



GARDEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Richard Marotta, Ph. D., Headmaster

Volume 94 Number: XIX

"Cultivating Success in Every Child"

Friday, February 3, 2017

Thoughts for the Week



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



"We empower every student in our educationally diverse community to meet responsibly the challenges of everyday life..." Garden School Mission Statement Excerpt

In the past, I have written about how Garden School embodies the diversity present in our culture and how that diversity enriches the lives of every member of our community. In my view, diversity is the natural human and living condition.

We often hear about the importance of "tolerance". In some ways, tolerance is an unnatural attitude since nature does not engage in tolerance but simply in existence. The rose doesn't tolerate the orchid; they simply exist. Nature's *natural* state is diversity. There may be inequalities in math, but there are no inequalities in nature. While we think of tolerance as a positive, we should remember that tolerance suggests a standard against which the 'different' is measured and accepted. However, the standard consists of diversity not of a single standard. All nature shimmers with variety and difference that enhances life, makes it beautiful and ensures its development through endurance and evolution.

"Garden School has a long history of education students whose families represent every region of the globe. Our experience is enriched by our growing diversity and we are intentional about creating a place where each individual feel free to follow his or his own dream, ideals and beliefs. At this time Garden School take a moment to reiterate its mission and to underscore our belief in the value of every member of our community." Lisa Sohmer

When Ms. Sohmer sent me this in an email, I was struck by the reality that our school stands for that very diversity that corresponds to nature and embodies and reflects the beauty of variety and richness of a global community.

Each day when I teach or visit a class, I have the wonderful opportunity of hearing students express their views, which frequently originated in different parts of our world. How extraordinary is it for a teacher teaching Dostoyevsky to be able to ask how would this be said in Russian and have three students provide an answer. I have asked students for the Hebrew or Arabic translation of a word, or the word in Montenegrin, and I have had access to the cultural differences reflected in those meanings. Our community's diversity is the equivalent of having a living internet available to us all to educate us about the humanity in ourselves and in others. It is a window looking out over our ever-shrinking world for which we are preparing our students.

Garden School has created and will continue to sustain an environment that is welcoming to students from all over the globe into a safe and celebratory environment that empowers them to find and share their voices clearly and responsibly. We cherish our diversity because it enhances all of our lives by teaching us what our world truly is and how beautiful our lives can be. This is Garden's identity; this is Garden's vision; this is Garden's mission.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Friday, February 10: 2017-2018 Reenrollment Agreements Return Deadline
- Monday, February 13: Spring 2017 Foundations Classes begin [Brochure and information here](#)
- Monday, February 20 – Friday, February 24: School Closed for February Break
- Wednesday, March 1: 2017-2018 Financial Aid Applications Deadline
- **Friday, March 3: Garden Gala Wine and Cheese Kickoff!**
- Friday, March 31: Garden Gala at Terrace on the Park SAVE THE DATE!



PLEASE “save the date”

Annual Gala Kickoff party on Friday, March 3rd at 7:00 PM

Share a glass of wine with the Garden Community, fellow parents, alumni, administration, faculty and staff

as well as Friends of Garden School.

Contact us at gala@gardenschool.org or jean.kinn@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to help.

We look forward to you joining the celebration on March 31st

Garden School I.S.A.L Varsity Boys Basketball Schedule 2016

Day	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Fri	2/3	BWL	AWAY	4:00

Garden School I.S.A.L Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Fri	2/10	LREI	HOME	4:00



LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY®

STUDENT
SERIES

learning to make someday today

Please Support Pennies for Patients!

Garden School students will be taking part in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Pennies for Patients program January 24-February 10.

During this program, students will collect money to support LLS's mission: to find cures and ensure access to treatments for blood cancer patients.

We have our own online giving page that students, parents, and faculty can share with friends and family: <http://events.lls.org/pages/nyc/Garden-School-2017>

Please go to Classroom and type in your grade to donate!

Thank you in advance for helping LLS to create a world without blood cancers!

For more information on the Pennies for Patients program, please visit

<http://www.studentseries.org>



Kylie, Age 4 **Leukemia Survivor**

Just two days before her second birthday, Kylie was diagnosed with T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). She developed small red dots on her skin that started on her ears and spread down her body, and doctors found an extremely high white blood cell count in her blood panel. She continues to keep a smile on her face everyday. Thanks to LLS supporters like you, Kylie is 4 years old and cancer-free.

