

# CANDLEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL



## Message from Principal Andrew Greene

1st Quarter 2014

I hope the cold spell we have had is not a sign of bad weather to come!

Last year, I was involved in a book club with several parents around the book entitled *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* by Carol Dweck. The book is a must read for all parents as they work with their own children. To summarize, a person with a fixed mindset believes that their qualities are carved in stone. If you believe you only have a certain amount of intelligence, a certain personality, and a certain more character, than all you can do is prove that you have the traits you have and hide your deficiencies.

A growth mindset on the other hand is when you believe through your efforts that you can cultivate personal qualities. If you have this belief you are more likely to have a passion for learning because you believe you are developing qualities. Also rather than seeing a challenge as something to avoid because it will reveal your weaknesses, you welcome it because you see it as an opportunity to grow and learn.

The book presents numerous research based strategies on how a person's Mindset affects ability, achievement and leadership. In addition, there are many recommendations that parents can implement right away that can have a positive impact on how your son and daughter view themselves and the world around them (a practical manifestation of this idea is that parents should praise effort not ability).

With our students facing more increased pressure year after year, the ideas in this book will help all parents better navigate the uncharted waters of parenthood!

WISHING ALL CANDLEWOOD FAMILIES  
A VERY HEALTHY AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!  
FROM CANDLEWOOD ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF!





## CANDLEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Andrew Greene, Principal  
Robert Newton, Asst. Principal  
Valerie Geiler, Asst. Principal

Main Office: 631-592-3300  
Nurse 631-592-3301  
Attendance: 631-592-3308  
Guidance: 631-592-3310  
Fax: 631-592-3921

We're on the Web!

[hhh.k12.ny.us](http://hhh.k12.ny.us)

### Winter Concerts

Tuesday, December 9th at 7:30 pm

Chorus 6th Grade

Orchestra 7th & 8th Grade

Wednesday, December 10th at 7:30 pm

Concert Choir

Band 8th Grade

Monday, December 15th at 7:30 pm

Band 6th Grade

Orchestra 6th Grade

Thursday, December 18th at 7:30 pm

Treble Choir

Band 7th Grade

Jazz Band

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December 2014

10 PTA Meeting at 9:30 am

12 2nd Quarter Interim

15 BOE Meeting at 8:00 pm at Paumanok

12-22-14 -

1-2-15 Winter Recess—School Closed

### January 2015

12 BOE Meeting at 8:00 pm at Otsego

14 PTA Meeting at 9:30 am

19 Martin Luther King Jr.—School Closed

20 First day of Middle School Winter II sports

27 Blood Drive at Candlewood

30 2nd Quarter Marking Period ends

### February 2014

9 BOE Meeting at 8:00 pm at Signal Hill

13 Friendship Dance at 2:45 pm—4:45 pm

16—20 Winter Recess—School Closed

### Mrs. Casazza's Art Class

The 8th grade students in Mrs. Casazza's art classes have been working on still life compositions that included canned fruit and vegetables. The cans will be donated to Long Island Cares food drive.



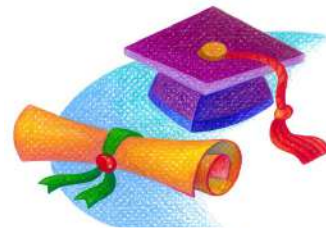
## YEARBOOK ADS

Order your 2014-2015 Candlewood Yearbook today! Supplies will be limited in June so you must pre-order to guarantee that your child will get one. Order online at [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com) and use school code 4572.

Yearbook Ads and Personal messages are also for sale. Space is limited, so if you would like a special message for your 8th grader printed in the book, reserve it now! **Use the form on Page 8 or order online. Deadline for all ads is March 1, 2015.**

Do you have photos of school events that you think would be great for the yearbook? Email them to [candlewoodyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:candlewoodyearbook@gmail.com) and we may use them.

Any questions about the Yearbook can be emailed to:  
[astanco@hhh.k12.ny.us](mailto:astanco@hhh.k12.ny.us) or [nyaqubie@hhh.k12.ny.us](mailto:nyaqubie@hhh.k12.ny.us).



