Dear Parents,

As the year is soon coming to a close, this will be the last newsletter before summer break begins. **It has been a great year.** I have truly enjoyed meeting and collaborating with you, and working with your wonderful children. Seeing the progress our students have made over the past 9 months makes all the hard work and long days truly worthwhile.

We have already begun planning for next year: our third year as a school, my second year as principal, and our first year as a full middle school. **We are deep in the process of interviewing and hiring new teachers and staff.** Many of your children have participated in demo lessons, and their feedback has been incredibly helpful as we seek strong, caring, passionate teachers to join our team. Ask your child if they took part! And be sure to check our website over the summer as we introduce new hires.

**As with every year, there are inevitable staff members who will not be returning.** One such person is our Director of Curriculum, Emily Koch, who will be moving with her family back to her home state of Wisconsin. Ms. Koch was a founding member of this school and has been a vital contributor to its foundation. We hope you will join us in wishing her the absolute best.

Most of you should have received information about Summer in the Square. We are so excited for and proud of this program, and we hope many of you will enroll your children (see below). For those that don't, I ask you to please make sure your children maintain some learning throughout the summer months. **Whether or not your child is enrolled in camps or other summer programs, please make sure that every day they devote 30 minutes to reading and 30 minutes to IXL math work.** We need your help in the fight against **Summer Learning Loss.** Here are some additional tips!

A final note: **our last Coffee and Conversations of the year will be held next week on Wednesday, June 6th at 9:00A.** Our special guest, Dr. Ann Engelland, a primary care physician for teens and young adults, will be here to discuss adolescent health and well-being. It will be a fascinating morning and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

Wishing you all a joy-filled summer.

Your Principal,

Carrie Amon

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**Registration for Summer in the Square is Now Open!**

Countless studies have shown how important it is to reduce learning loss by keeping students engaged during the long summer months. This is why we designed Summer in the Square - a three week program (July 23rd - August 10th) during which students will spend time reinforcing learning with their school-year teachers, working on STEM projects designed by **Invention Project**, and having supervised fun with their friends.

**Sign up now while space is available!**
May 8th was Teacher Appreciation Day, but we could not possibly show our appreciation in just one day. So, that entire week was devoted to showing our teachers how much they mean to us. The week culminated with an outstanding luncheon thrown by our wonderful parents. The teachers were absolutely awed by the effort and love that went into the luncheon. **Thank you to our parents for throwing an exceptional luncheon!**

After months of hard work and dedication, S2 students persevered through the NY State ELA and Math Exams, which ended on May 2nd. **To celebrate the end of testing, the whole school took a trip to Citi Field for a Mets Game against the Atlanta Braves.** It was a fun day had by both staff and students. Big thanks to our supportive partner, The Mets, for providing a wonderful day!

Spirit Week at S2 is a fun way for the whole school to come together, learn new things about each other, and enjoy some silliness near the end of the school year. **On the week of May 14th, students and staff came to school repping their favorite sports teams (or their own sports teams!), they chose partners for "Twin Day", wore crazy hats, and voted on our very own school mascot.** It was a close call between the Savages and the Sharks, but the Sharks won out! **Check out our facebook page for pictures of Spirit Week 2018!**

Throughout the month of May, 7th graders have had opportunities to sign up for high school visits organized by our leadership team. Students visited Bard, Beacon, and the Global Learning Collaborative. These trips give students a valuable perspective on what it means to go to high school in NYC, the pros and cons of various options, and a personal understanding of the next phase in their education.

To plan your own high school visits with your child, visit the NYC DOE website and check out the school finder app! **http://schoolfinder.nyc.gov**