If you would like to donate, please fill out the form below.

The class with the most raised will win a Dominos pizza party!

Name

- Cash
 Check

Grade/Teacher

Amount Enclosed: _____



Garden Gala – March 31st, 2017
Terrace on the Park
Save the Date!



Congratulations to our 2017 Garden Gala Honorees

We will celebrate their retirement and academic careers of service to Garden

Marcia Elkind

retired Upper Division English and History Faculty Member from 1983-2016

James Pigman

Upper Division English Faculty Member and Department Chair from 1974-2017

Diane Sarro

P'17 and PTA President, 2012-2-17



PLEASE Save the Date and Be Our Guest!
Annual Gala Kickoff Party Friday, March 3rd
7PM in the Library

Join the Gala Committee and help kick off the
2017 Garden Gala

The Gala will take place on March 31st, 2017 at Terrace on the Park I Flushing Meadows Park.

The Gala Committee hosts an annual Cocktail Party each year to get us in the mood to celebrate Garden School and all the wonderful things it offers our children. The evening is catered by Between the Bread, courtesy of the Martin Family (Grade 8), and wine is provided by Wine Stop, courtesy of the Frison Family (Grade 8). Enjoy sampling varietals hand picked by Andreis Frison while enjoying delicious nibbles and desserts put together by Sean Martin.

Share a glass of wine with the Garden Community, fellow parents, alumni, administration, faculty and staffs well as Friends of Garden School.

Our Invitations will be mailed next week but tickets are available on our website now!

The committee is putting together our silent auction and accepting donations. What can you donate? Gift Certificates to your favorite restaurant, shop, florist, spa, hair salon, gym memberships, theater tickets, handbags, or professional services, jewelry, Gift Baskets, wine, spirits, sporting equipment, vacation home, hotel stay, work of art, or use your imagination! Have a few things floating around the house that could be used in our signature Gift Baskets, we are happy to have them. Or maybe a gift that just did not thrill you? Re-gift it to us! Donations may be dropped off in the Main Office or mailed to the school. See our auction form below.

Journal ads are also on sale. Congratulate your child or one of our honorees. Ask family or your local businesses if they would take out an ad. See our Journal form below.

Would you like to get involved? Join our committee. We will be preparing the invitations for mailing tomorrow starting at 10AM in the Library. Stop in or contact us and join one of our meetings.

Please email us if you have any questions. gala@gardenschool.org or jean.kinn@gmail.com

We look forward to you joining the celebration on March 31st.



Garden Gala

March 31st 2017

The 2017 Garden School Gala will be held on March 31st at Terrace on the Park.

We will be celebrating the retirement and academic careers of
Marcia Elkind, retired Upper Division English and History Faculty Member, after 34 years of service,
James Pigman, Upper Division English Department Chair, retiring after 43 years of service,
and Diane Sarro, Class of '17 Parent and outgoing PTA President for 5 years.

Journal Ads and Message pages will be printed in color and are available in the following sizes:

<input type="checkbox"/> Young Alum 2006-2016 Ad	\$35		
<input type="checkbox"/> Third of a Page	\$60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (gold)	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page	\$125.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Inside Cover Front	\$750.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (white)	\$250.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Inside Cover Back	\$750.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (silver)	\$300.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Back Cover	\$1000.00

NEW THIS YEAR: Congratulatory Messages 1-2 Lines \$20!

Class Page: Grade: _____ \$ _____

Email Art Work to: gala@gardenschool.org

Copy Attached Copy to Follow Repeat Last Year's Ad

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Previous Name - Class Year: _____

Credit/Debit Card Type: Amex Visa Master Card Cash Check

Name on card: _____

Number: _____

Expiration: _____ Security Code: _____

I have enclosed my employer's Matching Gift Form.

**Please return this form by March 15th to the address below
along with any enclosures and payment.**

For more information or questions, please go to the Gala page at gardenschool.org/gala, email us at gala@gardenschool.org or call us at 718 335-6363. Garden School is a Not for Profit 501(c)3 organization, Tax ID #111631783. Your contribution is tax deductible as allowed by law.



