

THE LP BULLETIN

NOTES, QUOTES, AND LOST COATS

The LP Bulletin #22
January 26th, 2017

UPCOMING LP EVENTS

Friday, January 27th - 4th Grade Conference Day
Friday, January 27th - 2nd and 5th Ice Skating at Frog Pond - 10:00
Monday, January 30th - 5th Grade Conference Day
Tuesday, January 31st - 6th Grade Conference Day/Girl Scouts

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

Stewardship

HEADLINES

A Special ASM

Today we had a unique guest at ASM, Gevvie Stone, the first Olympian ever to speak to our children. Gevvie was introduced by Katherine McCord, '96, who swam and rowed with Gevvie in high school and has remained a friend ever since. It was Katherine who had the good idea of inviting Gevvie to talk with our children.

Gevvie told the story of her long trip to the Olympics, against a background of pictures (projected on our splendid new 80" screen). She explained that she started rowing in high school, continued in college, and then trained and tried out, unsuccessfully, for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. In 2012, with the Olympics in London, she made the team but didn't win a medal. As 2014 approached, she had to make a decision about whether to give it a try again, and she decided to do so--interrupting her medical school studies for two years of relentlessly demanding training: twenty workouts each week (weights, ergs, rowing). As she said, she did nothing but workout, eat, sleep and do laundry. And, then, in Rio this past summer, the pay-off came: she won the silver medal in the Women's 2000 meter single.

After 15 minutes of questions from the students, and after we thanked her and presented her with a gift to show our appreciation, she graciously allowed all of the children, class by class, to hold the medal and have their picture taken with her.

It was a magical moment for our children, and I suspect one that many of our children will remember for their lifetimes. Katherine suggested that I notify parents that many children will probably come home today talking about becoming Olympic athletes. Consider yourselves warned . . . and turn the conversation to this morning's underlying message: that a determined, positive attitude coupled with disciplined, hard work are key to

WORD OF THE WEEK

Demonstrate
Farewell
Affirm
Curtail
Advocate
Flourish
Compromise
Apply
Concede
Responsibility
Indulge
Predicament
Dawdle
Germinate
Tarnish
Flounder
Maneuver
Artifact
Prompt

ATTACHMENTS

[Lunch Week Parent Info Letter](#)

[Lunch Week Menu](#)

WHAT'S DUE?

Read-A-Thon Pledges - Due Monday, January 30th

success.

Read-A-Thon

I wish you could have seen it: the children all sprawled on the floor in their pj's, with their blankets and sleeping bags, stuffed animals and books. By 6:35, you could have heard a pin drop in the school and two hours later, bleary eyed Kindergarteners, and still-raring-to-go- sixth-graders were on their way home closing out yet another *perfect* Read-a-Thon night.

Please, now assist your child with the pledge collection and kindly *have all the pledges in by this MONDAY, January 30th*, so the front office can make the deposit and report the result. (We are grateful to the parents and children have already done this task!)

Thanks to all parents for making this fun event possible, and to the faculty and staff who were here last Friday to make it happen.

Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees met last night for the fourth time this year. (There was a special extra meeting in the fall concerning the building.) After the usual administrator reports from Martha (She talked about our recent faculty development discussions on stereotyping and on 'belonging',) from Justin (on fundraising and admissions) and from me (on the children's involvement in conferences, on our new faculty evaluation program, and, briefly, on updates on the new building,) we turned our attention to reports from the Advancement Committee, Personnel Committee and finally the Finance Committee. The last report was about the school's budget for 2017-2018, which was approved. The topic generated a lengthy discussion that touched on the school's historic commitments to affordability and access, to prudent budgeting, and to excellence in all areas (program, teaching, salaries, tuition assistance, etc.) and on some of the core values that drive the discussions each year around the budget. It is always interesting to me how a discussion around the allocation of (always) limited resources crystalizes very quickly around discussions of what is valued, and the values that shape that 'what.' The budget sets the tuition for next year, addressed in a letter from the Board Chair, Jim Duane, accompanying the enrollment contracts which are going out today.

Lunch Week - Grades 1-6

Please note that the sign-up forms for this event are going home today and need your prompt attention. This is a massive undertaking by the sixth grade for the purpose of raising money for their D.C. trip, and as always, it is offered on a 'pay what you can' basis. Please be mindful of the return date of February 3rd.

Lunch Week Forms -Due Friday, February 3rd.

2017-2018 Enrollment Contracts - Due February 6th.

GIRL SCOUTS SCHEDULE

January 31st
February 14th
February 28th
March 14th
March 28th
April 11th
April 25th
May 9th
May 23rd
June 6th



At our All School Meeting this Thursday, we had a surprise visit from two-time Olympic athlete, and Rio 2016 Women's Rowing Silver Medalist, Gevvie Stone! Gevvie shared her story, posed for pictures, and answered a flurry of wonderful questions from our students.



