7=14$, etc.); doubles plus or minus 1 facts ($6+7=13$; $7+8=15$) and of course the ten partners facts ($0+10=10$, $1+9=10$, $2+8=10$, etc.) Knowing math facts within 20 will help your child in grade 2 math skills and concepts without giving them the extra work of having to solve each math fact using fingers or proof drawings. Look for every day opportunities in which problem solving using math can take place.

In first grade we spent a lot of time learning to write narrative, informational and opinion texts. Your child can keep their writing skills sharp by keeping a summer journal, writing letters or writing in response to reading they do with you. Capital letters and punctuation for sentences should be a focus and have them keep practicing their spelling of the grade 1 snap words.

It has been a pleasure teaching your children this year in first grade! They have been extremely hard workers, very curious learners and amazingly kind friends.

We wish them a happy summer and all the best in grade 2!

2nd Grade

Second Graders made great gains this year! We are so proud of the outstanding growth that students have made in all content areas!

During Readers' Workshop students collaborated in Book Clubs! In addition to reading their series books independently, they shared out their thoughts and opinions of the texts with classmates. They dug deeper into text, and identified patterns among characters from book to book within a series, and developed an understanding of character moods and motivations. Also, students completed several reading response activities to further their understanding of text.

In writing workshop, we became opinion writers! Students wrote letters to friends, family, teachers, and readers about their favorite books and explained why they enjoyed their book. Many students also formed opinions about their series characters and were able to support their opinions with text evidence.

Second Grade Mathematicians spent most of the spring learning all about place value! They learned that decomposing numbers can be used to add and subtract double digit numbers (i.e. $34+43=$ can be decomposed into $30+40$ and $4+3$), among using a variety of other strategies. To finish the year students will get an introduction to multiplication and learning about its relationship to addition.

To conclude the school year, students traveled to both Haley and Coogan Farms to learn a deep understanding of plants, insects, life cycles, etc. We were very lucky to learn from well-known community leaders that work diligently to provide healthy foods for those in need. We also visited the Groton Public Library to learn more about their wonderful summer reading programs!

The Second Grade Team is very proud of the accomplishments students have made this school year. As we near the end of the school year, we would like to thank all caregivers for their amazing support and we strongly encourage students to continue to read and practice math concepts over the summer months!

3rd Grade

In April the students completed a whole reading and writing unit called, Treasure Chest, to help prepare for the SBAC test in May. The students became quite comfortable with the reading and writing skills and strategies for the test! In Math, third graders worked on preparing for the math portion of the SBAC with review and practice of skills learned throughout the year. They also worked on “fine tuning” their multiplication and division strategies with all of the facts through 10.

In May we started our first of many field trips by going to Esker Point Beach and kayaked, combed the beach and did netting to discover many of the living things that live in the waters near Groton. We also visited Coogan Farm and the Groton Public Library. The students were enthusiastic and engaged throughout! The students did a wonderful job taking their first SBAC tests. They were calm and showed great stamina to complete all of the tests. We also started a new writing unit where students read fairy tales and then wrote their very own adaptations of them. They learned that by changing one or two key details of a familiar text allows you to write and write and write! In reading workshop, the students worked with a partner to research a country. They learned how to take notes, categorize them and complete a finished product to highlight their learning. During Math, the students made T-Shirt Factories and became accountants who were responsible for keeping the numbers for their factory balanced with three-digit addition and subtraction and multiplying large numbers by 10.

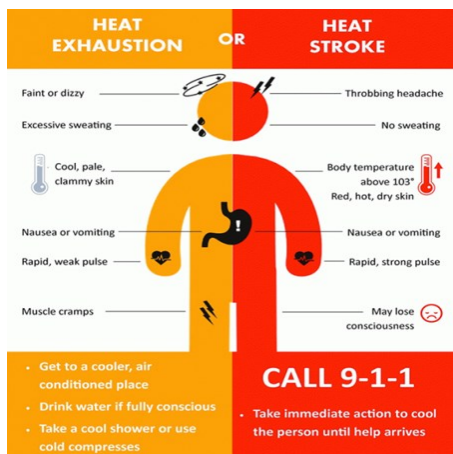
It's was a busy last month of school in Grade 3. We enjoyed our field trips to the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center and the Mystic Seaport. To end the year, we spent some time reviewing all of the skills we have learned in literacy and math, plus some extended knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We did a social studies unit on Connecticut history. We hope everyone has a nice and relaxing summer. Please read every day this summer!

