



# GARDEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Richard Marotta, Ph. D., Headmaster

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"Cultivating Success in Every Child"

Friday, March 23 2018



## ***Thoughts for the Week***

By ***Richard Marotta, Ph.D., Headmaster***



As always, It's hard to believe that it is spring as we still see the remnants of this week's snow storm. Yet it we are about to begin spring break. We have also ended the fourth quarter today, which creates a nicely symmetrical end and beginning of the final quarter of the school year. Seasonal transitions are always difficult, and the shift from winter to spring always poses the most problems. As Eliot wrote, "April is the cruellest month..." How true.

We will be closed next week. Many of our staff and families will be vacationing.

Eighty members of our community will be biking and hiking through Nantucket. All in all, it should prove to be a wonderful spring break.

Enjoy the break and come back to a warm and sunny last quarter at Garden School.

Richard Marotta, Ph.D.  
Headmaster

**Reenrollment Contracts for 2018-2019 were due to be signed and returned with the deposit by Monday, February 26th. If you have not returned your contract, we will assume you are not returning next year and will fill your space with another student. If this is in error, please contact the school immediately.**



## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Monday, March 26 - Monday, April 2: School Closed for Spring Break (No school Monday, April 2nd!)**
- **Tuesday, April 3: Classes Resume**
- **Thursday, April 5: Report Cards Distributed**
- **Friday, April 6: Report Cards Returned**
- **[Friday, April 13: GALA](#) <<< [Click link for more information and tickets!](#)**

## *Garden Gala Kicks Off in Grand Style!*

By **[Jean Kinn](#)** (Garden Gala, Chair and Board Member and Alumni Parent)

What a wonderful night it was! Our 2018 Gala Wine Kickoff was an evening of good food, good wine and wonderful guests. Guest mingled in the library and enjoyed the delicious selections from [Favela Grill](#) and [Wine Stop](#) (Frison Family, Gr 9) as well as [Despaña Brand Foods](#) (Intriago Family, Gr 8). Garden Community, please show your appreciation to these family run businesses when you are planning a gathering or an evening out. They won't disappoint. Check out pictures from the Kickoff on our [Facebook](#).

The Gala Season is in full swing; so don't forget to buy your tickets. They are available online along with our Journal and Auction Donation forms. <http://www.gardenschool.org/gala/>



**Gerard Pilate, Michael Ricatto, John Hale**

We have extended our **Journal Deadline** for those who have not yet placed a journal order. We will be accepting journal ads until **Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**. Classes who have not yet taken out their class ad will be able to do so by Monday. We also provide journal design services. Please email us if you have any questions: [gala@gardenschool.org](mailto:gala@gardenschool.org)

We are looking for donations to our **Wall of Wine**. The Wall of Wine, usually four cases plus, is a collection of wine that has been donated from the Garden School Community. Please consider donating one of your favorite bottles to the 2018 Wine Wall.

The **Silent Auction will be accepting donations through April 9<sup>th</sup>**. Please consider making a donation. Need suggestions? Here are a few: gift certificates to restaurants, salons, athletic facilities, museums, entertainment, florists, professional services. Tickets to the theater, sporting events or cultural exhibits have also been popular. Items such as cooking equipment, sporting goods, housewares, decorative accessories, handbags, scarves, jewelry, cosmetics or other accessories. We can also use small items to add to baskets.

The committee is in need of empty baskets. We are always proud to present our curated Gala Baskets and can use donations of empty baskets for this year's auction. Did you win one last year? Donate the basket back and try your luck again from our 2018 Basket Line!

The 2018 Gala Auction Preview will be available on our Handbid site and app starting Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Please register for Handbid: <https://events.handbid.com/auctions/garden-school-gala-2018/registration>

Once again, thank you to all who have purchased tickets and journal ads and have made donations. We also appreciate those of you who have donated their time and talent to the 2018 Gala.

