



**NAUSET
YOUTH
ALLIANCE**

Positively Guiding Today's Youth
Into Tomorrow's World

NEWSLETTER

May 2024

May the Fourth Be With You

I must start this newsletter with the disclaimer that I am not a Star Wars devotee only seeing the first three movies, or the middle three of the trilogies. That said, Star Wars has become ingrained in our culture, so much so that May 4th has become “Star Wars Day”, the day chosen because it plays on the “May the Force Be With You” phrase that is an iconic line from the Stars Wars pantheon.

The best stories teach us lessons, and “Star Wars” is overflowing with them. Though the events unfolded in a galaxy far, far away there are a myriad of lessons for us earth-bound folks. “Star Wars” has taught us about the importance of friendship, the value of being patient, and the dangers of being afraid. Here are some of the many things we’ve learned from the saga:

Embrace the traits that make you stand apart

Even if you’re genetically identical to hundreds of others (which you are not), you are unique. Your beliefs, personality, and struggles aren’t exactly like anyone else’s. Celebrate what makes you special rather than bemoaning being different.

Be loyal to your friends

The best of friends stands by you through thick and thin, happiness and sadness, success, and failure. Maintaining friendships involves work, but they are so worth every ounce of sweat and every second of time invested.

Realize others see the world differently than you do

Our individual perspective affects the way we interpret the world around us. No one else will see things as you do, and that’s OK. It’s for the best, really. Remember: Just because someone has a certain point of view that differs from yours doesn’t necessarily mean they’re being dishonest.

It’s never too late to turn things around

You should always strive to be the best, kindest person you can be, but if you slip, know you can always redeem yourself. Making a change won’t erase the stakes you made in the past, but you have the power to make a difference moving forward.

Important Dates

**NYA
Annual Meeting**

Tue, May 21st

Please mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting at Stony Brook School on Tue, May 21st from 5:30-6:30 pm. A pizza dinner with ice cream dessert will be provided. Bring the whole family and let someone else cook and clean for the night.

Early Release

Wed. May 1st

NYA begins at 11 AM following early dismissal. If your child is attending NYA on an early release day, please be sure to send a lunch or request the bag lunch offered by the schools prior to dismissal time.

**School Closed
Monday, May 27th**

Memorial Day

Overcome the fear within yourself

Inner demons are the hardest kind to battle because they never go away. You'll always carry fear and worry with you, but you can control how the emotions affect you. Don't allow your fears to push you over to the Dark Side!

Keep your mind open to new possibilities

Whether it's tasting Brussels sprouts or joining a group of scrappy rebels, trying new things is good for you. All we experience from the mundane to the grand adds to who we are and what we believe, so keep an open mind and experience as much as you can.

A little hope goes a long way

Hope is contagious. If you remain optimistic, share your hope with others, and put your feelings into action, you can change the world. Remember to be patient and to not give up – progress happens slowly and may not be immediately visible.

With the 4th upon us you might be wondering how to celebrate the day and where to see these principles in action – **the NYA KidFest Carnival is on the 4th from 12 to 3 pm in the Stony Brook gym.** We hope to see you there and May the Fourth be With You!

Source: StarWars.com

Please put your child's name in clothing they might remove while at NYA, i.e., coats, sweatshirts, mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, winter boots, etc. If there is a name in them, we can reunite the clothing with your child. Use a marker to write their name on a label, get preprinted labels and iron them in, etc. It would be a shame if a child were to lose a holiday gift from Santa, parents, grandparents... We also request that you put their name on water bottles. We would love to have a completely empty lost and found basket. Thank you!

