

Upper School News...

By: Mr. Sam Waugh, Head of Upper School

The entire Awty community – but in particular the Upper School – was saddened by the deaths this summer of two long serving and dedicated faculty members. Claudia Lopez taught Spanish at the school for 26 years and brought a joie to vivre to everything she did. J. Fred Duckett not only taught History here for 17 years, but he also immersed himself in all phases of school life from student council to athletics. Their combined 43 years with Awty will be sorely missed but not forgotten.



New faces amongst the faculty have highlighted the opening of school in the Upper Division. Janet Hess, science, takes over for Mrs. Soni who departed for the birth of her child. Mrs. Hess taught most recently at the Isadore Newman School, the leading private school in New Orleans. Leoni Karoviata, economics, joins Awty from the University of Houston. Javier Marin, Spanish, arrives from Spain to replace Mr. Weber who is currently ensconced in Bombay teaching at the international school there. Jennifer Richardson, history, leaves the Harmony School to assume Mr. Duckett's classes. Gary Davis brings years of expertise to the College Counseling Department; he spent the last several years in England but worked in the U.S. extensively before that. Jason Peguero is our new instrumental teacher and should fill Dr. Booker's role with finesse. The school has hired two new part-time Chinese teachers – Lija Tong and Tzu-Hui Dequin- to meet the demands of the growing language. Finally, Pavlina Paleva replaces Nick Debuyl in P.E. as he has moved to Kansas City.

Join us in welcoming all the recent additions to our community.