



# GARDEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Richard Marotta, Ph. D., Headmaster

Volume 95 Number: XXII

"Cultivating Success in Every Child"

Friday, April 20 2018

## Thoughts for the Week

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



Last Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, the Garden School Family came together to celebrate Garden School and to honor Mr. John Hale, Mr. Michael Ricatto and Mr. Gerald Pilate—all three important to the creation and implementation of the Amateur Radio Program at Garden. Their work and dedication to the school formed the basis of the evening's presentation. All three have contributed time, enthusiasm and money to this program and made it a success, and the only program of its type in any New York independent school. We were proud to honor John, Mike, and Jerry at the Gala.

Throughout the night's festivities, it was clear that the Garden School Family had come together in honor of and in celebration of the idea of our community of learners. Of the 300 attendees, just about one third was current Garden parents, which demonstrates the clear support and love of our school among the parent body. This support was obvious and energetic. Parents came to the Gala to show how much they value our school, the excellent education it provides their children, and the wonderful teachers who make this happen on a daily basis.

I came away from the Gala with an even stronger sense of gratitude and awe for the power of our community than I have ever felt before. The feeling expressed by parents, alumni and teachers were not only genuine, but intense. Garden is more than a school; it is a tradition that values its members as individuals and as members of a community. There was no doubt about the passion felt for Garden by those in attendance. It was palpable.

And, that's who we are! For ninety-five years, this community has nourished and supported the lives of children and their families. Think about that. For almost a century, families have entrusted their children to this school to be educated well, to appreciate and develop from social interactions, and to understand the world in which we all live. Essentially, as stated in our Mission Statement, to promote "academic achievement, personal development, and social involvement". That tradition of trust continues to this day, which was evident from the generosity and enthusiasm at the Gala.

Garden School was founded by families who recognized and embraced the power and effectiveness of community in educating students. Because of this, the personal attention given to students is phenomenal; the understanding of each child as a learner is comprehensive, and the idea that we all form this community together is prevalent. Parents at the Gala support Garden with their attendance, their monetary gifts and with their enthusiasm. As we move towards our centennial, let's double and redouble our support of Garden. Our *alma mater* both needs, thrives upon, and cherishes all of our support.

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 inform the school immediately.**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- **Monday, April 23 (and April 30): Defensive Driving Course at Garden 6:30-9:30 pm**
- **Monday, April 30 – Wednesday, May 2: Washington Trip for Grades 5 & 6**
- **Friday, May 4: Adventure Park Trip for Grades 7 & 8**
- **Wednesday, May 9: Music Recital**
- **Friday, May 11: Caumsett Trip and Sleepover for Grade 4**
- **Thursday, May 17: Walk-A-Thon**
- **Monday, May 21: Dance Recital**
- **Thursday, May 24: Senior Prom at The St. Regis**
- **Monday, May 28: School Closed for Memorial Day**
- **Tuesday, May 29: Senior Dinner**
- **Thursday, May 31: Yearbook Dance for Upper Division**

### ***Support Mrs. Knopf Marching for March of Dimes***

**By: Carmela Knopf (Nursery Head Teacher)**

It's that time of year again...I'm walking on Sunday, April 29th, for Babies and raising money because I care about healthy babies and to honor, my daughter, Cristina Rose, who was born at 30 weeks and is now doing great!

I know this cause is important to all of us and to you, too. Can you help me reach my goal by making a donation to my walk? It's easy, just click below to my fundraising page. Your gift supports [March of Dimes](#) research and programs that help moms have full-term pregnancies and babies begin healthy lives. And it's used to bring comfort and information to families with a baby in newborn intensive care. It's easy, just click through to my fundraising page... <https://www.marchforbabies.org/Carmela1022> . You can make a secure donation with your credit card, or, if you prefer, cash or a check dropped off at the Front Desk or to me in Nursery is fine, too. Thank you for your support! If you have already donated, Thank you so much!!



### ***Garden Gala Thank you!***

**By: Jean Kinn, Gala Chair, Member, Garden School Board of Trustees**

Thank you for celebrating with us at the Garden School Gala last Friday evening. Your presence and support of the Gala, our biggest fundraiser of the year, is important to us. Thank you to everyone who donated to the Gala, the Silent Auction, the Scholarship Pledge, volunteered their time, or gave advice. Each and every one of you helped make this the best Gala yet. The room was bursting with over 300 guests, all focused on how special our school is. It was a night to remember.

