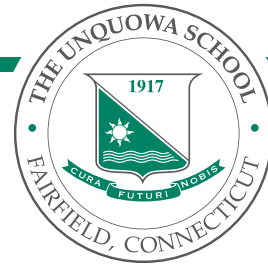


About U.S.



A Publishing Tradition
of The Unquowa School

A Message from the Head of School

Some would argue that summer vacation is simply a vestige of an agrarian time when farm children needed the summer off to serve as labor on their family farms. With that in mind, some schools have moved to a year-round calendar with many small breaks, arguing that children forget what they've learned if their school breaks are too long. That is perhaps true in a school world which is based on the acquisition of isolated knowledge and skills. In a school environment which is based on critical thinking, creativity and meaningful collaboration from early childhood on, the knowledge and skills taught during the school year are not lost in the summer hiatus; they are in fact reinforced by the contrasting rhythms and activities that the world of summer offers.

Light and dark. Salt and sweet. Winter and summer. Learning to recognize and enjoy the inevitable contrasts of life allows us to appreciate them more. Helping children to recognize and appreciate these opposing elements is part of what develops their ability to craft meaningful lives and to savor the contrasts that life brings. Who is not entranced by the first snow storm after a hot summer and a fall filled with overgrown gardens and piles of dead leaves? Winter is not only a sensory delight, it is also a relief from the responsibility that accompanies the beauty of summer. Winter means growth stops and so does the need to manage it. Shorter, colder days provide a forced opportunity for reflecting and planning and resting. Of course, by February, snow is no longer a novelty, short days are no longer respites and human souls once again yearn for warmer weather, longer days and the sight of a single crocus.

Summer vacation should be the yin to the school year's yang, where a child can pick up a book one afternoon and read it non-stop until it is finished six days later. Or perhaps it means building a Lego village on the porch or a fort in the woods with neighborhood

friends and no deadline in sight. The commands of "Time to go, time to move on, see you next week" are replaced by kids' inner voices which say either, "I can't wait to wake up and start the next chapter," or "I think that this village is done. Let's rip it apart and make a space station!"

Summer can also offer children the chance to focus on a single passion, which is an equally important experience. As much

as we try to craft learning during the school year so that students have the chance to pick topics of investigation and follow their interests, the fact remains that the world of school includes many disciplines. Summer offers kids the chance to dig deep into something they love. A week of nothing but honing basketball or lacrosse skills, three weeks of learning the power of computer programming, six weeks of mounting shows at musical theatre camp – all are intense opportunities that build authentic confidence and offer pure personal joy.

Perhaps one of the most under-rated contrasts of summer but perhaps the most important test of self-reliance for children is the chance to experience boredom and find one's way out of it. As much as we try to prevent it, kids spend their school year rushed by adults from one thing to the next. Summer's contrast of relaxing to the point of shouting, "I'm so bored" and hearing an adult say, "I *know* you can find something to do," can actually offer kids the opportunity to develop self-direction and satisfaction.

And then, without notice, the day will arrive this summer when long, lazy days are no longer enchanting, and when the yearning to scout for school supplies and organize notebooks will seize even the most lackadaisical child. School life will beckon and we will all welcome the yang to summer's yin. See you then!

Sharon Lauer, Head of School



Trimester III Honor Roll

Unquowa Honors

(no grade below A and no effort grade below 3)

Grade 5

Sara Adriani
Devin Blanchette
Eoin Fitzsimons
Elizabeth Halas
Olivia Seymour

Grade 6

Sydney Blanco
Michael Brennan
Ian Chapin
Grace Haviland
Tristan Murray
Evangelina Scianna

Grade 7

Keelin Fitzsimons
Daniel Leszczynski
Sassine Makhraz

Grade 8

Alexander Burdo
Gemma Lein-McDonough
Deborah Leszczynski

Honors

(B+ average with no grade below B and no effort below 3)

Grade 5

Claire Abate
Elysse Cadoux
Conner Calzone
Barrett DeYoung
Owen Gosule
Derek Grabe
Kyra Inston
Maria Katsetos
Maeve Kelly
Ayana Klein
Kailey Lauter
Alexander Morse
Delaney Murray
Marissa Proto
Madelaine Register
Jackson Stalowir
Alexander Stein
Jae Stuhlman