## 8th Grade Tree

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Candlewood Middle School have the fortunate experience to work side by side with artist Cathy Russell, to create a sculptural work of art for the school. Mrs. Russell has worked with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the school for the past 5 years creating the *Annual Sole Mates Trees* which adorn the hallway leading to the office. With the help of the school's Arts in Education program we were able to bring Mrs. Russell to our school and have her work with our students to create a wonderful three-dimensional tree. The tree involves many teachers in the school. The first phase of the tree has been completed in the Art Rooms with the help of Mrs. Andres, Mrs. Casazza, and Mrs. Kopp. Students met with the artist to create the clay leaves which will go on the tree. The tree will be cut out of wood, which will be made in Mr. Bongiorno's technology class. Students in the Art classes will glaze the leaves during art class and then Mrs. Russell will assemble the tree. The tree will be installed as a permanent fixture here at Candlewood in time for the Annual Art exhibit in May.

Mrs. Karen Andres

Art Teacher

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CANDLEWOOD PTA



Hello Candlewood Families! We hope that everyone had a great start to the school year. The Candlewood PTA would like to thank everyone for their constant support in our fundraising efforts. Through your support we are able to bring in many programs that our children can enjoy.

### PTA MEETING:

As always, join us at our monthly PTA meetings where you will learn so much that is happening here at CW and around the district. Hear from Administration what is going on in the building. You'll be glad you came. Our next meeting is **Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM** in the Library.

- **APPAREL:** Our apparel has been a big hit with children, parents and staff. We have a new Candlewood Cougar T-Shirt. For order forms or more information please contact Caryn Landow 643-4449 or go to the Candlewood PTA website.
- **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership is always open. Your support helps us to provide many opportunities for our children such as Arts in Education programs. Individual Memberships are \$15 & Family Memberships are \$20. For Membership Forms go to the Candlewood website and return the form to the PTA mailbox in the Main office at Candlewood. As a member you will also receive bi-weekly newsletters highlighting all the happenings at Candlewood.
- **HELPING HANDS:** We are always looking for people who would like to give a little time when we have different events going on in the building. Whether you can give us 5 minutes or a couple of hours we would love to see you come and help out. If you are interested in being a part of Helping Hands or need a little more information you can contact Desiree Quiles 920-0871 or [quelimda2411@aol.com](mailto:quelimda2411@aol.com).

*On behalf of the  
Candlewood PTA Executive Committee  
Enjoy a Wonderful Holiday Season!*

*Warmest Regards,*

*Amy Stone*

*Candlewood PTA President*

***VISIT THE CANDLEWOOD PTA WEBSITE:***

**[www.candlewoodpta.org](http://www.candlewoodpta.org)**

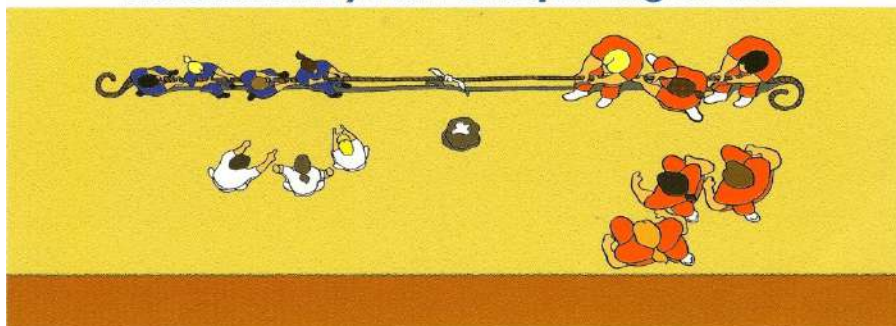
The following was written by a student, Jessie Zacharakis, in Mrs. Carlsen's 7th Grade Social Studies class explaining one of the classroom lessons!

**"Tug - of - War = American Revolution"**

By: Jessie Zacharakis 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

How can a game of tug - of - war relate to the American Revolution? In class on Friday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> we staged a mock tug - of - war game to better understand the American Revolution. First we needed to research the strengths and weaknesses of the British and Americans during that time period. We then split into three teams; "Red", "White", and "Blue". The teams were uneven and we knew right away there was an unfair advantage given to the "Red" team. We discovered that each team had a historical connection. The "Red" team represented the British, the "Blue" were the Americans and the "White" represented European nations that helped out the Americans. During our fake game, we were put through different changes in the game. For example the "Red" team had to send half of their players in the hallway; this represented the British having to send troops and supplies across the Atlantic. In playing tug - of - war, the Red members took a while before helping out their team members. We agreed, this was a disadvantage of the British. Another time it looked as though the Blue team would ultimately loose, then all the White team members were called in to help them. We knew then the White team represented the French coming to help the Americans. In our lesson we experienced what advantages/disadvantages the British and Americans had and we discovered several historical connections.