The Garden School Community is a tight knit group and parents are an important component. The Gala is the one night during the year where parents, alumni, alumni parents, faculty, administration, staff and friends gather together to celebrate Garden School.

Let's take the enthusiasm generated from the 2018 Gala and start to focus on next Spring's event. See you there!



## GARDEN GALA

### - 2018 GALA DONORS -

AAA Party Rentals	Jean Kinn
AMC	Robert Kurfist
American Securities	Lakeshore Learning
Archer Hotel	La Vid Wine & Spirits
Ellen McPhillips Baumann	Magnolia Bakery
Emily Belmonte	The Marn Family
Donald Berhang	Massage Envy
Body Brite	Diane Molleson
Bien Cuit	Mountaintop Lodge
Captain Lawrence Brewing	Lauren Murray
The Caraballo-Tadijanovic Family	Muse Paintbar
Sophie Cebollero	New York Broadway Tours
Chipotle	New York Mets
The Chudnovsky Family	New York Yankees
Churrascaria Plataforma	Mary O'Conner
City Ice Pavilion	Martha Palacio
City Winery	Dr. Benjamin C. Paul M.D
The Cliffs Climbing & Fitness	Periwinkle Boutique
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Cohen	Christopher Peters
Despaña Brand Foods	Svetlana Petrov
The Didwania Family	Elena Pitts
Donovan's Grill & Tavern	Poke Restaurant
Dylan's Candy Bar	Michael Rakosi
Elena Duque	Diane Sarro
Empire Hotel Group	Patricia Saxby
Fairway	Mona Schonbrunn
Favela Grill	Julia Silber
The Frison Family	Smile 4 A Lifetime
Garden School 6th Grade Class	Sorriso's
Andrea Gere	Soul Cycle
The Gladstein Family	Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits
Gourmet Gift Baskets	Sabrina Sukhan
Richard Grusky	Threes Brewing
Domingo Hasbun	Trattoria L'incontro
The Helsing Family	Emily Tricarico-Wilkinson & Steven Wilkinson
The Hyman Family	Michèle Vice-Maslin
Il Bacco	Villa Cemita
International Spy Museum	The Vogel Family
The Intriago Family	Walkers Shortbread
Irvin Simon Photographers	Wine Stop
Kilo Astoria	The Zamora Family
Roger Kimmel	

*AS OF APRIL 9, 2018*



# Garden School Summer Camp

ARTS • ACADEMICS • SPORTS • STEAM

**June 25th - August 17th • Nursery - 13 years old**

Half / Full / Extended Days • 7:30am-6:00pm

Customize your schedule to suit you and your camper

*Onsite swimming pool  
Lunch & snack included  
Special events*

*Lessons/Free swim 2 x daily  
Door-to-door transportation  
Drop-in available*



*Register  
before we  
fill up!*

33-16 79th Street, Jackson Heights NY  
(718) 335-6363 • [gardenschool.org/summer](http://gardenschool.org/summer)



# VOLLO TRANSPORTATION GROUP



Garden School & VTG are Proud to Present a **Defensive Driving Course**

with an overview of and how it's changing the way we drive



ALL PROCEEDS GO TO GARDEN SCHOOL **\$35**

Up to a 10% Reduction on Insurance Premiums for 3 Years and a subtraction of up to 4 Points on your NYS driver's license

Two Evening held on two consecutive Mondays from 6:30 to 9:30 PM on April 23 & 30, 2018

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR FORM AND PAYMENT TO:  
THE GARDEN SCHOOL OFFICE, PHONE # 718 335-6363

Note: this class is open to parents, friends, family, staff, teachers and any NYS licensed driver

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone & E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make check or money order out to Garden School



## ***Pre-K For All - Literacy - Water***

**By:** [Christine Vitiello](#) (PKFA Teacher)

This week in our PKFA class, we continued to explore the wonders of water and its many uses. We asked questions such as, "Where can we find water?" "What are the different bodies of water found around the world?" and "How do we use water in our everyday lives?"