Grade 7

Olivia Albenze
Rachael Anzalone
Jessica Anzalone
Justin Blanchette
Mark D'Ostilio
Cary DeYoung
Hannah Kehoe
Patrick Tennant

Grade 8

Kathryn Adriani
Elizabeth Arnold
Jennee Blanco
Vikram Chaudhuri
Sydney Girasole
Jennifer Godfrey
Danielle Greenawalt
Katherine Halas
Tatum Hughes
Elizabeth Kremer
Jack Rider
Paul Stumpf
Claire Tetenbaum
Abigail Winter

Grade 6

Victoria Giacobbe
Abigail Knopf
Jace McKenzie
Brandon Omisore
Katherine Phelan
Paul Pinto
Michael Roland
James Roland
Rebecca Ryan
Annie Lyn Sheketoff
Spencer Solaz
Lily Stumpf

New York City Museum Field Experience

The sixth and seventh grades went to New York City in May to visit both the Museo Del Barrio where they learned about the art of Uruguayan conceptual artist Luis Camnitzer and the Museum of Natural History where they experienced BRAIN – The Inside Story, a hands-on, “kid friendly,” interactive exhibit on the wonders of the brain.

For the Spanish exhibit, students had been prepared with simple language structure to express their opinions of the art and answer questions in Spanish. Camnitzer’s style of art uses simple everyday objects to create installations that are both provocative and whimsical.



Camnitzer intertwined Spanish and English and students were able to engage in the docent’s activities. At this exhibit, students gained a new perspective and affinity for Latino art.

At the BRAIN Exhibition students explored how neurons communicate; how the brain processes sensory information, emotions, and behaviors; how the brain evolved in vertebrates; and what makes each human brain unique. Students had fun participating in hands-on activities through brain imaging technology. The exhibit uses objects, models, games, interactive imaging, videos and more to explore how the most complex organ in the body works. Topics such as Your Sensing Brain, Your Emotional Brain, Your Thinking Brain, Your Changing Brain and Your 21st Century Brain allowed students to come away with an appreciation of how the brain learns and what happens to different areas of the brain while they are doing art, math, music and language. It was a great day of learning and exploring.

JoAnn Sabatini, Learning Specialist

Unquowa's "Field of Dreams" Breaks Ground this Summer

Thanks to the tremendous early support of a growing number of Unquowa families, alumni and our UPA, The Campaign for Unquowa has gained enough momentum to begin the first phase of campus improvement projects this summer. We will be replacing the roof and renovating the playing field, as well as marking significant growth in the school's endowment goal.



As work on our playing field moves along in July and August, we will post photos on the school's website so that you can follow its transformation. Feel free to stop by to watch the field in progress and join us for our first home game in the fall!

Joan Panagos, Campaign Chair

Learn more and keep up to date at www.unquowa.org/the-campaign



Unquowa is Part of Innovative Collaboration Funded by EE Ford Educational Grant

The Unquowa School, in collaboration with three other leading progressive schools, plans to create a visionary teacher education program that aims to change the landscape of how teachers prepare for their profession. A **\$250,000 Education Leadership Grant** from the Edward E. Ford Foundation to The Cambridge School of Weston, along with matching funds raised by all partner schools, will help the collaboration launch the Progressive Education Lab (PEL), a two-year teaching fellowship that places aspiring teachers in schools from the get-go and provides a dynamic, experience-based training not typically found at traditional university-based education programs.

Leaders from the four schools – The Cambridge School of Weston in Massachusetts, The Putney School in Vermont, The Calhoun School in New York City, and Unquowa – will begin planning the program immediately, and PEL is expected to begin accepting applications from candidates who will enter the program in September 2012.

This unique collaboration brings together four very different schools; two city-based, two rurally-based; and upper and elementary school divisions. Each school will provide PEL teaching fellows with exposure to certain kinds of learning and teaching. For example, they may learn about integrated studies at CSW, project-based learning at Putney, the city as school at Calhoun, or museum collaboration at Unquowa.

