



Good Morning Canterbury Families,

I hope that your children have shared with you some of the high points of their fine arts classes this fall. If not, ask them about Viewpoints and mask work (7th grade drama), color schemes (LS art), building community and confidence in ensembles (choir), light and shadow (6th grade art), cooperation (LS drama), the science of sound (EC music) lines shadow and reflections (photography), matching pitch (K-1 music), stage combat (LINK Day), 3-D sculpting in clay (HS studio classes) and tap dance (5th grade dance).

Your students are being introduced to new concepts in all of our classes and are given the time to practice and repeat toward mastery. Strengthening neural pathways is just one of the great things about studying the arts. We are excited to give you the chance to see the rewards of practice and discipline at the HS fall concert on October 29!

Fall always feels like musical time to me and I would love for that to be the sentiment of everyone! The fine arts department is committed to providing our high school students with a wide repertoire of musical theatre experiences. What separates us from other high school programs may be that we are equally committed to producing plays for the enjoyment of the entire Canterbury community. We want the theatre filled with families. To that end our plays are almost always appropriate for all of our students and we invite you to start a new fall tradition by attending *The Pirates of Penzance* on October 25 or 26! Be on the lookout for the stage combat choreographed by guest artists, Gina Ceremeli-Mechly and Molly Brown.

Being creative partners with your children is a daily joy for the fine arts faculty and we hold sacred our responsibility and commitment to helping them become creative thinkers and doers.

Best wishes for a wonderful fall,

Ranae Butler

Fine Arts Department Chair/Artistic Director

P.S. For an interesting article on how tap dance is “cool again” check out:

<https://fellowsblog.ted.com/don-t-think-tap-dance-is-cool-think-again-ce0b5fa73fd1>