The students discovered that water is our most plentiful natural resource which can be found in three states (solid, liquid, and gas) and is essential for all life to survive. Building on our discussions about water's properties, we investigated why some objects float and some sink. The students conducted an indoor water experiment with various objects and were asked to make predictions. We looked at objects that were hollow inside, filled with water or air and asked, "Did that make a difference? What objects did they expect to sink, but actually could float? What objects did they think would float but sank instead? We discovered that even heavy objects, such as boats, can float because of their shape. The students enjoyed indoor water-play throughout the week, often creating their own experiments using various items found in the classroom as well.



## ***Early Childhood - The Week of the Young Child***

**By:** *Early Childhood Faculty*

*The Week of the Young Child* is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This year's event was April 16th through the 20<sup>th</sup>. The Early Childhood classes were so excited for this week-long celebration of young learners.

### **4/16 Music Monday**

*Let's go to the Zoo, One Little Finger, Bean Bag Rock, and We are the Dinosaurs* are some of the songs that the nursery students celebrated Music Monday with.

The Pre-K and K classes combined to have a dance party. While practicing following directions, the students sang, danced, and played musical instruments including maracas, cow bells, and castanets. The children also participated in a song that involved dancing with bean bags and following directions to place the bean bag on different parts of our body. This cooperative learning experience helped develop skills in math, language, and literacy all while moving and having fun.



### **4/17 Tasty Tuesday**

The nursery children made an Edible Rainbow. Red strawberries and watermelon, orange cantaloupe, yellow mangos and pineapples, green kiwi and honeydew, blue blueberries, and purple grapes were the ingredients that were mixed together in this healthy fruit salad. The students voted on their favorite fruit that they enjoyed the most. Red strawberries and watermelon was the winning choice.



To promote healthy eating, the students in Pre-K and K combined once again to participate in a healthy spring food preparation of *ants on a log*. We discussed that in spring time, vegetables and other plants begin to grow. We also start to see different insects outside such as ladybugs, ants, bees, and caterpillars. Therefore, this healthy snack craft was aimed to look like something we would see outside during this time of year: ants crawling on a plant or tree! The children proved that eating healthy could be very delicious when they enjoyed their snack of celery, peanut butter, and raisins.

#### **4/18 Work Together Wednesday**

An igloo was made from foam blocks in the nursery classroom. The children were very excited to sit in the cozy creation!

Using many different building materials, the Pre-K students began building New York City in the block center. The K students added to this work in progress during their center time using even more building materials.

Some of the K students created the Statue of Liberty and the Freedom Tower using wooden blocks and community people. The result was an elaborate city that any architect would be proud of. These aspiring early childhood architect students will have much fun playing in this organized city for days to come.



#### **4/19 Artsy Thursday**

Romero Britto is the artist who inspired creative flower making. The nursery students made the lovely backgrounds for the multi-patterned flowers made by the Pre-K and K children. [Romero Britto](#) is a Brazilian artist whose distinct graphic style blends Pop Art with Cubist-like abstraction. He dedicates a lot of his time and talent to international organizations such as St. Jude's Children's Hospital, the American Red Cross, and Best Buddies International. He has been a significant contributor to protecting and preserving the Brazilian Rainforest, assisting the ill, funding AIDS research, and much more. His passion for helping the community has led him to create the Britto Foundation in 2007. The foundation supports education and philanthropy for children.



#### **4/20 Family Friday**

Students of all grades from nursery through kindergarten shared and drew family photos with their teachers and classmates. Leah's parents (Pre-K) supported our youngest learners by sharing lessons on how our law enforcement keeps us safe.



## **Grades 1-3 World Languages - Mandarin**

**By:** [Kelly Jie](#) (Mandarin Teacher)

In this unit, students will have a chance to know real Chinese currency, both paper money and coins. They will also be able to do some simple math in Chinese by doing some simple adding and subtracting, especially with Chinese money. And the end of the unit, students will be able to make their own Chinese money and use it to buy school supplies and other things like food and drink at a school fair designed for the class.

