



# GARDEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Richard Marotta, Ph. D., Headmaster

Volume 95 Number: XX

"Cultivating Success in Every Child"

Friday, April 6 2018



## Thoughts for the Week

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



The Garden Gala is just a week away! Our annual Gala has become more than a fundraiser for our school; it is a celebration of who we are, what we believe, and how our mission to serve children and families dominates our everyday life. The Gala has become a communal recognition of all those families, students, teachers, trustees, administrators, alumni and friends who make up the greater "Garden Family."

For all of us who love our school and support its mission, coming together at the Gala to raise funds becomes an important yearly event. However, what emerges from the Gala goes beyond fundraising. There are moments in conversation with parents or alumni, some going as far back as the late 1950's, in which the history, tradition, and family spirit of our school breaks through all of the other elements. Obviously, the fundraising is important and necessary to our school just as it is to every other independent school. However, the spirit that permeates the event, the feeling of being part of a 95 year-old institution that continues to flourish, that spirit means more than anything else.

I can feel the history of our school when I talk with an alumni from the 60's or the 70's; something very special happens as we all realize our significant relationship with our school and what it has meant to the lives of so many students, families, and teachers. There is no escaping the feeling that we have been part of something wonderful that needs our care and nurturing as it moves from one era to another, while continuing to provide students with an environment that support and develops their skills and their dreams. Schools have emerged as centers in our lives, and Garden School has supported and encouraged that center for almost one hundred years.

Past, present and future converge at the Gala in wonderful and sustainable ways. So, please attend the Gala. Your presence and your support form the basis of the Garden School of the future. We treasure the past; celebrate the present, and envisage and support the future. All of us should be there: every parent, teacher, alumni, trustee, friend and administrator. Be there for our school, be there for the present and be there for the future.

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:**

- **Friday, April 6: Report Cards Returned**
- **[Friday, April 13: GALA](#) <<< [Click link for more information and tickets!](#)**
- **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**

## ***College Acceptances are Rolling In!***

**By Brad Battaglia, Upper Division Head, Director of College Counseling**

We are excited and proud of the hard work and excellent results of our Garden Class of 2018 college applicants!

Here's a partial list of schools that have accepted our students so far this year

Barnard College  
Baruch College  
Boston College  
Drexel University  
Emory University  
Florida State University  
Fordham University  
Ithaca College  
Lehigh University  
NYU

Princeton University  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
SUNY Stony Brook  
SUNY Binghamton  
University of California at Berkeley  
University of Florida at Gainesville  
University of Michigan  
University of Rochester  
Vassar College  
Wesleyan College

## ***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 News!!!

The Garden Gala takes place next week on Friday, April 13. Just 7 more days before the fun begins!

Do we have your ticket order? If not, follow the link below:

<http://bit.ly/2h00YSA>

**It's time to register for the Silent Auction powered by Handbid!** If you have the Handbid App from previous Galas, simply sign in and search "Garden School Gala 2018" to register. New to Handbid? Download the app or register online if you are bidding from home.

App Store: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/handbid/id433831139?mt=8>

Google Play Store:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.handbid.android>

Online: <https://events.handbid.com/auctions/garden-school-gala-2018/registration>

Once you register, you can preview an early selection of auction items. There are over 100 auction items for you to preview right now!

**All Gala attendees must be registered for the Silent Auction before the event!**

Have you ordered your 100/\$100 Raffle ticket for the Apple Watch Hermès? Get in on the chance to win this \$1,200 designer smartwatch for a fraction of its value. Spots are filling up, don't be left out!

Buy your ticket here: <http://bit.ly/2yd3Axl>

Please come out to support Mr. John Hale and the Garden School Amateur Radio Club next week. Thank you to all who have donated, supported us or gotten involved.

Get ready for a wonderful evening!

See you next Friday, 6:30 pm at Terrace on the Park.

Thank you,

The Garden Gala Committee

## Gala 2017





**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)



## Pre-K For All Science

By: **Yesenia Romero** (PKFA Teacher)

Water is everywhere in our lives. Without much thought, we bathe in it, drink it, cook with it, and wash our hands over and over on a daily basis. And in spite of its everyday status, there's still something mesmerizing about it, especially for children. They'll scoop, pour, and explore, over and over again and love it.

Some questions to ask the children in this unit are: Where does water come from? Why is water important? How do we use water every day?

