

Weekly Calendar

May 29, 2008

Community Strings Concert

May 31, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm in the Theater

Grade 8 Promotion Night

June 2, 7:00-9:00 pm in the Theater
Ticket Holders Only

Grade Level Celebrations

June 3

Middle School Farewell Assembly

June 4, at 10:50-11:15 am in the Theater

Last Day of School

June 4, Students Dismissed at 11:30 am

8:00 to 8:40 a.m.
Middle School Town Meeting - Gym

8:45 - 8:55 a.m. Period A

9:00 - 9:10 a.m. Period B

9:15 - 9:25 a.m. Period C

9:30 - 9:40 a.m. Period D

9:40 - 9:50 a.m. Break

9:50 - 10:00 a.m. Period E

10:05 - 10:15 a.m. Period F

10:20 - 10:30 a.m. Period G

10:35 - 10:45 a.m. Period H

10:50 - 11:15 a.m.
Middle School Assembly - Theater

11:20-11:30
Advisory Meetings (Report Card Distribution)

Dear Parents,

This past week our students and teachers continued to put closure to the fourth quarter of academic coursework. On Sunday, the World Languages department presented a Sustainability Fair that was put together by the K-12 teachers and students who study French, Spanish and Arabic at CAC. This was a very successful event, and we wish to thank all the students and parents who participated and helped make this a wonderful event for the CAC community. Special thanks go to the Head of the World Languages department, Mr. Adel El Daba for his leadership and hard work in making this first fair a reality. There was a wonderful music concert in the theater on Monday night and the drama classes put on some very sophisticated and entertaining acting pieces after school on Tuesday and Wednesday. Our service-learning students also made their final trip to the Awladi Orphanage to celebrate another year of working together. The students were involved in a variety of projects ranging from outdoor activities, arts and crafts for five year olds and fun activities for the youngest children. We also had a sneak preview of the yearbook that covers the activities and individual personalities that make up the Middle School. It is a wonderful production and we are grateful to Mr. Bowie and the yearbook class for making it possible. There is still a chance to buy a copy and you won't be disappointed.

In terms of educational continuity - work on the shortened track started this week, behind the fence, and it will be interesting to watch the developments in the final week as the major building contractor for the Elementary School arrives on the construction site to prepare for the excavation work.

This weekend the Middle School faculty will begin to write the final set of grades and comments for all the students in their respective classes. These grade reports will be distributed on June 4, as long as students have returned all their library books, textbooks and combination locks. Special grade level activities will take place on June 3 after formal classes finish on Monday.

We have had the honor this year to work with a committed and dedicated Middle School faculty. It has been a positive and productive year in the CAC Middle School because of the professional efforts of the faculty and support staff. They have created opportunities for our students to study, develop their skills, serve others and explore areas of learning that were new and different. Our students have embraced those opportunities and we feel proud to be part of this learning community. We hope in the days ahead you will take time to thank all those teachers who have inspired, helped and supported your children this year at CAC.

This coming Monday night we will honor the Grade 8 students who are ready to transition to a High School program next year. It is a time for celebration. At the same time these final days of the academic year mark a time of transition for students, parents and teachers who will be leaving CAC for new challenges and opportunities. We will work hard in the days ahead to reflect, celebrate and thank all of the people who have made the 2007-08 school year special. We look forward to seeing you on campus in the days ahead as we put closure to another year of learning and personal growth in the Middle School. Have a good weekend.

Sincerely,

Michael Popinchalk

Principal

mpopinchalk@cacegypt.org

Mark Anderson

Assistant Principal

manderson@cacegypt.org

Schedule at a Glance

Sunday, 1	3B
Monday, 2	4F
Tuesday, 3	Class Activities
Wednesday, 4	Special Schedule
Thursday, 5	No Classes



Notice to the CAC Community

As you may be aware, Monica Greeley has announced that she will leave CAC after the 2008-09 school year.

To address CAC's future leadership needs, an Ad Hoc Superintendent Search Committee has been formed with the following representative membership:

- Cindy Clarke – Search Committee Chair
- Dolores Brown – Board Member
- Bob Givich – Board Member
- Melanie Nelson – Board Member
- Seamus Marriott – CAC Administration
- Penny Riley – CAC Faculty
- Nagwa Farid – CAC Support Staff
- Bill Thomas – CAC Parent
- Viveka Kumari – CAC Parent

It is the Board's intention to keep the community in the loop throughout the search process. Search news updates will be communicated through divisional newsletters.