It is not too late to participate! And remember that all participation is being tracked for the Upper & Lower Division Pool Parties. With Thanks, The Gala Committee



**GARDEN GALA**  
2018  
*Masquerade Ball*

*Honoring*

**THE GARDEN SCHOOL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

&

MR. JOHN HALE

*Faculty Advisor & Station Trustee  
Garden School Amateur Radio Club*

MR. GERARD PILATE

*President, Hall of Science Amateur Radio Club  
Founder & Mentor, Garden School Amateur Radio Club*

MR. MICHAEL RICATTO

*Vice President, Hall of Science Amateur Radio Club  
Founder & Mentor, Garden School Amateur Radio Club*

*Join Us*

**TERRACE ON THE PARK**

*Flushing Meadows Park  
New York*

**FRIDAY THE THIRTEENTH OF APRIL**

*6:30 pm - Midnight*

Cocktails & Open Bar • Hors d'oeuvres & Stations • Silent Auction  
Scholarship Pledge • Dancing & DJ

**BUY TICKETS NOW**

[gardenschool.org/gala](http://gardenschool.org/gala)



**GARDEN GALA**  
2018

100/\$100 Raffle

**APPLE WATCH HERMÈS**  
SERIES 3 GPS+CELLULAR

42mm  
Stainless Steel Case  
Indigo Swift Leather Single Tour

VALUED AT **\$1,199**

100 tickets  
- for -  
\$100 each

**APPLE WATCH | HERMÈS**  
SERIES 3

**BUY  
TICKETS  
NOW**

[gardenschool.org/gala](https://gardenschool.org/gala)



## GARDEN GALA 2018

# WIN A POOL/PIZZA OR ICE CREAM PARTY FOR YOUR CLASS

Help support the 2018 Garden Gala on April 13 by contributing in any of the ways below.

One Upper Division and one Lower Division class with the **highest percentage** of participation in the below activities will win a Pool/Pizza Party.  
The Second Place class receives an Ice Cream Party.

Gather points for your class by:

### Class Points 10 points each

Pool together funds to purchase a class Journal Ad. Price ranges from \$60-\$1000.

Create a themed class basket for the Silent Auction. See back for ideas. Put it together yourself or the Gala Committee can for you. Or, pool together funds to purchase a high-value item for the auction.

Pool together \$125 to purchase a Teacher Ticket for the Gala.

### Individual Points 1 point each

Buy or solicit a Journal Ad of any size.

Purchase a ticket to the Gala. This includes Teacher Tickets.

Purchase a 100/\$100 Raffle ticket.

Donate an item to the Silent Auction.

Make a donation to the 2018 Gala of \$10 or more.



Visit [www.gardenschool.org/gala](http://www.gardenschool.org/gala) for information on these activities. Email us at [gala@gardenschool.org](mailto:gala@gardenschool.org) if you have any questions.

The winners will be announced the week after the Gala. In the event of a tie, the class that purchased/sold the most Journal Ads will win.



## GARDEN GALA 2018

### JOURNAL ADS

Honor a loved one or recognize a business in the 2018 Gala Journal.  
All ads are printed in color and are available in the following sizes:

<input type="checkbox"/> Congratulatory Message Line	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (gold)	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Third of a Page	\$75.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Inside Cover (front)	\$750.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page	\$125.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Inside Cover (back)	\$750.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (white)	\$250.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Back Cover	\$1000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (silver)	\$300.00		

These ads sell quick! Make sure you order yours in time.  
Go to [www.gardenschool.org/gala](http://www.gardenschool.org/gala) to purchase.

### SILENT AUCTION

Have an item to donate to the 2018 Gala Silent Auction powered by Handbid?  
Make your donation at [www.gardenschool.org/gala](http://www.gardenschool.org/gala).

Past donations include technology, vacations, wine, event tickets, and more.

And be sure to download the Handbid app on your smartphone to register for  
"Garden School Gala 2018" to bid in the Silent Auction.



## HANDBID

Garden School is a Non for Profit 501(c)3 organization, Tax ID #11-1631783. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. All monies raised benefit our students directly. Join us in celebrating our school and supporting its mission to educate our students to the highest of academic, social and personal standards.



