In just a few days we say good-bye. To most we say good-bye for the summer, but to some we say good bye. It is an emotionally complex time of the year for students, teachers and parents. How do we reconcile the feelings of pride and happiness with the feelings of conclusion and uncertainty? I guess we simply have to remind ourselves that life is at its best when it is bittersweet.

On Wednesday night we will celebrate the graduations of our four sixth graders. As we say our good-byes, I hope that they will hold Oak Grove close to their hearts always. Please join us for this unique and inspiring graduation ceremony on Wednesday night at 6pm.

Deidre, Josh, Lia and Michael Paul you will all be missed. And I ask you all to visit us often and to remember us always.

Last Friday night was a beautiful graduation ceremony for the third year students in the 6-9 classroom. The 11 students that graduated celebrated their time in the Lower Elementary Classroom by sharing some memories with the audience. As always, Willa captured the essence of each student individually with her stories and memories, leaving not a dry eye in the room. It was a special evening.

The 3-6 classroom will celebrate their moving on celebration at the end of the school day on Friday.

At 4:00 on Friday we invite our entire community to come together for an afternoon and evening of fun, food and celebration. Please sign up in the lobby to bring a pot luck item. We will start field games for the kids at 3:30 and light the grill around 4:30.

I am absolutely thrilled to share with all of you (I just got the official word this morning) that for the second year in a row, Oak Grove has been honored with the Connecticut GreenCircle Award. This award is in recognition for the school's dedicated work and focus on environmental issues and practical applications that respect and care for the environment. A heartfelt thank you to Lidia Howard for her tireless work and assistance through this process.

Each year the 9-12 classroom chooses a community service project to support. This year they worked to support the Mansfield Animal Shelter. After a very successful Dog Wash event and many weeks of collecting goods and supplies, they were able to present to the shelter with a
check for $350 and boxes and boxes of collected goods. They also spent time with the animal control officers learning more about the shelter.

As we draw to the end of another amazing school year, I would like to recognize and appreciate the immeasurable commitment to our school and to our students from this entire community. I am honored to be a part of this group of teachers, staff members, parents and students. Together as a community, we continue to grow and thrive and make each year successful for our children. Thank you.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for the support that I feel each day. Thank you for entrusting your children in our care and supporting us in all that we do here.

I rarely am at a loss for words :) but finding the words to thank Cindy and Joe have proven to me to be impossible. I have to believe that they know in their hearts what they both mean to me and to this school...even if the words are not there.

I wish everyone a wonderful summer filled with adventure and wonder.

In peace,

Sue