Regards,
Cindy Clarke
Search Committee Chair

Middle School CAT Team Members for 2008-09

The CAT Team's purpose is to provide the Principal with insight and counsel on current and long-range issues that support a shared vision for the Middle School community. The Middle School CAT Team is made up of parent representatives from each grade level. The group meets once a month. We are pleased to announce the following parent representatives for 2008-09.

Grade 6: Vivecka Kumari and Zeina Darouni

Grade 7: Hemmat Maguire and Maja Williamson

Grade 8: Jeff Harding and Danya Amin

Middle School Activities

Grade 8 Promotion Night

Please remember that the Grade 8 Promotion Night is on June 2, at 7:00 pm in the theater. Due to theater capacity, each Grade 8 student received only two tickets, but students may request ONE extra. Tickets were sent home on Tuesday, May 27. Students are requested to dress for this formal occasion while respecting the school's dress code. Boys should wear long dress pants, a shirt and tie if available or a suit if he has one. Girls are requested to wear a nice dress or outfit. Girls who have purchased a dress with spaghetti straps are requested to wear a shawl. **There should be no sports shoes, shorts or jeans at this formal event.**

Student Council News

The Student Council has had a very, very successful year raising money for charitable giving. A total of LE 13,275.25 was collected through the various activities. The Farewell Social and the candy sale netted LE 2,040, and those funds will go to the people in Mynamar as they recover from Cyclone Nagis. The bulk of the money for the rest of the year's efforts, totaling 11,235.25 LE, will go to Abou El Reesh Children's Hospital, an open-heart surgery hospital that provides surgeries and services for children who cannot afford them. The Student Council wishes to thank everyone who has supported the activities during the year.

Summer Work for Middle School Students Returning to CAC

To the parents of future Ninth Graders:

A mandatory summer reading list for Grade 9 has been prepared by the High School English department. Please make an informed choice and read at least one of these titles before the first day of school (August 12) and be prepared to discuss and write about your reading.

ENGLISH 9

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Mark Haddon

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian

Sherman Alexie

The Color of Magic

Terry Pratchett

Speak

Laurie Halse Anderson

To the parents of current Sixth Graders:

The Sixth Grade teachers have put together a booklet for students to take home this summer. The booklet includes: a review of the math we have covered this year, websites that have fun math and science activities, science puzzles, and great reading books for the summer, as well as a list of four books, one of which the students **MUST** read over the summer for Seventh Grade.

To the parents of current Seventh Graders:

The Seventh Grade math teachers have prepared a similar review packet for math students to review and keep their skills sharp. This will be available at the CAC website, under Middle School then click on the link for classes and projects. There will be a link labeled, "7th grade math summer work"

Please help your student review over the summer!

Parental Reminders

End-of-Year Obligations Procedure for Students

To ensure that Middle School students complete all of their end-of-year obligations, we are asking that parents remind their children that they must return all CAC textbooks and library books before the end of the school year. Any lost books must be paid for before they can receive their fourth quarter report or for departing students - their transcripts. Thank you for your understanding and support to help students meet their end-of-year responsibilities. Please note - returning students who have outstanding matters will not be allowed to start classes in any division of CAC next August, so please address these matters before you start your summer holiday.

From The CAC Health Office

It is the end of the year, and we are all looking forward to summer. All new students at CAC and all returning students entering Grades 7 and 9 need to have a physical completed by a physician for the next school year. The forms will be sent home with your student, or you can access the form on the website under Health and Safety. Please be sure the form is fully completed and return to the Health Office no later than September 1. Routine physical checks ensure your children are healthy, growing well, and able to learn and participate fully at school and on all field trips. Have a great summer!! Mary, Claire, Elaine, and Naglaa in the Health Office

CAC Events Calendar 2008-09

Next year's calendar of events is now online! You can access the calendar from the CAC webpage by clicking on the *Events Calendar* link in the menu on the left side of the screen. This link will take you directly to the condensed version of our calendar which highlights the important punctuation marks in the school year - Parent Teacher Conference Days, Early Release Days, and of course, the Holidays. From this page there is also a link that will take you to the detailed monthly calendar of events. This is an interactive document that allows you to filter events and customize the calendar view to meet your personal planning needs.

Happy Surfing, and an early welcome to the 2008/2009 school year.

Moving on from CAC?

In order to help CAC plan for the school year 2008/2009, please inform the Registrar's Office if your student(s) will be withdrawing from CAC at or before the end of the current school year. Please do so by calling 755-5507/08 or e-mailing: withdrawal@cacegypt.org

Lost and Found

Parents, we are urging you to check the lost and found in the room beside the ID office. There are many clothing items, prescription glasses, lunch bags/water bottles, football club sweaters, gym bags - it is all here! The final day to check the lost and found at CAC is June 2, after Monday, all items will be packed and sent to local orphanages.