## GARDEN GALA 2018

### GIFT BASKET IDEAS

Teacher Basket  
*Filled with Teacher Favorites*

Toys

Sports

Jewelry

Mother's Day

Father's Day

Baby

Books  
*Children or Adult*

Make Up

Perfume or Cologne

College Student

Board Games

Shaving Tools

Men's / Women's

Neighborhood / Borough  
*Taste of Jackson Heights, etc.*

New York City  
*Metro Cards / Subway Map / etc.*

Education

Movies / TV Shows

Alumni

Senior "Welcome to College"

Food / Spirits / etc.

Chocolate

Champagne

Restaurant Gift Certificates

Coffee / Tea

Museum / Zoo Passes

Technology

Wedding Engagement

Sci-Fi

Spring Planting

Grocery



## Pre-K For All - Creative Arts

By: [Mrs. Laura Gilbert](#) (PKFA Teacher)

This week was an exciting week in the Pre-k For All program. The students were eager to participate in *Garden School Pre-k For All Annual Art Show*. All month the students have been sharing their opinions about books we read in the classroom and about different kinds of artists that we've learned about. Some classes discussed Vincent Van Gogh paintings and used their senses of sight to describe what they saw in his paintings. The students were encouraged to express his or her opinion on what they liked or didn't like about his paintings.

To get ready for the art show students created a piece of art based on their own ideas, illustrations from their favorite book or by their own representation of a specific artist's painting. While creating their own paintings, students were able to mix colors together to create new colors for their paintings.



This art show event highlights the students creativity as each painting shows the individual child's interests, opinions, and ideas all wrapped up in a piece of unique art.

## Early Childhood - World Languages, Mandarin

By: [Jie \(Kelly\) Yang](#), (Mandarin Teacher)

In this multiple-day unit, early childhood students are gain the ability to use age-appropriate expressions to express their likes and dislikes regarding common pets and animals.

Initially, students interpret and react to pictures, stories, illustrations, and songs. Then, students will interact with their teacher and classmates by asking and telling about their pets, and identify pictures about the animals. Students are also use rudimentary graphing to begin categorizing their animal likes and dislikes. My students enjoyed the unit, especially when they act like the animals and make the animal crafts. At the end of this unit, students will be ready to perform an animal song for a school or community event.



## Grade 1 Social Studies

By: [Kristen Ahlfeld](#) (First Grade Teacher)

March is Women's History Month and the first graders have been learning about the lives of many famous and brave women in our nation's history. We have met the courage of Rosa Parks who with great determination stood up and fought for equal rights for African-Americans. In our studies we learned of the bravery of Harriet Tubman who led hundreds of slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad.



Most recently we explored the life of Helen Keller and her teacher Anne Sullivan. Helen Keller lost her sight and hearing when she was a baby and grew up to become a political activist and lecturer. Helen taught the world all people can learn and communicate in a hearing world. Though the first graders have been learning simple sign language throughout the year, it was this figure in history that made a strong connection to the importance of being able to communicate with others. The students were fascinated with Helen's life story. The depth of questions the class asked about her life were unending. The students learned how Helen read through Braille, and the class practiced feeling what reading would be like for Helen. In the playground many students role played Helen and Anne by leading each other around and finger spelling into each other's hands. It is my hope the students absorbed that with great determination one can accomplish anything.



## ***Grade 2 Social Studies***

**By:** [Paula James](#) (First Grade Teacher)

It's an exciting time in second grade social studies. The students have been learning about important inventors in American history. After discussing and comparing the inventors, we spent time looking at their discoveries through the use of timelines. Visually representing the chronological sequence of discoveries helps organize the information so students can "better understand growth, change, recurring events, cause and effect, and key events of historical, social, and scientific significance." One of our classes was spent working together to make a timeline of the events of the school year. Next, each student was asked to work with their family to construct a timeline that included events from their life. As the timeline projects have come in this week, the children have had the opportunity to present their work and share the important and exciting moments in their lives. The students have done a wonderful job practicing their public speaking skills, and responding to thoughtful questions and comments from their peers. Please stop by our classroom and see their work.