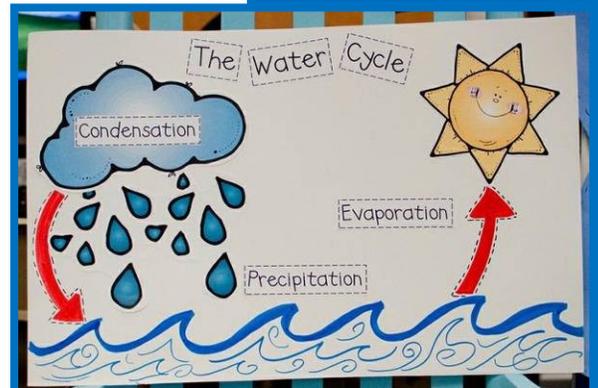
The water cycle is a popular topic that the children really seem to be understanding and using the terms in context. As we came back from vacation, we had a child comment on the water in Penelope's fish bowl in room 1 and how it had "evaporated." Just today one of the children commented on how much "precipitation" is coming down from the clouds as it's raining. The children take great pride in learning new terms, especially when the words have syllables! Be sure to ask your child questions about the water cycle... You'd be surprised at their answers and how much they know!

About 75% of Earth is covered by water. Remind children that all people and animals need freshwater in order to live. Water is an important natural resource that all living things need in some way or another. Pollution can affect water and, in turn, affect everyone. Pollution may leach into our soil and reach our groundwater. Together with children, brainstorm ways to cut down on water pollution. This can be as simple as throwing garbage in a wastebasket and not on the ground where it can be washed away into our sewers. Think of ways to save water, such as turning off the faucet when it is not being used, taking shorter showers, running dishwashers, and washing machines only when they are full, and only using water that we need. This will help children understand that their actions impact the environment. Even small changes can add up to a big difference!

## Nursery Social Studies

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

Nursery's classroom is beginning to like spring, even though the weather says otherwise! We made springtime mobiles and collaged birds. We dot painted paper plates and transformed them into beautiful personalized flowers. We read and then it's spring by Julie Fogliano and When Will It Be Spring? by Catherine Walters. On the smart board, we watched and listened to Welcome Back Spring by Flitzzy Books, an audio video book, where a butterfly welcomes back the plants and animals of spring. It has simple rhymes and colorful illustrations which the children loved! We're all excited to start seeing signs of spring!!





## ***Kindergrten and First Grade Physical Education***

**By: [Flance Dervishi](#) (Athletics Department, Chair, PE Teacher)**

This week, Kindergarten and First Grade classes have worked on tumbling and cartwheels. As each student has shown huge improvement in class, we have advanced a few students to learning how to perform a round off, which is an advanced cartwheel. Kindergarten and First Grade had Wacky Wednesday which they get to let loose and Dance the entire Gym class. Thursday, we worked on aiming and throwing on targets. We showed them the proper way to throw a ball and bean bags to a specific target. Today, was our weekly activity of parachute, creating a bubble, to waving the parachute, to making popcorn, and ring around the rosy. The students are doing a fantastic job in class and are ahead in all the activities. We are very happy with the results of the class this year.

## ***Grades 1 to 3 Fine Arts - Art***

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

The first, second, and third graders have been hard at work making masks for the masquerade ball themed Garden School Gala. This project has the students utilize several skills such as illustration, cutting, gluing, and 3 dimensional design. The students have been having a lot of fun with this project and it is great to see how their personalities come across in each unique mask. Here are some examples of what the students have done so far.



## ***Grades 1 to 3 Fine Arts - Music***

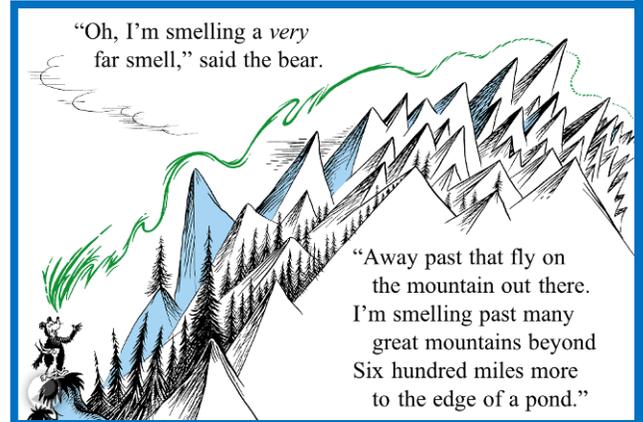
**By: [Tom Heineman](#) (Fine Arts Department, Chair, Music Teacher)**

First graders learned a new dance, the Hitchhike, during the week. They performed a counting exercise in which they counted out each move individually (counts of 4), combined moves (8 counts), and the overall form. As the students discovered, there's twelve measures and 48 beats in the Marvin Gaye song 'Hitchhike' before the form repeats. As they progress, they will begin to see what a large role numbers play in music.

Students in Second grade are enjoying the fruits of their labor as they had a chance to watch the first of three videos from their sound project. Students created all the sounds to accompany an animated film around 5 minutes in length. Subsequently, they voiced all of the characters in three separate cycles through the film. The final products, replete with an introduction and credits, are looking good; they are something the students will discuss and remember for years to come.