GARDEN SCHOOL GALA

March 31st 2017

Auction Donation Form

Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell _____ Email: _____

Garden School Affiliation: Parent Alum Parent Faculty/Staff Alum Friend Business

Description of Donation: _____

Retail Value: \$ _____ Contact Name: _____ To be delivered to Garden on: _____

Donation solicited by: _____

Please deliver all donations to Garden School on or before **March 20th, 2017**.

Please attach any materials (e.g. brochures, reviews, ad copy, and photos) that would help us promote your donation. Garden School is a 501©3 organization, tax ID # 11-1631783. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Donation Deadline: March 20th, 2017

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

All monies raised benefit our students directly. Join us in celebrating our school and in supporting Garden School's mission to educate our students to the highest of academic, social and personal standards.

www.gardenschool.org/gala

gala@gardenschool.org

718 335-6363



Parent Teacher Association

By: Maria D'Amore, PTA Vice-President

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR YEARBOOK?

Hurry before prices go up!

Order online now...

Here is the link for your convenience:

http://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productDetail/1054215/Garden-School/Yearbook/20160719043701273121/CATALOG_SHOP/YB_BOOKS/Yearbook/20160719043701293121/

Join us tomorrow!

Dear Garden Parents,

Please join us tomorrow as we get ready for the 2017 Garden Gala!

Help is needed to get the invitations out...

Any time you have to help us, is greatly appreciated!

Dates are as follows:

TOMORROW! Saturday, February 4th - 10 am+ (Library or Science Lab - TBD)

Thursday, February 9th - 5 pm+ (Library) &

Friday, February 10th - 8:30 am+ (Library)

If you have any questions, please ask!

You may email Gala@GardenSchool.org

We hope to see you there.

Thank you in advance!



Pre-K For All Language Arts

By: Lauren Murray (PKFA Teacher)

During the month of February, students will be learning about various community helpers, their jobs, and how they are important in our neighborhood.

As an introduction to community helpers, we had the NYC Department of Health visit the PKFA students and screen their vision. Children were very excited with the visit from Nurse Joanna and they continued role playing in the classroom. They pretend to be doctors and optometrists in the dramatic play center; showing how these community member help keep our bodies healthy. They were introduced to various tools and incorporated new vocabulary words that they learned. As they played and showed a deeper understanding about the topics, they used some new vocabulary words such as eyeglasses, stethoscope, heartbeat, and thermometer.

To strengthen connections to their own lives we have invited parents and other community members to come and share their knowledge with the students.



Nursery - Kindergarten Science

By: Carmela Knopf Eileen Reyes Lauren Yandow (Early Childhood Faculty)

The Early Childhood Department enjoyed a workshop presented by *The Nature Company*. Live animals were brought into our classrooms on Wednesday morning.

The Nursery, Pre-K, and K students were amazed to learn that chinchillas live on the top of mountains. Chili the chinchilla eats grass, is soft and is very fast. Sunny, the bearded dragon, is a lizard covered with spikes. Staying hot in the desert is what it really likes. He eats bugs and leaves. Our slithering friend Bob the snake, makes a hissing sound. It smells through its long tongue. Snakes find mice a yummy treat to eat. The children had to look very closely to find Twiggy the stick bug camouflaged in its tank among sticks. Anthony, our presenter and new friend, lead us in songs and entertained everyone with a *silly puppet show* featuring Space Frog who reviewed the animal facts that were just taught. This amazing science lesson proved to be an enriching experience for all! Each child was sent home with an animal coloring book with facts about each animal that was seen to share their experience with their family.

To further explore animals, groundhog facts were investigated.

According to legend, *Groundhog Day* is the day each year when this little burrowing animal comes out of its underground house and tries to tell us

whether spring will come early or late this year. New vocabulary was learned as other burrowing and hibernating animals were researched. We read *What Happened When the Groundhog saw his Shadow* by Denise Jefferson, *Animals Under our Feet* by Sindy McKay, and *Hibernation Station* by Michelle Meadows.





Grades 1-3 World Languages - Mandarin

By: Kelly Jie (Mandarin Teacher)

In this unit, students will learn to name some rooms in the house/apartment. Later on we will introduce the common furniture and objects in each room. They will learn to recognize the Chinese words for these items and will use a simple sentence pattern to identify those rooms. The lesson will culminate in each student making and presenting a poster of his or her home.