## **Grade 4-6 Social Studies**

**By:** [Jackie Renner](#) (Social Studies Teacher)

Fourth grade finished their journeys through the Southwest Region. They have traveled down the Colorado River with John Wesley Powell. The students debated in small groups what supplies they would pack for the year long journey. After reading Powell's personal journal, the class drew conclusions about the environment based on the hardships he faced. The class jumped forward to the building of the Hoover Dam. They took a virtual tour and learned how the dam generates hydroelectric power. After listening to different opinions on building dams, the class compiled a list of economic and environmental impacts of a dam and voted on building one on a fictional river. Their vote was split evenly.



Fourth grade has traveled into the Western Region of the United States this week. They have been practicing the states and their capitals through a Beach Boys style song, puzzles, and online activities. Next week, they will begin exploring the varied geography of this region.

The Fifth Grade has completed the westward expansion.

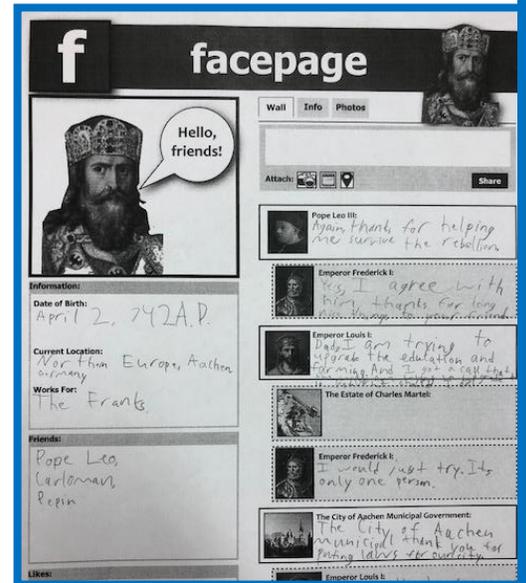
They have mapped the trails of pioneers, missionaries, and the forty-niners and joined in the Gold Rush through a SmartBoard simulation. The students constructed their own Conestoga wagons and made tough decisions on what to carry in them. The students charted the motivation for leaving, how each group traveled, and their importance. In a whole group activity, the students made decisions for their wagon train and kept score to see if they would have reached the Oregon Country. The need for buffalo chips might have a deciding factor on continuing for many students.



This week began the discussion of the causes of the Civil War. The class completed graphic organizers about the differences between the North and the South and the Missouri Compromise. After reading about the Underground Railroad, students researched the meaning behind quilt square patterns and attempted to create their own messages using quilt squares. Next week will see the start of the Civil War.



The Sixth Grade has entered Medieval Europe this week. The students read about Charlemagne and his ability to unify Europe for a time. Then they researched Charlemagne through a QR code activity. With this information they created a fake social media page with comments from Pope Leo III, Emperor Louis I, and the City of Aachen. Another popular activity was being selected as member of the court jury and ruling on cases and assigning punishment. The class was surprised at the harsh punishments of mutilation and death for hunting without permission or forgery. Through note taking they have practiced summarizing and cause and effect skills. Next week we will be discussing feudalism.



## Grade 7 and 8 Physical Education

By: [Flance Dervishi](#) (Physical Education Teacher)

Seventh and Eighth grade have had an exciting time competing in wiffle ball during PE class. All students learned the rules of the games and strategies to do their best to win. This Friday is our last day and we will be moving on to our next unit which is Alaskan Kickball.

Alaskan kickball is a mix of kickball and cricket, and is simply played with one light rubber dodge ball. One team is on offense where they take turns kicking the ball, and the other team is on defense which consists of outfielders and pitcher. The objective is to get points by kicking the ball anywhere in the gym and running to the stage line about 65 feet from the kicking spot. There are checkpoints along the way and each checkpoint is worth a point for their team. The field team's objective is to tag the runner with the ball before he/she gets through all the checkpoints. There are 3 outs and everyone gets to kick and run. The team to get 21 points first is the winner. This is a fun and physically active unit for the students.

## Grade 9 Math - Geometry

By: [Lauren Little](#) (Mathematics Faculty)

In Geometry honors, the students have been learning about how to find the area of shapes. We started with the finding the area of rectangles, squares, triangles, trapezoids, and rhombi. After that, we began discussion about regular polygons and how when you let the number of sides tend to infinity the polygon approaches a circle. To introduce this topic we watched a movie about Archimedes, which discussed how he used this fact to approximate pi. We are now studying the circle, how to find the circumference, area, arc length, and area of sectors.