Community Announcements

After-School Strings and Orchestra Concert

Everyone is invited to the annual end of the year concert performed by the CAC After-school Strings Program Students, as well as the Beginning Orchestra conducted by Jenny Jeong, the Intermediate Orchestra conducted by Vladimir Shim, and the Community Orchestra conducted by Will Pattie. Please join us for an afternoon of beautiful strings music performed by these young musicians and community members on Saturday, May 31 at 2:00 pm in the CAC Theater. As always, there will be a festive reception afterward.

CAC LIBRARY

Summer Borrowing (5 days)

Saturday, May 31 to Wednesday, June 4

On this Saturday only Summer Registration and check-out services will be available.

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE SUMMER

Library book-drop boxes will be available starting Wednesday, August 6

School and Community hours will resume on the first day of school, Tuesday, August 12

Summer Reading - An Important Activity

Summer holiday is a great time to read – on the beach, in a hammock on grandma's porch, or in a local library – the holiday is tailor made for reading.

Research shows that regular and sustained reading is the single most powerful influence on kids' academic success. Kids learn vocabulary, cognitive structure, and background information about the world. Simply put, kids who read more get smarter.

Some children read books the way others eat peanuts – one right after the other. All a parent need do is make sure they have a ready and steady supply of books. Other kids need more support for their reading. Here are some ways parents can support reading – especially during the summer.

Model reading at home. Read yourself and be sure your kids see you reading – especially Dads. Occasionally read one of your kid's books and talk about it. Read aloud to your kids. Jim Trelease, the read-aloud guru, recommends that families read together forever.

Visit libraries and bookstores during the summer. Make sure kids have books and other reading material available. Magazines, comic books, and graphic novels all develop skill and fluency. It's not just the classics that make you a better reader.

The CAC library supports summer reading by allowing patrons to check out up to 25 items for the summer. To qualify for borrowing, please fill out a registration form available at the library desk beginning on May 15. Books for the summer may be checked out from Saturday, May 31 until noon on June 4.

Many parents and kids are interested in suggestions for summer reading. The American Library Association publishes a variety of excellent reading lists for Children and Young Adults. Use the links below for reading suggestions.

Notable Books from ALSA, The Association for Library Services to Children. The list is divided into sections for young readers, middle readers, older readers, and all ages. Each title has a brief annotation and lists are posted from previous years.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/childrensnotable/notablebooklist/currentnotable.cfm>

Best Books For Young Adults from YALSA, The Young Adult Library Services Association. These are great titles for teen readers. At the same site are links to Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers and Outstanding Books For the College Bound, as well as other recommended lists.

THREE CHEERS

Three Cheers to Omar Mousharafa for finding a mobile phone and returned to its owner.

Three Cheers to Kayla Matkowski for finding money and returning it to the office.

Three Cheers for the Student Council and Ms. Peterson - your activities were fun - your actions helped others!

Three Cheers for all those Middle School students who performed in the concert for Middle School Bands, Strings Group and Jazz Band!

Three Cheers to all the drama students involved with presentations this week after school!

Three Cheers for Grade 8!



Helping your young adolescent find a great summer read

When children first learn to read, they want books that immediately catch their attention—a splash of color on the cover or pictures that draw them in. As they get older, children begin to question their world—how and why things happen. Young adolescents become curious, wanting to read for fun but also to discover the new, the interesting, and the exciting. Look for these elements in books for young adolescents:

- Revolve around a few well-defined characters, not legions of characters who are difficult to follow. One sign of a really good book is that characters are fully drawn and readers are pulled to them as real people.
- The main characters are your child's age or a bit older. Of course, young adolescents are interested in seeing and hearing about others their age. Such books should be relevant to your child's life.
- Have a straightforward plot and use realistic language. Reluctant readers in particular don't want too many plot twists; they want to be able to follow the story. And nothing turns off young adolescents more than language that is stilted or inappropriate.

Parents who follow these tips will have a better chance of suggesting a book that their young adolescents will connect with and take pleasure in. Although adhering to these suggestions may take a little time and effort, the end result will be worth it. When summer hits, take your young adolescent to a library, bookstore, or browse online booklists and Web sites to find several books to start your son or daughter off on the right reading foot.

From: www.nmsa.org, The Family Connection, April 2008: Thanks to Lisa Katz for writing this Tips article. Lisa is a literacy specialist at Sutherland Middle School in Charlottesville, VA, where she lives with her husband, Adam, and their two children, Jordan and Avery.

Ms. Jo Jean Schulte A-K

Mr. Patrick Kimerer L-Z