As the grant team explained in its application, the Progressive Education Lab is premised on the schools' shared belief that "progressive schools offer the ideal environments in which to train skillful teachers. These communities demand both deep subject-matter knowledge and creative child-centered and inquiry-based pedagogy. They also require an enduring understanding of how children learn and grow, the ability to connect school to the community, and stamina."

The Unquowa School is proud to be contributing to this effort to create a strong cohort of future progressive independent school teachers. For more information, visit www.eeford.org and go to the 2011 Educational Leadership Grant to the Cambridge School of Weston.

Sharon Lauer, Head of School

Museum Collaboration Updates

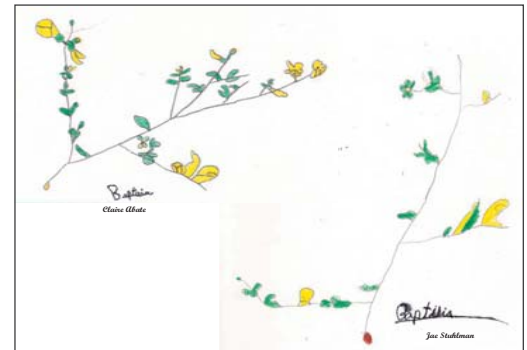
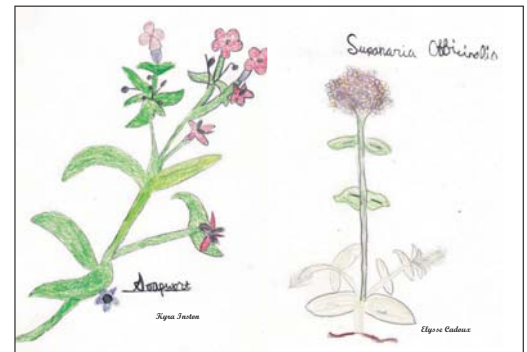
Fairfield Museum and History Center

Have you ever wondered what life was like in Fairfield 250 years ago? Fifth graders have been researching and learning about the Ogden family who lived in Fairfield during its colonial period, and in partnership with the Fairfield Museum and History Center, Unquowa students helped develop a docent program for The Ogden House. The students culminated their weeks of preparation as docents by leading a tour for the fourth grade. During the tour through the house, the docents shared what they had learned about colonial life and connected it to the life of the Ogden family. They then led the fourth grade through a tour of the colonial herb garden they had worked hard



to help restore over the preceding months. Through their Language Arts curriculum, the fifth grade studied and prepared an herb book highlighting the various herbs found at The Ogden House. The new docents did a fantastic job and impressed members of the Fairfield Museum and History Center who were on hand to join their tour.

Lloyd Mitchell,
Fifth Grade Social Studies Teacher



*Sample pages from Fifth Grade's
Herb Encyclopedia*

The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum

The first grade completed their four-part workshop series with The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum with a study on visualizing sound. Suzanne Ryan, Aldrich Museum Educator, joined the class to talk about the movement of sound and how it can be pictured. The students listened to various sounds and guessed what was actually making them. They collected sounds throughout the classroom and drew pictures of what they thought the sounds "looked like". Students also recorded a sound symphony made using film canisters filled with various items such as marshmallows, rocks, rice, beads, and bells.

Maureen Becker, First Grade Teacher

The CT Audubon Society Center at Fairfield



PreK-4 students enjoyed their recent visit from Miss Carol of the Audubon Society. The students learned all about creepy, crawly critters in class over the previous weeks, and Miss Carol brought in some critters that they would not see around Unquowa — and we wouldn't want to! They all got to touch the hissing cockroach and the giant millipede and enjoyed learning about their exoskeletons. However, no one was too disappointed to learn that it was best not to try to pet the tarantula!

Outside, students tried walking like a millipede and learned that 24 legs are easier to manage than 200. After digging under the rotting leaves and rolling over logs, they found 10 different types of bugs. Among them was a beautiful salamander with her eggs and a much, much smaller centipede. After looking carefully at all their finds, students made sure to carefully place all of the bugs back where they came from and carefully rolled the logs back in place. It is always important to leave nature the way that we find it.