## Grade 10 Math

By: [Sonia Ambarsom](#) (Mathematics Faculty)

The tenth graders have learned about the unit circle and how to measure and angle in degrees and radian form. Now they are graphing the trigonometric functions, specifically the sinusoidal functions of sine and cosine on the coordinate system. The x values will be the angles (in radians) and the y values will be the trig value (like sin, cos, and tan). A complete repetition of the pattern of these functions is called a cycle and the period is the horizontal length of one complete cycle. Thus the period of the sin, cos graphs is  $2\pi$  radians, and the period for the tan graph is  $\pi$  radians.



With these basic parent functions, they are now expanding this knowledge to transform these sinusoidal graphs by using the general form of  $asink(x-b) + c$  and  $acosk(x-b) + c$  in order to identify important information in order so as to make graphing these transformations easier. With this general form, the students can identify the amplitude, the period, and the phase shifts of the graphs, either vertical or horizontal shifting.

The tangent graph, however, is a bit trickier. This graph repeats itself or cycles every  $\pi$  radians which is called the period of the graph. This graph repeats itself one-half of a revolution of the unit circle. Now they must contend with vertical asymptote every  $\pi$  radians. This occurs whenever they have to divide by 0 to get the tangent and this creates the asymptote.

With enough practice, these graphs become like works of art, and the students become the artists!

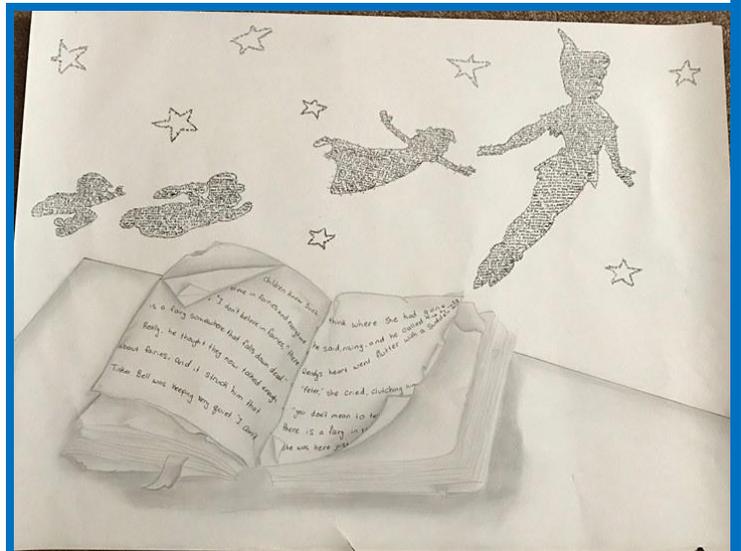
## Grade 11 and 12 Fine Arts Elective

By: [Christopher Zelles](#) (Art Teacher, Fine Arts Department, Chair)

The 11th and 12th grade have just finished their surrealism projects. For this project students were introduced to famous surrealist artists such as Salvador Dali, Rene Magritte, Joan Miro, Max Ernst, and many others. Students also learned about why people were turning towards this art-form during the early 1900's. At this time people had just witnessed the horrors of World War I and people were beginning to akin to people like Sigmund Freud who suggested that dreams could serve a scientific purpose.

For the project students were encouraged to try to remember their dreams and jot down anything that could be used for the project. Students were encouraged to use the principles of surrealism such as playing with scale, double images, dream like states, and juxtaposition.

The results of this project were amazing, and I feel that the students truly pushed themselves to be as imaginative as possible. Students are currently working on the back backdrop and props for the upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade play, Pinocchio, which will be performed May 30<sup>th</sup> in the Garden School gym. Here are some examples of the student's surrealist work. One last thing, if you look at the Peter Pan drawing by Leanne Chin you'll notice all the characters are made up of actual passages from the book *Peter Pan*. It is these types of touches that have made her work so special this year.





## Scenes From Rocket Boys 2018

Each year, as a culmination of their rocketry unit, the eighth graders designed their own lessons, prepare, and teach three topics to the K through 3rd grades. The topics to be taught this year were Exploring Space, Getting to Space, and The Space Race - Past and Present. They then helped the younger students build and launch their own rockets outside.