## Grade 3 Social Studies

By: [Rachel Vidal](#) (First Grade Teacher)

In social studies, the third graders have been learning about the 13 colonies. The children have found it interesting how England treated the colonists. They were surprised to learn how the English were unfair to the colonists in several aspects, especially regarding taxation without representation.



To further their understanding, in an interactive manner, the third graders will be reenacting a play of the Boston Tea Party and some of the events that led up to it. The children will be transformed into colonists and British sailors. Mr. Zelles, the art teacher, will be helping with costumes. The children will be making hats for the colonists' and the British sailors' characters. At the end of their unit study, they will perform the play for the second grade class. Understanding our history helps us to better understand who we are today.

In reenacting our history, the children will not only learn about our past, but will also experience what it must have been like to live as a colonist. Break a leg, third grade!

## Grades 4 - 6 Physical Education

By: [Michelle Ferreira](#) (Physical Education Teacher)

We are just wrapping up this unit before the break it's called Pillow Polo. This game has a bit of hockey and soccer mixed into it. Each team has six players on their team. One player is the goalie which is the only player that can touch the ball with their hands. Next you have three players with the pillow polo sticks which are like hockey sticks but made from foam those are the only players that can score and lastly you have two players that can use their feet only to pass to their teammates that have the pillow polo sticks to score.

We have played several games to practice at first so that everyone gets comfortable with the rules and how the game is played. We did playoffs and then the finals. The students seem to enjoy themselves a lot in this unit and I can't wait till we are back from break. Congrats to the winners as you see below!





## Grades 7 and 8 - Fine Arts - Art

By: [Chris Zelles](#) (Art Teacher)

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> have recently completed their Andy Warhol inspired negative space projects. This project took students over a month to complete and the results are amazing. All the projects were 18x24 inches, which was a big undertaking for most students because many of them had never worked on a project that size. For the project students had to draw five objects that represented them and in the background draw patterns and colors that represent their personality; their final product had to show use of the seven elements of art (line, shape, space, value, form, texture, and color).

Students are currently working on masks for the upcoming masquerade ball themed Garden School Gala. For this project are designing and constructing masquerade masks from scratch that will either be given to the student's parents or used as décor for gala. Many of the students have been enthusiastic about the project and the results so far have been very promising. Here are some examples of the Andy Warhol project.



## Grades 7 and 8 - Fine Arts - Music

By: [Tom Heineman](#) (Art Teacher)

Having studied the elements of music through the prism of Popular music, 7<sup>th</sup> Graders commenced a new unit pertaining to the history of Rock and Roll, from its origins to the current day. We discussed the circumstances that might lead to the formation of a new art form or style. Students posited that fresh ideas, a mixing of genres and inspiration from the past, a reflection of the culture and surroundings, and experimentation all could help bring this about. Additionally, innovations in technology and happy accidents can aid in its creation. The class was introduced to Ike Turner's 'Rocket 88,' a song frequently mentioned as the first Rock and Roll recording. They began to discover that many of the key components for the conception of a new type of music were present in Ike Turner's landmark 1951 recording.



8<sup>th</sup> graders just concluded a study of the amazing, Classical music of India. The experience of hearing the tamboura, a non-melodic string instrument that produces the characteristic drone heard throughout a piece of music, is unlike any other in the musical world. The instrument sounds electronic and has a remarkable continuity to its tone, yet it's a string instrument. Due to the distinctive sound of traditional Indian instruments, the class explored the culture by first listening to and considering the tamboura, sitar, tablas, sarod, veena, and harmonium. Students also attempted to follow the structure of a Raga after learning some of its fundamental aspects. We finished the unit by dealing with artists who incorporated aspects of the traditional music, such as The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Tabla Beat Science, and Talvin Singh.



## **Grades 9 - English**

**By:** [Christopher Vallario](#) (English Teacher)

For ninth grade English, we are reading William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. During class time, the students are acting it out, and for homework, they are reading the contemporary translation. Their quiz results demonstrate a strong understanding of the text.

For our writing lab, which meets three times a week, we are reading and responding to *New Yorker* articles and comics. In addition, we are close-reading Grimm's *Cinderella*, and they are in the process of writing their own versions.