Give a presentation about his or her home with the visual aid of the poster and by using the sentence patterns and vocabulary learned in the unit.

At the conclusion of the unit, students will design their dream home and present to the class.

English	Chinese	Pronounce(Chinese)
Light switch	开关	Kāiguān
Lamp	灯	Dēng
Air conditioner	冷气	Lěngqì
Sofa	沙发	Shāfā
Carpet	地毯	Dìtǎn
Television	电视	Diànshì
Desk	办公桌	Bàngōng zhuō
Coffee table	茶几	Chájǐ
Fan	风扇	Fēngshàn
Heater	暖气	Nuǎnqì

Grade 4-6 Social Studies

By: Jackie Renner (Social Studies Teacher)

On Thursday morning, Senator Peralta, state senator from district 13, visited Garden School to speak with fourth, fifth, and sixth grades about his job.

Senator Peralta explained his three main responsibilities are creating a budget, passing laws, and aiding his constituents. The students also learned that the budget for New York is in the billions and Senator Peralta has met former Presidents. The fourth grade has already studied how government works, while the fifth grade is currently studying the writing of the Constitution. The students saw the similarities between the branches of state and federal governments. Students asked interesting questions about what motivated Senator Peralta to enter public office, how long he has served, and his stand on several issues. Senator Peralta left the students with advice of how they can participate in government. Students can write to representatives, attend community events, and read current events.

Thank you to Peter M.'s mom, Maria Delgado, for helping to coordinate this event.





Grade 7 and 8 Physical Education

By: Cherie Wangenstein (Physical Education Teacher)

Seventh and Eighth grade recently finished their European handball unit. Their athletic ability shined and we are excited to see them excel in our new Ultimate Frisbee unit. During this unit students will learn the proper way to throw and catch a Frisbee to their partner or team mate. Student use the entire gym in basketball style. Once the basic fundamentals of throwing and catching a Frisbee are mastered students will begin Ultimate Frisbee tournament.

In addition to Physical Education Class the students have had an exceptional middle school season with Girls and Boys Basketball. We have seen a big improvement in each individual student and watching them come together as a team.

Grade 9 Math - Geometry

By: Lucien Gherghi (Chair, Mathematics Department)

In 9th grade geometry (honors) we are almost at the end of the chapter involving circles. We solved many problems involving chords and arcs and now we work with special type of angles: central angles, inscribed angles, angles made by chords, secants and tangents. Besides solving problems to find measure of such angles we will do many proofs in which previous theorems will be used.

Grade 10 Math

By: Sarah Blakeley (Mathematics Teacher)

Since the midterm in early January, our class has been focusing on using scaling and proportions to find the missing sides of geometric figures. This esoteric sounding topic is actually one of the more applicable uses of geometry that the class will encounter. You use scaling every single day, whether shopping for furniture in a catalog or using Google Maps. Even taking pictures on your phone or enlarging a Xerox.

This coming week we will be using proportionality to create scale diagrams of the world around us. Essentially, your children will become temporary surveyors. They'll be taking measurements of everyday objects, and replicating those objects using math on a smaller scale.



Grade 11 and 12 Fine Arts Elective

By: Tiina Prio (Art Teacher, Fine Arts Department, Chair)

The Senior Elective class artists are working on ceramic sculptures. They are using clay to make figures with coiling snakes, cups with handles complete with delicate spoons and vases for flowers. They enjoy working with clay because it can be a calming and centering process. Clay is known as a regressive medium, meaning that for many people it draws up feelings and memories from childhood and allows them to face difficult or complex emotions. So to sum it up, as an artist works with clay, the clay works for them. It's a win-win process.

Before the artists can glaze their ceramic piece, drying time is needed and a trip to the kiln is in order. Two-point perspective is the skill that is featured in this waiting period. The artists are learning about how to create pictures of buildings with realistic windows, doors, garages, sidewalks with curbs, crossing lines for children and parking lots. The rules for two-point perspective are not complicated but do have to be followed for a picture in perspective. Leonardo Da Vinci said that, "The most praiseworthy form of painting is the one that most resembles what it imitates." The Elective students marvel at the way the rules of perspective make a picture seem so tangible.