

GPA Newsletter



JUNE 2012

Leadership Update

Dear GPA families!

We have had a fabulous year at Gardner Pilot Academy and we are so excited to have an action packed June to celebrate. There are lots of dates on the calendar that include a school wide field trip, field days, awards ceremonies and graduations. Please mark your calendars to join us for these celebrations.

On May 24th we honored two of our fifth graders at Faneuil Hall for the Annual Mayor's Awards. We are thrilled to share Krishan Eskew received the Academic Achievement Award and Maxiel Martha received the School Spirit Award.

This last month we have had some awesome learning experiences as we have rolled out our Social Justice Units in each of our grades. Our third graders and room 31 have been

studying the American Revolution and they were able to open the new visitors center at Faneuil Hall in Boston. This trip highlighted the history of our amazing city and the importance of having our student experience these sites first hand. Our first graders have been learning all about our community and have met with the incredible individuals who work in Allston. They were able to tour the new Charlesview and meet directly with the developers of this new addition to our community. All of our students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade have been learning about the importance of recycling in science and have been working to make our world a better place to live. These last few months we are excited to not just say we believe in Social Justice but to actually live by these values in our teaching and actions. We are thrilled that this year we

will be ending our year with having all of our students at GPA participate in volunteer groups for the last two days of school serving in teams to make our school shine! The goal is to have every student at GPA give back to our own community by helping to clean, organize and prepare our school for summer. If you are interested in volunteering to run a GPA Service Team please see Elba Mendez and share your availability.

Thanks for your continued support of GPA :)

Best,
Erica Herman and Joe Sara

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Walk-a-thon

The walk-a-thon raised \$2964.25.

These are the top 3 students who raised the most money:

1. Charlie Weitzman
2. Adrian Vasquez
3. Mia White

Ms. Nelson's class (Room17) raised the most money !

Adult Education



The Adult Education Program has had a successful academic year. Students in all classes have given a great deal of attention to writing. Students have done an exceptional job of improving their writing skills, and the result is a compilation of student writing which will be published and distributed at our year end event on May 24th.

Teachers have also worked hard at integrating technology into the ESOL classroom. Each class had access to the computers once a week and focused on sending email, navigating the Internet, typing

activities, and using websites to practice English grammar, learn new vocabulary and improve listening skills. As a result, students have reported feeling more comfortable using computers because of the continual practice.

Lastly, the Adult Education Program welcomed several community partners who shared information, held workshops, and answered questions for our students. Sister Pat Andrews from The Literacy Connection held a Citizenship workshop, Mary Rita Weschler from The Women's Table spoke about the importance of community sup-

port, Francisca Guevara from The Joseph Smith Community Center did health screenings for all of our participants, and Helen Connolly from The Allston/Brighton Substance Abuse Task Force held a 4 week parenting workshop titled Guiding Good Choices. These partnerships have allowed us to meet the needs of our participants, while building strong community bonds.

The Adult Education Program will end on May 24th. Classes will resume in mid-September.

Updates from the Health Room (Medications)

"ANY
MEDICATION....
THAT IS NOT
PICKED UP WILL BE
DISPOSED OF".

Dear Gardner Pilot Families,

Please remember to pick up any medication that is kept in the health room before the last day of school. This includes inhalers, epipens, and pill bottles. Any medication that is not picked up will be disposed of.

Don't forget to send in your healthy recipes for our GPA cookbook! This cookbook will be used as a fundraiser to support

needed programming next year. You can email recipes to me at dulrich@boston.k12.ma.us.

Lastly, it is with a truly heavy heart that I must share some news; I will not be returning as the School Nurse next year to GPA. My husband and I have decided to move our family to Portland, Oregon, and we will be leaving at the end of June. I can't begin to tell you all how much I have loved working with the students, staff, and

families at this school. I am truly grateful for the wonderful memories and experiences that I've had here over the last 3 and a half years, and I will carry those in my heart on my next adventure. Thank you all so much for everything. I promise to stay in touch.

Nurse Dana

GPA/YMCA Afterschool

June is a jam packed month for GPA! We have a lot of great opportunities for students and families:

Summer Program Parent Orientation at 6PM in GPA Auditorium on Wednesday, June 6th. Applications are available in the main office.

Final Arts Showcase at 8:30AM on Friday, June 8th

Friendship Feast on Friday, June 8th

All school field trip to George's Island on Tuesday, June 12th all day. For this trip all students must be here on time and stu-

dents will be back in time to make buses as needed.

Field Day at Harvard Track and Field for students in K-1-2nd grade on Wednesday, June 13th from 9-12PM

Field Day at Harvard Track and Field for students in 3rd-5th grade on Thursday, June 14th from 9-12PM

After School whole program field trip on Tuesday, June 19th 2:30-6:00PM, location TBD

*There is no school on Monday, June 18th. And we have half days on June 20th and 21st.

Cradles to Crayons



Hi GPA Families,

The Gardner Pilot Academy is partnering with Cradles to Crayons (<http://cradlestocrayons.org/boston>) to help kids in need.

Please join us by donating gently used children's clothes, shoes, and coats that your children no longer wear.

Donations can be left in the collection bin inside the main entrance from June 1 – 8 or bring them to the Friendship Feast on June 8.

Thank you!

Harry Mattison
Parent of a k1, 1st and 3rd grader



Friendship Feast

The Parent Council and Friend of the Gardner Pilot Academy invite you to join us for our Friendship Feast, Friday, June 8, 2012 from 4-7:30 (rain or shine).

We'll have a raffle, a silent auction, music, games and food from all over the world—at reasonable prices!

Help us celebrate our K-8 expansion, support Playworks, and important health and wellness program, meet the Mayor and have fun—all at the same time!



Raffle Ticket Sales

We have added a **prize for the student who sells the most raffle tickets** for the Friendship Feast. If you need more tickets, please ask your teacher or you can get them from Ms. Chris in the main office. If you already turned in your raffle ticket and money, we still have your envelope with your name on it and can keep track of your sales.



As part of showing your school spirit, we will offer a **Movie and Pizza Party** to the class that has the highest student attendance at the Friendship Feast. Don't forget to sign in at the Friendship Feast on Friday, June 8th from 4-7:30pm.

JUNE 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 6pm Summer Program Ori- entation	7	8 8:30am Art Showcase 4-7:30 Friend- ship Feast	9
10	11	12 Harbor Island Field Trip	13 9-12pm Field day (K-2nd)	14 7:30am Gov Bd 9-12pm Field day (3rd-5th)	15	16
17	18 HOLIDAY	19 10am K2 Grad. 12pm 5th grade ceremony 2:30-6pm Af- terschool Field Trip (location TBD) Last day of af- terschool	20 service day 10am K1 grad <u>Early dismissal @ 12:45pm</u>	21 service day <u>Early dismissal @ 12:45pm</u> <u>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</u>	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30