

# THE LP BULLETIN

NOTES, QUOTES, AND LOST COATS

The LP Bulletin #17  
December 8th, 2016

## UPCOMING LP EVENTS

Tuesday, December 13th - Kindergarten (Class of 2023) Parent Coffee - 8:00 am  
Tuesday, December 13th, 9:30am - Winter Concert Rehearsal, parents welcome  
**Thursday, December 15th - 7:00 pm Winter Concert**  
Thursday, December 15th - Performance Fest #1 - 10:30 am  
Monday, December 19th - Winter Vacation Begins.

**CURRENT 'HABIT OF  
THE HEAD, THE  
HEART, AND THE  
HAND'**

Integrity

**WORD OF THE WEEK**

Flourish  
Compromise  
Apply  
Concede  
Responsibility  
Indulge  
Predicament  
Dawdle  
Germinate  
Tarnish  
Flounder  
Maneuver  
Artifact  
Prompt

## HEADLINES

### **An Apology**

I know that you have already received an email alerting you to the fact that due to a miscommunication we have had to change the evening of our Winter Concert from Wednesday to Thursday. I am so sorry.

We typically book our venues many months--even a year--in advance, and we had done so for this event with the church. Somehow, however, (I think it might have been at a later time when we were discussing graduation dates) our originally scheduled Winter Concert dates were removed from the Church calendar and the space booked by another use. And we didn't learn about this until this morning, as we prepared to walk down for our first rehearsal.

Fortunately, the church could still accommodate us for our two rehearsals--and for a concert on Thursday instead of Wednesday. I knew right away that changing the concert date was probably going to come as devastating news for some parents who would have conflicts, and as an inconvenience for many others. There are few things I dislike more intensely than having to make last minute changes that impact other people. It's not the way we have ever operated this school.

While there is no substitute for being there on the very night of the concert, parents who are unable to attend on Thursday are certainly invited to attend our second rehearsal on Tuesday, starting at 9:30 AM. If today's first rehearsal was any indication, you will still hear a polished performance. We will also be video taping the concert and putting it into our Parent Portal--small consolation, I know, but an opportunity, possibly, to 'share' the event with your child if you can't be present on Thursday.

Again, I am so sorry this happened. I apologize for not being more vigilant in confirming thought-to-be firm dates ahead of today. This has never happened before; today it did. Lesson learned.

**ATTACHMENTS**



This year's Rainbows are doing a fantastic job with their fundraising efforts! Pictured here are some Rainbows hard at work at the Hill House bake sale last weekend.

**Winter Concert**

Today was our first rehearsal at the Church and it went splendidly. The children have never been better focused or productive and, after an hour and a half they were exhausted-- as they deserved to be.

The details about the concert-- dress code, arrival procedures, seating and photographs, etc.-- were fairly thoroughly covered in last week's Bulletin. Please consult as needed.

Two additional notes this week:

**1. The concert is on THURSDAY - a change of date.**

**2. The second rehearsal** is on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9:30 AM. Parents who we've disappointed with the change of dates are cordially invited to attend.

**3. After the concert,** we ask that parents make contact with a teacher *before* taking a child home. The location of the youngest children, who require the most supervision at dismissal, will be down in front. The K's will be in their seats in the 'alcove;' the first and second graders will be sitting up on the floor of the stage.

We have told the younger children that they are not to get up out of their seats or come off the stage until we call them forward. Please help us enforce this dismissal protocol by checking in with a teacher first, and allowing the teacher to call your child for dismissal. In the interest of safety, we want to control, as much as possible, the inevitable (and joyful) confusion after the concert is finished.



## Great Schools

One of the jobs of a Headmaster is to lead their school toward greatness-- whatever form that may take. I've always believed that there are different paths to greatness and a variety of forms, but there is also commonality of qualities that distinguish great schools from lesser versions.

At last week's Board Meeting I briefly reported on an article that I had just read on the [Edutopia Website](#). The author, Will Minton, begins by explaining his methodology. He writes, "I visited top-ranked schools across four continents and met an extremely diverse array of school leaders. Amid this diversity, I was surprised when each leader described the same three priorities as fundamental to their school's success. From Singapore to Switzerland, South Africa to India, these three practices recurred with remarkable consistency."

The three practices he identified were:

**A Collaborative Staff Culture;**

**A focus on values over academics;**

**The empowerment of students with high expectations and trust.**

Had the author visited the LP, he would have found a school that deeply embeds those practices-- a school where faculty collaboration and professional learning are highly prized; where character values are paramount, and where high expectations, trust, *and* accountability empower students to make choices, to learn from mistakes and to become reflective, thoughtful and resilient people.

Another job of a Headmaster is to remind people about a school's unique attributes. That's actually not a very hard part of my job at The LP because the school, itself, again and again, demonstrates that the power of small is the immense capacity to profoundly shape character as well as intellect.

It no longer comes as a surprise to me when I hear-- sometimes second or third hand-- that people 'out there' often say, "You can always tell an LP student." It's probably true. Being around students for as many years as I have, I can sense a *quality* (years ago a colleague at another school called it 'a tone') about LP graduates that reflects both the greatness of their upbringing at home and the greatness of the school they attend.