Mary Curran, Environmental Science

Pen & Paper

Read the Summer 2011 issue of *Pen & Paper*, Unquowa's creative arts magazine, on our website — artwork, photography, poetry, and short stories created by the talented Upper School students under the supervision of Michelle Lamb, our English teacher.

Find it in the "Around Campus" section of the school's website bulletin board. Happy reading!



Poetry Around the School

Unquowa places 1st and 3rd in Poetry Recitation Contest

Five Unquowa students represented the school in April at the 29th Connecticut Council of Language Teachers Poetry Recitation Contest for World Languages held in Burlington, Connecticut. Under the preparation of Upper School World Language educator, Desirée Galassi, the following students competed in their language of choice: Alexander Burdo (8th grade, Italian), Sydney Girasole (8th grade, Italian), Tatum Hughes (8th grade, Spanish), Elizabeth Kremer (8th Grade, Spanish), and Sassine Makhraz (7th grade, Arabic). Students met with Sra. Galassi to prepare and work on intonation and pronunciation, as well as comprehension. Approximately 750 students from across the state of Connecticut competed to earn places of distinction and recognition.

Sydney Girasole and Alexander Burdo placed 1st and 3rd respectively in the category of *Italian Native Middle School*. All five students received certificates of recognition and are proudly the first students to compete from The Unquowa School.

Desirée Galassi, Spanish Teacher



Fifth Grade Poetry Reading

Poets use many techniques to create just the right feeling, mood and sounds. While learning about poetry, the fifth grade students' creative thought process was nurtured and expressed. The goal of this process was to open up the world of poetry to the students beyond the elements of rhyme alone and to simply explore the lyrical quality of prose. Throughout the month of May, fifth grade students learned about some of these techniques and different forms of poetry. Some of these forms included giving poems, inside-out poems, sneaky poems, and "I wish" poems, all in free verse. The culmination of this unit was each student presenting two or more original poems at a formal reading at Barnes and Noble in Westport in May. Guests were extremely impressed with the ideas and emotions expressed so articulately and in such an imaginative way by our students.

Mary Faulkner & Holly Tortora, Fifth Grade Teachers



**Do you know the
travel destinations of
the first five recipients
of the Virginia Birdsall
Faculty Award?**

Answer on page 11

Math Olympiads

Our fifth and sixth graders participated in Unquowa's sixteenth year in the Mathematical Olympiads for Elementary Schools. Sixteen students earned Olympiad patches for scoring 10 or more points out of a possible 25.



Five students, Conner Calzone, Ian Chapin, Grace Haviland, Katie Phelan and Spencer Solaz, received silver pins for their scores of 17 or more, which placed them in the top 10% of all participants. Conner Calzone, Elizabeth Halas and Ayana Klein received trophies for the highest scores in fifth grade and Katie Phelan received the trophy for sixth grade.

Lisa Haseltine, Math Teacher

Closing Ceremonies Have New Twist

This year, during the months leading up to Closing Ceremonies the faculty and staff collaborated to write a personal recognition for each graduate. The reading of these moving tributes by the faculty gave every member of the Unquowa community the opportunity to celebrate and recognize each of the eighth graders for their personal accomplishments.

Sharon Lauer and Chef Peter also recognized and thanked Unquowa's first Resident Chef, Lauren Issaeff. Lauren's contributions to the school, in the kitchen as a chef, on the court as a coach and in our broader community as a role model for our students, were deeply appreciated.

The 2011 Virginia Birdsell Faculty Award is awarded each year to a member of the faculty to pursue summer projects that go beyond the realm of expected summer work. This year's recipient was announced at Closing Ceremonies — Technology Coordinator, Lloyd Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell will be attending Carnegie Mellon's Robotics Academy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this summer. He is looking forward to enriching the ever-growing robotics curriculum here at Unquowa.

Three special announcements were made during the ceremony. The Unquowa "Gator Aid" team, which raised money for cancer research through Relay for Life, announced that this year they raised \$5,200, placing them 10th out of 200 teams and earning them Gold status. Representatives from the eighth grade also presented their class gift to the school — folding chairs with the Unquowa Gator on them to be used by the eighth grade class during weekly assemblies and by athletic teams at home games. Finally, the current and past presidents of the UPA presented the school with a \$40,000 leadership gift to The Campaign for Unquowa, giving the campaign the final momentum it needed to be able to complete the first phase of projects this summer — replacing the roof and renovating the playing field.