## **Grades 10 - English**

**By:** [Amira Booth Soifer](#) (English Teacher)

Throughout our reading of "The Catcher In The Rye", students have made many cross-textual connections. Students have explored and made connections between the themes, nuances, and analysis of the actions in the text both with their own lives and to current events.

In particular, the recent tragedy that occurred in Florida prompted many upper division students to both organize and take part in a walkout, memorializing those lost in the tragic recent events in Parkland, Florida. Focusing on the ideas behind the walkout led to our class discussing youth movements in general, once again circling back to one of the central questions of reading "The Catcher In The Rye": can teenagers make a difference? It certainly seems that Garden Students are among those who can.

Students have also begun to analyze Holden Caulfield in terms of masculinity, self-esteem, and expectations of the 1950s vs. today-- a line of discovery that will lead to their psychoanalysis project next quarter.



## **Grades 11 and 12 - Math**

**By:** [Lauren Little](#) (Math Teacher)

In Pre-Calculus Honors this week, we finished up a chapter on Vectors. In this chapter, the students were introduced to the three dimensional coordinate system. They learned how to plot points, lines, and planes in the three dimensional coordinate system using vectors and points in the plane. They also learned operations with vectors and the geometrical implications of those operations. When we return from break we will begin a chapter on Matrices.

In AP Calculus, the students have been learning about applications of integration. We started this unit with finding the area between two curves, where the students would be given two curves in the xy-plane and they would have to find the area between them using integration. Then we moved on to solids of revolution, which is where we take a curve and revolve it around an axis, which results in a solid, then we use integration to find the volume of that solid. When we return from break the students will use integration to find the average value of a function.

## **Grades 11 and 12 - Math**

**By:** [Sonia Ambarsom](#) (Math Teacher)

The 11th and 12th graders studied graphical and geometric properties of a trigonometric functions. Currently, they are studying the algebraic properties of these functions, specifically, simplifying and factoring expressions and solving the questions that involve these functions.

They also used the functions to model different real world phenomenon, including periodic motion, specifically sound waves. To obtain information from model, they needed to solve the equations. If the model involves trigonometric functions, they needed to solve the functions using different identities; those which they had learned previously and others which they discovered in the process.

When they return from the spring break they will be studying polar coordinates and parametric equations. So far they have studied rectangular coordinates as when they describe a location in the city by saying it's at the corner of 79th St. and 34th Ave. on the other hand, polar coordinates would help an airplane or hot air balloon pilot find a location. So instead of specifying the location with respect to a grid of streets and avenues, they will specify it by giving a distance and direction from my fixed reference point that's the study of the polar coordinates system.

## **Grades 11 and 12 - Computer Science**

**By:** [Sarah Blakeley](#) (Math and Computer Science Teacher)

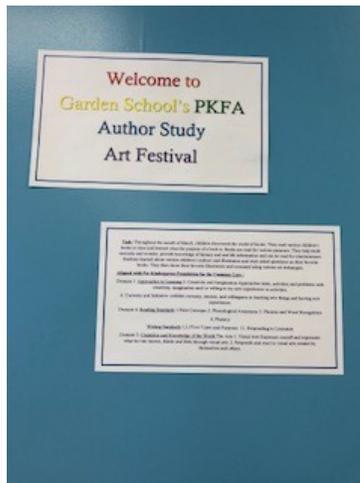
We are in the midst of our programming unit. Earlier in the quarter the students used Java to create their own games. Follow these links to play!

- 1) <https://studio.code.org/projects/gamelab/E6a4jDdTkU46ibrELMky07VXqDPjKfzdusjDCIHkVm>
- 2) <https://studio.code.org/projects/gamelab/c94Fupglq7eaAS2J9YSmfwVOITN6mT1TP1qgv0-Lfj0>

Now we are using the Java based programming language specifically used to create apps. In April, the students will start working on designing their own games, to be played on a smart phone.



## PKFA Art Show, Friday, March 23rd



**Have a Wonderful and Restful Spring Break!  
School Resumes Tuesday, April 3rd!**