Faculty News

Ms. Michalow, who has been our fifth grade teacher for (almost) four glorious years, informed Ms. Cesarz and me yesterday that she will be unable to return next year. We were disconsolate, but happy for her, because she is getting married this summer and will be living near where Adam, her future husband, now lives in Rhode Island.

We are deeply appreciative and admiring of the outstanding teaching that Mary has provided four groups of fifth graders. We will certainly miss her and we will wish her well. But not yet: There's still a good chunk of time together before we must say 'Farewell.'

A Poem

Here is a favorite poem of mine, which I have (often, but not annually) shared with parents around this time of year, Winter Conference time, when we are all reflecting on how our children have changed since school began. As I mentioned last night at the Board Meeting, we may have the same *number* of children we started with on August 29th, but they are not the same children. Growth is change.

The Red Hat

It started before Christmas. Now our son
officially walks to school alone.
Semi-alone, it's accurate to say:
I or his father track him on the way.
He walks up on the east side of West End,
we walk on the west side. Glances can extend
(and do) across the street; not eye contact.
Already ties are feelings and not fact.
Straus Park is where these parallel paths part;
he goes alone from there. The watcher's heart
stretches, elastic in its love and fear,
toward him as we see him disappear,
striding briskly. Where two weeks ago,
holding a hand, he'd dawdle, dreamy, slow,
he now is hustled forward by the pull
of something far more powerful than school.
The mornings we turn back to are no more
than forty minutes longer than before,
but they feel vastly different-flimsy, strange,
wavering in the eddies of this change,
empty, unanchored, perilously light
since the red hat vanished from our sight.

Rachel Hadas (b. 1948)

Word of the Week: Demonstrate

Clearly show the existence of truth of (something) by giving proof of evidence.

Gevvie Stone an 2016 Olympic Silver Medalist in the single skull event visited our school today and spoke to children about her determination and hard work as a rower demonstrating that these two qualities are critical to success.

To take part in a public demonstration.

Many of our families demonstrated at the Boston Women's March last Saturday.

- Michael

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Re-Enrollment Contracts

Re-enrollment contracts are being sent home tonight via backpack mail, please look out for them.

Rent-A-Rainbows



Our Rent-a-Rainbows are still here and working hard to support their upcoming trip to DC! If you need any help, please check in with Mr. Gerstenlauer!

Coding Workshop - This Saturday January 28, 2017

Parents of 4th, 5th and 6th graders - Does your child have an interest in computers, electronics, or coding? CoderDojo is a volunteer-led, community-based programming club for young people. Anyone aged seven to seventeen can visit a Dojo where they can learn to code, build a website, create an app or a game, and explore technology in an informal, creative, and social environment. Cathy Wong, parent to James (4th) and William (2nd), with Mr Krewson will be organizing an LP visit to a local CoderDojo site at LogMeIn near the Seaport this **Saturday, January 28th**. The workshop runs from **1:00-2:30pm** and will allow for all skill levels to work in a fun, engaging, hands-on atmosphere with computers and software! If interested, please e-mail Cathy Wong at cwong365@gmail.com.

For more info visit:

<https://zen.coderdojo.com/dojo/776>

ARTISTS OF THE WEEK

Abstract Expressionism Self-Portraits

This project introduced the students to the work of contemporary artist, Shinique Smith. In her artwork, she uses expressive lines, emotive colors, and scraps of her own clothing to create what she calls "self-portraits". Even though they are completely abstract, she considers them representations of her because they reflect her personal emotions. To create their abstract self-portraits, the students painted expressive lines and used colors that represented what they were feeling. They used scraps of fabric and a layering process to add personality to their pieces, and made each painting a unique visual representations of their emotions.



Abimael Degu, First Grade

Metal Underwater Creatures

This project focused on the study of visual texture and color relationships. The students reviewed their knowledge of visual texture (the way something looks as if it might feel) and saw that many illustrations and photographs of underwater animals display visual texture and bright, vibrant colors. By looking at photos or using their imaginations, the students drew an underwater creature and etched it into metal foil. They then added color using permanent markers to give their compositions a sense of vibrant realism.



Milan Kapasi, Second Grade

Fauvism Landscapes

Continuing their study of the color wheel, fourth graders learned about the Fauvism movement of the early twentieth-century. After examining the work of Henri Matisse and Wassily Kandinsky, the students noticed that the Fauvists used bright, non-traditional

colors to create vibrant portraits and landscapes that were considered wild at the time they were painted. So wild, in fact, that the group of artists were labeled Fauvists, or "Wild Beasts". The students drew landscapes that displayed a sense of depth and used their knowledge of the color wheel to paint their pieces in the style of the Fauvist artists.



Ruby Sadecki, Fourth Grade

Clay Forms

To continue their study of the element of art, FORM, the sixth graders examined the properties of a "successful" three-dimensional sculpture. They observed several examples of sculptures throughout art history and noticed that these sculpture could be viewed in-the-round, were very realistic, and included tactile texture indicative of the object represented through sculpture. The students created several sketches of the object of their choice and used clay tools, and building methods to create forms out of clay.



Peter Fleck, Sixth Grade

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