Small is large!

## **LP Auction--Theme Announcement!**

We hope that you will plan on attending the LP Annual Auction on **March 31, 2017** at the Hotel Commonwealth. This year's theme will be **Black and White, with a Splash of Red**. Find your favorite black and white cocktail attire, with a splash of red, and join us for an evening of community, laughter and friendship as we celebrate the LP. It is our hope to have a record breaking fundraising event, as all proceeds go to improving our children's future educational experience.

## **Last Week's Bake Sale at Hill House**

A big thank you to all those who helped bake delicious goods for the 6th Grade fundraiser. They raised \$329.87 which will go towards their trip to DC. Congratulations to the sixth graders!

## **Word of the Week: Flourish**

- To grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as the result of a particularly favorable environment.
- To develop rapidly and successfully.
- A bold or extravagant gesture or action made especially to attract the attention of others. "With a flourish, she ushered them inside."
- A fanfare played by brass instruments. "A flourish of trumpets."

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Admissions Volunteers Needed**

Thank you very much to everyone who helped with our Open Houses and admissions outreach this fall. Your time and effort are much appreciated! We have many more opportunities for parent volunteers this winter. Please consider the dates included in this link, and don't hesitate to reach out to Laura if you have any questions.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4aaca828a6fb6-winter>

### **Girl Scout Cookies**

Please note that Girl Scout cookies will be available for purchase at the Winter Concert next Wednesday. They will be \$5 per box and cash is preferred. Thanks in advance for your support.

### **"Join Hands" Annual Fund Campaign**

Hopefully you all received an Annual Fund reminder yesterday from our Parent Giving Chairs, Cindy and Paul Gamble. The email included their original letter to you, as well as a link to [a video](#) that commemorates 43 years of "joining hands" here at The LP.

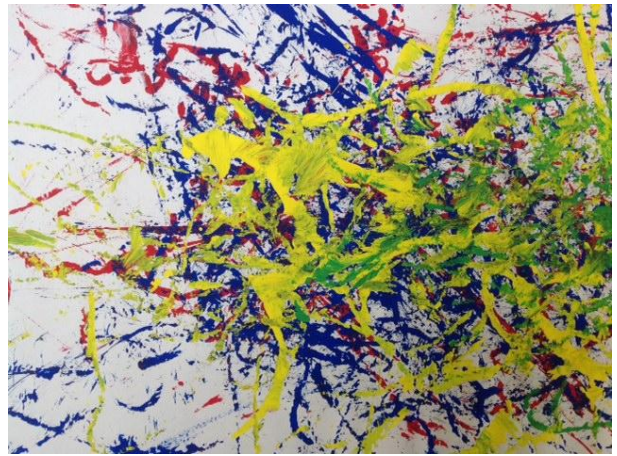
Please be aware that this is only a reminder to those people who had hoped to get their donations in by the end of this calendar year. If you still want to participate, you have until the close of our fiscal year, June 30th, to send in your gifts to this Annual Fund campaign. Thank you for your support!



## ARTISTS OF THE WEEK

### **String Painting Abstractions**

Continuing their study of abstraction, the Kindergarten students created work reminiscent of Jackson Pollock. The students read the book "Matthew's Dream", in which the character creates a work of art and gets lost amongst the shapes and colors. They then used string and tempera paint to "get lost" in their colorful abstract creations.



**Tomas Werning, Kindergarten**

### **Mondrian-Inspired Assemblages**

For this project, the kindergarten students continued their examination of the color wheel. We looked at the primary colors (red, yellow, and blue) and discussed that all other colors are derived by mixing the primary colors together. We looked at the work of Piet Mondrian and his use of only the primary colors and black and white in his work. The students observed Mondrian's piece entitled "Broadway Boogie Woogie" and noticed that he used the placement of the primary colors to represent the movement of a city. For their project, the children were given the primary colors and pieces of cardboard. They listened to boogie-envoking music and painted as they danced. The cardboard pieces were assembled to create a composition similar to Mondrian's work.



**Meryl Sutich, Second Grade**

### **Mickalene Thomas Portrait Collages**

This project is a continuation of the second grade study of

texture. We looked at the work of contemporary artist Mickalene Thomas and observed the non-traditional materials (sequins, rhinestones, textiles) she uses to give her portraits a sense of texture. The students first examined themselves in the mirror and painted their self-portraits. They then added clothes and collaged a colorful background using various patterned paper and fabric.



Ginger Knabe, Second Grade

### **Plein-Air Painting**

#### **Plein-Air Painting in the Public Garden**

To continue our study of mood, setting, and color, we learned about the Impressionist painters and their approach to landscape painting. Many Impressionists, including Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir, painted in the open air, or "en plein air". They used large brushstrokes and non-traditional colors to paint their compositions. We kept those things in mind as we sat in the Public Garden and painted the scenery in the Impressionist style.



William Bordon, Sixth Grade