UPA Co-President, Kim Proto, presents the school with a \$40,000 check for completing the playing field.

Underclassmen awards announced at the Closing Ceremonies included the *Robert L. Cleveland Award* for the seventh or eighth grader who demonstrated a "keen mind, sound body, and unafraid spirit," which was given to Keelin Fitzsimons, and the *Unquowa Parents Association Award* for a seventh grader who "has shown the most significant growth in intellectual discipline," which was given to Sisso Makhraz.

Of course, Closing Ceremonies ended with every Unquowa student lining up to say "a proper goodbye" to each of our graduates.

8th Grade Class Trip

The year-end trip to Rocking Horse Ranch was a wonderful opportunity for the eighth grade students and their chaperones, Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Leidlein and Mrs. Lamb, to spend time together before graduation and going on to high school.

Activities included horseback riding, swimming, rock wall climbing, boating, bungee jumping and more. They had a great time!



Distinguished Alumni Award Added to Commencement Ceremony

The **Jean Carpenter Winton Distinguished Alumni Award** was established this year to celebrate and honor an alum whose loyalty and support of The Unquowa School has been extraordinary. It was only fitting that the first time recipient would be the alumna after whom it is named, Jean Carpenter Winton, Class of 1934. In presenting the award at Commencement, Sharon Lauer spoke of Jean's steadfast commitment to Unquowa. Over the years, Jean has helped Ms. Lauer and her predecessors to be mindful of the school's history and future. Jean was at the Commencement Ceremony with her children to accept the award. In her remarks, she encouraged the graduating class to always remember "the school by the brook".



Congratulations to the Class of 2011



At the Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2011, graduates and their guests were welcomed by Salutatorian Deborah Leszczynski, who thanked parents and teachers for their support. Gemma Lein-McDonough, class Valedictorian, did a wonderful job of reminding her classmates that everyone faces challenges big and small throughout their lives. She emphasized the importance of focusing on the larger ones and keeping the smaller ones in perspective. She reminded classmates to "...always know that there are people to support and teach you."

This year's commencement speaker was Kurt Soderlund, the Founding CEO of Safe Water Network. He spoke to the Class of 2011 about the importance of stepping outside of their "comfort zone" in their lives, both through their work and other activities. He encouraged them to look at the global community and to think of ways that they can use the skills and dispositions they've learned at Unquowa to have a positive impact on the lives of those less fortunate.

After the conferring of diplomas and awards, the Class of 2011 and their guests enjoyed a wonderful reception hosted by the Seventh Grade families.

2011 Commencement Award Recipients

William J. Grippin Award - **Gemma Lein-McDonough**

The Unquowa Award - **Tatum Hughes**

The Headmaster's Cup - **Alexander Burdo**

The Board of Governors' Cup - **Abigail Winter**

The John P. Blessington Award - **Christopher Taylor**

The Jean Carpenter Winton Distinguished Alumni Award

Jean Carpenter Winton, '34

Our Graduates will attend the following schools:

Kathryn Adriani	Lauralton Hall
Elizabeth Arnold	Oldfields School
Jennee Blanco	Hopkins School
Alexander Burdo	Hopkins School
Chelsea Byrd	King School
Vikram Chaudhuri	Hopkins School
Brett Joshua Gantt	The Harvey School
Sydney Girasole	The Loomis Chaffee School
Andrew Godfrey	Notre Dame High School
Jennifer Godfrey	Sacred Heart Academy
Nicole Grabe	Lauralton Hall
Danielle Greenawalt	Hopkins School
Katherine Halas	Hopkins School
Morgan Hansen	Lauralton Hall
Tatum Hughes	Fairfield Warde High School
Spencer Jordan	Joel Barlow High School
Elizabeth Kremer	St. Luke's School
Gemma Lein-McDonough	Ridgefield High School
Deborah Leszczynski	Hopkins School
Jack Rider	Staples High School
Winston Stalowir	Fairfield Preparatory School
Paul Stumpf	Fairfield Preparatory School
Christopher Taylor	St. Joseph High School
Claire Tetenbaum	Staples High School
Jack Weiss	Joel Barlow High School
Abigail Winter	Joel Barlow High School

Our graduates were also accepted at Berkshire School, Convent of the Sacred Heart, Greens Farms Academy, Hamden Hall, Northfield Mount Hermon School, Notre Dame Catholic High School, Pomfret School, Suffield Academy, and The Williston Northampton School.