Third grade students have begun a project of their own, using their voices and various percussion instruments to accompany the Dr. Seuss story 'The Big Brag.' They create sounds that we might hear in the story, such as the wind through leaves and grass, a bear's growl, echoes amongst the mountains, and a rabbit. Students have to use their imagination to come up with potential sounds, as there are not many noises indicated in the story; the mountainous setting suggests many possibilities of things we might hear, though. To complete the project, students will narrate the story, and their sounds, narration, a melody I wrote for them to perform on hand bells, and images from the book will be combined to create a video-another memorable undertaking.



## **Grade 4 Math**

**By:** [Michelle Sclafani](#) (Math and Science Teacher)

Our fourth grade mathematicians are starting to spin in circles as we begin our geometry unit. Starting the unit over Spring Break, and then continuing once we returned, our studies focused on the fundamentals of geometry covering the differences between a line segment, line, and ray. Wrapping up the week focusing on circles and preparing to go into all sorts of shapes, our fourth graders are enthusiastic throughout class. Wrapping up the school year, we will be building on these topics and moving on to perimeter and area with some hands on activities. Being able to decipher the two will help our young mathematicians going into fifth grade!

## **Grade 5 Math**

**By:** [Michelle Sclafani](#) (Math and Science Teacher)

The fifth grade mathematics class is learning how fractions are still a key part to their studies. Starting our units of proportions and ratios, they are being challenged to go back to their previous studies to connect these topics to the fundamentals they learned with fractions! At the conclusion of this unit, our mathematicians will be able to relate proportions to reality when they build their own recipes!

## **Grade 6 Math**

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

This week, we've started going deeper into geometry by exploring angles and angle relationships. The students learned about three types of angles last year: acute, obtuse, and right. Now they are focusing on the relationships between these angle types, such as the fact that some acute angles can add up to 90 degrees. Special relationships such as this between angles have specific names: complementary, supplementary, vertical, and linear.

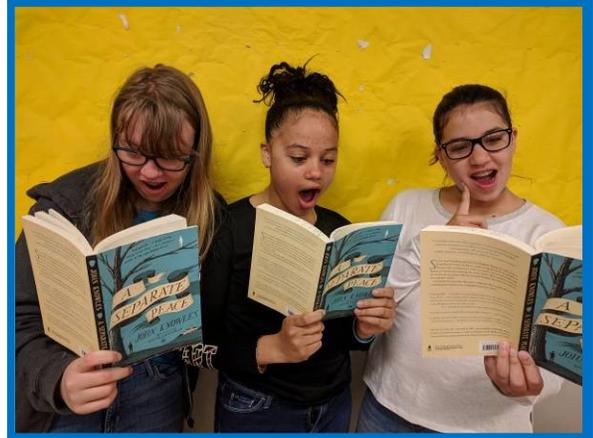
Students are starting to combine this information with their previous knowledge of algebra to help them find missing angles. In the words of several students, "It's like a puzzle! An algebra puzzle!"



## G7 and G8 English

By: [Nancy Massand](#) (Middle School Dean)

Students in English 7 are reading John Knowles' *A Separate Peace*, a stirring story of high school friends fighting their personal battles while World War II looms as they near graduation. We examine the complicated relationship of the two roommates as they navigate adolescence and anticipate (or dread) coming of age and being drafted. Though the story is set in 1942, the complexities of teen friendships are very current and spark some animated discussion. We explore the concept of rivalry and envy; is there such a thing as friendly rivalry? What do we look for in a friend? What do we offer as a friend? The layers of emotions that affect a friendship shaped a destiny in this story, and students are challenged to think and write honestly about their own challenges as relationships shift and change.



Students in English 8 are reading Homer's classic, *The Odyssey*. After some background investigation of the Trojan War, they plunged into Odysseus' journey home fraught with monsters, immortals, disasters and drama. We examined the poetic structure of the story, which is preserved in our prose narrative through figurative language and refrains. At the heart of the story is Zeus' initial assertion that in many cases it was man's own folly, not the gods' whims, that brought trouble for humans. We discuss the impact of that theme in Homer's time and how it has evolved in our own time. Many of our students bring a strong background in mythology to the table, enriching our discussions beyond the text for stimulating discussion.