**Revolutionary War: Unequal Tug-of-War**





### CANDLEWOOD CARES

Candlewood Cares raised almost \$1,000 by participating in the St. Jude Give Thanks Walk in Central Islip on Saturday, November 22, 2014. Students and their parents, accompanied by Mrs. Dohnert, walked the 5K to help the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, which works for cures and prevention of disease, as well as provide free medical care for children with devastating diseases. Mrs. Dohnert is proud of the students for raising so much money and getting involved in such an important cause!

During the month of November, Candlewood Cares has been hosting a food drive to benefit LI Cares-The Harry Chapin Food Bank, which distributes food and supplies to over 590 food pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, senior nutrition sites, group homes and day care centers across Long Island to feed the hungry in our community. Student members not only donated to the drive, they were also responsible for publicizing it throughout the school. Students have been learning that it is possible for anyone-including middle school students-to create positive change in our world!

In December, Candlewood Cares will be teaming up with the Student Government to collect toys for the 8th Annual Sunshine Toy Drive, which benefits local children. All of the toys donated go to children who otherwise would not be getting gifts for the holidays. The Sunshine Toy Drive was started by a former Candlewood student, and we are honored to be a part of this meaningful event.

Mrs. Dohnert, Candlewood Cares Advisor

### **SCHOOL STORE**

The school store donated \$500.00 in food store gift cards to Candlewood families in need for Thanksgiving. The money was raised by students selling healthy snacks and drinks after school. We will be donating \$1,000.00 in gift cards for Candlewood families in need at the end of December for the Holidays!

Mrs. Patricia McCarthy  
School Store Advisor

### **Thanksgiving Fundraiser**

Candlewood Middle School sponsored a Thanksgiving pie and bread fundraiser with the help of White Post Farms in Melville. Thank you to all those who participated and ordered the variety of delicious pies and scrumptious jumbo breads! It was a great success!! A special thanks to the PTA for their continuous support in making this another Candlewood success!

Mrs. Balsamo and Ms. Karagiannis  
8th Grade Advisors

### Institute of Creative Problem Solving

This year the LI Young Scholars of Mathematics competition was held at SUNY Old Westbury. Two Candlewood students performed at the competition and were selected to be among the students named Long Island Young Scholar of Mathematics. With this accomplishment they have earned acceptance by the Institute to pursue mathematics and mathematical science applications.

### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

**Rishitha Kudaravalli—7th Grade**

**Felix Luo—8th Grade**

### **STUDY BUDDY PROGRAM**

Since October 2006 I have been running the Study Buddy Program. The Program runs during all lunch periods. It offers peer academic support to Candlewood students seeking to improve their academic skills. Students are matched academically with a volunteer peer tutor from the National Junior Honor Society, under the supervision of Mr. Andrew Black and Mrs. Pat Hobson. Thanks to the gracious cooperation of Mrs. Diane Bishop and Barbara Geis, Candlewood students have a “meeting of the minds,” in the school library. The students are able to find each other in the cafeteria thanks to Ms. Peggy Jansson. Thanks to Mrs. Michele Kaufman for her support in Guidance Department. Study Buddies is a collaborative effort that is improving students’ self esteem, providing social interaction and enhancing academic success. The program has made a significant impact and will continue through the enthusiastic efforts of our Candlewood students who truly are “the best of the best.”

Ms. Jodi E. Cohen, Guidance Counselor

# Candlewood Middle School Abstractions

## YEARBOOK AD ORDER FORM

### Attention Parents!

If you would like to place an ad for your business or write a personal message for your 8<sup>th</sup> grader in the 2014-2015 yearbook, please choose one of these two ways.

**Method 1:** Design your ad online including your own pictures, message and art-work; and pay with credit card. Go to [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com) and use the online ordering system. Direct all questions to the yearbook company, Herff Jones. **Online Ads can be created until March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.**

**Method 2:** Have the yearbook team design your ad for you. Complete this form and return it, along with a check payable to ***Candlewood Yearbook***, to Mrs. Stanco or Ms. Yaqubie by **January 30, 2015.**

Due to printing deadlines, **NO** ads can be accepted after March 1.

### **Ad Prices 2014-2015**

Full page: \$180

Half page: \$100

Quarter page: \$70

Business card: \$40

Name (of person placing ad): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Ad Size: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Use the lines below for your ad or personal message. Please write neatly.

*\*\*\*Ads or messages that require a specific layout should not use this form and should be purchased on-line at [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com)\*\*\**

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