Grandparents & Special Friends Join Us for May Day

We again welcomed spring with our annual May Day celebration and invited grandparents and special friends to join us.

Visitors joined students in the classrooms for special projects and the chance to see how our children spend their school day and then gathered for a delicious snack in the dining room and gym. Thank you, Chefs Peter, Dan and Lauren!

A special assembly included birthday announcements and musical performances by all the students. At the end of the assembly, everyone moved to the playing field for the traditional maypole dances performed by our fourth and fifth graders!

What a wonderful way to welcome the spring!



7th Grade Studies UN Millennium Development Goals



Starting with a trip to the United Nations this fall, the seventh grade embarked on a yearlong study of the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals. Included in the eight goals are ending poverty and hunger, universal education, gender equality, child and maternal healthcare, and environmental sustainability. The UN aims to achieve these goals by the year 2015.

Students began their study by researching the goals the UN hopes to accomplish, followed by turning their attention to the progress and efforts of the UN. Finally, students looked at what individuals can do to help achieve these goals. Students produced posters illustrating each goal and shared them, along with a slideshow, in a culminating presentation before the entire student body at our final assembly of the year. There, each student in the school was presented with a white ONE bracelet, a reminder to all world leaders of the importance of working to achieve these goals. This project truly demonstrated to the seventh grade and all the students of Unquowa, that our motto, *Cura Futuri Nobis (The Future is in Our Care)*, has real meaning.

Debbie Leidlein, History Teacher

Student Art Show

It is not often that you hear comments like, "I feel like I'm in a gallery in SoHo," at a student art show, but that was the reaction of many visitors to our 2011 school-wide art show.



Elizabeth Kremer, Grade 8
Scratchboard

This event gave students the opportunity to view and share their artwork with their parents and siblings. There was a steady flow of visitors and a constant sense of excitement. The show highlighted our extended unit on Balinese arts this year, including batik, mask making, and shadow puppetry ('wayang kulit' in Balinese). Another study unit was our Homage to An Artist. Students chose a famous artist and created mobiles that included items related to the artist and a student replica of one of their artworks.

The show was a tremendous success, and we were happy to give our students the opportunity to share their artistic achievements with their families. We look forward to beginning next year's portfolios and continuing to cultivate the visual arts education of our students.

Krissy Sabol, Art Teacher



Earth Day Activities

Presenters from the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Fairfield, Maritime Aquarium, Beardsley Zoo and New Pond Farm brought many species of live specimens, including honeybees in an enclosed hive, a spotted turtle, barn owl and touch tanks filled with horseshoe crabs, snails and blue mussels for Earth Day.

At noon, Upper School students paired with Lower School "buddies" to enjoy a delicious barbecue prepared on the grill by Chefs Peter, Dan and Lauren.



Parents visited Lower School classrooms in the afternoon where they led many creative Earth Day activities. Professor Linda Farber, mother of Mark in PreK-4, also brought several of her students from Sacred Heart University to direct hands-on science investigations with fifth and sixth graders. The day ended with a whole school assembly celebrating Earth Day with songs, poetry and an inspiring speech on conservation by eighth grader, Alex Burdo.



Mary Curran, Environmental Science

Spring Sports

On Friday, May 20 we had our inaugural Spring Athletic Celebration. Parents, coaches, friends, players and siblings came together to celebrate the seasons of our expanding tennis and lacrosse teams and our runners' club. We shared chocolates and stories as we honored spring athletes.