## Grade 9 World Languages - French

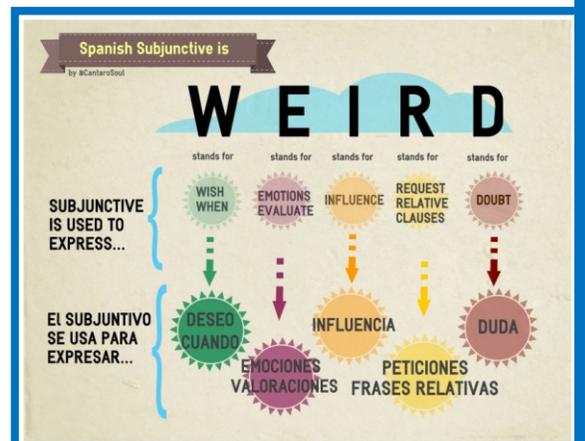
By: [Gabriel Gomis](#) (World Languages Department Faculty)

We wrapped up the lesson on the relative pronouns "qui" and "que". Students learned to combine sentences using the relative pronouns. Before the spring break, we talked about current affairs in French-speaking countries. We read a text extracted from TF1, a renowned French medium, about students' protests and unions' protests over SMIC (minimum wage), working conditions, hours of works... We talked about the labor laws in France and Senegal.

## Grade 10 World Languages - Spanish

By: [Agustín Melara](#) [Gabriel Gomis](#) (World Languages Department Faculty)

One of the most difficult concepts in the Spanish language is the *subjuntivo* (the subjunctive). While the indicative mood describes or refers to something definite, certain, or factual, the subjunctive is used when the person speaking expresses doubt, emotion, necessity, or desire. Most sentences that require the use of the subjunctive have two parts, which are connected by the word *que*. Each part has a different subject, and the verb in the second part is conjugated in the subjunctive.





## Grade 11 Physics

By: [Michelle Sclafani](#) (Math and Science Teacher)

Our Physics students wrapped up the third marking period by stepping outside of the textbook and focusing their work to Stephen Hawking. Connecting topics in class, it is beneficial for the students to understand and see some of the famous Physicists and their studies. Upon conclusion and return from break they jumped right into our unit on Light and Sound without any refractions! As college is in their sights, it is important that we continue to relate how Physics and objects around us all connect. For example, why is the sky actually blue? Why do some marine life appear to be a different color as they are go deeper into the ocean?



As we approach the conclusion of their senior year, we will be continuing on strong focusing on topics such as Electricity and Magnetism. The students will also be having a handful of opportunities to outline and present notes on their own which will allow them to better prepare for the years to come!

## Grade 11 and 12 Science - AP Biology

By: [Marlene Dapice](#) (Science Department, Chair)

Students are currently completing a unit on evolution. As one cannot truly witness evolution as it happens, there must be models that can be employed to demonstrate the effects of environmental changes on the allele frequencies within a population.

Hardy and Weinberg developed a mathematical model which can be used to examine changes in allele frequencies in an idealized population. Their equation,  $p^2 + 2(p)(q) + q^2 = 1$ , allows the frequencies of homozygous dominant, homozygous recessive, and heterozygous individuals to be calculated from the frequencies of the dominant (p) and recessive (q) alleles. An understanding of the results allows students to determine whether an allele has increased or decreased in a population. This affords them an opportunity to determine which factor or factors in the idealized population may have contributed to the change.

- Genetic variation
- Genotype frequencies
- Allele frequencies
- Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium
- Inferring Evolution
- Applying HWE

$p + q = 1$

$p^2 + 2pq + q^2 = 1$

$C^R C^R$   $C^R C^W$   $C^W C^W$

## Grade 11 and 12 Science - Engineering

By: [John Hale](#) (Science Teacher)

The Engineering students just started working as a team of engineers who have been given the assignment to work with a client to develop a new assistive device to meet their needs. They will start by interviewing a client who needs an assistive walking device to figure out what modifications will need to be made to meet the clients' needs. Then they will start with a standard wooden cane and re-engineer it with additional devices and features to meet the client's specific needs. Likely the resulting device will be useful to a broader population as well and could be marketed to others. They will need to develop a construction blueprint for their canes so that the client can consider the cost and functionality of the new device.



## **Grade 11 and 12 Science - Human Genetics**

**By:** [Lou Albano](#) (Science Teacher)

In the Human Genetics class, we have visited the world of Gregor Mendel and his great contributions to the study of heredity.

Several students were not familiar with Mendel's work, and they were amazed at his contributions to the field of Genetics through the study of pea plants. The discussion of traits, dominant, recessive, hybrid, and other key terms have been part of our classroom discussion. Students have also looked at the results of genetic crosses utilizing the Punnett square. Our next venture is to see what unfolds outside of normal circumstances, specifically genetic disorders.

### **Genetics and the Work of Gregor Mendel**



## **Garden School 9th Grader to Compete in International Violin Competition**

Garden School is proud and excited for ninth grader, Hanchi Shi, as she heads off to compete in this year's Menuhin Competition for violin in Geneva, Switzerland! Good luck, Hanchi!

祝你好运！ 我们为你感到惊讶！

You can learn more about Hanchi and the competition here:

<https://2018.menuhincompetition.org/person/shi-hanchi-349956>

<https://www.facebook.com/menuhincompetition/>

