

Sturgis Charter Public School



An International Baccalaureate Diploma School

Executive Director's Newsletter

November 12, 2010

Dear Parents,

We provide parents with this Newsletter as a means of helping you become better informed about events and activities at Sturgis. We hope that this type of communication is helpful. Communication, of course, is a two-way street. Please do not hesitate in calling us with a question.

First Enrollment Period for 2011-12: The first enrollment period for current grade 8 & 9 students applying for admission to Sturgis for grades 9 & 10 for the 2011-12 school year is from December 1 to January 7, 2011. Students who are interested in attending Sturgis for 2011-12 should apply during this first enrollment period in order to have the best possibility for admission. Students who are already on our waiting lists for the current grade 9 will roll over for 2011-12 to their same places on the grade 10 waiting list for 2011-12. The new applicants for grade 10 will be added to the end of current grade 9 waiting list during the lottery on January 14, 2011.

IB News: November 15th marks the end of the registration period for the May 2011 exams. As Sturgis continues to add more students and more academic classes, the number of registrations continues to climb as well. We currently have 53 seniors, 59% of the class, signed up for the full IB Diploma. Last year we had 45 attempt the full diploma. We also have 27 juniors sitting an IB exam this year. With 113 students registered, Sturgis will have more students sitting IB exams this year than ever before in the history of the school. Full IB Diploma students are working to complete the next draft of their Extended Essay by the end of the month. Some current titles include:

*History: To what extent did "Papa Doc" Duvalier's use of Voodoo aid in consolidating economic, political, and social power within the years of 1955-1965 in Haiti?

*English: To what extent do the Japanese and English variations of literary modernism, as portrayed in the two selected works, share common techniques, ideas and motivations?

*Biology: What factors affect the stacking behavior in the common slipper shell, *Crepidula fornicata*?

C.A.S. Progress Reports Now Online: In an effort to reduce paper costs and save trees, the Sturgis C.A.S. office now provides C.A.S. progress reports online. Parents can register for a free account so they can access their student's report online via the ManageBac system used here at the school. You can sign up for access at jhyer.com. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the C.A.S. Coordinator, Jeff Hyer at jhyer@sturgischarterschool.org.

S.T.A.G.E.: (Sturgis Theatre Arts Guild of Entertainers) is performing the intense and evocative play, *The Remarkable Incident* at Carson Corners at The Cotuit Center for the Arts on Thursday and Friday evenings, December 16th and 17th at 7:00 PM. Price is \$10.00 or \$5.00 for seniors and students. Children under 8 are free! The show features a cast and crew of over thirty Sturgis students of all grades. Please come and support the great talent we have!!

IB Theater: Mrs. Yalden and Mrs. Botsford's IB Theatre classes had the chance to go to the New Repertory Theatre in Watertown last Thursday to see the play "Cherry Docs" by David Gow. The play focuses on Danny, a Jewish lawyer, who has been assigned to defend Mike, a racist skinhead who has committed a horrible hate crime that resulted in the death of his victim. The play begins by exploring the roots of hatred and ethnocentricity and ends as a social commentary on tolerance and forgiveness. This was a valuable viewing experience for the students as they will be able to reflect upon the play and their thoughts about it while making connections in their IB Theatre journals to other performances they have been a part of or seen.

Advisory Activities: Singer Advisory will be doing a holiday gift program, by offering items for purchase by Sturgis students, parents, or staff. The items were made by survivors of modern slavery, who have been given opportunities to make handcrafts, rather than returning to brothels or inhumane factory situations. Check out the web site at: <http://www.madebysurvivors.com> to find out more. Students will be educating the Sturgis community and handling the sales. This project is part of our implementation of the I.B. Learner Profile, in particular the component on "Caring".

Sojourners Club: The members of the Sojourners Club were able to shop for and send off ten shoe boxes full of toys, school supplies, and personal care items to Operation Christmas Child. These boxes go to children that would not receive gifts otherwise.

Girls Soccer Team Sportsmanship Award: The Cape Cod Soccer Officials have selected our Sturgis girls soccer team as the recipients of this year's sportsmanship award. Coaches Steve Austin and Tim Barr, along with Jim Barrasso and Patrick O'Kane will be attending an awards ceremony on Nov. 20th.

Yearbook: Senior pictures are due to the yearbook staff by the beginning of Thanksgiving Break (11/23/10). They may be in digital form (at least 300 dpi, in jpg format) or submitted as a 4x6 hard copy. Digital images should be sent to asbankerjohnson@gmail.com. Hard copies can be mailed to the school c/o Yearbook.

Some other heads-up reminders for Yearbook: We'll be collecting baby pictures (same specifications as Senior pictures), with the goal to have those in by winter break.

Yearbook Recognition Ads are on sale now! They allow you to create a lasting message and memory for your Senior student which will be published in the 2010-2011 yearbook. Order forms were sent out with report cards.

Yearbooks on sale now! A quick and easy option is to go to jostensyearbooks.com to place your order. You may also mail in your \$40 check to the school c/o Yearbook. Order by January 31, 2011. Price will increase, and availability is not guaranteed after this date.

Cape Cod Wildlife Center Fundraiser: Wake up with Sturgis Storm Blend Coffee! A fund raiser to benefit the Cape Cod Wildlife Center will offer our own bold roast coffee for sale - just in time to include a bag for holiday gift giving. Add a Sturgis coffee mug or two and you'll have a perfect gift for the coffee drinkers in your family, workplace, book club,....And, to make gift giving a snap students will offer gift wrapping of your coffee and mugs for a small additional fee. Watch your email for order forms which will be sent via SchoolReach. Print the forms and fill out with your selections. Return along with cash or check made out to Sturgis Charter School no later than the deadline date of November 29th. Order forms will also be available during Parent - Teacher conference day. Just follow your nose to the table of students who will be serving freshly brewed hot coffee samples. Orders will be ready for pick up at Sturgis by Thursday, December 16th after lunch.

If you would like further information about any of the events or activities described above, please call the Sturgis school office.

Eric Hieser
Executive Director