In addition to recognition awards for best offense, defense and sportsmanship, the winners of the *Elizabeth Curtis*, *John Turlick*, and *Margaret Travers Awards* were announced (see list below). A new award was also introduced this year — the *Gator Bowl*. This award will be given each spring to eighth graders who partici-

Athletic Awards 2011

Elizabeth Curtis Award

Abbie Winter

John F. Turlick Award

Jack Rider

Margaret Travers Award

Sydney Blanco

Gator Bowl:

Jennee Blanco

Josh Gantt

Andrew Godfrey

Jennifer Godfrey

Katherine Halas

Winston Stalowir

Paul Stumpf

Jack Weiss

ate in a sport every season in sixth through eighth grades. Eight Unquowans received *Gator Bowls* this year.

To culminate the celebration, Board of Governors President, Mark Greenawalt, and Campaign for Unquowa Chair, Joan Panagos, took to the podium to announce that we will have a new athletic field installed this summer. This was greeted by grand applause. Wow, what a night!



Coaches Burton and Boccamazzo with Mark Greenawalt, Joan Panagos and Sharon Lauer. The coaches were presented with a section of the current field so that they can remember how far we've come!

Al Boccamazzo, Athletics Director

Unquowa's Wildlife

Our third and fourth graders researched, wrote and illustrated their own publication: *A Field Guide to Animals at The Unquowa School*. Students were very excited to learn that an abundance of wildlife as varied as foxes, snapping turtles, hummingbirds and great blue herons had been sighted on campus. Special thanks to the many teachers and staff members who collaborated and made this field guide possible.



Sample pages from *A Field Guide to Animals at The Unquowa School*

From the UPA

We trust that everyone is enjoying some well earned time off this summer! As the school year wound down, the Unquowa Parents' Association continued to actively support our community in numerous events, including the Spring Athletic Celebration Dessert, May Day/Grandparents Day activities and Closing Ceremonies.

At Closing Ceremonies on June 7, the Unquowa Parents Association was proud to present The Campaign for Unquowa with a gift of \$40,000. These funds were raised by the UPA during previous years and had been held for the right project. Being able to contribute significantly to the playing field renovation is yet another way your UPA supports the goals and mission of The Unquowa School. The UPA was pleased to see the collective efforts of several years' leadership reflected in this generous gift. We thank all of you who made this donation possible.

As we close this year, the UPA thanks each of you who have volunteered during the past year. We appreciate your gifts of time, talent and enthusiasm. Your service to the UPA has contributed to its vibrancy and continued success. We are equally excited to welcome many new faces to the UPA slate for the upcoming 2011-2012 year. We have a lot of great events planned for the upcoming year and we truly believe that "many hands make light work." If you have not yet found a place to volunteer, we encourage you to do so.

Enjoy your summer!

Irene Brennan and Kim Proto, UPA Co-Presidents

Newman's Own Grant to Unquowa

Unquowa received a generous grant from the Newman's Own Foundation to support the school's financial aid program. This is the fourth grant the school has received from NOF and we are extremely grateful for their continued support.



Sharon Lauer with Clea Newman Soderlund, VP of NOF's Board.

Unquowa Inventors Club Takes Its Show on the Road

Our Inventors Club is open to all students from grades 5 through 8. At our first meeting we toured the school trying to find as many inventions as possible — the list was endless! Other meetings included brainstorming the following topics: What is an invention?, Invention Improvement and the most popular, Take Apart Lab. During this meeting students brought any broken invention from home and took it apart. From computers to hair dryers, they were amazed at how complex or simple some of these inventions were. Our inventors also worked on their own inventions at home, kept a log of their progress, and did research to make sure that their invention was unique.

In May, two members of our Inventor's Club participated in the 2011 Invention Convention at the University of Connecticut. Fifth graders Madelaine Register and Ayana Klein were among the 600 participants from grades K through 8. Madelaine's book hammock which allows hands free reading and Ayana's squirrel-proof bird feeder were both well received by the judges. Judging at CIC was interactive; the pre-assigned groups of inventors and judges looked at and discussed each invention. During their time with the judges, Madelaine and Ayana told them how they got their ideas and about the problems they encountered building their inventions. Ayana was recognized in her group, and received a blue ribbon and a \$100 savings bond. We can't wait to see what our inventors will create for the 2012 convention.