4th Grade

We had such a great year in 4th grade with so much fun and learning! Remember that the Groton Public Library is a great place to cool off on a hot day or to seek shelter from a summer storm! Please encourage your child to read and fill out his or her reading log. Also, check out the summer math challenges and have your child keep track of the activities they complete. Both reading and math logs should be returned to school no later than September 13th! Have a safe and relaxing summer, and we will see you back at CC in August!

5th Grade

During our last trimester of the year math classes focused on understanding place value and operations with decimal numbers, identifying and classifying geometric shapes, and converting measurement units. In reading, students participated in book clubs discussing their fantasy-themed books. In Social Studies students have studied the Revolutionary War and its important figures and battles. Writing lessons included taking notes for and writing a research-based argument essay. Students also researched a person, place, or event related to the Revolutionary War, took notes, and created a slide show to share the information with classmates. Science classes just finished a unit on Living Systems which included food webs, as well as plant and animal systems that circulate nutrients to all parts of the organism. We hope you have a wonderful summer and keep reading! Remember to complete your summer reading assignment for Middle School.



Summer Tips:

- ~Stay Hydrated: Drink plenty of water throughout the day
- ~Avoid dehydrating liquids: Coffee, tea, caffeinated drinks
- ~Pace yourself: Work safely in the heat, don't overdo it!
- ~Wear lightweight clothing: Loose fitting, light colored clothing will help keeps your temperature down
- ~Use Sunscreen and wear a hat when out in the sun.
- ~Avoid direct sunlight

News from our Literacy team!

The students at Claude Chester have made incredible progress with their reading this year. Reading levels have increased, sight word banks have grown and new skills have been acquired. Ideally, everyone will return in September and jump right back into where they left off in June. However, it is VERY common for young children, especially struggling readers, to slip out of practice and regress over the summer. Try these strategies to help your reader maintain or even improve his or her reading during the summer:



- Encourage your child to read something every day. Take advantage of all of the print in your environment: newspapers, magazines, recipes, game directions, web sites, etc.
- Keep reading aloud to your child. Reading aloud will expose your child to higher level texts, build listening comprehension skills, increase vocabulary, deepen awareness about fluency and improve their overall reading skills.
- Make sure you know your child's **Independent** reading level at the end of the school year. This letter will help you to locate "just right" books.
- Take regular trips to the library. Ask the librarian for help selecting books that match your child's abilities.

This year, every student in grades K-5 will be given the first book in a graphic novel series that is appropriate for their grade level. Students who are able to attend our summer open library sessions at Claude Chester and at the Hess Building (Branford Apartments) will be given the next book in their series. Our goal is to build your home libraries and continue to foster your child's love of reading. Wishing you a great summer, full of rich literacy experiences!

News from the Art Room!

Claude Chester's annual Art Show was a beautiful success! Artwork that had been created all year transformed the hallways into a wonderful showcase for the artistic talent of our students. Thank you to all who attended. Have a great summer!

~Mrs. Kohary



News from the Media Center

Greetings from the Library Media Center!

What a great year in library! We read a variety of books, did fun research and used cool technology tools! Please be sure to complete your Summer Reading Log which will come home with your child in their report card and can also be found on the CC website. Please read, read, read this summer! The Groton Public Library has many amazing opportunity for fun and learning this summer; please take advantage of these awesome free programs and of course the books! The CC library will also be open for a story & craft from 10-11:30 on the following Wednesdays: July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7 & 14. Staff will also be at the HESS station at Branford Manor on the same Wednesdays. Hope to see you there! Have a great summer and happy reading!