Rosemarie Sullivan, Science Teacher & Dan Lawrence, Wellness Coordinator



Salty Sea Water

While studying the oceans and the things that live in them, PreK-4 students considered the type of water that is in the ocean. Everyone had been to a beach and knew that the water there was salty. The class experimented by taking two containers and filling them with water from the tap and adding salt to one of them. Students then made predictions of how salt water and fresh water would differ in smell, sight, taste and touch. They learned that a raw egg would sink to the bottom in fresh water but float to the top in salt water. The difference in taste got the most reactions from students!

Fiona Eckersley, PreK-4 Teacher



Alumni News

5th-10th Year Reunion for Classes 2001-2006

A small and loyal group of alums gathered to visit with a few of their former teachers and enjoy an evening of reconnecting with old friends on June 2 at the Southport Brewing Company. They had fun pouring over old year-



Christina Shute and Kesha Michaels



Delia Petti, Jen Cain, and Casey Quattone

books, letting the pictures spark memories and the telling of some great stories from their years at Unquowa.

Their ability to recall details of classes, friends, projects and traditions like Winter Festival, May Day and Field Day made it clear that Unquowa had a profound impact on their early years.



Helping at the Basketball Clinic this summer and pictured left to right are **Kamau Burton, '09, Kai Burton, '10, and Javante Cameron, '09.**

Kamau will be a junior at St. Luke's, where he plays on the squash and tennis teams and has developed an interest in chemistry. He also plays the guitar in the school's blues band.

Kai played on the varsity field hockey and lacrosse teams and on the JV basketball team as a freshman this year at St. Luke's. Her interest in performing and fine arts has continued and she recently had an original song produced by the school.

Javante will be a junior at the Marvelwood School, where he was recently elected to be a prefect for his class. He plays soccer and basketball and has developed a strong interest in history.

Keep in touch!

Please contact Kate Haviland in our Development and Alumni Office!

kate.haviland@unquowa.org



Condolences

Peter Wilkinson, '45, died late this spring in Fairfield. He was a partner in the law firm of Brody Wilkinson in Southport. He generously gave his time to numerous organizations, including the Bridgeport Area Foundation and Bridgeport Student Ministries. He was also a past president of the United Way of Southwestern Fairfield County and the Fairfield Museum and History Center. Our condolences to his wife, Judy, their family and friends.

Maggie Reid, '04,

was sorry to miss this year's reunion. She graduated from Fairfield University a year early with a BA in Psychology and will be attending Rutgers in the fall to begin her master's in Social Work.



Maggie with mom, Joyce.

Jean Carpenter Winton, '34 was honored at this year's commencement ceremonies for her endless loyalty, volunteer efforts and support of The Unquowa School. *The Jean Carpenter Winton Distinguished Alumni Award* is named after her in recognition of her years of dedication. (full story page 6)



Jean is pictured here holding her award with Sharon Lauer; her son, David Winton; her daughter, Lisa Callahan; and her grandson, Peter Callahan.

Unquowa Grads Off to College

Ryan Bordelon, '07 -

University of Connecticut

Sammy Brownlow, '07 -

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Alexandra Krakoff, '07 -

George Washington University

Alana Luttinger, '07 -

University of Vermont

Kevin McConachie, '07 -

Housatonic Community College

Wendi Miles, '07 -

Muhlenberg College

Billy Sappern, '06 -

Cornell University

Mary Watson, '07 -

Siena College

Anna Zawislak, '07 -

Endicott College

IQ Answer: China, Costa Rica, Italy, Bali, Pittsburgh



THE UNQUOWA SCHOOL

981 Stratfield Road, Fairfield, CT 06825-1697

*Cura Futuri Nobis ~
The Future is in Our Care*

A PreK-3 Tradition Continues...



As part of their study of different artists, PreK-3 students accompanied their teacher, Janice Shannon, on a "Monet Picnic." A house near the school has a yard with a bridge similar to the one in Monet's gardens at Giverny, and the owners generously allow our three year-olds and Mrs. Shannon to picnic there each year. The students dress in their best "artist" clothing for the walk to the picnic. Once there, they have delicious snacks, listen to a story and each child has the opportunity to do their own painting of the bridge. A perfect ending to the study of Monet!

Save the Date

Founders' Day 2011 - Saturday, October 15